

**[Report 1927] / Medical Officer of Health, Darwen Borough.**

**Contributors**

Darwen (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1927

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C 4485 (1) DARWEN

BOROUGH OF DARWEN.



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
FOR THE  
**Year ending December 31st, 1927.**

JAMES ROBERTSON, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer.

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DARWEN:  
PRINTED AT THE "NEWS" OFFICE.  
MCMXXVIII.







*With the  
Medical Officer of Health's  
Compliments.*

*Public Health Dept.  
Darwen.*





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HEALTH OFFICE,

DARWEN,

April, 1928.

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

GENTLEMEN,

It affords me pleasure in presenting to you my FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT, which is also the FIFTIETH REPORT since the incorporation of the Borough.

I take this opportunity of thanking all the Members of my Staff for their willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES ROBERTSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

# Members of the Health Committee

1927-1928.

\* ALDERMAN J. COCKER, J.P., MAYOR.

## Chairman :

\* ALDERMAN W. WORTH, J.P.

## Vice-Chairman :

\* COUNCILLOR R. COCKER.

ALDERMAN	*J. COCKER, J.P.	COUNCILLOR	*A. DUCKWORTH.
"	T. W. A. FORREST, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.	"	R. ECCLES.
"	H. C. JEPSON.	"	*J. V. HARGREAVES.
"	G. PICKUP, J.P., C.C.	"	T. E. HOLGATE, J.P.
"	JOHN B. THORNLEY, J.P.	"	H. D. HOLLAND.
COUNCILLOR	WM. AINSWORTH, J.P.	"	*W. JEPSON.
"	*DR. G. W. BURY.	"	*W. KNOWLES, J.P.
"	R. S. CATLOW.	"	E. LEACH.
"	*DR. T. J. COSTELLO.	"	R. MARSDEN.
"	W. R. DAVIES	"	*W. A. SHEPHERD.
"	*F. C. DUCKWORTH.	"	A. J. WATSON.

\* MEMBER OF HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE.

TOWN CLERK ..... CHARLES COUTTS BYERS.

## Staff of the Health Department.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH .....	JAMES ROBERTSON, M.B., C.M. D.P.H.
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER .....	
MEDICAL OFFICER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL .....	
SANITARY INSPECTORS.....	{ (South Division)—W. E. MARSDEN, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I. { (North Division)—C. R. WALSH, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I. Appointed Senior Sanitary Inspector, February, 1923, Public Health (Officers) Act, 1921.
VETERINARY OFFICER.....	J. W. MARSLAND, M.R.C.V.S.
SLAUGHTER HOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTOR.....	C. R. WALSH, CERTIF. MEAT INSP.
SHOPS INSPECTOR .....	W. E. MARSDEN.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCAVENGING.....	JOSEPH NICCOLL.
MATRON, INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.....	MISS D. SANDY.
HEALTH VISITORS.....	{ ..... MRS. H. H. SHAWCROSS, CERTIFIED MIDWIFE. { ..... MISS E. WORTH, CERTIFIED MIDWIFE, CERT. H.V.
CLERKS....	F. LITTLECOTT, A.R.S.I., AND E. MCGLYNN

# REPORT.



AREA (Acres), 5,919.

POPULATION : Census (1921), 38,720. Estimated (1927), 38,630.

## Population in Wards.

Wards.	Census, 1921 (Estimated).	(Estimated) 1927.
CENTRAL .....	6,314	6,298
WEST CENTRAL .....	3,474	3,465
NORTH-EAST .....	9,013	8,993
NORTH-WEST .....	6,948	6,931
SOUTH-EAST .....	6,850	6,834
SOUTH-WEST .....	6,121	6,109
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>38,720</b>	<b>38,630</b>

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 10,082 ; (1927), 10,363.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921), 10,145.

Rateable Value, £217,969 5s. 0d.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £850.

The inhabitants are chiefly of the artisan and labouring classes. The chief occupations include Cotton Weaving, Paper Making, Fire Clay and Iron Workers.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1927.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Birth Rate.
BIRTHS—Legitimate .....	453	226	227	11.95
Illegitimate .....	9	5	4	
	<u>462</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>231</u>	
DEATHS .....	Total. 580	Males. 266	Females. 314	Death Rate. 15.01



Number of women dying in, or in consequence of Child-birth :—From sepsis, 1 ; from other causes, 1.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—Total, 32 (Rate 69) ; Legitimate, 32 (Rate 70) ; Illegitimate, Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 2.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 2.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment :—None.

#### RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Rate of Deaths under 1 Year to 1000 Births
Mean of 5 years, 1922-1926	15.40	13.63	0.49	84
1926	13.89	11.14	0.28	75
1927	11.95	15.01	0.33	69

Increase or Decrease in 1927 on :—

Mean of 5 years, 1922-1926	-3.44	+1.38	-0.16	-15
Previous year	-1.94	+3.87	+0.05	-6

#### BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1927.

Provisional figures. The rates have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1927. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.

	Birth-Rate per 1000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.									Rate per 1,000 Births.	
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under Two Years).	T'tal Deaths under One Year.
England and Wales.....	15.7	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.09	0.01	0.09	0.07	0.57	0.51	6.3	69
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London .....	17.1	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.01	0.10	0.08	0.49	0.46	8.3	71
155 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000) .....	16.4	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.08	0.05	0.58	0.41	5.0	68
London .....	16.1	11.9	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.12	0.09	0.39	0.51	7.5	59
Darwen .....	11.9	15.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.95	0.77	4.3	69

## Marriages.

The number of Marriages solemnized in Darwen during the year ending December 31st, 1927, was as follows :—

Church of England .....	120
Nonconformist Places of Worship .....	155
Total .....	275

This means that 550 people were united in the bonds of wedlock, and is at the rate of 14.23 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13.02 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Year.	Births.		Deaths.		Marriages.	
	Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.	Number.	Rate.
1918	353	9.58	692	21.08	472	12.8
1919	495	12.61	520	13.80	994	25.3
1920	845	21.56	510	13.01	1068	27.2
1921	753	19.44	448	11.57	736	19.0
1922	674	17.37	561	14.45	726	18.7
1923	602	15.44	528	13.54	648	16.6
1924	636	16.28	582	14.90	602	15.4
1925	546	14.05	549	14.13	548	14.1
1926	540	13.89	433	11.14	506	13.0
1927	462	11.95	580	15.01	550	14.2
Average 10 Years...	590	15.21	540	14.26	685	17.6



## Births.

The number of Children born during the year was : Males 231, Females 231, making a total of 462 ; being 78 less than in the previous twelve months, and at the rate of 1.94 per 1,000 lower than in 1926.

The Birth Rate for the year was 11.95 per 1,000. The highest monthly Birth Rate was 16.45 in December and in September it was the lowest, the figure being 6.84 per 1,000.



**TABLE showing the Estimated Populations, Number of Births, and the Birth-Rates for the Darwen Sanitary District for the last Ten Years.**

Year.	Estimated Population at the Middle of Each Year.	Total Births.	Birth-Rate
1918	36,814	353	9.58
1919	39,252	495	12.61
1920	39,182	845	21.56
1921	38,720	753	19.44
1922	38,800	674	17.37
1923	38,980	602	15.44
1924	39,060	636	16.28
1925	38,850	546	14.05
1926	38,860	540	13.89
1927	38,630	462	11.95

Average Birth Rate for the last 10 years, 15.21.

#### **BIRTH RATES IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.**

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1918	8.74	9.81	10.15	9.08	9.54	10.17	9.58
1919	12.30	12.36	14.74	9.39	14.17	12.27	12.61
1920	22.43	18.71	24.90	17.51	22.76	21.23	21.56
1921	22.33	18.13	21.74	14.82	20.14	18.29	19.44
1922	18.01	17.81	19.48	15.51	15.44	17.60	17.37
1923	17.14	16.29	16.32	12.15	15.97	15.09	15.44
1924	16.17	18.83	16.16	13.84	19.24	14.57	16.28
1925	14.84	12.33	17.91	10.90	14.40	11.71	14.05
1926	12.62	16.63	15.14	15.50	13.96	10.41	13.89
1927	9.68	15.58	14.34	9.08	11.41	12.78	11.95
Averages for 10 Years.	15.42	15.64	17.08	12.77	15.70	14.41	15.21

#### **ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.**

Nine Children were born out of wedlock during the year. This gives a rate of 1.94 per cent. of total births. Since 1918 the average annual number is 22.

The rate per cent. of Births averages 1.94, and 1922 is the highest with 5.48.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of Illegitimates for the year was Nil, and the average for the last 10 years was 132.



**TABLE showing number of Illegitimate Births, Etc.,  
during the past Ten years.**

Year.	Number of Births.	Rate % of Total Births.	No. of Deaths under 1 Year.	Death-rate per 1,000 Births.
1918	16	4.53	3	188
1919	22	4.44	5	227
1920	35	4.14	6	171
1921	34	4.52	3	88
1922	37	5.48	6	162
1923	20	3.32	4	200
1924	23	3.61	1	43
1925	15	2.74	2	133
1926	17	3.14	2	117
1927	9	1.94	0	Nil
Average .....	22	3.78	3	132

**ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.**

	Number	Percentage of Births.
JANUARY .....	0	0.00
FEBRUARY .....	0	0.00
MARCH .....	3	5.76
APRIL .....	0	0.00
MAY .....	0	0.00
JUNE .....	1	2.50
JULY .....	1	3.33
AUGUST .....	0	0.00
SEPTEMBER .....	0	0.00
OCTOBER .....	0	0.00
NOVEMBER .....	1	2.12
DECEMBER .....	3	5.66
	9	1.94

**BIRTHS IN WARDS, 1927.**

	Central.		West-Central.		North-East.		North-West.		South-East.		South-West.		Total.		Rate per 1,000 estimated Population
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
January .....	3	1	1	3	6	4	5	1	3	4	3	1	21	14	10.87
February .....	2	2	1	1	7	4	4	2	6	2	1	2	21	13	10.56
March .....	1	2	5	3	7	8	2	2	6	4	5	7	26	26	16.14
April .....	5	2	5	2	7	2	1	1	2	2	2	5	22	14	11.18
May .....	3	3	3	1	4	5	1	6	2	5	4	2	17	22	12.14
June .....	4	2	0	1	9	7	4	2	5	2	2	2	24	16	12.42
July .....	3	3	1	2	2	5	2	5	1	4	0	2	9	21	9.31
August .....	3	1	1	3	4	8	2	2	5	1	3	4	18	19	11.49
September .....	2	2	0	1	6	2	1	0	1	1	3	3	13	9	6.84
October .....	0	2	3	1	2	6	3	3	4	2	3	8	15	22	11.49
November .....	3	5	5	2	5	6	0	5	5	4	4	3	22	25	14.60
December .....	4	3	5	4	7	5	3	6	4	3	0	9	23	30	16.45
	33	28	30	24	66	62	28	35	44	34	30	48	231	231	11.95
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	61		54		128		63		78		78		462		
Population .....	6,298		3,465		8,993		6,931		6,834		6,109		38,630		
Birth-rate .....	9.68		15.58		14.34		9.08		11.41		12.78		11.95		

## Deaths.

The total number of Deaths during the year was 580 ; Males 266, Females 314 ; being an increase of 147 on the previous year.

The Death Rate for the year is 15.01, an increase of 3.87 on the previous year.

The number of Deaths of Residents in Institutions, etc., outside the district was 148, which has been added to the 432 deaths registered within the district, making a total of 580.

These Deaths are reported to me quarterly by the Registrar General, through the County Medical Officer of Health.

The number of Deaths in the Union Workhouse, Blackburn, was ...	80
„ „ „ Royal Infirmary, Blackburn .....	42
„ „ „ other Institutions and Places .....	26

Sixteen Deaths of Non-Residents occurred in the town during the year.

## INQUESTS.

There were 40 Inquests held during the year, compared with 24 during 1926. The following were the verdicts :—

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Accidental Death..	16	12	17	12	15	12	16	12	8	20
Natural Causes ....	8	12	14	9	8	18	11	7	10	10
Suicide .....	2	2	9	4	5	7	1	7	6	10
	26	26	40	25	28	37	28	26	24	40



### Death Rates per 1,000 of the Population in the various Wards of the Borough.

WARDS Population	Central 6298	West- Central 3465	North- East 8993	North- West 6931	South- East 6834	South- West 6109	Borough 38630
1927							
January.. . . .	1.90	3.46	10.67	6.92	5.26	13.75	7.45
February .....	17.14	38.09	18.68	12.11	10.53	13.75	16.77
March .....	19.05	24.24	20.01	20.77	31.60	21.60	22.67
April.....	11.43	3.46	9.34	8.62	21.07	9.82	11.15
May .....	28.58	10.38	10.67	13.85	8.77	17.67	14.90
June .....	9.52	0.00	6.67	3.46	10.53	7.85	6.83
July .....	13.33	20.77	10.67	10.38	12.29	9.82	12.11
August .....	7.62	10.38	9.34	15.58	7.02	5.89	9.31
September ...	7.62	0.00	5.33	3.46	5.26	11.78	5.90
October.....	7.62	10.38	9.34	5.19	5.26	13.75	8.38
November... ..	7.62	10.38	12.00	8.62	3.51	3.92	7.76
December.....	11.43	13.85	10.67	8.62	12.29	9.82	10.87
Transfers.....	51.60	124.67	49.47	29.43	19.31	39.28	45.97
Rate for year...	16.19	22.51	15.23	12.26	12.73	14.89	15.01

### Death Rates in the various Wards for the past Ten Years.

Year	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1918	21.67	20.46	23.60	16.19	21.25	22.81	21.08
1919	14.13	11.89	16.31	12.14	12.58	14.32	13.80
1920	14.53	12.73	13.30	11.40	13.01	12.80	13.01
1921	13.30	12.09	12.75	12.08	8.46	10.61	11.57
1922	15.48	15.22	14.28	15.80	11.94	14.50	14.45
1923	14.15	12.58	12.56	15.01	14.93	11.67	13.54
1924	14.91	23.97	13.30	17.69	13.89	12.14	14.90
1925	14.84	16.64	13.60	14.06	11.35	15.95	14.13
1926	12.15	8.60	11.27	12.04	10.61	10.90	11.14
1927	16.19	22.51	15.23	12.26	12.73	14.89	15.01
Average...	15.13	15.66	14.62	13.86	13.07	14.05	14.26

### CAUSES OF DEATH IN DARWEN, M.B., 1927.

Causes of Death (Civilians only).	Males.	Females.
All Causes .....	266	314
1. Enteric Fever .....	—	—
2. Small Pox .....	—	—
3. Measles .....	1	—



Causes of Death (Civilians only).		Males.	Females.
4.	Scarlet Fever .....	—	2
5.	Whooping Cough .....	—	2
6.	Diphtheria .....	—	—
7.	Influenza .....	21	16
8.	Encephalitis Lethargica .....	1	—
9.	Meningococcal Meningitis .....	—	—
10.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	8	5
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	1	1
12.	Cancer, malignant disease .....	26	42
13.	Rheumatic Fever .....	—	1
14.	Diabetes .....	3	3
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ....	15	37
16.	Heart Disease .....	34	42
17.	Arterio-sclerosis .....	19	20
18.	Bronchitis .....	26	28
19.	Pneumonia (all forms) .....	29	13
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases .....	2	6
21.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	2	1
22.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) .....	1	1
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis .....	4	1
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver .....	—	—
25.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	11	14
26.	Puerperal Sepsis .....	—	1
27.	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition .....	—	1
28.	Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth .....	8	9
29.	Suicide .....	8	2
30.	Other Deaths from violence .....	8	12
31.	Other defined diseases .....	37	51
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown .....	—	3
Special Causes (included above)—			
	Poliomyelitis .....	—	—
	Polioencephalitis .....	—	—

Causes of Death (Civilians only).	Males.	Females.
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age—		
Total .....	15	17
Illegitimate .....	—	—
Total Births .....	231	231
Legitimate .....	226	227
Illegitimate .....	5	4
Population .....	38,630.	

The death rate for the year was 15.01 per 1,000.

### ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
1.2	1.7	1.9	2.2	1.1	2.1	2.2	1.6	2.08	2.34	2.90	2.14	1.03	0.76	2.07	1.00	1.14	0.69	0.76
1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
1.10	0.51	1.51	0.86	0.27	0.44	1.42	0.54	0.32	0.42	0.19	0.12	0.12	0.64	0.07	0.20	0.66	0.15	0.12

Mr. J. Pomfret, financial secretary to the District Nursing Association, has kindly supplied me with the following particulars :—

	Gross Income.				Net Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1926 .....	2,315	12	3½	.....	1,895	6	11
1927 .....	2,257	10	6½	.....	2,019	1	9½

An Orthopædic Clinic for treatment of cases has been established in connection with this Association.

The Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary is an Institution standing at the Southern end of the neighbouring Borough of Blackburn.

Every case sent from Darwen is admitted.

The Secretary, Mr. Nathan A. Smith supplied the following information of patients from Darwen treated in this Institution.

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
In-Patients .....	276	345	356	360	394	400	403	427	483	418
Out-Patients .....	663	722	700	756	766	822	824	832	1166	1083



Based upon the ordinary expenditure for the year, the Cost of Treatment of these Patients for the year 1927 was £3,070.

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity worthy of special note during the period under review. No conditions of employment or environment appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

## **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.**

### **HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.**

For Smallpox—The Corporation have entered into an agreement with the Blackburn Corporation whereby three beds are reserved for the use of Darwen patients in Finnington Hospital, Blackburn.

For other Infectious Diseases—At Bull Hill Hospital, 34 beds. The cases usually admitted are Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Erysipelas, Typhoid and Pneumonia.

These properties are owned by the Corporation.

During the year 37 cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 Measles, 1 Pneumonia, 2 Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 1 Diphtheria, and 2 suspect Scarlet Fever were admitted to the Hospital.

There was accommodation provided at Bull Hill Hospital until 31st October, 1927, for the treatment of Tuberculosis. The patients were admitted through the Lancashire County Tuberculosis Committee. Tubercular cases from Darwen are admitted to various Sanatoria through the Lancashire County Tuberculosis Committee.

During the year 32 patients were sent by the County Committee to Bull Hill Pulmonary Hospital.

There is no hospital accommodation (locally) for the treatment of maternity cases, or for children's ailments. The Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn, is the Union Infirmary for Darwen, etc., and admits maternity and other cases from Darwen as required. They have at this hospital a maternity section and an open-air section for cripple children, and carry out orthopædic work. The only other public institution in the immediate vicinity is the Royal Infirmary, which stands at the Southern end of the neighbouring County Borough of Blackburn.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children, in the town, other than sending them into Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn.



Two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres have been established. One at No. 43, Bolton Road, is open daily from 9 to 10 a.m. and 4-30 to 5-30 p.m. Special afternoon sessions are held every Tuesday and Wednesday from 2-30 to 5 p.m. The other Centre is at Greenfield Institute and an afternoon session is held on Thursdays from 2-30 to 5 p.m.

We have no Day Nursery.

There is one School Clinic (at Holker House), established and maintained by the local Education Authority.

At 20, Railway Road, Darwen, there is a Tuberculosis Dispensary, under the direct control of the Lancashire County Council, where patients attend for examination once each week. X-Ray Examinations of patients are carried out at this dispensary, where there are special rooms fitted up for these purposes.

Venereal Diseases are treated at Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

### **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

For the removal of Infectious cases we have one horse-drawn ambulance. This arrangement is unsatisfactory. A motor ambulance and whole time man who shall be responsible for removing infectious cases to the Hospital and disinfecting material efficiently should be substituted. For non-infectious and accident cases a motor ambulance is available at Mr. H. Harwood's, "Station Garage," in agreement with the Town Council and during 1927 was called out on 225 occasions.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.**

For particulars of Staff see page 4.

### **PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.**

Arrangements in the district for—(a) General Nursing. There is a District Nursing Association in the town employing about six nurses. Districts are allotted to these nurses. They attend the sick and carry out the physicians instructions. (b) For Infectious Diseases the Council make a grant to the said District Nursing Association of £10 10s. 0d. and pay 1/- per nursing visit for attendance upon cases of Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, Pneumonia (in children up to 5 years old), Infantile Diarrhoea, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Anterior Poliomyelitis.

The Council make the following grants annually to voluntary hospitals : £10 10s. 0d. Royal Infirmary, Manchester ; £5 5s. 0d. St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester ; £5 5s. 0d. Royal Infirmary, Blackburn.

The Local Authority has instituted a scheme for the supply of milk for necessitous infants and expectant and nursing mothers. During 1927 free grants in necessitous cases were made as follows :—

Fresh Cows Milk value £44 11s. 1d., Dried Milk £2 15s. 6d., a total of £47 6s. 7d.

#### MIDWIVES.

None employed by the Local Authority.

On the County Council Register there are 19 Midwives, all of whom are practising in the Borough.

The number of midwives practising is sufficient for the district.

#### MATERNITY HOMES.

There are two maternity homes registered within the district. The Supervising Authority is the Lancashire County Council.

#### CHEMICAL WORK.

The two Sanitary Inspectors, each in his own district, take samples of water and milk for analysis that is thought necessary. During the year 10 samples of cows milk and 1 of water have been taken.

#### LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Local Acts .....	Darwen Corporation Act . Darwen Corporation Act .	Operative from 1887. 1899.
Local Orders .....	Darwen Order .....	1912.
General Adoptive Acts ....	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Certain Sections) .....	27th October, 1890.
	The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890 (Certain Sections) .....	27th October, 1900.
	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Certain Sections) .....	15th January, 1912.
	Public Health Act, 1925 ..	1st April, 1926.
Bye-laws relating to Public Health .....	Nuisances—Snow, filth, dust, ashes, rubbish, keeping of animals .....	3rd March, 1881.
	Slaughterhouses .....	3rd March, 1881.
	Common Lodging Houses. Prevention of waste, mis- use or contamination of water .....	3rd March, 1881.
	Public Slaughterhouses ...	5th June, 1891. 9th April, 1896.



All the powers granted under the various Acts and Orders are put into operation when necessary. We have no difficulty in getting the public to comply with our requests. This is evidenced by the fact that no prosecutions were undertaken.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **WATER SUPPLY.**

The water is collected mostly from Moorland, and is a soft water, having only about four degrees of hardness.

The service is a constant one.

The approximate number of dwellinghouses supplied direct is 10,363. There is no supply by stand pipe.

There is no possibility of contamination in the vicinity of dwellinghouses.

Efficient treatment and supervision is required to prevent plumbo-solvent action. Although the supply pipes are tin washed, the advantages supposed to be attached to these pipes in the past are now being questioned. It is suggested that any fractures occurring in the tin lining permit an acid water to set up an electrical action between the lead and tin and thereby increase the danger of lead getting into the water.

There is no insufficiency.

No extensions were required during the year.

The amount used during the year was 382,246,000 gallons ; 51,805,000 being for trade purposes, the remainder for domestic use at the rate of 23.4 gallons per head per day.

The total Rainfall for the year on the Watershed was 58.25 inches, and in Bold Venture Park 58.30 inches. We had rain on 237 days.

The heaviest Rainfall was in September with 7.64 inches, and the lowest in May, with 1.74 inches.



## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river is regularly sampled for pollution. Inspections are also made by the Sanitary Inspectors. It appears to me necessary that paving of the river bed should be seriously considered.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Bacteriological method is the one in use for the treatment of sewage, and appears to be efficient.

There are a few scattered houses situated in outlying parts of the town to which our drainage system has not yet been extended. These houses are still on the pail system and necessitate the collection and removal of the excreta by the Local Authority.

The Water and Smoke tests are applied to drains.

Sewers are frequently flushed.

## CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

The following constitutes the accommodation in this respect at the end of the year in question—

Pails .....	199
Water Closets .....	8533
Waste Water Closets .....	2352
Cesspools .....	2
	<hr/>
Total .....	11086
	<hr/>

Conversions and Installations during 1927 :—

New Water Closets fixed .....	85
Premises with one New Closet fixed .....	80
Premises with more than one New Closet fixed .....	2
Pails converted to Water Closets .....	3
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets .....	26
Baths installed during the year .....	103
Urinals installed during the year .....	3

### Comparative Conversions :—

	During year 1927.	During Five Years 1922-1926.
No. of Privy Closets—		
To Fresh W.C.'s .....	—	—
To Waste W.C.'s .....	—	—
To Pails, etc. ....	—	—
No. of Pail Closets—		
To Fresh W.C.'s .....	3	1509
To Waste W.C.'s .....	—	—
No. of Waste W.C.'s to Fresh W.C.'s .....	26	84
No. of Houses at which Movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles .....	—	3

There are 12 Dry Ashpits and 10,828 portable refuse receptacles, the majority of which are ashes tubs and placed under covered sheds in the yards.

The Corporation under the provisions of a Local Act contribute half cost of conversions of pails to fresh water closet. In new property only fresh water closets are allowed to be fixed.

The Pail Closets still left are outside the sewered areas of the Borough and cannot be dealt with at present.

We have no privy middens.

### SCAVENCING.

The Scavenging and collection of House Refuse is efficiently carried out by the Sanitary Authority.

We have only one motor vehicle the rest being horse drawn.

House refuse is burnt in a Meldrum's Destructor which is situated near the Electricity Works.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

No. of premises visited :—3,605.

Defects or Nuisances :—No. discovered, 1,261 ; No. abated, 1,089.

No. of Notices served :—Informal, 1,211 ; Statutory, 284.

Legal Proceedings :—Nil.

For details refer to page 48.



### **SMOKE NUISANCE.**

Advice has frequently been given to furnacemen in regard to the methods of stoking.

The Inspectors took 72 observations, each of one hour's duration, during the year.

In four cases emissions occurred which were in excess of the time limit. The occupiers of the mills were cautioned and notices were served.

The time limit allowed per hour for the emission of Black Smoke is as follows :—One, two or three boilers, 5 minutes per hour. Four or more boilers, 7 minutes per hour.

### **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

Three firms carry on offensive trades within the Borough, i.e., Tripe Boiling and Gut Scraping. The conduct of the trade is carried out satisfactorily in each case.

### **WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

The Workshops and Workplaces are on the whole in a fairly good condition.

### **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

The Municipal Model Lodging House is the only common lodging house in the town, and is frequently visited and inspected by Inspector Walsh.

The average daily number of lodgers for the year was 82.08, including women, as compared with 91.34 for the previous year, a decrease of 9.26.

### **HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.**

During 1927 no action was taken respecting the above. Byelaws are at present under consideration in terms of the Public Health Act, 1925.

### **TENTS, VANS, SHEDS.**

One van in the district is occupied as a dwellinghouse, it has been visited and found to be satisfactory. No action is required.



## UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

There is no need for regulations as we have no such rooms in Darwin.

## SCHOOLS.

The condition of the Schools on the whole is good, the water supply, etc., being also good.

It was not found necessary to close any school on account of outbreaks of infectious disease, but in one instance where a scholar was found in school suffering from Scarlet Fever, certain scholars, who were contacts, were excluded.

The Schools are inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors four times per annum during the holiday periods. At these periods the floors and furniture are washed and the walls are swept; all lavatories are specially attended to and limewashed.

## Housing.

### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1927.

No. of new houses erected during year—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) .....	67
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(i.) By the Local Authority .....	12
(ii.) By other bodies or persons .....	53

No. of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme ... 66

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation—

Have any advances been made during 1927—

(a) By loans ? No.    No., —.    Amount of Loans, Nil.	
(b) By subsidy ? Yes.    No., 95.    Amount of Subsidies, £6,738 15s. 0d.	

### UNFIT DWELLINGHOUSES.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	3605
(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....	71

(3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	5
(4) No. of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under 3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	21

#### REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

No. of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .....	10
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#### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

##### A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	0
(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners .....	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	0
(3) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by owners of intention to close .....	0

##### B.—\*Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	35
(2) No. of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners .....	30
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	0

##### C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders .....	0
(2) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	0
(3) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellinghouses having been rendered fit ...	1



(4) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	0
(5) No. of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	0
D.—No. of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc. ....	9

\* Refers only to action taken in reference to housing defects.

Notices with regard to drainage and other defects should be included under Sanitary Inspections.

### **GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.**

The houses are mostly built of stone. The newly-built houses are, however, of brick. There are a few houses in certain areas of the town which require much repairing to keep them in reasonable order. Generally the houses are of a good quality both in building and accommodation.

Estimating for displacements that may occur in the poorest part of the town due to clearance scheme and overcrowding, we calculate that about 100 houses may be required.

Sixty-seven houses were erected during the year. The Corporation, Darwen Industrial Co-operative Society and several local contractors are erecting houses during 1928.

### **OVERCROWDING.**

Amongst the poorer classes are cases of more than one family occupying a house. The cause appears to be lack of houses in some cases, and in others insufficient income. Many houses in the district are being divided so that they can be let as separate houses to several families. Because of this there is a tendency to overcrowding, lack of proper ventilation, insufficient washing, cooking, larder arrangements, and sanitary conveniences. How to deal with this matter is at present under consideration.

### **UNHEALTHY AREAS.**

There is no unhealthy area in the town requiring to be dealt with as such, except the Bury Street Area, which is now being demolished.



Under their Housing Scheme the Local Authority are now completing the erection of twenty-four houses.

A scheme has not yet been prepared under the provisions of the Town Planning Act, 1925.

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

### **MILK SUPPLY.**

The milk supplied in Darwen is of good quality.

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Milk and Dairies Orders, 1926, are all being complied with according to the various provisions. The Sanitary Inspectors carry out the duties and make inspections. The books and certificates required by the Acts and Orders are kept up-to-date.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, two Dealers' Licenses to sell " Certified " Milk, and one to sell " Grade A " Milk have been granted.

There has been no refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licenses for graded milk.

The Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops are periodically inspected. Their condition is fairly good.

No notices have been served during the year respecting the provision of additional window area at the farms, but two owners have voluntarily carried out other works. At one farm the shippon was remodelled, the roof raised, the floor relaid in concrete, channelled and drained, and new stalls and windows were fixed. In the other instance the floor was laid in concrete, channelled and new drains fixed. These improvements were carried out at a cost of about £173.

There are 82 cowkeepers on the Registers and 41 Dairymen or Milk Purveyors (other than cowkeepers). One hundred and fifty-two Inspections have been made by the Inspectors during the year.

When necessary the veterinary surgeon is called in to inspect dairy cows.

Regarding tuberculous milk one sample was submitted for bacteriological examination but proved on analysis to be negative. A large number of cattle was clinically examined by the Borough Veterinary Inspector regarding the quality of milk given, and he reported that in his opinion he did not find clinical evidence in any case to warrant bacteriological examination.

The Veterinary Inspector visited three farms, as follows :—

(1) Report from farmer was received regarding the condition of a cow's udder. Upon examination this was found to be not tuberculous, a sample of milk was taken and examined, and all the other cattle on the farm were also examined.

(2) A sick cow was reported. The Veterinary Inspector diagnosed this as Pneumonia which was confirmed post mortem.

(3) Cow from a local farm when slaughtered at the Abattoirs was found to be tuberculous. The other animals on the farm were inspected and found to be free from the disease.

### **MEAT, ETC.**

The stalls, shops, stores and vehicles are under the supervision of the Inspectors and the provisions of the Regulations are being complied with. The premises are visited regularly and strict supervision is kept.

### **SLAUGHTERHOUSES.**

A public slaughterhouse has been provided and this is conducted satisfactorily.

The one remaining private licensed slaughterhouse in the town was closed during the year under review.

### **BAKEHOUSES.**

There are 108 Bakehouses and on the whole they are in a fairly good condition.

The amount of food surrendered or condemned as unfit for human consumption is as follows—

- (a) Tuberculous carcasses and parts—Approximate weight, 4,834 lbs., taken from 36 Beasts and 2 Pigs.



(b) Diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat, other than above—  
Approximate weight, 5,987 lbs., taken from 331 Beasts, 220  
Sheep, 3 Calves and 32 Pigs.

(c) Other Foodstuffs—30 lbs. Sausages.

It was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

There have been no cases of food poisoning reported to me during the  
year.

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Ten samples of cows' milk were purchased by the Inspectors, submitted for analysis, and found to be genuine upon examination.

We have not taken any action during the year in respect of Condensed Milk Regulations, 1923, Dried Milk Regulations, 1923, or the Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912-1917.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

During the year 65 cases of Scarlet Fever and 77 cases of Pneumonia were the main infectious diseases arising. It is, however, to be noted that these cases were more or less scattered evenly throughout the year and were of a sporadic nature, no evidence of any localised cause being found.

#### COMPARATIVE TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEARS 1923-1927.

YEAR.	Diphtheria and Croup.		Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Tuber- culosis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles & German Measles.	Pneumonia	Malaria.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Poliomye- litis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Total.
1923	...	6	10	147	2	4	...	53	2	239	9	...	1	...	3	476
1924	...	2	6	37	...	5	...	42	4	...	34	...	...	...	5	135
1925	...	6	9	33	3	4	...	45	2	...	89	...	...	1	5	197
1926	...	8	17	87	...	4	2	24	3	...	29	...	1	1	6	182
1927	...	5	10	65	...	6	9	34	2	...	77	...	2	...	1	211

Under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order of 1910, a supply of Anti-toxin is kept at the Health Office and the Police Station, and the amount supplied free of charge to local practitioners during 1927 was 104,000 units. The Anti-toxin is promptly used.

Only one case of Encephalitis Lethargica was reported during the year.

We have discovered no " return " cases of Scarlet Fever.

During the year 77 cases of Pneumonia were notified. Twenty-four of these died, giving a mortality rate of 311 per 1,000. There were 42 deaths registered, by death certificate. This shews 18 deaths occurring in other forms of Pneumonia which are not notifiable, and therefore, so far as the Health Department is concerned, we cannot say how many cases of non-notifiable Pneumonia arose as complications during the course of some other disease.

### LABORATORY WORK.

The Corporation have an arrangement with the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, for the examination of Pathological and Bacteriological specimens, the Corporation paying the necessary fees.

The number of Bacteriological Examinations is as follows—Blood 4, Sputum 6, Throat Swabs 20, others 2. (One post-mortem specimen from cow, and 1 specimen of urine.)

In addition the Tuberculosis Officer's Department (Dr. MacPhee's) have examined 88 specimens of Sputum with a positive result in 17 cases and a negative result in 71.

**Table showing the number of Pathological Specimens which have been sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, Manchester.**

YEAR.	Diphtheria.				Typhoid Fever.				Tuberculosis Sputum.			Cerebro-Spinal Fever.					
	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Doubt ful.	Total	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Doubt ful.	Total	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Total	Spinal fluid			Swabs.		
1923.....	8	23	2	33	2	4	...	6	3	12	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
1924.....	...	4	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	17	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
1925.....	5	12	...	17	3	1	...	4	2	16	18	...	...	...	...	...	...
1926.....	7	23	...	30	...	3	...	3	2	19	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
1927.....	3	17	...	20	...	4	...	4	1	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	...



Contacts are kept under observation after removal of patients and disinfection of houses. During the year we had no return cases. Any suspicious carrier cases are examined in the usual way, bacteriologically and clinically, and dealt with accordingly.

No use has been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick Tests, in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases as I do not think it wise at present to push these tests.

No vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the provisions of the Public Health (Smallpox) Regulations, 1917.

It has not been necessary to make any of the following diseases compulsorily notifiable—Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Chicken-pox, or any other disease.

Number of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910?—Nil.

No special inquiries have been undertaken in connection with epidemics from Influenza, locally contracted anthrax or rabies.

Cancer is undoubtedly on the increase. As we have compiled statistics regarding cancer occurring in the borough since the year 1874, it is proposed to include a paragraph on this subject in the next annual report.

Arrangements in this district are so completely carried out for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer at the Blackburn Royal Infirmary in their Radiological Department that no special efforts are required to be taken in this direction by the Local Authority.

No special enquiries relating to cancer have been conducted in consultation with the Departmental Committee on Cancer or otherwise.

### **DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.**

The number of houses disinfected during the year was 152. The Disinfecting medium used being either Sulphur or Formalin.

We have a modern steam disinfector situated at Shorey Bank, near the Electricity Works.

# LIST OF ARTICLES DISINFECTED DURING 1927.

Beds	Mattresses	Bolsters	Pillows	Quilts	Blankets	Sheets	Suits of Clothes	Carpets	Rugs	Curtains	Cushions	Shawls	Sundries
140	2	119	224	124	210	62	2	1	1	0	2	4	133

Total articles Disinfected, 1,024.

Arrangements have been made for bathing verminous, etc., persons if occasion arises.

Disinfestation was carried out in three instances.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of cases of infectious disease notified (other than Tuberculosis), number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1927 :—

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.															Total Deaths	Hospital.	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	YEARS.															Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over					
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	65	...	...	3	7	12	26	8	4	4	1	...	...	2	38	...	1	
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	5	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	77	3	2	...	2	1	12	5	1	15	11	18	7	24	7	...	1	
Puerperal Fever ... ..	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	1	2	...	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Polio-encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Erysipelas ... ..	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	6	2	1	...	...	...	
Malaria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Any other diseases notifiable in district, e.g. :—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Chicken-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Measles (excluding German Measles) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	
Any other disease ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Totals... ..	177	5	2	4	9	13	42	14	6	34	14	25	9	32	51	...	3	



## TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				DEATHS <small>The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar-General.</small>			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0—1...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
15—20	3	1	1	...	...	...	1	1
20—25	1	3	1	...	1	2	...	...
25—35	2	5	...	1	2	...	...	...
35—45	1	3	...	...	2	2	...	...
45—55	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
55—65	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	11	13	7	3	8	5	1	1
	14		10		13		2	

Specify the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths?—1 to 15.

Cases are fairly efficiently notified. No action has been taken.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Twenty-seven cases of Tuberculosis were sent to various sanatoria and hospitals for surgical cases. Thirteen of these were discharged and three died before the end of the year.

The Examination of Sputum on Discharge was positive in 10 cases, negative in 1, and in 2 cases there was no examination result.

The Consumptive Patients from Darwen were sent to the following Institutions :—

4	Patients to	Bull Hill, Darwen.
4	„	Withnell.
3	„	High Carley, Ulverston.
3	„	Great Barrow, Chester.
2	„	Aitken, Holcombe.
2	„	Chadderton.
2	„	Luneside, Lancaster.
1	Patient to	Burnley, Burnley.
1	„	Elswick, near Kirkham.
1	„	Eastby.
1	„	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn.
1	„	Rufford, near Ormskirk.
1	„	Shelf, Halifax.
1	„	Wolstenholme, Norden.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.**

There has been no action necessary under these regulations.

The County Consultant Tuberculosis Officer and the County Tuberculosis Nurse work in close harmony with the Darwen Health Department. The nurse visits the office frequently and affords us excellent information regarding housing conditions which she meets in her work. We on our part assist in every way with regard to disinfection, etc. This mutual working is much appreciated by all concerned.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. SECTION 62 AND 67.**

We have had no occasion to take action in respect of section No. 62.

Six lectures were given on various dates when I spoke on questions relating to health and diseases, etc. No expenses were incurred.



Notification of Infectious Diseases in each Ward, and for each Month of the Year 1927.

MONTHS.	CEN- TRAL.				WEST- CENTRAL				NORTH- EAST.				NORTH- WEST.				SOUTH- EAST.				SOUTH- WEST.				BOROUGH								Total.			
	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia.	Diphtheria.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophth. Neon.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia.	Diphtheria.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Cerebro-Spinal F.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Enceph. Leth.	Cerebro-Spinal F.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neon.	Puerperal Pyrexia.		Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	
JANUARY ...	3	1				3	1							1	1	1			1	1				1	3	6	2	5					1	3	3	20
FEBRUARY	1	2				1	1	5		1	1			1	1		1			3					1	6	9				1	1	1	2	4	24
MARCH .....	3	2	1			4	3					1		4	4		2			1	3	1			10	11	5		2		2		2	1	5	36
APRIL .....	1	1	1			1							1		1					1	1	2			3	3		4			1		2	1	3	13
MAY .....	1					3	1							3	2					2					1	9									1	14
JUNE .....	1					6	3						1	3		1						1	2	1		9	9		2	1		1	1	2	25	
JULY .....	1	1				4	1						1	3						1	3				11	3						1		3	18	
AUGUST ....	1					1								2				1							1	4	1							1	1	7
SEPTEMBER			1			1	1				1	1	3	1		1	1			1	1				1	1	1	2	1				1	1	9	16
OCTOBER ..	1					1	1			1					1						1				1	6					1	1				9
NOVEMBER						2	2	1							1					1	1				3	1	5							2	1	11
DECEMBER	4					1								1	3					1	5				2	15									1	18
TOTALS ..	516	125	142	152	526	162	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	211

## RETURN OF VACCINATION FOR DARWEN, 1927.

MONTHS.	Success- ful Vaccina- tion.	Died Unvac- cinated.	Insus- ceptible.	Ex- empted.	Post- poned.	Re- moved out of Town and Traced	Re- moved and Cannot Trace	Unac- counted for.	Success- fully vaccinated each quarter.
January ..	11	1	0	23	0	0	0	0	
February ...	12	1	0	20	0	0	0	1	
March .....	15	1	0	35	0	0	0	1	38
April .....	13	2	0	21	0	0	0	0	
May .....	14	2	0	22	0	1	0	0	
June .....	19	1	0	19	0	1	0	0	46
July .....	10	0	0	19	1	0	1	0	
August .....	18	2	0	18	0	1	0	0	
September..	7	1	0	14	0	0	0	1	35
October .....	13	0	0	22	0	0	0	2	
November..	10	5	0	20	0	0	0	12	
December...	2	2	0	17	0	0	0	21	25
	144	18	0	250	1	3	1	38	144

## VACCINATION.

Year	Births	Successfully Vaccinated	Rate per cent Vaccinated
1918	353	116	32.86
1919	495	134	27.07
1920	845	195	23.07
1921	753	231	30.67
1922	674	169	24.92
1923	602	208	34.55
1924	636	178	27.98
1925	546	156	28.57
1926	540	158	29.25
1927	462	144	31.16

## Maternity and Child Welfare.

Two Health Visitors have been appointed and we have established two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Two sessions are held weekly at the Bolton Road Centre, and one at the Greenfield Centre. Advice is given daily by the Health Visitors at Bolton Road Centre to any mothers between the hours of 9 to 10 a.m., and 4-30 to 5-30 p.m. The Medical Officer of Health attends one session each week for ante-natal work. Children up to 5 years are weighed and record cards are kept.



The following are particulars of the work of the Health Visitors—

First Visits .....	458
Second and Subsequent Visits .....	2666
Visits to Children over 1 year and under 5 years .....	3699
Visits to Expectant Mothers .....	259
Visits re Stillbirths .....	26
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—First .....	2
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Second and Subsequent Visits .....	1
Visits to Babies suffering from Measles and other infectious diseases..	178
Other Special Visits .....	52
	<hr/>
	7341
	<hr/>

The following particulars were obtained on first visits—

Feeding—	
Breast .....	327
Bottle .....	90
Breast and Bottle .....	40
Breast and Spoon .....	1
	<hr/>
	458
	<hr/>

Types of Bottles Used—

Bottles without Tubes (including medicine bottles, etc.) .....	115
Bottles with Glass Tubes .....	10
Bottles with Rubber Tubes .....	5
	<hr/>
	130
	<hr/>

Foods—

Cow's Milk (Grade A) .....	1
Cow's Milk (undiluted) .....	6
Cow's Milk (Certified) .....	1
Cow's Milk and Water .....	95
Cow's Milk and Barley Water .....	6
Cow's Milk (Certified Citrated) .....	1
Cow's Milk and Rice Water .....	1
Nestle's Milk .....	2
Dried Milk .....	13
Patent Foods .....	4
Mother's Milk, given per bottle .....	1
	<hr/>
	131
	<hr/>

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Bolton Road. Greenfield.

Number of children who have been weighed during the year .....	415	...	114
Total Number of Weighings .....	3137	...	1322
Babies specially examined by the Medical Officer .....	184	...	49
Babies referred to Family Doctor for Treatment .....	19	...	0
Babies recommended for Institution Treatment .....	5	...	0
Average Attendance of Expectant Mothers per Session	2	...	1
Average Attendance of Mothers per Session .....	40	...	28
Average Attendance of Children per Session .....	37	...	29

The following is a summary of cases which were examined by the Medical Officer of Health at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, and found to be suffering from some type of deformity requiring special treatment.

### ADMITTED TO BLACKBURN ROYAL INFIRMARY.

No.	Condition.	Result.
3	Phimosis.	Cured.
1	Nævus.	Cured.
1	Nystagmus.	Still under treatment.
2	Enlarged Tonsils.	Not had operation.

### ADMITTED TO QUEEN'S PARK HOSPITAL, BLACKBURN.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Inguinal Hernia.	Still in Hospital.
1	Rickets.	Still in Hospital.
1	Bronchitis.	Died in Hospital.
1	Marasmus.	Died in Hospital.

### ADMITTED TO PENDLEBURY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Talipes.	Cured.
1	Rickets.	Improved.—Wearing calipers.



# REFERRED TO FAMILY DOCTOR.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Eczema.	Improved.
1	Measles.	Cured.
1	Impetigo.	Cured.
1	Icterus.	Cured.
4	Bronchitis.	Cured.
1	Stomatitis.	Cured.
1	Tongue-tie.	Cured.
1	Otorrhoea.	?
2	Nævus.	Cured.
1	Umbilical Hernia.	Cured.
1	Abscess of Labia.	Cured.
1	Jackonsian Petit Mal.	Under treatment.
1	Separation of Recti-abdominali-longitudinal hernia.	No operation advised.

## PARTICULARS OF INDIVIDUAL CASES SPECIALLY EXAMINED BY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Defect.	No.
Strabismus .....	1
Blepharitis .....	1
Conjunctivitis .....	1
Eye Discharge .....	3
Nystagmus .....	1
Slight Ophthalmia .....	1
Deafness .....	1
Nasal Catarrh .....	1
Oidium Albicans .....	2
Sterno-mastoid .....	1
T. B. Meningitis .....	1
Mastitis .....	1
T. B. Glands .....	1
Umbilical Hernia .....	5
Umbilical Discharge .....	2
Hydrocephalus (Congenital) .....	1
Slow Mentality or Mentally Defective .....	2
Tongue-tie .....	1
Phimosis .....	1
Nævus .....	1

Defect.	No.
Biliary Catarrh .....	1
Marasmus .....	1
Teething .....	2
Re. Feeding .....	10
Constipation .....	10
Indigestion .....	1
Diarrhoea .....	2
Enuresis .....	1
Accident to Arm .....	1
Rickets .....	3
Normal .....	6
Ringworm .....	2
Impetigo .....	3
Urticaria .....	2
Septic Sores .....	1
Intertrigo of Ear .....	1
Ichthyosis .....	1
Xeroderma .....	2
Eczema .....	3
Simple Rashes .....	5
Total .....	87

### NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

Table showing the number of Births Notified during 1927.

	Male.		Female.		Total.		Stillborn.
JANUARY .....	21	...	14	...	35	...	1
FEBRUARY .....	23	...	24	...	47	...	4
MARCH .....	16	...	17	...	33	...	1
APRIL .....	22	...	18	...	40	...	1
MAY .....	34	...	17	...	51	...	6
JUNE .....	15	...	24	...	39	...	2
JULY .....	12	...	22	...	34	...	1
AUGUST .....	20	...	12	...	32	...	0
SEPTEMBER .....	15	...	14	...	29	...	1
OCTOBER .....	17	...	25	...	42	...	1
NOVEMBER .....	24	...	26	...	50	...	4
DECEMBER .....	20	...	14	...	34	...	1
	239	...	227	...	466	...	23



Births Notified by Midwives .....	448
Births Notified by Medical Men .....	7
Births Notified by Parents .....	1
Births Notified by Midwives and Medical Men .....	10
Births Notified by Parents and Medical Men .....	0
Births Notified by Parents and Midwives .....	0
Births Notified by Others .....	0
Total .....	466

**Table showing Births Notified, Visits, Etc.**

Year.	Births Notified.				Births not Notified.		Births Visited.		Births Revisited
	Males.	Females	Total.	Still-born.	No.	Prose-cutions.	No.	% of Total	
1918	180	168	348	19	11	0	320	91.9	1477
1919	266	273	539	34	3	0	442	82.0	1294
1920	448	432	880	58	6	0	709	80.5	1054
1921	395	380	775	39	11	0	431	55.6	1111
1922	335	337	672	30	10	0	472	70.2	1157
1923	303	326	629	33	5	0	596	100.0	2545
1924	331	310	641	26	3	0	593	92.5	3989
1925	274	272	546	16	9	0	489	89.5	2769
1926	273	269	542	35	4	0	532	98.1	2954
1927	239	227	466	23	3	0	466	98.2	2666

# **DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.**

Year	Premature Birth	Convulsions	Bronchitis & Pneumonia	Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping Cough	Measles	Inanition	Congenital Defects	Other Causes	Total	Rate per 1000 Births
1918	3	..	4	2	..	3	1	1	12	26	74
1919	15	2	11	1	1	..	8	8	11	57	115
1920	18	1	12	1	..	..	15	3	29	79	93
1921	12	1	11	..	1	..	3	7	18	53	70
1922	8	3	9	..	2	4	4	6	20	56	83
1923	12	3	6	..	..	1	2	9	14	47	78
1924	15	..	8	4	..	..	6	3	7	43	67
1925	13	2	12	..	1	7	2	9	19	65	119
1926	6	2	6	2	2	..	3	6	14	41	75
1927	8	2	7	1	..	..	4	4	6	32	69

### DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE IN MONTHS.

	Under 1 Month	Under 2 M'ths	Under 3 M'ths	Under 4 M'ths	Under 5 M'ths	Under 6 M'ths	Under 7 M'ths	Under 8 M'ths	Under 9 M'ths	Under 10 M'ths	Under 11 M'ths	Under 12 M'ths	Total
Deaths .....	16	3	...	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	...	1	32
Percentage of Total .	50.0	9.4	...	3.1	6.2	6.2	3.1	6.2	9.4	3.1	...	3.1	...

Table showing Infantile Mortality in the Various Wards.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Boro.'
1918	38	57	95	63	133	34	74
1919	154	42	108	185	73	131	115
1920	84	111	114	77	98	68	93
1921	63	47	97	87	50	53	70
1922	131	64	79	64	75	74	83
1923	119	70	81	59	63	64	78
1924	97	114	82	40	62	52	67
1925	106	162	74	79	151	208	119
1926	125	34	80	66	83	46	75
Average for 9 yrs.	102	78	90	80	88	81	86
1927	114	111	46	48	26	102	69

We have no local Maternity Home or Hospital for the reception of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

The incidence of maternal mortality is 2 deaths in 462 births. The Medical Officer of Health and the Health Visitors make detailed inquiries in regard to maternal deaths, stillbirths and infant deaths. All the information is filed. One maternal death occurred at home and the other in Blackburn Royal Infirmary. Both cases were attended for some months prior to and during the confinement by the family physician. The case at home died from post-partum hæmorrhage. The case sent to Blackburn Royal Infirmary died from Puerperal Fever following Craniotomy.

During the year 152 expectant mothers have been advised, as required, at the Centres or at their homes.

The Poor Law Authorities deal with cases of unmarried mothers, illegitimate children, and children temporarily or permanently deprived of a home with their own parents. The cases are admitted to Queen's Park Hospital.



We have made arrangements for a supply of milk in necessitous cases. The total of free milk grants during 1927 was valued at £47 6s. 7d. The applicants for this grant fill up a form; inquiries are made regarding the social conditions and income of applicants and a graded scale is worked to before any grant of free milk is made.

If any children under 5 years of age require orthopædic treatment they are sent to Queen's Park Hospital where there is a special open-air block for that purpose. One child was sent by us for admission and treatment during 1927.

We have a Voluntary Care Committee, consisting of about 40 ladies resident in the town who interest themselves in the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. Three of this number are members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee. In this connection there is a Mothers' Club which meets one evening every fortnight at the Maternity Centre. A course of lectures and practical demonstrations is given. There is also a Savings Scheme in connection with the Mothers' Club.

All children have record cards and when each child attains the age of 5 years the card is transferred to the School Medical Department.

Year	Puerperal Fever Notific.	Total Births	Deaths		Still Births	Infantile Mortality Rate
			Puerperal Sepsis	Other Accidents or Diseases of Pregnancy		
1921	1	753	0	3	39	70
1922	1	674	0	3	30	83
1923	4	602	2	1	33	78
1924	5	636	4	3	26	67
1925	4	546	0	6	16	119
1926	4	540	2	4	35	75
1927	6	462	1	1	23	69

#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Number Notified	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
2	2	0	2	0	0	0

There have been no notable sanitary improvements during 1927.

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

### I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or  
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.		Number of Written Notices.		Number of Prosecu- tions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) .....	98	...	39	...	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)..	198	...	55	...	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) .....	82	...	4	...	—
Total .....	378	...	98	...	—

### II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—

	Found.		Remedied.		Referred to H.M. Inspector.		No. of Prose- cutions.
Want of cleanliness .....	7	...	7	...	—	...	—
Want of ventilation .....	1	...	1	...	—	...	—
Overcrowding .....	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
Want of drainage of floors .....	10	...	10	...	—	...	—
Other nuisances .....	22	...	22	...	—	...	—

Sanitary Accommodation—

Insufficient .....	3	...	—	...	—	...	—
Unsuitable or defective .....	9	...	6	...	—	...	—
Not separate for sexes .....	1	...	—	...	—	...	—



	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prose- cutions.
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakhouses (s. 101) .....	1	...	—	...
Other offences (excluding offences re- lating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Orders, 1921) .....	—	...	—	...
Total .....	54	...	46	...

### III.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107 Lists received from Employers. Sending twice in the year. Outworkers.			
	Lists.	Contractors.	Workmen	
Wearing Apparel—Making, etc. ....	4	...	2	...

### IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	Number.
Textile Factories .....	65
Non-Textile Factories .....	85
Factory Workshops .....	50
Workshops .....	179
Workplaces .....	94
Total Workshops on Register .....	473

### V.—OTHER MATTERS.

	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901) .....	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector .....	5
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector .....	5
Other .....	2
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year ...	4

**PARTICULARS OF DEATHS IN COTTON TRADE  
FROM VARIOUS DISEASES.**

Borough Population.	Trade.	No. of Employees (approx )	Year.	Deaths.	15 to 25 25 to 35 35 to 45 45 to 65 65 & up To- M F M F M F M F M F M F																Death Rate	Boro' Death Rate	Boro'	* Rate up to 15 yrs.
38,800	Weavers .....	9000	1922	Respiratory	1	1	2	2	1	4	5	1	4	1	13	9	2.44	14.45	4.09	4.71				
				Others .....	2	3		1	1	3	6	8	10	2	19	17	4.00	...	10.36	9.85				
	Winders and Warpers...	1800	1922	Respiratory			1		2				2		3	8	1.11	...	...	...				
				Others .....													4.44	...	...	...				
	Cardroom			Respiratory								2				2	5.00	...	...	...				
	Hands.....	400	1922	Others .....		1						1				2	5.00	...	...	...				
	Spinners .....	300	1922	Respiratory								1		1		1	3.33	...	...	...				
				Others .....									1		1		3.33	...	...	...				
38,980	Weavers .....	9000	1923	Respiratory		5	1	1	1		3	1	5	1	10	8	2.00	13.54	3.49	2.57				
				Others .....		3	1	3		4	10	7	16	5	27	22	5.44	...	10.05	10.14				
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1923	Respiratory		2		1				1		2		6	3.48	...	...	...				
				Others .....				1				2				3	1.74	...	...	...				
	Cardroom			Respiratory													0.00	...	...	...				
	Hands.....	400	1923	Others .....													0.00	...	...	...				
	Spinners .....	300	1923	Respiratory							1				1		3.33	...	...	...				
				Others .....								2		2		4	13.33	...	...	...				
39,060	Weavers .....	9000	1924	Respiratory	1	7	3	5	2	2	6	3	3	2	15	19	3.77	14.90	3.52	2.75				
				Others .....	3	4	2	7	2	6	7	5	11	4	25	26	5.66	...	11.38	6.37				
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1924	Respiratory		2						2				5	2.90	...	...	...				
				Others .....		1		1				3		3		8	4.65	...	...	...				
	Cardroom			Respiratory									2		2		5.00	...	...	...				
	Hands.....	400	1924	Others .....										1		1	2.50	...	...	...				
	Spinners .....	300	1924	Respiratory				1							1		3.33	...	...	...				
				Others .....						1	1		2		3	1	13.33	...	...	...				
38,850	Weavers .....	9000	1925	Respiratory		5	2	3	4	2	2	1	3	3	11	14	2.77	14.13	4.01	4.75				
				Others .....		3		4	2	3	7	8	8	2	17	20	4.11	...	10.12	9.25				
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1925	Respiratory						1					1		0.58	...	...	...				
				Others .....		2		1				1		2		6	3.48	...	...	...				
	Cardroom			Respiratory								1			1		2.50	...	...	...				
	Hands.....	400	1925	Others .....								1			1		2.50	...	...	...				
	Spinners .....	200	1925	Respiratory									1		1		5.00	...	...	...				
				Others .....					1		1		1		3		15.00	...	...	...				
38,860	Weavers.....	9000	1926	Respiratory			1			1	1	5	2		4	6	1.11	11.14	2.13	2.00				
				Others .....	3	2		1		6	11	8	10	2	25	19	4.88	...	9.01	4.87				
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1926	Respiratory		1				1		1			3		1.74	...	...	...				
				Others .....						1		5		2		8	4.65	...	...	...				
	Cardroom			Respiratory													0.00	...	...	...				
	Hands.....	400	1926	Others .....								1		1		2	2.50	...	...	...				
	Spinners .....	200	1926	Respiratory							1				1		5.00	...	...	...				
				Others .....									3		3		15.00	...	...	...				
38,630	Weavers .....	9000	1927	Respiratory						2	7	4	7	1	14	7	2.33	15.01	3.93	2.50				
				Others .....	1	4	2	2	2	8	11	9	6	3	22	26	5.33	...	11.13	5.00				
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1927	Respiratory								4				4	2.32	...	...	...				
				Others .....		2				1		2		1		6	3.48	...	...	...				
	Cardroom			Respiratory								1	1		1	1	5.00	...	...	...				
	Hands.....	400	1927	Others .....													0.00	...	...	...				
	Spinners .....	200	1927	Respiratory				1				1		2			10.00	...	...	...				
				Others .....							1			1		1	5.00	...	...	...				

\* Child Population (estimated) 8,000. (Birth to age 15 years.)



## Meteorology.

The Meteorological Observatory is at Bold Venture Park in Lat.  $53^{\circ} 41' 25''$  N., and Lon.  $2^{\circ} 28' 32''$  W., and is at an altitude of 728 feet above mean sea level.

Observations are taken twice daily at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

This station is connected with the Meteorological Office, and is called a Normal Climatological Station. A report, giving all details of readings, is sent each month to the Meteorological Office, London.

The total rainfall for the year is 1481.1 millimetres, or 58.30 inches being recorded on 237 days; the average for the last twenty years being 55.39 inches. The greatest monthly fall was in August 183.4 millimetres; and the lowest in May 44.2 millimetres. The greatest daily fall was 34.2 millimetres, on September 21st.

The total sunshine registered on 259 days during the year was 980.9 hours, the average for twenty years is 1135.9 hours. June registered the highest monthly total, 148.9 hours; and January the lowest, 15.6 hours. The highest daily reading was 13.0 hours, on May 8th.

The mean minimum temperature in shade was  $40.8^{\circ}$ , the average for the last twenty years is  $40.6^{\circ}$ . The lowest monthly mean was in December,  $30.8^{\circ}$ , and the lowest reading for the year  $20.0^{\circ}$ , on December 19th.

The maximum wind velocity was on October 29th, when a West South-West wind was blowing at the rate of 63 miles per hour.

Three observations of calm were recorded, 20 observations of snow, 14 observations of hail, 4 observations of thunder, thunderstorm on 7 days, 19 observations of hoar frost, 49 observations of mist, 61 observations of ground frost, 13 observations of snow lying, 46 observations of fog, 2 observations of gale, 55 observations of dew, and 2 observations of glazed frost.

### MEAN METEOROLOGICAL READINGS FOR 1926 AND 1927.

MONTH.	Barometer Corrected		Thermometers.																Sunshine (hours).				Rain (m.m.)				Wind Velocity.				Wind Direction, 1927.										C'm
			Maxi- mum.			Mini- mum.			Mean.			Earth.						Water.													Hu- midity.										
												1 Foot.	4 Feet.	10 Feet.																											
	1926 ins.	1927 ins.	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.							
January .....	29.704	29.722	42.0	41.6	35.0	34.6	38.5	38.1	38.1	38.1	40.2	41.3	43.5	44.8	41.5	41.5	85	85	18.2	15.6	173.2	151.1	13	14	1	1	0	1	17	9	30	3	0								
February .....	29.811	30.023	46.0	43.0	37.4	33.3	41.7	38.1	40.7	37.2	40.7	39.5	42.8	43.3	43.0	41.2	87	85	31.9	40.1	136.5	64.9	12	9	0	0	3	5	22	11	14	1	0								
March .....	29.987	29.675	45.6	47.2	35.6	37.3	40.6	42.2	41.7	41.9	42.3	41.3	43.0	42.9	42.9	43.4	79	79	69.1	69.7	67.4	149.9	14	14	2	1	5	4	22	6	21	1	0								
April .....	29.869	29.927	54.2	49.3	40.4	37.7	47.3	43.5	47.3	45.4	44.3	43.6	43.6	43.3	46.0	45.0	78	78	109.5	110.1	50.8	100.7	8	14	2	3	0	1	4	3	37	10	0								
May .....	29.876	30.074	56.1	58.3	40.2	41.6	48.1	49.9	50.7	51.6	46.8	47.2	45.0	44.9	47.4	48.0	75	76	150.0	147.7	99.4	44.2	9	9	3	8	12	2	5	4	17	11	0								
June .....	29.914	29.885	63.8	59.4	46.3	44.5	55.0	51.9	58.0	55.4	51.1	50.8	47.2	47.0	51.3	50.1	77	75	163.8	148.9	80.7	131.2	7	11	4	0	4	4	7	3	30	8	0								
July .....	30.007	29.888	68.6	65.5	54.0	51.8	61.3	58.6	62.2	59.2	55.9	54.6	50.0	49.4	54.5	53.0	78	82	130.2	92.8	92.8	145.2	7	8	4	8	9	3	13	11	13	1	0								
August .....	30.031	29.831	67.1	64.2	51.5	51.8	59.3	58.0	61.5	59.6	57.1	56.1	52.3	51.6	54.4	53.7	80	82	166.1	113.1	108.2	183.4	9	8	0	1	2	4	10	26	14	5	0								
September.....	30.075	29.760	61.9	58.2	49.7	47.3	55.8	52.7	57.6	55.4	56.5	55.0	53.4	53.0	53.0	51.3	84	83	87.9	79.7	131.4	194.1	8	9	5	3	1	5	9	6	25	3	3								
October .....	29.906	30.012	51.0	54.9	39.3	42.8	45.1	48.8	48.0	49.6	52.1	51.1	52.9	51.9	47.2	48.7	78	83	88.1	87.2	126.5	128.4	8	12	2	3	7	5	15	7	19	4	0								
November .....	29.579	29.953	45.0	45.2	36.3	36.6	40.1	41.0	40.7	42.6	45.0	47.2	49.4	50.1	43.7	44.2	85	82	36.1	56.2	224.5	143.1	11	13	5	7	5	3	16	8	10	6	0								
December .....	30.318	29.946	42.2	36.8	34.7	30.8	38.4	33.8	38.4	36.8	42.3	42.5	46.7	47.2	42.3	39.7	83	84	29.1	19.8	53.9	44.9	9	11	1	7	21	22	9	1	0	1	0								
Totals.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1085	0	930.9	1315	1481.1	...	...	29	42	69	59	149	95	230	54	3							
Mean .....	29.930	29.891	53.6	51.9	41.7	40.8	47.6	46.3	48.7	47.7	47.8	47.4	47.4	47.4	47.2	46.6	80	81	90.4	81.7	112.1	123.4	9	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...								



# MEAN METEOROLOGICAL

MONTH	Thermometers.		Barometer		Maxi- mum		Mini- mum		Mean		1 Foot		4 Feet		W. N. C. 10	
	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
January	29.724	29.722	42.0	41.6	25.0	24.6	38.5	38.1	38.1	38.1	38.1	38.1	40.2	40.2	3	0
February	29.811	29.823	46.0	43.0	37.4	37.3	41.7	38.1	40.7	37.2	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.7	1	0
March	29.997	29.972	45.6	47.2	35.6	37.3	40.6	42.2	41.7	41.6	42.3	42.3	42.3	42.3	1	0
April	29.800	29.927	54.2	49.3	40.4	37.7	47.3	43.6	47.3	42.4	44.3	44.3	44.3	44.3	10	0
May	29.570	29.974	56.1	52.2	40.3	41.6	48.1	49.9	50.7	51.6	48.8	48.8	48.8	48.8	11	0
June	29.914	29.824	62.8	59.4	48.2	44.2	55.0	51.9	58.0	52.4	57.1	57.1	57.1	57.1	8	0
July	30.007	29.888	68.6	65.6	54.0	51.8	61.3	58.6	62.2	59.2	62.9	62.9	62.9	62.9	1	0
August	30.031	29.831	67.1	64.2	51.6	51.8	59.2	58.0	61.5	59.0	57.1	57.1	57.1	57.1	2	0
September	30.075	29.760	61.9	58.2	49.7	47.3	55.8	52.7	57.6	55.4	56.5	56.5	56.5	56.5	2	0
October	29.906	29.912	51.0	54.0	39.3	42.8	45.1	48.8	48.0	49.0	52.1	52.1	52.1	52.1	4	0
November	29.779	29.922	48.0	45.2	35.3	38.6	40.1	41.0	40.7	42.6	42.0	42.0	42.0	42.0	0	0
December	29.712	29.946	42.2	38.6	31.7	30.6	38.4	33.2	38.4	30.6	42.3	42.3	42.3	42.3	1	0
Totals	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	24	2
Mean	29.820	29.821	53.6	51.9	41.5	40.8	47.9	46.3	48.7	47.7	47.8	47.8	47.8	47.8		

# Sanitary Inspector's Report.



## GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.

Total number of nuisances discovered .....	1261
Letters written respecting nuisances .....	176
Informal notices served .....	1211
Statutory notices served .....	284
Number of re-inspections .....	3312
Number of nuisances abated including outstanding nuisances from previous year .....	1089
Number of premises and houses visited .....	3605
Number of houses visited (Housing Regulations, 1925) .....	71
Number of inspections of refuse tips .....	129
Number of inspections of schools, etc. ....	88
Complaints received and investigated .....	256
Number of drains, etc., tested .....	29
Number of smoke observations taken .....	72
Number of inspections and re-inspections of Factories and Workshops	378
Number of inspections of Lodging Houses .....	72
Number of inspections of Bakehouses .....	187
Number of inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds .....	152
Number of samples purchased (Sale of Food and Drugs Acts) .....	10
Number of rooms disinfected .....	152
Loads of Bedding disinfected .....	146
Infectious and Contagious Diseases visits .....	160



NUISANCES	Discovered	Notices Served.		Nuisances Abated.	Nuisances remaining in hand.
		Informal.	Statutory.		
Defective Drains .....	183	183	32	150	33
Choked Sewers .....	9	9	...	9	...
Defective Soil Pipes, and W.C.'s,	48	48	3	48	...
„ Roofs, Downspouts and					
Easing Troughs .....	320	301	118	268	52
Insanitary Yards .....	28	28	9	24	4
Dirty Houses and Premises .....	78	78	19	60	18
Dirty and Dilapidated Closets ..	18	18	3	15	3
Accumulations of Refuse .....	136	136	16	116	20
Nuisance from Animals.....	10	10	3	10	...
Insanitary Ashpits .....	3	3	...	3	...
Broken Ashtubs.....	41	41	4	36	5
Ashtubs without Covers.....	26	24	12	24	2
Broken Slop Pipes .....	57	57	25	50	7
Choked Waste Water Closets ...	74	74	1	74	...
Waste Water Closets Converted					
to Water Closets.....	11	...	...	11	...
Rooms Insufficiently Ventilated..	31	31	8	26	5
Dangerous Buildings.....	37	37	...	29	8
Burst Water Pipes .....	24	24	1	24	...
Defective Gas Pipes .....	18	18	...	18	...
Broken Yard Doors .....	25	20	8	22	3
Defective Washing Boilers.....	9	9	7	9	...
„ Floors .....	20	19	9	16	4
Insufficient Water Supply .....	3	3	...	3	...
Defective Chimney Flues .....	10	10	5	8	2
Miscellaneous Nuisances .....	42	30	1	36	6
TOTALS .....	1261	1211	284	1089	172

During the year 128 forms of agreement were signed by owners of property for Corporation workmen to open and repair choked and defective closets and other drainage work. These repairs, etc., were supervised by your officials. Many nuisances were abated by owners and occupiers immediately after the service of informal notices. In some cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices. These were complied with.

### HOUSING.

Number of dwellinghouses December 31st, 1926 .....	10305
Number of new dwellinghouses certified during 1927 .....	67
Less number of dwellinghouses demolished (in Bury Street Area)	
during the year .....	9
Total number to be added for year .....	— 58
Number of dwellinghouses December 31st, 1927 .....	10363

In regard to the work done under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, full particulars are recorded on pages 21 to 23.

### **DIRTY HOUSES.**

In the monthly reports submitted to the Committee, particulars were given of certain houses situated in various parts of the town which were found to be in a very dirty condition. Informal and statutory notices were served upon the occupiers, and cleansing was ultimately done satisfactorily.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

One hundred and sixty visits were paid to houses where cases of infectious diseases had been reported, a thorough examination of each of the houses was made, defects in the drainage, etc., were caused to be remedied as quickly as possible. Forty-four patients were removed under our supervision to Bull Hill Hospital.

The rooms previously occupied by the patients were disinfected. During the year 152 rooms were fumigated and 146 loads of bedding, etc., disinfected. A complete list of the number of cases of infectious diseases in the various wards is given on page 32.

Owing to outbreaks of Smallpox in districts adjacent to and within easy access of Darwen, a sharp outlook was maintained, particularly at the Municipal Model Lodging House where vagrants often reside when visiting the town.

### **BLACK SMOKE NUISANCES.**

Sixty-eight observations were taken, each of one hour's duration. the average emission of Black Smoke per hour being 3.1 minutes, and many visits were paid to mill boiler houses when suggestions were made to the firemen with a view to reducing the amount of black smoke emitted.

The following time limit is in force in the Borough—

One, two or three boilers ...	5 minutes' Black Smoke per hour.
Four or more boilers .....	7 minutes' Black Smoke per hour.

In three instances the time limit was exceeded and the occupiers of the respective mills were cautioned.



Advantage has again been taken of the mills being closed owing to trade depression and holidays, etc., to carry out repairs of boilers, economisers, stokers, etc. Owing to trade depression several mills have been closed for varying periods during the year and other mills have provided partial employment only. Full particulars of the Boilers, Economisers, and Stoking Apparatus at the various factories were printed in last year's report.

### **FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.**

Three hundred and seventy-eight visits were paid to Factories and Workshops in the Borough. Complete lists of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces were recorded in last year's reports. A statement of the improvements made and the work done is recorded on pages 41 and 42.

### **TRIPERIES, ETC.**

Two tripe dressing firms occupy premises in the Corporation buildings adjacent to the Pig Abattoir in James Street West. The work is carried out efficiently, the greatest possible care is exercised to avoid effluvia nuisances. The waste material is burnt. One gut scraper carries out the preliminary part of his work in separate premises situated at the Public Abattoirs. The casings are sent out of town to be scraped, etc. There was no cause for complaint during the year.

### **SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1875 TO 1907.**

During the year ten samples of milk were purchased and forwarded to the County Analyst for examination. All proved to be genuine.

### **DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.**

There were 84 Farms on the register in 1927, and 115 Retail Purveyors of Milk. There are many purveyors of milk whose farms are situated without the Borough. The water supplies of the farms and dairies have been carefully watched and attention paid to the cleaning of shippens, dairies, utensils, etc.

At one farm the shippon was remodelled, the roof was raised, the floor relaid in concrete, channeled and drained. New stalls and windows were fixed. In another instance the shippon floor was relaid, channeled and new drains were installed. Many other repairs and improvements were done at other farms.

The cow keepers and milk sellers have been kept informed of the various regulations and orders in force and copies of circulars issued by the Board of Agriculture relating to Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax, etc., have been supplied. Where important alterations to shippens were necessary Circular No. 40 respecting construction of shippens was distributed.

### **RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.**

The various mill owners, farmers, etc., now exercise constant vigilance and a great many more cats are being kept. During the year poisoned bait was placed in selected and suitable places known to be infested, with satisfactory results. In some infested buildings the drains were found to be faulty, giving rodents access to the buildings. These were remedied as soon as possible.

### **OTHER MATTERS.**

At each monthly meeting of the Health Committee, in addition to the printed report, detailed typewritten statements have been submitted respecting work done during the period under review.

### **INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.**

Many inspections of the Elementary and Central Schools were made particularly during vacations, viz., Easter, Mid-Summer and Christmas, to survey the buildings and ascertain if the cleaning had been done in accordance with your requirements, as issued prior to each vacation by Mr. Bretherick, Secretary of Education. On the whole the cleaning was efficiently done. Defects in buildings, means of ventilation, drainage, and pavement of yards were referred to the Education Secretary for attention. Many defects were remedied. The Medical Officer of Health was present during many of the inspections.

### **MODEL LODGING HOUSE.**

During the year there has been a decrease of 9.26 per month in the number of lodgers when compared with 1926. This is the only common lodging house in the town, a distinct advantage from a public health standpoint. I frequently visited the house, often in the evening after the lodgers had retired to rest, when the cubicles occupied were checked and the books examined.



The following Table shows the daily average number of occupants for each month during the last 13 years—

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
Jan. ....	84.6	65.3	59.1	53.04	59.12	70.20	94.51	80.61	91.29	82.00	108.64	90.96	88.58
Feb. ....	86.9	69.1	61.2	54.82	57.90	81.30	92.03	80.25	93.03	81.34	111.39	88.32	88.67
March ...	85.5	67.2	66.3	53.58	59.90	79.30	90.58	80.15	86.90	84.39	110.93	95.74	87.19
April .....	109.2	67.2	68.2	57.77	64.27	91.60	89.16	87.26	87.43	97.50	119.83	95.53	84.20
May .....	88.2	53.1	66.9	54.35	68.70	93.30	79.16	91.41	86.35	98.96	118.94	98.29	81.08
June .....	84.1	50.7	62.2	55.37	72.00	101.83	78.86	83.96	83.53	97.20	109.13	94.20	84.00
July .....	75.7	53.1	60.0	51.26	67.24	100.12	76.77	83.45	73.25	94.64	98.41	97.48	80.42
August ...	73.2	62.1	57.2	48.00	69.23	106.00	76.51	83.16	80.64	98.83	104.35	86.69	82.00
Sept. ....	66.1	60.2	56.7	53.93	71.24	95.16	69.63	82.00	77.43	96.46	99.63	86.46	76.40
October...	58.1	60.6	57.7	54.90	74.17	89.05	67.90	81.16	75.51	99.48	96.00	89.22	77.00
Nov. ....	61.2	60.0	54.7	56.47	71.70	84.60	72.83	80.13	73.26	104.9	96.50	92.36	80.43
Dec. ....	64.9	61.1	51.7	59.19	68.15	88.79	81.22	86.38	78.03	108.8	94.32	90.93	75.00
Average...	78.1	60.8	60.0	54.39	66.97	90.02	80.76	83.32	82.22	95.37	105.67	91.34	82.08

The daily average number of female lodgers for 1927 was 13.60 as against 16.00 during 1926.

### INSPECTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The Cinemas, Clubs and other public buildings were regularly visited and the sanitary conveniences, etc., examined. Many repairs were effected.

### CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

Three pail closets and 26 waste water closets were converted to the water carriage system.

### MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

During the month of March the one remaining private slaughterhouse was closed and since that date all animals have been killed at the Public Abattoirs where there is ample lairage and slaughtering accommodation. Strict supervision has been maintained throughout the year and slaughtering has been done as expeditiously and humanely as possible, a Temple-Cox captive bolt humane killer being used for very large beasts and pigs.



Animals passing through the Abattoirs were carefully examined before and after slaughter. The quality of meat has been of a uniformly high standard. Consignments of fresh meat have been received from Birkenhead, Bolton, Blackburn, Wilpshire, etc. Many visits have been paid to the butchers shops of which there are about 60 in the Borough. A sharp outlook has been maintained to see that the orders of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, were obeyed. It was found necessary to caution a few persons for careless handling and wrapping of meat.

The continued depression in the staple trade of the district has considerably affected the number of animals slaughtered and decreased the total weight of meat sold.

### NUMBER OF CATTLE SLAUGHTERED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

	BEASTS.		SHEEP AND LAMBS		CALVES		PIGS	TOTAL	
	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Public	Private
January.....	73	66	431	354	0	2	37	541	422
February.....	68	54	450	286	1	0	25	544	340
March.....	96	24	613	139	4	0	42	755	163
April.....	144	0	1013	0	2	0	6	1165	0
May.....	112	0	849	0	1	0	26	988	0
June.....	108	0	910	0	0	0	3	1021	0
July.....	114	0	1052	0	4	0	1	1171	0
August.....	114	0	972	0	3	0	1	1090	0
September.....	112	0	959	0	1	0	24	1096	0
October.....	164	0	1243	0	13	0	43	1463	0
November.....	136	0	1076	0	25	0	62	1299	0
December.....	164	0	1108	0	5	0	124	1401	0
Total	1405	144	10676	779	59	2	394	12534	925

During the year it was found necessary to slaughter several animals after the usual hours, either during evenings or week-ends. I was present at the Abattoirs on these occasions. Visits to farms were also necessary prior to removal of animals to the Abattoirs.

### FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

During periods of the year, the Borough was a scheduled area, and movement of animals was only allowed under license and although no cases were reported in the Borough, cattle were kept under observation and slaughtered within the prescribed period.



The total amount of meat condemned and destroyed during the year was 10,821 lbs., as follows :—

Beasts.	Number Examined.			Cause.	Weight in lbs. condemned.
	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.		
4 ...	—	...	—	Tuberculosis (whole carcasses) .....	2103
32 ...	—	...	—	Tuberculosis (parts of carcasses) .....	2656
— ...	—	...	2	Tuberculosis (parts of carcasses) .....	75
— ...	1	...	—	Emaciated and Dropsical (whole carcass) .....	25
— ...	6	...	—	Asphyxiated (whole carcass) .....	240
— ...	1	...	—	Peritonitis (whole carcass) .....	42
— ...	—	1	...	Joint ill and Dropsy (whole carcass) .....	46
1 ...	—	...	—	Gastro Enteritis (whole carcass) ... ..	610
1 ...	—	...	—	Septicæmia (whole carcass) .....	500
— ...	—	...	1	Peritonitis (whole carcass) .....	270
1 ...	—	...	—	Traumatic Pericarditis (part only) .....	70
2 ...	—	...	—	Actinomycosis (part only) .....	120
2 ...	—	...	—	Mastitis (part only) .....	45
1 ...	—	...	—	Pleurisy (part only) .....	26
1 ...	—	...	—	Inflammation (part only) .....	46
5 ...	1	...	—	Abscesses (part only) .....	119
6 ...	11	...	2	Injuries (part only) .....	415
311 ...	200	...	29	Fluky and Diseased Livers and other organs, etc., and bruised meat ...	3413
Total .....					10821

### FOOD INSPECTION.

A sharp outlook was maintained over the various articles of food offered for sale for human consumption and places where food is prepared were kept under observation.

Many visits were paid to Fried Fish, Chipped Potato, and Tripe Shops.

The Wet Fish Shops also received attention, the offal being removed daily to the destructor.

## REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE AND CLEANSING.

The following is a summary of work done from January 1st to December 31st, 1927—

	Tons.		Cwts.		Qrs.
House Refuse to Destructor .....	12,919	...	3	...	0
Market Garbage to Destructor .....	185	...	9	...	0
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	13,104		12		0
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

	Ton.	Cwts.	Qrs.	
Clinkers Removed by Motor from Destructor	5475	0	0...	1095 Loads.
Sweepings to Various Tips .....				2086 ,,
Sweepings Deposited by Handcarts at Destructor .....				2007 ,,
Gully Wreck to Various Tips .....				1175 ,,
Street Gullies Emptied .....				23373 ,,
Length of Streets Swept by Hand .....				2711 $\frac{3}{4}$ Miles.
Excreta to Sewage Works .....				479 Loads.
Excreta Pails Emptied .....				8157
Ashes Tubs Emptied .....				353369
Ashpits Emptied .....				783
Water Deposited on Streets .....				537 Loads.
Snow Removed from Streets .....				259 ,,
Ashes Tubs and Dust Bins Added during the Year .....				89
Pails Brought in from Closet Conversions .....				3

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

**C. R. WALSH,**

Senior Sanitary Inspector.



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