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BOROUGH OF DARWEN.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1928.

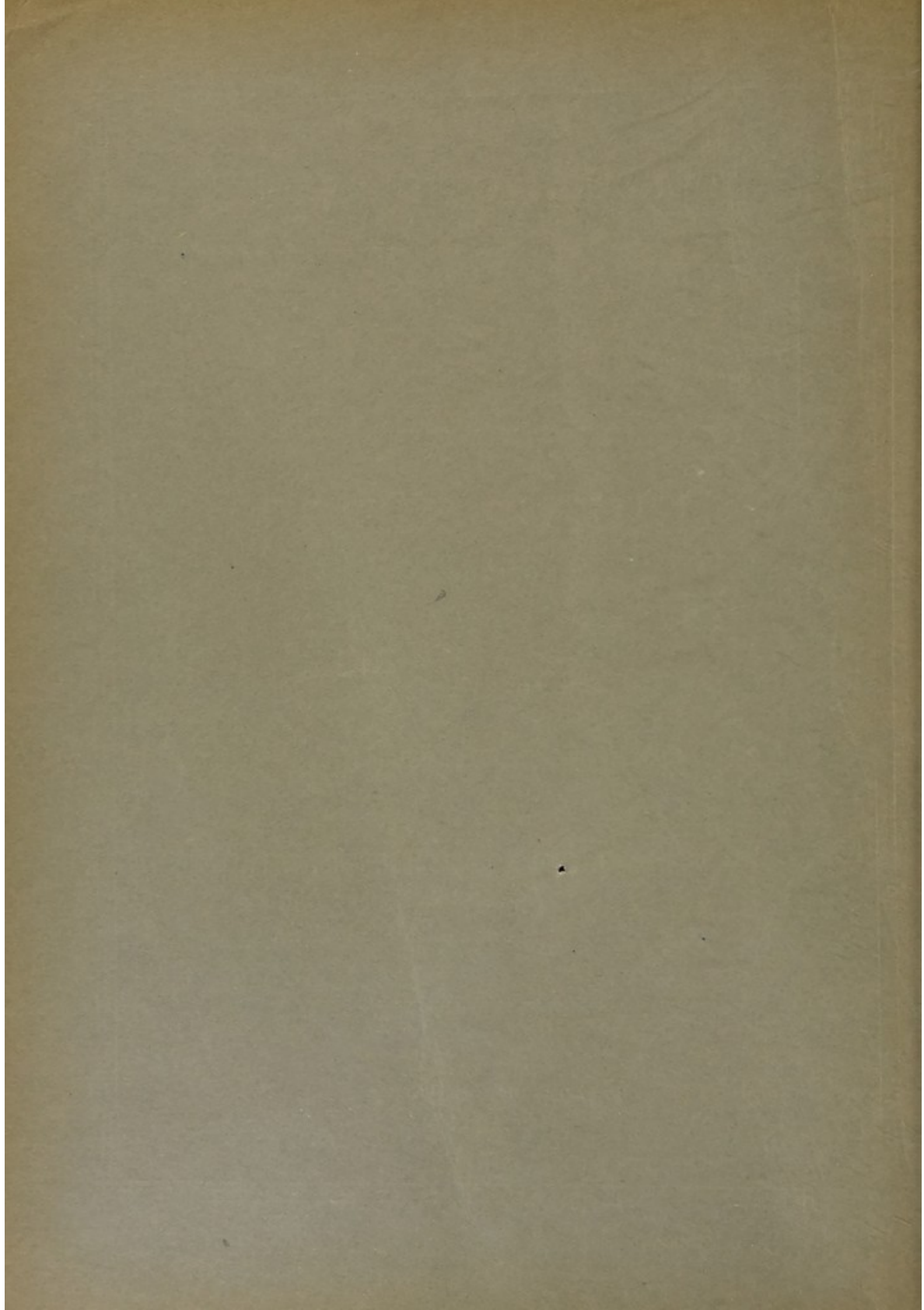
JAMES ROBERTSON, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health and

School Medical Officer.

DARWEN :
PRINTED AT THE "NEWS" OFFICE.

MCMXXIX



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HEALTH OFFICE,
DARWEN,

April, 1929.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

It affords me pleasure in presenting to you my SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT, which is also the FIFTY-FIRST 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

1928-1929.

* COUNCILLOR E. LEACH, J.P., MAYOR.

Chairman :

* ALDERMAN W. WORTH, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

* COUNCILLOR R. COCKER.

ALDERMAN *J. COCKER, J.P.	COUNCILLOR *F. C. DUCKWORTH.
„ T. W. A. FORREST, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.	„ *A. DUCKWORTH.
„ H. C. JEPSON.	„ R. ECCLES.
„ G. PICKUP, J.P., C.C.	„ *J. V. HARGREAVES.
„ JOHN B. THORNLEY, J.P.	„ T. E. HOLGATE, J.P.
COUNCILLOR WM. AINSWORTH, J.P.	„ H. D. HOLLAND.
„ *DR. G. W. BURY.	„ *W. JEPSON.
„ R. S. CATLOW.	„ *W. KNOWLES, J.P.
„ J. T. CLARK.	„ E. LEACH, J.P.
„ *DR. T. J. COSTELLO.	„ R. MARSDEN, J.P.
„ W. R. DAVIES	„ 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	
SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR } MEAT INSPECTOR .....	.....C. R. WALSH, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.
SANITARY INSPECTORS.....	{ (North Division)—F. LITTLECOTT, A.R.S.I. .....(South Division)—E. P. MCGLYNN, C.R.S.I.
VETERINARY OFFICER.....	J. W. MARSLAND, M.R.C.V.S.
MATRON, INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL	MISS D. SANDY.
HEALTH VISITORS.....	{ MRS. H. H. SHAWCROSS, CERTIFIED MIDWIFE. MISS E. WORTH, CERTIFIED MIDWIFE, CERT. H.V.
CLERKS.....	W. HAWORTH, H. HUTCHINSON, T. W. MARSDEN.

REPORT.



AREA (Acres), 5,919.

POPULATION : Census (1921), 38,720. Estimated (1928), 38,150.

Population in Wards.

Wards.	Census, 1921 (Estimated).	(Estimated) 1928.
CENTRAL	6,314	6,219
WEST CENTRAL	3,474	3,422
NORTH-EAST	9,013	8,882
NORTH-WEST	6,948	6,845
SOUTH-EAST	6,850	6,740
SOUTH-WEST	6,121	6,033
TOTAL	38,720	38,150

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 10,082 ; (1928), 10,422.

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

Rateable Value, £219,884.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £812.

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 1928.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Birth Rate.
BIRTHS—Legitimate	442	236	206	12.05
Illegitimate	18	6	12	
	<u>460</u>	<u>242</u>	<u>218</u>	
DEATHS	Total. 492	Males. 241	Females. 251	Death Rate. 12.89

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of Child-birth :—From sepsis, 3 ; from other causes, 3.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—Total, 31 (Rate 67) ; Legitimate, 30 (Rate 68) ; Illegitimate, 1 (Rate 55).

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 1.

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, 1923-1927	14.32	13.74	0.48	81
1927	11.95	15.01	0.33	69
1928	12.05	12.89	0.49	67
Increase or Decrease in 1928 on :—				
Mean of 5 years, 1923-1927	-2.27	-0.85	+0.03	-14
Previous year	+0.10	-2.12	+0.16	-2

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1928

Provisional figures. The rates have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1928. 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)	Total Deaths under One Year.
England and Wales.....	16.7	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.11	0.01	0.07	0.06	0.19	0.53	7.0	65
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	16.9	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.09	0.09	0.17	0.48	9.6	70
156 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	16.6	10.6	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.06	0.08	0.21	0.41	4.8	60
London	15.9	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.30	0.02	0.09	0.09	0.13	0.55	10.2	67
Darwen	12.0	12.8	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.73	2.1	67

Marriages.

The number of Marriages solemnized in Darwen during the year ending December 31st, 1928, was as follows :—

Church of England	122
Nonconformist Places of Worship	147
	—
Total	269
	—

This means that 538 people were united in the bonds of wedlock, and is at the rate of 14.10 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 14.23 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Year.	Births.		Deaths.		Marriages.	
	Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.	Number.	Rate.
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
1928	460	12.05	492	12.89	538	14.1
Average 10 Years...	601	15.46	520	13.44	691	17.7



Births.

The number of Children born during the year was : Males 242, Females 218, making a total of 460 ; being 2 less than in the previous twelve months, and at the rate of 0.10 per 1,000 higher than in 1927.

The Birth Rate for the year was 12.05 per 1,000. The highest monthly Birth Rate was 15.09 in July and in September it was the lowest, the figure being 9.12 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
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	38,600	462	11.95
1928	38,150	460	12.05

Average Birth Rate for the last 10 years, 15.46.

BIRTH RATES IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
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
1928	13.02	13.73	13.84	9.64	11.55	10.77	12.05
Averages for 10 Years.	16.05	16.04	17.45	12.83	15.90	14.47	15.46

ILLECITIMATE BIRTHS.

Eighteen Children were born out of wedlock during the year. This gives a rate of 3.91 per cent. of total births. Since 1919 the average annual number is 23.

The rate per cent. of Births average 3.91, and 1922 is the highest with 5.48.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of Illegitimates for the year was 55, and the average for the last 10 years was 119.

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.
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
1928	18	3.91	1	55
Average	23	3.72	3	119

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

	Number	Percentage of Births.
JANUARY	2	5.00
FEBRUARY	3	8.33
MARCH	1	2.77
APRIL	1	2.94
MAY	2	5.12
JUNE	2	5.55
JULY	0	0.00
AUGUST	1	3.33
SEPTEMBER	1	3.44
OCTOBER	0	0.00
NOVEMBER	1	2.43
DECEMBER	4	8.69
	18	3.91

BIRTHS IN WARDS, 1928.

	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	6	2	2	2	9	3	2	2	1	5	5	1	25	15	12.58
February	2	5	2	2	4	4	2	0	6	6	1	2	17	19	11.32
March	3	1	2	0	8	5	3	1	2	3	3	5	21	15	11.32
April	1	0	2	3	4	1	4	2	5	3	4	5	20	14	10.69
May	5	2	2	1	5	6	5	2	2	2	4	3	23	16	12.26
June	6	3	2	4	5	3	5	2	1	3	1	1	20	16	11.32
July	2	2	3	2	5	8	6	5	6	2	1	6	23	25	15.09
August	3	2	0	4	3	5	4	3	4	1	3	1	17	16	10.37
September	7	1	3	1	2	7	3	1	1	1	1	1	17	12	9.12
October	4	5	1	3	6	6	2	2	7	2	1	3	21	21	13.21
November	5	5	1	1	4	5	0	2	4	7	1	6	15	26	12.89
December	5	4	2	2	8	7	5	3	1	3	2	4	23	23	14.46
	49	32	22	25	63	60	41	25	40	38	27	38	242	218	12.05
TOTAL	81		47		123		66		78		65		460		
Population	6,219		3,422		8,882		6,845		6,749		6,033		38,150		
Birth-rate	13.02		13.73		13.84		9.64		11.55		10.77		12.05		

Deaths.

The total number of Deaths during the year was 492 ; Males 241 , Females 251 ; being a decrease of 88 on the previous year.

The Death Rate for the year is 12.89, a decrease of 2.12 on the previous year.

The number of Deaths of Residents in Institutions, etc., outside the district was 130, which has been added to the 362 deaths registered within the district, making a total of 492.

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 ...	54
,, ,, ,, Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	39
,, ,, ,, other Institutions and Places	37

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

INQUESTS.

There were 32 Inquests held during the year, compared with 40 during 1927. The following were the verdicts :—

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Accidental Death ..	12	17	12	15	12	16	12	8	20	18
Natural Causes ...	12	14	9	8	18	11	7	10	10	3
Suicide	2	9	4	5	7	1	7	6	10	11
	26	40	25	28	37	28	26	24	40	32

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

WARDS	Central	West-Central	North-East	North-West	South-East	South-West	Borough
Population	6219	3422	8882	6845	6749	6033	38150
1928							
January.. . . .	23.15	10.51	6.75	8.76	8.89	11.93	11.32
February	5.78	0.00	14.86	14.02	10.66	15.91	11.32
March	21.22	7.01	9.44	14.02	10.66	9.94	12.26
April.....	5.78	7.01	12.15	24.54	17.78	3.97	12.58
May	17.36	3.50	12.15	3.50	12.44	5.96	9.75
June	3.85	0.00	9.44	10.51	8.89	15.74	8.80
July	5.78	10.51	6.75	17.53	7.11	9.94	9.43
August	5.78	3.50	5.40	8.76	7.11	5.96	6.29
September . . .	11.57	17.53	6.75	10.51	1.77	7.95	8.49
October.....	1.92	3.50	5.40	12.27	17.78	3.97	7.86
November... .	5.78	10.51	5.40	8.76	7.11	7.95	7.23
December.....	7.71	21.04	14.86	7.01	3.55	0.00	8.49
Transfers.....	44.38	38.57	51.33	29.80	33.78	43.76	40.89
Rate for year...	13.34	11.10	13.39	14.17	12.29	11.93	12.89

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

Year	C.	W C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S W.	Borough.
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
1928	13.34	11.10	13.39	14.17	12.29	11.93	12.89
Average...	14.30	14.73	13.59	13.66	12.17	12.97	13.44

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DARWEN, M.B., 1928.

Causes of Death (Civilians only).	Males.	Females.
All Causes	241	251
1. Enteric Fever	—	—
2. Small Pox	—	—
3. Measles	1	—

Causes of Death (Civilians only).		Males.	Females.
4.	Scarlet Fever	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—
6.	Diphtheria	—	—
7.	Influenza	4	7
8.	Encephalitis Lethargica	1	2
9.	Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—
10.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7	12
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	—
12.	Cancer, malignant disease	31	39
13.	Rheumatic Fever	—	—
14.	Diabetes	3	3
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	13	14
16.	Heart Disease	29	39
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	26	17
18.	Bronchitis	11	18
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	24	18
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2
21.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	7	4
22.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	1
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2	—
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
25.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	12	7
26.	Puerperal Sepsis	—	3
27.	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	—	3
28.	Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	9	4
29.	Suicide	6	5
30.	Other Deaths from violence	13	4
31.	Other defined diseases	30	49
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	6	—
Special Causes (included above)—			
	Poliomyelitis	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	—	—

Causes of Death (Civilians only).		Males.	Females.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—			
Total		21	10
Illegitimate		—	1
<hr/>			
Total Births		242	218
Legitimate		236	206
Illegitimate		6	12
<hr/>			
Population	38,150.		

The death rate for the year was 12.89 per 1,000.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
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	1.10
<hr/>																		
1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
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	0.05

Mr. G. L. Kay, honorary financial secretary to the District Nursing Association, has kindly supplied me with the following particulars :—

	Gross Income.			Net Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1927	2,257	10	6½	2,019	1	9½
1928	2,331	15	11	1,951	18	11

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.

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
In-Patients	345	356	360	394	400	403	427	483	418	492
Out-Patients	722	700	756	766	822	824	832	1166	1083	729

Based upon the ordinary expenditure for the year, the Cost of Treatment of these Patients for the year 1928 was £3,348 15s. 11d.

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, 36 beds. The cases usually admitted are Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Erysipelas, Typhoid and Pneumonia.

Bull Hill Hospital is owned by the Corporation.

During the year 12 cases of Scarlet Fever, 28 Pneumonia, 6 Broncho-Pneumonia, 1 Diphtheria, 6 Erysipelas, 1 Typhoid Fever, 1 Suspect Typhoid Fever, and 1 Encephalitis Epidemica were admitted to the Hospital.

The accommodation has proved itself sufficient.

Tubercular cases from Darwen are admitted to various Sanatoria through the Lancashire County Tuberculosis Committee.

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 orthopaedic 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.

A scheme is being prepared for the in-patient treatment of

- (a) Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever.
- (b) Maternity patients.
- (c) Operative midwifery cases.

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.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For the removal of Infectious cases we have a motor ambulance, the motor driver also carrying out all disinfecting. 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 1928 was called out on 257 occasions.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

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.

Orthopædic work is attended to at the School Clinic or Maternity Centre and dealt with as required.

We have no Artificial Light Clinic.

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.

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 five 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 Corporation pay half-cost of the District Nurses travelling expenses on bus and tramcar.

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.

MIDWIVES.

None employed by the Local Authority.

On the County Council Register there are 18 Midwives, all of whom are practising in the Borough.

The number of Midwives practising is sufficient for the district.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

On the 2nd day of August, 1928, the powers under the Nursing Homes (Registration) Act, 1927, were handed over to the Darwen Corporation by the Lancashire County Council.

Two homes were registered by the County Council and all papers sent to us regarding them.

These homes are kept under inspection by us and have been found satisfactory.

No further applications have been made.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Investigations of all maternal deaths are being made by me, and the records are kept.

Cases of Puerperal Fever are investigated by me and records kept.

Refer to page 40.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

		Operative from
Local Acts	Darwen Corporation Act .	1887.
	Darwen Corporation Act .	1899.
	Darwen Corporation Act .	1926.
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.	3rd March, 1881.
	Prevention of waste, mis- use or contamination of water	5th June, 1891.
	Public Slaughterhouses ...	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 year, however, legal proceedings were instituted in three instances, the work having been done, the summonses were withdrawn, defendants paying the costs.

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 10,421. There is no supply by stand pipe.

There is no possibility of contamination in the vicinity of dwelling-houses

Water from Sunnyhurst Reservoir is slightly acid and is treated with Sodium Carbonate before sand filtration and limestone is also placed in the bed of the brook.

Water from house taps has been analysed, the lead content being $\frac{1}{300}$ th grain per gallon.

There is no insufficiency.

No extensions were required during the year.

The amount used during the year was 393,308,206 gallons ; 51,062,000 being for trade purposes, the remainder for domestic use at the rate of 23.9 gallons per head per day.

The total Rainfall for the year on the Watershed was 65.48 inches, and in Bold Venture Park 65.74 inches. We had rain on 241 days.

The heaviest Rainfall was in January with 13.46 inches, and the lowest in May, with 1.22 inches.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river is regularly sampled for pollution. Inspections are also made by the Sanitary Inspectors. A report was submitted by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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	198
Water Closets	8649
Waste Water Closets	2326
Cesspools	2
Total	11175

Conversions and Installations during 1928 :—

New Water Closets fixed	107
Premises with one New Closet fixed	89
Premises with more than one New Closet fixed	9
Pails converted to Water Closets	1
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets	26
Baths installed during the year	141
Urinals installed during the year	3

Comparative Conversions :—

	During year 1928.	During Five years 1923-1927.
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	1	1510
To Waste W.C.'s	—	—
No. of Waste W.C.'s to Fresh W.C.'s	26	110
No. of Houses at which Movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	—	3

There are 12 Dry Ashpits and 10,916 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 :—3,235.

Defects or Nuisances :—No. discovered, 1,555 ; No. abated, 1,064.

No. of Notices served :—Informal, 1,520 ; Statutory, 390.

Legal proceedings were instituted in two cases but the work was done and the summonses were withdrawn on payment of costs.

For details refer to page 50.

SMOKE NUISANCE.

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

The Inspectors took 54 observations, each of one hour's duration, during the year.

In seven cases emissions occurred which were in excess of the time limit. The occupiers of the mills were cautioned and notices were served. Legal proceedings were instituted in one instance and were subsequently withdrawn on payment of costs.

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.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

During 1928 no action was taken respecting the above. Byelaws are at present under consideration in terms of the Public Health Act, 1925.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Municipal Model Lodging House is the only common lodging house in the town and is frequently inspected.

The average daily number of lodgers for the year was 82.85, including women, as compared with 82.08 for the previous year, an increase of 0.77.

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.

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.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

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

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.

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.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

During the winter months a course of lectures was given to the members of the Mothers' Club which is formed in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare, and there were good attendances at each meeting.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

We have no works to which these Acts are applicable in this district and bed manufacturers and upholsterers here do not use this material.

Housing.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1928.

No. of new houses erected during year—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	77
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(i.) By the Local Authority	12
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	21

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation—

Have any advances been made during 1928—

(a) By loan ? No. No., —. Amount of Loans, Nil.	
(b) By subsidy ? Yes. No., 63. Amount of Subsidies, £2,316 5s. 0d.	

UNFIT DWELLINGHOUSES.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2711
(2) No. of dwellinghouses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	53
(3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	17
(4) No. of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under 3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	37

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	20
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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	28
(2) No. of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after services of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	11
(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	1
(2) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellinghouses having been rendered fit ...	0
(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. 2

* 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.

The 77 houses which were erected met the annual general requirements. To meet the case of the poorer classes, who are in many cases at present living two or more families in one house, I estimate that 70 houses of cheaper inclusive rentals are required.

To meet any shortage of houses tenders were invited for the smaller type but the costs were considered by the Committee to be excessive.

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.

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.

An initial scheme is being 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 Order, 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, one Dealer's License to sell "Certified" Milk, two to sell "Grade A" Milk and one to sell "Pasteurized" 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, and undergoing considerable improvement.

Eleven notices were served during the year requiring additional window area in farm buildings. In six cases the notices were complied with before the end of the year.

Several owners have voluntarily undertaken further works necessary to bring the farmsteads and dairies up to modern requirements, i.e., at one farm a new dairy was built, the shippon entirely remodelled, repaved, lighted and ventilated, and the ceiling was raised. At another farm a thorough reconstruction of the shippon was undertaken. In four other instances shippon floors were laid in concrete, additional windows fixed, etc.

The work that has been carried out is estimated to have cost about £630.

There are 75 cowkeepers on the Registers and 41 Dairymen or Milk Purveyors (other than cowkeepers). Seventy-one 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 and proved on analysis to be positive. Two hundred and seventy-seven cattle were clinically examined by the Borough Veterinary Inspector, and he reported that in his opinion five animals showed clinical evidence of tuberculosis. These five animals were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, compensation being paid to the owners. In two instances farmers were summoned to appear before the Health Committee and were reprimanded for failure to give early information that the animals were affected.

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. There are no private slaughterhouses in the borough.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 127 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, 5,439 lbs., taken from 43 Beasts and 3 Pigs.
- (b) Diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat, other than above—Approximate weight, 4,809 lbs., taken from 331 Beasts, 271 Sheep, 2 Calves and 33 Pigs.
- (c) Other Foodstuffs—40 Crates of Lettuces (1,200 lettuces) and 112 lbs. Potatoes.

It was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

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

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Seven 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.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

One sample of cow's milk was submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester. As previously stated, seven samples of cows milk were submitted to the County Analyst.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.**

During the year 19 cases of Scarlet Fever and 92 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 1924-1928.**

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.	Polio- mye- litis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Total.
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
1928 ...	2	11	19	1	4	4	29	1	...	92	...	...	...	4	167

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 1928 was 100,000 units. The Anti-toxin is promptly used.

Four cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were reported during the year, and three cases died, one case apparently normal and working.

We had one "return" case of Scarlet Fever which was removed to hospital.

During the year 92 cases of Pneumonia were notified. Twenty-one of these died, giving a mortality rate of 228 per 1,000. There were 42 deaths registered, by death certificate. This shews 21 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.

Thirty-two cases of the above notifiable Pneumonias were removed to hospital of which 6 died, giving a mortality rate of 187 per 1,000, leaving 60 cases treated at home of which 15 died, this is equal to a mortality rate of 250 per 1,000. The benefit of hospital treatment and careful nursing is here strongly emphasized.

The hospital accommodation available has proved sufficient for our requirements.

Since October, 1927, we have been admitting cases of Pneumonia to Bull Hill Hospital, and this has been much appreciated by the public. Other notifiable cases where nursing conditions at home are impossible or if desired by attending physician are also admitted to the hospital.

It has been general to discharge all uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever from this hospital on the 28th to the 30th day. If the accommodation at home is suitable, attention adequate, and the people desire the case to remain, we agree with this, and maintain general supervision.

We have not adopted any new methods for the selection of individual cases for admission to hospital.

Cases of Measles or Whooping Cough if complicated by Pneumonia, are now admitted to Bull Hill Hospital.

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 6, Sputum 8, Throat Swabs 13, others 5. (Two fæces: 1 Pleural Effusion, 1 Urine and 1 specimen of milk from tubercular cow.)

In addition the Tuberculosis Officer's Department (Dr. MacPhee's) have examined 79 specimens of Sputum with a positive result in 16 cases and a negative result in 63.

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.		
												Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Total	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Total
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	...	...	...	...	...	...
1928.....	1	12	...	13	1	5	...	6	2	6	8	...	...	...	...	...	...

Contacts are kept under observation after removal of patients and disinfection of houses. During the year we had one return case. 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.

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 139. 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 1928.

Beds	Mattresses	Bolsters	Pillows	Quilts	Blankets	Sheets	Suits of Clothes	Carpets	Rugs	Curtains	Cushions	Shawls	Sundries
120	17	100	167	116	184	57	2	2	2	0	13	9	184

Total articles Disinfected, 973.

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

Disinfestation was carried out in four instances, in respect of houses and one hundred and thirteen in respect of persons.

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 1928 :—

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.	
		Un- der 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	19	...	...	...	1	2	11	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	12	...
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	92	...	1	3	1	...	16	4	6	23	13	20	5	21	32	6	
Puerperal Fever	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	2	2	2	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3	3	2	
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	5	...	...	2	6	1	
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other diseases notifiable in district, <i>e.g.</i> :—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding German Measles)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	138	1	1	3	2	2	29	6	8	35	20	26	5	30	59	12	

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	...
1—5... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10 ... ..	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...
10—15 ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20 ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
20—25	1	4	1	1	2	3	1	...
25—35	2	3	...	...	...	5	...	...
35—45	2	2	...	1	1	1	...	...
45—55	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
55—65	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 and upwards ... ..	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...
Totals	11	12	4	2	7	12	4	...
	23		6		19		4	

Specify the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths ?—1 to 23.

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.

Sixteen cases of Tuberculosis were sent to various sanatoria and hospitals for surgical cases. Six of these were discharged and four died before the end of the year.

The Examination of Sputum on Discharge was positive in 1 case, negative in 4, and in 1 case there was no examination result.

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

3	Patients to	Burnley, Burnley.
6	„	Withnell.
1	Patient to	Aitken, Holcombe.
1	„	Chadderton.
1	„	Great Barrow, Chester.
1	„	Bowden, Cheshire.
1	„	Peel Hall, Little Hulton.
1	„	Heath Charnock, Chorley.
1	„	Shelf, Halifax.

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.

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

Notification of Infectious Diseases in each Ward, and for each Month of the Year 1928.

MONTHS.	CENTRAL.				WEST-CENTRAL.				NORTH-EAST.				NORTH-WEST.				SOUTH-EAST.				SOUTH WEST.				BOROUGH														
	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Erysipelas	Tuberculosis.	Enceph. Leth.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Enceph. Leth.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Enceph. Leth.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neon.	Enceph. Leth.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Total.						
JANUARY ...	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13					
FEBRUARY ...	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11						
MARCH	1	5	2	1	5	2	4	5	2	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24						
APRIL	2	3	1	3	6	1	2	6	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24						
MAY	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19						
JUNE	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7						
JULY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6						
AUGUST	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10						
SEPTEMBER ...	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11						
OCTOBER ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10						
NOVEMBER ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10						
DECEMBER ...	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22						
TOTALS ...	23	35	11	8	7	1	3	12	1	2	1	6	5	2	1	13	3	2	1	2	4	16	1	1	1	6	12	8	19	2	92	1	4	1	4	1	1	29	167

RETURN OF VACCINATION FOR DARWEN, 1928.

MONTHS.	Successful Vaccination.	Died Unvaccinated.	Insusceptible.	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 ...	17	1	0	22	0	0	0	0	
February ...	11	2	0	23	0	0	0	0	
March	16	3	0	16	0	0	0	1	44
April	4	1	1	28	0	0	0	0	
May	12	2	0	22	3	0	0	0	
June	12	1	0	23	0	0	0	0	28
July	16	3	0	29	0	0	0	0	
August	11	1	0	20	1	0	0	0	
September..	6	0	0	24	0	0	0	1	33
October....	11	0	0	29	0	2	0	5	
November..	6	1	0	26	0	0	0	9	
December...	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	24	19
	124	15	1	267	4	2	0	40	124

VACCINATION.

Year	Births	Successfully Vaccinated	Rate per cent Vaccinated
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
1928	460	124	26.95

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	463
Second and Subsequent Visits	3262
Visits to Children over 1 year and under 5 years	4307
Visits to Expectant Mothers	283
Visits re Stillbirths	15
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—First	1
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Second and Subsequent Visits	0
Visits to Babies suffering from Measles and other infectious diseases..	201
Other Special Visits	141
	<hr/>
	8673
	<hr/>

The following particulars were obtained on first visits—

Feeding—	
Breast	349
Bottle	77
Breast and Bottle	36
Spoon Fed	1
	<hr/>
	463
	<hr/>

Types of Bottles Used—

Bottles without Tubes (including medicine bottles, etc.)	102
Bottles with Glass Tubes	9
Bottles with Rubber Tubes	2
	<hr/>
	113
	<hr/>

Foods—

Cow's Milk (Grade A)	3
Cow's Milk (undiluted)	3
Cow's Milk (Certified)	2
Cow's Milk and Water	82
Cow's Milk and Barley Water	8
Cow's Milk (Citratd)	1
Cow's Milk and Lime Water	5
Nestle's Milk	3
Dried Milk	3
Patent Foods	4
	<hr/>
	114
	<hr/>

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Bolton Road, Greenfield.

Number of children who have been weighed during the year	548	...	157
Total Number of Weighings	3885	...	1315
Babies specially examined by the Medical Officer	235	...	37
Babies referred to Family Doctor for Treatment	21	...	5
Babies recommended for Institution Treatment	10	...	0
Average Attendance of Expectant Mothers per Session	1	...	1
Average Attendance of Mothers per Session	48	...	29
Average Attendance of Children per Session	46	...	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.
1	Injury to shoulder.	Cured.
1	Nævus.	Cured.
1	Phimosis.	Cured. Operation.
2	Nystagmus.	Still under treatment.
1	Pyloric Stenosis.	Still in Hospital.
1	Specific Rash.	Improved.
2	Strabismus.	Still under supervision.
1	Enlarged Spleen.	Died.

ADMITTED TO QUEEN'S PARK HOSPITAL, BLACKBURN.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Rickets.	Still in Hospital.
1	Talipes.	Still in Hospital.
1	Phimosis.	Cured. Operation.

ADMITTED TO PENDLEBURY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Diabetes.	Improving.

REFERRED TO ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Cleft Palate.	Not detained. Operation later.

REFERRED TO FAMILY DOCTOR.

No.	Condition.	Result.
2	Malnutrition.	Improved.
1	Recurring Jaundice.	Improved.
2	Loss of Weight.	Improved.
1	Earache.	Cured.
1	Abscess of Cheek.	Cured.
1	Swollen Glands.	Cured.
1	Suppurating Glands.	Improved.
1	Tonsils and Adenoids.	Operation. Cured.
1	Balanitis.	Cured.
1	Chickenpox.	Cured.
1	Eczema.	Improved.
2	Skin Rashes.	Improved.
1	Persistent Vomiting.	Improved.
2	Otorrhœa.	Cured.
3	Bronchitis.	Cured.
1	Oxyuri& Vermicularis.	Cured.
2	Nervousness.	Improved.

**PARTICULARS OF OTHER INDIVIDUAL CASES SPECIALLY EXAMINED
BY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**

Defect.	No.
Conjunctivitis	2
Nystagmus	1
Small Nebula	1
Otorrhœa	3
Earache	1
T.B. Peritonitis and Meninges	1
Nasal Catarrh	3
Bronchial Catarrh	1
Snuffles	2
Teething	3
Dental Defects	2
Feeding	12
Constipation	6
Vomiting	2
Diarrhœa	2
Malnutrition	5
Rickets	6
Colic	1

Defect.	No.
Pyloric Spasms	1
Umbilical Hernia	10
Umbilical Discharge	2
Mentally Defective	3
Genu Varum	2
T.B. Glands	2
Lymphatic Pustules	1
Anæmia	1
Impetigo	2
Rashes	3
Urticaria	3
Dermatitis	1
Ichthyosis	1
Tinea	1
Phimosis	3
Xerodermia	1
Burn on Hand	1
Boils	1
Pityriasis of Face	1
Normal	15

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

Table showing the number of Births Notified during 1928.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Stillborn.
JANUARY	29	20	49	1
FEBRUARY	20	15	35	2
MARCH	16	14	30	0
APRIL	24	19	43	2
MAY	26	13	39	0
JUNE	19	27	46	2
JULY	22	18	40	1
AUGUST	15	15	30	1
SEPTEMBER	23	22	45	1
OCTOBER	14	21	35	0
NOVEMBER	21	20	41	0
DECEMBER	16	18	34	2
	245	222	467	12

Births Notified by Midwives	459
Births Notified by Medical Men	3
Births Notified by Parents	1
Births Notified by Midwives and Medical Men	4
Births Notified by Parents and Medical Men	0
Births Notified by Parents and Midwives	0
Births Notified by Others	0
Total	467

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	
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
1928	245	222	467	12	0	0	463	99.1	3262

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
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	29	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
1928	5	4	9	...	...	...	...	5	8	31	67

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	10	3	2	1	1	1	3	3	..	2	1	4	31
Percentage of Total .	32.2	9.7	6.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	9.7	9.7	...	6.4	3.2	12.9	...

Table showing Infantile Mortality in the Various Wards.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Boro.'
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
1927	114	111	46	48	26	102	69
Average for 9 yrs.	110	84	84	78	78	88	85
1928	37	106	81	45	102	30	67

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

During the year there were six maternal deaths. Particulars of these are as follows :—

These six mothers did not attend the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and made no request for ante-natal supervision to us. Two were under the supervision of both a physician and a midwife prior to confinement, and four were attended to by a midwife prior to confinement.

Case No. 1.—Confinement normal. Died from eclampsia and convulsions 48 hours after birth of child.

Case No. 2.—Confinement normal, developed Puerperal Mania, was removed to Queen's Park Hospital, and died from Acute Primary Lobar Pneumonia.

Case No. 3.—Confinement normal, ruptured perineum, sutured. This patient later developed venous thrombosis, Phlegmasia alba dolens, and died three months after confinement from acute inflammation of the leg.

Case. No. 4.—Confinement—Forceps. This case was sent to Queen's Park Hospital, was attended to by a specialist, had a rigor, developed phlebitis, pulmonary embolism, and consequent pneumonia.

Case No. 5.—This case was removed to Blackburn Royal Infirmary two weeks before confinement, because of albuminuria, slight swelling of hands, feet, and disturbed vision. Was confined in the hospital, but died three days after the birth of the child. Had been under her physician's care for several weeks before admission to the hospital.

Case No. 6.—Confinement—forceps delivery, difficult labour, case of Hydrocephalus, spina bifida. After delivery patient was removed to Queen's Park Hospital, and died from Puerperal Sepsis.

During the year 283 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.

The Local Authority has instituted a scheme for the supply of milk for necessitous infants and expectant and nursing mothers. During '928 free grants in necessitous cases were made as follows :—

Fresh Cows Milk value £74 9s. 10½d., Dried Milk £4 19s. 0d., a total of £79 8s. 10½d.

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, or to Pendlebury Children's Hospital.

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		
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
1928	4	460	3	3	12	67

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Number Notified	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
1	0	1	1	0	0	0

The only notable sanitary improvement during the year has been the gradual demolition of the Bury Street Unhealthy Area.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Number of Prosecu- tions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	151	25	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)..	180	24	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	33	4	—
Total	364	53	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prose- cutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of cleanliness	18	18	—	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	35	35	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation—				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	12	12	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	—	1	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences relating 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	67	68	—	—

III.—HOME WORK. Nil.

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	Number.
Textile Factories	66
Non-Textile Factories	154
Workshops	255
Workplaces	48
Total Workshops on Register	523

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	4
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	4
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year ...	3

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

Borough Population.	Trade.	No. of Employees (approx.)	Year.	Deaths.	15 to		25 to		35 to		45 to		65 &		To- tal	Death Rate	Boro' Death Rate	Boro' Rate up to 15 yrs.	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F					
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 Hands.....	400	1923	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...	...
			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
				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	...	...	1	2	...	...	5	2.90	...	...	...	...
				Others	1	1	...	3	3	8	4.65	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cardroom Hands.....	400	1924	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	2	2	5.00	...	...	...	...	...
			Others .....	...	...	...	1	1	2.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spinners	300	1924	Respiratory .....	...	...	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	
				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 Hands.....	400	1925	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2.50	...	...	...	...
			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	5	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 Hands.....	400	1926	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2.50	...	...	...	...
			Others .....	...	...	...	1	1	5.00	...	...	...	...	...	...
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
				Others	1	4	2	2	8	11	9	6	3	22	26	5.33	...	11.08	5.00
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1927	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	2.32	...	...	...	...
				Others	2	...	...	1	2	1	6	3.48	...	...	...	...
	Cardroom Hands.....	400	1927	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	5.00	...	...	...	...
			Others .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...	...
Spinners	200	1927	Respiratory .....	...	...	1	...	1	2	10.00	...	...	...	...	...
			Others .....	...	...	...	1	...	1	5.00	...	...	...	...	...
38,150	Weavers	9000	1928	Respiratory	5	...	5	1	1	1	1	2	4	4	16	2.22	12.89	2.72	
				Others	1	3	2	3	4	6	16	14	8	4	31	30	6.77	...	10.17	4.12
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1928	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1.16	...	...	...	...	...
				Others .....	...	...	...	4	1	5	2.90	...	...	...	...	...
	Cardroom Hands.....	400	1928	Respiratory .....	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	7.50	...	...	...	...
			Others .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...	...
Spinners	200	1928	Respiratory .....	...	...	...	...	1	5	6	30.00	...	...	...	...
			Others .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* 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 1669.9 millimetres, or 65.74 inches being recorded on 241 days; the average for the last twenty years being 56.35 inches. The greatest monthly fall was in January 339.3 millimetres; and the lowest in May 31.0 millimetres. The greatest daily fall was 43.2 millimetres, on June 28th.

The total sunshine registered on 271 days during the year was 1153.9 hours, the average for twenty years is 1134.8 hours. July registered the highest monthly total, 178.5 hours; and December the lowest, 23.0 hours. The highest daily reading was 13.3 hours, on June 2nd.

The mean minimum temperature in shade was 40.9° , the average for the last twenty years is 40.7° . The lowest monthly mean was in December, 32.6° , and the lowest reading for the year 24.1° , on March 12th.

The maximum wind velocity was on November 23rd, when a West North-West wind was blowing at the rate of 54 miles per hour.

Seventeen observations of snow, 17 observations of hail, 4 observations of thunder, thunderstorm on 11 days, 32 observations of mist, 61 observations of ground frost, 13 observations of snow lying, 19 observations of fog, 1 observation of gale, 50 observations of dew, and 2 observations of lightning.

Veterinary

1880-1881

1880

MEASUREMENTS

Time	Temperature	Pressure	Volume	Weight
0	20.0	101.3	100.0	100.0
10	20.5	101.5	100.5	100.5
20	21.0	101.7	101.0	101.0
30	21.5	101.9	101.5	101.5
40	22.0	102.1	102.0	102.0
50	22.5	102.3	102.5	102.5
60	23.0	102.5	103.0	103.0
70	23.5	102.7	103.5	103.5
80	24.0	102.9	104.0	104.0
90	24.5	103.1	104.5	104.5
100	25.0	103.3	105.0	105.0

Sanitary Inspector's Report.



GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.

Total number of nuisances discovered	1555
Letters written respecting nuisances	252
Informal notices served	1520
Statutory notices served	390
Number of re-inspections	2428
Number of nuisances abated including outstanding nuisances from previous year	1064
Number of premises and houses visited	3235
Number of houses visited (Housing Regulations, 1925)	53
Number of inspections of refuse tips	53
Number of inspections of schools, etc.	86
Complaints received and investigated	280
Number of drains, etc., tested	24
Number of smoke observations taken	54
Number of inspections and re-inspections of Factories and Workshops	204
Number of inspections of Lodging Houses	68
Number of inspections of Bakehouses	160
Number of inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds	71
Number of samples purchased (Sale of Food and Drugs Acts)	7
Number of houses disinfected	139
Loads of Bedding disinfected	126
Infectious and Contagious Diseases visits	138

NUISANCES	Discovered	Notices Served.		Nuisances Abated.	Nuisances remaining in hand.
		Informal.	Statutory.		
Defective Drains	259	259	36	198	61
Choked Sewers	10	9	...	9	1
Defective Soil Pipes, and W.C.'s, " Roofs, Downspouts and Easing Troughs	74	73	20	55	19
Insanitary Yards	450	445	186	200	250
Dirty Houses and Premises	56	56	12	30	26
Dirty and Dilapidated Closets ..	89	89	10	70	19
Accumulations of Refuse	37	37	2	30	7
Nuisance from Animals.....	145	145	10	120	25
Insanitary Ashpits	5	5	...	5	...
Broken Ashtubs	1	1	...	1	...
Ashtubs without Covers.....	11	11	...	10	1
Broken Slop Pipes	8	8	...	6	2
Choked Waste Water Closets ...	90	88	22	60	30
Waste Water Closets Converted to Water Closets.....	68	68	...	68	...
Rooms Insufficiently Ventilated..	26	...	...	26	...
Dangerous Buildings.....	75	75	50	43	32
Burst Water Pipes	38	38	...	38	...
Defective Gas Pipes	22	22	...	22	...
Broken Yard Doors	5	5	...	5	...
Defective Washing Boilers.....	19	19	7	12	7
" Floors	2	2	2	2	...
Insufficient Water Supply	17	17	10	16	1
Defective Walls and Ceilings ..	18	18	...	18	...
Miscellaneous Nuisances	23	23	16	13	10
	7	7	7	7	...
TOTALS	1555	1520	390	1064	491

During the year 150 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 390 cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices. Legal proceedings were instituted in two cases but the work was done and the summonses withdrawn on payment of costs.

HOUSING.

Number of dwellinghouses December 31st, 1927	10363
Number of new dwellinghouses certified during 1928	77
Less number of dwellinghouses demolished (in Bury Street Area) during the year	17
Less one house closed in Tockholes Road	1
	59
Number of dwellinghouses December 31st, 1928	10422

In regard to the work done under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, full particulars are recorded on pages 22, 23 and 24.

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.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Reports were submitted respecting rooms situated over eight separate shops being let off in lodgings to different families.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

One hundred and thirty-eight 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. Fifty-four patients were removed under our supervision to Bull Hill Hospital.

The rooms previously occupied by the patients were disinfected. During the year 139 rooms were fumigated and 126 loads of bedding, etc., disinfected. A complete list of the number of cases of infectious diseases in the various wards is given on page 33.

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. Persons known to have been in contact were kept under observation for a definite period.

BLACK SMOKE NUISANCES.

Fifty-four observations were taken, each of one hour's duration, the average emission of Black Smoke per hour being 3.22 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 seven instances the time limit was exceeded and the occupiers of the respective mills were cautioned.

Statutory notices were served. Legal proceedings were instituted in one instance and subsequently withdrawn on payment of costs.

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.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES.

Two hundred and four visits were paid to the Factories and Workshops and 160 Bakehouses were visited. A statement of the improvements made and the work done is recorded on pages 42 and 43.

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

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There were 75 cowkeepers on the register in 1928, and 116 Retail Purveyors of Milk including cowkeepers. Approximately there are 956 cows in the Borough. 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 a new dairy was built, the shippon entirely remodelled, repaved, lighted and ventilated, and the ceiling raised.

At another farm a thorough reconstruction of the shippon was undertaken.

In four other instances the shippon floors were relaid in concrete and additional windows and ventilators fixed.

At the close of the year reconstruction work was well in hand at many other farms.

One dairyman was found selling milk from an open churn in a shop, a procedure involving a possible source of danger to health.

In accordance with statutory requirements the occupier of the premises was summoned to appear before the Health Committee and was subsequently removed from the register and ceased selling milk on the premises.

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 shippons were necessary copies of Circular No. 40 respecting construction of shippons were distributed to the owners and occupiers.

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.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Rivers and streams are inspected periodically. A report on the condition of the river bed, etc., was presented to the Committee.

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. At four schools the internal walls, ceilings, etc., were distempered and the woodwork painted. At two other schools the floors of schoolroom were reconstructed and maple boards laid. In two other instances gas fittings were removed and electric light wires, etc., substituted.

The Medical Officer of Health was present during many of the inspections.

MODEL LODGING HOUSE.

During the year there has been an increase of 0.77 per month in the number of lodgers when compared with 1927. 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 10 years—

	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Jan.	59.12	70.20	94.51	80.61	91.29	82.00	108.64	90.96	88.58	78.80
Feb.	57.90	81.30	92.03	80.25	93.03	81.34	111.39	88.32	88.67	85.62
March ...	59.90	79.30	90.58	80.15	86.90	84.39	110.93	95.74	87.19	87.77
April.....	64.27	91.60	89.16	87.26	87.43	97.50	119.83	95.53	84.20	84.00
May	68.70	93.30	79.16	91.41	86.35	98.96	118.94	98.29	81.08	77.90
June	72.00	101.83	78.86	83.96	83.53	97.20	109.13	94.20	84.00	86.20
July	67.24	100.12	76.77	83.45	73.25	94.64	98.41	97.48	80.42	88.32
August ...	69.23	106.00	76.51	83.16	80.64	98.83	104.35	86.69	82.00	78.51
Sept.	71.24	95.16	69.63	82.00	77.43	96.46	99.63	86.46	76.40	78.06
October. .	74.17	89.05	67.90	81.16	75.51	99.48	96.00	89.22	77.00	77.51
Nov.	71.70	84.60	72.83	80.13	73.26	104.9	96.50	92.36	80.43	83.06
Dec.	68.15	88.79	81.22	86.38	78.03	108.8	94.32	90.93	75.00	88.48
Average...	66.97	90.02	80.76	83.32	82.22	95.37	105.67	91.34	82.08	82.85

The daily average number of female lodgers for 1928 was 15.53 as against 13.00 during 1927.

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.

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

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

All animals were killed at the Public Abattoirs where there is ample lairage and slaughtering accommodation. Strict supervision was maintained throughout the year the slaughtering was 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 although the total weight of meat sold is in advance of the previous year.

The following table shews the number of animals slaughtered :—

NUMBER OF CATTLE SLAUGHTERED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

	BEASTS.		SHEEP AND LAMBS		CALVES		PIGS		TOTAL	
	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927	1928	1927	1928
January . . .	139	136	785	835	1	3	37	32	963	1006
February . . .	122	120	736	966	2	14	25	37	884	1137
March	120	173	752	1173	4	0	42	30	918	1396
April	144	129	1013	796	2	10	6	22	1165	957
May	112	133	849	960	1	2	26	13	988	1108
June	108	160	910	1282	0	3	3	0	1021	1445
July	114	90	1052	911	4	7	1	2	1171	1010
August	114	134	972	1145	3	2	1	4	1090	1285
September . . .	112	146	959	1335	1	5	24	12	1096	1498
October	164	146	1243	1057	13	9	43	77	1463	1289
November . . .	136	150	1076	999	25	2	62	52	1299	1203
December . . .	164	164	1108	1012	5	3	124	128	1401	1307
Total	1549	1681	11455	12471	61	80	394	409	13459	14641

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.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS (TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1925).

There were five notifications received during the year. The Borough Veterinary Surgeon was accompanied by your Inspectors when the respective farms were visited. All cattle were examined and the suspected cows removed to the Public Abattoir, slaughtered and examined. In each case the diagnosis proved to be correct.

The carcasses were sent to the destructor.

The total amount of meat condemned and destroyed during the year was 10,248 lbs., as follows:—

Beasts.	Number Examined.			Cause.	Weight Condemned.	
	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.		Whole Carcasses. Lbs.	Parts of Carcasses. Lbs.
5 ...	—	—	—	Tuberculosis	2550	
38 ...	—	—	—	Tuberculosis		2811
— ...	—	—	3	Tuberculosis		78
— ...	—	—	1	Emaciated and Dropsical	129	
— ...	8	—	—	Asphyxiated	263	
1 ...	—	—	—	Septicæmia	520	
— ...	—	—	1	Hepatitis	160	
1 ...	—	—	—	Traumatic Pericarditis		70
3 ...	—	—	—	Actinomycosis		107
— ...	—	—	1	Rickets	60	
— ...	2	—	—	Unsound	55	
2 ...	1	—	—	Abscesses		95
2 ...	4	—	—	Injuries		173
2 ...	—	—	—	Unsound Chilled Beef		204
320 ...	256	2	30	Fluky and Diseased Livers and other organs, etc., and bruised meat		2973
					<hr/>	<hr/>
					3737	6511

Total weight in lbs. condemned, 10,248.

In addition 40 crates containing 1,200 lettuces and 112 lbs. of potatoes were condemned and destroyed.

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 whole of the work in this department is done by your own workmen. The house refuse from the most distant parts of the town is collected and deposited at the Destructor by motor, the rest of the ashes removal is done by team labour, involving the employment of six horses and carts and drivers, and 14 men loaders. The house refuse is incinerated in the Meldrums Destructor which is situated in the Electricity Works Yard.

All tins are sorted from the refuse, pressed and sold.

There are 12 dry ashpits and 10,916 portable refuse receptacles, the majority of which are ashes tubs. The latter are now being gradually replaced with portable galvanised bins provided with lids.

The following is a summary of work done from January 1st to December 31st, 1928—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
House Refuse to Destructor	12,594	10	3
Market Garbage to Destructor	187	6	0
	12,781	16	3

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	
Clinkers Removed by Motor from Destructor	5160	0	0	1032 Loads.
Sweepings to Various Tips				2278 ,,
Sweepings Deposited by Handcarts at Destructor				2082 ,,
Gully Wreck to Various Tips				945 ,,
Street Gullies Emptied				25476 ,,

Length of Streets Swept by Hand	2776 $\frac{3}{4}$ Miles.
Excreta to Sewage Works	471 Loads.
Excreta Pails Emptied	8193
Ashes Tubs Emptied	360172
Ashpits Emptied	680
Water Deposited on Streets	221 Loads
Snow Removed from Streets	12 ,,
Ashes Tubs and Dust Bins Added during the Year	88
Dust Bins Exchanged for Ashes Tubs	38

The 14 Public Urinals situated in various parts of the Borough are cleaned every day.

I am, Gentleman,

Yours obediently,

C. R. WALSH,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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