

[Report 1953] / Medical Officer of Health, Chorley Borough.

Contributors

Chorley (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1953

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/eeqprfwu>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

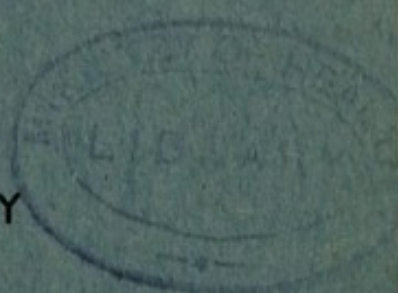
Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



BOROUGH OF CHORLEY



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR

1953

HILLS PRINTERS, LIVESEY STREET,
CHORLEY
1954



BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR

1953

HILLS PRINTERS, LIVESSEY STREET,
CHORLEY
1954

C O N T E N T S .

| | Page |
|--|------|
| List of Members of the Council | 4 |
| Staff of Public Health Department | 5 |
| Covering Letter | 6 |
| PART A. | |
| Vital Statistics | 8 |
| PART B. | |
| General Provision of Health Services | 15 |
| PART C. | |
| Sanitary Circumstances of the Area | 17 |
| 1. (a) Water | 17 |
| (b) Drainage and Sewerage | 18 |
| 2. Rivers and Streams | 18 |
| 3. (a) Closet Accommodation | 19 |
| (b) Public Cleansing | 19 |
| (c) Cleansing of Drains and Closets | 21 |
| (d) Lavatories and Urinals | 21 |
| 4. Shops and Offices | 22 |
| 5. Camping Sites—Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. | 22 |
| 6. Smoke Abatement | 22 |
| 7. Swimming Baths and Pools | 23 |
| 8. Eradication of Bed Bugs | 23 |
| 9. Schools—Sanitary Accommodation | 23 |
| 10. Sanitary Inspection of the Area | 23 |
| PART D. | |
| Housing | 27 |
| PART E. | |
| Inspection and Supervision of Food | 32 |
| PART F. | |
| Prevalence and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases | 38 |
| PART G. | |
| New Legislation | 41 |

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

1953

Alderman EVANS.

,, FEARNHEAD.

,, GREEN.

,, Mrs. B. M. GILLETT.

,, Mrs. EDWARDS.

Councillor Mrs. BAXENDALE.

,, H. BREWER.

,, J. R. COOK.

,, Miss CUNLIFFE.

,, D. DUNN.

,, Miss FORSHAW.

,, H. GASKELL.

,, H. GREEN.

,, T. GRIME.

,, T. HEATON.

,, J. HOUGH.

,, A. SHEPPARD.

,, SHORROCK.

Alderman S. COOKSON.

,, J. B. HINDLE.

,, C. WILLIAMS.

Councillor W. LOWE.

,, Mrs. MONKS.

,, M. NEWSOME.

,, P. QUINN.

,, W. RAWCLIFFE.

,, G. R. RIGBY.

,, H. R. SANDHAM.

,, P. WALSH.

,, W. WILCOCK.

,, I. SELLERS.

,, B. RILEY.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

STAFF.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

R. P. B. LUND, Cert. R.S.I. Cert.
(Inspector of Smoke, Meat and other Foods, etc.)

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors:

H. WARD, Cert. R.S.I. (Cert. Inspector of Smoke, Meat and other Foods)
F. MYERS, Cert. R.S.I.

Chief Clerk: **R HEAPS.**

Clerk: **J. S. SMITH.**

THE CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH & SANITARY COMMITTEE CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1953.

In regard to the vital statistics it should be mentioned that certain changes came into force in 1953 which had the effect that deaths in certain classes of hospitals and institutions were no longer transferable. All deaths in Moorlands during the year had to be accepted as belonging to the Borough and for the first part of the year deaths in Eaves Lane Hospital were also allocated to the Borough. Altogether 21 deaths had to be accepted which previously would not have been the case. Due to this new procedure the general death rate is not, therefore, comparable with previous years. Deaths from all causes were 25 more than in the previous year, giving a death rate of 14.4 per 1,000 population as compared with 11.4 for England and Wales.

16 infants died before reaching 1 year of age—1 fewer than in the previous year. The infantile mortality rate was 30.9 as against 26.8 for the Country as a whole and 24.3 for the smaller towns.

It is pleasing to report that there were again no deaths attributable to child birth and deaths from tuberculosis were reduced from 6 in 1952 to 4 in 1953.

There were 33 more live births than in the previous year. The birth rate for the Borough was 16.1 per 1,000 population, whilst that for the whole Country was 15.5.

In regard to the acute infectious diseases, 423 cases were notified as compared with 355 in the year 1952. There was a less incidence of measles but an increase in whooping cough and scarlet fever.

During the year the County Health Department carried out an inspection of the Borough and a report on the housing, sanitary circumstances and administration was thereafter submitted by the County Medical Officer of Health. Several important recommendations were made which are receiving attention.

The unsatisfactory state of many of the dwelling houses is a problem requiring urgent attention. These houses are in a very bad state of repair, sanitary defects are present and modern amenities entirely lacking. The conditions are such that they are bound to have an adverse affect on the health and the whole attitude towards life of the families concerned. Further reference to this important matter is made in the body of the report.

The importance of the environmental health services is apt to be under-estimated in these times when so much attention is focused on the personal health services. It must always be borne in mind that sanitary reforms have played an important role in the conquest of much epidemic disease and any lowering of standards would be fatal.

Constant vigilance in regard to food preparing premises is essential in view of the increasing prevalence of outbreaks of food poisoning and dysentery. A high standard of personal hygiene amongst the workers in such premises and in our own homes is most important. Unfortunately, conditions in many houses and schools are not conducive to the formation of clean habits which, to be really effective, should be inculcated from early childhood.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the staff of the department for their constant attention to duty and the other officers of the council for their ever-willing co-operation. My thanks are also due in large measure to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for the kindness and consideration given to me.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER.

PART A.

Natural and Social Conditions and Vital Statistics

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Borough of Chorley is a compact industrial Lancashire town covering nearly 4,300 acres, of which about 680 acres were added, in 1934, from the surrounding rural area, including the Duxbury Estate (650 acres) and parts of the parishes of Euxton and Heath Charnock.

The town is situate approximately at the centre of a triangle formed by the County Boroughs of Preston, Wigan and Bolton, and is placed on elevated ground (average about 300 feet) at the approaches to the Pennine Range, which rises sharply to the East, the sea being located 10 miles to the West. The subsoil is mainly clay, with outcrops of sand and gravel.

The majority of the houses are of the terraced type in the centre of the town, with municipal housing estates on the outskirts. The town is well provided with several small green recreation grounds, and possesses in Astley Park, near the centre of the town, a large natural parkland of much beauty, comprising nearly 100 acres.

The principal industries are cotton weaving, spinning and bleaching, coal mining, motor works, floor-cloth manufacture, and steam laundries. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1952 and 1953:—

| | 1952 | 1953 |
|---|--------|--------|
| Population (estimated) | 32,250 | 32,040 |
| Number of Deaths (corrected) | 403 | 428 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population | 12.5 | 13.4 |
| Deaths of Infants under 1 year | 17 | 16 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 registered live births) | 35 | 31 |
| Number of Live Births registered (corrected) ... | 484 | 517 |
| Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) | 15.0 | 16.1 |
| Number of Still births (corrected) | 14 | 17 |
| Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births) | 28 | 32 |
| Number of Illegitimate Births | 25 | 21 |
| Illegitimate Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births) ... | 51.6 | 40.6 |
| Maternal Deaths | 0 | 0 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) ... | 0 | 0 |
| Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 6 | 3 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 0.19 | 0.09 |
| Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis | 6 | 4 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population from all forms of Tuberculosis | 0.19 | 0.12 |

The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Population (Census 1951) | 32,636 |
| No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books) | 9,844 |
| Rateable value of the Borough | £178,581 |
| Product of 1d. Rate | £733 |

CAUSE OF DEATH.

The following is a copy of the information supplied by the Registrar-General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Chorley residents. The information does not include non-civilian deaths:—

| | Males | Females | Total |
|--|-------|---------|-------|
| Tuberculosis, respiratory | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Tuberculosis, other | — | 1 | 1 |
| Meningococcal infections | — | 1 | 1 |
| Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases | 1 | — | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach | 9 | 8 | 17 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Breast | — | 8 | 8 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus | — | 3 | 3 |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | 16 | 14 | 30 |
| Measles | 1 | — | 1 |
| Leukæmia, Aleukæmia | — | 1 | 1 |
| Diabetes | — | 1 | 1 |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System | 31 | 41 | 72 |
| Coronary Disease, Angina | 18 | 16 | 34 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Other Heart Disease | 28 | 50 | 78 |
| Other Circulatory Disease | 11 | 9 | 20 |
| Influenza | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Pneumonia | 10 | 5 | 15 |
| Bronchitis | 28 | 11 | 39 |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis | 9 | 4 | 13 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | 4 | — | 4 |
| Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion | — | — | — |
| Congenital Malformations | — | 1 | 1 |
| Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases | 17 | 19 | 36 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 2 | — | 2 |
| All other Accidents | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Suicide | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Totals | 214 | 214 | 428 |

TABLE I

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE-RATES
FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1953.

| | England and Wales | 160 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London | 160 Smaller Towns Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census | London Admin. County | CHORLEY |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|---------|
| RATES PER 1,000 HOME POPULATION | | | | | |
| Births : | | | | | |
| Live Births | 15.5 | 17.0 | 15.7 | 17.5 | 16.1 |
| Still Births | 0.35 | 0.43 | 0.34 | 0.38 | 0.52 |
| | 22.4(a) | 24.8(a) | 21.4(a) | 21.0(a) | 32.0(a) |
| Deaths : | | | | | |
| All Causes | 11.4 | 12.2 | 11.3 | 12.5 | 13.4 |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | — | 0.00 |
| Tuberculosis | 0.20 | 0.24 | 0.19 | 0.24 | 0.12 |
| Influenza | 0.16 | 0.15 | 0.17 | 0.15 | 0.36 |
| Small Pox | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | — | 0.00 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioen- cephalitis) | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Pneumonia | 0.55 | 0.59 | 0.52 | 0.64 | 0.46 |
| Notifications (Corrected) | | | | | |
| Typhoid Fever | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Paratyphoid Fever | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Meningococcal Infection | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.00 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1.39 | 1.50 | 1.44 | 1.02 | 3.03 |
| Whooping Cough | 3.58 | 3.72 | 3.38 | 3.30 | 3.61 |
| Diphtheria | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Erysipelas | 0.14 | 0.14 | 0.13 | 0.12 | 0.24 |
| Small Pox | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | — | 0.00 |
| Measles | 12.36 | 11.27 | 12.32 | 8.09 | 5.09 |
| Pneumonia | 0.84 | 0.92 | 0.76 | 0.73 | 0.39 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis)— | | | | | |
| Paralytic | 0.07 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.07 | 0.06 |
| Non-Paralytic | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.00 |
| Food Poisoning | 0.24 | 0.25 | 0.24 | 0.38 | 0.39 |
| RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS | | | | | |
| Deaths : | | | | | |
| All causes under 1 year of age ... | 26.8(b) | 30.8 | 24.3 | 24.8 | 30.9 |
| Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age) | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 5.8 |
| RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL (LIVE AND STILL) BIRTHS | | | | | |
| Notifications : | | | | | |
| (Corrected) | | | | | |
| Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ... | 18.23(a) | 24.33(a) | 12.46(a) | 28.61(a) | 5.6 |

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

TABLE II.

| | Live Births | | Deaths (All Causes) | | Stillbirths | | Maternal Mortality | | Infant Mortality | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | No Regis- tered | Rate per 1000 Pop'n | No. Regis- tered | Rate per 1000 Pop'n | No. Regis- tered | Rate per 1000 Total Births | No. of D'ths Regis- tered | Rate per 1000 Total Births | Total | | Neo-Natal | |
| | | | | | | | | | No. of D'ths Regis- tered | Rate per 1000 Live Births | No. of D'ths Regis- tered | Rate per 1000 Live Births |
| Year 1953 | 517 | * | 428 | 13.4 | 17 | 32 | Nil | Nil | 16 | 31 | 9 | 17 |
| Year 1952 | 484 | 15.0 | 403 | 12.5 | 14 | 28 | Nil | Nil | 17 | 35 | 13 | 27 |
| 1951 | 489 | 15.1 | 470 | 14.5 | 17 | 34 | Nil | Nil | 16 | 33 | 12 | 25 |
| 1950 | 471 | 14.5 | 456 | 14.1 | 15 | 31 | 2 | 4.12 | 12 | 25 | 8 | 17 |
| 1949 | 561 | 17.2 | 434 | 13.3 | 19 | 33 | 1 | 1.72 | 18 | 32 | — | — |
| 1948 | 594 | 18.2 | 358 | 10.9 | 18 | 29 | Nil | Nil | 20 | 33 | — | — |
| Avg. 5 years 1948-52 | — | 17.0 | — | 13.1 | — | 32 | — | 1.16 | — | 35 | — | — |
| * Adjusted Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 0.98) = 15.8 per 1000 Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.05) = 14.0 per 1000 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TABLE III.

Infant Mortality Rates.

| Year | CHORLEY | England and Wales | Smaller Towns (20-50,000 Pop.) |
|------|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1949 | 32 | 32 | 30 |
| 1950 | 25 | 29.8 | 29.4 |
| 1951 | 33 | 29.6 | 27.6 |
| 1952 | 35 | 27.6 | 25.8 |
| 1953 | 31 | 26.8 | 24.3 |

TABLE IV.

Birth Rates.

| Year | CHORLEY | England and Wales |
|------|---------|-------------------|
| 1949 | 17.2 | 16.7 |
| 1950 | 14.5 | 15.8 |
| 1951 | 15.1 | 15.5 |
| 1952 | 15.0 | 15.3 |
| 1953 | 16.1 | 15.5 |

TABLE V.

Death Rates.

| Year | CHORLEY | England and Wales |
|------|---------|-------------------|
| 1949 | 13.3 | 11.7 |
| 1950 | 14.9 | 11.6 |
| 1951 | 14.5 | 12.5 |
| 1952 | 12.5 | 11.3 |
| 1953 | 13.4 | 11.4 |

TABLE VI.

Birth and Death Rates in the Borough of Chorley since 1939.

| | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Birth Rate | 17. | 16.3 | 17.3 | 16.4 | 19.2 | 20.1 | 16.6 | 18.8 | 20.1 | 18.2 | 17.2 | 14.5 | 15.1 | 15.0 | 16.1 |
| Death Rate | 15.6 | 15.7 | 12.3 | 12.7 | 13.2 | 13.2 | 13.7 | 12.4 | 13.0 | 10.9 | 13.3 | 14.9 | 14.5 | 12.5 | 13.4 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate | 77. | 75. | 41. | 54. | 40.5 | 42.5 | 40. | 53. | 50. | 33. | 32. | 25. | 33. | 35. | 31. |
| Maternal Mortality Rate | 5.47 | 8.14 | 3.53 | 9.52 | 0. | 3.26 | 0. | 1.66 | 0. | 0. | 1.72 | 4.12 | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| Natural Increase | +1.4 | +0.6 | +5.0 | +3.7 | +6.0 | +6.9 | +2.9 | +4.4 | +6.9 | +7.3 | +3.9 | -0.4 | +0.6 | +2.5 | +2.7 |

TABLE VII.
Birth and Death Rates through 5-Yearly Periods.

| | 1900-04 | 1905-09 | 1910-14 | 1915-19 | 1920-24 | 1925-29 | 1930-34 | 1935-39 | 1940-44 | 1945-49 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Death Rate..... | 17.8 | 16.5 | 15.3 | 15.3 | 12.5 | 12.3 | 13.0 | 13.7 | 13.4 | 12.7 | 14.9 | 14.5 | 12.5 | 13.4 |
| Birth Rate | 28.1 | 27.1 | 24.0 | 17.3 | 20.5 | 16.0 | 14.0 | 14.4 | 17.8 | 18.2 | 14.5 | 15.1 | 15.0 | 16.1 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate | 175 | 146 | 140 | 110 | 106 | 83 | 74.4 | 78.4 | 48.6 | 42.0 | 25 | 33.0 | 35.0 | 31.0 |
| Natur'l Incre'se | + 10.3 | + 10.6 | + 8.7 | + 2.0 | + 7.6 | + 3.7 | + 1.0 | + 0.7 | + 4.4 | + 5.6 | - 0.4 | + 0.6 | + 2.5 | + 2.7 |

PART B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Since the National Health Services Act came into force the personal health services of the Borough have been administered by the Lancashire County Council, as the "Local Authority" under the Act. These services include the Ante-natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics and the School Health Services—Medical and Dental, and the Home Nursing Services.

The Ambulance Service is also now provided by the County Council.

The Hospital Services which include all the local and near-by hospitals, are now maintained by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee.

DETAILS OF COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. There are 5 ambulances and 3 sitting case cars stationed at the Ambulance Station in Pall Mall, Chorley. The work done by this station covers the area of the Borough and surrounding districts.

HOME NURSING SERVICE. There are established in various parts of Chorley 4 female District Nurses and one male District Nurse. The duties of these nurses include nursing care of patients in their own homes and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE. There are 2 Domiciliary Midwives in Chorley who attend expectant mothers who are confined at home.

HOME HELP SERVICE. Home Helps are employed in Chorley and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night Helps are also employed where needed.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC. There is a weekly session held at 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, when a specialist, employed by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee, attends.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES. Two Child Welfare Centres are open each week in the district, one at Eaves Lane, each Wednesday afternoon and the one at Cunliffe Street is open on Tuesdays and Fridays. A Doctor and a Health Visitor attend each clinic and advice is readily given in infant care and management and baby foods sold.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE. Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the schools and clinic sessions are held at 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square and 20, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley, for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, orthopaedic and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provision for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

CONVALESCENT CARE. In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

WELFARE SERVICES. Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer any one to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

These Services are administered on behalf of Lancashire County Council by No. 4 Health Division Medical Officer: Dr. J. Walker, 44, Victoria Road, Fulwood. Tel. Preston 7263, the local Assistant Divisional Medical Officer of Health is Dr. D. S. Black, 2 & 4, St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, Tel. Chorley 2709.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. The facilities as described in previous reports continue to be utilised, i.e., the Preston Royal Infirmary Laboratories, and the County Analyst.

PART C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

PART C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (a) Water.

Source.

The town is supplied with water from the Liverpool Corporation Water Works at Rivington (the Chorley supply coming from the filter beds at "The Nab") with the exception of the properties on the Duxbury Estate, whose supply is drawn from the Manchester supply, as the pipe lines to that city traverse the area on their way from Thirlmere. The water is soft (being upland surface water) and is of an excellent domestic quality.

Analyses

Weekly bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Liverpool Corporation who forward copies of their analyses to the Public Health Department. Since these copies were requested in 1941 the results have proved invariably satisfactory.

A periodic "check up" of these reports is made by local analyses.

Water Samples taken:—

| | No. | Chemical. | | Bacteriological | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|------|-----------------|------|
| | | S. | U/S. | S. | U/S. |
| Public Supply ... | 4 | 1 | — | 3 | — |
| Private ... | 2 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| C.C. Baths ... | 3 | 1 | — | 2 | — |
| Private Baths ... | 2 | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| Potable—6 Samples. | | Bath—5 Samples. | | | |

The water supply continues to be chlorinated.

Supply.

Practically all the houses within the Borough receive a mains water supply; the exceptions being the outlying farms and cottages. These number 19 dwelling houses (including 7 farms).

In some cases a reasonably good water is rendered of doubtful quality by poor arrangement and condition of pipes, or other extraneous cause. In one case (Tincklers Barracks) the supply is unsatisfactory at the source.

There were 9,903 houses on a mains water supply in the Borough, at the end of the year. No houses are supplied by stand-pipe.

Pressure.

The pressure of water in some parts of the town is not good and leads to consequent neglect of all those main cleansing functions for which water is used—from flushing the closets to flushing of yards, etc.

Consumption per head.

The average daily consumption of water per head of population is about 31.3 gallons. (This figure includes the town's use of water for industrial purposes, as well as domestic).

(b) Drainage and Sewerage.

The outlying farms and cottages in the Borough are the only parts not served by the water carriage system.

Disposal.

The disposal is effected at the works at Common Bank, Cowling, Botany and Heapey Road.

The principal sewage works, serving more than three quarters of the area of the Borough, is situated at Common Bank at the lowest part of the town. Three subsidiary works at Cowling, Heapey and Botany deal with sewage from the eastern parts of the Borough. In order to drain these areas to the Common Bank works tunnelling or pumping would be necessary. Tentative proposals for this purpose have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for their observations, and the Council will be asked to consider three alternative schemes.

In view of the unsatisfactory effluents discharged from the smaller works, with consequent pollution of watercourses, the River Board is urging the Council to take action to improve matters.

Sewage from Chorley is received through four trunk sewers at the north east of the works, and that from Euxton and the Royal Ordnance Factory is conveyed through two separate sewers on the westerly side. The works comprise coarse screens, detritus tanks, sedimentation tanks, storm-water tanks, slow sand filters, percolating bacterial filters, humus and sludge digestion tanks, and sludge drying beds.

Although schemes have been prepared for the sewerage of the eastern area of the town to the Common Bank Sewage Works, and the consequent abolition of the three small works, it is likely to be some considerable time before the works can be completed. In the meantime it is recommended that obvious and urgent repairs be carried out.

2. Rivers and Streams.

The rivers and streams in the Borough are inspected regularly by the Inspectors of the Ribble Joint Committee.

3. (a) Closet Accommodation.

Closet accommodation in the Borough is as follows:—

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Privy middens | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Closets attached to above middens | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| Pail Closets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 84 |
| Waste-water closets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 682 |
| Fresh-water closets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10051 |

The privy middens and pail closets are located amongst the farm and outlying properties near the Borough boundary and none exist where sewers are available. They are mostly emptied by the owners, but the Corporation undertakes the emptying of some privy middens and pail closets. By agreement the Chorley Rural District Council undertakes the emptying of pail closets at Birkacre.

All new houses are fitted with fresh-water closets.

Conversions.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| Privy closets to fresh-water closets | ... | ... | — |
| Pail closets to fresh-water closets | ... | ... | 1 |
| Waste-water closets to fresh-water closets | ... | ... | 20 |

In the 1915 report of the County Medical Officer of Health on the sanitary circumstances then existing in Chorley it was stated that 1,110 waste water closets were in use, and that "The existence of so many waste water closets is an unsatisfactory feature, owing to the impossibility of keeping the interior of the excreta shaft clean, and also to their great liability to stoppage."

Since 1915 the number has been reduced by 428 to 682, and every effort should be made to convert this insanitary type of convenience to fresh-water closets at all premises where action under the Housing Acts is not likely to be taken in the near future.

Although the Council assist owners in the conversion of this type of closet by providing the necessary drainage work free, it would possibly be beneficial if a further incentive were offered to speed up the conversion rate.

(b) Public Cleansing.

Streets.

The cleansing of streets and clearance of snow is carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department.

House and Trade Refuse.

The collection of house and trade refuse is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Condemned meat and offal is disposed of by removal to Gallagher's (Offal Works) of Wigan.

The refuse from over 11,097 covered ash-bins is collected in approved motor vehicles, of which the Council now possess six—one "S.D. Freighter" and five "Karriers."

The great majority of the bins are emptied weekly but breaks occur in the regularity. In a town the size of Chorley, if this service is to be run with due economy, these breaks are almost inevitable and are due to such occurrences as national holidays, variations in the distance of "tips," calls upon the vehicles by other departments for emergency operations (particularly at a time when there is an over-all shortage of vehicles and hiring is difficult), and break-downs in the vehicles themselves.

Men employed in refuse collection are:—

4 teams of 4 men each, on 4 waggons.

1 team of 2 men on 1 waggon.

1 man on 1 waggon (pig food)

Several loaded waggons were weighed before tipping, they varied from 2 tons 1 cwt. to 2 tons 9 cwts. The total amount of household rubbish transported to the tip was approximately, 13,851 tons.

- Superannuation.** A number of superannuated posts remained unfilled at the end of the year. There is difficulty in obtaining suitable labour.
- Baths.** 70% of the ashbinmen have no fixed bath in their homes but the Corporation offers facilities at the Public Baths.
- Welfare.** A room equipped with hot and cold water and coke stove is available for the use of men staying for mid-day meals.
- Clothing.** Each man is allowed a warm winter coat, gloves and goggles.
- Ash-bins.** 11,097 ash-bins were emptied every 7 to 10 days except during the holiday periods. 455 bins were sold at 40/-. During the year 212 preliminary notices were served on owners to provide bins. At the year end 21 of the notices were not complied with.
- Tipping.** The refuse, with the exception of condemned meat and offal and those articles recovered under war-time salvage schemes, is disposed of by controlled tipping. The tips were at Tootell Street and Yarrow Bridge.
- Salvage.** The salvage schemes instituted during the war continue.
- Pig-food.** The salvage of pig-food continued with little abatement until January, 1954.

The amount of raw pig-food collected during 1953 was 254 tons valued at about £956. The amount reclaimed from Wigan as concentrate for re-sale was 126 tons valued at £932.

Nevertheless, this service is not run at a profit; the cost of transport (including men's wages) absorbing all the "returns."

The retail price of the concentrate was 7/6 per tin.

There are six licences issued to private collectors of kitchen waste, who collect approximately 150 tons per annum.

A person keeping less than 5 pigs, 5 breeding rabbits or 50 poultry, or who is a member of a registered pig club, may collect waste kitchen food without licence.

(c) Cleansing of Drains and Closets.

Three men are now employed part-time on this work but they are also reserve labour for other work. It is therefore difficult to maintain an efficient drain cleansing service.

Several long-standing drain troubles causing periodical stoppages have been remedied. Some of the work, where repairs necessitate excavation is undertaken by the Borough Engineer's Department.

Instances are still occurring where owners or contractors are making unauthorised openings into the drainage system and then closing without prior inspection by this department. This leads to rat infestation and the breakdown of an otherwise good system.

(d) Lavatories and Urinals.

There are 16 public lavatories and 2 urinals in the town, cleaned and maintained by a staff of one male (full-time) and one female (part-time).

Other conveniences provided at Astley Hall and the Recreation Grounds are under supervision of the Parks Department.

The Council have in hand a scheme for the erection of new conveniences for both males and females, together with an office for the Markets Superintendent, on the old Cattle Market. This scheme should be proceeded with as soon as possible and consideration given to the necessity for additional conveniences in other parts of the town where there at present is no provision.

The public conveniences and workmen's conveniences at the Cemetery, supervised by the Cemetery Committee, should be modernised and converted from the existing pail closets to the

water carriage system, or alternatively a new building incorporating accommodation for males, females, and the workmen, should be erected in a suitable position convenient for connection to the public water supply and sewer.

The old metal urinal in Back Street, which is obstructed with a telegraph pole, is due for replacement with a modern structure.

All conveniences have again been grossly misused and wilful damage to fittings and locks has constantly to be made good.

4. Shops and Offices.

There were 730 registered shops in the Borough at the end of the year.

Action taken in regard to provisions of the Shops Acts:—

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Number of visits made | 690 |
| Number of notices served | 94 |

Many verbal notices were given for minor contraventions of the Shops Acts and Public Health Act.

5. Camping Sites—Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

Under the Chorley Corporation Act 1926 (section 92-3) no tent, caravan or similar structure is permitted to remain within the Borough, nor is it permitted for any land to be used to provide accommodation for such, without the consent of the Council.

6. Smoke Abatement.

Routine observations of smoke emitted from the 55 factory chimneys in the Borough are made.

I suggest that the Council should consider the advisability of making bye-laws relating to the emission of smoke.

| | |
|--|------|
| | 1953 |
| No. of smoke observations made | 59 |
| No. of visits to factories etc. for the purpose | 64 |
| Excessive emissions recorded | 7 |

I append figures showing the solid deposit since 1949. They show some improvement which no doubt has been forwarded by the informal liaison between your Sanitary Inspectors and mill and factory managements.

| Total Solids deposited (in tons per sq. mile) | | | | |
|---|-------|------|------|------|
| 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 |
| 173 | 135 | 129 | 57 | 88 |
| Average deposit per month— | | | | |
| 14.4 | 11.25 | 11.7 | 5.2 | 7.3 |

7. Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Corporation Swimming Bath and Hartwood Hall are the only public "plunges" in use in the Borough.

8. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| No. of Council houses found infested | ... | ... | 2 |
| No. of Council houses disinfested | ... | ... | 2 |
| No. of other houses found infested | ... | ... | 1 |
| No. of other houses disinfested | ... | ... | 1 |

Disinfection of premises is performed by the use of Cimex or spraying with Zaldecide or other vermicide. Bedding and other suitable material is treated by steam disinfection.

9. Schools.

The sanitary accommodation of some of the schools is inefficient and insufficient and should be brought to a reasonable standard as soon as practicable.

10. Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|
| Total No. of sanitary inspections by Inspectors | ... | ... | 6283 |
| No. of premises showing defects or nuisances | ... | ... | 858 |
| Informal notices served | ... | ... | 858 |
| Informal notices complied with | ... | ... | 807 |
| Statutory notices served under:— | | | |
| (a) Housing Acts | ... | ... | 11 |
| (b) Public Health Acts and Chorley Corporation Act | ... | ... | 45 |
| Statutory notices not complied with | ... | ... | 9 |

Offensive Trades.

There are 5 premises registered for the purpose of carrying on trades classified as "offensive," namely Tripe dressing 4, and gut scraping 1.

These premises are all inspected to see that they conform to the bye-laws.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|----|
| No. of visits made | ... | ... | 21 |
|--------------------|-----|-----|----|

Diseases of Animals—Acts and Orders

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Swine Fever. | 5 Form A notices served. |
| | 75 Licences from outside sources checked. 1 Licence issued. |
| Sheep Scab | No action. |
| Fowl Pest | No action. |
| 1950 | |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Anthrax Order 1938 | No action. | |
| Foot and Mouth Disease Order 1938 | 43 Licences issued, 42 checked. | |
| Importation of Animals Act | 1 Licence was issued and 45 from outside areas were checked. | |
| Transit of Animals Order 1931 | This Order deals with the Conveyance of animals to prevent unnecessary suffering. Several minor contraventions were dealt with and rectified by informal action. | |
| Tuberculosis Order 1938 | Notices of Intended Slaughter received (Form C.) ... | 6 |
| | Copies of notices requiring owner to detain animals received (Form A.) ... | 1 |
| | Form A. notices were served on Chorley Cowkeepers | — |
| | Bovines slaughtered in the abattoirs ... | 6 |
| | Copies of notices to cleanse and disinfect premises received and complied with ... | 1 |

Rats and Mice Destruction.

Summary of Work.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of " third party " treatments ... | 136 |
| No. of treatments at business premises ... | 29 |

The poisons used are Zinc Phosphide, Arsenic, Red Squill and Warfarin. The sewers were not treated during the year.

The Council sanctioned the appointment of a full-time Rodent Operator who commenced his duties early in January, 1954.

Rodent control is an important function of the Local Authority and warrants more attention than it has had in the past. The replacement of part-time by a full-time operator should achieve this result.

Lethal Chambers for Dogs and Cats.

Two lethal chambers are installed at the Back Street yard. 465 cats and 442 dogs were destroyed during the year.

Rag Flock Act.

Three premises were registered. 15 Inspections were made during the year. 6 Samples were taken, 6 being satisfactory.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two common lodging-houses in the Borough, Standish House for men only, and No. 1, King Street, which accommodates men and women. These premises are frequently inspected. New glazed urinal stalls have been fixed, but other work the owners have been asked to carry out is still outstanding. During the year the Health Committee met the owners of the Lodging Houses to discuss ways of improving conditions.

Visits paid to each of the houses during the year ... 30

House let in lodgings.

There are no bye-laws adopted locally to enable this class of premises to be controlled.

PART D.

Housing

HOUSING.

General.

Mainly due to the high cost of repairs in relation to the market value of the property (mostly old), difficulty is being experienced in administering the relevant Sections of the Housing and Public Health Acts.

The main type of house in the Borough is a terraced type with either 4 or 5 habitable rooms. The main defects are defective roofs, walls, gutters, spouts, windows and lack of damp-proof courses. These defects are very liable to produce excessive dampness.

The total number of houses erected by the Council up to the end of 1953 was 1,281.

In spite of the work already done, there still remain many dwelling houses which must be considered unfit for human habitation, and the implementation of the requirements of the Housing Act 1936, is now one of the biggest problems to be dealt with by the Local Authority.

There are 59 back-to-back houses and 2 back-to-earth houses in the town, also several cellar dwellings containing two rooms still being used for human habitation, and the Council are faced with a most onerous task in order to bring the living conditions of the people up to a reasonable standard.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Bill will require energetic action for its implementation, and the Council are recommended to give urgent attention to all aspects of the housing situation in order to be prepared to take such action as may be considered necessary.

The following report was submitted in July to a joint meeting of the Health and Sanitary Committee and the Housing and Town Planning Committee:—

“ Ladies and Gentlemen,

“ Members of this Committee are aware that there are a very considerable number of houses in the Borough in such a condition as to be unfit for human habitation.

“ Since the beginning of the war in the year 1939 a number of individual unfit houses have been dealt with by this Committee.

“ We are of the opinion, however, that the time has come for dealing with this important matter of unfit houses on a larger scale — that of Clearance Areas. We consider that only by this means can any real progress be made towards solving this problem of unfit houses. Much of our time is at present being spent, one might almost say wasted, in inspecting individual houses about which complaints have been made and these houses are in most instances no worse than the neighbouring houses. It is obviously unsatisfactory to deal with an individual house so situated and in the many cases where the house is one of a row it is very often impossible to take action as an individual house under existing legislation. Again it seems to us that the present procedure is unfair (1) to tenants —as it is not always those who make most complaints who are in the greatest need; (2) to property owners who may recondition houses which may before long be included

in Clearance Areas; (3) to this Committee and its Officials who may find it more difficult and more costly to take appropriate action as a result of the present piecemeal methods.

“ There are several areas in the Borough which we consider suitable to be dealt with as Clearance Areas. A detailed inspection of every house in these areas will, however, be required before presenting Official Representations to you in respect of each area. Although houses are not available at present for rehousing the persons displaced from the Clearance Areas, we are of the opinion that the necessary housing inspections should be commenced without delay. With the present inadequate staff of Sanitary Inspectors this procedure will take a considerable period of time. As the survey of each area is completed it is proposed to present to you an Official Representation for your consideration. By this means it is hoped to give you the information necessary to allow of action being taken to deal with the unsatisfactory housing conditions which exist in the Borough.

“ We shall be pleased to have approval to proceed along the lines indicated in this Report.

“ We are, Ladies and Gentlemen,

“ Your obedient servants,

“ J. Walker & R. P. B. Lund.”

Uncertainty in regard to new legislation had the effect of retarding progress, nevertheless preliminary surveys have been made, and consultations with Town and Country Planning Divisional Officers have taken place.

No. of new houses erected during the year.

| | 1952 | 1953 |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|
| (1) By the Local Authority | 83 | 129 |
| (2) By other bodies or persons | 23 | 23 |

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

| | 1953 |
|--|------|
| 1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) | 1267 |
| (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose | 4034 |
| 2. (a) No. of dwelling-houses included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | 296 |
| (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose | 331 |
| 3. No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... | 32 |
| 4. No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation | 611 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... | 724 |
|--|-----|

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

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

| | |
|---|----|
| (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 11 |
| (2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice. | |
| (a) by Owners | 16 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | 4 |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act.

| | |
|--|---|
| (1) No. of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 7 |
| (2) No. of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after serving of formal notices. | |
| (a) by Owners | 3 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | — |

C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936.

| | |
|--|------|
| | 1953 |
| (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 2 |
| (2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 4 |
| (3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted | 8 |
| (4) No. of dwelling-houses represented under Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act 1953 | 4 |

D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

| | |
|--|---|
| (1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 1 |
|--|---|

| | |
|---|-----|
| (2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |
|---|-----|

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

| | |
|--|-----|
| A. (i) No. dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 23 |
| (ii) No. of families dwelling therein | 33 |
| (iii) No. of persons dwelling therein | 167 |
| B. No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... | 4 |

5. Housing Act, 1949.

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Action taken | Nil |
|---------------------|-----|

6. Particulars of Housing Schemes.

- (i) In hand at end of the year.
Liptrot Estate.
- (ii) Contemplated—Extension to Thornhill Estate.

PART E.



Inspection and Supervision of Food.

PART E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(A) Milk Supply.

Since the 1st October, 1949 much of the work previously undertaken by your Sanitary Inspectors has now been taken over by the Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Council's Inspectors' work is now confined to inspecting and reporting upon the dairies in the Borough, excluding the shippin and farm supervision that they previously undertook.

Action taken in the administration of Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

1. The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

| | |
|--|---|
| (a) own dairies in the district | 7 |
| (b) dairy farms in the district | 2 |
| (c) premises outside the district | 1 |

2. The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

No. of dealers' licences issued by the Local Authority during 1953:—

| | |
|---|-----|
| " Tuberculin Tested " Milk | 12 |
| " Accredited " Milk Distribution | Nil |

3. The Milk (Special Designation) Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949.

No. of licences issued in respect of " Heat Treated " Milk:—

- (i) Pasteurising Plants ... 2 Sterilising Plants ... Nil.
 (ii) Retail distributors.

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| (a) Pasteurised | 13 |
| (b) Sterilised | 51 |

4. Certain improvements to plants were undertaken during the year, as a result of informal action by your Sanitary Inspectors.

1. 2 Kit Sterilisation Units installed.

5. Action taken by the Local Authority in relation to:—

(a) Raw Milk:—

1. Tuberculosis—Biological Tests.

| | | | | | |
|---------|----|----------|----|----------|---|
| Samples | 18 | Negative | 18 | Positive | — |
|---------|----|----------|----|----------|---|

| | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|----|--------------|----|------------------|
| 2. | Methylene Blue Reduction Test. | | | | |
| | Samples | 20 | Satisfactory | 19 | Unsatisfactory 1 |
| 3. | B. Coli Examinations. | | | | |
| | Samples | 20 | Satisfactory | 17 | Unsatisfactory 3 |
| 4. | Sediment Tests. | | | | |
| | Samples | — | Satisfactory | — | Unsatisfactory — |
| (b) | Heat Treated Milk:— | | | | |
| | “ Pasteurised ”— | | | | |
| 1. | Phosphatase Test. | | | | |
| | Samples | 46 | Satisfactory | 45 | Unsatisfactory 1 |
| 2. | Methylene Blue Reduction Test. | | | | |
| | Samples | 46 | Satisfactory | 46 | Unsatisfactory — |
| | “ Sterilised ”— | | | | |
| 3. | Turbidity Test. | | | | |
| | Samples | 2 | Satisfactory | 2 | Unsatisfactory — |
| 4. | Tuberculosis. | | | | |
| | Samples | — | Negative | — | Positive — |

(B) Meat and Other Foods.

1. Meat.

Abattoirs.

There are no private slaughter-houses in the Borough, the Corporation providing a public abattoir.

The main slaughter house roof still leaks and requires repair.

Slaughtermen holding licences during the year 24

Meat Inspection.

All meat entering the abattoirs is examined by your Sanitary Inspectors acting under the bye-laws made in 1939, under section 104 of the Chorley Corporation Act 1926.

Every animal and carcase, including frozen meat and all packaged and canned meats, are kept under close supervision.

The population of Chorley and surrounding districts now supplied from the abattoir number some 80,000 persons.

Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, all vehicles carrying meat are inspected and if necessary, ordered to be brought up to the requirements of the regulations.

In January, 1940, the Ministry of Food took over the control of the abattoir and the responsibility for the killing and distribution of meat, the Borough Council remaining responsible for the maintenance of the premises and their Sanitary Inspectors for the inspection of the carcasses.

The following table shows the meat inspection results for the year:—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned, 1953

| | Cattle | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|---|--------|--------|--------------------|------|
| Number Killed | 3515 | 3073 | 12,663 | 3243 |
| Number Inspected | 3560 | 3073 | 12,663 | 3275 |
| All Diseases except Tuberculosis | | | | |
| Whole carcasses con- demned | 21 | 96 | 17 | 39 |
| Tuberculosis only | | | | |
| Whole carcasses con- demned | 45 | — | — | 4 |

Abattoir Welfare.

A room is provided for slaughterhouse men. This is warmed by a coke stove, and equipped with hot water and electric lighting.

2. Other Foods. Shops, Stables, &c.

On the 1st October, 1939 the Corporation became a Foods and Drugs Authority for the purposes of the Foods and Drugs Act 1938.

This enables the Corporation to exercise a more immediate control over the preparation and distribution of food.

Bye-laws under the above Act for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air were adopted by the Council and came into operation on the 10th July, 1950.

The following is a summary of action taken and observations made under the above heading:—

Markets.

All stallholders selling cooked and other foods were visited frequently and advised to cover the stall on three sides. A number have co-operated and protected the food by the use of glass and cellophane, but until the new stalls are erected little can be done to obtain maximum protection against dust, dirt and flies as required by the Bye-laws.

The surface of the Cattle Market was very unsatisfactory and in all weather the stallholders had great difficulty in protecting the food. Some attempted by the use of perspex sheets, but although some improvement was effected the position could still not be considered satisfactory.

The surfacing of the Cattle Market, executed early this year, and the provision of new stalls on the General Market should improve the position, but firm action will be necessary to enforce the Bye-laws.

Registration of Premises.

A regular inspection is made of shops and vehicles, and other premises used in the manufacture or preparation of food stuffs, many of which—such as premises used in preparing ice cream, potted and preserved meats, etc.—have to be registered under either the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the Chorley Corporation Act or the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

Hawkers.

There were 21 hawkers registered under these acts.

Potted Meats.

Premises used for the preparation of potted and preserved meat, fish, etc., numbered 25.

Fish Fryers.

There are 35 fried fish shops on the register. Bye-laws governing these were made in 1939. All were visited by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

Bakehouses.

There are 74 bakehouses in the Borough, of which one is a basement bakehouse.

Many bakehouses are adapted from dwelling-houses and are not very suitable for the purposes of storage of foodstuffs or for easy cleaning.

Ice-Cream.

In 1953 there were 148 premises registered by this Authority under the Food and Drugs Acts.

Of these premises 4 manufacture their own ice cream in Chorley.

The number of wholesale firms from outside the Borough who supply local retailers is 17.

223 inspections were made of registered premises.

Action taken under Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-52:—

9 Samples were taken giving the following results:—

| Grade I. | Grade II. | Grade III. | Grade IV. |
|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 8 | 1 | — | — |

The defined grades are obtained by the use of the methylene blue reduction test which affords a good index of the degree of contamination of the product.

Grades I. and II. are considered satisfactory, the time taken to reduce methylene blue being $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours or more.

Grades III. and IV. are considered unsatisfactory, the time taken to reduce methylene blue for Grade III. being $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours, and Grade IV. 0 hours.

(C) Adulteration of Foods.

No legal action was taken during the year under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928, or other acts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Chemical analyses of foods are undertaken by the County Analyst to the Lancashire County Council.

The bacteriological analyses of milk and other foods is undertaken at the laboratories of the Preston Royal Infirmary.

Milk.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Formal samples taken | 66 |
| Informal samples taken | — |
| ...Unsatisfactory samples | 8 |

Other Foods.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Samples taken | 32 |
| Comprising:— | |
| Condiments | 1 |
| Sausage | 4 |
| Sugar Confectionery | 5 |
| Prepared Foods | 2 |
| Dairy Produce (other than milk) | 3 |
| Ice Cream | 6 |
| Ice Lollies | 4 |
| Cereals and Vegetables | 2 |
| Medicinal Articles | 4 |
| Samples unsatisfactory | 1 |
| No. of visits made in execution of above Acts ... | 159 |

(D) Food Poisoning.

23 cases of Food Poisoning were ascertained, the majority forming part of the outbreak which affected the North-West.

The causative agent was meat pies which had been made outside the Borough, and the type of poisoning was salmonella morbificans bovis.

During the course of the investigations into this outbreak 117 specimens were obtained and submitted to the Pathologist for examination.

PART F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infections and other diseases

DISEASES.

A. Notifiable Infectious Diseases (except T.B.)

1. Prevalence:—

1953 and 1952.

1953

| Disease | 1st Qr. | 2nd Qr. | 3rd Qr. | 4th Qr. | Total Cases | Cases Admitted to Hospital |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Measles | 124 | 35 | 7 | — | 166 | 2 |
| Scarlet Fever | 29 | 36 | 13 | 21 | 99 | 76 |
| Diphtheria... .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | 6 | 19 | 92 | 118 | — |
| Pneumonia | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 13 | 2 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Polio-myelitis | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Erysipelas | 1 | 5 | 2 | — | 8 | 2 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia... .. | — | 2 | — | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food Poisoning | — | 10 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 1 |
| Dysentery | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Malaria | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |

1952

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|
| Measles | 39 | 7 | 29 | 189 | 264 | — |
| Scarlet Fever | 4 | 9 | 4 | 18 | 35 | 27 |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough... .. | 13 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 31 | — |
| Pneumonia | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 15 | 4 |
| Erysipelas | 1 | — | — | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia... .. | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Dysentery | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food Poisoning | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infection | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Paratyphoid | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |

It will be seen from the foregoing tables that Measles continued to be prevalent during the first quarter of the year, and Whooping Cough in the last quarter.

There were 99 cases of Scarlet Fever notified.

Two cases of Poliomyelitis (paralytic) were notified, but both recovered with little or no functional disability.

B. Tuberculosis.**New cases and Mortality during 1953.**

| Age Periods | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | |
|----------------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Years. | | | | | | | | |
| 0— | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1— | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2— | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5— | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10— | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15— | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 20— | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 25— | 3 | 4 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 35— | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 45— | 4 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 1 |
| 55— | 3 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 65— | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 75 and upwards | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Age unknown | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| | 14 | 10 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Totals..... | 24 | | 6 | | 3 | | 1 | |
| 1952 Totals:— | 25 | | 4 | | 9 | | 1 | |
| 1951 Totals: | 22 | | 9 | | 12 | | — | |

The number of cases on the register at the end of the year were:

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Pulmonary | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 138 |
| Non-pulmonary | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 73 |
| Removed from Register | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33 |

PART G.

New Legislation

NEW LEGISLATION.

1953.

Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act 1953.

Town and Country Planning Act 1953.

Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953.

Artificial Sweeteners in Food Order 1953.

Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order 1953.

Diseases of Animals (Extension of Definition of Poultry) Order 1953.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations 1953.

Labelling of Food Order 1953.

Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act 1953.

Transfers of Functions (Slaughter-houses and Knackers Yards) Order 1953.

Food Standards (Preserves) Order 1953 (comes into force: Sales by wholesale, 1st January, 1954; Sales by retail 1st May, 1954).



