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Contributors

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BOROUGH OF ECCLES.

REPORT

OF THE

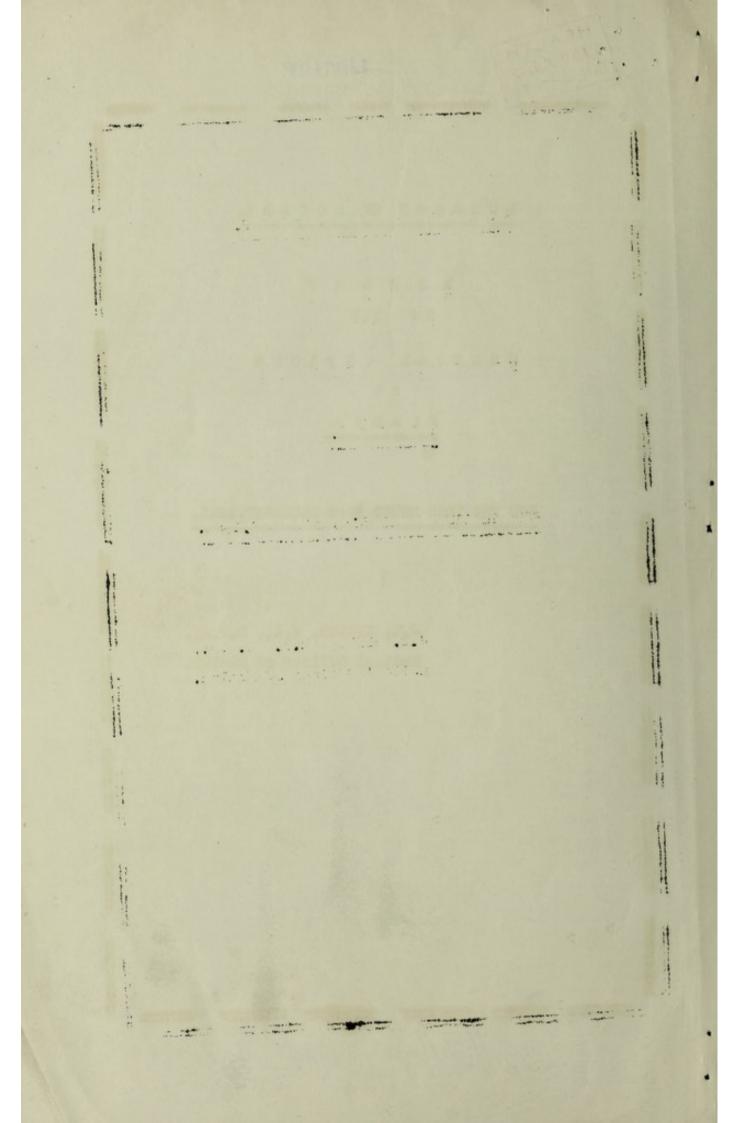
MEDICAL OFFICER

OF

HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER. 1941.

J.E. SPENCE, M.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.



cm 1 100

Infectious Diseases.

During the year 113 cases of diphtheria occurred: In addition 14 persons who were suspected to be suffering from diphtheria were admitted to hospital, but the illness in these cases was subsequently found not to be diphtheria but tonsillitis or similar conditions. 16 diphtheria carriers were also discovered during the year.

57 of the cases occurred among school children, 37 cases occurred among children under school age, and 19 among adolescents and adults. The largest number of cases which occurred in a school during the year was eleven, but these were spread over the whole year and there was no evidence of epidemic spread of the disease.

Steady progress has been made with the immunisation of children against diphtheria. During the summer months all the schools were visited for the purpose of immunising children, and 1115 were immunised at this time. Immunisation of toddlers and children under school age is carried out at each session at the Infant Welfare Centre, and during the year 493 children under school age were immunised there as well as a number of children who had been absent when the schools were visited for the purpose of immunisation. A report on the immunisation of children was prepared for the Ministry of Health in September, and it was then estimated that 49 per cent of all children in elementary schools had been immunised, while 18.5 per cent of children under school age had received protective treatment. Immunisation is not claimed to result in absolute protection against diphtheria, but it produces a high degree of protection and there is ample proof that immunised children, if they are unfortunate enough to contract the disease, are less severely affected and make a more rapid recovery.

Scarlet Fever.

the cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year. The incidence of the disease during the year was light, but there was a slight increase in the number of cases during the last two months, when 16 were notified.

Measles,

In 1940 the town was visited by an epidemic of measles, which attained its maximum in the last quarter and continued into 1941. 120 cases were notified in January. The monthly notifications declined in February and March, and then increased up to July when 84 cases were notified, after which the epidemic rapidly declined. The number of cases notified each quarter were 219, 196, 47 and 4, a total of 466 for the year. The cases occurred mainly in Westwood Park Ward, where there were 165 cases, 73 occurred in Winton and 70 in Barton Ward.

Only 21 cases of German Measles were notified during the year.

Whooping Cough.

During the early summer months there was an epidemic of whooping cough. The total number of cases notified during the year was 370, of which 188 occurred during the second quarter of the year, 71 during the first quarter, 68 during the third quarter, and 43 in the last three months. The epidemic was not localised to any particular part of the town, but during the second quarter its incidence was heaviest in the Trafford Ward, where a quarter of the cases occurred.

8 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified, all of which were mild and made a complete recovery without permanent damage to the eyes.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT. 1938.

During the year 153 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, and 11 of the samples were found to be not genuine. Of the samples, 105 were of milk, 77 of which were formal samples. 27 samples of pasteurised milk were taken informally and one was a private sample. 9 of the formal samples and one informal sample were found to be not genuine.

48 samples were of other commodities, all of which except one were found to be genuine.

Sample 181, an informal sample taken on complaint, was found to contain extraneous water. A formal sample was taken and was found to contain 6.4% of extraneous water. Proceedings were taken in respect of this sample, and the firm was fined £5.0.0.

Sample 202 was a formal sample of bottled milk which was found to be deficient of fat to the extent of 8.3 per cent. Samples of milk taken on delivery by the farmers were found to be genuine. The deficiency in fat was no doubt due to failure to keep the milk well mixed during bottling and the vendor was cautioned.

Samples 204 and 205. The first of these samples was a formal sample taken at a dairy, which was found to contain 2 per cent extraneous water. The second sample was taken on delivery by the farmer, and was found to contain 2 per cent extraneous water. In view of the small amount of added water it was decided not to prosecute on this occasion, but the farmer was warned.

Sample 214 was a formal sample which was deficient to the extent of 15 per cent of fat. Samples of milk taken on delivery on the following day were found to be genuine, but there was no delivery on that day of milk from one source from which milk had been supplied on the preceeding day. In view of this it was decided not to prosecute but the dairyman was cautioned.

Samples 216 and 221. The first of these was a formal sample which showed a deficiency of milk fat to the extent of 13.3 per cent. Of four samples taken on delivery on the following day three were found to be genuine but the fourth was deficient in fat to the extent of 6.6 per cent. In view of the relatively small deficiency in this last sample it was decided to caution the producer.

Sample 260. This formal sample was found to contain 2 per cent added water. Samples taken on delivery proved to be genuine, and the vendor was cautioned.

Sample 270. This sample was found to contain 7.4 per cent extraneous water. Seven samples were taken on delivery on the following day. Five were genuine but two from one farm, although they had normal freezing points, were deficient in solids not fat. Both the vendor and the farmer were strongly cautioned.

Sample 273 was of onion powder which was found upon analysis to contain a mixture of wheat flour and maize flavoured to resemble onions. The sample should have been labelled "onion powder substitute". On legal advice proceedings were not instituted, but the packers were written to and advised to alter the label.

25 samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for examination by the phosphatase test. 23 were certified to be correctly pasteurised, but two samples were certified to be not properly pasteurised.

Summary of Samles taken during the Year.

Ger	nuine	.Not Genuine.	<u>G</u> .	enuine.	Not Genuine.
Milk Coffee White Pepper Baking Powder Self Raising Flour Cocoa Cream of Tartar Tapioca Glycerine of Borax Jam Ground Rice Iodine Paint Sodium Bicarbonate Butter Margarine Cooking fat	9544332222222111	10	Custard Powder Boracic Powder Boracic Ointment Fish Dressing Onion Powder Barley Cornflour Oatmeal Sweetened Custard Powder Salad Oil Ground ginger Pancake Mixture Onion Extract Camphorated Oil	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1
Cheese powder			According to the day	142	11

Bacteriological Examination of Hilk.

During the year 41 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, 27 being samples of pasteurised milk, 12 of loose milk and 2 of tuberculin tested milk. In 8 of the samples the total number of organisms exceeded 100,000 per cc. In one sample of milk taken in June, supplied in bulk by a Manchester Dairy, the total bacterial count was 22,000,000. In a sample of bottled pasteurised milk the total bacterial count was 1600,000, although no B.Goli were found in 1 cc. In only 5 of the samples of pasteurised milk no B.Coli were found in 0.1 cc. and in 10 no B.Goli were found in 0.01 cc. There is no doubt that the majority of the organisms found in pasteurised milk belong to the thermophyll class and are harmless, and although B.Coli were found in a number of samples, pasteurisation as shown by the Phosphatase Test was satisfactory. In only two samples submitted for the Phosphatase Test was the result unsatisfactory, in one instance the Lovibond Blue Units were returned at 5.3 and in the other at 3.0, indicating some slight defect in pasteurisation.

Both the samples of Tuberculin Tested milk failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test, one taken in October decolourising the methylene blue in one hour. The coliform test was also unsatisfactory in these samples.

One sample of loose milk taken in May was found to contain 15,000,000 organisms per cc. and 6 samples contained over 100,000 organisms.

15 samples of milk were submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli and in only one instance were tubercle bacilli found.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The intimate co-ordination of the Maternity and Child Welfare Service with the School Medical Service has been continued and the supervision of children from birth to the school leaving age is continuous. Nurse Johnston has been appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Nurse Blaylock, and has taken over the work in the North Western district of the Borough.

During the year 533 first visits have been paid to infants in their homes, 3201 revisits have been made to children under one year, 2260 visits to children aged 1-2 years and 4137 to children aged 2-5 years. The number of home visits are 2300 in excess of those of the preceding year when the staff was depleted by the resignation of Miss Blaylock. In addition to the supervision of infants and young children at home, 345 infants attended the Welfare Centre. 7054 attendances at the Welfare Centre were made by children under 1 year of age, 2248 by children aged 1-2 years and 1438 by children aged 2-5 years. The total attendances by children under five years was 1071, less than in the preceding year.

In addition to routine visits to infants, 546 visits were paid to young children suffering from infectious diseases, 210 to expectant mothers, 30 to boarded out children and 39 in connection with home helps, and 2 for other purposes.

The Welfare Centre has been open on four afternoons each week for the weighing and supervision of infants and young children. The number of new children who attended the Centre during the year was 358, equivalent to 70 per cent of the birth in the district. The total number of children who attended the Centre during the year was 927. The total number of attendances at the Welfare Centre of children under one year was 7054, of children aged 1-2 years 2248, and of children aged 2-5 years 1438, while 10332 attendances were made by mothers, a daily average of 51 mothers with 35 infants and 18 toddlers. The numbers show a slight decline on those of the previous year, but are considerably lower than the number attending prior to the war. No special clinic for toddlers is held, but they are encouraged to continue in attendance at the Welfare Centre until they are admitted to school, and 31 per cent of the attendances at the Welfare Centre were made by toddlers. During the year 3335 children were examined by the medical officers, of whom 1621 were under one year, 678 were aged one to two years, and 1036 aged two to five years.

Toddlers suffering from minor ailments, dental, ophthalmic or orthopaedic defects are referred to the School Clinic for treatment. During the year 79 were referred for minor ailments, 128 for toothache, 21 for ophthalmic defects and 17 for orthopaedic defects.

The immunisation of children over one year of age at the Welfare Centre was continued, and during the year 474 children under school age were immunised there.

The approval of the Ministry of Health has been given to the immunisation of children against whooping cough, and parents have been informed that this can also be carried out at the Welfare Centre. Parents have been advised to have their children immunised against this disease when they are about a year old. Immunisation was commenced in January of this year, and the response so far has been very encouraging.

The distribution of anti-gas helmets has been continued at the Welfare Centre. All new babies are issued with helmets and these are exchanged for small childrens respirators when the children become too big for the helmets. All helmets on exchange are dismantled, thoroughly cleansed and disinfected and carefully inspected before re-assembling. This has entailed a great deal of work but it has ensured that all helmets re-issued are thoroughly clean and efficient. In only one instance was the cardboard container and helmet found to be infested with bugs.

Accommodation has been provided at the Welfare Centre for the Milk Officer and her staff. Arrangements have been made also for the distribution there of cod liver oil and fruit juices, and an additional clerk has been appointed by the Committee to undertake this work and to keep all the records in connection with the municipal midwifery service. The concentration of all the activities in connection with the welfare of expectant mothers and young children in one centre has been of great benefit to the mothers by obviating visits to scattered centres for different forms of assistance.

Child Life Protection.

At the beginning of the year there were 10 children on the register of boarded out children who were in the care of foster parents. Five new children were registered, two returned to parents, one was legally adopted, and three passed the age of 9 years, leaving 9 children on the register at the end of the year. 42 visits were paid during the year to children who were boarded out with foster parents.

Municipal Midwifery Service.

On May 19th Nurse Long was taken ill, and was absent on sick leave until the 30th November, on which date she surrendered her certificate on the receipt of a pension.

At the commencement of the year there were 70 cases on the books of the municipal midwives, and 272 new cases were booked during the year. 273 cases were delivered by the midwives during the year, 12 cases being referred to Hospital.

Medical aid was summoned in 104 instances.

The services of the Municipal Midwives were granted free of cost in 22 instances.

At the commencement of the year fees to the amount of £109.15.0. Were outstanding in respect of the services of the midwives during 1940, while the fees due for the year were £495.0.0. £427.8.6. was collected in respect of the midwifery service, equivalent to 86 per cent of the debits raised, the amount of £139.2.6. being outstanding at the end of the year.

Midwives Acts.

During the months of May and June a small outbreak of pemphigus neonatorum occurred. In all 10 cases were brought to our notice, 7 of these occurring in the practice of one midwife. Routine measures were adopted to prevent any spread, the midwives concerned being suspended from further work until the infected cases had cleared up, nor were they allowed to resume their duties until we were satisfied that no further cases were likely to occur. All uniform and equipment was thoroughly disinfected.

At the commoncement of the year there were 10 midwives practising in the Borough.

A total of 556 cases was booked by the midwives, who attended 375 as midwives and 162 as maternity nurses.

2 midwives attended over 100 cases.
3 "between 75 - 100 cases.
1 "25 - 50 cases.
2 "less than 25 cases.

Medical aid was summoned in 189 instances, equivalent to 28.4 per cent of the cases attended by the midwives.

The reasons for sending for medical help were as follows:-

8 6 2		16
31 4		35
50 3 11 13		77
4 5 32 7 13		61
	6 2 31 4 50 3 11 13 4 5 32 7	6 2 31 4 50 3 11 13 4 5 32 7

The number of claims submitted by medical practitioners in connection with assistance rendered to midwives in pursuance of Section 3 (1) (E) of the Midwives Act 1904 was 127.

The sum of \$108.5.6. was debited to the patients, of which £92.4.0. was collected during the year.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

The services of Dr.W. Addis have been retained as consultant. He attends on the first Friday in each month, when special cases presenting unusual or difficult features are referred to him.

The arrangements with the Lancashire County Council by which patients from the surrounding County area attend the Ante-Natal Clinic in Eccles have been modified, the County Council paying this authority the sum of two guineas each month for the facilities provided.

113 clinics were held during the year. 291 expectant mothers attended, the total number of attendances being 1300. 64 mothers returned to the clinic for post-natal examination, making a total of 85 attendances.

The number of mothers attending the Post-Natal clinic is very disappointing; mothers do not seem to realize the importance of attending the Post-Natal clinic where faults can be corrected and advice given.

Home Helps.

The provision of home helps in cases in which there is no one to look after the home while the mother is in bed has been continued, and during the year home helps were provided in 31 instances. The above figure refers only to those supplied free of cost, and does not include the many for whom arrangements are made at the clinic, but the patients bearing the cost themselves.

There is a steady increase in the use of Home Helps, this is largely due to the fact that hospital accommodation is now limited and more patients are being confined in their own homes and availing themselves of the services offered.

Maternal Mortality.

The services of Dr.W.R.Addis have been retained by the Council under the Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia Regulations, and he is available for the assistance of medical practitioners in all cases in which a consultation is considered necessary. Arrangements have also been made for Dr.Addis to give assistance in cases of difficult labour, should his services be required, but during the year no call has been made for his assistance.

All maternal deaths and still births are investigated, and this work is closely co-ordinated with the supervision of midwives. There was one maternal death during the year.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

There is now one private nursing home with a total of six beds registered under the Mursing Homes' Registration Act, 1927, which caters for maternity cases only.

The nursing home has been inspected periodically throughout the year, and has been found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Application for exemption from the operation of the Act was made under Section 6 by the Board of Management of the Eccles and Patricroft Hospital, and the exemption was renewed by the Council.

113 maternity patients were delivered in the private nursing home during the year; 89 were delivered by doctors and 24 were delivered by midwives.

There is one home in the Borough for unmarried mothers and their children, provided by the Manchester Diocesan Association for Preventive and Rescue Work, at "Ennismore" Regent Street, Eccles, which has accommodation for twelve mothers with their babies.

* . * ×

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

HOUSING.

Statistics.

Numbe	er of	new houses erested during the year.	
(a)	Tota	al (including numbers given separately under (b)	-
(11)) By	the Local Authority other Local Authorities other bodies and persons	-
(b) V	Vith	STATE ASSISTANCE under the Housing Acts.	
(11)	By By	the Local Authority	-
1. [(1)		100
((2)	 (a) Number of Dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 	
	(3)	Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	-
	(4)	referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human	100
2.	cons	per of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in sequence of informal action by the Local Authority their Officers	57
3.	A	on under Statutory Powers during the year. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the ing Act, 1936.	
	(1)	Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	21
	(2)	Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
		(a) By Owners	19
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	-

Apart from essential repairs to houses, very little work is carried out owing to the shortage of labour and materials.

The total number of houses and flats in the Borough is 12,536. There are 17 houses unfit for habitation by reason of War Damage, and are to be demolished.

The following table gives the number of houses built and the number demolished for the years 1922 to 1941 inclusive :-

Year	Houses built by Local Authority.	Houses built by private enterprise.	Houses demolished.
1922 3456 789 1930 123456 789 1940 1	268 . 277 . 104 . 72 . 19 . 78 . 137 . 26 . 21 .	3 24 50 156 376 46 38 69 55 834 251 294 222 294 224	1 12 54 9 4 9 U 14 268 46 728 133 462
TOTALS	1369	1712	622

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

. The number and variety of Sanitary Conveniences in use at the end of the year were as follows :-

Fresh-water Mushed	closets	15,662.
Waste-water flushed	cosets	56
Fresh-water flushed	latrines	83
Pail closets		60
Ashbins		13,567
Baths		8,301

In 9 instances water closets were found to be defective, and in 31 instances various defects were found in connection with fittings.

Water Supply.

The Manchester Corporation gave a continuous and adequate supply of water during the year. There was no occasion for restriction in its use by house-holders.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of houses found to be infested :-

(a) Council houses 6. (b) Other houses 21,

In 9 cases the Local Authority carried out disinfestation by spraying with Zaldecide and in 18 cases a Manchester firm of Fumigators carried out disinfestation by Hydrogen Cyanide.

For ensuring that the belongings of tentans are free from vermin before removal to Council houses :-

Furniture is sprayed and bedding steam disinfected.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only premises under this heading in the Borough are 34 fish frying premises, two tripe boilers, and four rag and bone dealers.

THEATRES AND CINEMAS.

There are seven such places of entertainment in the Borough. These were inspected during the year, and no cause for complaint was found.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is only one registered common lodging house in the Borough and this has accommodation for 66 males only. It is under the personal supervision of the proprietor and is well managed.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are three cowkeepers registered in the Borough and the average number of cows kept was 45.

Five licences were issued under the milk (Special Designation) Order, one a licence to pasteurise milk, one a dealer's licence to bottle Tuberculin Tested milk, three supplementary licences, one being for Tuberculin tested milk and two for pasteurised milk.

STABLES AND PIGGERIES.

There is 16 stable premises and 15 premises where pigs are kept.

The number of inspections made in connection with Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops was 78.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Food Surrendered :-

Unsound	Meat	1018 lbs.
11	Oatmeal .	15 lbs.
11	Eggs	1429
11	Oranges	226
18	tinned goods	196

Demaged by enemy action :-

Edible fats 62 lbs.

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1. - Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

	Number of		
Premises	Inspections	Written notices	Prosecut- ions.
Factories	39	-	-
TOTAL	39	_	-

11. - DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars	Number of Found Reme- died		Number of prose-cutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :- Sanitary accommodation :- Insufficient Unsuitable or defectiv Not separate for sexes Other nuisances Want of cleanliness	e 4 4		11111
TOTAL	9 6	-	- 33

111. OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.

NIL.

SHOPS ACTS.

There are 888 shops of various kinds on the Register.

Weekly half-holiday Orders have been made in connection with Butchers Shops, Boot and Shoe Retailers and Barbers and Hairdressers.

The work of inspection of shops under the Shops Act, 1934, was contined. Two instances of unsuitable sanitary accommodation were dealt with.

OFFICES.

In connection with the inspections made of Offices two instances of unsuitable W.C. accommodation were dealt with.

MORTUARY.

The mortuary was used on forty-three occasions for the reception of bodies. Of these :-

19 had died from natural causes 3 from drowning, 21 accidents.

Nineteen of the above accidental deaths were due to the Railway accident at Eccles Station.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE MAGISTRATES.

One instance of supplying milk to the prejudice of the purchaser. Fined £5. Os. Od.

CANAL BOATS.

There were no inspections of Canal Boats during the year. The Boats delivering coal to the Wharfs here are day-boats and are not occupied by any person. The other traffic on the Canal consists of those boats passing through the district without stopping.

INSPECTIONS.

Bakehouses.	34
Food Preparing Establishments,	45
Fish Friers.	24
Ice Cream shops.	-
Milkshops.	170
Cowsheds.	18
Butchers premises.	34
Mineral water works.	1
Slaughter houses.	-
Marine Store Dealers.	19
Stables and Piggeries.	71
Factories.	39
Out-workers Premises.	6 9
Common Lodging Houses.	70
Schools, Sanitary Conveniences. Theatres and Cinemas.	6
Tests applied to drains.	72
Drains opened up.	2
District Inspection of houses,	662
Re-inspection of nuisances, etc.	1010
Visits in cases of Infectious Disease.	395
Visits ro Shops Acts.	70
Owners seen.	113
Visits re suitability of tenants for	
Corporation houses.	10
Housing Act, (Overcrowding inquiries).	7

Refuse Collection.

During the year the work of the House Refuse Collection Department has been impeded owing to the shortage of labour and the special collection of Salvage Materials for War purposes, therefore, the regular weekly collection of house refuse has not been possible, the period between emptying often being as long as three weeks.

The number of loads of refuse and salvage removed to the Salvage Works was 7,679 the total weight being 11,823 tons.

The Department supplied 306 dustbins and dustbin lids at the cost of the owners.

SALVAGE.

The weight of salvage collected during the year was pleasing, but much more is still required for the fighting services.

The Ministry of Supply arranged a series of County drives for salvage throughout the Country with a view to increasing the quantities of waste paper, netals, bones etc., collected by Local Authorities. The drive in the County of Lancashire was made during the weeks October 4th. to 18th.

An appeal was made to all householders in the Borough to assist in the drive by saving all waste paper, books, metals and bones and to hand them to the dustman. The Council decided to suspend the collection of house refuse during the period of the drive and the department made a house to house collection of Salvage Materials.

Unfortunately, the schools were closed during the drive, but the Education Committee agreed to assist in the matter and appealed to Schoolsrs to bring waste paper and books to the Schools for collection during the week previous to the drive.

The result of this appeal was the collection of three tons fifteen cwts of waste paper and books.

Collected
The amount of salvage/for the County drive from Schools, houses, shops and factories was as follows :-

Paper - 32 tons.
Scrap metals and tins. - 48 tons.
Textiles - 1 ton.
Bones - 4 cwts.
Miscellaneous (bottles etc.) 6 tons.

The amount of bones collected was disappointing.

The types and weights of materials salvaged during the year are given below. The figures have been supplied by the Manager of the Sewage Farm and Salvage Works:-

Paper Tins Scrap Metal Textiles Bottles Broken glass Cinders Bones	T. 386 250 53 61 18 48 150	0.9121160236	2 2 2 1 2 2 1
	975	1	1

In addition to the above, there is a large amount of dust which is sold to farmers for use on the land.

The amount of revenue obtained from the sale of the salvaged materials was £2,245, this amount excludes the value of the cinders used for raising steam on the works.

G.V. HULSE.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

