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Contributors

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REPORT

OF

M.B., Ch.B. (VICT.) & L.S.A. (LOND.)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1936

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CLITHEREOE :

Advertiser & Times, Printers.





TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE
OF THE
BOROUGH OF CLITHEROE

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my (Thirty-fifth) Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1936, and this is set out in accordance with instructions issued to Medical Officers by the Ministry of Health.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM E. BARKER



BOROUGH OF CLITHEROE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1936

1—GENERAL STATISTICS, etc.

These remain substantially as in former Reports. There has however, been some slight improvement in the Cotton Trade, which is the town's staple industry, and a new Cement Works commenced operations during the year.

No trades harmful to health are carried on in the town.

The population at the Census, 1931, was 12,008. For the purposes of this Report the population is estimated at 11,440, and the Birth and Death rates are based on this figure.

The number of inhabited Houses at the Census, 1931, was 3,215, the number of families or separate occupiers being 3,250.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1936 was 3,486.

The Rateable Value of the Urban District (including Government Property) is £62,369, the sum represented by a Penny Rate being about £240.

2—SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

146 live Births were registered during the year (an increase of 27 upon 1935), and of this number 75 were males and 71 females).

Five of the above Births were illegitimate, three males and two females. Four such births were registered during the previous year.

This gives a Birth Rate of 12.7 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, which is 2.5 above the figure for 1935, and 1.2 above the average for the previous five years, which was 11.5.

Seven Stillbirths (four males and three females) were registered during 1936, giving a rate of 45 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. Careful enquiry is made by the Nurse into the history of these cases.

There were no Maternal Deaths during the year.

The number of Deaths registered during the year, actually belonging to the Borough, was 173, an increase of 32 upon the figure for 1935, and of this number, 81 were males and 92 females.

The Death Rate for 1936, is therefore, 15.1 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, a figure which is 3.1 above that for 1935. The average for the previous five years was 12.5 per 1,000.

The 173 deaths registered included 58 from Organic Heart Disease, 18 from Cancer, three from Tuberculosis, three from Nephritis (acute and chronic), five from Pneumonia, ten from Cerebral Haemorrhage, five from Diabetes, and one from Para Typhoid Fever.

One Death was attributable during the year to Whooping Cough.

There were eight deaths during the year of children under one year of age, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 54 per 1,000 live births registered, an increase of four per 1,000 upon the figures for 1935, and also an increase of seven per 1,000 on the mean of the previous five years, which was 47.

3—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR

As shown in the following Tables, there was a considerable increase during 1936 in the number of notifications of Infectious Diseases, this being due to epidemics of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, which, commencing in August, were unabated at the end of the year.

Occasional mild cases of Diphtheria have occurred in the town for several years, there being eight such notifications during 1935, but up to July, the year 1936 had been exceptionally fortunate in this respect, only three cases having been reported (one in January and two in July). Two cases of Scarlet Fever were also reported during this period.

Directly after the summer holidays, however, several cases occurred at St. James's School, and a number of swabs were taken with the result that one boy was found with an infected throat who had been ill during the holidays, but had not received medical attention. Subsequently the disease spread more generally throughout the town, and ten reports were received during August, five in September, seven in October, nineteen in November, and twenty in December.

During the same period Scarlet Fever became prevalent, the notifications being one in August, three in September, three in October, eighteen in November, and eighteen in December.

Every possible means was employed to check the spread of the epidemics, and notices were published in the local press requesting parents to secure medical attention for the children in all cases of sickness. Unfortunately these notices appeared to be largely disregarded, and a careful watch at school on children who had been absent with what had been considered to be minor ailments revealed two more infected throats.

The mildness of a large majority of the cases, the difficulty in securing efficient isolation in small houses, and the apparent indifference of parents, were amongst the chief difficulties in dealing with the outbreaks.

One case of Diphtheria, and four cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to hospital, adequate isolation at home being impossible.

In view of the proved efficacy of immunisation treatment against Diphtheria, I think the Council would be well advised to provide such treatment free, or on assisted terms, so that all parents could take advantage of it for their children. Outbreaks

of Diphtheria, as is also the case with some other infectious diseases, recur at intervals when a new generation of young children has reached a susceptible age, and as such outbreaks are not only dangerous to life, but costly, immunisation would probably be a good investment even from a monetary point of view.

There is a project to provide a joint hospital for Infectious Diseases for this portion of Lancashire, in which Clitheroe is willing to take part, but the matter appears to progress rather slowly at the present time. Such a hospital would certainly be a valuable acquisition to the district, for with the ever increasing amount of communication between neighbouring towns outbreaks of Infectious Disease are likely to be more prevalent, and more widespread.

Fairs also undoubtedly spread infectious diseases, and an outbreak of Scarlet Fever has, on more than one occasion, followed the October Fair in Clitheroe.

In regard to other infectious ailments the Table shows an increase in the number of reports of Pulmonary Tuberculosis over the previous year, but a marked decrease in the reports of other forms of Tuberculosis, and there was a decrease also in the reports of Puerperal Pyrexia, the figure being only one as against three in 1935.

Nine cases of Pneumonia were reported, and it would appear that this disease still escapes notification in some instances.

| Notifiable Diseases | CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT | | | | | | | | | | | | Cases admitted to Hospital | Total Deaths |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------------|--------------|
| | At all ages | Under 1 year | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-10 | 10-15 | 15-20 | 20-35 | 35-45 | 45-65 | 65 and over | |
| Small-pox | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Encephalitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Lethargica | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria | 64 | .. | .. | 1 | 4 | 5 | 29 | 18 | 2 | 3 | 2 | .. | .. | .. |
| Erysipelas | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Scarlet Fever | 45 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | 3 | 21 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 4 | .. |
| Pulmonary | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Tuberculosis | 6 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. |
| Other forms of | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Tuberculosis .. | 3 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. |
| Chicken Pox | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| Acute Polio | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Encephalitis .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Ophthalmia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Neonatorum .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Pneumonia | 9 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 3 | 4 | .. | .. |
| Puerperal Fever | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Puerperal Pyrexia .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Dysentery | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| TOTALS .. | 133 | 2 | .. | 3 | 5 | 8 | 50 | 32 | 5 | 13 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 8 |

DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASES | At all ages | Under | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-10 | 10-15 | 15-20 | 20-25 | 25-35 | 35-45 | 45-65 | 65 and over |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| | | 1 year | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small-pox | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Erysipelas | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 |
| Other Forms of Tuberculosis.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Malaria | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Pneumonia | 5 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 2 | .. |
| Puerperal Sepsis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Puerperal Causes | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| TOTALS | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |

TUBERCULOSIS

| AGE PERIODS | NEW CASES | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------|----------|-------------|----------|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulm'ry | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulm'ry | |
| | Males | Fe-males | Males | Fe-males | Males | Fe-males | Males | Fe-males |
| Under 1 year. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1 and under 5 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 5 " " 10 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 10 " " 15 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 15 " " 20 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 20 " " 25 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 25 " " 35 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. |
| 35 " " 45 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| 45 " " 55 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 55 " " 65 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. |
| 65 and upwards | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| TOTALS | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | .. | .. |

| Oph- thalmia- Neon- atorum | CASES | | | Vision unim- paired | Vision Im- paired | Total Blind- ness | Deaths |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | Noti- fied | TREATED | | | | | |
| | | At Home | In Hospital | | | | |
| .. | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. |

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, &c.

The Council employ a full-time nurse whose duties are divided between School Inspection and Maternity and Child Welfare work, the Welfare Centre being held on each alternate Tuesday.

The nurse has a "clerical assistant" who assists at the various Clinics, and acts as Dental Attendant, etc.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the third Wednesday in each month, with Dr. Newton, of St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, in charge, and there is an arrangement whereby this Hospital has undertaken to admit any cases either pre-natal or post-natal, recommended by Dr. Newton, the Council paying a fixed fee per case.

Expectant mothers are advised to engage a midwife, and to attend the Clinic, early in pregnancy, and the midwives themselves attend the Clinic regularly, as do some of the Medical men occasionally, and, whenever necessary, Dr. Newton at once communicates, by letter or telephone, with the doctor who has been provisionally engaged to attend the case concerned.

Arrangements exist for the taking of X-Ray photographs when desirable.

In addition, Dr. Briggs, of Blackburn, is available for consultation when desired during pregnancy, in difficult midwifery cases, and in cases of Puerperal Fever, or Pyrexia, and when necessary these cases can always be removed to the Blackburn Infirmary.

This is the nearest Hospital for all medical and surgical cases and very considerable use is made of it. The Council have a Motor Ambulance for the removal of patients to Blackburn, Manchester, etc.

We have an arrangement with Blackburn for the admission of cases of Smallpox to their Isolation Hospital, the Council paying an annual retaining fee; and when beds are available the Blackburn Authority are always willing to admit other infectious diseases to their Hospital (at a weekly charge) when efficient isolation at home is impossible, or where surgical interference is necessary, as in Mastoid cases. In these circumstances a Blackburn Ambulance is available for the removal of the patients.

During the year, the Council have concluded arrangements to join the County Scheme for the Orthopaedic treatment of children of all ages.

There is a local Nursing Association employing two certified midwives, who also undertake district nursing, and the Council have an undertaking from the Association to provide nurses when necessary for the home treatment of cases of Measles, Scarlet Fever, etc.

The Council supply milk, in accordance with a wages scale, which has been approved by the Ministry, to children and expectant and nursing mothers. During 1937, Cod Liver Oil will be supplied in addition, and there is a tacit understanding that my duties in this regard are to be carried out in a sympathetic manner.

Arrangements have been made during the year whereby the School Clinics conducted by Dr. Wishart, of Blackburn, for Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat cases are available for children, under school age, attending the Welfare Centre.

The County Council is the Authority here for the supervision of Tuberculosis, and a copy of the notifications received each week is sent to the County Medical Officer.

There is no Institutional provision for un-married mothers, illegitimate children, or homeless children.

The nearest Venereal Clinic is at Blackburn.

5—LABORATORY WORK

The arrangement continues in force with the Public Health Laboratory in Manchester for the examination of Pathological Specimens.

A supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin is available at the Health Office and at the local Police Station, and this is provided free of charge to persons not in a position to pay for it.

| | | | |
|------|---|---|---|
| 1781 | 8 | 1 | All Causes—Certified Unverified |
| 1781 | 8 | 1 | Cerebro-Spinal Fever Malaria Whooping Cough Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever Diphtheria Influenza Erysipelas Scarlatina Diabetes Venereal Syphilis Gonorrhea &c. (under 2 years) Gonorrhea &c. (under 2 years) Congenital Deafness and Mal-formation, Premature Birth Epilepsy Tuberculosis of Respiratory System Other Tuberculous Diseases Acute and Chronic Nephritis Chronic, Malignant Diseases Heart Disease Bronchitis Pneumonia (all forms) Appendicitis Deaths from Violence Suicide Premature Death Other Premature Causes Senility Other Defined Diseases Causes Undefined or Unknown |
| 1781 | 8 | 1 | 1781 |

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT

| CAUSES OF DEATH | Nett Deaths at the subject occurring within | | | |
|--|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | All Ages | Under 1 year | 1 and under 2 | 2 and under 5 |
| All Causes—Certified | 173 | 8 | 1 | 8 |
| Uncertified | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Measles | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | .. | .. | 1 |
| Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever.. | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Influenza | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Diabetes | 5 | .. | .. | .. |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c. .. | 10 | .. | .. | .. |
| Diarrhoea &c. (under 2 years).. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Congenital Debility and Mal-formation, Premature Birth.. | 7 | 7 | .. | .. |
| Peptic Ulcer | 4 | .. | .. | .. |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | 3 | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Tuberculous Diseases.... | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Acute and Chronic Nephritis.. | 3 | .. | .. | .. |
| Cancer, Malignant Disease.... | 18 | .. | .. | .. |
| Heart Disease | 58 | .. | .. | .. |
| Bronchitis | 5 | .. | .. | .. |
| Pneumonia (all forms)..... | 5 | 1 | 1 | .. |
| Appendicitis | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Deaths from Violence..... | 8 | .. | .. | .. |
| Suicide | 2 | .. | .. | .. |
| Puerperal Sepsis | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Puerperal Causes..... | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Senility | 5 | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Defined Diseases..... | 37 | .. | .. | 1 |
| Causes Ill-defined or Unknown | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| TOTALS | 173 | 8 | 1 | 3 |

DEATH DURING 1936

| All ages of "Residents" whether without the District | | | | | Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non- residents" in Institutions in the District |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--|
| under 10 | 15 and under 25 | 25 and under 45 | 45 and under 65 | 65 and upwards | |
| 1 | 4 | 16 | 56 | 84 | 20 |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| .. | .. | 1 | 3 | 6 | 3 |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | .. |
| .. | .. | 2 | .. | 1 | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| .. | .. | 1 | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 1 | .. | 4 | 21 | 32 | 7 |
| .. | .. | .. | 2 | 3 | .. |
| .. | .. | 1 | 2 | .. | 1 |
| .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | 2 | 1 | .. | 4 | 2 |
| .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | .. |
| .. | 2 | 3 | 13 | 18 | 3 |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1 | 4 | 16 | 56 | 84 | 20 |

| Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non- Residents in District | Deaths under 15 and 15 and over 65 and 65 and over | | | | Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non- Residents in District |
|--|--|----------------|-------------|-------|--|
| | Under 15 | 15 and over 65 | 65 and over | Total | |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 3 |
| 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 4 |
| 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 5 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 18 | 6 |
| 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 21 | 7 |
| 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 | 8 |
| 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 27 | 9 |
| 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 30 | 10 |
| 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 33 | 11 |
| 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 36 | 12 |
| 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 39 | 13 |
| 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 42 | 14 |
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 45 | 15 |
| 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 48 | 16 |
| 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 51 | 17 |
| 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 54 | 18 |
| 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 57 | 19 |
| 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 60 | 20 |

6—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Water Supply

This is from neighbouring upland sources, is always adequate and of exceptional softness and purity, and well suited for all drinking and domestic purposes.

Samples have been forwarded on several occasions during the year to the Public Analyst and the reports received have been satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewage

The sewage is conveyed into settlement tanks at the Sewerage Farm, the sludge from these being removed on to farm lands, whilst the more liquid portions are passed into Bacteria Beds and ultimately treated by broadland irrigation.

The surface drainage is received into the Mearley Brook which runs through the town.

During the year extensive improvements were carried out at the Sewerage Works, including the construction of two pumping stations, four percolating filters, two humus tanks, effluent carriers, dosing chambers, along with alterations and rearrangement of existing tanks.

This should make the works efficient and up-to-date.

House Refuse, &c.

The following is a summary of the work done in the removal of House Refuse, Nightsoil, &c. during the year :—

| | |
|--|------------|
| 1—House and Shop Refuse removed and taken to destructor | 1890 loads |
| 2—Offal from Public Abattoirs | 171 loads |
| 3—Fish and Vegetable Offal from Trade Premises and Market | 311 loads |
| 4—Nightsoil from Pail closets | 52 loads |
| Total Loads | 2424 |

The total weight of House and Shop Refuse (1,890 loads) removed amounted to 3,018 tons 10 cwts. 1 qr.

This is an increase of 251 tons on the figures for the previous year.

Closet Accommodation

The Sanitary accommodation of the Borough now consists of 2,175 Freshwater Closets, 1,500 Slopwater Closets, and 29 Pail Closets.

In view of their unsatisfactory character, it is extremely desirable that the numbers of these two latter should be reduced to the lowest possible minimum without further delay, and it might be well worth the while of the Council to offer some financial assistance to property owners with this object in view.

Slaughterhouses

In addition to the four Slaughterhouses at the Public Abattoirs, there are in the Borough three Private Slaughterhouses for the slaughtering of animals intended for human consumption. All these are under the supervision and control of the Health Department.

Meat and Food Inspection

These Public Abattoirs and Slaughterhouses have been inspected frequently during the year and the quality of the meat met with was of a high standard generally.

The carcasses of four cows, affected with Tuberculosis were condemned during the year. In addition, 60 lbs. of unsound Liver and 14 lbs. of Fish were removed from the Food supply.

Lodging-Houses

There is one Common Lodging-House in the Borough, with accommodation for 256 persons, including 243 single beds for males, ten beds in married quarters, and three single beds for females. There are also furnished apartments for 24 persons.

The house is visited frequently by the Sanitary Inspector, and by the Police, under whose supervision the premises are registered. There have been no contraventions of the Bye-laws.

Bakehouses

These have been frequently visited, during the year. In one case, the Sanitary accommodation was entirely re-arranged and additional accommodation for females provided.

Factories and Workshops

There are now 57 Factories and 76 Registered Workshops, together with 32 workplaces in the Borough, making a total of 165 premises which come within the scope of the Factories and Workshops Act, 1901.

These premises have been regularly inspected. In one case complaint was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories re insufficiency of Sanitary accommodation at a Factory. After verbal representation to the owner additional accommodation was provided.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops

There are 29 Registered Cowsheds in the Borough, and there are also eleven dairymen, or milk purveyors, on the local registers.

Three licences are in existence for the sale of Accredited Milk, and two for Pasteurised Milk.

Considerable improvements have been made during the year to cowsheds and dairies, involving repairs to floors and improvements to lighting and ventilation.

At one farm, extensive alterations and additions have brought the cowsheds to modern standards.

A new dairy has also been built and equipped with modern machinery for the washing and sterilisation of all utensils.

This farm, and one in the immediate vicinity are licensed for the production and sale of "Accredited Milk."

Milk and Cream Regulations

No samples were taken with a view to ascertaining the presence of preservatives.

Sale of Food and Drugs

Under the Food and Drugs Acts, 20 samples of butter, cheese, lard, margarine and milk were purchased by the Police during the year and forwarded to the Borough Analyst for report, and with the exception of one doubtful sample of milk all were found to be satisfactory.

Summary of Visits, &c.

The following is a summary of the Visits, &c., made during the year by the Public Health Staff :—

| | |
|--|------|
| House-to-House Inspections | 180 |
| House-to-House Re-inspections..... | 340 |
| Other House Inspections..... | 96 |
| Visits re Overcrowding Regulations.... | 5800 |
| Factory and Workshop Inspections.... | 84 |
| Visits to Infected Houses..... | 156 |
| Slaughterhouse Inspections..... | 428 |
| Dairies and Cowsheds Inspections..... | 92 |
| Visits to Milkshops..... | 10 |
| Visits re Complaints..... | 256 |
| Visits re Work in Progress..... | 294 |
| Miscellaneous Visits by Inspector..... | 480 |
| Smoke Observations..... | 3 |
| Houses Disinfected | 73 |
| Preliminary Notices Served..... | 248 |

HEALTH VISITOR—

| | |
|--|------|
| Primary Visits to Infants under 1 year.. | 116 |
| Secondary Visits to Infants under 1 year | 495 |
| Visits to Children 1 to 5 years..... | 1140 |
| Visits to Expectant Mothers..... | 51 |
| Visits re Stillbirths..... | 7 |
| Visits re Children and Young Persons Act | 33 |
| Miscellaneous Visits..... | 146 |

The following is a list of the works carried out in the abatement of Nuisances :—

| | |
|--|----|
| Choked Drains opened and cleansed.... | 32 |
| Defective Drains Repaired..... | 10 |
| Defective Slopwater Closets repaired.... | 23 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Defective Sinks and Waste Pipes repaired or replaced..... | 17 |
| Defective Eaves Gutters and Downspouts repaired | 52 |
| Yard surfaces repaired..... | 6 |
| Defective Windows repaired | 254 |
| Defective Floors repaired..... | 44 |
| Dilapidated House Walls and Ceilings repaired | 34 |
| Exterior Walls roughcasted or pointed to remedy dampness..... | 2 |
| Defective Roofs repaired..... | 43 |
| Defective Chimney Stack made good.... | 4 |
| Defective Fire-ranges repaired or replaced | 9 |
| Premises requiring Limewashing..... | 3 |
| Outhouse buildings repaired..... | 2 |

7—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W. E. BARKER, M.B., CH.B., (Vict.) L.S.A., (London.)

Part-time Officer.

SANITARY INSPECTOR :

JAMES BOLTON, Certificates of Royal Sanitary Institute.

SCHOOL NURSE AND HEALTH VISITOR :

ELSA W. BATES, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Certificate.

8—HOUSING

Statistics

Number of houses erected during the year :—

| | |
|--|----|
| (a) Total | 27 |
| (b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme..... | 12 |

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) | 107 |
| (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose.. | 320 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925..... | 4 |
| (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose.. | 50 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 4 |
| (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 | 60 |

2—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers..... | 52 |
|--|----|

3—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

A—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

| | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs..... | Nil. |
|--|------|

- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

| | |
|---|------|
| (a) By Owners..... | Nil. |
| (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 Nil.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
- | | |
|---|------|
| (a) By Owners..... | Nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners.... | Nil. |

C—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... 4
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil.

D—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... Nil.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit..... Nil.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

General Observations

During the year, 12 houses have been built by the Local Authority, and five of these are now occupied by families removed from houses which had been condemned as unfit for habitation.

15 further houses of a superior semi-detached type have also been built by private enterprise.

At the end of the year the erection of an additional 32 houses by the Council was well advanced, and these should be ready for occupation early in 1937.

Owing to the absence of alternative accommodation, there were still, at the end of the year, several families living in houses in connection with which demolition orders have already been made.

Of the four houses which are to be demolished in Duck Street, three are now vacant, and the fourth still occupied.

As regards the five houses, numbered 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11, Mearley Street, against which demolition orders have been made, four are now vacant, and it is expected that the fifth will be vacated at an early date, when immediate demolition will be insisted upon.

The Council has decided to close the houses numbered 1, 5 and 11, Wilkin Square, other accommodation being found for the tenants, and these will then be demolished along with the two houses numbered 7 and 9 in the same block, all of which are the property of the Corporation.

At the end of the year, the Council contemplated the early erection of an additional 46 houses, and the completion of these would greatly facilitate the operation of the Housing Act.

Overcrowding

In accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act, 1935, re "Overcrowding," a preliminary survey of working-class dwellings was completed in the early part of the year, the following being a summary of such survey :—

PREMISES ENUMERATED

| | | |
|---|------|------|
| (a) Dwelling Houses occupied by or suitable for occupation by the working classes | 3060 | |
| (b) Empty Houses, suitable for working classes | 7 | |
| | — | 3067 |

PREMISES NOT ENUMERATED

| | | |
|---|-----|------|
| (a) Dwelling Houses not ordinarily occupied by the working classes | 315 | |
| (b) Shop Premises, Public Houses, Clubs, etc. where living accommodation is provided. | 77 | |
| | — | 392 |
| Total | | 3459 |

From the preliminary Form A. used in the enumeration of the 3,060 houses, 115 doubtful cases were found. These called for full measurement of the premises on Form B., before the "permitted number" could be fixed.

The completion of the Survey showed that 22 houses (a percentage of 0.71) were Overcrowded according to the Standard laid down.

Later in the year, a second survey was made, when all rooms were measured and full particulars of the property recorded. These completed records are available for the purposes of Section 6 (2) of the Act.

Unhealthy Areas

There are no actual "slum" areas in the Borough, the unsuitable houses being scattered throughout the town.

Bye-Laws

Modern Bye-laws relating to "New Streets and Buildings" came into force in June, 1927, and there have been no special difficulties in their enforcement.

There are no Bye-laws in force with respect to "Houses let in Lodgings," or relating to Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., but it is highly desirable that further powers should be sought in respect thereto.





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