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BOROUGH OF CLITHEROE.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F

J. H. FAIRWEATER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31ST. DECEMBER, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the
Borough of Clitheroe.

Lady & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Second Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, for the Year 1945, which in accordance with suggestions of the Ministry of Health is again in an abbreviated form.

I am, Lady & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOSEPH H. FAIRWEATHER.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

JOSEPH H. FAIRWEATHER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. PART-TIME

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

EDWARD COATES, A.R.S.I.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

JAMES BOLTON.

HEALTH VISITOR AND SCHOOL NURSE.

ELSA W. BATES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION - 10,790.

During the year, 149 Live Births were registered (74 Male and 75 female) giving a BIRTH RATE for 1945 of 13.8 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, a figure which is 5.0 below that of 1944, and a decrease of 1.0 on the average for the previous 5 years (1940 - 1944).

Three Stillbirths (1 male and 2 females) were registered, giving a STILL BIRTH RATE of 19 per 1,000 total (live and still) births, a decrease of 4 per 1,000 on 1944.

No Maternal Deaths were reported during the year.

During the same period 167 Deaths were registered (86 male and 81 female) giving a DEATH RATE of 15.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, a figure which is 2.3 per 1,000 above that of 1944 and 1.3 above the previous five year's average.

The Deaths included 4 from Pneumonia; 15 from Bronchitis; 5 from Tuberculosis; 30 from Cancer; 56 from Organic Heart Disease; 11 from Nephritis, and 1 from Influenza.

The foregoing figures show slight increases in deaths from Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Cancer, Organic Heart Disease, and Nephritis.

There were 7 Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age) during the year, giving an INFANT MORTALITY RATE of 46 per 1,000 live births registered, an increase of 18 on the figure for 1944 and an increase of 12 on the average for the previous five years.

STILL BIRTHS.

As mentioned previously, three Still Births occurred during the year, giving a Rate of 19 per 1,000 total (live and still) births, a reduction on the previous year.

All the children were legitimate, (1 boy and 2 girls). The mothers had attended our Ante-natal Clinic.

Full enquiries were made and it was found in all cases that there had been adequate medical and nursing attention to confinement.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

143 cases of Notifiable Diseases were reported during the year, a decrease of 87 cases on the previous year. Of these, 56 were Measles and 31 Whooping Cough. No deaths were attributable to these diseases.

Seven cases of Pneumonia were reported as against 9 in 1944, with 4 deaths.

There were 23 cases of Scarlet Fever during the year. No deaths were attributable to this disease which for some years now has diminished in severity.

No cases of Diphtheria occurred during 1945. Efforts continued during the year to secure that the largest possible percentage of young children were immunised against this dangerous disease, and the response of parents generally was gratifying.

172 children were immunised during 1945, and I estimate that not less than 95% of all children between one and five years, and 96% of children between the ages of five and fifteen, are now protected against Diphtheria.

SCABIES.

The town was remarkably free from this disease during 1945, only 13 cases being found in school children, and these received treatment at the School Clinic.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, ETC.

These remain substantially as in previous Reports.

LABORATORY WORK.

This shows no change on previous years.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.WATER SUPPLY.

This is from neighbouring upland sources, it is of a high degree of purity, and adequate in amount.

The Council are considering a scheme for the increasing of storage capacity by the construction of a new reservoir on the existing Gathering Grounds.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

No change during the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

There still remain in the Borough 20 Pail Closets and some 1,300 Slopwater or "Tippler" Closets which are to be dealt with under a Conversion Scheme in the early post-war period.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION, ETC.

The following is a summary of the work done in the removal of House Refuse (excluding Salvage loads) during the year :-

1.	House and Shop Refuse removed to Destructor.....	1,821 loads.
2.	Offal removed from Government Slaughterhouse....	198 loads.
3.	Fish and Vegetable Offal removed from Trade Premises and Market.....	229 loads.
4.	Nightsoil from Pail Closets.....	53 loads.
Total		<u>2,301 loads.</u>

The total weight of House and Shop Refuse (1821 loads) amounted to 2683 tons 2 cwts. 2 qrs., which is 200 tons over and above the weight collected during the previous year.

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS.

The following shows the total weight of Salvage disposed of and the Income therefrom during Year ended 31st December, 1945

	T.	C.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper (all grades)...	46	15	1	0	294	18	4
Ferrous Metal.....	12	9	3	0	12	9	9
Baled Destructor Tins.....	46	1	2	0	72	11	3
Non-ferrous Metal.....		7	0	22	3	14	9
Textiles.....	2	12	0	2	20	17	5
Bottles & Jars.....	2	0	0	0	5	5	5
Household Bones.....	3	6	1	23	6	13	1
Kitchen Waste.....	185	7	3	0	278	1	6
Totals	298	19	3	19	£694	11	6d.

Compared with the previous year, these figures show a decrease in collection of some 47 tons, and some decline in the output of all grades of Salvage.

Thirty-two Salvage Stewards are enrolled in the Borough. The majority again showed themselves to be enthusiastic and rendered valuable assistance.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The Public Abattoir has continued as a Government Centre for the distribution of meat in the area covered by the Clitheroe Borough and the Clitheroe and Bowland Rural Districts, and the slaughtering of animals for food was centralised there, and meat inspection thereby facilitated.

Food Shops and Market Stalls have been visited frequently during the year under review.

The following shows the amount of food condemned and removed from the Food Supply during the Year :-

MEAT.

47 Beast Carcases	17,138 lbs.	130 Sheep Carcases	4,212 lbs.
Carcase Parts	681 lbs.	Carcase Parts	73 lbs.
Liver Trimmings	6,245 lbs.	133 Heads & Plucks	894 lbs.
65 Heads & Tongues	1,794 lbs.	1836 Sheep Livers	2,638 lbs.
79 Hearts	296 lbs.	1 Pig Carcase	131 lbs.
123 Skirts	186 lbs.	Carcase Parts	25 lbs.
54 Tails	99 lbs.	2 Pig Plucks	11 lbs.
208 Lights & Melts	1,697 lbs.	Corned Beef	486 lbs.
87 Udders	1,004 lbs.	Corned Mutton	120 lbs.
22 Calf Carcases	754 lbs.		
22 Heads & Plucks	177 lbs.		

OTHER FOODS.

Bacon 4 lbs. Butter 20 lbs, Beans 100 lbs. Tea $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Dates 14 lbs.
Meat 10 tins. Fish 70 tins. Vegetables 39 tins. Condensed Milk 7
tins. Malt Cocoa 3 tins. Jam 4 tins.

BAKEHOUSES.

These remain substantially as in previous Reports.

The standard of cleanliness in these premises has been well maintained during the year, the result, no doubt, of frequent inspection and regular contact with employers and employees in this trade.

FACTORIES.

Regular inspection of premises has continued during the year and it was found necessary to issue one notice calling for the re-arrangement of Sanitary Accommodation at a Factory Bakehouse and the necessary work was completed.

In several other cases, contraventions of the Health Provisions of the Factories Act were found, but the necessary remedial works had not been undertaken at the end of the year.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS & MILKSHOPS.

The standard of the cleanliness and the methods of milk production have, with one or two exceptions, been well maintained during the year, and frequent inspection has proved that the milk production in the Borough is generally satisfactory.

Following a complaint as to "Souring" of milk from one farm, advice was given as to improved production methods, and the milking and handling processes were supervised for a period. A subsequent series of Samples taken from the farm proved the milk to be satisfactory.

PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS AND GOOD HABITS
AND THE ELIMINATION OF VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

There has again been no evidence of widespread lice infestation in the Borough. In fact the general standard of cleanliness was considered to be good so that no extensive campaign to combat lousiness was called for.

The Department's Nurse again carried out the regular cleanliness inspections in the Schools, giving special attention to the cleanliness of the childrens' heads in an endeavour to combat infestation by lice. Here again the standard was found to be high and only in one or two cases was it found necessary to issue instructions to parents.

Talks on Personal Hygiene and the Formation of Good Habits regarding Cleanliness are given by the Teachers in the Elementary Schools.

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

House to House Inspections.....	15
House to House Re-Inspections.....	12
Other House Inspections.....	274
Factory Inspections (including Bakehouses)	186
Visits re Overcrowding.....	3

Visits to infected Houses.....	65
Visits to Government Slaughterhouse.....	575
Visits to Dairy Farms.....	210
Visits to Food Shops and Stalls.....	156
Visits to Inhabited Vans (Fairground).....	8
Visits re Work in Progress.....	42
Visits re Complaints.....	245
Miscellaneous Visits by Inspector.....	615
Houses Disinfected.....	37

Health Visitor.

Primary Visits to Infants under 1 Year....	138
Secondary Visits to Infants under 1 Year..	394
Visits to Children 1 to 5 Years.....	1136
Visits to Expectant Mothers.....	63
Visits re Stillbirths.....	2
Miscellaneous Visits.....	68

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council employs one full-time Rodent Operator to carry out the work of disinfestation under the direction of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

To facilitate the work of survey and the tracing of infestation the town is divided into eight sections and regular tours of inspection of premises within these sections are carried out by the Rodent Operator, complete records being kept of all infestations and treatment carried out.

During the year some 18 premises were found to be rat infested and the necessary treatment was carried out, resulting in a kill of some 798 Rats. In several instances block treatments were carried out. During the same period three sets of premises were treated for infestation by Mice.

At the end of 1944 special attention was given to the Sewers in the Borough Area. The treatments with an estimated kill of 1,240 rats proved to be very successful and retreatment was not considered necessary before the end of 1945.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Clitheroe, like most towns, is experiencing an acute shortage of housing accommodation and the provision of new houses is an urgent problem. The Council has already given consideration to the First and Second Years' Housing Programmes, and it has been decided to erect 50 temporary Government Bungalows on the Pendle Road Site, and some 64 permanent traditional houses on the Henthorn Site. At the end of the year the advance preparation works on both sites were well

advanced and it is hoped that considerable progress in the erection of these houses will be made early in 1946.

A further scheme for the erection of 56 houses of a permanent pre-fabricated type on the Tower Hill Site has been decided upon and the layout of this site was receiving the attention of the Council at the end of the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Number of Houses erected during the year.....	Nil
2. Number of Houses inspected for Housing Defects.....	15
3. Number of Inspections made for this purpose.....	21
4. Number of Houses found to be unfit for human habitation....	Nil
5. Number of Houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.....	11
6. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or Officers.....	11
7. Number of dwellings in respect of which action was taken under Statutory Powers under Public Health and Housing Acts....	Nil
8. Cases of Overcrowding dealt with during the year	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR (CIVILIANS ONLY).

Disease	At all Ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Over	To Hosp.	Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sonne Dysentery	8	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	23	-	1	-	1	-	6	8	1	6	-	-	-	8	-
Measles	56	3	3	4	17	16	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	31	1	2	4	6	7	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Pneumonia	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	1	-	4
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	1	7	5
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	143	4	6	8	25	24	34	14	4	11	3	6	4	17	9

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1945.

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
All Causes - Certified Uncertified	86	81	167
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Cerebro- Spinal Fever	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	1	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	-	-	-
Influenza	1	-	1
Measles	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-
Premature Birth, Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries.	6	1	7
Cancer (all forms).....	19	11	30
Diabetes	-	-	-
Heart Disease	33	38	71
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	3	3
Bronchitis	7	8	15
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ..	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum.	2	2	4
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..	-	-	-
Appendicitis	-	-	-
Nephritis	7	4	11
Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	-
Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-
Suicide	-	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents	-	-	-
Other Violent Causes	2	4	6
All Other Causes	3	5	8
Totals	86	81	167

HEALTH
A 14 MAY 1947
OR. 75