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DROYLSDEN  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# Annual Report

OF THE


Medical Officer of Health.

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**1949**

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J. Tranter & Co., Manchester, 1.



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URBAN DISTRICT OF DROYLSDEN  
HEALTH COMMITTEE  
**DROYLSDEN**  
**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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# **Annual Report**

**OF THE**

**Medical Officer of Health.**

---

**1949**

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J. Tranter & Co., Manchester, 1.

## URBAN DISTRICT OF DROYLSDEN

### HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as at 31st December, 1949)

*Chairman:*

R. PENDLEBURY

*Vice-Chairman:*

E. JAMISON

*Members:*

F. Boam	J. Mort
G. Dale, J.P.	C. Parker
J. Field	J. A. Taylor
F. Hilson	Mrs. B. F. Wignall, M.B.E., C.C.
J. Hughes	J. Wild, M.M.

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

*Medical Officer of Health:*

ALAN S. SIMPSON, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

*Acting Assistant Medical Officer of Health:*

W. J. ELWOOD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Sanitary Inspectors:*

JOHN E. HART, C.R.S.I., M.I., Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

ALAN T. TRAYNOR, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Smoke Inspector. (Commenced duties 1st February, 1949).

E. M. HOWELLS, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Commenced duties 1st February, 1949. Resigned August, 1949).

DOUGLAS G. MASLING, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Commenced duties 1st November, 1949).

*Clerk:*

Miss M. PLUMB

# Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health 1949.

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Council Offices,  
Droylsden.

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

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Wignall, and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1949.

With regard to the Vital Statistics for the area it might be said that anticipation of the 1951 Census overshadows any great concern over present rates based on estimated population.

Satisfactory features to note are a complete absence of diphtheria notifications during 1949, a very creditable achievement of the County's immunisation campaign, and an absence of any maternal deaths.

The Infantile Mortality rate might be improved upon.

Your sanitary staff has been increased from one to three Inspectors early in 1949, which has been a very necessary and satisfactory advance. The absence of a Senior Sanitary Inspector to co-ordinate and direct the work of the Sanitary Department is, in my view, regrettable; with the rather limited time when I am able to devote in directly advising and supervising the department, the absence of one senior responsible Inspector is a very serious drawback in the smooth administration of your services.

There remains the major problem with which the Authority is confronted, viz., the provision of adequate housing.

Approximately 800 two to three-bedroom type houses are still required to rehouse applicants who are living in lodgings, and in addition some 200 for applicants who are already tenants of houses.

A waiting list of approximately 800, with a completion rate of new houses in 1949 of approximately 20 to 30 indicates the urgency of the problem.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council,

Your obedient servant,

ALAN S. SIMPSON,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## 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 manufacture of upholstery; there is also a large number of small retail tradespeople.

Many of the residents, however, follow occupations in Manchester and the adjoining districts.

With the exception of some very old houses and some blocks of houses, the standard of houses generally is fair. The prevailing type is 2—3 bedrooms. Approximately 50 per cent. of the houses have been built since 1932. Most of the remaining houses have no provision for baths, and washing facilities are inadequate. Dampness is a frequent defect among the new houses. There is rapid deterioration of some of the property, both new and old.

The ratio of the estimated population to the number of houses in 1949 is 3.2 persons per house.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,010 acres
Population—										
At Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,270
At June, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,580
Number of Houses—										
At Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,280
At End of 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,204
General Rate for 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17s. 6d. in the £
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£111,018
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate (Estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£449

## VITAL STATISTICS

To facilitate reference, the statistics are given below without comment. Further information is presented in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the Appendix. The significance of the figures is considered in the next section.



## BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	201	196	397
Illegitimate ... ..	8	4	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	209	200	409
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate 15.4 per 1,000 population.

## STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Still Births ... ..	5	6	11

Rate per 1,000 (live and still births) 26.

## DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths ... ..	148	135	283

Death rate 13.3 per 1,000 population (adjusted).

## INFANT DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	9	6	15
Illegitimate ... ..	—	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9	7	16
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infantile Mortality Rate 39 per 1,000 live births.

Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate 38 per 1,000 live births.

Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate 83 per 1,000 illegitimate live births.

## MATERNAL DEATHS

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)
(a) From Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	0.00
(b) From other Maternal causes ... ..	—	0.00

## DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC CAUSES

(a) From Measles (all ages) ... ..	0
(b) From Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	0
(c) From Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ... ..	0
(d) From Diphtheria ... ..	0
(e) From Cancer (all ages) ... ..	45
Cancer Death Rate 1.69.	
(f) From Tuberculosis (all forms) ... ..	13
Phthisis Death Rate 0.45.	

## Notes on Vital Statistics

(a) *Population.*

In so far as the numbers in a community form the basis for all statistical work including the vital statistics, one will look forward to the 1951 Census as an item of considerable importance.

An interval of 20 years without a national enumeration of the people throws an unwarrantable burden on the machinery of estimation and when the data for such estimations are drawn from sources whose primary functions are far removed from demography, some anxiety regarding the accuracy of the Registrar General's estimations is excusable.

In view, therefore, of the near approach of a Census no comments will be made on the birth and death rates.

(b) *Maternal Death Rate.*

The Maternal Death Rate was again zero.

(c) *Still Births and Infant Deaths.*

The still births numbered 11, giving a rate of 26 per 1,000 total births. The Infantile Mortality Rate was 39 per 1,000 live births.

(d) *Causes of Death.*

A reference to Table 4 in the Appendix will show that this table has been amplified this year in order to illustrate

the relative frequency of certain group causes of death expressed as a percentage of the total deaths occurring in the area.

A reference to the last column of this table shows that as might be expected, diseases of the heart and cardio vascular system contribute the largest quota to the 283 deaths occurring.

Respiratory diseases and Cancer almost tie for second place, whilst strokes and cerebral vascular conditions occupy the fourth place. Fifth place includes all the infectious diseases in their broadest sense.

Lastly come the deaths attributed to prematurity and congenital conditions which occur in the very early days of life.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(See Table 5 in Appendix).

There is nothing outstanding which calls for comment in the incidence of Infectious Diseases.

Diphtheria claimed no victims—a very creditable result of the County's Immunisation Scheme.

### Disinfection

During the year, 80 premises were disinfected by the Council as follows:—Tuberculosis 32, Scarlet Fever 48. In addition 7 Schools were disinfected. A steam disinfector (Manlove Alliot's patent) is installed at the Destructor Works.

The following pathological specimens were submitted to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory for examination:—36 throat and nose swabs for diphtheria, 23 swabs for typhoid, salmonella or dysentery group, and 3 sputum.

In addition, 2 throat and nose swabs for diphtheria and 2 for sputum were examined at the Pathological Laboratory of the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne.

## Tuberculosis

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1949

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respira- tory		Non-Respi- ratory		Respira- tory		Non-Respi- ratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
2— .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5— .....	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—
10— .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15— .....	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
20— .....	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
25— .....	5	4	—	1	1	1	—	—
35— .....	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
45— .....	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55— .....	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
65— .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
75 and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>
	28		6		12		1	

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 35 houses.

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 32 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.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### Hospitals

There are no hospitals of any type in the area.

- (1) *General*.—Since 5th July, 1948, the Manchester Regional Hospital Board control all the hospitals which might serve the Droylsden area; these include the Manchester General Hospitals as well as Monsall Infectious Diseases Hospital. Under the same Regional Board but controlled by the Ashton, Hyde and Glossop Hospital Management Committee, are the two General Hospitals in Ashton-under-Lyne (District Infirmary and Lake Hospital) and the Hyde Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Droylsden residents can, and do, use both Ashton and Manchester General Hospitals.

- (2) *Infectious Diseases*.—Monsall Hospital continues to take cases from Droylsden, but no charges are now made for this service.
- (3) *Maternity*.—Maternity cases are admitted to the Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne, or to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.
- (4) *Smallpox*.—The Regional Hospital Board would indicate which Hospital in their area was to be used for a case of smallpox should it arise.
- (5) *Puerperal Pyrexia*.—Cases requiring hospital treatment are received at Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

### Tuberculosis

The Regional Hospital Board are responsible for the direction and control of the Tuberculosis Dispensaries which prior to 5th July, 1948, were under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

Sanatorium treatment, where necessary, is provided and the Dispensary is in Lees Street, Ashton-under-Lyne. New cases attend on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. (and on the first Tuesday in the month there is an additional session at 6 p.m.) also on Friday at 10 a.m. A doctor's letter should invariably be presented.

### Local Authority Services

Droylsden is one of the six constituent districts of Health Division No. 17 of the Lancashire County Council who are the Local Authority for the area and provide for the following services in Droylsden:—

1. Maternity and Child Welfare.
2. School Medical Services.
3. Midwifery.
4. Health Visiting.
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance Services.
8. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.
9. Domestic Help.
10. Mental Health.
11. Health Education and Propaganda.

The above services are administered by the Lancashire County Council acting through their No. 17 Divisional Health Committee.

The Medical Officer locally responsible for the above Divisional Health Service is:—

Dr. Alan S. Simpson,  
 Divisional Medical Officer,  
 Divisional Health Offices,  
 St. Michael's Square,  
 Ashton-under-Lyne.

**Combined School Clinic and Child Welfare Centre,  
Fairfield Avenue, Droylsden**

The only clinic in the area is that in Fairfield Avenue, which is under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

It is an all-purpose clinic, meeting school health (including dental), child welfare and ante-natal requirements.

School children should attend for treatment of minor ailments on Thursday mornings (school holidays included); child welfare clinics are held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons; ante-natal clinics on three Mondays out of four, and immunisation and vaccination sessions on certain Fridays. A school dentist is in attendance and cases are seen by appointment; expectant mothers and children below school age also receive dental treatment when necessary.

**Midwives**

There are three Lancashire County Council midwives residing and practising in the district, viz.:—

Nurse Waterhouse, 224 Greenside Lane, Droylsden.

Phone: DRO 1014.

Nurse Whitehead, 67 Scott Road, Droylsden.

Phone: DRO 1006.

Nurse Connley, 120 Clough Road, Droylsden.

Phone: DRO 1141.

**Nursing in the Home**

The Droylsden Sick Nursing Association (Market Street, Droylsden, Phone DRO 1622) employs two whole-time nurses, Mrs. Madden and Miss Holt, for the visitation of the sick, but there are no arrangements for the nursing of infectious diseases, e.g., measles, in the home.

**Ambulance Service**

Headquarters: Lord Street Garage, Ashton-under-Lyne.  
Phone: ASH 2297/8.



It is proposed to set up a sub-station in Droylsden in the near future, and work was begun on this during the year.

### Day Nurseries

There are at present four day nurseries in the area, viz.:—

1. Droylsden No. 1, The Square, Fairfield.
2. Droylsden No. 2, Lewis Road.
3. Droylsden No. 3, Greenside Lane (Opened 1st August, 1949).
4. Droylsden No. 4, Fold Street (Opened 28th May, 1949).

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Embodying the Report of the Sanitary Inspectors  
for the Year, 1949

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
DROYLSDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Wignall, and Gentlemen,

During the year 1949 housing repairs again occupied a large proportion of the Department's working time. Little difficulty was experienced in the supply of materials generally, with the exception of timber which remains in very short supply. The Officers carried out many inspections for the licensing of this commodity on behalf of the Board of Trade.

In regard to the refuse collection service, the year was outstanding in that the Department acquired the services of four additional employees, and a new refuse collection vehicle. This enabled the institution of a regular weekly collection of household refuse, and this regular collection has been consistently maintained despite reductions in staff owing to holidays and sickness.

The Refuse Destructor, which, at the beginning of the year, was incinerating only one in every ten loads of refuse collected, was closed down as an uneconomical proposition, and as a temporary measure all refuse was tipped on the uncontrolled tip at the Sewage Works.

It was hoped at the earliest opportunity to commence controlled tipping, this to continue until such time as the Destructor could be reconstructed. To discourage the very large number of persons using the tip, a tipping charge was introduced.

The year was also remarkable for the exceptional position which arose in the Waste Paper market; with little or no warning the market suffered a complete slump, and many Authorities found themselves sustaining financial loss, and, therefore, discontinued the collection of waste paper, whilst

some disposed of accumulated stocks by tipping or burning. The Department was fortunate, however, in having a contract with the Board Mill, and although the market price fell, it was found possible to continue to collect the paper, and indeed, to show a small profit.

The advent of the new statutory provisions in relation to the production, distribution, and sale of Milk involved a great deal of effort in the reinspection of premises, and the licensing and registration of all the people concerned.

Another feature of the year was the introduction of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, which replaced the old Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act of 1919, whilst other new legislation included the Housing Act, 1949.

A pilot survey to determine the extent of overcrowding in the District was commenced towards the end of the year, and this is still occupying the attention of the Department.

A very great deal of work was carried out during the year in the reorganisation and resettling of the Department consequent upon the arrival of the Additional Inspectors, and the removing of the Department into its new office accommodation.

May we take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council, and Officials, for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

We are,

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council,

Your obedient servants,

J. E. HART,

A. T. TRAYNOR,

D. G. MASLING,

*Sanitary Inspectors*

## HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949

## 1.—Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	514
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,799
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	11
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	503

## 2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	343
---	-----

## 3.—Action under statutory powers during the year:—

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

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

## B. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	171
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	160
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

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

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses 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

## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

2,422 visits to 718 premises were made during the year. 1,676 defects or nuisances were discovered of which 1,491 were abated. This involved the service of 610 informal and 171 formal notices.

Analysis of Complaints received and dealt with during  
the year 1949

Chimney Pots ... ..	4
Chimney Stacks ... ..	3
Roof Leadwork ... ..	7
Flues ... ..	8
Roofs ... ..	108
Eaves Gutters ... ..	91
Brickwork ... ..	47
Pointing ... ..	78
Window Frames ... ..	108
Parting Beads ... ..	6
Sash Cords ... ..	37
Glazing ... ..	7
Window Sills ... ..	6
House Doors ... ..	58
Door Steps ... ..	3
Footpaths ... ..	90
Yard Gates ... ..	16
Boundary Walls ... ..	12
Water Closet Roofs ... ..	10
Water Closet Soil Pipes ... ..	2
Water Closet Cisterns ... ..	15
Water Closet Seats ... ..	12
Water Closet Pedestal Basins ... ..	23
Rainwater Pipes ... ..	23
Ceiling Plaster ... ..	87
Wall Plaster ... ..	177
Dampness ... ..	48
Fireplaces and Kitchen Ranges ... ..	49
Wash Hand Basins ... ..	16
Supply of Water (Internal) ... ..	63
Skirting Boards ... ..	23
Floor Boards ... ..	69
Stairs and Hand Rails ... ..	5
Washboilers ... ..	5
Sinks ... ..	13
Sink Waste Pipes ... ..	30

Paved Floors ... ..	15
Water Under Floor ... ..	14
Yard Surfaces ... ..	6
Defective Drains ... ..	37
Choked Drains ... ..	39
Dustbins ... ..	65
Pail Closets ... ..	1
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 24, Sewers ... ..	23
Verminous Premises ... ..	10
Filthy Premises ... ..	4
Nuisance from Hens ... ..	2
Nuisance from Animals ... ..	1
Noxious Odours ... ..	6
Refuse Tips ... ..	4
Unauthorised Tipping ... ..	2
Gas Fittings ... ..	1
Waste of Water (Referred to M.C.W.W.) ... ..	12
Owner-Occupiers (Advised) ... ..	6
Inspections referred to the Surveyor ... ..	71

### Water Supply

Manchester Corporation's water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. During the year two samples were taken for chemical tests, and four samples for bacteriological tests, and all were completely satisfactory.

### Sewerage

Manchester Corporation took over Droylsden's sewerage in June, 1939; with the exception of 20 houses which were built in 1938 below the existing sewer level and necessitated the provision of a cesspool, sewage is treated by Manchester Corporation at the Davyhulme Sewage Works.

### Closet Accommodation

Droylsden is, with the exception of four 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 the houses have been totally superseded by the provision of receptacles of

the portable type, and now all the bins in the district are metal ashbins.

The Council supplies new galvanised metal ashbins and covers on request to owners of property at a small margin over the cost price, and this service is greatly appreciated. During the past year, new ashbins have been supplied to 420 houses.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food

#### 1. MILK.

Number of Dairy Farms in District	...	...	...	...	3
Number of Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	7
Number of premises selling bottled milk	...	...	...	...	57
Number of inspections made at Dairy Farms and Purveyors premises	...	...	...	...	100

Fifty-five samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. Forty-two were satisfactory, and thirteen unsatisfactory.

#### 2. MEAT INSPECTION.

The following meat was inspected during the year, and voluntarily surrendered to the Department for destruction, after having been certified as unfit for human consumption:—

Beef	...	...	...	...	231 lb. (Tuberculous)
Pig's Head	...	...	...	...	12 lb. (Tuberculous)
Mutton	...	...	...	...	30 lb.
Pork	...	...	...	...	16 lb.
Ham	...	...	...	...	22 lb.
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	287 lb.

#### 3. OTHER FOODS.

The following foodstuffs were inspected, and voluntarily surrendered to the Department for destruction, after having been certified as unfit for human consumption:—

Assorted Tinned Goods	...	...	...	...	3,398 tins
Butter	...	...	...	...	48 lb.
Lard	...	...	...	...	4 lb.
Fish (Mixed)	...	...	...	...	5 stone



#### 4. ICE-CREAM.

Thirteen applications were received during the year for registration of premises for the sale of ice-cream under Section 116 of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938.

Twelve premises were registered after inspection, and in one case registration was refused.

Two samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, and both were found to be unsatisfactory. One case was referred to the Manchester Corporation in whose area the ice-cream was manufactured, and the other case was followed up by the Department's Inspector.

#### 5. FOOD PREPARATION PREMISES.

Seven Fish Frying premises, and four Bakehouses were inspected during the year, and several defects found were remedied after informal action. Particular attention was paid to sanitary accommodation in fish frying premises where dining-rooms were operated.

#### 6. FOOD HYGIENE.

The attention of many food handlers was called to the necessity for general food hygiene, and quantities of literature and posters on this subject were distributed in food preparing premises.

#### **Eradication of Bed Bugs**

Ten premises were found to be infested with bed bugs. Some were treated by spraying with approved insecticides in accordance with the practice laid down. In other cases, where it was felt that the responsibility lay with the occupier, action was taken under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

#### **Rodent Control**

Eighty complaints of rat infestation were received during the year; this involved 440 visits by the Rodent Operator and the Sanitary Inspectors.

In addition, treatment of the sewers was carried out at the recognised times under the direction of a representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Rodent Operator continued his survey of the district, when not engaged in following up specific complaints.

### Stables and Piggeries

Twenty-seven visits were made to stables and piggeries in the district. All were found to be in order, but during the year all occupiers of these premises were served with notice under Section 80 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to remove manure regularly at seven-day intervals. This action was taken to prevent the breeding of the common house fly and other pests.

### Smoke Abatement

During the year nine boilerhouses were visited, and fuel consumption conditions discussed with the Engineers and Firemen concerned in an effort to achieve active co-operation in reducing smoke emissions. A survey of all steam-raising installations in the district was commenced.

The Department, towards the end of the year, suggested to the Regional Smoke Abatement Committee that the founding of a Joint Scheme for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution in this area would be of benefit to all Authorities concerned, since it would not only reveal the true extent of pollution, but also might result in some action to ameliorate the present conditions. Steps to set such a scheme in being were still being taken at the end of the year.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

### Section 110—Outworkers

	Number of outworkers List required by Section 110 (1) (c) in November, 1949
Wearing Apparel—Making, etc ... ..	108

During the year, 30 of these outworkers were visited, and the respective premises inspected in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

## REFUSE, SALVAGE AND KITCHEN WASTE SERVICES

### Refuse Collection

6,244 tons 17 cwt. of household refuse were collected during the year. Dustbins are emptied weekly at all the 8,204 dwellings in the District, two vehicles each with a driver and six men being employed to do this work. The average weight of refuse collected per loader per week was thus just over 10 tons.

### Refuse Destructor

The destructor, which at the beginning of the year was being operated on one shift only was allowed to fall into disuse, since only one load in every ten was being incinerated, and its operation was not economic. The total refuse has since been tipped on the uncontrolled tip at the Sewage Works until such time as controlled tipping can be undertaken. It is hoped however, that controlled tipping itself will only be a temporary expedient until the destructor can be reconstructed.

In August, 1947, the then Medical Officer of Health, Dr. A. W. Laing, recommended to the Council that the destructor should be reconstructed and modernised at an estimated cost of £20,000 approximately.

In June, 1949, following visits made by the Members of the Health Committee to destructors at Lytham St. Annes, Wigan, and Bury, your Sanitary Inspectors presented a further report.

### Paper Salvage

Despite the slump in the waste-paper market, the Department was able to continue collections of paper, and a profit of £192 15s. 7d. was made on the year's working. A reorganisation affecting the method of paper collection resulted in so great an increase in the amount obtained that it was necessary

to purchase a spare baling press towards the end of the year, in order to clear accumulated stocks. This additional press proved of great value.

### Kitchen Waste

Collections of kitchen waste continued a downward trend during the year, but the Department was able to cover the cost of collection. The communal waste bins have steadily decreased in popularity since 1945, and much valuable waste is now being destroyed in the home.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health. Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
Factories with Mechanical Power .....	65	12	6	—
Factories without Mechanical Power .....	—	—	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of Building, etc., but not including outworkers' premises) .....	2	2	—	—
Total ...	67	14	6	—

## 2. Defects Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).....	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
(a) Insufficient .....	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	6	6	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	6	6	—	1	—
Other Offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

APPENDIX

TABLE 1

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rate of 1,000 Live Births under one year per Deaths
Population— For birth rate For death rates 26,580						
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births
Mean of 5 years, 1944-1948 .....	21.1	10.6	0.62	1.61	1.51	1.47
Year—1948 .....	17.1	9.7	0.54	1.42	Nil	Nil
Year—1949 .....	15.4	10.6*	0.45	1.69	Nil	Nil
Increase or decrease in 1949 on 5 years' average, 1944-1948 .....	-5.7	Nil	-0.17	+0.08	-1.51	-1.47
Previous year .....	-1.7	+0.9	-0.09	+0.27	Nil	Nil

\* 1949 Adjusted Death Rate (Comparability Factor 1.25) = 13.3 per 1,000

TABLE 2

Vital Statistics of Whole District During 1949  
and 10 Previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births		Net Deaths belonging to the District			
		Num- ber	Rate	Under 1 year of age		At all ages	
				Num- ber	Rate per 1,000 net Births	Num- ber	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1939	24,940	512	20.5	42	48	272	10.8
1940	25,160	510	20.2	21	41	296	11.7
1941	24,970	501	20.06	25	49	283	11.3
1942	24,460	513	20.97	40	77	264	10.79
1943	24,160	520	21.52	31	57	267	11.05
1944	24,070	573	23.78	18	31	248	10.3
1945	23,620	492	20.8	16	32	273	11.5
1946	24,800	535	21.5	21	39	250	10.0
1947	25,160	572	22.7	17	29	284	11.2
1948	27,290	469	17.1	16	34	267	9.7
1949	26,580	409	15.4	16	39	283	13.3



TABLE 3.

## Yearly Changes in Population 1938-49

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
1938 .....	166 .....	+2,220
1939 .....	180 .....	+1,230
1940 .....	214 .....	+220
1941 .....	218 .....	-190
1942 .....	249 .....	-510
1943 .....	253 .....	-300
1944 .....	325 .....	-90
1945 .....	219 .....	-450
1946 .....	285 .....	+1,180
1947 .....	288 .....	+360
1948 .....	202 .....	+2,130
1949 .....	126 .....	-710
Total (12 years) ...	2,725 .....	+5,090

Column 1 = Year.

Column 2 = The "Natural Increase," i.e., the excess of births over deaths during the calendar year.

Column 3 = Increase or decrease on previous year's estimated total population (population being estimated to middle of each year).

TABLE 4  
CAUSES OF DEATH

Group Causes No.	Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total	Group Total	Group Percentage
1	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—
2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
6	Respiratory Tuberculosis	6	6	12	24	8.5
7	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	1	—	—
8	Syphilitic Disease	—	2	2	—	—
9	Influenza	5	3	8	—	—
10	Measles	—	—	—	—	—
11	Acute Polio. and Polio-Enceph.	—	—	—	—	—
12	Acute Inf. Enceph.	—	1	1	—	—
13	Cancer of Bucc. Cav. Oesoph. M. Uterus. F.	1	2	3	—	—
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	6	8	45	15
15	Cancer of Breast	—	7	7	—	—
16	Cancer, all other sites	15	12	27	—	—
17	Diabetes	—	1	1	—	—
18	Intra-cranial Vascular lesions	19	11	30	30	10.5
19 & 20	Heart Diseases	37	33	70	80	29
20	Other Circulatory Diseases	5	5	10	—	—

TABLE 4  
CAUSES OF DEATH

Group Causes	No.	Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total	Group	
						Total	Percentage
21	Bronchitis ... ..	14	12	26	—	—	
to	Pneumonia ... ..	10	4	14	44	15.5	
23	Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	2	2	4	—	—	
24	Ulcer. Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	2	2	4	—	—	
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
26	Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
27	Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	2	5	7	—	—	
28	Nephritis ... ..	3	6	9	—	—	
29	Puerperal and Post. Abort. Sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
30	Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
31 &	Premature Birth ... ..	6	1	7	13	4.5	
32	Cong. Malform. Birth Inj. ... ..	2	4	6	—	—	
33	Suicide ... ..	4	1	5	—	—	
34	Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	
35	Other Violent Causes ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	
36	All Other Causes ... ..	10	9	19	—	—	
	Total ... ..	148	135	283	—	—	

Mid-Year Population 26,580

TABLE 5

This Table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, after corrections, during the last 10 years:—

	1940	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
Diphtheria .....	21	36	10	18	9	11	5	2	2	—
Erysipelas .....	4	2	1	2	3	6	3	1	1	2
Scarlet Fever .....	42	48	108	180	34	61	23	51	61	80
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	3	2	3	1	2	1	3	—	—
Poliomyelitis .....	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary										
Tuberculosis	25	36	29	28	28	24	34	30	35	28
Other Forms of										
Tuberculosis	9	9	15	5	9	7	8	7	6	6
Pneumonia .....	11	19	8	9	9	10	2	11	12	3
Ophthalmia										
Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Measles .....	362	42	261	118	339	272	14	437	432	255
Whooping Cough...	59	116	38	40	69	64	61	58	93	67
Malaria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	539	316	474	405	501	457	153	602	643	448







