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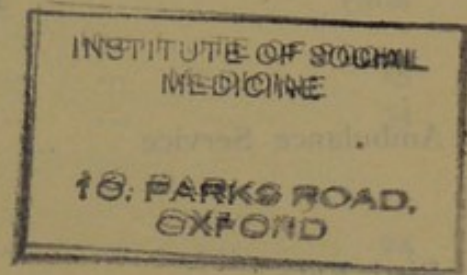
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City and County of the City of Chester

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN
AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF THE
CITY OF CHESTER.

On the Health of the City
in 1950

BY

J. W. LOBBAN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Together with the Report of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
W. B. CALDER, F.R.San.I.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1950.

Chairman - - COUNCILLOR E. E. ASHTON.

Deputy Chairman - - ALDERMAN ARTHUR CHARMLEY.

Members :

ALDERMAN CHARLES SCONCE	COUNCILLOR F. H. TRANTER
ALDERMAN DAVID R. OWEN	COUNCILLOR R. E. SPERRING
COUNCILLOR T. D. GILBRIDE	COUNCILLOR A. W. WALL
COUNCILLOR J. EDMUND OWEN	COUNCILLOR W. J. GRIFFITHS
COUNCILLOR T. PRICE	COUNCILLOR EMILY WARING
COUNCILLOR L. EDWARDS	MRS. S. J. DUNNE

The Mayor (Alderman P. H. Lawson) is (ex-officio) a member of the Committee.

Co-opted Members :

DR. W. GILCHRIST.	DR. C. K. SCONCE.
B. A. WILLIAMS, ESQ., O.B.E., M.I.P.E.	

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.....	J. W. Lobban, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	R. M. Ross, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. resigned 31/1/50.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	Ivy F. Fallon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector, Factory Acts Supervision, etc.	*+W. B. Calder, F.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector...	*+W. H. Wilkinson, CERT. S.I.J.B., M.S.I.A. resigned 4/11/50. Succeeded by *+G. E. Jarvis, M.R. SAN. I., M.S.I.A. 6/11/50.
District Additional Sanitary Inspectors	*M. G. H. Tresidder, C.R.S.I.
Assistant District Inspector	H. J. Hewitt, M.S.I.A.
Public Abattoir Superintendent and Additional Sanitary Inspector ...	*J. H. Withington, M.S.I.A.
Superintendent Health Visitor and Assistant Inspector of Midwives	§Miss M. H. Beattie, S.R.N., H.V.C.

Health Visitors	§Miss Z. K. Wilkins, S.R.N., H.V.C. §Mrs. M. T. Slater, S.R.N., H.V.C. §Miss M. E. G. Crawford, S.R.N., H.V.C. §Miss Mabel Middleton, S.R.N., H.V.C., §Miss M. W. Wright, S.R.N., H.V.C. §Miss J. M. Jewell, S.R.N., H.V.C. §Miss T. M. Durcan, S.R.N., H.V.C., resigned 14/10/50.
Clinic Nurse	Miss A. J. Chesters, S.R.N.
Municipal Midwives	Miss Ashton, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. Hanmer, S.C.M. Mrs. Rawlins, S.C.M. Miss Phillips, S.C.M. Mrs. Samuels, S.C.M. Mrs. Gaulton, S.C.M.
Chief Clerk	F. Thomas.
Senior Clerk	R. W. Hudson (Part time School Medical Department).
Clerk	W. J. O. Lewis (Whole-time School Medical Department).
Shorthand Typist and Clerk	Miss A. Turner.
Shorthand Typist and Clerk	Mrs. A. Colley.
Clinic Clerk	Miss M. Ruscoe (Part-time School Medical Department).
Junior Clerk	T. Chetwood.
Rodent Control Staff	J. H. Bratt (Foreman) 2 operatives.

† Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspection.

* Certificate, Liverpool University, Meat and Food Inspection.

§ Certificate, Central Midwives Board.

Health Department,
St. Martin's House,
Chester.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee—

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This report upon the health of the City in 1950 will be the last one I shall give you as Medical Officer of Health. By the time this is in print I shall have taken up another appointment. I am pleased to say that the Infant Mortality rate is the lowest ever— 20.1 per 1,000 live births, a marked contrast to 1947 when it was 84.

I take this opportunity of paying tribute to the loyal service of the staff of the Health Department since my appointment as Medical Officer of Health in 1932. To the Health Committee I have been indebted for the interest in the work and the encouragement during the eighteen years I have served the City.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. LOBBAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	4142
Population (Registrar General)	...	...	...	...	...	...	48860
Number of inhabited houses end of 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	12397
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£420,840
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,698

Extracts from Vital Statistics for Year 1950

Live Births	Total	Males	Females	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population
Legitimate	733	362	371	} 16.4
Illegitimate	62	29	33	
Totals	795	391	404	
Still Births	21	12	9	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 25.7
Deaths				Death rate per 1,000 Population
All Causes	564	281	283	11.5
Deaths of Infants under one year of age.				
All Infants	...	...	...	16 (Rate per 1,000 live births—20.1)
Legitimate Infants	...	...	...	16 (Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births—21.8)
Illegitimate Infants	...	...	...	0 (Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births—0)
Deaths from Certain Causes.				
All Maternal Causes	...	...	...	1 (Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)—1.2)
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	16 (Rate per 1,000 population—0.3)
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2 (Rate per 1,000 population—0.04)
Cancer	...	...	...	93 (Rate per 1,000 population—1.9)

BIRTH RATE

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population was 16.4, a decrease of 2.7 compared with 1949.

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.8
Great Towns	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.6
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.7
CHESTER (area comparability factor applied)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.9

Still Births allocated to the City numbered 21, giving a rate of 25.7 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. This figure compares with 23.1 in 1949.

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population:—

England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.37
Great Towns	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.45
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.38
CHESTER	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.43

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 16 deaths in infants under 1 year compared with 29 in 1949. The mortality rate per 1,000 live births in 1950 was 20.1 compared with 32.7 in 1949.

Comparative figures are as follows:—

England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.8
Great Towns	...	...	...	...	...	...	33.8
Smaller Towns (population 25,000—50,000)	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.4
CHESTER (Area comparability factor 1.03)	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.7

The actual causes of death in these 16 cases was as follows:—

	1949	1950
Whooping Cough	—	1
Measles	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—
Pneumonia	3	2
Diarrhoea	2	4
Other digestive diseases	—	—
Premature Births	6	—
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and Infantile Disease	14	1
Other Violent Causes	4	—
All Other Causes	—	8

The infant mortality rate of 20.1 is the lowest on record, the previous best figure being 32.7 in 1949.

GENERAL DEATH RATE

Cause of Death.		At all Ages	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 and Over
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	13	—	—	1	3	7	2
	F	3	—	—	—	2	1	—
2. Tuberculosis, Other	M	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Cancer, Stomach	M	11	—	—	—	—	5	6
	F	7	—	—	—	1	5	1
11. Cancer, Lung, Bronchus	M	12	—	—	—	2	6	4
	F	3	—	—	—	1	2	—
12. Cancer, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	5	—	—	—	1	3	1
13. Cancer, Uterus	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	4	—	—	—	1	3	—
14. Cancer, Other	M	32	—	—	—	1	15	16
	F	19	—	—	—	2	12	5
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
16. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	28	—	—	—	1	13	14
	F	54	—	—	—	9	21	24
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	34	—	—	—	13	15	6
	F	22	—	—	—	4	5	13
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	8	—	—	—	—	5	3
	F	14	—	—	—	—	7	7
20. Heart Disease, Other	M	43	—	—	—	—	15	28
	F	76	—	—	—	2	27	47
21. Other Circulatory Disorders ...	M	13	—	—	—	3	3	7
	F	10	—	—	—	2	—	8
22. Influenza	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	5	—	—	—	1	3	1
23. Pneumonia	M	5	1	—	—	—	3	1
	F	6	1	—	—	2	—	3
24. Bronchitis	M	19	—	—	—	6	6	7
	F	10	—	—	—	1	1	8
25. Other Respiratory	M	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	8	—	—	—	2	6	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	3	2	—	—	—	1	—
	F	4	2	—	—	—	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
	F	6	—	—	1	2	2	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	5	—	—	—	2	1	2
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Causes	M	16	6	—	1	9	1	5
	F	20	2	—	—	3	8	7
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	3	—	—	1	1	1	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
34. All Other Accidents	M	6	—	1	1	2	2	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	1	3
35. Suicide	M	3	—	—	—	1	2	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
36. Homicide and Operations of War	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT DURING 1950 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Estimated Population.	Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1000 Live Births.
1937	44610	656	14.7	634	14.7	39	59.6
1938	44360	644	14.5	601	14.0	48	74.3
1939	45090	728	15.6	611	13.8	54	77.3
1940	46960	731	15.7	681	15.2	48	64.7
1941	47500	748	15.7	608	12.8	62	82.1
1942	46570	759	16.3	566	12.1	52	68.5
1943	45410	770	16.9	576	12.6	41	53.2
1944	43880	825	18.8	579	13.2	56	67.8
1945	44430	807	18.1	604	13.5	64	79.3
1946	46460	917	19.7	598	12.8	54	58.8
1947	47190	1046	22.1	661	14.0	84	81.2
1948	47190	863	18.2	575	12.2	32	37.1
1949	47470	886	18.6	578	12.1	29	32.7
1950	48680	795	16.4	564	11.5	16	20.1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were epidemics of measles and whooping cough during the year. 386 cases of measles were notified and 123 of whooping cough.

Cases of scarlet fever numbered 58 compared with 41 in 1949, but were all of the mild type. No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

Six cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

One case of food poisoning was notified.

The following table gives comparative notification figures per 1,000 population.

Notifications	England and Wales	Great Towns	Smaller Towns	Chester
	(Rates per 1,000 Population)			
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebrospinal Fever	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04
Scarlet Fever	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.19
Whooping Cough	3.60	3.97	3.15	2.52
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00
Erysipelas	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.13
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	8.39	8.76	8.36	7.90
Pneumonia	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.40
Acute Poliomyelitis (including polio encephalitis)—				
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.10
Non Paralytic	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.02
Food Poisoning	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.02
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia (per 1,000 total births) ...	5.81	7.43	4.33	2.51

One case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year. It occurred in a child of six years. No other member of the family was affected. The attack was short lasting twenty-four hours with complete recovery. Laboratory examination of the stools was negative.

Investigation in the household proved entirely inconclusive but on enquiry of the families of the child playmates of the case several cases of diarrhoea and vomiting were reported as having occurred during the previous few days.

No doctor had been called, thus no notification was received by the Health Department.

As several days had elapsed it was impossible to trace the source of the presumed infection. No samples of food were available and those affected had all recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—	2	0	2	1	0	0	2	0
15—	6	7	0	0	1	0	0	0
25—	3	7	0	0	1	2	0	0
35—	5	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
45—	4	3	0	0	2	0	0	0
55—	5	0	0	0	5	1	0	0
65 and upwards...	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Totals ...	26	22	2	1	13	3	2	0

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

There has been no occasion to use these regulations.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

A clinic is held at the Chester Royal Infirmary at the following times:—

Monday (5-7 p.m.) Female.
 Wednesday (5-7 p.m.) Male.
 Thursday (5-7 p.m.) Female.
 Saturday (12-2 p.m.) Male.

The following is the number of Chester patients attending during the year for the last five years:—

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Syphilis	28	22	20	10	15
Gonorrhoea	56	43	29	12	9
Conditions other than Venereal ...	45	37	25	36	34

In addition, Chester patients attended clinics in other parts of the Country. The following are details:—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Conditions other than Venereal	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

LABORATORY SERVICES.

The Pathological Department of the Chester Royal Infirmary has continued to examine all types of specimens sent either by general practitioners or the Health Department.

There is excellent co-operation between the Laboratory and the Health Department.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Section 22).

The Princess Street Clinic was transferred to St. Martin's House in March, 1950.

The attendances at St. Martin's House and Saltney Clinics have been well maintained whilst attendances at Blacon increase as more new houses are built and occupied.

STATISTICS.

PRINCESS STREET INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

(Later St. Martin's House).

The following attendances were made during the year:—

(a) By children under 1 year of age	...	...	...	4462
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	...	...	...	838
(c) By mothers	...	...	...	5165

Consultations with the Medical Officer:—

(a) First visits of children under one year	...	...	...	339
(b) Subsequent visits	...	...	...	570
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	...	...	...	38
(d) Subsequent visits	...	...	...	138
(e) Mothers	...	...	...	63

SALTNEY INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The following attendances were made during the year:—

(a) By children under 1 year of age	...	...	...	1076
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	...	...	...	325
(c) By mothers	...	...	...	1275

Consultations with the Medical Officer:—

(a) First visits of children under one year	...	...	...	83
(b) Subsequent visits	...	...	...	308
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	...	...	...	16
(d) Subsequent visits	...	...	...	89
(e) Mothers (consultations)	...	...	...	27

BLACON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The following attendances were made during the year:—

(a) By children under 1 year of age	...	...	...	1015
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	...	...	...	313
(c) By mothers	...	...	...	1156

Consultations with the Medical Officer:—

(a) First visits of children under one year	62
(b) Subsequent visits	112
(c) Children (1—5 years) first visits	18
(d) Subsequent visits	313
(e) Mothers (consultations)	6

ANTE NATAL CLINIC.

An Ante Natal Clinic is held weekly on Wednesday afternoons in the premises of the Central Clinic in Princess Street.

The Obstetrical Registrar at the City Hospital conducts the clinic.

Municipal Midwives are encouraged to bring their patients to this Ante Natal Clinic and to be present themselves.

Attendances.

No. of mothers seen by the doctor	119
No. of attendances	306
No. of Post Natal cases	21

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN.

There is close co-operation between the following agencies:— Council of Social Welfare, Welfare Office, Magistrate's Clerk, Probationer Officer (woman), Almoner, City Hospital, Diocesan Welfare Officer, and the Health Department.

The City Council contributes towards the cost of unmarried mothers and their babies admitted to Homes.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

(a)—Numbers provided with Dental Care :

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	4	4	4	4
Children under Five	54	54	54	54

(b)—Forms of Dental Treatment provided :

	Extraction	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Scalings or Scaling and Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Dressings	Radio graphs	Dentures provided	
		Local	General						Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	3	...	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Children under Five	80	...	48	9	...	...	15	...	...	...

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN.

The Maternity Department of the City Hospital provides the necessary accommodation for a wide area

The Paediatric Department centred on the City Hospital has accommodation for marasmic and ailing babies.

Healthy children up to the age of three are admitted to the Lache Nursery and children over the age of three to Eaton Park View, Wrexham Road, both being administered by the Child Care Committee of the City Council.

NURSING HOMES.

The number of Nursing Homes registered at the end of 1950 was 2. The total number of beds available was 19, of which 9 were allocated as maternity beds and 10 were in use for general cases.

MIDWIFERY (SECTION 23).

There are six municipal midwives employed by the City Council. The non-medical supervisor is the Superintendent Health Visitor.

All the midwives are qualified in gas and air analgesia, and are supplied with gas and air analgesia apparatus.

STATISTICS.

No. of cases attended as midwives	...	...	...	...	219
No. of cases attended as maternity nurses	...	...	...	...	33
No. of ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	1576
No. of daily nursing visits	...	...	...	...	4055
No. of cases given gas and air analgesia :—					
(a) as midwife	...	...	...	...	63
(b) as maternity nurse	...	...	...	...	9
Doctors called in by midwives	...	...	...	...	15
Notifications of artificial feeding	...	...	...	...	3

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Total number of births notified	...	...	...	...	1937
Cases attended and delivered by the doctors	...	...	...	...	36
Cases attended in Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	257
Cases attended and delivered by midwives	...	...	...	...	219
Cases attended in Hospitals	...	...	...	...	1425
Number of Still Births	...	...	...	...	69

Of the 219 births attended by midwives, in 15 cases some condition arose requiring the summoning of medical aid either for the mother or infant. There is a decrease of 15 from last year.

The reasons for requiring help were as follows:—

Feebleness of child	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Prolonged labour or malpresentation	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Complication before labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Complications during labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Complications after labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rise of temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Discharge from the eyes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Lacerated perinaeum	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abnormality of child	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Skin condition of mother	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
							—
						Total ...	15
							—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified during the year.

HEALTH VISITING (SECTION 24).

There are seven Health Visitors, including a Superintendent Health Visitor, employed by the City Council.

Each Health Visitor is also a School Nurse and is responsible for all Health Visiting and School work in her area. Each in turn assists at School Clinics, Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, Ante Natal Clinic and Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Under the scheme prepared under this Section of the National Health Service Act, there were no changes, the existing arrangements being maintained.

The following are details of the work (excluding School Nursing work):—

Primary Birth Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	762
Return Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	6994
Visits to children (1—5 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11669
Visits to Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	...	599
Other visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1622
Visits to Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Visits to Cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	739

HOME NURSING SERVICE (SECTION 25).

The work of this department has proceeded smoothly during the year although there is still difficulty in obtaining resident staff. Non-resident staff have been appointed and have carried out their duties conscientiously.

The number of cases attended during the year was 743 and the number of attendances 19,186.

No of cases on books January 1st, 1950, carried over from 1949	85
New cases in 1950—medical ...	515
surgical ...	143
Total ...	<u>658</u>
No. of cases on books 31/12/50	108

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (SECTION 26).

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This has been carried on as in previous years; children under 5 years have been immunised in the Infant Welfare Centres, children of school age in the schools and school clinics, and general practitioners have co-operated wholeheartedly in the scheme.

During 1950, 453 children under 5 years and 281 children aged 5—14 years have been immunised.

In addition, 786 have received reinforcing inoculations.

The number of school children immunised is 92 per cent of the school population while between 45 per cent and 50 per cent of the children under 5 years are immune.

Fuller statistics are shown in the following table.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following table gives details of the persons immunised from 1941 onwards and the number of re-inoculations in 1950.

PERSONS INOCULATED EACH YEAR FROM 1941 - 1950.

Age in Years 31st Dec, of the corres- ponding year.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	Total inocu- lated 1941-1950
0	10	...	16	...	Age 0-4 years 1805
1	105	320	221	184	230	243	288	191	378	284	
2	80	202	113	80	102	108	84	294	140	74	
3	70	184	63	37	37	40	39	78	35	24	
4	21	20	54	32	29	31	44	55	30	57	
5	74	308	88	174	118	73	84	96	61	163	Age 5-9 yrs 2881
6	80	374	59	61	87	54	54	60	41	58	
7	40	201	62	28	28	44	17	51	6	17	
8	56	134	42	10	15	58	11	20	...	6	
9	54	147	43	11	12	49	12	6	2	6	
10	36	111	36	9	12	46	6	9	6	5	Age 10-14 yrs. 2739
11	17	89	30	9	2	45	13	6	8	12	
12	22	82	21	6	3	36	5	4	6	2	
13	9	54	29	2	...	26	7	3	2	...	
14	...	20	28	5	2	75	2	3	4	12	
15 and over	18	15	3	2	...	Age 15 years and over 1686
Total each Year	664	2246	907	648	677	928	691	879	737	734	GRAND TOTAL 9111
Re- Inoculation:	1987	955	609	1023	786	Total Re-Inoculation 5360

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

This is carried out entirely by general practitioners.

Statistics.

Number vaccinated :—

0—1 years	113
1—4 years	132
5—14 years	29
15 and over	13
Total	287

Number re-vaccinated :—

0—1 years	Nil
1—4 years	1
5—14 years	10
15 and over... ..	115
Total	126

AMBULANCE SERVICES (SECTION 27).

The City Ambulance Service covers the City area and adjoining areas of Cheshire and Flintshire by arrangement with these Local Authorities.

The number of ambulances is five, namely :—

- 25 h.p. Vauxhall—registered 1937.
- 18 h.p. Austin—registered 1939.
- 27 h.p. Humber—registered 1942.
- Bedford—registered 1948.
- Bedford—registered 1949.

Use has been made of the Volunteer Car Pool and local taxi proprietors.

The extent to which this sitting-case car service has been used during 1950 will be appreciated in the following table.

1950.

TRANSPORT OF SITTING PATIENTS TO AND FROM HOSPITAL

(a) By Taxis operating under Local Authority Scheme.

(b) By Women's Voluntary Service Cars.

Month	Patients Carried		Journeys		Mileage		Cost			Monthly Totals								
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)		(b)	Pat- ients	Jour- neys	Mileage	Cost					
							£	s. d.					£	s. d.	£	s. d.		
January	290	155	284	142	4680	2300	184	12	5	51	1	8	445	426	6980	235	14	1
February	94	96	94	95	652	1230	25	7	4	31	6	0	190	189	1882	56	10	4
March	94	149	90	146	534	1386	20	6	0	46	13	4	243	236	2370	66	19	4
April	102	93	101	91	767	1316	26	19	1½	33	8	9	195	192	2023	60	7	10
May	86	86	82	83	604	1050	19	18	1	26	19	3	172	145	1654	46	17	4
June	99	110	91	108	1008	1508	39	7	4	38	1	6	209	199	2516	77	8	10
July	121	114	115	102	1023	1094	38	16	8	27	15	2	235	217	2117	66	11	10
August	87	152	84	127	760	1529	31	11	0	42	19	3	239	211	2289	74	10	3
September	68	145	63	141	617	1335	27	1	8	35	7	7	213	204	1952	62	9	3
October	81	174	77	167	630	1880	24	15	8	49	17	4	255	244	2510	74	13	0
November	88	171	79	167	648	1766	27	7	9	47	5	2	259	246	2414	74	12	11
December	79	80	75	79	603	624	21	14	9	21	2	4	159	154	1227	42	17	1
TOTALS FOR YEAR	1289	1525	1235	1448	12466	17468	487	17	9	451	17	4	2818	2683	29934	939	15	1

N.B.—The amendment to the National Health Service Act, which came into effect at the end of January, resulted in a great decrease in subsequent Taxi mileage. The W.V. Hospital Car Service, dealing mainly with the Local district, was not so obviously affected.

The ambulance statistics are shown in the following tables:—

CITY CASES.

Total No. of Journeys	...	...	...	...	...	...	2884
Total No. of Patients carried	...	...	...	...	...	...	2859
No. of Accident and Emergency calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	548
Total Mileage	...	...	...	...	...	...	26400

COUNTY OF CHESHIRE.

Total No. of Journeys	...	...	...	...	...	...	911
Total No. of Patients carried	...	...	...	...	...	...	911
No. of Accident and Emergency calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	177
Total Mileage	...	...	...	...	...	...	16393

COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE.

Total No. of Journeys	...	...	...	...	...	...	172
Total No. of Patients carried	...	...	...	...	...	...	172
No. of Accident and Emergency calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Total Mileage	...	...	...	...	...	...	2281

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

(Section 28).

There is an Orthopaedic After-Care Committee which continued to function during the year. The suggested Tuberculosis After-Care Committee has not yet been formed nor has the After-Care Committee for Mental Illness.

PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT ON LOAN.

This service is now available at the District Nurses Home, 7, Grosvenor Street, under the Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service.

During 1950, 106 nursing articles were loaned.

DOMESTIC HELPS (SECTION 29).

The number of Home Helps was increased during the year to 12 full-time who are fully employed.

It has been found that in many instances, particularly in elderly people, that at least two in the family have been ill and needing help.

It is disappointing that domestic helps are booked for maternity cases and in many instances it is found that the expectant mother has decided to go to hospital. No warning of this change of plan has been given to the Domestic Help Organiser with the result that other families have been refused help owing to the prior booking of the Help. It is quite appreciated that a medical emergency may arise and of course no blame can be attached. It is thoughtless, however, to book a Home Help and not to inform the Health Department when circumstances alter. A booking fee may be the solution of this difficulty.

The Home Helps have given excellent service in spite of rather a high rate of sickness of the Helps themselves. It is still apparent that many of the general public expect this service to be entirely free and resent the completion of the questionnaire as to means.

Number of application forms issued	226
Forms not returned	109
Number of cases in which help was provided (a) maternity 18	
(b) general 62	
	80
Cases where help refused because required to sleep in house	4
Help refused because not free	16
Maternity cases booked but help not required	10
Total hours worked—28,056.	

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Prevention, Care and After Care (Section 28).

Patients on discharge from Mental Hospitals who express a wish to have after care are visited by Health Visitors and the Duly Authorised Officers and appropriate advice given.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930.

The Duly Authorised Officers have had difficulty in obtaining beds for patients during the year. This difficulty is not confined to the City of Chester and is the subject of concern to Medical Officers of Health.

The following table shows the work carried out during the year :-

	Certified.		Voluntary.		Sect. 20-21		No Action		Other Visits	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	14	15	16	14	4	5	22	16	34	15
TOTALS ...	29		30		9		38		49	
Died	5		...		1					
Discharged ...	2		21		...					

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913 to 1938.

1. Number of Ascertained Mental Defectives found to be "Subject to be dealt with." :—

(a) In Institutions (including cases on licence therefrom) :—	M.	F.	Total.
Under 16 years of age	1	1	2
Aged 16 years and over	29	26	55

(b) Under Guardianship (including cases on licence therefrom) :—			
Under 16 years of age	Nil	Nil	Nil
Aged 16 years and over	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) In 'places of safety'	Nil	Nil	Nil
(d) Under Statutory Supervision (excluding cases on licence) :—			
Under 16 years of age	6	4	10
Aged 16 years and over	15	14	29
	<hr/>		
Totals ...	51	45	96
	<hr/>		
Number of cases in above awaiting admission	11	2	13
2. Particulars of Cases reported during the year 1950:—			
(1) Ascertainment.	M.	F.	Total.
(a) Cases reported by Local Education Authorities (Section 57, Education Act, 1944) :—			
(i) Under Section 57 (3)	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Under Section 57 (5) :—			
On leaving special schools	Nil	Nil	Nil
On leaving ordinary schools	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<hr/>		
Totals...	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<hr/>		
(2) Disposal of cases reported during the year :—			
(a) Ascertained defectives found to be "Subject to be dealt with" :—			
(i) Admitted to Institutions ...	—	—	—
(ii) Placed under Guardianship	—	—	—
(iii) Taken to 'places of safety'	—	—	—
(iv) Placed under Statutory Supervision	—	—	—
(v) Died or removed from area	—	—	—
(vi) Action not yet taken	—	—	—
Total ascertained defectives found to be "Subject to be dealt with" (to agree with the total of (1) (a) above)	<hr/>		
	—	—	—
	<hr/>		

3. Number of Mental Defectives in Institutions under Community Care including Voluntary Supervision or in "Places of Safety" on 1st January, 1950, who have ceased to be under any of these forms of care during 1950:—			
(a) Ceased to be under care	1	2	3
(b) Died, removed from area, or lost sight of	1	3	4
Total ...	2	5	7
4. Of the Total Number of Mental Defectives known to the Local Health Authority:—			
(a) Number who have given birth to children during 1950:—			
(i) After marriage	Nil		
(ii) While unmarried.....	Nil		
(b) Number who have married during 1950	Nil		

Comments.

Cases on license from Institutions are regularly supervised and visited by the Medical Officer of Health and his staff.

There is still a grave shortage of beds for mental defectives and no immediate improvement in the situation seems likely.

In ascertainment of mental defectives every possible agency is used, e.g., Schools, Welfare Officer, Probation Officers, Health Visitors, House Property Department, Chester Council for Social Welfare, and Diocesan Moral Welfare Workers.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was found necessary to take action under this Act for the removal of two persons in need of care and attention.

WATER.

The City water supply is derived from the River Dee and is supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Company's works.

The standard of purity, absence of bacillus coli in 100 c.c.'s of the water as supplied to the consumer has been maintained during the year.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supply including water from various filter beds have been carried out twice a month. In addition, chemical analyses of water from a consumer's tap have been carried out by the Public Analyst every month, and the following table gives the result of these analyses.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF CITY WATER SUPPLY, 1950.

Parts per 100,000 of Water	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total Solid Matter in Solution	15.0	16.0	12.0	13.0	12.0	22.0	9.0	16.0	11.0	19.0	18.0	22.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates...	0.12	0.15	0.13	0.13	0.2	0.2	0.25	0.13	0.075	0.07	0.12	0.12
Nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chlorine in Chlorides	2.0	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.6	3.2	0.77	2.8	1.2	1.5	2.0	1.5
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80° F.	0.068	0.056	0.048	0.076	0.052	0.070	0.04	0.08	0.048	0.07	0.07	0.068
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.002	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.007	0.006	0.005	0.006	0.005	0.007	0.004	0.006	0.005	0.006	0.006	0.004
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Microscopical Examination of Sediment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temporary Hardness in Degrees Clark	3.0	1.7	3.0	3.0	5.0	6.7	2.1	4.2	2.45	3.15	4.20	4.5
Permanent Hardness in Degrees Clark	2.0	2.5	2.6	3.0	1.0	2.1	2.1	1.0	2.8	2.8	2.45	3.1
PH Value	7.0	6.8	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.0	7.2	6.8	7.0	7.2	6.8
Residual Free Chlorine	0.14	0.1	0.17	0.1	0.06	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2

(parts per million)

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1950.

INSPECTION OF AREA.

Environmental Hygiene.

Complaints received in respect of nuisances	...	743
Visits in respect of nuisances	... ..	4234
Dwellings: inspections and re-inspections re:—		
(a) Notifiable diseases	... ..	106
(b) Vermin	... ..	175
(c) Overcrowding	... ..	64
(d) Prospective Corporation Tenants	... ..	185
(c) Dustbins	... ..	32
(f) Defects and repairs	... ..	2707
(g) Other purposes	... ..	199
Rooms disinfected after infectious diseases	... ..	128
Rooms disinfected for vermin	... ..	158
Rats and Mice Destruction, visits	... ..	3972
Drainage work:—		
(a) Inspections	... ..	2257
(b) Tests applied	... ..	319
Smoke abatement, observations, etc.	... ..	34
Factories, visits	... ..	391
Common Lodging House, visits	... ..	8
Houses let in lodgings, visits	... ..	38
Schools, inspections	... ..	61
Shops Act, inspections	... ..	85
Licensed premises, inspections	... ..	137
Cinemas and Theatre, inspections	... ..	26
Stables, visits	... ..	11
Squatters' Camp, visits	... ..	25
Offensive trades (excluding Fish and Chip Shops), inspections	... ..	10
Offices, inspections	... ..	28
Waste ground and common passages, inspections	... ..	104
Garages, visits	... ..	7
Tents, Vans, and Sheds, inspections	... ..	15
Other business premises (excluding Factories)	... ..	126
Canal boats, inspections	... ..	15
Rag Flock premises, visits	... ..	4
Brooks and Streams, inspections	... ..	16

Food Hygiene, etc.

Inspections of Dairies	246
Inspections of Butchers Shops	173
Inspections of Bakehouses	50
Inspections of Fishmongers	89
Inspections of Ice Cream premises	145
Inspections of Public Market	46
Inspections of Restaurants and Cafes	137
Inspections of General Provision Shops	333
Inspections of Fish and Chip Shops	39
Inspections of Other Food Premises	296
Inspections of Canteens	44

Administration.

(a) Number of letters sent	865
(b) Number of Preliminary Notices served	141
(c) Number of Statutory Notices served	32
(d) Legal proceedings in default	1

The major portion of the work is carried out by informal action and the co-operation of those concerned.

Legal proceedings were necessary in only one instance, in respect of failure to comply with a Statutory Notice to repair a very defective and leaky roof.

A Court Order was made for the work to be completed within seven days and was subsequently complied with in the specified time. Costs were imposed.

HOUSING.

During 1950 undertakings to close for human habitation the undermentioned houses were accepted by the City Council under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- 5 and 6, Park Terrace, Foregate Street.
- 3 and 5, Watkins Court, Bitt Street.
- 6, Victoria Buildings, Lower Bridge Street.
- 36, Weaver Street.

These houses were not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at a reasonable cost, and with one exception were situated in areas scheduled for action prior to 1939.

Owing to the shortage of Housing accommodation overcrowding is still a difficult problem in the City.

185 visits were made by Sanitary Inspectors to homes of persons about to be re-housed, in order to ascertain their state of cleanliness and to prevent vermin being carried to new houses.

Rooms and contents were disinfested in 17 instances.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Thirty-four observations were made and eight complaints of atmospheric pollution investigated during the year. No Statutory action was necessary, abatement of the nuisances being effected by informal notices.

One laundry, about which complaints had been received, has arranged to change from coal to oil burning, and the necessary apparatus will be installed during Easter of 1951.

There have been further complaints of the emission of sulphurous fumes from a Leadworks. The hand operated bag filters on the plant were not changed by the staff with the necessary frequency, especially during night-shift, giving rise to complaints from areas in the path of the prevailing wind.

After consultation the management arranged to fit mechanically operated filters, and no further complaints were received from this source by the end of the year.

Smoke pollution in the City comes chiefly from domestic fires and the railways.

CANAL BOATS.

The amount of traffic on the Canal has continued to fall as in previous years, and this is reflected in the small number of inspections recorded.

Fifteen canal boats were examined during 1950, none of which called for attention.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

There is one registered common lodging house, for males only, situated at 5, Castle Street, and this has received eight surprise and routine inspections during the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

Under the scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, a consolidated grant of 50 per cent. of the approved net expenditure, incurred during the financial year 1950-51, is made to Local Authorities. Certain conditions relating to organisation, employed methods, staffing, and the carrying out of effective procedure have to be complied with to the satisfaction of the Ministry.

Corporation sewers, surface properties and private houses are treated free of cost. Grant aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred by the treatment of commercial or industrial premises, the costs being fully re-imbursed by the occupiers so that no charge falls on public funds.

Rodent control in Corporation sewers has been intensified. Two "maintenance" and one "test bait" treatment being carried out during the year.

The results of these treatments are shown in the following tables:—

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 2/49/50.

28th February to 31st March, 1950.

Man-holes treated	Prebait takes (1)				Prebait takes (2)				Poison takes				Estimated kill.
	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
622	225	66	44	287	225	67	51	279	—	87	175	360	1150

Bait base:—Bread mash plus Poison—Arsenic.

C=Complete take. G=Good. S=Small. N=No take.

Sewer Test Baiting No. 1/50.

June and July, 1950.

No. of Manholes Tested	Result			
	C.	G.	S.	No Take
179	54	18	10	97

Test baiting with damp sausage rusk was applied in the areas of the City having modern piped sewers, as from practical experience the old sewers of the City are known to be rat infested.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 1/50/51.

2nd to 30th September, 1950.

Manholes	Prebait (1)				Prebait (2)				Poison Takes				Rats Destroyed
	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	
1050	208	88	48	706	199	87	54	710	—	31	226	793	1498

Bait base:—Sausage rusk plus Poison—Zinc phosphide.

There is little doubt that effective treatment of the sewers reduces the complaints from surface properties. In built-up areas such infestations are eventually traced to defective drains and the complaints remedied following repairs.

The sewers and Corporation refuse tips remain the major sources of infestation in the City. The tip, sewage works and land adjoining are kept under routine observation and receive seven treatments during the year.

The rodent staff (1 Foreman and two operators) are engaged for a total of five months annually in the treatment of sewers, sewage work and refuse tips alone.

The result of searches, complaints and the service to commercial premises in the City is shown in the following table.

1st January to 31st December, 1950.

Premises	Rats or Mice	Infestation			Result of Treatment		Vermin Destroyed
		Reservoir	Major	Minor	Reduced to Minor	Cleared	
Corporation Surface Properties	Rats	4	14	60	4	74	3222
	Mice	—	20	33	—	53	1012
Commercial Premises	Rats	—	29	30	—	59	1917
	Mice	—	29	44	—	73	1526
Private Houses	Rats	—	15	216	—	231	1870
	Mice	—	22	66	—	88	1442

Total vermin destroyed:—Rats 6,009; Mice 3,980.

In addition to the 5,410 visits paid to manholes by the rodent staff, 3972 visits were also made by this staff and Sanitary Inspectors to surface properties.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

Rag flock, used in the manufacture of bedding, etc., must not contain more than 30 parts of Chlorine per 100,000 parts of flock. Two samples, purchased from bedding manufacturers, have been submitted for analysis and were certified to comply with the standard, containing 18.0 and 24.0 parts of chlorine respectively.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following were registered with the City Council, as carrying on the trade of Distributor.

The following registration of dairies (other than dairy farms) and of distributors of milk within the City were effected in 1950:—

Premises registered for sale of milk	23
Persons registered as distributors	14

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following licences were issued for the sale of designated milk within the City during the year ended 31st December, 1950:—

(a) Pasteuriser's Licences	1
(b) Dealer's Licences:—	
(a) T.T. Milk	25
(b) Pasteurised Milk	34
(c) Supplementary Licences:—	
T.T. Milk	4

FOOD HYGIENE.

1,558 visits have been made to restaurants, cafes, canteens, food shops and stores, special attention being paid to their compliance with Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Lectures on the principles of hygiene and the dangers involved in the neglect of personal and kitchen hygiene have been given to staffs of many of these establishments.

Although the provision of modern equipment assists in promoting a high standard of hygiene instruction given to staffs is of prime importance.

The recording and inspection of restaurants, cafes, snack-bars and canteens has progressed during the year and, where necessary, improvements, viz., provision of constant hot water, new and additional sinks, re-decoration etc., have been carried out.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Section 14.

The following premises are registered in the City for—

(a) the sale, manufacture for sale, or storage of ice cream intended for sale	...	...	...	125
(b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	...	...	...	23

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings were instituted in one instance in respect of the manufacture of prepared meat products on unsuitable and unregistered premises, under sections 13 and 14 of the Act.

Defendants were found guilty on all charges and fined a total of £4.

ICE CREAM.

Chemical Analyses.

17 samples were submitted for chemical analyses and the results are tabulated below.

Fat content	Under 3%	3% under 5%	5% under 8%	8% and over
	2	1	4	10
Total Solids	20% & under 25%	25% & under 30%	Over 30%	
	1	1	15	

There are no chemical standards for ice cream but where samples fall short of 2.5% fat content, information is forwarded to the Ministry of Food by their request.

There has been an improvement in the quality of ice cream sold in the City during 1950, and it is probable that a chemical standard will be fixed by the Ministry during 1951.

Bacteriological Samples.

The following table gives the grading of 82 samples sent for examination for cleanliness. They concerned 25 varied manufacturers.

Grades	1	2	3	4
	40	9	8	25

The grading is based on decoloration of Methylene Blue within certain time limits, and those samples falling consistently within grades 3 and 4 are considered unsatisfactory.

Only two manufacturers had samples consistently falling within the unsatisfactory grades. One gave up business during the year and the other was the subject of a special report to the Health Committee. A warning was issued and the premises received special inspection. Ten of the samples shown under Grade 4 above concerned these two manufacturers.

Faecal B. Coli	Absent	Present
	67	15

Nine of the samples containing faecal B. Coli were obtained from the two manufacturers mentioned above.

There has been a distinct improvement in the cleanliness of the ice cream sold in the City.

Where unsatisfactory samples are found repeat samples are obtained, following inspection and investigation.

LICENSED PREMISES.

137 visits were made to licensed premises and a comprehensive report submitted to the Licensing Justices for the Brewster Sessions. Particular attention has been paid to sanitary accommodation and hygiene. Alterations have been made in certain instances but adequate cleansing of drinking glasses and utensils cannot be overstressed.

Generally speaking, the licensed premises in the City are maintained satisfactorily.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following tables show (i) the samples submitted to the Public Analyst (H. Lowe, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.) during the year, and (ii) the administrative action taken in respect of samples certified to be genuine.

TABLE I.
ANALYSES

Article.	Number Examined			No. Adulterated, &c.		
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total
Milk	25	45	70	—	1	1
Ice Cream	—	17	17	—	—	—
Beers	—	6	6	—	—	—
Meat Paste	2	3	5	2	1	3
Condensed Milk	—	4	4	—	—	—
Butter	—	4	4	—	—	—
Margarine	—	4	4	—	—	—
Cooking Fat	—	4	4	—	—	—
Baking Powder	—	3	3	—	—	—
Tea	—	3	3	—	—	—
Jams	—	3	3	—	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	—	3	3	—	—	—
Custard Powder	—	3	3	—	—	—
Flavouring Essences	—	3	3	—	—	—
Curry Powder	—	2	2	—	—	—
White Pepper	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cake Flour Mixture	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cornflour	—	2	2	—	—	—
Self-raising Flour	—	2	2	—	—	—
Coffee	—	2	2	—	—	—
Aspirin Tablets	—	2	2	—	—	—
Whisky	—	2	2	—	—	—
Dessicated cocoanut	—	2	2	—	—	—
Compound Pepper Condiment	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pork Sausage	—	1	1	—	—	—
Barley Flour	—	1	1	—	1	1
Mustard	—	1	1	—	—	—
Epsom Salts	—	1	1	—	—	—
Glycerine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Almonds	—	1	1	—	—	—
Soup Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef Extract	—	1	1	—	—	—
Marmite	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	27	133	160	2	3	5

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

TABLE II.

Table showing administrative action taken in regard to samples certified to be not genuine.

Sample No.	Article.	Result of Analysis.	Action taken.
15 (Informal)	Meat Paste	15% deficient in meat	Samples 35 and 36 taken formally.
35 (Formal)	Meat Paste	10% deficient in meat	Results of analysis sent to Ministry of Food. Later notified by Ministry that further samples would be obtained from manufacturer in London.
36 (Formal)	Meat Paste	10% deficient in meat	
37 (Informal)	Barley Flour	Infected with live mites	Whole of small consignment destroyed.
56 (Informal)	Milk	5% deficient in fat	Deficiency found to be due to inefficient and continuous rousing of milk during bottling process. Warning letter sent to producer.

It is again pleasing to report that of the 160 samples of food submitted for analysis during 1950, no legal proceedings were necessary.

The results of 70 chemical examinations of milk were particularly satisfactory, as in only one instance was a slight deficiency in fat reported.

MILK ANALYSES, 1950.

Total Samples analysed	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Number certified "not genuine"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Samples below standard for fat	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Samples below standard for solids not fat	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Average quality (Standards—Fat 3%, Solids not fat 8.5%)—							
Fat	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.62%
Solids not fat	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.61%

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-seven (27) samples of milk were submitted to the Pathological Department, Royal Infirmary, Chester, for examination for the presence of the Tubercle Bacillus of bovine origin.

All were certified to be free from infection. The samples consisted of T.T. Milk, in bottles, sold by Dealers in the City.

BACTERIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES.

Results of the various tests applied to 95 samples of milk submitted for examination are shown in the following table:—

Grade.	No. of Samples	Test applied.	Number.	
			Passed.	Failed.
Pasteurised	49	Phosphatase	49	—
		Methylene Blue	49	—
Certified T.T.	38	Methylene Blue	35	3
		Coliform	36	2
T.T. Pasteurised	8	Phosphatase	8	—
		Methylene Blue	8	—

NOTES:—

- The 'Phosphatase Test' denotes efficient pasteurisation.
- The 'Methylene Blue Test' assesses keeping qualities.
- Presence of coliform bacillus indicates faecal contamination.

Only four samples, all Tuberculin Tested Milk failed to pass the appropriate tests. Two (2) in the Methylene Blue Test, and one in both Methylene Blue and Bacillus Coli and one for Bacillus Coli only.

Investigations in respect of the unsatisfactory samples revealed minor defects which were quickly remedied and produced subsequent satisfactory results.

On the whole the results can be considered satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

One new licence and eighteen renewal licences were issued to slaughtermen during the year.

SLAUGHTERING IN THE CITY.

All slaughtering was carried out at the Public Abattoir, the Ministry of Food paying headage charges.

Animals slaughtered during 1950:—

Cattle	...	...	...	...	4483
Calves	...	...	...	...	3353
Sheep	...	...	...	...	16600
Pigs	...	...	...	...	488
Total	...	...	...	...	24924

The total figure shows an increase of 6,171 animals compared with 1949.

Meat Marking is carried out at the Abattoir where a Meat Inspector, who also acts as Abattoir Superintendent, is on permanent duty.

Ante-mortem inspections are made of all animals and notes taken of any abnormalities which might assist in the subsequent post mortem examinations which are carried out on every animal slaughtered.

The weight of food condemned during the year amounted to:—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat and offals	64	2	3	21
Other foods	12	19	1	26
Total	77	2	—	19

The Ministry of Food arranges removal of all condemned meat and offal. This is dyed green before removal and a certificate issued by the Ministry certifying that such meat will not be used for human consumption.

The following tables show (i) percentage of animals affected with disease and (ii) details of all food condemned.

TABLE I.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1950.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2031	2452	3353	16600	488
Number inspected	2031	2452	3353	16600	488
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	22	23	21	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	424	641	—	640	9
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	20.8	27.0	0.6	3.9	3.2
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	8	79	4	—	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	252	995	—	—	16
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	12.8	43.8	0.11	—	13.1

The 111 complete carcasses and offal of beef condemned during the year were sent to the Abattoir from the following sources:—

Source	Generalised tuberculosis	Diseases other than tuberculosis	TOTAL
From Cattle Market for food	59	8	67
Casualty animals sent by Veterinary Surgeons	6	9	15
Cattle sale rejects	6	7	13
For slaughter under Tuberculosis Orders	15	—	15
Seized under Chester Corporation Act ...	1	—	1
TOTALS ...	87	24	111

CHESTER CORPORATION ACT, 1929.

It was necessary to seize a cow brought into the Cattle Market and intended for sale for human food.

Legal proceedings were instituted under the above Act, and the Tuberculosis Orders. The defendants were fined a total of £21 and £5 13s. od. costs.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS.

Five cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* were discovered during the year.

In four cases the cysts were sited in the masseter muscles only, and the carcasses were passed to the Ministry of Food for freezing treatment.

Cysts were generalised in the musculature of the fifth case and, after consultation with the Area Technical Adviser of the Ministry, the carcase and offal were condemned and destroyed.

TABLE II.
UN SOUND FOOD.

Article.	No.	Reason for Condemnation.
BEEF.		
Whole carcasses and offal	87	Generalised tuberculosis.
" "	5	Febrility.
" "	4	Johnes disease and emaciation.
" "	4	Oedema.
" "	4	Septicaemia.
" "	1	Extensive contusion and febrility.
" "	2	Uraemia.
" "	2	Jaundice.
" "	1	Generalised C. Bovis.
" "	1	Toxaemia.
Quarters	59	Localised tuberculosis.
VEAL.		
Whole carcasses and offal	9	Umbilical pyaemia.
" "	5	Febrility.
" "	4	Congenital tuberculosis.
" "	4	Enteritis.
" "	1	Toxaemia.
" "	3	Oedema.
" "	1	Moribund.
PORK.		
Whole carcasses and offal	3	Febrility.
" "	2	Septicaemia.
" "	6	Generalised tuberculosis.
" "	1	Enteritis.
" "	1	Jaundice.
MUTTON.		
Whole carcasses and offal	10	Oedema.
" "	6	Febrility.
" "	5	Enteritis.
" "	1	Moribund.
" "	1	Suffocation.
VISCERA, etc. (lbs.)	61732	Localised tuberculosis, parasitic and other conditions.

UN SOUND FOOD—continued.

Article.	No.	Reason for Condemnation.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Cheese (lbs.)	67	Soiled in transit.
" "	57	Mites.
" "	220	Decomposed.
Liquid Eggs (lbs.)	450	"
Shell Eggs (lbs.)	15	"
Butter (lbs.)	21	"
Synthetic Cream (lbs.)	11	"
Sugar (lbs.)	6	Damp.
Cocoa (lbs.)	9	Mites.
Sweets with nuts (lbs.)	14	Maggot.
Fudge (lbs.)	4	Must.
Table Jellies (lbs.)	147	Decomposed—mould.
Ice Cream (lbs.)	20	Defective refrigeration.
Yeast (lbs.)	112	Decomposed.
Ham (cooked) (lbs.)	723	"
Sausages (lbs.)	283	"
Pressed Meats (lbs.)	238	"
Cooked Meats (lbs.)	134	"
Pigs Maws (lbs.)	114	"
Meat Pies (lbs.)	60	"
Jellied Veal (lbs.)	70	"
Bacon (lbs.)	15	"
Chicken & Barley Meat (lbs.)	15	Decomposed.
Black Puddings (lbs.)	2	"
Shredded Beef Suet (lbs.)	32	"
Ducks (lbs.)	46	"
Turkey (lbs.)	28	"
Chickens (lbs.)	272	"
Rabbits (lbs.)	64	"
Flour (lbs.)	140	Contaminated in transit.
Cake Mixture (lbs.)	53	Damp.
Cake Mixture (lbs.)	135	Mites.
Sponge Pudding (lbs.)	40	Mould.
Cereals (lbs.)	18	Moth.
Cereals (lbs.)	19	Damp, Mould.
Pearl Barley (lbs.)	20	"
Barley Flour (lbs.)	44	Mites.
Tapioca (lbs.)	66	Must.
Gateux (lbs.)	100	Mould, etc.
Fruit Cakes (lbs.)	77	"
Oatcakes (lbs.)	34	"
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.		
Figs (lbs.)	316	Decomposed.
Hazel Nut Kernels (lbs.)	98	Moth, grub.
Prunes (lbs.)	32	Decomposed.
Oranges (lbs.)	28	"
Tomatoes (lbs.)	20	"
Dates (lbs.)	15	"
Blackberries (lbs.)	15	"
FISH.		
Cod (lbs.)	259	"
Dabs (lbs.)	140	"
Haddock (lbs.)	140	"
Lemon Soles (lbs.)	112	"
Smoked Fillet (lbs.)	70	"
Mackerel (lbs.)	84	"
Crabs (lbs.)	92	"
Bloaters (lbs.)	84	"
Crayfish Tails (lbs.)	35	"
Prawns (lbs.)	48	"

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.
PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local authorities	110	154	17	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	208	222	28	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	15	5	—
Total ...	324	391	50	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
	¶ ¶ ¶		To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	13	13	—	3	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	7	7	—	7	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	30	30	—	5	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	4	4	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	13	13	—	1	—
Total ...	69	69	—	17	—

Work of remedy in 4 instances outstanding at the end of 1949, were remedied 1950.

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel {	Making, etc. ...	12	—	—	—	—
	Cleaning & Washing	—	—	—	—	—

D. F. MORGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

Together with the Report of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
W. B. CALDER, F.R.S.M., M.A.C.D.

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK, as defined in Section 117.

(Sections 110 and 111)

Name of Work	No. of Articles	No. of Articles	No. of Articles	No. of Articles	No. of Articles	Wages	
						Per Article	Total

a. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which defects were reported
	Found	Not Found	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	

