

[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Clayton-le-Moors U.D.C.

Contributors

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

CLAYTON-LE-MOORS

1949

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Health of Clayton-le-Moors

by

Dr. R. C. Webster,

Medical Officer of Health,

and

J. H. BRIDGE,

Sanitary Inspector.



1.

Health Department,
Council Offices,
Clayton-le-Moors.

September, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CLAYTON-LE-MOORS.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report for the Year 1949 on the health of the Urban District.

The incidence of tuberculosis both pulmonary and non-pulmonary is higher than for the county generally, and it is my intention to study this matter in more detail, not only in relation to the year under review but also for past years.

The following table shows cases recorded for some sample years:-

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1938.	2	8	10
1943.	7	5	12
1948.	6	2	8
1949.	8	5	13

As yet I have not enough information to do more than formally report the figures.

Housing, as was observed last year, remains our major problem. The report shows the existence of overcrowding, and where, as so often, the newly married are compelled to share with parents, the ill effects are widespread. Much of the

2.

existing housing is indeed below modern standards, and, while we have no back-to-back or back-to-earth houses in the district, it will be noticed in the report that 62% of houses have waste water closets. Visits made to houses for various purposes confirm the impression made by outward appearances that many of those who have houses are living in unsatisfactory conditions. During the year 3 new houses were erected, but no less than 19 new cases of overcrowding came to notice. High costs and shortages of materials make it difficult to see a solution, and if indeed the rents of new houses are high, those rehoused may exchange one evil for another. I stress this matter of housing since it is of such fundamental importance to health, not only physical health, but also mental health.

It is satisfactory to record again no maternal deaths ; infant mortality is higher than last year but in small figures fluctuations are exaggerated, and two of these infants deaths were due to congenital causes about which a good deal has yet to be learned.

I have to thank you, Mr. Chairman and the Committee for your interest and help, and would express sincere thanks to your Clerk and your Sanitary Inspector for their ready help and co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area in Acres.....	1060
Population - Census 1931.....	7909
Resident Population (mid 1949).....	6774
No. of inhabited houses - Census 1931.....	2101
No. of inhabited houses - 1949.....	2248
Rateable value.....	£40,602
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£156

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female
Live (Legitimate	89	43	46
Births (Illegitimate	5	4	1
Total	94	47	47
Still Births	-	-	-
Deaths	106	52	54
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	4	2	2

Birth-rate per 1,000 of estimated population.....	13.9
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population.....	15.6
Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system per 1,000 of estimated population.....	0.89
Death-rate from cancer per 1,000 of estimated population.....	2.36
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live births....	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and still births.....	Nil
Rate of deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	43

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	<u>Deaths.</u>
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis.....	Nil.
Other maternal causes.....	Nil.

Causes of death during 1949.	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system.....	4	2	6
Other forms of Tuberculosis...	2	1	3
Influenza.....	1	1	2
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesoph: (M) Uterus (F).....	-	-	-
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	3	5
Cancer of breast.....	-	1	1
Cancer of all other sites.....	4	6	10
Diabetes.....	1	1	2
Inter-cranial vascular lesions	6	7	13
Heart Diseases.....	19	20	39
Other diseases of circulatory system.....	-	1	1
Bronchitis.....	2	3	5
Pneumonia.....	-	2	2
Other respiratory diseases....	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum..	1	-	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years.....	-	-	-
Other digestive diseases.....	1	-	1
Nephritis.....	1	1	2
Premature birth.....	-	2	2
Congenital malformations birth injuries (infant)	2	-	2
Suicide.....	1	1	2
Road traffic accidents.....	-	-	-
Other violent causes.....	-	2	2
Other causes.....	5	-	5
	52	54	106

	<u>Deaths.</u>
Cancer (all ages).....	15
Measles and Whooping Cough (all ages).....	Nil.
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....	Nil.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1949. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

(i)	England and Wales	126 C.E.s. and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adm. County
	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population				
<u>Births</u>				
Live Births	16.7(ε)	18.7	18.0	18.5
Still Births	0.39(a)	0.47	0.40	0.37
<u>Deaths</u>				
All Causes	11.7(ε)	12.5	11.6	12.2
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping cough	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.45	0.52	0.42	0.52
Influenza	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.11
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis.	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
Pneumonia	0.51	0.56	0.49	0.59
<u>Notifications (Corrected)</u>				
Typhoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-spinal fever	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Scarlet fever	1.63	1.72	1.83	1.46
Whooping cough	2.39	2.44	2.39	1.70

(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population				
<u>Notifications</u>				
<u>(cont'd)</u>				
Diphtheria	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.07
Erysipelas	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	8.95	8.91	9.18	8.54
Pneumonia	0.80	0.91	0.65	0.55
Acute poliomyelitis	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18
Acute polio- encephalitis	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Food poisoning	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.19
<u>Deaths.</u>				
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
All causes under 1 year of age	32(b)	37	30	29
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	3.0	3.8	2.4	1.7
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births				
<u>Notifications</u>				
<u>(corrected)</u>				
Puerperal fever and pyrexia	6.31	8.14	5.30	6.82

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

International List No. and cause	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
140. Abortion with Sepsis	0.11	8
141. " without "	0.05	4
147. Puerperal infections	0.11	
142-146, 148-150. Other maternal causes.	0.71	

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population. (b) Per 1,000 related live births.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA: 1949.

Ambulance Facilities.

These are provided by the Lancashire County Council.

Nursing.

The Home Nursing Service is provided by the Lancashire County Council.

Domestic Help Service.

The County Council provides this: the Home Helps are engaged on an hourly basis and are available for maternity cases and cases of illness.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

This service is administered by the Lancashire County Council. Infant Welfare Clinics were continued weekly, Ante and Post-Natal Clinics are now held on alternate weeks. The help of the ladies on the voluntary committee at the Infant Welfare Clinic is again gratefully acknowledged.

School Medical Inspection.

The school medical service is provided by the County Council. Medical Inspection was carried out by the Medical Officers of the County Council.

The School Clinics continued as usual at Rishton comprising Minor Ailments, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic and Dental Clinics.

Immunisation Clinics were held regularly at the Welfare Centre.

Hospitals.

No Hospitals or Registered Nursing Homes existed within the Urban District.

Health Education.

The services outlined above are available to all and are, generally speaking, well used. Efforts are made to secure a wider use of the Health Services by the personal recommendation of the Medical Officer, Health Visitors, School Teachers and others. Posters are exhibited at the Town Hall, Welfare Centre, Clinics, and in the Schools. A film show and lecture was held on 30th. November, 1949, and attracted a satisfactory attendance.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.Water Supply.

The Accrington District Gas and Water Board undertake this service and make the necessary tests of the quality of the water. The supply was constant and sufficient as every house is served, no extension of piped supplies has been required.

Drainage and Sewage.

This service is undertaken by the Clayton-le-Moors and Great Harwood Joint Sewerage Board, and extends to all premises save a few isolated farms. Periodical testing and flushing was carried out.

Scavenging is carried out by the Health Department of the Local Authority.

Further details regarding Sanitary circumstances, Housing and Inspection and Supervision of Food, are contained in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year 1949 and the number of deaths from the disease which occurred in the various age groups.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years:								
0.....								
1.....								
2.....			1				1	
5.....				1				
10.....								
15.....		1		1		1	1	
20.....		3						
25.....			1		1			
35.....	1	1						
45.....				1	1			1
55.....	2				2			
65 and upwards..						1		
Totals	3	5	2	3	4	2	2	1
	8		5		6		3	

The Tuberculosis Service for the area was administered by the Regional Hospital Board and County Council in association and one of their principal dispensaries is only a few yards outside the boundary of the Urban District.

This Dispensary is constantly open with a full clerical and health visiting staff. One consultant and one other Tuberculosis Officer attend several times a week to see patients recommended for consultation by local practitioners or cases found by the Medical Officers in course of routine work in schools, ante-natal or welfare clinics.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the number of cases of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis during the year.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases all ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria	1	1	-	-
Measles	30	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	2	-	-	2
Acute Polio-myelitis	1	-	-	-
Total	36	2	-	2

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES, HOUSING, INSPECTIONS,

AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Type of Disease	Deaths in Hospital	Recovered to Hospital	Total Cases	Mortality Percentage
Typhoid	-	-	1	0
Dysentery	-	-	1	0
Shigellosis	-	-	2	0
Amoebiasis	-	-	1	0
Cholera	-	-	-	-
Typhus	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	5	0

Sanitary Inspections.

The number of premises visited during 1949 was 229.

From these visits 294 nuisances and defects were noted and 223 were remedied.

10 statutory and 175 informal notices were issued.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of houses using:-

Fresh Water Closets (connected to sewers)..	633
Waste Water Closets (estimated).....	1607
Pail Closet System.....	5
Privy Midden System.....	2
	<hr/>
Total number of inhabited houses	2247
	<hr/> <hr/>

259 blocked drains in connection with slop-water closets were opened.

During the year 16 waste water closets were converted to fresh water closets.

Ashpit Accommodation.

Number of houses at which moveable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles during year - Nil.

There are 2247 moveable ashbins.

The tipping is controlled, the tip being situated at Butterworth Holme.

CLEANSING 1949.

Ashpits emptied.....	8
Ashpails emptied.....	56470
Cesspools etc. emptied.....	3
Privy Pails.....	68
Motor loads of house refuse removed to tips...	910
Motor loads of street sweepings removed to tips	14
Hand cart loads of street sweepings removed to tips....	1425
Motor loads of gulley refuse removed to tips..	61
Motor loads of clinkers used for top dressing.	5
Houses fumigated.....	3
Blocked drains and W.C.'s opened.....	259
New houses certified as fit for human habitation.....	3

Details of Salvage Collected and Sold during
Financial Year Ending 31st. March, 1950.

	<u>approx. value.</u>					
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
Paper.....	39.	9.	0.	208.	10.	4.
Kitchen Waste.....	33.	12.	0.	22.	8.	0.
	<u>73.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>0.</u>	<u>230.</u>	<u>18.</u>	<u>4.</u>

Shops Act, 1934.

328 shops were inspected under the above Act and no infringement of the Act was observed.

Eradication of Bedbugs.

1 house was found to be infested.

Offensive Trades.

The principal type of offensive trade in this district is soap boiling, and no action was required to be taken, as these works are very satisfactory.

Workshops and Workplaces.

The number on the register was 90 and their condition on the whole was satisfactory.

The number of factories inspected
with mechanical power..... 15

The number of factories inspected
without mechanical power..... 3

The number of defects found on these premises
were:-

Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences..... 1

Other offences..... 4

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1949.

Total number of houses erected during the year.....	3
(i) By the Local Authority.....	2
(ii) By other Local Authorities.....	-
(iii) By other bodies or persons.....	1
Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year.	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	36
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	104
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.....	-
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	-
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	8
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	26
Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-	
Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.....	32

Action under statutory powers during the year:-

- (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... 8
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners..... 6
- (b) By local authority in default of owners.....Nil
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 2
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners..... 2
- (b) By local authority in default of owners.....Nil
- (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....Nil

Housing Act 1936, Part IV Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.....	55
(2) Number of families dwelling therein.....	90
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein.....	359
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.....	19
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.....	5
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases.....	38

Housing Conditions.

The general observations as to housing conditions are as follows:-

The majority of the houses are stone-built and of the working-class type - without baths and the closets are on the waste water system.

There are no back-to-back houses, nor are there any back-to-earth types of houses.

Sufficiency of supply of houses.

The shortage of houses remains acute and many houses of the 2 and 3-bedroom type are required.

40 houses were under construction and a further 20 are contemplated.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Meat and other foods:- The slaughtering of all animals has been undertaken outside the District.

The following foodstuffs were examined and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

	lbs.
Condensed Milk.....	50
Peas and Beans.....	17
Chocolate Flavour Spread..	9
Tongue.....	2
Tomatoes.....	2
Pilchards.....	3
Fruit Puddings.....	2
Soup.....	2
Apples.....	3
Peaches.....	1
Total.	<u>91</u>

Milk Supply.

Under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, and Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, inspections were made, and milk samples were taken at the farms (up to 30th. September, 1949).

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938.

Number of dealers licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority up to 30th. September, 1949, in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk:-

Bottling.....	None.
Distribution.....	2

Number of licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" Milk (up to the 30th. September, 1949).

Pasteurising Plant.....	-
Retail Distributors.....	5

Farms

Number of Dairy Farms.....	9
Approximate number of cows in district.....	130
Number of cow-keepers (including dairy farms).....	9
Number on Register.....	9
Number of inspections up to September 1949.....	20
Number of dairymen (other than cow-keepers) or milk purveyors.....	13

Ice Cream

Tests: Regular inspections were made and samples taken to the Pathological Department, Blackburn Infirmary to be tested for cleanliness.

Infectious Diseases

3 houses were disinfected during the year after infectious diseases.

10 books were fumigated from the library prior to re-circulation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. BRIDGE,

Sanitary Inspector.