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Contributors

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BOROUGH OF CLITHEROE

ANNUAL

REPORT

OF

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

AND

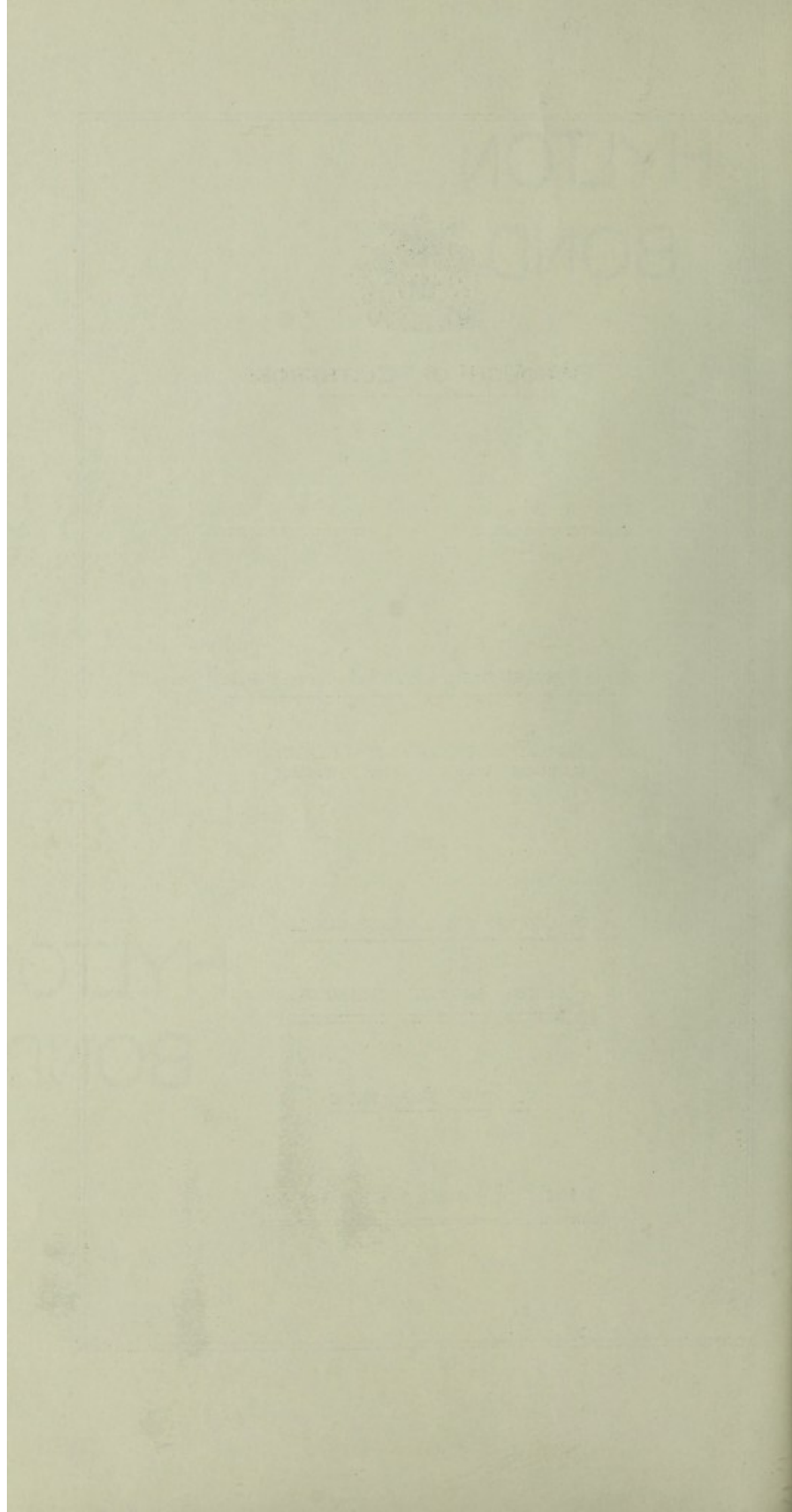
E. COATES, C.S.I.B., A.R.SAN.I.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 ST. DECEMBER, 1954.





STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. J.H. FAIRWEATHER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Part-time).

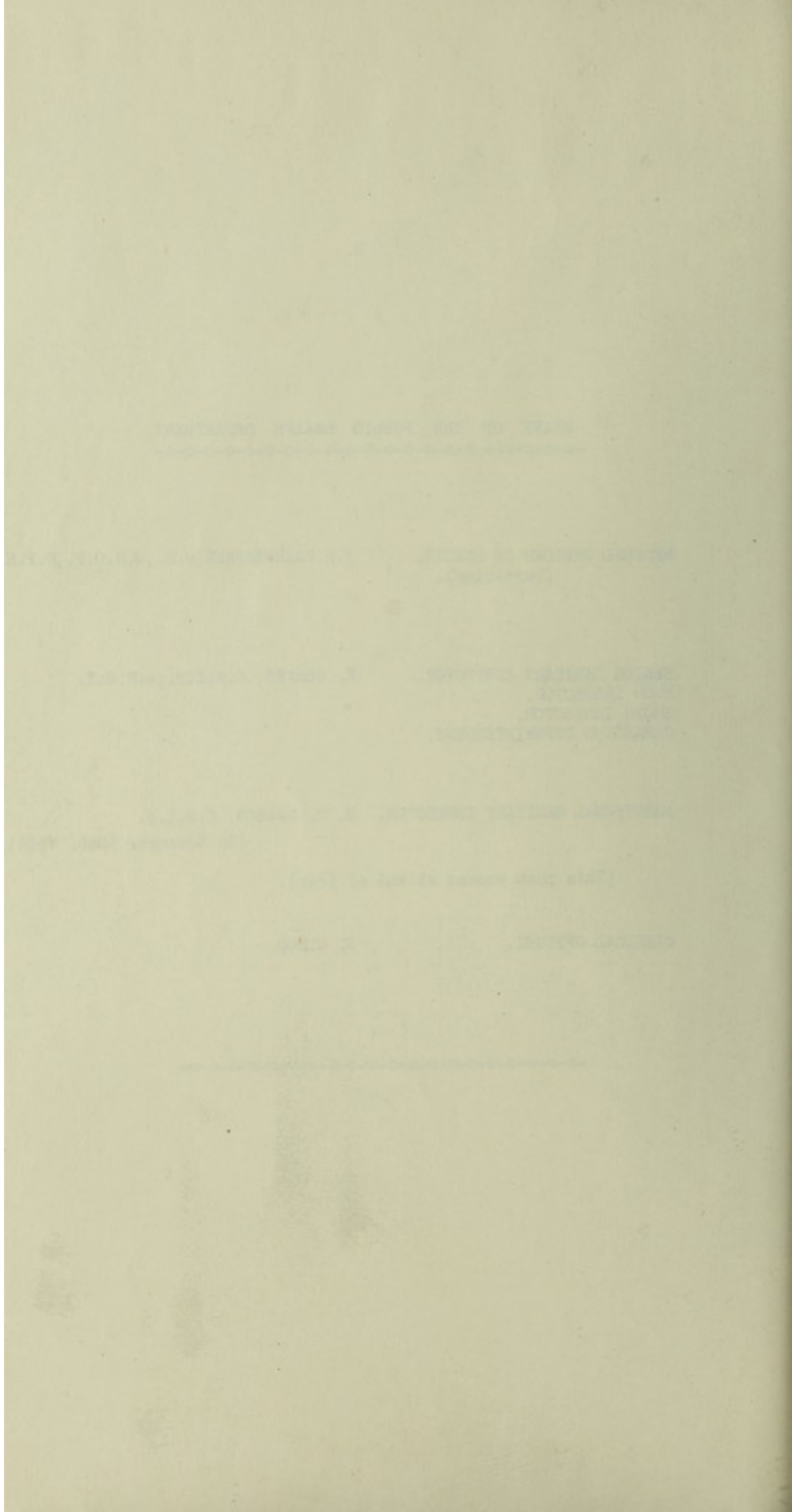
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR. E. COATES, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.
FOOD INSPECTOR.
SHOPS INSPECTOR.
CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR. M. C. DAWSON, C.S.I.B.
(To November 30th. 1954).

(This post vacant at end of year).

CLERICAL OFFICER. N. CLEGG.

-o-



PART I.

- (A) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.
- (B) GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.
- (C) PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

BY

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

-O-

TABLE I

- (a) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA
- (b) GENERAL HISTORY OF HEALTH SERVICES
- (c) PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

10

A. H. HARRINGTON, M. D., DIRECTOR, P. H. S.

HEALTH DIVISION OF BUREAU

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

A. SUMMARY OF STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of Borough (in acres)...	2,386
Population - Census, 1951 ...	...	...	...	12,062
Estimated Population - Mid 1954 ...	...	...	...	12,010
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census, 1951..	...	...	...	3,886
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1954..	...	...	...	4,274
Rateable Value ...	...	...	...	£80,932
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	...	...	...	£ 332

The principal Industries carried on in the area are Cotton and Rayon Weaving, Cotton Bleaching, Cement Manufacture, Chemical Manufacture, Limestone Quarrying, Agricultural Engineering and Garment Manufacture.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate....	78	80	158
Illegitimate..	1	-	1
Total..	79	80	159

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of estimated resident Population.

Crude..... 13.2 Adjusted..... 14.9

STILLBIRTHS.

Legitimate....	1	-	1
Illegitimate..	-	-	-
Total..	1	-	1

RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) Births... 6

<u>DEATHS.</u> ...	93	73	166
--------------------	----	----	-----

DEATH RATE per 1,000 of estimated resident Population

Crude..... 13.8 Adjusted..... 11.6

INFANTILE MORTALITY (under 2 years)

Legitimate....	3	1	4
Illegitimate..	-	-	-
Total..	3	1	4

RATE per 1,000 live Births..... 25NEO-NATAL MORTALITY (under 4 weeks) - Total.. 2
(legitimate male)RATE per 1,000 live Births..... 13

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, etc..... Nil.

RATE per 1,000 total (live & still) Births. Nil.BIRTH RATE

It will be seen that the number of LIVE BIRTHS registered during the year was 159, giving an adjusted Rate of 14.9 per 1,000 of the population, which is a decrease of 2.3 per 1,000 on the figure for the previous year (1953).

The trend of this Rate over the past ten years, in comparison with the rate for England and Wales, is shown in the following Table :-

Year.	Clitheroe.			Rate per 1,000	England & Wales
	Number of Births				Rate per 1,000
	M.	F.	Total		
1945	74	75	149	13.8	16.1
1946	87	91	178	16.2	19.1
1947	124	116	240	21.9	20.5
1948	108	103	211	17.7	17.9
1949	115	113	228	18.6	16.7
1950	121	113	234	20.4	15.8
1951	80	79	159	14.4	15.5
1952	88	73	161	14.5	15.3
1953	106	85	191	17.2	15.5
1954	79	80	159	14.9	15.2

STILLBIRTHS.

Only one Stillbirth was assigned to the Borough during 1954, a decrease of two on the figure for the previous year.

The Table given below sets out details relating to stillbirths for the past ten years :-

Year	Number of Stillbirths			Rate per 1000 (live & still) Births.	Rate per 1000 population	
	Leg.	Ill.	Total.		Clitheroe.	England & Wales.
1945	3	-	3	19	0.28	0.46
1946	6	3	9	48	0.82	0.53
1947	6	-	6	24	0.55	0.50
1948	10	-	10	45	0.84	0.42
1949	2	-	2	9	0.16	0.39
1950	8	-	8	33	0.64	0.37
1951	7	-	7	42	0.58	0.36
1952	4	-	4	24	0.33	0.35
1953	3	-	3	15	0.25	0.35
1954	1	-	1	6	0.08	0.34

DEATH RATE

The number of Deaths of Clitheroe residents which occurred during the year was 166, representing an adjusted DEATH RATE of 11.6 per 1,000 of the population, a decrease of 2.7 per 1,000 on the figure for the previous year (1953).

The Death Rate for the Borough for the past ten years is shown below in comparison with the rate for England and Wales :-

Year	Clitheroe.		England & Wales
	Total Deaths	Rate per 1000	Rate per 1,000
1945	167	15.4	11.4
1946	159	14.5	11.5
1947	156	14.2	12.0
1948	179	15.0	10.8
1949	180	14.7	11.7
1950	183	12.6	11.6
1951	184	13.0	12.5
1952	151	10.7	11.3
1953	202	14.3	11.4
1954	166	11.6	11.3

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

Four Infant Deaths (under 1 year) were registered during the year, an increase of two on the previous year. This gives a RATE of 25 per 1,000 live births.

The following Table gives the Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births for the past ten years compared with the Rate for England and Wales :-

Year.	Clitheroe.	England and Wales.
1945	46	46
1946	16	43
1947	25	41
1948	37	34
1949	35	32
1950	21	29.8
1951	38	29.6
1952	25	27.6
1953	10	26.8
1954	25	25.5

Average 1945-1954 --- Clitheroe 27.8
England & Wales 33.5

OTHER INFANT DEATHS.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)..... Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)..... Nil

The following Table shows the causes and sex distribution of Deaths of Clitheroe residents during the year 1954 :-

Cause of Death.	M.	F.	Total
All Causes - Certified... ..	93	73	166
Uncertified.	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.. . . .	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	-	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Influenza...	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms, etc..	17	12	29
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System... .	17	17	34
Heart Disease...	32	26	58
Other Disease of Circulatory System.. .	9	5	14
Pneumonia...	1	4	5
Bronchitis.. . . .	2	-	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System. .	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.. . . .	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea... .	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis...	1	-	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations.. . . .	1	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents...	-	-	-
All Other Accidents.. . . .	1	2	3
Suicide....	1	1	2
All Other Causes	8	5	13
Totals	93	73	166

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

A comprehensive range of Services is maintained by the Local Health Authority, the Lancashire County Council, including Ante-Natal Clinic (with classes for Exercises and Relaxation), Child Welfare Clinic, Eye and Aural Clinic, Dental Clinic, and other School Medical Services. A Speech Therapist also attends the Clinic at intervals.

All Clinics are shortly to be transferred from The Castle House to Eastham House, Eshton Terrace, Clitheroe. These new provisions are most desirable and will be very much appreciated as they offer much easier access to mothers and children visiting the Clinics.

GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES are provided by the Regional Hospital Board in Blackburn, Accrington, Preston and Burnley. There is also access, where required, to Manchester, Liverpool, and other Hospitals.

Provision is made for MATERNITY CASES at Preston Royal Infirmary, Queens Park Hospital, Blackburn, and Bramley Meade, Whalley, and for INFECTIOUS DISEASES at Park Lee Hospital, Blackburn.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Pathological and Bacteriological Departments of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary undertake the Public Health Laboratory work for the Borough in accordance with the Government Scheme officially carried out by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

The weekly Pathological Clinic held in the town for some years back under an arrangement with the Trustees of the Clitheroe Nursing Association was discontinued at the end of the year.

A Sub-Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Spink, Pathologist to the Blackburn Group of Hospitals, is to be instituted early in 1955 in a suite of rooms at the Clitheroe Hospital, and will open each Wednesday morning. The Local Medical Practitioners will thus be able to refer Clitheroe patients for any necessary tests and thus obviate the tiresome travel to the more distant hospital centres.

A PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTRE under the auspices of the Trustees of the Clitheroe Nursing Association, with support from the Whalley and District Nursing Association, was opened in March, 1954, and is available for patients in the Borough and Rural Districts. The centre is in charge of a trained Physiotherapist and Assistant and provides for massage, remedial exercises, diathermy, infra-red and sun-ray treatment, etc. Local doctors can refer the patients to the Centre and continuity of treatment is assured without the necessity of travel to the more distant centres. This Centre is not a part of the National Health Service and so a small charge is made for treatment. The Centre is giving an excellent service and is greatly appreciated by the townspeople.

C. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases during 1954 is shown in the following Table, which includes particulars of cases, other than Tuberculosis, notified to the Authority, cases removed to hospital, and deaths from these diseases. Cases of the non-notifiable minor infectious diseases are not included :-

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified.						Total Deaths	Cases removed to hospital
	Age Periods - years.							
	0- 1	1-5	5- 10	10- 25	25- 65	65 & over.		
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	3	8	1	-	-	-	1
Measles.....	8	105	137	7	-	-	-	-
Wh. Cough.....	2	9	11	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Pneumonia..	-	-	1	1	1	3	4	-
Puer. Pyrexia..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-myelitis-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oph. Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas....	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	10	117	157	9	2	4	4	1

It will be seen from the foregoing Table that 299 cases of notifiable disease were reported during the year, an increase of 9 cases on the previous year.

There were increases in the number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough but a considerable decrease in the cases of Scarlet Fever.

All the outbreaks proved to be of a fairly mild type, and no deaths resulted.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were reported in the Borough area during the period under review.

It is pleasing to report that Clitheroe was again free from Diphtheria during 1954. Only one case of this disease has occurred in the town since 1946.

The decrease in Diphtheria cases is common throughout England and Wales and is proof of the efficacy of Diphtheria Immunisation. It must be stated, however, that such decrease in the incidence of this disease and the low level of mortality does give rise to complacency on the part of many parents who appear to hold the belief that all danger from this dread disease is passed. It cannot be stressed too strongly that the one safeguard against the return of diphtheria epidemics is the maintenance of a high level of immunisation.

The following Table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Disease, including Tuberculosis, during the past five years :-

Disease.	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Smallpox... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	8	36	55	53	12
Measles	197	60	135	206	257
Whooping Cough... ..	32	127	53	15	22
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	1	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis - paralytic....	1	2	1	1	-
do. - non-paralytic.	2	1	-	1	-
Infective Encephalitis. ...	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas.	2	1	-	2	1
Acute Pneumonia..	1	11	7	11	6
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.. ...	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria- all forms	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning... ..	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyæxia	-	-	4	-	-
Tuberculosis- Respiratory ...	7	15	4	13	8
do. Other forms	-	6	2	4	3
Totals.	250	260	262	307	310

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases of Tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board which administers the general scheme. Close liaison is still maintained between the Board and the local Public Health Department

All the necessary disinfections following these cases are carried out by our own Department.

The following Table shows the age group incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis notified, and the deaths therefrom in 1954 :-

Age Periods Years.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respy.		Respiratory		Non-Respirty.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75+	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	6	3	2	-	1	-	1	-
	9		2		1		1	

It will be seen that 9 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified during the year. This is a decrease of 4 on the 1953 figure.

Enquiry following the death of an infant suffering from Tuberculous Meningitis disclosed the fact that a contact with this case - a female worker in the school meals service - was suffering from active disease though unaware of her affection. It was deemed advisable to make a thorough check at the school concerned, and for this purpose the Mass Radiography Unit visited Clitheroe in July to carry out a survey. Some 11 teachers, 339 scholars and 10 other staff were examined and the reports disclosed that two of the children (resident in the Borough) were suffering from active Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and three others (resident in the Rural area) were considered to be doubtful cases and were referred for further observation. Arrangements were later made for Mantoux Testing and B.C.G. Immunisation where necessary and the whole matter was under continued investigation and "follow up" at the end of the year.

It is suggested that a second Mass Radiography Survey of the Borough area be arranged in the early part of 1956.

The following Table gives the Death Rates for Respiratory Tuberculosis in the Borough, the County of Lancashire, and England and Wales, for the years 1944 to 1953 :-

Year	Death Rate per 1,000 of Population		
	Clitheroe.	Lancashire.	England and Wales.
1944	0.45	0.42	0.52
1945	0.46	0.38	0.52
1946	0.37	0.39	0.47
1947	0.18	0.38	0.47
1948	0.25	0.34	0.44
1949	0.16	0.34	0.44
1950	0.16	0.28	0.32
1951	0.17	0.26	0.28
1952	0.17	0.20	0.21
1953	0.17	0.18	0.18

PART II

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.

1. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(INCLUDING REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL).

2. H O U S I N G.

3. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

BY

E. COATES, C.S.I.B., A.R.San.I.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

AND

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

PLATE II

EXPLANATION OF PLATE II

1. PLAN OF THE AREA
(SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE AREA)

2. SECTION

3. SECTION

4. SECTION

5. SECTION

6.

7. SECTION

1. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

This is from neighbouring upland sources and normally is of a high degree of purity and adequate at the source. The storage capacity of the existing reservoirs, however, is not sufficient, and during spells of drought this lack of storage gives rise to some anxiety and calls at times for economy measures in the use of water.

The Local Authority is making every effort to expedite the borehole scheme to tap a subterranean reservoir and thus augment our resources and ensure an adequate and safe supply of water at all times. Consideration is also being given to the question of chlorination and filtration of the water supply.

With one exception, an old house on the extreme north boundary of the town, all houses have a direct supply from the public mains.

WATER SAMPLING.

During the year 123 Bacteriological Examinations were made with fairly satisfactory results. Certain samples were considered unsatisfactory and indicated some pollution of animal origin. Amongst other measures taken in respect of such contamination were those to eradicate the rabbit population on the Gathering Grounds.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

New house construction called for some extension of water mains and sewers during the period under review.

The Council has given consideration to the more efficient treatment of the town's sewage, and Consultant Engineers are preparing an extensive scheme of reorganisation of the Works at Henthorn, so "phased" as to meet the requirements of the Borough for many years to come.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

There are in the Borough some 15 Pail Closets, 1315 Waste Water or "Tipper" Closets, and 3,144 Fresh-water Closets.

No Scheme of conversion of the waste-water closets has yet materialised. The cost of converting such a closet during 1954 was in the region of £26 to £30 so that the abolition of the large number of such closets existing in the town would be a somewhat costly undertaking but a most desirable one from the Public Health point of view, and it is hoped that in the not far distant future a comprehensive scheme of conversion might be undertaken.

Seven waste-water closets and 2 trough closets were converted during the year.

At one of the Junior Schools in the town the work of abolishing obsolete sanitary accommodation and of providing modern equipment was completed during 1954.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No special action was called for during the year in respect of the pollution of rivers and streams.

REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

The following is a summary of the work done in the removal of House and Shop Refuse, etc. (excluding salvage loads) during the year ended 31st. December, 1954 :-

1. House & Shop Refuse removed.....	2,794 loads
2. Offal removed from Slaughterhouse.....	228 "
3. Fish and Vegetable Offal Removed.....	232 "
4. Nightsoil from Pail Closets.....	53 "
<hr/>	
Total.....	3,307 "
<hr/>	

The total weight of House and Shop Refuse (2,794 loads) amounted to 3,438 tons.

There were some 4,752 dustbins in use in the Borough area at the end of 1954. It was not found possible during the year to consistently maintain a weekly collection of household refuse. The extended collection frequency inevitably followed holidays but was much more serious during the periods when our staff was seriously depleted through absence on account of sickness. Enquiries at the Employment Exchange for replacement labour invariably proved futile and we were compelled to carry on at times with little more than a skeleton staff.

This problem of replacement labour for Local Authority staffs gives rise to anxiety throughout the country in these days and is no doubt due, in the main, to the less favourable rates of pay and working conditions as compared with industrial employment generally. It is not surprising, perhaps, that in these days of full employment, the security factor of Local Authority employment is weighed against the increased amount of the wages packet and is so often found wanting.

SALVAGE.

The collection of salvage material continued satisfactorily during 1954. The improvement in the waste paper market and the steady rise in prices made the collection of this material a much more worthwhile proposition, and a welcome source of income to offset to some extent the rising service costs.

Following the decontrol of animal feeding stuffs in late 1953 the collection of Kitchen Waste from communal bins gradually became an uneconomic undertaking. This collection was continued, however, as a public service until early August when our sole market was lost and this work had to be discontinued.

The following Table shows the total weight of salvage disposed of, and the income derived therefrom, during the year ended 31st. December, 1954 :-

Material.	Weight.				Revenue		
	T.	C.	Q.	LBS.	£	S.	D.
Baled Dest. Tins.....	21.	17.	0.	0.	71	0	5
Waste Paper.....	70.	12.	3.	0	476	4	1
Textiles.....		12.	3.	26	11	17	8
Ferrous Metals.....	2.	4.	0.	0.	5	10	0
Non-Ferrous Metals...		3.	3.	17	3	12	10
Kitchen Waste..... (to August, 1954)	79.	2.	0.	0.	266	19	1
Totals.....	174.	12.	1.	15	835	4	1

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Number of premises visited...	...	...	...	2,964
Number of Nuisances discovered ...	...	...	...	426
Number of Nuisances abated...	...	...	...	419
No. of House Inspections under Housing Acts ...	...	...	...	360
Number of Re-inspections. ...	...	...	...	42
Number of Other House Inspections..	...	...	...	137
Number of Bakehouse Inspections ...	...	...	...	64
Number of Factory Inspections. ...	...	...	...	127
Number of Visits to Food Shops and Stalls ...	...	...	...	293
Number of Visits to Dairies . ...	...	...	...	14
Number of Visits to Schools and School Canteens ...	...	...	...	21
Number of Visits to Slaughterhouses. ...	...	...	...	413
Number of Visits to Ice Cream Shops. ...	...	...	...	37
Number of Visits under Shops Act...	...	...	...	59
Number of Visits to Infected Houses ...	...	...	...	18
Number of Visits re. Works in Progress...	...	...	...	35
Miscellaneous Visits re Complaints, etc...	...	...	...	475
Number of Houses disinfected. ...	...	...	...	15
Number of Houses disinfecting. ...	...	...	...	3
Informal Notices served ....	...	...	...	385
Statutory Notices served ...	...	...	...	2

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS & CAMPING SITES.

No action was called for during the year 1954.

SHOPS.

Routine inspection, and special inspection as occasion required, continued during the year. Discussions took place with representatives of the Grocery and Ironmongery Trades, the principal topic being that of the Half-day Closing arrangements in respect of those trades. That there is violation of the Regulations on occasion there is no doubt, but unless there is staff to keep almost constant watch on such premises it is very difficult to control, and moreover, to prove such sale.

There are in Clitheroe a large number of small shopkeepers who sell groceries and regard this as the main line of business, but at the same time they deal in a host of other commodities such as confectionery, table waters, sweets and sugar confectionery, ice cream, fruit and vegetables, tobacco and smokers' requisites, cooked provisions and milk and cream. The shopkeeper can sell these latter commodities on the Half-closing Day or on Sundays, if they so desire. Moreover, the shopkeepers have a choice between two days as their half-closing day, Wednesday or Saturday.

No longer is there the distinct line of demarcation between one type of business and another, and more and more shops are entitled to sell the commodities outlined. There is, of course, always the temptation for the dealer, at the request of the customer, to waver, and hand over an article to which exemption does not apply, and thus violate the provisions of the Shops Acts. Shopkeepers who do this must be aware that violation of the Acts in this manner can only lead to trouble and possible prosecution by the Authority, once the violation is detected.

FACTORIES.

There are at present 11 Non-Power and 128 Power-Factories, a total of 139 premises, on the Register and coming within the purview of the Factories Acts.

Inspection during the year proved that the standard generally was satisfactory, but it was found necessary to issue written notices in four cases - three for want of cleanliness of walls, etc., and one for unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation.

SCHOOLS.

The general sanitary condition of the Schools in the town is considered satisfactory.

The long-delayed scheme for the provision of modern sanitary conveniences and washing facilities in one of the Junior Schools was completed during the year. It is understood that the unsatisfactory yard surface at the same school is to be given attention early in 1955.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Convenience for males situate at the Castle Gardens, Moor Lane, was given attention during the year, the walls being thoroughly reconditioned and treated with close pebble-dash.

This method of treatment of walls has been found to be the only effective one to counter the offensive and indecent writings and drawings so often seen in Public Conveniences.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no Offensive Trades established in the Borough area.

DISINFESTATION.

During the year, three premises were found to be infested with vermin and the necessary action was taken for their disinfestation.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The principle sources of atmospheric pollution in Clitheroe are a Cement Works, a Chemical Works, and a large Quarry Stone Crushing Plant, where emissions of dust and fumes constitute the problem, and from factory chimneys which emit black smoke.

From time to time action has been called for in respect of emissions of chemical fumes, but the position generally has improved over the past few years. Industrial Firms whose plant is liable to give rise to nuisance have proved most co-operative and have gone to much trouble and expense in efforts to obviate nuisance. During the year I have again had valuable assistance from H.M. Inspector of Alkali, etc., Works, who, at my request, has made special visits to the town, following the receipt of complaints.

Preventive equipment against the emission of grit from the cupola blast furnace of a local foundry was installed during the year so that conditions in the neighbourhood were considerably improved and complaints ceased.

Five Smoke Observations of factory chimneys were taken during the year. In one case black smoke was emitted for an excessive period and representations were made to the Firms concerned. In this case, an official of the National Fuel Efficiency Service, at the invitation of the owners, visited the works and advised as to the use of fuel and the stoking methods employed.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The Department employs a full-time operator on rodent control. The town is divided into eight sections and regular tours of inspection of premises and land are made within these sections, and treatments carried out where necessary. One test baiting and two maintenance treatments of the town's sewers were carried out during the year. Several refuse tips and other premises were treated during the year on behalf of the Bowland Rural District Council.

Householders and occupiers of industrial premises are now conscious of the problem of rodent infestation and co-operate well with the Department by giving prompt notice of infestation by rats or mice.

On several occasions during the year use was made of the Pestology Department of the University of Liverpool for the identification of unusual insect pests.

The following Table gives a summary of the work done during the year under review :-

Number of Inspections of Premises.	Number of Premises found to be Infested.	Number of Treatments carried out.	Estimated Kill of Rats	Cumulative total of rats killed since inception of Service.
1,660	60	111	1,846 (actual bodies found) 558	14,753 (actual bodies found) 3,786

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING
MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Two sets of premises are registered in accordance with this Act.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Under this Act one Licence was issued during the year. The Firm concerned is always ready to meet the demands of the Department's Officials as to the keeping of animals on their premises, and conditions here are quite satisfactory.

DEALERS IN OLD METAL, ETC.

In accordance with Section 86 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, six dealers are registered with the Health Department. In this matter the Department's Officials are to co-operate with the Police Authority when necessary.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

1. The further building of new houses.
2. The abolition of sub-standard housing accommodation and the re-conditioning of other properties.
3. The conversion to the freshwater system of the remaining pail closets and the large number of waste-water closets.
4. The provision of a modern Public Convenience, centrally situated, and equipped with facilities for washing, etc.

2. H O U S I N G .

The general standard of Housing Accommodation in the Borough is good but there are several small areas of outworn property which call for clearance and, in addition, there are some 200 single and back-to-back houses which require to be dealt with under the Housing Acts. The proposals for dealing with these properties will be submitted to the Council for consideration early in 1955 and if approved will later be forwarded to the Ministry in accordance with the requirements of the Housing Acts, 1936 and 1954.

Early in the year, an Appeal against a Closing Order on No. 16A, Marlborough Street, Clitheroe, was to have been heard in the County Court on Monday, February 22nd. but the owner withdrew the appeal two days prior to such hearing. The house is no longer used for human habitation.

In accordance with Section 26 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, three "Certificates of Disrepair" were issued to tenants during the year.

Sixteen samples of milk were forwarded to the laboratory at Blackburn Royal Infirmary for biological tests for Tuberculosis and these proved satisfactory. Fifteen were submitted for the Methylene Blue Reduction tests, for keeping quality, and all were considered satisfactory, and 2 samples of Pasteurised milk submitted for the Phosphatase tests also proved satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Until July 1954 the Public Abattoir was used as a Government Centre for the slaughtering and distribution of meat for the area comprising the Borough and the Clitheroe and Bowland Rural Districts, and such centralisation greatly facilitated the work of supervision and inspection of the meat supplies.

The scheme of modernisation and re-conditioning of the Public Abattoir was completed early in the year.

Following the decontrol of meat and livestock as from the 3rd July, 1954, the Public Abattoir again came under the direct control of the Local Authority and a new arrangement with the Clitheroe and District Butchers' Association operated.

On the 2nd July, 1954, the Minister of Housing and Local Government in pursuance of his powers under Section 60(2)(b) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, gave formal consent to the scale of charges in respect of the use of the Abattoir, as follows:-

<u>For 24 hours lairage and 48 hours hanging</u>		<u>For each 24 hours or part of 24 hours beyond period men- tioned in previous column</u>
Cattle	6/9d.	1/-
Pigs	3/3d.	6d.
Calves	2/3d.	4d.
Sheep	1/4d.	2d.

The charges to be inclusive save that butchers and all others using the slaughterhouse must themselves do or arrange for all slaughtering and dressing and provision of necessary slaughtering equipment.

Applications for the issue of Licences were made on behalf of the occupiers of two Registered Private Slaughterhouses - one situate in Back St. Paul's Street, Low Moor, and one situate in Back Castle Street. Following consideration by the Council it was agreed that the former slaughterhouse be licenced for a period not exceeding six months, but in respect of the latter a licence was refused on the grounds of unsuitability of premises.

The Council further decided that as from the expiration of a period of six months from the date of publication of a special Resolution (16th July, 1954) no further licences to keep premises as a slaughterhouse be granted under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and that after that period all such licences then in force cease to have effect and be not renewable.

Following the publication of the special Resolution, the owners of the two private slaughterhouses submitted Appeals to the Minister and as a result of such appeals, an Enquiry was held in the Town Hall, on Friday, 1st. October, 1954. Representatives both of the Council and of the objectors were given the opportunity of developing their cases and discussing the matters informally. The officials of the Ministry, in this connection, visited the Public Abattoir and also the Private Slaughterhouses concerned and were aware of the conditions existing at these premises.

On the 23rd. of November, the Council was informed that the Minister of Food, having taken into consideration all representations received by him after the publication of the Council's Resolution and being satisfied that there would be slaughterhouse accommodation adequate to meet the needs of the inhabitants of the district, approved such Resolution, and this meant that the objectors had lost their Appeals.

The Minister's decision was communicated to the parties concerned and it was anticipated that claims for some compensation would probably follow, but such had not materialised at the end of the year.

All carcasses are thoroughly inspected at the Public Abattoir and the following shows the amount of food condemned and removed from the Food Supply during the year ended 31st. December, 1954 :-

BEEF.

13 Carcases.....	5,916 lbs.	Ox Liver....	4,376 lbs.
9 Forequarters...	1,392 lbs.	21 Hearts...	85 lbs.
Carcase Parts..	441 lbs.	15 Tails....	30 lbs.
Bruised Meat...	208 lbs.	31 Skirts...	62 lbs.
Frozen Meat....	46 lbs.	Udder.....	986 lbs.
58 Heads & Tongues	1,608 lbs.	Fat.....	377 lbs.
150 Lites ,33 Melts	1,570 lbs.		

MUTTON.

23 Carcases.....	1,056 lbs.	17 Plucks...	72 lbs.
Carcase parts.....	27 lbs.	632 Livers..	1,233 lbs.
31 Heads & Plucks.	220 lbs.	Frozen liver	10 lbs.

PORK.

4 Carcases.....	340 lbs.	41 Heads....	477 lbs.
Carcase parts..	187 lbs.	63 Plucks...	364 lbs.
4 Hearts & Lungs.	11 lbs.	Livers.....	37 lbs.

VEAL.

13 Carcases.....	610 lbs.		
13 Heads & Plucks.	84 lbs.	Liver.....	3 lbs.

OTHER FOODS.

<u>DR FOODS.</u>	Canned Corned Beef..	12 lbs.	
	Canned Ham.....	12 lbs.	
	Canned Tongue.....	5 lbs.	
13 tins	Canned Meat.	42 tins	Canned Fish. 1 Jar Olives.
2 tins	Canned Egg.	12 tins	Canned Vegetables.
8 tins	Canned Milk.	120 tins	Fruit (mixed).

Under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, 16 premises are registered for the preparation and manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat foods intended for sale. Fifty-one premises are also registered for the sale of Ice Cream.

Seven Hawkers of food and their premises are registered under Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 are in force in the Borough, and copies have been supplied to the occupiers of all food shops and stalls.

Notices requesting customers not to bring dogs into food shops were distributed some two years ago and ^{are} still displayed in a large majority of these premises. These notices are generally appreciated by the traders and customers alike.

Routine inspections, and special inspections when called for, are carried out in respect of food shops and stalls, and food preparing premises generally.

The inspection and supervision of food supplies - essential in the interests of public health - is an important responsibility resting upon the Local Authority and its Officers. Like other services operated by the Local Authority, food inspection is apt to be taken for granted, and the members of the public generally are unaware of the time and attention given to this branch of Public Health work so as to ensure that food is fit to eat. Notwithstanding the advance made by medical science in the cure of disease, it is surely correct to say that the elimination of the causes of disease and ill-health are of paramount importance. In this connection there is no more worthwhile work than that associated with the detection and elimination of those factors which can seriously affect the food supply. The majority of traders today are realising the importance of hygienic methods of food production and food handling and are ready and willing to co-operate, this resulting in an improved standard. Customers, too, in these days demand a higher standard, and they should continue to do so in their own interest.

MEAT CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED -1954.				
	Cattle including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed... ..	968	131	5,425	1,639
Number Inspected.	968	131	5,425	1,639
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis:-</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	5	12	23	2
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	234	8	613	47
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than T.B..	24.6%	15.2%	11.7%	3.0%
<u>Tuberculosis only :-</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	8	-	-	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	108	-	-	23
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	12%	-	-	1.5%



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TABLE I SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION			
Item	Value	Unit	Remarks
1. Total weight of sample	100.0	gms	
2. Weight of residue	15.0	gms	
3. Weight of volatile matter	85.0	gms	
4. Weight of fixed carbon	70.0	gms	
5. Weight of hydrogen	1.0	gms	
6. Weight of oxygen	1.0	gms	
7. Weight of nitrogen	1.0	gms	
8. Weight of sulfur	1.0	gms	
9. Weight of phosphorus	1.0	gms	
10. Weight of potassium	1.0	gms	
11. Weight of sodium	1.0	gms	
12. Weight of calcium	1.0	gms	
13. Weight of magnesium	1.0	gms	
14. Weight of iron	1.0	gms	
15. Weight of copper	1.0	gms	
16. Weight of zinc	1.0	gms	
17. Weight of lead	1.0	gms	
18. Weight of tin	1.0	gms	
19. Weight of antimony	1.0	gms	
20. Weight of arsenic	1.0	gms	
21. Weight of selenium	1.0	gms	
22. Weight of tellurium	1.0	gms	
23. Weight of boron	1.0	gms	
24. Weight of fluorine	1.0	gms	
25. Weight of chlorine	1.0	gms	
26. Weight of bromine	1.0	gms	
27. Weight of iodine	1.0	gms	
28. Weight of barium	1.0	gms	
29. Weight of strontium	1.0	gms	
30. Weight of rubidium	1.0	gms	
31. Weight of cesium	1.0	gms	
32. Weight of francium	1.0	gms	
33. Weight of actinium	1.0	gms	
34. Weight of thorium	1.0	gms	
35. Weight of uranium	1.0	gms	
36. Weight of neptunium	1.0	gms	
37. Weight of plutonium	1.0	gms	
38. Weight of americium	1.0	gms	
39. Weight of curium	1.0	gms	
40. Weight of berkelium	1.0	gms	
41. Weight of californium	1.0	gms	
42. Weight of einsteinium	1.0	gms	
43. Weight of fermium	1.0	gms	
44. Weight of mendelevium	1.0	gms	
45. Weight of nobelium	1.0	gms	
46. Weight of lawrencium	1.0	gms	
47. Weight of rutherfordium	1.0	gms	
48. Weight of dubnium	1.0	gms	
49. Weight of seaborgium	1.0	gms	
50. Weight of bohrium	1.0	gms	
51. Weight of hassium	1.0	gms	
52. Weight of meitnerium	1.0	gms	
53. Weight of darmstadtium	1.0	gms	
54. Weight of roentgenium	1.0	gms	
55. Weight of copernicium	1.0	gms	
56. Weight of nihonium	1.0	gms	
57. Weight of flerovium	1.0	gms	
58. Weight of livermorium	1.0	gms	
59. Weight of tennessine	1.0	gms	
60. Weight of oganesson	1.0	gms	