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DROYLSDEN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

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1938.

URBAN DISTRICT OF DROYLSDEN.

Area	1,010 acres
Population—	
At Census, 1931	13,277
Mid-year, 1938 (estimated)	23,710
Number of Houses—	
At Census, 1931	3,280
At end of 1938.. .. .	7,595
Average number of persons per house—	
At Census, 1931	4.05
At end of 1938.. .. .	3.13
Number of families (or separate occupiers)—	
At Census, 1931	3,366
Birth Rate for 1938	19.6
Death Rate for 1938	13.5
General Rate, 1938-39	14s. 11d. in the £
Rateable Value, 1938-39	£97,146
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£390

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
DROYLSDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report relating to the sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration and the vital statistics of the Urban District of Droylsden for the year 1938.

Social Conditions.

The population is almost entirely of an industrial character, being engaged mainly in cotton spinning and weaving, cloth finishing and dyeing, confectionery and manufactory of upholstery, but a large number of residents follow occupations in Manchester and the adjoining districts.

Droylsden is becoming more and more a dormitory of Manchester.

Birth Rate.

During the year the births of 466 infants (243 males and 223 females) were registered. Of these births 10 males and 5 females were illegitimate.

Taking the population at 23,710, the birth-rate for the year is 19.6 per 1,000, as compared with 19.2 per 1,000 last year, or an increased birth-rate of 0.4 per 1,000.

The mean birth-rate for the 5 years 1933 to 1937 is 15.4 per 1,000.

Death Rate.

During the year the deaths of 286 persons (148 males and 138 females) were registered.

This gives a death-rate of 13.5 per 1,000 against 12.9 last year, or an increased death-rate of 0.6 per 1,000.

The mean death-rate for the 5 years, 1933 to 1937, is 11.6 per 1,000.

Four women died in consequence of child-birth.

The above deaths include those of 32 children under one year of age. Of these deaths, one was of illegitimate birth.

Measured in proportion to the recorded births, this gives an infantile mortality of 68 per 1,000 births, as compared with 65 last year.

The mean rate of deaths under one year to 1,000 births during the 5 years, 1933 to 1937, is 58.

The death-rate from cancer is 1.39 as in the previous year. The maternal mortality rate decreased from 11.54 to 8.17.

**Vital Statistics of whole District during 1938 and
10 previous years.**

Year	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each year	Births		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Num- ber	Rate	Under 1 Year of age		At all ages	
				Num- ber	Rate per 1000 nett Births	Num- ber	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1928	13690	206	15.0	12	53	147	10.7
1929	13730	222	16.1	16	72	231	16.8
1930	13730	192	13.9	10	52	135	9.8
1931	13400	204	15.2	13	63	161	15.2
1932	14320	172	12.0	8	46	153	10.6
1933	15110	193	13.0	14	71	198	13.1
1934	16170	202	12.4	7	34	178	12.4
1935	17100	244	14.2	17	69	186	12.2
1936	19250	357	18.5	19	53	232	13.5
1937	21490	414	19.2	27	65	248	12.9
1938	23710	466	19.6	32	68	286	13.5

<i>Causes of Death</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	0	0
Measles	..	..	..	1	2
Diphtheria	..	..	..	2	3
Influenza	..	..	..	1	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	..	..	..	2	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	..	..	6	8
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	3	1
General Paralysis of the Insane	..	..	..	0	0
Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	..	..	18	15
Diabetes	..	..	..	1	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	..	..	..	4	8
Heart Disease	..	..	..	35	35
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	10	8
Bronchitis	..	..	..	8	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	12	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	1	0
Peptic Ulcer	..	..	..	2	0
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	..	..	..	1	1
Appendicitis	..	..	..	1	3
Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	4	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	2	1
Other Liver Diseases	..	..	..	0	3
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	..	..	..	6	4
Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	0	2
Other Puerperal Causes	..	..	..	0	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation, and Premature Birth, etc.	..	..	..	7	11
Other Deaths from Violence	..	..	..	10	3
Other Defined Diseases	..	..	..	8	8
Ill Defined or Not Known	..	..	..	0	0
Senility	..	..	..	1	6
Suicide	..	..	..	2	1
G. P. I. tubes, etc.	..	..	..	0	0
Syphilis	..	..	..	0	0
				<u>148</u>	<u>138</u>
Total	..	..	..		286
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	..	..	..	18	14
Total	..	..	..		32

**General Provision of Health Services in the Area.
Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local
Authority or by the County Council.**

A.—There are no Fever or Smallpox Hospitals in the District of the Council.

(1) **Tuberculosis.**—Sanatorium treatment of tuberculous patients is arranged for and provided by the Tuberculosis Department of the Lancashire County Council, whose Dispensary for this District is situated at Ashton-under-Lyne.

(2) **Maternity.**—Complicated maternity cases are sent to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, the District Infirmary and the Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Residents of Droylsden are now able to make use of the St. Mary's Hospital Maternity Unit. The Maternity Unit consists of a member of the visiting Obstetric Staff together with a nurse and the necessary equipment for dealing with emergencies. The services of the unit will be available when summoned by the doctor in charge of the case.

(3) **Children.**—A considerable number of children are treated each year at the voluntary Children's Hospitals in Manchester and the District Infirmary Ashton-under-Lyne.

(4) **Infectious Diseases.**—Under the terms of an agreement with the Manchester Corporation, cases which cannot be isolated satisfactorily at home, and with the exception of smallpox cases, are sent for isolation and treatment at the Monsall Hospital, Manchester. Payment is made by the Council at the rate of actual cost.

(5) **Smallpox.**—The Council retain one bed for Smallpox at the Hyde Smallpox Hospital at a rental of £18 per annum, and are entitled to further beds for this disease up to the limit of accommodation at the Hospital at increased fees for maintenance.

- (6) **Puerperal Pyrexia.**—Cases requiring Hospital treatment are received at the Manchester Corporation's Hospital at Monsall.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area.

Voluntary Hospitals.

The following donations were contributed by the Urban District Council during 1938 :—

	£	s.	d.
Manchester Royal Infirmary	31	0	0
Ancoats Hospital, Manchester	11	11	0
District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne	10	10	0
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester	5	5	0
Christies' Hospital, Manchester	3	3	0
Droylsden Sick Nursing Association	10	0	0
	£71	9	0

Ambulance Facilities.

Non-Infectious Cases.

Agreements exist between the Manchester City Council and the Ashton-under-Lyne Corporation for the use by Droylsden residents of the Motor Ambulances belonging to these two Authorities.

During the past year the Ambulances were used on 406 occasions, *i.e.*, Manchester Ambulances 164 cases, and Ashton-under-Lyne Ambulances 242 cases.

Infectious Cases.

In cases of Infectious Disease, other than Smallpox, the motor ambulances of the Manchester Corporation are requisitioned for the conveyance of patients to (and from if required) the Monsall Infectious Diseases Hospital. For Smallpox the Hyde Corporation Motor Ambulances are used.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Child Welfare Centre in Fairfield Avenue is under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

There is no provision in the area for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria. Droylsden patients convalescing from other fevers at Monsall Hospital are at liberty to be tested for their susceptibility to and immunised against diphtheria free of charge while in hospital.

Mortuary.

Arrangements have been made with the Public Assistance Committee to make use of the new and up-to-date Mortuary at the Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Dr. A. W. Laing, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Dp. Bact., Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. John E. Hart, C.R.S.I., M.I., Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector.

The office of Medical Officer of Health is part-time. One-half of the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector is paid to the Urban District Council by the County Council under arrangement with the Ministry of Health.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Droylsden Sick Nursing Association employs one whole-time Nurse for the visitation of the sick, but there are no arrangements in existence for the nursing of infectious diseases, *e.g.*, measles, etc., in the home.

Midwives.

There are three registered midwives residing and practising in the district, two of whom are County Council Midwives.

Public Assistance Committee.

The following particulars have been kindly supplied to me by Mr. H. Hall Daley, Clerk to the Guardians' Committee of the Lancashire County Council Public Assistance Committee, No. 16 (Ashton-under-Lyne) Area :—

Number of persons from Droylsden admitted to Darn-ton House and Lake Hospital during 1938.—Men, 86 ; Women, 189 ; Children, 114 ; Total, 389.

Cost of Out-door Relief.—£6,777 17s. 10d.

The foregoing regulations, etc., are administered satisfactorily.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The water supply is derived from the service mains of the Manchester Corporation, and there is a constant supply of water of excellent quality.

Only one house is not supplied with water direct from the mains, such house deriving its water supply from a spring.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage of the district is on the combined system, and the sewers are so constructed that the sewage finds its way by gravitation to the Sewage Disposal Works at Sunny Bank.

With the exception of 16 houses, all the dwelling-houses, mills and workshops in the district are connected with the main drainage system.

Closet Accommodation.

Droylsden is, with the exception of 6 Pail Closets, a 100 per cent. water-closet town. Further, the old obsolete type of fixed midden and ashpit for refuse at the rear of houses has been totally superseded by the provision of receptacles of the portable type, and now, the whole of the bins in the district consist of good sanitary galvanised metal ashtins of standard size and shape.

The following statement gives particulars of the closet accommodation, etc., in the District at the end of the year 1938 :—

No. of Fresh W.C.'s	No. of Waste W.C.'s	No. of Pail Closets	No. of Middens	No. of Dry Ashpits	No. of Portable Receptacles for Refuse
7,563	.. 26	.. 6	.. 0	.. 0	.. 7,423

The District Council supply new galvanised metal ash-tins and covers on request to owners of property at a small margin over the cost price, and this service is very greatly appreciated. During the past year new ashtins have been supplied from stock to 358 houses.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.

3,392 loads of dry refuse weighing 4,810 tons were collected.

This refuse was disposed of as follows :—

Burned in Refuse Destructor 4,810 tons

Taking the average population for the year at 23,710 and the average number of houses at 7,600, the weight of domestic refuse collected was equivalent to 4 cwts. 0 qr. 6 lbs. per head, or 202 tons 17 cwts. per 1,000 of the population per annum, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. per inhabited house per annum.

The cost of removal of all domestic refuse was £1,684.

This is equivalent to 7s. 0d. per ton, or £71 0s. 0d. per 1,000 of the population, and 1s. 5d. per head per annum.

120 loads of trade refuse, weighing approximately 147 tons, were delivered at the Works, all of which was burnt in the Refuse Destructor.

The sum of £33 16s. 3d. was received for the removal of trade refuse.

Scavenging of Roads and Streets.

The scavenging of roads and streets in the District is carried out by the Surveyor, and is not under the control of the Sanitary Department.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspections of premises in the District made by the Sanitary Inspector :—

Number of Premises.

Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	164
Works in connection with deposited plans	..	..				6
Cowsheds and Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	96
Milkshops and Carts	..	..	..	..	..	112
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	84
Fish Friers	..	..	..	..	..	82
Slaughterhouses and Butchers' Shops	..	..				320
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	60
Piggeries, Stables, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	20
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	630
Housing Defects	..	..	..	..	..	422
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	—
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	..	..				400
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	32
Disinfections	..	..	..	..	..	264
Smoke Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	312
Miscellaneous Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	4
						—
Total						3,008
						—

These inspections resulted in the discovery of nuisances as follows :—

**Summary of Sanitary Improvements Effected.
Public Health Acts, 1875-1925, and
Housing Act, 1936.**

Interior of Houses—

Slopstone Wastes Renewed or Repaired	..	..	12
New Slopstones fixed	..	..	6
Floors Repaired	..	..	48
Dirty Houses Cleansed	..	..	36
Fireplaces Repaired	..	..	15
Ventilation Improved..	..	..	10

Exterior of Houses—

Defective Roofs made waterproof	..	..	112
Defective Eaves Gutters and Fallpipes Repaired	..	..	36
Dampness Abated	..	..	8

Yards and Outbuildings—

Yards Re-Paved or Repaired	..	..	32
Nuisances from Tea Leaves, etc., abated	..	..	10

Drainage—

Drains Opened and Cleansed from Obstruction	..	..	28
Defective Drains Re-constructed	..	..	5

Water Closets—

Water Closets Repaired	..	..	46
Water Closet Cisterns Repaired	..	..	10

House Refuse Accommodation—

Dilapidated Dust Bins Renewed	..	..	358
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Notices Served.

Legal Notices Issued	..	..	8
Letters or Informal Notices Issued	..	..	42
Notices sent to Schools <i>re</i> Infectious Diseases	..	..	124

At the end of 1938 there remained 30 Notices not complied with, these being mainly Notices served during the latter part of the year.

Shops.

No action was taken during the year under the provision of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to restriction and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences.

Smoke Abatement.

The District Council have not instituted any proceedings with a view to smoke abatement, but 2 warnings have been issued by this Department during the year. The Police have taken up cases against residents on account of the chimneys of their dwelling-houses being on fire.

A general concession of two minutes black smoke per half-hour is allowed, and 324 observations of smoke from factory, etc., chimneys were made. This allowance was observed to be exceeded on 2 occasions.

The Council is a constituent member of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public or privately owned baths in the area.

Schools.

The sanitary condition and water supply of the five day schools is generally good. It has not been found necessary during the year to close any schools for the purpose of checking the spread of infectious disease.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Ninety-three houses were found to be infested with bed bugs. Disinfection was promptly effected in every case. The method employed was spraying with Konax, which was carried out by the Sanitary Authority.

HOME OFFICE FORM 572.

By request of the Secretary of State the following information relative to the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1910, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework is given :—

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of			18
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)	
Factories with mechanical power	132	12	—	
Factories without mechanical power	126	6	—	
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	
Total	258	18	—	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	—	—
Want of Ventilation	2	2	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	3	3	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient	—	—	—	—
{ Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	—	—
{ Not Separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
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) Order, 1921)				
TOTAL	10	10	—	—

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	143
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	163
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	62
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	62
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	None
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	25

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ..	10
--	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	138
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :	
(a) By owners	138
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	25
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By owners	25
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

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

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

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

4.—Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding :—

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 1936		127
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	..	127
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	..	889
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year		none
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		2
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases		15
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding		none

Inspection and Supervision of Food.**Milk Supply. Milkshops.**

There are 80 registered retail purveyors of milk, other than cowkeepers, and 5 dairies.

Frequent inspections are made to ascertain that a proper standard of cleanliness is maintained. The danger of milk contamination is present at most cowsheds and milkshops, and steps are taken to guard against this as far as possible.

There is one firm licensed to produce pasteurised milk.

There are seven milk distributors in Droylsden who hold special licences for the sale of milk bearing the following designation :—" Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)."

Twenty-two samples of milk for the purpose of analysis were taken by the police authorities under the Food and Drugs Acts, and all were found to come up to standard except two, which were deficient of 6% fat and 1% solids not fat respectively—(Further samples are being taken.)

Tuberculosis in Milk.

During the year 61 samples of milk were submitted by the Droylsden Urban District Council for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli.

The results of the 61 samples are as follows :—

	<i>No. of samples.</i>		<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
Pasteurised Milk	..	10	.. nil	.. 10
Untreated Milk	..	51	.. 8	.. 43

The percentage of positive untreated milk is 15.6, or one in every six. No "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)" milk was tested.

Eight specimens of milk were taken by the County Council—4 Pasteurised and 4 Non-Pasteurised. None of the specimens were positive.

Cowsheds.

Registered Cow-keepers number five, and cowsheds are registered at five premises.

Meat Shops and Slaughterhouses.

There are 27 retail meat shops and two slaughter-houses in Droylsden. With the exception of the local Co-operative Society's premises there is no extensive slaughtering taking place in the district.

The slaughter-houses are visited daily.

During the year 6 Beasts' Heads, 8 Beasts' Livers, 58 Pigs' Heads and 18 Pigs' Plucks were destroyed by reason of Tuberculosis.

One Pig's Carcase, one Forequarters of Beef, 1 Beast's Head, 9 Beasts' Livers, 2 Pigs' Heads, 4 Pigs' Plucks and 2 Sheep's Plucks were destroyed as unwholesome meat.

Bakehouses.

At the end of 1938 there were 38 bakehouses on the register, and these have been found to be well kept, cleanly and in good structural condition.

I am indebted to Supt. A. Proffitt for the following Report of Samples taken in Droylsden during 1938 :—

Ashton-under-Lyne Division.

Return of Samples under Food and Drugs Acts
taken in Droylsden during 1938.

Description of Sample taken	No. of Samples taken	Result of Analysis
Milk	22	20 Genuine. 1 deficient 6% fat. 1 deficient 1% solids not fat. Further samples are being taken.
Butter	2	Genuine
Ground Ginger	1	do.
Sausages	1	do.
Dripping	1	do.
Pepper	1	do.
Condensed Milk	1	do.
Gravy Browning	1	do.
Tea	1	do.
Margarine	2	do.
Cheese	2	do.
Ammoniated Tablets of Quinine	1	do.
Camphorated Oil	1	do.
Lard	1	do.
Vegetables (Canned Peas) ..	1	do.
Barley (Pearl)	1	do.
Eucalyptus Oil	1	do.
Borax	1	do.
Total	42	

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Disease.

Scarlet Fever showed an increase, the number of cases notified was 78 against 60 last year.

Forty-six cases of Diphtheria were notified. This is a decrease of Twenty cases compared with 1937.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept at the Local Police Station, at the Council Offices, and at my residence, and is available at any time, day or night. Under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order of 1910, 6,400,000 units of Diphtheria Anti-toxin were supplied during the year for administration to

patients residing in the district. No other sera or vaccines were issued, nor has any use been made of the "Schick" and "Dick" tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively.

Disinfection.

During the year 264 premises were disinfected by the Council as follows :—

Infectious Diseases, 146 ; Deaths, 8 ; Vermin, 93 ; Schools, 17 ; Total, 264.

A Steam Disinfector (Alliott's patent) is installed at the destructor works.

A small Hand Van is available for conveying infected articles to the Disinfecting Station.

Owing to insufficient means of isolation at home, 30 cases of Scarlet Fever, 32 cases of Diphtheria, 7 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia, 2 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever and 1 case of Erysipelas were removed to Hospital for Infectious Disease.

Enquiries as to the source of infection in the cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Erysipelas, etc., generally lead to very inconclusive results, and the activities of the Department are directed principally towards preventing the spread of the infection after definite cases have been encountered.

The following Pathological Specimens were submitted to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory for examination :—

Sputum, 17 ; Throat and Nose Swabs for Diphtheria, 154.

In addition the following specimens were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year :—

Sputum, 116 ; Of these, 49 were positive and 67 were negative for Tuberculosis.

Throat and Nose Swabs for Diphtheria, 41.

Naso-Pharyngeal Swabs for Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 4.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1938.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.

Notifiable Diseases	Under 1	YEARS											65 and over	Total cases notified	Cases	
		1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	admitted to Hospital			deaths	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	5	7	10	30	15	7	4	—	—	—	—	78	30	—	—
Diphtheria	—	2	6	4	22	8	1	2	—	1	—	—	46	32	3	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	7	7	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	2	3	1	5	3	3	1	19	1	1	11	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	5	2	11	2	2	1	—
Totals ..	2	7	13	14	54	26	9	17	9	9	3	164	74	74	6	—

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the last 10 years :—

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Smallpox ..	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ..	11	25	5	8	4	3	7	46	66	46
Erysipelas ..	11	3	6	5	5	8	10	3	5	11
Scarlet Fever	34	37	65	70	53	40	65	72	60	78
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Puerperal Fever ..	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	1	1	3	1	2	3	1	5	7
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	19	14	15	16	16	17	15	27	24	36
Other forms of Tuberculosis	9	9	15	7	6	6	17	16	13	10
Pneumonia ..	41	28	21	21	32	27	33	34	19	19
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	1
Totals ..	134	123	131	131	120	103	153	203	194	210

Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1938 :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
10—15 ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 ..	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
20—25 ..	2	5	2	1	1	3	—	—
25—35 ..	1	5	—	—	1	1	—	—
35—45 ..	4	5	1	1	1	3	—	—
45—55 ..	3	2	—	—	1	1	1	—
55—65 ..	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ..	14	22	5	5	6	8	2	1
	36		10		14		3	

Notification of Tuberculosis by medical practitioners is carried out with promptness.

On receipt of notification of cases of Tuberculosis particulars are transmitted through the County Medical Officer of Health to the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer, at Ashton-under-Lyne, who arranges for the domiciliary, dispensary, sanatorium or pulmonary hospital treatment of the patients.

During the year environmental reports were received relating to 33 houses, and there were 3 housing defects reported to this Department.

Importance is attached to the disinfection of the homes of tuberculosis subjects, and this is performed at every available opportunity.

Arrangements are also in force whereby notification is received from the County Council of the proposed admission of a patient into Sanatorium or Pulmonary Hospital, and

from the Registrar of Deaths on the registration of a death from tuberculosis, and in each of these cases thorough disinfection of the premises is carried out.

During the year 30 houses were disinfected after tuberculosis.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade and no compensation has been paid.

The following Report on Tuberculosis has been received from Dr. G. Fletcher, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., Consultant Tuberculosis Officer :—

4th February, 1939.

URBAN DISTRICT OF DROYLSDEN.

Report of Tuberculosis Officer for the year 1938.

During the year 1938, 46 notifications of patients suffering from tuberculosis were received. Of these, 35 were notified as suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, and 10 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, and 1 combined case.

Of the 35 pulmonary cases, 25 were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, 4 had negative sputum, 4 had no sputum, and in 2 cases the sputum was not examined. The combined case had no sputum.

The 10 non-pulmonary cases are classified as follows :—

Glands 2, Spine 1, Skin 1, Hip 1, Abdomen 2, Meninges 1, Ischium 1 and Arm 1.

Seven of the notified cases died during the year, (6 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary).

Forty-two of the cases applied for treatment. In the remaining 4 cases no application was made for the following reasons :—Died immediately after notification 2. In Asylum 1. Refused to apply, 1.

Of the patients who applied for treatment, 9 were sent to Sanatoria, 9 to Pulmonary Hospital, 2 to Orthopaedic Hospital and 1 to Skin Hospital. The remaining 21 cases were under Dispensary supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, a number of patients are sent to the Dispensary for diagnosis. During the year 55 new cases were sent for diagnosis by the doctors, School Medical Officers, etc. The number of re-attendances of old patients at the Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment was 420.

Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite tuberculosis, and 33 of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting, special attention is paid to open cases, *i.e.*, cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. On the 1st January, 1938, there were 40 such cases known to be living in the district. On the 31st December, 1938, there were 49 positive cases living. These figures include quiescent and arrested cases.

Twelve of the positive cases died during the year. Five positive cases removed from the district during the year.

The condition as to isolation of the positive cases was as follows :—Separate room, 37 ; separate bed, 20 ; unable to have separate bed, 2.

Eighteen of the positive cases were in institution for treatment and isolation at some time during the year.

The number of positive cases living at 31st December, 1938, who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1938 was 26 ; the other 23 had either negative or no sputum.

Of the 26 cases who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1938, 10 had separate rooms, 11 had separate beds, and 5 were in institution at the end of the year.

Three housing defects were reported during the year, and these had been remedied by the end of the year.

One hundred and sixteen specimens of sputum were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these, 49 were positive and 67 were negative.

During the year 1938, 26 cases were discharged from institutions as follows:—Sanatoria, 9; Pulmonary Hospital, 13; Orthopaedic Hospital, 4;

The results on discharge were as follows:—Improved, 5; I.s.q., 3; dead, 7; quiescent or arrested, 8; diagnosis not confirmed 2; worse 1.

During the year there were no deaths from tuberculosis where the cases had not been notified previously.

(Signed) G. FLETCHER,

Consultant Tuberculosis Officer.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. LAING,

Medical Officer of Health.

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