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Contributors

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HALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

HALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

=====

SANITARY COMMITTEE:

Councillors J. W. WARBURTON (Chairman).

H. ARNOLD.

J. CLARKE.

F. C. EDMUNDS.

H. L. FENTON (Resigned August 1943).

E. M. JOHNSON, M.Sc. (Tech), A.M.I.E.E.
(from August 1943).

F. H. HOLMES.

N. HOUGHTON.

J. W. PARRY.

H. PEDDAR.

J. W. ROGERS.

R. H. TOOTILL, J.P., C.C.

J. H. M. WALKER, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P.

Co-opted Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee -

MRS. R. I. MIDGLEY.

MRS. D. MORRISON.

MRS. F. LOCKWOOD.

F. LEAF,
Clerk of the Council.

D. I. CONNOLLY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Vict).
Medical Officer of Health.
Medical Superintendent, Child Welfare and Ante-Natal
Clinic.

F. J. SEALEY, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

MISS L. M. HEATON, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Health Visitor, Infant Protection Visitor.

MISS E. DRINKWATER,
Clerk-Typist.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Statute Acres)	2,248
Population (Census, 1931)	10,667
Number of Inhabited Houses (Per Rate Books, 1945)	3,700
Number of Dwellings occupied by one private family (1931)	2,669
Rateable Value	£142,036
Sum represented by a penny rate	£575
Total Rates	9/-

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births - Legitimate	85	69	154
Illegitimate	3	4	7
Total	<u>88</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>161</u>
	==	==	===

Stillbirths - Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	--	--	--
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	==	==	==

Still-birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 24.0

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths	67	78	145
Deaths from Puerperal Causes			2
Death-Rate from Puerperal Causes (per 1,000 births)			12.0

Total Deaths of Infants under one year of age ... 11

 Legitimate 11
 Death-Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births... 71.4

 Illegitimate Nil
 Death-Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil

Death-Rate of Infants under one year of age ...	68.3
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2
Deaths from Cancer	22

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Ashley Road,
HALE.

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1943.

It is to be noted that the birth rate continues to increase, there being 161, almost a record. This number only being exceeded in 1910 when it was then 162.

Infant Mortality: Unfortunately the Infant Mortality rate is rather high; this is to be regretted, but perhaps one redeeming feature may be that of the 11 deaths, 10 of them occurred outside the district, being what is known as transferred deaths.

Amongst the Infectious Diseases, the Scarlet Fever rate was rather high, but the disease itself was of a mild character. The number of whooping Cough and Measles cases were fairly high. These three diseases are inclined to come in cycles. Of the four cases of Diphtheria not one had been immunised.

I am happy to state that the Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme maintains a fairly high standard; I would like to thank the local practitioners for their share in the work. At the same time it is well to stress the point that no effort must be relaxed in the immunisation of the children, particularly in the children under 5 years of age.

In spite of being in the fifth year of the war the number of new cases of Tuberculosis is not alarming, except that the males in the years 35 and upwards provided the greater number.

The Maternal Mortality rate is practically the same as that for the whole country.

With reference to the Ministry of Health Circular No.2831, calling attention to special efforts to combat infestation by head lice, to the best of our knowledge the problem does not exist in this residential area.

This fact is confirmed by the Health Visitor who has paid special attention to this matter in her routine visits and examinations.

D. I. CONNOLLY.

BIRTHS.

Boys, 88; Girls, 73; Total, 161.

The number of births registered in the district was 58, and in addition to these, 103 belonging to the district, but registered elsewhere, have been added, making a total of 161, which number has only been exceeded once in the history of Hale, in the year 1910, when the number of births was 162.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Eleven deaths occurred among children under one year of age during 1943.

The following table gives the infant mortality rate for this district during the past five years.

<u>1939.</u>	<u>1940.</u>	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1943.</u>
16.39	10.10	31.0	50.8	68.3

The figure is unfortunately high in comparison with other years, and also exceeds the rate for England and Wales (49.0).

DEATHS.

Males, 67; Females, 78; Total, 145.

This figure is well above the average for Hale.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND INQUESTS.

During the year inquests were held in connection with the deaths of 17 persons; in 7 cases death was found to be due to natural causes, and in 10 cases death followed as the result of accidents, or suicide.

CANCER (MALIGNANT DISEASE).

There were 22 deaths from Cancer (9 males, 13 females).

Classified Deaths from Cancer.

Localisation	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Tongue and Mouth	-	-	-	1	-
Larynx	1	1	2	-	-
Oesophagus	2	2	1	1	-
Stomach	-	2	2	2	3
Respiratory Organs	2	4	-	5	3
Pancreas	-	1	1	-	2
Liver	2	3	5	-	-
Intestinal tract	1	5	4	-	3
Generative Organs	4	1	1	3	3
Breast	-	7	2	-	2
Kidney	-	-	-	-	-
Other or unspecified organs	4	4	5	7	6
Totals	16	30	23	19	22
Deaths from all causes	135	173	149	127	145

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year, 124 cases of Infectious disease, other than Tuberculosis, were notified, this total being made up as follows:-

Table of Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis).

Disease	No. Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	25	17	-
Whooping Cough ...	31	1	1
Diphtheria	4	4	-
Paratyphoid Fever...	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	3
Puerperal Pyrexia...	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	1	-
Measles	60	3	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Totals	124	26	5

It will be noted that 91 of these cases are of measles and whooping cough, and of the other diseases, 25 were of scarlet fever. It is pleasing to report only four cases of Diphtheria during the year.

Disinfection was carried out as in previous years by spraying infected rooms with formalin solution and fumigating with vapour. Infected Bedding and clothing are treated with steam or destroyed. Disinfectants are supplied free to residents of Hale.

Number of houses fumigated during 1943	...	...	44
Number of rooms fumigated during 1943	...	...	72
Bedding and other articles disinfected	...	...	41
Bedding destroyed...	...	...	2

IMMUNISATION.

The campaign for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria has been successfully continued. Children are received for immunisation at the Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic. The local practitioners also contribute to the campaign, which has now produced protection for more than two thirds of the children of the district:-

	Under 5	5 - 15	Total
Number of complete immunisations during year	128	56	184
Number of partial immunisations during year	1	4	5
Total children completely and partially immunised during year	129	60	189
Estimated Child Population	672	1280	1952
Number of complete immunisations to date	390	1004	1394
Number of partial immunisations to date	1	4	5
Total number complete or in progress to date	391	1008	1399
Percentage of children completely immunised at end of year	58.0	78.4	71.4
Percentage of children partially immunised at end of year	.1	.3	.2
Percentage of children completely or partially immunised at end of year	58.1	78.7	71.6

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease are given in the following table:-

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 ...	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 ...	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 - 45 ...	3	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
45 - 55 ...	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65 ...	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ...	8	3	1	2	6	1	-	-
	11		3		7		-	

The number of cases receiving sanatorium treatment during the year was 20.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory, and it has not been necessary to take any action in cases of neglect or refusal to notify.

At the end of the year there were 72 cases of Tuberculosis in this district.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE AREA.

Bacteriological Examination in Diagnosis of
Infectious Disease.

The following is a statement of the bacteriological examinations of specimens sent from this District during the year.

DIPHTHERIA		TYPHOID FEVER		SCARLET FEVER		TUBERCULOSIS	
Total	Positive	Total	Positive	Total	Positive	Total	Positive
15	3	2	Nil	8	4	26	8

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

The following figures of attendances will show the work of the Centre during the year 1943:-

- Number of attendances at the centre during the year ... 2258
 - Children under 1 year... .. 1343
 - Children 1 to 5 years... .. 915
- Number of children attending for the first time:-
 - Children under 1 year... .. 97
 - Children 1 to 5 years... .. 13

3. Number of children in attendance at the end of the year:-	
(a) Children under 1 year...	79
(b) Children 1 to 5 years...	122

CLASSIFIED LIST OF VISITS MADE BY HEALTH VISITOR.

Total Number of Visits	1108
To Expectant Mothers:-	
First visits	29
Total visits	61
To Children under 1 year:-	
First visits	114
Total visits	451
To Children aged 1 to 5 years:-	
Total visits	596

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Number of sessions held during the year...	12
Total number of attendances...	84
Number of Expectant Mothers attending during the year	35

No cases were referred to the Consulting Obstetrician during the year, and one case was referred, and subsequently admitted, to St. Mary's Hospital. 3 other cases were admitted to the County Council Maternity Home at "Southfields", Bowdon, for their confinement.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Free dental treatment is available to Ante-Natal patients in necessitous cases, but during the year no one received treatment at the expense of the Council.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Two maternal deaths were notified in this area during 1943.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The Health Visitor is appointed Child Protection Visitor to carry out the duties detailed in the Public Health Act, 1936.

Number of Children on Register at commencement	1
Number of Notices received respecting Children	2
Number of Children whose names were removed from Register on account of removal	Nil
Number of Children who died during the year	Nil
Total now remaining on Register	3

The Children have all been found to be satisfactorily cared for, and it has not been necessary to institute any proceedings under this Act.

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN.

Notices received under Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939	2
Children adopted under this Act	1
Children in care of prospective adopters awaiting adoption	1

DISTRIBUTION OF MILK AND FOODS.

During the year the following milk and foods were distributed at the Maternity & Child Welfare Centre to residents of Hale.

God Liver Oil and Malt	...	...	...	...	...	...	124 jars
Calcium Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	...	175 boxes
Lactagol	...	...	...	...	...	...	126 packets
Celin Tablets...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 packets
Cow & Gate Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	2009 packets
Ostermilk	...	...	...	...	...	...	724 packets
Farex	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 packets
Frenatalac	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 packets
Vitamin A. & D. Capsules	...	...	...	...	...	...	147 boxes

TABLE 1.

Causes of Death for the year 1943.

CAUSE OF DEATH	M.	F.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	-	1	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...	6	1	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	-	1
Influenza	-	5	5
Measles	-	1	1
Cancer	9	13	22
Cerebral Haemorrhage	7	4	11
Heart Disease	19	16	35
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	4	7
Bronchitis	-	7	7
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases	-	5	5
Nephritis	1	-	1
Maternal Causes (other than Puerperal Sepsis)	-	2	2
Premature Birth	2	2	4
Congenital Malnutrition, birth injuries & Infant Diseases	2	1	3
Suicide	-	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents...	1	1	2
Other Violent Causes	1	3	4
All other causes...	11	7	18
TOTALS	67	78	145

TABLE 2.

Cases of INFECTIOUS DISEASE notified during the Year 1943.

DISEASE	Total No. Cases notified.	Und.	AT AGES - YEARS										Over 65	WARD DISTRIBUTION			Cases remov- ed to Hosptl.	Total Deaths		
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65		Gen- tral	North	South- East			West	
Scarlet Fever	25	-	-	-	-	3	17	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	17	-	1	17	-
Diphtheria	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	4	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	1	1	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	5	-	-	4	2	1	4	-	-
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	60	1	-	5	4	6	25	14	1	4	-	-	-	32	11	14	3	3	1	
Whooping Cough	31	2	3	3	1	5	15	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	9	9	4	1	1	
Totals	138	3	3	8	5	14	6	20	4	7	5	6	3	52	45	28	13	26	5	

REPORT OF SANITARY

INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Hale Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1943.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of a small number of houses in the added area of Ringway, which derive their water supply from wells, the whole of the urban district is served by the mains of the Manchester Corporation, and a constant supply of excellent quality is maintained, the supply being entirely direct to the houses, and standpipes non-existent.

A scheme for the provision of a mains supply to the houses in Ringway already referred to, has been rejected during the year on the grounds of stringency of labour materials and considered unimportance of the scheme to the war effort generally, but further representations were being made to the Ministry of Health at the close of the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

In the district there remain only 44 pail closets, but the absence of available sewers and mains water supply prevents the installation of water closets at the houses which are at present served by these conveniences.

Total Number of Water Closets	...	...	3,908
Total Number of Pail Closets	...	...	44

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No nuisance has been detected at the one factory chimney which has in the past given cause for complaint.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS, ETC.

One house was found to be infested with bugs during the year; the infestation was not serious and was cleared up after spraying with Zaldecide. One house was found to be infested with fleas, and one with other insects. Both were cleared by fumigation with sulphur.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS

There are several stables and one knacker's yard in the district. Removal of refuse is required weekly. 13 inspections have been made to ensure compliance with this requirement. There is also a fat melting plant, but same is not being used at present.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

COMPLAINTS.

116 complaints were received and investigated during the year.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.

Inspections of dwelling houses re complaints	...	...	127
Inspections of dwelling houses re overcrowding	...	...	25
Number of visits re infectious disease	...	...	38
Disinfections	...	...	18
Inspections of houses for dilapidated ashbins	...	...	14
Inspections of cowsheds...	...	...	32
Inspections of dairies and milkshops	...	...	58
Inspections of Milk Vehicles	...	...	43
Inspections of bakehouses	...	...	33
Inspections of butchers' shops	...	...	7
Inspections of meat after home slaughter	...	...	6
Inspections of fishmongers' shops	...	...	1
Inspections of factory canteens	...	...	1
Inspections of other food shops	...	...	39
Inspections of schools	...	...	8
Inspections of factories (with mechanical power)	...	...	25
Inspections of factories (without mechanical power)	...	...	17
Inspections of other workplaces	...	...	1
Inspections re drainage...	...	...	59
Inspections re Rats and Mice	...	...	43
Inspections re salvage	...	...	27
Inspections re refuse removal...	...	...	5
Inspections of refuse tip	...	...	29
Inspections of knacker's yard...	...	...	8
Inspections of stables	...	...	5
Inspections of piggeries	...	...	4
Miscellaneous inspections	...	...	95
			<u>768</u>
Revisits re work ordered or in progress	...	...	<u>150</u>
Total Number of inspections and revisits	...	...	<u>918</u>
			===

HOUSING.

STATISTICS.

Number of New houses erected during the year:--

- (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)):
- (i) By the Local Authority ... Nil
 - (ii) By other Local Authorities ... Nil
 - (iii) By other bodies and persons ... Nil
- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts ... Nil
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) ... 118
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 118
 - (2)(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... Nil
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... Nil
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... Nil
 - (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 ... 118

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	...	...	105
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	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses 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 Public Health Acts:			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:			
(a) By owners	...	...	Nil
(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	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings not to re-let for human habitation were accepted	...	...	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 - Part IV - Overcrowding:-			
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year...	...	...	2
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	2
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein...	...	...	20
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year...	...	...	Nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	Nil
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	Nil

NOTICES.

Informal Notices served during the year	...	...	87
Statutory Notices served during the year	...	...	Nil
Informal Notices complied with during the year	...	...	91
Statutory Notices complied with during the year	...	...	Nil

IMPROVEMENTS.

HOUSING -

Brickwork repaired or repointed	...	...	1
Damp walls rendered externally or otherwise waterproofed	...	...	1
Roofs repaired and rendered watertight	...	...	9

HOUSING (Continued)

Eaves gutters cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Rain water pipes cleansed or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Firegrates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Window sashcords renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Windows made to open or otherwise repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Wood floors repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Water Service pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Rats and mice exterminated	...	...	...	...	1
Sink Wastepipes renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Disinfested after bugs or fleas	...	...	...	...	3
Domestic hot water systems repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations of refuse, etc. removed	...	...	...	...	2
Nuisance from keeping animals abated	...	...	...	...	1

DRAINAGE -

Public Sewers cleansed	...	...	...	...	7
Public Sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Drainage systems repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	9
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	23
Septic tanks cleansed	...	...	...	...	6
Sub-soil drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	2
Inspection chamber covers renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection chambers constructed or repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Vent shafts or F.A. Inlets repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	2

SANITARY CONVENIENCES -

New basins provided	...	...	...	...	-
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Buildings repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply provided	...	...	...	...	1
W.C. compartments cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Otherwise placed in efficient working order	...	...	...	...	3

WASHING ACCOMMODATION -

Washboilers renewed	1
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

REFUSE RECEPTACLES -

Dilapidated ashbins renewed	...	...	...	...	28
Other improvements	...	...	...	...	<u>12</u>

TOTAL IMPROVEMENTS	...	...	...	...	149
					===

CERTIFICATES OF ESSENTIALITY FOR BUILDING REPAIRS -

9 applications were received during the year and 8 certificates granted.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901

and

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

During the year 43 inspections of factories and workplaces were made; no written notices were served but verbal intimation of infringements was given at 7 premises.

1. INSPECTION for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER OF		
	Inspect- ions, (2)	Written Notices, (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted, (4)
Factories with mechanical power	25	Nil	Nil
Factories without mechanical power	17	Nil	Nil
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises)	1	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	43	Nil	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect to which Pro- secutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspect- or. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):				
Insufficient	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	5	5	-	-
TOTAL	8	8	Nil	Nil

MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE -

Improved means of escape in case of fire was provided at one factory, and the necessary certificate issued.

MILK SUPPLY -

The eight cowsheds and nineteen dairies in the district have maintained a good standard of cleanliness during the year. Three of our eight cowkeepers are now producing "Accredited" milk, and additions to this number are shortly expected, as several producer retailers have indicated that they propose to take out "Accredited" licences as an alternative to compulsory heat treatment of their milk.

There were 60 milk purveyors on the register at the end of 1943. One purveyor was caught putting milk in bottles in the street - he was called before the Council who, on being given assurances that the offence would not occur again, decided to accept such assurances and not to institute legal proceedings in this instance.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936 -

With a view to increasing the consumption of designated milk the Council again decided to issue all licences under the Order free of charge during 1944.

6 licences issued under the Order during the year:

Designation	Dealers	Supplementary	Totals
Tuberculin Tested	2	1	3
Accredited	1	-	1
Pasteurised	-	2	2
Totals	3	3	6

It is believed that several local dairymen are about to become bottlers of Tuberculin Tested or Accredited Milks, as an alternative to supplying Heat Treated Milk, which was envisaged in the Government White Paper. In such cases licences will not be issued without substantial improvement of premises and plant.

The Council's requirements have already been outlined to two dairymen who are about to put reconstruction work in hand.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK -

During the year 53 samples of milk were taken for examination. The detailed results of 156 tests carried out were as follows:-

	Methylene Blue Test		B. Coli		Count Plate Test		Phosphatase Test		Tuberculosis		Total Examinations.
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Negative.	Positive.	
Tuberculin Tested Milk	1	8	2	7	-	-	-	-	5	-	23
Accredited Milk	4	4	7	1	-	-	-	-	6	1	23
Pasteurised Milk	-	-	*4	*3	4	3	6	1	5	-	26
Non-Designated Milk	*16	*13	*19	*10	-	-	-	-	25	1	84
Totals	21	25	32	21	4	3	6	1	41	2	156

In considering these tabulated results it should be borne in mind that the figures marked with an Asterisk (*) refer to tests which are not supported by any legal standard, and whilst they form a useful guide it is not practicable to take strong action with regard to them. It is to be hoped that the time is not too far distant when some legal bacteriological standard will be enforceable for all milk; the Government Scheme for testing at bulk stations by means of the Resazurin Test, with consequent financial loss to producers of milk below certain standards, could with advantage be extended as soon as possible to the milk of small retailers and producer retailers.

The results of the tests show clearly that the quality of the milk supplied to the district during the year leaves much to be desired; the milk produced in the district was in the main satisfactory, and the unsatisfactory supplies are brought in from other district, most of these unsatisfactory samples were due to transport delays, coupled with the shortage of agricultural labour.

The very unsatisfactory results shown for Tuberculin Tested milk are nearly all reflected in one supply; the matter was taken up very strongly by the County Council, but transport delays meant that milk of this high grade was reaching the consumer upwards of 24 hours old; the firm in question agreed to deliver the milk to the consumer immediately on receipt and considerable improvement resulted. I am happy to say that the supply in question is no longer coming into this district and the firm in question obtain their milk from a more local source which allows them to deliver within a few hours of production.

Particular attention was paid to the milk supplied to the schools, and after a series of samples and action by the County Council, improvement was effected and the samples generally reached the required standard. One sample taken, said to be heat-treated milk, showed a count of 2,800,000 bacteria per c.c. with B. Coli in 3 tubes out of 3, and a phosphatase test showed it to be entirely raw milk. That such a sample should be possible shows the importance of frequent sampling of school milk at the school and not at the producer's premises.

During the year a complaint was received that a local resident was suffering from a sore throat attributable by examination to milk - a sample was taken and the milk was free from the organism which might have caused the throat condition referred to.

It is pleasing to report that only 2 tuberculous samples were revealed from 43 samples, and positive action resulted in the destruction of 5 cows under the Tuberculosis Order and the voluntary slaughter by the farmer of a further five, amongst which it is probable there were further "suspects".

All the examinations were carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are no registered or licensed slaughterhouses in the district. Butchers obtain their meat supplies from Altrincham. 7 visits have been made to the shops, and the meat exposed for sale was of good quality. 6 pigs slaughtered for home consumption at farm premises were inspected, and 1 pig's head was found to be tuberculous and condemned and destroyed.

The following foods were also condemned and destroyed:-

- 38 lbs. Cheese.
- 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Butter.
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Lard.
- 8 lbs. Pork.
- 501 tins assorted foods.

This rise in condemned food does not necessarily imply a deterioration in quality of canned foods, but is probably brought about by the desire of tradesmen to seek compensation for the ration values thereby lost.

A small quantity of butter condemned was suspected not to be genuine butter and the circumstances were reported to the Food & Drugs Inspector of the Cheshire County Council.

A complaint was also received that dirty bread was being produced by a local bakery; investigations were made and all baking tins renewed, since when no further complaint has arisen.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 -
SAMPLING -

The taking of samples under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is carried out by the Cheshire County Council.

I am indebted to Mr. S. Hallard, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector, Cheshire County Council, for the following report on the work under this heading, carried out during the year:-

Name of Sample	Number of samples obtained.	Number not up to standard or Adulterated
Butter	1	-
Cheese	1	-
Gelatine	1	-
Lard	1	-
Margarine... ..	1	-
Milk	28	5
Sugar	1	-
Tea	1	-
Total	35	5

Particulars of the five Milk samples certified as adulterated or not up to Standard.

No.	Analysis	Action Taken	Remarks
1	Deficient in Non-Fatty Solids to the extent of 4.7%.	Sample was abnormal therefore no action.	Taken from same retailer as No.2.
2	Adulterated with 10.7% of Extraneous Water.	None, as supplying farmer was prosecuted.	Sample purchased from retailer in street. See Nos.3, 4, and 5.
3	Adulterated with 6.2% of Extraneous Water.	These samples were taken from three churns in course of delivery from a farmer to the retailer who sold No.2.	Farmer was prosecuted and fined £5 and £2.12.6 costs on the one summons issued.
4	Adulterated with 11.4% of Extraneous water.		
5	Adulterated with 6.1% of Extraneous Water.		

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE -

The collection of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole district, the ashbins in the district being emptied once a fortnight. Shortage of labour of the right type has been wholly responsible for any reduction of efficiency or regularity of the service which may have been evident during the year.

SALVAGE -

The 130 Salvage Stewards still continue to operate fairly successfully, and a weekly collection is made from sacks which they put out each week. In addition salvage is collected by the refuse collectors. During the year a new storage depot was provided at Grove Lane. The collections show a considerable reduction on the peak figures for last year - the reduction was mainly in paper and metals and is in my opinion quite understandable at this stage of the effort.

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT			VALUE		
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Mixed Paper and Cardboard	94	10	2	602.	11.	7
Newspaper	3	5	3	29.	4.	2
Selected Waste Paper ...	2	14	-	18.	18.	0
Heavy Iron	2	1	-	5.	2.	6
Light Iron & Tins	18	18	3	19.	4.	3
Other Metals... ..	-	1	2	1.	11.	2
Rags and other Textiles ...	4	13	3	61.	12.	0
Bottles	9	8	-	12.	12.	0
Bones	7	2	-	33.	14.	4
Rubber	3	2	1	7.	15.	7
Totals... ..	145	17	2	£792.	5.	7
Totals for 1942	241	11	2	£1148.	11.	6

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. J. SEADY,

Sanitary Inspector.

