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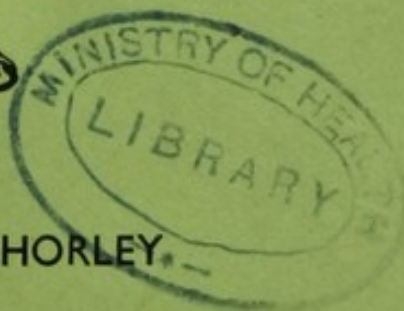
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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

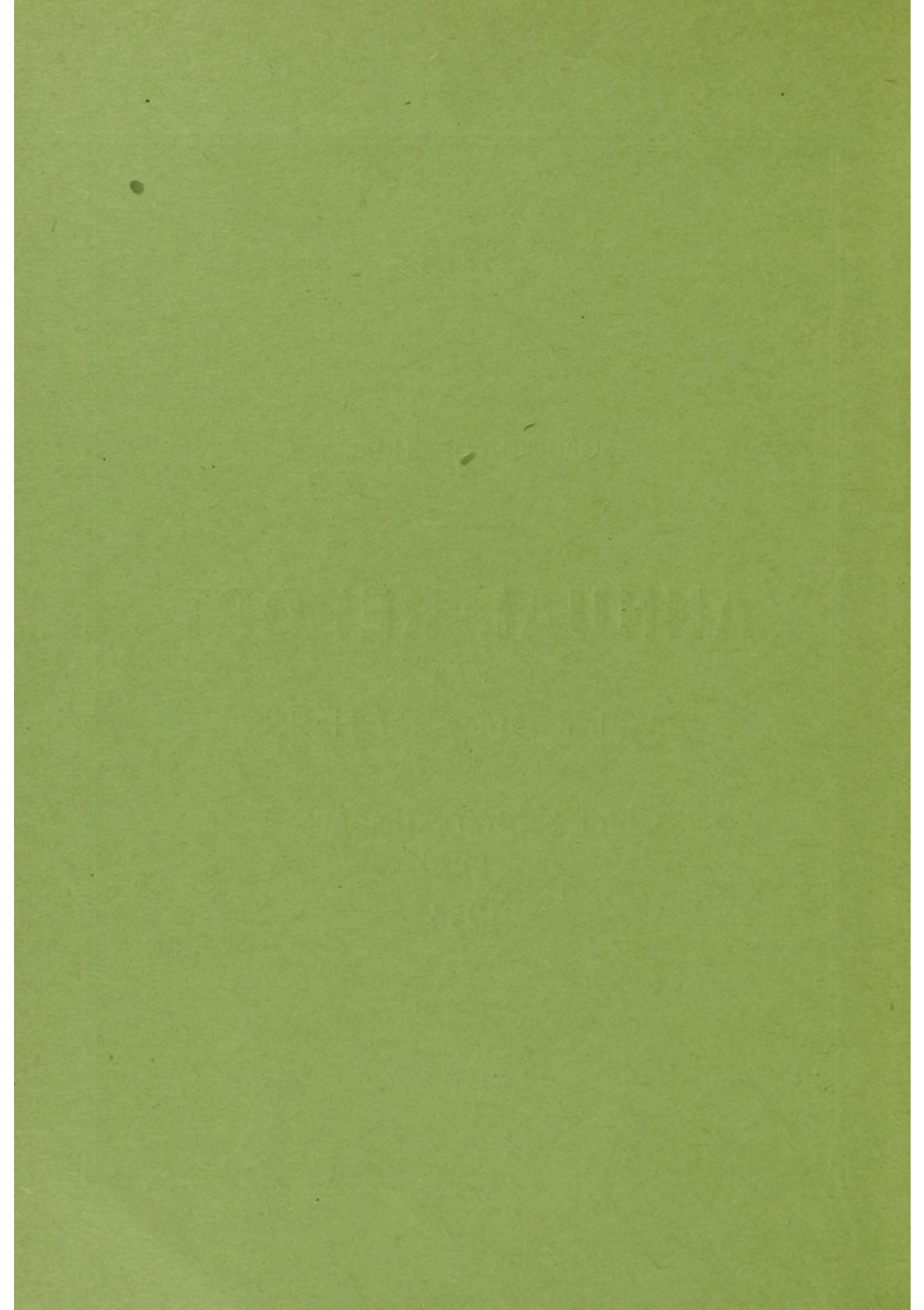
Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1954

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HILLS PRINTERS, LIVESEY STREET,  
CHORLEY,  
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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

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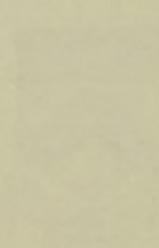
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CHORLEY,  
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GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1884

PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

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## BOROUGH OF CHORLEY.

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

1954

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor B. H. GASKELL

Alderman R. EVANS.

,, J. FEARNHEAD.

,, Mrs. B. M. GILLETT.

,, Mrs. EDWARDS.

Councillor H. BREWER.

,, Miss CUNLIFFE.

,, Miss FORSHAW.

,, T. GRIME.

,, T. HEATON.

,, Mrs. MONKS.

,, P. QUINN.

,, G. R. RIGBY.

,, A. SHEPPARD.

,, N. SMALLEY.

,, P. WALSH

,, W. WILCOCK.

Alderman S. COOKSON.

,, J. GREEN

,, J. B. HINDLE.

,, C. WILLIAMS.

Councillor E. S. ASHWORTH.

,, D. DUNN.

,, H. GREEN.

,, J. HATCH.

,, W. LOWE.

,, M. NEWSOME.

,, W. RAWCLIFFE.

,, B. RILEY.

,, I. SELLERS.

,, T. C. SHORROCK.

,, S. G. SMITH.

Chairman of Health and Sanitary Committee:

Alderman S. COOKSON

Vice-Chairman of Health and Sanitary Committee:

Councillor W. RAWCLIFFE.



# **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.**  
**G. H. WATCHORN, Cert. R.S.I. (Cert. Inspector of Meat and other Foods)**

Clerical Staff:

**R. HEAPS. J. S. SMITH**



To:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND 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, 1954.

From the Vital Statistics it will be seen that,

- (a) the Birth Rate has fallen from 16.1 in 1953 to 14.9 in 1954;
- (b) the Death Rate has risen from 13.4 to 13.8;
- (c) the Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 year of age) has fallen from 31 to 27.

The number of births is 41 fewer than in the previous year and the Birth Rate of 14.9 for the Borough is slightly lower than the figure of 15.2 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths is 14 more than in the previous year and the Death Rate of 13.8 is in excess of that for the country as a whole, which was 11.3.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 13 as compared with 16 in the year 1953, and the Infant Mortality Rate of 27 remains higher than the rate of 25.5 for England and Wales.

It is pleasing to report that there were again no deaths attributable to child-birth and the 3 deaths from tuberculosis is one fewer than in the previous year. The death rate from tuberculosis for the Borough is exactly half of the rate for the country as a whole.

In regard to the acute infectious diseases, 554 cases were notified as compared with 423 in 1953.

The Minister of Housing & Local Government (in Circular 30/54 of 22nd March, 1954) asked Councils to resume the full exercise of their powers in regard to Slum Clearance, and on 30th August, 1954, the Housing Repairs and Rents Act came into operation. A considerable amount of time has, therefore, been devoted to reviewing the housing conditions in the Borough with a view to submitting to the Minister the proposals of the Council for dealing with unfit houses during the next five years as required by Section 1 of the above-mentioned Act.

The survey reveals that there is a formidable problem to be tackled in the Borough and this no doubt will be the position in many parts of the Country. A list comprising 558 houses which should be demolished was presented to the Committee in October; this is not the final figure. There is no doubt that people occupying such houses are living in grim conditions. Some of the houses will surely become dangerous unless speedy action is taken. No difficulties, financial or other, should be allowed to stand in the way of this drive to rid the country of slums—a legacy of the war period. Side by side with this should be the active implementation of schemes to salvage houses which can be brought up to satisfactory standards.

The Food & Drugs Amendment Act received the Royal Assent in 1954, but except for the section dealing with Slaughter Houses was not brought into operation during the year. Food Hygiene merits much attention and this aspect of the work has not been neglected by your officers.

Other important matters such as sewage disposal, smoke pollution, etc., are referred to in the body of the report.

An additional Sanitary Inspector was appointed during the year, so enabling the Department to carry out more effectively its many and varied functions. The office premises have been improved and are now much more suitable.

My thanks are due to the staff for the efficient and willing manner in which they have carried out all their duties. I wish also to express my gratitude to officers of other Departments for assistance whenever required and to the Chairman and Members of this Committee for the support and encouragement extended 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 approximately 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, 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 1953 and 1954:—

|   | 1953     | 1954   |
|---|----------|--------|
| Population (estimated) ... ..   | 32,040   | 31,930 |
| Number of Deaths (corrected) ... ..                                   | 428      | 442    |
| Death rate per 1,000 population ... ..                                | 13.4     | 13.8   |
| Death of Infants under 1 year ... ..                                  | 16       | 13     |
| Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 registered live births) ... ..    | 31       | 27     |
| Number of Live Births registered (corrected) ...                      | 517      | 476    |
| Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ... ..                              | 16.1     | 14.9   |
| Number of Still births (corrected) ... ..                             | 17       | 15     |
| Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births) ... ..       | 32       | 31     |
| Number of Illegitimate Births ... ..                                  | 21       | 21     |
| Illegitimate Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births) ...                  | 40.6     | 44.1   |
| Maternal Deaths ... ..  | 0        | 0      |
| Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) ...                  | 0        | 0      |
| Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...                      | 3        | 3      |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..    | 0.09     | 0.09   |
| Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis ...                   | 4        | 3      |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population from all forms of Tuberculosis ... .. | 0.12     | 0.09   |
| The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres.                            |          |        |
| Population (Census 1951) ... ..                                       | 32,636   |        |
| No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books) ... ..                           | 9,980    |        |
| Rateable value of the Borough ... ..                                  | £182,007 |        |
| Product of Id. 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.

|  | M.  | F.  | T.  |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..                | 2   | 1   | 3   |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..                      | —   | —   | —   |
| 3. Syphilitic Disease ... ..                       | 1   | —   | 1   |
| 4. Diphtheria ... ..                               | —   | —   | —   |
| 5. Whooping Cough ... ..                           | —   | 1   | 1   |
| 6. Meningococcal infections ... ..                 | —   | —   | —   |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..                      | —   | —   | —   |
| 8. Measles ... ..                                  | —   | —   | —   |
| 9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... ..   | —   | 2   | 2   |
| 10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..             | 9   | 10  | 19  |
| 11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ... ..      | 5   | 2   | 7   |
| 12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..              | —   | 3   | 3   |
| 13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... ..              | —   | 2   | 2   |
| 14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... .. | 13  | 11  | 24  |
| 15. Leukæmia, Aleukæmia ... ..                     | 1   | 1   | 2   |
| 16. Diabetes ... ..                                | 2   | —   | 2   |
| 17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... ..      | 36  | 43  | 79  |
| 18. Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..                | 26  | 23  | 49  |
| 19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ... ..         | 1   | 7   | 8   |
| 20. Other Heart Disease ... ..                     | 40  | 64  | 104 |
| 21. Other Circulatory Disease ... ..               | 8   | 8   | 16  |
| 22. Influenza ... ..                               | 3   | 7   | 10  |
| 23. Pneumonia ... ..                               | 12  | 10  | 22  |
| 24. Bronchitis ... ..                              | 15  | 10  | 25  |
| 25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System ... ..    | 1   | —   | 1   |
| 26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..           | 3   | 1   | 4   |
| 27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa ... ..       | 3   | —   | 3   |
| 28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..                 | 1   | 4   | 5   |
| 29. Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..                 | 3   | —   | 3   |
| 30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ... ..         | —   | —   | —   |
| 31. Congenital Malformations ... ..                | 2   | 2   | 4   |
| 32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ... ..  | 14  | 17  | 31  |
| 33. Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..                 | —   | 1   | 1   |
| 34. All other Accidents ... ..                     | 3   | 4   | 7   |
| 35. Suicide ... ..                                 | 4   | —   | 4   |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..          | —   | —   | —   |
|  | 208 | 234 | 442 |



TABLE I.

|  | Live Births           |                              | Deaths<br>(All Causes) |                              | Stillbirths            |  | Maternal<br>Mortality              |  | Infant Mortality                   |                                       |                                    |                                       |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|  | No<br>Regis-<br>tered | Rate<br>per<br>1000<br>Pop'n | No.<br>Regis-<br>tered | Rate<br>per<br>1000<br>Pop'n | No.<br>Regis-<br>tered | Rate<br>per<br>1000<br>Total<br>Births | No. of<br>D'ths<br>Regis-<br>tered | Rate<br>per<br>1000<br>Total<br>Births | Total                              |                                       | Neo-Natal                          |                                       |
|  |                       |                              |                        |                              |                        |  |                                    |  | No. of<br>D'ths<br>Regis-<br>tered | Rate<br>per<br>1000<br>Live<br>Births | No. of<br>D'ths<br>Regis-<br>tered | Rate<br>per<br>1000<br>Live<br>Births |
| Year 1954  | 476                   | 14.9                         | 442                    | 13.8                         | 15                     | 31                                     | Nil                                | Nil                                    | 13                                 | 27                                    | 10                                 | 21                                    |
| Year 1953  | 517                   | 16.1                         | 428                    | 13.4                         | 17                     | 32                                     | Nil                                | Nil                                    | 16                                 | 31                                    | 9                                  | 17                                    |
| 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                                    | —                                  | —                                     |
| Avg. 5 years<br>1949-53  | —                     | 15.6                         | —                      | 13.6                         | —                      | 31.6                                   | —                                  | 1.16                                   | —                                  | 31.2                                  | —                                  | —                                     |
| * Adjusted Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.01) = 15.0 per 1000<br>Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.06) = 14.7 per 1000 |                       |                              |                        |                              |                        |  |                                    |  |                                    |                                       |                                    |                                       |

TABLE II.  
Infant Mortality Rates.

| Year | CHORLEY | England and Wales |
|------|---------|-------------------|
| 1949 | 32      | 32                |
| 1950 | 25      | 29.8              |
| 1951 | 33      | 29.6              |
| 1952 | 35      | 27.6              |
| 1953 | 31      | 26.8              |
| 1954 | 27      | 25.5              |

TABLE III.  
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              |
| 1954 | 14.9    | 15.2              |

TABLE IV.  
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              |
| 1954 | 13.8    | 11.2              |

TABLE V.

Birth and Death Rates in the Borough of Chorley since 1940.

|                          | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Birth Rate               | 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 | 14.9 |
| Death Rate               | 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 | 13.8 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate | 75   | 41.  | 54.  | 40.5 | 42.5 | 40.  | 53.  | 50.  | 33.  | 32.  | 25.  | 33.  | 35.  | 31.  | 27.  |
| Maternal Mortality Rate  | 8.14 | 3.53 | 9.52 | 0.   | 3.26 | 0.   | 1.66 | 0.   | 0.   | 1.72 | 4.12 | 0.   | 0.   | 0.   | 0.   |
| Natural Increase         | +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 | +1.1 |



TABLE VI.  
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 | 1950-54 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Death Rate .....            | 17.8    | 16.5    | 15.3    | 15.3    | 12.5    | 12.3    | 13.0    | 13.7    | 13.4    | 12.7    | 13.8    |
| Birth Rate .....            | 28.1    | 27.1    | 24.0    | 17.3    | 20.5    | 16.0    | 14.0    | 14.4    | 17.8    | 18.2    | 15.1    |
| Infantile<br>Mortality Rate | 175     | 146     | 140     | 110     | 106     | 83      | 74.4    | 78.4    | 48.6    | 42.0    | 27.0    |
| Natur'l Incre'se            | + 10.3  | + 10.6  | + 8.7   | + 2.0   | + 7.6   | + 3.7   | + 1.0   | + 0.7   | + 4.4   | + 5.6   | + 1.4   |



## 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 6 ambulances and 1 sitting case car 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 5 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 77263, the local Assistant Divisional Medical Officer of Health is Dr. D. J. 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.

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### 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 analyses.

## Water Samples taken:—

|                     | No. | Chemical.       |      | Bacteriological |      |
|---------------------|-----|-----------------|------|-----------------|------|
|                     |     | S.              | U/S. | S.              | U/S. |
| Public Supply ...   | 6   | 2               | 1    | 3               | —    |
| Private ...         | 6   | 3               | —    | 3               | —    |
| C.C. Baths ...      | 4   | —               | 2    | 2               | —    |
| Private Baths ...   | —   | —               | —    | —               | —    |
| Potable—12 Samples. |     | Bath 4 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 18 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.

There were 10,038 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.

In a few cases where the pressure was inadequate, owners have been persuaded to have steps taken to provide a sufficient supply.

Other areas such as the Hope Street, Vine Street area still require to be dealt with.

It is essential that a wholesome and sufficient supply of water is available to all households, if a satisfactory standard of health is to be maintained.

**Consumption per head.**

The average daily consumption of water per head of population is about 33.3 gallons, compared with 31.3 gallons for the previous year. (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 parts not served by the water carriage system and houses in the Preston Road, Euxton Lane, Bolton Road, Wigan Lane and Carr Lane districts are drained to septic tanks, no sewers being available.

**Disposal.**

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

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. Five subsidiary installations deal with sewage from the eastern and southern parts of the Borough. In order to drain these areas to the Common Bank works, tunnelling or pumping would be necessary.

Consideration was given by the Council to the proposal to abandon the obsolete and inefficient subsidiary sewage works, and it was decided after consultation with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government that proposals and estimates be prepared of a scheme whereby sewage could be pumped from Duxbury to Clover Road, thence to Common Bank Sewage works.

It is most important that efficient sewage disposal facilities are provided and maintained, otherwise there is serious risk of danger to public health. It is hoped therefore that the proposals outlined above will be implemented without further delay.

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.



## 2. Rivers and Streams.

The Lancashire River Board has jurisdiction in regard to rivers and stream pollution in the Borough. The pollution of rivers and streams has become a national problem and stringent measures are required to combat this menace.

### 3. (a) Closet Accommodation.

Closet accommodation in the Borough is as follows:—

|                                   |     |     |     |     |     |        |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Privy middens                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18     |
| Closets attached to above middens | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20     |
| Pail Closets                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34     |
| Waste-water closets               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 661    |
| Fresh-water closets               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10,224 |

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        | ... | ... | —  |
| Waste-water closets to fresh-water closets | ... | ... | 21 |

In order to speed up the conversion rate of waste water closets the Council decided to increase the grant to £7/10/-, this sum including the cost of the necessary drainage work carried out by the Corporation.

This measure only came into force near the end of the year so no reliable assessment could be made of its effect.

It is hoped, however, that the conversion rate will be considerably increased in the future.

### (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 11,232 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 (part-time)

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 14,480 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, plastic jacket and leggings, gloves and goggles.

**Ash-bins.**

11,232 ash-bins were emptied every 7 to 10 days except during the holiday periods. 384 bins were sold at 40/- and 38/-. During the year 158 preliminary notices were served on owners to provide bins. At the year end 8 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 was discontinued in January, 1954.

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.

Two 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.**

A new public lavatory was opened in Whalley Street, thus making 17 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 scheme for the erection of new conveniences, together with an office for the Markets Superintendent has unfortunately not been implemented.

There is still need for the provision of additional conveniences in other parts of the town.

It is a pleasure to be able to report that the conveniences at the Cemetery have now been modernised.

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 768 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 ... ..    | 295 |
| Number of notices served ... .. | 33  |

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.

|   |      |
|---|------|
|   | 1954 |
| No. of smoke observations made ... ..                   | 68   |
| No. of visits to factories, etc. for the purpose ... .. | 75   |
| Excessive emissions recorded ... ..                     | 7    |

I append figures showing the solid deposit since 1950.

| Total Solids deposited (in tons per sq. mile) |      |       |       |      |
|---|------|-------|-------|------|
| 1950  | 1951 | 1952  | 1953  | 1954 |
| 135   | 129  | 147   | 171   | 146  |
| Average deposit per month--                   |      |       |       |      |
| 11.25   | 11.7 | 13.36 | 14.34 | 14.6 |

During the year the gauge was moved from The Grange to Brookes Arms Hotel bowling green. Owing to repairs and removal the instrument was not functioning for 2 months.

The dense fog which covered the Greater London Area for 4 days from December 5th to 8th, 1952, and which caused between 3,500 and 4,000 deaths in excess of those normally expected during the first 3 weeks of December, aroused public anxiety, with the result that the Government set up a Committee to investigate and report on this problem.

The Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Hugh Beaver has issued a report containing recommendations for dealing with this serious problem, and it is anticipated that legislation will be forthcoming at an early date.

There are no Bye Laws relating to the emission of smoke in operation in the Borough, but in view of the pending legislation it may be advisable to leave this matter in abeyance.

## 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 ... ..   | 7 |
| No. of other house disinfested ... ..       | 7 |

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.

During the year the following Schools have had trough closets converted to pedestal type closets:—St. George's, St. Peter's Infants, and St. James's.

There is still, however, need for improvements to the Sanitary accommodation at other Schools in the Borough.

## 10. Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Total No. of sanitary inspections by Inspectors ... .. | 5879 |
| No. of premises showing defects or nuisances ... ..    | 754  |
| Informal notices served ... ..                         | 754  |
| Informal notices complied with ... ..                  | 710  |
| Statutory notices served under:—                       |      |
| (a) Housing Acts ... ..                                | 2    |
| (b) Public Health Acts and Chorley Corporation Act ... | 47   |
| 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 ... .. | 28 |
|---------------------------|----|

## Diseases of Animals—Acts and Orders

|                    |  |   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Swine Fever.       | 1 Form A notice served.  |   |
|                    | 44 Licences from outside sources checked. 33 Licences issued.  |   |
| Sheep Scab         | No action.   |   |
| Fowl Pest          | 3 suspected outbreaks occurred in the Borough and restrictions |   |
| 1950               | placed on the premises.  |   |
|                    | 109 Licences were issued.                                      |   |
|                    | 217 Licences from outside sources checked.                     |   |
| Anthrax Order      | No action.   |   |
| Foot and Mouth     | No action.   |   |
| Disease Order      |  |   |
| Importation of     | 5 Licences were issued and 23 from outside areas were checked. |   |
| Animals Act        |  |   |
| Transit of Animals | This Order deals with the Conveyance of animals to prevent     |   |
| Order 1931         | unnecessary suffering. Several minor contraventions were dealt |   |
|                    | with and rectified by informal action.                         |   |
| Tuberculosis Order | Notices of Intended Slaughter received (Form C.) ...           | 6 |
| 1938               | Copies of notices requiring owner to detain animals            |   |
|                    | received (Form A.) ... ..                                      | 1 |
|                    | 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.

- 74 Business premises disinfested.
- 287 Dwelling houses disinfested.
- 47 Local authorities premises disinfested.
- 75 Business premises surveyed.

A 10% Test baiting of the sewers was carried out in August followed by a Routine Maintenance treatment in September which revealed that out of 66 manholes baited 41 showed complete pre-bait takes.

## **Lethal Chambers for Dogs and Cats.**

The new electrolether came into operation on the 29th March, and later in the year the two gas chambers were disconnected. 487 cats and 424 dogs were destroyed during the year.

## **Rag Flock Act.**

Three premises were registered. 7 Inspections were made during the year. 2 Samples were taken, 2 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. Constant vigilance is essential to secure adequate disinfestation of verminous persons at these premises. Many of the inmates are elderly and difficulty has been experienced in securing their admission to hospital.

Visits paid to each of the houses during the year .. 36

## **House let in lodgings.**

There are several houses in the Borough which come into this category and it may be possible to effect improvements under Section 11 of the Housing Repair and Rents Act 1954.



## PART D.

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### Housing



## HOUSING.

### General.

The main type of house in the Borough is a terraced type with either 4 or 5 habitable rooms. The common 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 1954 was 1,398.

In spite of the efforts made by informal and statutory action the number of sub-standard houses remains high.

During the year 32 houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Acts and Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act; included in this number were 10 cellar dwellings.

The time has come, however, for more drastic action to be taken in regard to the clearance, repair, or improvement of unfit houses. With this in view the Government brought into being the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, which came into operation in August, 1954. One of its main requirements is that Local Authorities submit to the Minister proposals for dealing with unfit houses in their district.

In October a report was submitted to the Health and Sanitary Committee listing 21 Areas which might be considered as suitable for action under Part 3 of the Housing Act 1936. The number of houses involved was 558 and the Committee was informed that a further list was being compiled for consideration but it was not presented during the year under review.

Since the 1954 Act came into operation several applications for certificates of disrepair were received, five being granted. Few certificates of disrepair have been cancelled after defects have been remedied, which implies that it is still uneconomical for the owner of a tenanted house to keep his property in a good habitable condition, and he prefers to forego the increased rent which ranges from 3/- to 5/- per week.

A peculiar situation has arisen in the issue of certificates of disrepair. If a tenant applies for a certificate it is the duty of the Local Authority to cause an inspection to be made to ascertain the condition of the house and if it has defects the Council must issue a certificate listing the work required. A layman would think that if an item of disrepair were listed on a certificate it would automatically be enforceable on a Section 9 notice under the Principal Act, but this does not work in everyday practice. The house, for example, may be listed for action under Part III of the Principal Act, i.e., Clearance, or to be dealt with under Section 11. There may therefore be items included on a Certificate which are better left off a Section 9 notice.

Then again, under the 1949 Act, which has been amended by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, a higher standard still can be required if the house is to be considered for a grant. The 1949 Act as amended now requires that a house to qualify for grant must prove satisfactory accommodation of at least 15 years as against the former 30 years. The owner may spend more than £800 but only receives a grant based on that amount. 15 Applications were received for approval to conversion schemes, but 8 houses were finally approved.

If the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, were used vigorously the housing situation in the Borough would benefit considerably inasmuch that many houses now rapidly becoming unfit would have their life extended for at least 15 years.



**No. of new houses erected during the year.**

|                                       | 1953 | 1954 |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|
| (1) By the Local Authority ... ..     | 129  | 117  |
| (2) By other bodies or persons ... .. | 23   | 20   |

**1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.**

|  |      |
|--|------|
|  | 1954 |
| 1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..  | 880  |
| (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose ... ..   | 4302 |
| 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 ... .. | 135  |
| (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose ... ..   | 174  |
| 3. No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...                                       | 31   |
| 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 ... ..            | 849  |

**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 ... | 710 |
|--|-----|

**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 ... ..                | 2  |
| (2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.                         |    |
| (a) by Owners ... ..   | 8  |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..   | 2  |
| B. Proceedings under Public Health Act.  |    |
| (1) No. of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. | 14 |
| (2) No. of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after serving of formal notices.                 |    |
| (a) by Owners ... ..   | 16 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..   | —  |
| C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936.   |    |
| (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..                          | —  |
| (2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..                             | —  |
| (3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted ... ..         | 10 |
| (4) No. of dwelling-houses represented under Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act 1953 ... ..           | 5  |



## 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 ... ..  | 2   |
| (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 ... ..   | 24  |
| (ii) No. of families dwelling therein ... ..                     | 34  |
| (iii) No. of persons dwelling herein ... ..                      | 180 |
| B. No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... | 3   |

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, Cowling Estate.

## PART E.

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### 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 shippon 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 1954:—

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| " 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 ... ..        | 18                          |
| (b) Sterilised ... ..         | 54                          |

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

(a) Raw Milk:—

1. Tuberculosis—Biological Tests.

|            |             |            |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| Samples 24 | Negative 23 | Positive 1 |
|------------|-------------|------------|

2. Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

|            |                 |                  |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Samples 25 | Satisfactory 22 | Unsatisfactory 3 |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|

3. B. Coli Examinations.

|            |                 |                  |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Samples 25 | Satisfactory 16 | Unsatisfactory 9 |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|

4. Sediment Tests.

|           |                |                  |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| Samples — | Satisfactory — | Unsatisfactory — |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|

(b) Heat Treated Milk:—  
 " Pasteurised "—

|                                   |    |              |    |                |   |
|-----------------------------------|----|--------------|----|----------------|---|
| 1. Phosphatase Test.              |    |              |    |                |   |
| Samples                           | 39 | Satisfactory | 36 | Unsatisfactory | ? |
| 2. Methylene Blue Reduction Test. |    |              |    |                |   |
| Samples                           | 39 | Satisfactory | 39 | Unsatisfactory | — |
| " Sterilised "—                   |    |              |    |                |   |
| 3. Turbidity Test.                |    |              |    |                |   |
| Samples                           | 6  | Satisfactory | 6  | 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 ... 31

**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.

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 July, 1954, the Ministry of Food relinquished the control of the abattoir and the responsibility for the killing and distribution of meat.

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



|  | Cattle | Calves | Sheep  | Pigs  |
|--|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Number Killed  | 2863   | 1192   | 11,412 | 6,662 |
| Number Inspected   | 2870   | 1192   | 11,425 | 6,680 |
| <b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</b>  |        |        |        |       |
| Whole Carcasses Condemned  | 25     | 62     | 13     | 35    |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned                              | 515    | 4      | 268    | 330   |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Disease other than Tuberculosis | 18.8%  | 5.5%   | 2.5%   | 5.5%  |
| <b>Tuberculosis only</b>   |        |        |        |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned  | 24     | —      | —      | 21    |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned                              | 900    | —      | —      | 155   |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis                        | 32.2%  | —      | —      | 2.6%  |

**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.**

The markets are inspected frequently, particular attention being paid to fish, poultry and other stalls where unpacked foods are offered for sale. Continued visits reminding stall holders of the necessity for covering their stalls at the back and sides, and the requirement that names and addresses be legibly inscribed as required by the Bye-laws is difficult to enforce, particularly on the Cattle Market, where stall holders come and go with amazing rapidity.

The general market is now showing gradual improvement, certain food stalls being completely enclosed, whilst work is in progress improving others.

**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, or the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

**Food Premises by Type of Business in District at end of year.**

| TYPE OF BUSINESS.  |     |     |     |     | No. |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| General grocers and provision dealers  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 215 |
| Greengrocers and fruiterers (incl. those selling wet fish, game, etc)                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23  |
| Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry, game, etc.)  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55  |
| Bakers and/or confectioners  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51  |
| Fried fish shops   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38  |
| Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc.                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38  |
| Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafés, snack bars and similar catering establishments | ... | ... | ... | ... | 121 |
| Others   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11  |

**Hawkers.**

There were 21 hawkers registered under these acts.

**Potted Meats.**

Premises used for the preparation of potted and preserved meat, fish, etc., numbered 22.

**Fish Fryers.**

There are 38 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 51 bakehouses in the Borough. The basement bakehouse was scheduled for closure early in 1955, and an unsatisfactory bakehouse was closed as a result of informal action.

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 1954 there were 151 premises registered by this Authority under the Food and Drugs Acts.

Of these premises, 3 manufacture their own ice cream in Chorley.

The number of wholesale firms from outside the Borough who supply local retailers is 16.

61 inspections were made of registered premises.

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

7 Samples were taken giving the following results:—

| Grade I. | Grade II. | Grade III. | Grade IV. |
|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 6        | 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 ...   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 61 |
| Informal samples taken ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  |
| Unsatisfactory samples ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |

**Other Foods.**

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Samples taken                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 56  |
| Comprising:—                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Tea   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| Jellies                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3   |
| Condiments                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| Sausage                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Sugar Confectionery                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9   |
| Prepared Foods                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9   |
| Dairy Produce (other than milk)               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Ice Cream                                     | ..  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Fruit   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| Cereals and Vegetables                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6   |
| Medicinal Articles                            | ... | ..  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11  |
| Coffee  | ... | ... | ..  | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| Spirits                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Soft Drinks                                   | ... | ... | ..  | ... | ... | ... | 6   |
| Samples unsatisfactory                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3   |
| No. of visits made in execution of above Acts | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 109 |

**(D) Food Poisoning.**

19 cases of Food Poisoning were notified, no special cause being ascertained.



## PART F.

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### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other diseases

## DISEASES.

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

## 1. Prevalence:—

1954 and 1953

## 1954

| Disease                     | 1st<br>Qr. | 2nd<br>Qr. | 3rd<br>Qr. | 4th<br>Qr. | Total<br>Cases | Cases<br>Admitted<br>to<br>Hospital |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Measles ....                | 3          | 219        | 90         | 100        | 412            | 1                                   |
| Scarlet Fever ...           | 10         | 4          | 12         | 24         | 50             | 36                                  |
| Diphtheria ...              | —          | —          | —          | —          | —              | —                                   |
| Whooping Cough...           | 25         | 3          | 2          | 4          | 34             | 1                                   |
| Pneumonia ...               | 7          | 4          | —          | 21         | 32             | 3                                   |
| Erysipelas .....            | —          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 3              | —                                   |
| Puerperal Pyrexia...        | —          | —          | —          | 1          | 1              | 1                                   |
| Dysentery ...               | —          | 1          | 1          | —          | 2              | 1                                   |
| Food Poisoning ...          | 1          | 6          | —          | 12         | 19             | 1                                   |
| Meningococcal Infection ... | —          | —          | —          | 1          | 1              | 1                                   |
| Paratyphoid ...             | —          | —          | —          | —          | —              | —                                   |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum       | —          | —          | —          | —          | —              | —                                   |

## 1953

|                       |     |    |    |    |     |    |
|-----------------------|-----|----|----|----|-----|----|
| 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   | —  |

It will be noticed that Measles continued to be prevalent during the year, the second quarter showing the highest incidence.

Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough both showed a decrease in the number of notifications.



**B. Tuberculosis.****New cases and Mortality during 1954.**

| Age Periods         | New Cases   |    |                 |    | Deaths      |    |                 |    |
|---------------------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
|                     | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    |
|                     | M.          | F. | M.              | F. | M.          | F. | M.              | F. |
| Years.              |             |    |                 |    |             |    |                 |    |
| Under 5 years ..... | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 5 — 14 years ...    | 1           | 1  | 1               | 2  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 15 — 24 years ...   | 1           | 3  | —               | 2  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 25 — 44 years ...   | 1           | 3  | 1               | —  | —           | 1  | —               | —  |
| 45 — 64 years ..... | 1           | 1  | —               | —  | 1           | —  | —               | —  |
| 65 and over.....    | —           | —  | —               | 1  | 1           | —  | —               | —  |
| Age unknown         | —           | —  | —               | 1  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
|                     | 4           | 8  | 2               | 6  | 2           | 1  | —               | —  |
| Totals.....         | 12          |    | 8               |    | 3           |    | —               |    |
| 1953 Totals:—       | 24          |    | 6               |    | 3           |    | 1               |    |
| 1952 Totals:        | 25          |    | 4               |    | 9           |    | 1               |    |

No. of cases on the register at the end of the year were:—

|                       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Pulmonary             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 129 |
| Non-pulmonary         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 64  |
| Removed from Register | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42  |

## PART G.

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### New Legislation

#### 1954

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.  
 Slaughterhouses Act, 1954.  
 Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954.  
 Food & Drugs Amendment Act, 1954 (Date appointed by Minister).  
 Town & Country Planning Act, 1954 (1st January, 1955)  
 Landlord & Tenant Act, 1954  
 Pests Act, 1954.  
 Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1954  
 Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (No. 2) Regulations, 1954  
 Food Standards (Soft Drinks) (Amendment) Order, 1954  
 Public Health (Aircraft) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954  
 Public Health (Ships) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954  
 Puerperal Pyrexia (Amendment) Regulations, 1954.  
 Milk & Dairies (Amendment) Regulations, 1954  
 Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954  
 Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1954  
 Housing (Declaration of Unfitness) Regulations, 1954  
 Housing (Forms of Orders & Notices) (Amendment) Regulations, 1954  
 Housing Repairs (Increase of Rent) Regulations, 1954  
 Housing Repairs & Rents (Rent Tribunal) Regulations, 1954  
 Rent Restrictions Regulations, 1954.





