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Haydock
Urban District Council



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
1959

HAYDOCK
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
1959.

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Council Offices,
Church Road,
HAYDOCK.
Lancashire.

HAYDOCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
1959

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Vice-Chairman of the Council:

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health:

A. C. CRAWFORD, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Public Health Inspector:

R. V. WATKIN, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Qualified Meat and Other Foods Inspector (R.S.I.)

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
HEALTH COMMITTEE, HAYDOCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your perusal and approval my Annual Report, as Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1959, which report, as customary, includes information relating to personal health services provided by the County Council as a Local Health Authority in addition to matters appertaining to the environmental health of the community, including particularly the vital statistics relating thereto and other indices which have now come to be regarded as measures of the degree of effectiveness of the precautions adopted. One of these, the perinatal mortality rate, is now included for the first time, being generally accepted as presenting a truer picture of progress made in the field of ante-natal care and obstetrics than the infant and neo-natal mortality rates, which have been in use for many years.

Consideration of the vital statistics of the Urban District reveals only minor changes from 1958. Whilst the boundaries and area remain the same, there has been a small increase in the estimated mid-year population of 110, from 11,950 to 12,060, and in the number of inhabited houses, from 3,504 at the end of 1958 to 3,602 at the end of the current year, a rise of 98. The actual number of live births, 228, is in fact the highest for many years, since 1947, when the total of 282 live births were recorded at the peak of the "post-war bulge". The year's total, being 31 more than in 1958, represents a "crude live birth rate" of 18.9 per 1,000 population, and an "adjusted" rate of 18.1 per 1,000 when multiplied by the comparability factor of 0.96 supplied by the Registrar General. This adjusted live birth rate, with which may be compared the overall rate for England and Wales, is in fact 1.6 per 1,000 better than the latter, which stands at 16.5/1,000. The number of illegitimate live births was only 3, or 1.7% of the total - a very creditable proportion indeed, and considerably lower than in many neighbouring areas of similar size and industrial background.

Unfortunately this higher live birth rate is offset by an increase during the year in the number of stillborn babies, which were 10 in number, representing a stillbirth rate of 42.0 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. This is the highest actual number, and the highest stillbirth rate since 1955, when the figures were 11 and 55 respectively. The total of infant deaths was 7, 1 less than last year, giving an infant mortality rate of 30.7 per 1,000 births, as compared with 40.6 in 1958 and with 29.1 for the quinquennial mean of the years 1954-58 inclusive. All 7 infant deaths did in fact occur within the first four weeks of life, making the neo-natal death rate the same as the infant death rate: and the perinatal mortality rate, referred to in my first paragraph above, was 67.2 per 1,000 total births.

This index is arrived at by taking the sum of the number of still-births and the number of deaths in the first week of life, and expressing this as a ratio per 1,000 total (live and still) births. Consideration of the above shows that the Haydock rates, although better than those for England and Wales as regards live births, are below those for the country in respect of neo-natal and infant mortality, which for the latter is 20.7/1,000 live births, and for the former 15.8/1,000 live births. The stillbirth rate of the district (42/1,000 total births) is also regrettably higher than the comparable rate of 20.7/1,000 for England and Wales: but it is a well known fact that stillbirths are unfortunately relatively higher throughout the country generally, in the heavily industrialised centres of the Midlands, the North West, and the North East. There were, however, no maternal deaths recorded during the year - the last occurred in 1956.

Turning next to the mortality rates in general, the total of 132 deaths from all causes - (exactly the same number as in 1958) gives a rate of 10.9/1,000 population, slightly less than the 11.0/1,000 last year, and than the quinquennial mean figure of 11.2 for the period 1954-58 inclusive. When corrected by the comparability factor of 1.19, the adjusted rate becomes 13.0/1,000, which again is lower than in 1958, but greater than for England and Wales, which in the current year was 11.6/1,000. An analysis of the total deaths, based on their causation yields the now familiar pattern; first place in the group frequencies is taken by diseases of the heart and circulation, totalling 73 in all, if one includes the cerebro-vascular diseases or "strokes", of which there were 28. Of this group, 45 excluding the strokes, there were 15 cases of coronary disease or angina and 26 of other types of heart disease. In second place comes diseases of the respiratory system, with which if we include influenza (5 deaths) with bronchitis (6) and pneumonia (5) deaths, makes this group total 17: whilst closely following in third place this time, come 15 deaths due to cancer in one or other of its many forms. The fourth of the series, with a total of 14 deaths, is a group of very varied and heterogenous diseases designated "other defined and ill-defined diseases" for this very reason: and lastly 7 deaths were due to "other than natural causes" in one form or another of violence, of which 1 resulted from a road accident, 4 from other forms of accident, and 2 from suicide.

The year shewed a relatively heavy incidence of notifiable diseases, the total of 318 being the highest since 1951 (when 599 were received). The very wide difference from last year's total of 44 clearly demonstrates the importance of making comparisons with the mean figures taken over a period of several years (usually five) - the "quinquennial mean" for the years in question: this was 241 for 1954-1958. As is usually the case, by far the greatest number of notifications received were of measles, of which there were 240: but the year also shewed a higher incidence of primary or influenzal pneumonia (18 cases) than has been the case since 1950 and 1951,

when there were 17 and 74 notifications respectively. Whooping Cough also, with 41 cases, was more prevalent than since 1955, a rather disappointing feature when one considers the effort exerted during the past decade to protect by active immunisation against this unpleasant and often dangerous disease. Scarlet fever (12 cases) although showing a slightly higher incidence than in 1957 and 1958 was not unduly prevalent, and notifications of respiratory tuberculosis, 6 in number, although also higher than last year, were lower than the quinquennial mean of 8 for the years '54-'58. Once again there were no cases of diphtheria - (the last case notified in the district was in 1952) - nor of the enteric (typhoid) group fevers, dysentery, food poisoning, meningitis, poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis, erysipelas or ophthalmia neonatorum: there was, however, one of puerperal pyrexia.

The general scope of the personal health services provided by the Lancashire County Council in accordance with the National Health Service Act of 1946 has remained the same, although the use made of these services by the public has been on a somewhat reduced scale. So far as relates to the care of mothers and young children, the number of expectant mothers who attended the Consultant Obstetrician's Sessions (held fortnightly) at the ante-natal clinic was 52, and the total attendances 294, as compared with 60 and 292 respectively in 1958. At the weekly Child Welfare Centre Sessions, which cover both the mornings and afternoons of each Wednesday, a total of 430 individual children made 4486 attendances, as against 439 and 5465 in 1958 - a 20% fall in the number of attendances by each child. This reduction is noticed among all the age groups attending, even in those infants less than one year old; but is most pronounced in the "toddler" group of 2-4 year olds: a review of the relevant figures over the past ten years shews a steadily increasing usage of clinic facilities from 1950 to 1956, since when the trend has been steadily downwards, despite the fact that the actual number of live-births, and the crude birth rate, have shewn but small variations. One possible explanation of this may be the increased time devoted by the health visitors to the intensive propaganda on poliomyelitis vaccination since 1956 - the peak year for attendances, but several other factors may also have influenced the position, as for example a stricter control of the sales of auxiliary foodstuffs, and changes in staff. Whatever the cause, it is clear that our maternal and child welfare statistical indices have unfortunately regressed in the course of the last two or three years.

Out of the 228 live births, 197 were born at home, practically the same number as last year, when live births totalled 194. Thus some 62% of the births took place in hospital and 38% in the home, with only 1 case of puerperal pyrexia, and no maternal death - a very satisfactory record and tribute to the efficiency of the work carried out by our midwives, working closely in conjunction with local general practitioners having a close interest in obstetric practice. The dental care of expectant and nursing mothers, (and of course, of school children and children of pre-school age) has been ably undertaken by Mr. Meekin, who has succeeded Mr. A. E. Shaw as the Dental

Officer in charge at the School Clinic. The latter served our local community and district, and others, for nearly thirty years, (including his service with the Royal Air Force during the War), and the value of his professional skill and care in fostering the dental health of the district cannot possibly be over emphasised. His appointment as Senior Dental Officer to a large County Borough in Lancashire, well deserved and merited as it has indeed been, has been a loss to the people of Haydock which it will be difficult to replace.

The steady and unspectacular work of "the district nurse" in the home has continued to augment the work of the local doctors, with whom she works in the closest liaison: the major portion of her time as would be expected, has been devoted to the elderly sick and infirm. The fact that she is the only "Home Nurse" in a district with our population of almost twelve thousand people, attended as necessary day after day throughout the year, not only without complaint but with affection and approval is in itself a clear indication of the high degree of skill and competence she displays.

Demand for the Home-help Service has not in the current year been quite so high as in 1958, but some 66 cases, of which 50 were persons aged 65 or over, were given the necessary help in their homes by a staff of 19 part-time "helps", the great majority of whom are persons recruited locally. The aims of this service, and the great tradition it has created in the wide field of Social Welfare are too well known to need reiteration here, but certainly a large number of independently-minded old people are with its help able to remain in the tranquillity of loved and familiar surroundings during the evening of their lives, a revolutionary contrast to the conditions prevailing only a short generation ago.

Of the measures specifically designed to prevent epidemic illness, as distinct from those which aim to promote and maintain health, those of vaccination and immunisation against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and of course poliomyelitis are of course the most important, but of the 191 surviving babies born in 1958, no fewer than 157 were vaccinated against smallpox, a very creditable acceptance rate of 82%, the same as last year. The proportion of children under 15 years of age at 31st December 1959 who have received protective injections against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is estimated at 84%, well above the mean proportion of 65% for the whole Health Division: and in an intensive effort to protect the population against poliomyelitis (especially those groups known to be particularly vulnerable, a total of 2025 under 26 years old were so protected, of which total 1340 were children under the age of 15 years. In addition, 1445 persons received the third or "booster" dose in conformity with the present official Ministry of Health policy. The number of "primary course" inoculations to children under 15 was thus more than twice the number given in 1958. The present position therefore, is that some 25% of the total population of the district has secured for itself a very material degree of protection, which at an approximate estimate amounts to an acceptance by some 75% of those persons eligible to receive it.

During the current year radio-control of the Ambulance Service operationally has developed to a degree whereby the whole of Health Division No.10, including Haydock, has been brought into the general scheme, the result of which, in brief, has been to speed up both the emergency and the "hospital ferry" service, whilst effecting also an overall reduction in "miles per case carried". But in so far as the people of Haydock are concerned, the number of "emergency", (including infectious) cases carried increased to 410 (as against 350 in 1958) that of non-urgent cases decreased, from 2071 last year to 1739 in the present year, whilst the overall total of cases carried fell to 2149 as compared with 2421 in 1958. There were no "major incidents" to record.

It remains as one of the statutory matters to be dealt with in this Report to consider in relation to local ecology those matters to which attention should especially be directed. In first place I would emphasize the housing needs of our population, and say with respect that much remains to be done before the situation can be regarded as satisfactory: schemes for slum clearance and demolition previously considered and approved deserve urgent implementation in the interests of the community through the individual and particularly through the true unit of any localised society, the family. Although by statutory standards and definitions overcrowding is fortunately rare, many cases of "moral overcrowding" exist which call for remedy - which I envisage as a far-sighted decision to provide for the general housing needs of the district, by building and by acquisition and improvement where possible. Secondly, in my view, come the steps and decisions requisite to secure clean air for our people, in co-operation with neighbouring authorities: thirdly, the completion of the sewerage schemes now in progress. Finally, I should like to see all the older schools in the district replaced by light airy buildings of modern design and construction, allowing the circulation of fresh pure air and the access of sunlight, health-giving to a degree, I venture to suggest, as yet unknown.

In conclusion, I would record my thanks to every member of the Health Committee and of the Council for your interest in the health services of the community, for the confidence you repose in your responsible officers, including myself, in our endeavours to promote the welfare and happiness of the community we all serve. It deserves our loyal service, our closest interest, our best endeavour, each and all: and none can be effective except as a team member constantly striving towards the goal of good health. In my position as Medical Officer of Health I enjoy the most able help of your Public Health Inspector Mr. Watkin, whose functions and responsibilities are so closely entwined with my own, and who earns my very sincere gratitude and respect for his support and co-operation. I would also record my appreciation of the ever-ready assistance and advice of all the Chief Officers of the Council, with whom, I am indeed happy to say, my personal relations are, and have always been most cordial.

I have the honour to be,

Yours obediently,

A. C. CRAWFORD.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION 1.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (acres)	2,395
Population (Census 1951)	11,838
Population (Registrar-General's estimate for mid-1959)..	12,060
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	2,029
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1959 according to Rate Books	3,602
Rateable Value	£99,267
Sum represented by 1d rate	£420

The Township of Haydock extends from St. Helens C.B. in the West to the Urban District of Golborne in the East, a distance of approximately $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles. It is bounded on the North side by the Urban District of Ashton-in-Makerfield and on the South side by the Urban District of Newton-le-Willows.

The district is without any marked undulation of surface, the height above mean sea-level varying from 65 feet at the bottom of West End Road to 200 feet at the top of Millfield Lane.

The sub-soil consists of clay and marl with occasional beds of sand. Surface water gravitates via the various brooks and streams in the district to Sankey Brook.

The occupations of the working population are principally coal mining, engineering in connection with the Collieries and general light engineering.

SECTION 2.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

Legitimate - 116 Male, 109 Female	...	...	...	Total	225
Illegitimate - 3 Male, 0 Female	...	...	...	Total	3
Total Live Births					228
CRUDE BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	...	...			18.9
ADJUSTED BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	...	...			18.1

STILLBIRTHS

4 Male, 6 Female	...	...	...	...	Total	10
RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL (LIVE AND STILL) BIRTHS				...		42.0

DEATHS

70 Male, 62 Female	...	...	...	...	...	Total	132
CRUDE DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	...	...					10.9
ADJUSTED DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	...	...					13.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY	...	...	...	...	...		NIL
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE	...	...					7
RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	...	...	...	...			30.7

NEO-MORTALITY

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	...	...					7
MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	...	...					30.7

POPULATION: At the Census in 1951 the population enumerated was 11,838. The Registrar-General's estimate for mid-1959 was 12,060 and this figure has been used in calculations of statistics in this report.

BIRTHS: During the year there were registered 228 live births, being 119 males and 109 females, to Haydock parents, representing a crude birth rate of 18.9 per 1,000 of the population and adjusted birth rate of 18.1; the birth rate for England and Wales was 16.5.

There were 10 stillbirths giving a rate per thousand (live and still) births of 40.0.

DEATHS: The total number of deaths of Haydock residents whether within or without the district was 132, comprising 70 males and 62 females. The crude death-rate for 1959 was therefore 10.9 per 1,000 of the population and the adjusted rate 13.0 as compared with a death-rate of 11.6 per 1,000 for England and Wales as a whole.

It will be noticed that the increase of births over deaths - the "natural increase" - for Haydock during the year was 96.

INFANT MORTALITY: Deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 7 giving a rate per 1,000 live births of 30.7. The rate for England and Wales was 20.7.

There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.

MATERNAL MORTALITY: There were no "Maternal deaths" i.e. deaths due to or associated with pregnancy or parturition.

COMPARABILITY OF CRUDE LIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES: If the populations of all areas were similarly constituted as regards the proportions of their sex and age groups, their crude rates for live births and deaths (per 1,000 population) could be accepted as valid for purposes of comparison with other areas and with the country as a whole.

As the population of the areas are not thus similarly constituted the Registrar-General supplies "comparability factors" to each area, by which the crude live birth and death rates of the area are "weighted" to give the "adjusted" rates, which are truly comparable with the adjusted rates of other areas.

For this area the live birth rate comparability factor is 0.96 and the adjusted Live Birth-rate becomes 18.1 per 1,000. The Death-rate comparability factor is 1.19 and the adjusted Death-rate is therefore 13.0 per 1,000.

COMPARISONS OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, ETC: The tables on the following pages give comparisons of the Births, Deaths, etc., for the year 1959 and for the preceding 5 years; also the causes of death in the Haydock Urban District for the year 1959.

VITAL STATISTICS-COMPARATIVE TABLE

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		INFANT MORTALITY		
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	Neo-Natal
HAYDOCK U.D.											
Year 1959	228	*18.9	132	*10.9	10	42.0	Nil	Nil	7	30.7	7
1958	197	16.5	132	11.0	5	24.8	Nil	Nil	8	40.6	6
1957	194	16.4	100	8.4	5	25	Nil	Nil	6	31	4
1956	187	15.8	134	11.4	7	36	1	5.15	5	27	3
1955	189	15.9	151	12.7	11	55	Nil	Nil	4	21	4
1954	196	16.5	148	12.5	6	30	1	4.95	5	26	5
Average 5 years 1954-1958	-	16.2	-	11.2	-	34.2	-	-	-	29.1	-
											22.9

* Adjusted (live-birth rate comparability factor, 0.96) = 18.1 per 1,000.
 (death-rate comparability factor, 1.19) = 13.0 per 1,000.

COMPARATIVE TABLES
GENERAL VITAL STATISTICS

Rates per 1,000 Population

	Haydock U. D.	England and Wales
Live Births Rate adjusted	18.1	16.5
Still Birth Rate (a)	42.0	20.7 (a)
Neo-natal Deaths (b)	30.7	15.8 (b)
Total Infant Deaths (b)	30.7	22.0 (b)
Maternal Mortality (a)	Nil	0.38(a)
Total Death Rate adjusted	13.0	11.6
(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births		
(b) Per 1,000 related births		

NOTIFICATION RATES AND DEATH RATES OF THE PRINCIPAL
NOTIFIABLE - AND OTHER IMPORTANT DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

All rates are shewn per 1,000 population

Disease	Haydock U.D.		England and Wales	
	Notific- ations	Deaths	Notific- ations	Deaths
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever	0.000		0.011	
Dysentery	0.000		0.784	
Food Poisoning	0.000		0.220	
Diphtheria	0.000		0.002	
Scarlet Fever	0.952		1.055	
Whooping Cough	3.254		0.732	
Measles	19.048		11.880	
Meningococcal Infection	0.000		0.016	
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	0.000		0.016	
Acute Encephalitis Infective	0.000		0.003	
Pneumonia (Primary)	1.429		0.590	
Tuberculosis:				
(Respiratory)	0.476		0.540	0.077
(Non-respiratory)	0.000		0.063	0.008
Total	0.476		0.603	0.085
DISEASES OF HEART AND CIRCULATION:				
Coronary Disease Angina		1.19		
Strokes		2.22		
Hypertension		0.00		
Other		2.06		
Total - All Forms		5.47		
CANCER:				
Lungs and Bronchus		0.08		0.46
Other		0.24		1.68
Total - All Forms		0.32		2.14
VIOLENCE:				
Accidents (motor vehicle)		0.08		
(Other)		0.32		
Total		0.40		
Suicide and Homicide		0.16		
Total due to Violence		0.96		

CAUSES OF DEATH-HAYDOCK U.D. 1959

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
All Causes	70	62	132
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other forms	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasms-			
Stomach	-	1	1
Lung, Bronchus	-	1	1
Breast	-	1	1
Uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	2	10
Leukaemia, alukaemia	-	1	1
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	12	16	28
Coronary disease, angina	11	4	15
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
Other heart disease	11	15	26
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
Influenza	-	5	5
Pneumonia	3	2	5
Bronchitis	5	1	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcers of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	5	14
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	-	2	2
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-

SECTION 3.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES - PREVENTION AND CONTROL

In the preface to this Report I have made comment on the general incidence of notifiable disease in the Urban District throughout the current year, and have also indicated the variations in the statistics which relate to specific types of infectious illness.

ISOLATION AND DISINFECTION

The Infectious Diseases Hospital at Peasley Cross, St. Helens, is available for the treatment of Haydock cases.

8 cases from Haydock were admitted during 1959.

The use of the steam disinfecter at the hospital is also available for the disinfection of bedding and clothing as and when required.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1959

NOTIFICATIONS IN RESPECT OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES NUMBERED 318. THE SUB-JOINED TABLE
GIVES THE CORRECTED FIGURES AND THE TOTAL DEATHS

Disease	Total cases at all ages	Cases Notified										Total Deaths
		Age Periods - Years										
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 and over	Age Un-known	
Scarlet Fever ...	12	-	-	-	2	3	5	1	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	41	5	4	2	3	5	20	2	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis-Paralytic ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis-Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles ...	240	5	26	29	31	35	111	2	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ...	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		0-	5-	15-	45-	65 and over	Age Unknown					
Acute Pneumonia ...	18	1	3	5	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis-Respiratory ...	6	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis-Other ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

HAYDOCK URBAN DISTRICT
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES-COMPARATIVE TABLES

Disease	1959		1958		1957		1956		1955		1954		Quinquennial Mean 1954-1958	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	12	-	9	-	11	-	21	-	37	-	20	-	20	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	240	-	27	-	256	-	167	-	171	-	63	-	137	-
Whooping Cough	41	-	2	-	18	-	23	-	43	-	9	-	19	-
Enteric Group Fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	0.4	-
Dysentery	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	35	-	198	-	47	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.6	-

(Table continued on Page 20)

(Table continued from Page 19)

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES-COMPARATIVE TABLES

	1959		1958		1957		1956		1955		1954		Quinquenn- -ial Mean 1954-1958	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	0.2.
Acute Encephalitis- infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	0.2	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	0.8	-
Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia	18	-	1	-	7	-	5	-	10	-	4	-	5	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	6	-	2	-	8	2	12	-	6	-	11	4	8	1.2
Tuberculosis, Non- Respiratory	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	0.6	0.2
Total	318	-	44	-	312	3	231	-	307	1	309	4	241	1.6

SECTION 4.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The supply of water to the district is now the responsibility of the St. Helens Corporation who, by agreement with the Council, assumed control of the undertaking in April, 1958.

The bulk of the water consumed in the district comes from the Rivington reservoirs belonging to the Liverpool Corporation.

During the year 4 samples of the public supply were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Liverpool; all were satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

MILK

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, the numbers of Registered distributors were as follows:-

Distributors operating from:-

Dairies in the district	...	...	...	...	1
Shops in the district other than dairies	...	...	...	...	39
Premises outside the district	...	...	...	...	4

Licences issued by the local authority under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, in respect of the several designated milks were as follows:-

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	11
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	50
Total	...	...	...	...	...	<u>75</u>

The Haydock Urban District forms part of a "Specified Area" under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) No.3) Order, 1953 and all milk sold by retail in Haydock is either "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)", "Pasteurised" or "Sterilised".

Samples of milk as under were taken periodically from all milk producers and retailers in the area and tested by the Public Health Laboratory Service for keeping quality.

"HEAT TREATED" MILK

Methylene Blue reduction test. No of samples	11
No. satisfactory 9. No. unsatisfactory 2.	
Phosphatase test. No. of samples	11
Turbidity test. No. of samples	8
No. satisfactory 19. No. unsatisfactory Nil.	

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no slaughter-houses in operation in the area. Six persons are licenced by the local authority to slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1958.

The number and types of food premises in the area at the end of 1959 were as hereunder:-

Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	...	45
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	6
Meat Shops	...	...	...	8
Bakers and/or Confectioners	...	...	...	4
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	8
Shops, selling mainly Sweets, Minerals, Ice-Cream etc.				16
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens, Restaurants, Snack-bars and similar Catering Establishments				24
Others	...	...	...	4

All were inspected systematically during the year, in addition to special visits.

The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and destroyed by means of incineration or burial.

Foodstuff

Canned Meat	124 lbs
Miscellaneous Canned Food	21 lbs
Lobsters	20 lbs

No cases of food poisoning have occurred.

32 shops in the district are registered under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, for the sale of ice-cream. In each case a refrigerator is installed in the shop and the ice-cream is sold wrapped as delivered to the shop.

There are no ice-cream manufacturers in the district.

The local authority is not a Food and Drugs Authority and sampling of food (under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955), for adulteration etc., is carried out by County Council inspectors.

Samples taken in the district during the year and submitted for analysis were:-

Milk	41
Fruit curd	2
Sauce	6
Soup, canned	6
Icing sugar	1
Demerara Sugar	1
Caster sugar	1
Sugar	2

All of the samples obtained were found, on analysis, to be genuine.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

With the exception of a few out-lying premises all property is connected to the public sewers.

The western half of the district is served by the Parr Sewage Works, St. Helens, which is situated partly in the Haydock district and which came into operation early in 1958.

The new sewerage scheme for the eastern portion of the district, - part of the Sankey Valley Sewerage Scheme, came into operation in November, 1959. This means that only one small sewage disposal works situated in the central part of the district now remains in operation.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION (HOUSES AND SCHOOLS)

The numbers of the various types of conservancy measures in the district at the end of 1959 are as follows:-

Privy Middins	3
Pail Closets	1
Trough Closets	Nil
Waste-water Closets	Nil
Fresh-water Closets	3955
Dry Ashpits	Nil
Ashbins	3755

All the schools in the district now have reasonably satisfactory sanitary accommodation and are connected to the public mains for water supply and to the public sewers for sewage disposal.

Washing and drinking facilities however are generally inadequate and require modernisation.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE

The collection of refuse is carried out under the control of the Council's Surveyor. Two motor vehicles are in operation and all dustbins are emptied weekly. Refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping; paper, cardboard etc., is collected separately and sold as salvage.

RODENT CONTROL

Although infestations of rats and mice in the district are generally of a minor nature, the sewers, sewage works and refuse tips are subject to constant observation and regular treatments in accordance with the methods recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Division.

Occupiers of dwelling houses are encouraged to report infestations of rats and mice, no charge being made for disinfection work carried out by the local authority at this type of property.

Total inspections (including reinspections) carried out, and number of infestations found and treated were as follows:-

	Inspected	Treated
Dwelling Houses	240	82
Other Premises	118	20
Agricultural Property	57	3

Total treatments, including re-treatments, numbered 133.

DISINFESTATION

Infestations of houses with insect pests were dealt with by the use of D.D.T. insecticide and powder, with good results.

The number and types of infestations of houses dealt with during the year were as follows:-

Cockroaches	29 houses
Ants	60 "
Flies	21 "
Bugs	4 "
Silverfish	2 "
Moths	1 house

In addition, an infestation of cockroaches at a Colliery Canteen was cleared.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Only one establishment, used for tripe dressing, falls into this category.

Periodical inspections showed that the premises are clean and well maintained.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

Four sites in the district were used for camping purposes, Licences were issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to the occupiers of 4 individual movable dwellings to station and use their caravans on the sites.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Shops Authority in this area is the Lancashire County Council, but inspectorial duties are carried out by the Public Health Inspector who, for that purpose, has been appointed Shops Inspector by the County Council.

There are 143 shops in the district and inspections during the year numbered 271.

The provisions of the Act relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary accommodation are the concern of the local sanitary authority, and in this regard, several minor contraventions were noted and remedied by informal action.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

13 premises were licenced to keep petroleum spirit and one to keep petroleum mixtures. Visits of inspection to new and existing installations numbered 18.

One licence to keep carbide of calcium was renewed.

Income from licence fees amounted to £12.13. 9d.

SECTION 5.

HOUSING

At the end of 1959, according to the Rate books, the total number of houses in the area was 3602.

More than half of this number are of the two-bedroom type, the majority of the remainder having three bedrooms.

During 1959, 14 traditional permanent houses were erected by the local authority and 71 by private enterprise.

14 houses were demolished as a result of action under Sections 17 and 42 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Applications for improvement grants were made in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, and the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, by the owners of 9 houses; all were approved by the Local Authority.

During the year, work of improvement was completed at 5 houses.

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

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	375
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	900
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in the area considered to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	60
(3) 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 but capable of being rendered fit	259

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	279
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	Nil
--	-----

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	7
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
--	--

(a) by owners	...	...	...	5
---------------	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) by local authority in default of owners...	1
--	---

(c) Proceedings under Section 17(1) of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

RENT ACT, 1957

This Act came into force on the 6th July, 1957, one of its objects being to improve the lot of both landlords and tenants of houses remaining in control.

The Act makes provision for the landlord to increase the rent, within limits, and for the tenant to require the landlord to remedy such defects in the house which ought reasonably to be remedied having due regard to the age, character and locality of the dwelling.

To achieve this object, the tenant is required to serve a notice on his landlord specifying the defects which he thinks should be remedied. The landlord has six weeks in which to do the work or give an undertaking that the work will be done. If he does neither of these things, the tenant may apply to the local authority for a certificate of disrepair in relation to the defects specified in his notice to the landlord.

When the local authority have decided that the issue of a certificate of disrepair is justified they must notify the landlord and allow him three weeks to reconsider the giving of an undertaking.

If no undertaking is given, and a certificate of disrepair is issued, the landlord may apply to the local authority for cancellation of the certificate if he subsequently does the work.

For the tenant, the effect of the granting of a certificate, or of failure to carry out an undertaking within six months of the giving of it, is an abatement of the rent.

During the year 4 applications for certificates of disrepair were received and in each case the landlord was notified of the authority's intention to issue a certificate for all or some of the defects on the notice served by the tenant on the landlord.

3 undertakings were accepted from landlords and 1 certificate of disrepair was issued.

2 applications for cancellation of certificates of disrepair were received from landlords, one was granted.

Since the commencement of the Act, 69 applications for Certificates of disrepair have been received from tenants, 33 Undertakings to repair accepted from landlords and 35 Certificates of disrepair issued to tenants.

SECTION 6

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL HYGIENE

There are 22 registered factories in the district comprising 16 factories in which mechanical power is used, and 6 without mechanical power.

The types of factory are:-

Engineering	...	...	...	...	7
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	4
Brick-making	...	...	...	...	1
Boot and Shoe Repairs	...	...	...	...	1
Joinery	...	...	...	...	3
Pre-cast concrete goods	...	...	...	...	1
Laundry	...	...	...	...	2
Hinge-making and Electro-plating	...	...	...	...	1
Scrap-yard	...	...	...	...	1
Cycle and Radio Repairs	...	...	...	...	1

31 visits of inspection were made during the year.

SECTION 7.
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION
SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, VISITS, ETC.

Dwelling-houses (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	...	375
Re-inspections and re-visits to above ...	...	...	...	...	525
Housing conditions and overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...	50
Application for Certificate of disrepair (Inspections & visits)					8
Application for Improvement Grants (" " ")					12
Water supply (inspections and re-inspections) ...	...	...	...	...	85
Drainage (inspections and re-inspections)...	...	...	...	...	99
Ditches and Water Courses (inspections and re-inspections)				...	37
Accumulations of refuse ...	...	...	...	...	10
Piggeries and keeping of animals ...	...	...	...	...	11
Movable Dwellings ...	...	...	...	...	7
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	5
Cinemas ...	...	...	...	...	1
Offensive Trades ...	...	...	...	...	2
Rodent Control ...	...	...	...	...	358
Disinfestation of Premises ...	...	...	...	...	160
Infectious disease enquiries and disinfections ...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies ...	...	...	...	...	2
Food shops and premises ...	...	...	...	...	195
Other shops ...	...	...	...	...	124
Factories ...	...	...	...	...	27
Interviews with Owners, Contractors etc. ...	...	...	...	...	17
Milk samples ...	...	...	...	...	19
Water samples ...	...	...	...	...	4
Petroleum ...	...	...	...	...	18
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	86

Total 2246

Number of Nuisances or Defects discovered ...	...	...	...	465
Number of Informal Notices served ...	...	...	...	97
Verbal Notices and/or letters ...	...	...	...	162
Number of Statutory Notices served ...	...	...	...	7
Number of Notices complied with (including Verbal notices) ...	...	...	...	252
Number of Nuisances or defects abated ...	...	...	...	472

ANALYSIS OF DEFECTS

Type of Defect				No. discovered	No. remedied
Water Closets	...	...	...	46	40
Drains	...	...	...	49	50
Water Supply	...	...	...	34	51
Sinks	...	...	...	3	2
Waste Pipes	...	...	...	5	4
Dustbins	...	...	...	105	108
Washboilers	...	...	...	3	2
Roofs	...	...	...	14	16
Chimneys and Flues	...	...	...	7	7
Eavesgutters	...	...	...	31	36
Downspouts	...	...	...	5	12
Brickwork and/or Pointing	...	...	...	30	19
Plastering	...	...	...	15	17
Floors	...	...	...	7	8
Windows	...	...	...	28	36
Doors	...	...	...	14	14
Firegrates	...	...	...	3	2
Dampness	...	...	...	24	14
Yard Paving	...	...	...	-	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	42	31
Total				465	472

SECTION 8.

PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH AND ANCILLARY
SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

(1) LABORATORY ARRANGEMENTS

(PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE, AND COUNTY ANALYST'S
DEPARTMENT)

Pathological specimens, samples of milk, foodstuffs, "swabs", etc. for bacteriological investigation are dealt with by the Public Health Laboratory Service either at the Public Health Laboratory, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, or at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Green, Monsall, Manchester. The chemical analysis of water samples, and of samples of food and drugs, is undertaken at the County Analyst's Department, County Offices, Preston.

(2) HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS

(LIVERPOOL REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD, ST. HELENS AND DISTRICT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, AND WARRINGTON AND DISTRICT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE)

The Haydock Cottage Hospital is the only hospital situated in the district; it is a General Hospital with a nominal establishment of 13 beds, but in view of its small size it is not equipped to deal with major surgical cases. The district is mainly served, for general cases by the St. Helens Hospital, and also by the Providence Hospital, St. Helens. Maternity cases requiring hospital treatment are admitted either to the County Hospital, Whiston, the St. Helens Maternity Hospital, the General Hospital, Warrington, or to the Warrington Maternity Home, Victoria Park, Latchford, Warrington. Cases requiring isolation on account of Infectious Disease are normally admitted to the Peasley Cross Isolation Hospital, St. Helens.

In addition to the above, cases requiring highly specialised treatment for pediatric, orthopaedic, ophthalmic, ear, nose, throat and gynaecological disabilities may be admitted, by arrangements, to any of the 'teaching hospitals' attached to the Universities of Liverpool or Manchester, and situated within, or in close proximity to those cities.

(3) AMBULANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Full responsibility for the Ambulance Service (provided under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946) rests with the Lancashire County Council - the "Local Health Authority" - under the Act, and the Urban District is serviced by staff and vehicles maintained at the County Ambulance Station, Borron Road, Earlestown, Telephone No. Newton-le-Willows 2013 (for emergency calls 3233).

This service deals with all types of cases where such transport is required by reason of illness (including mental illness) or mental defectiveness, whether accident, other emergency, general illness or infectious disease. In cases of emergency any person having reason to do so may summon an ambulance: in other cases the calls for this service are made either by a doctor, dentist, midwife, nurse or other duly qualified person.

Three Stretcher-carrying ambulance vehicles and three "Sitting case" cars are stationed at the Newton-le-Willows Depot, and manned by an appropriate staff, all qualified in First Aid. During 1959 the following numbers of calls were dealt with from this district:-

Emergency-410. Non-urgent-1739. Total-2149.

(4) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

- (i) SCHOOL HEALTH-School Clinic, Station Road, Haydock.
Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, Dr. E. I. Smiddy.
School Nurse/Health Visitors, Mrs A. Boyes and Mrs H. M. McCaffery.

SESSIONS, MINOR AILMENTS AND MEDICAL INSPECTION

Doctors Sessions: Weekly - Tuesday a.m. (during School term).

Nurses Re-Dressing Sessions: Weekly-Friday a.m. (during School term).

OPHTHALMIC

Ophthalmic Surgeon-Mr. E. Allan.

Health Nurse in Charge-Mrs A. Boyes.

Sessions: Fortnightly-Thursdays a.m. (by appointment only).

ORTHOPAEDIC

Orthopaedic Surgeon-Mr. Almond.

Orthopaedic Physiotherapist-Mrs Garrett.

Sessions: Surgeon's sessions-monthly, morning of the first Monday (by appointment only).

Physiotherapist-weekly (by appointment only).

DENTAL

Mr. W. J. Meekin, ably assisted as in the past by Miss Entwistle, the Dental Attendant, has continued the periodic inspection and treatment of school children, the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and of children of "pre-school" ages.

- (ii) ANTE-NATAL CLINIC (Held at School Clinic, Station Road, Haydock.

Obstetrician-Mr. V. Corbett.

Health Visitor-Mrs H. M. McCaffery.

Sessions: Fortnightly-alternate Thursdays afternoons. These sessions are attended whenever possible by the local County Midwives, who assist at the examination of their patients.

Where hospital confinement is advisable, either on obstetrical or social grounds, the necessary arrangements are made for admission.

During the current year a total of 52 expectant mothers made 294 attendances at the Clinic.

(iii) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (Held at the School Clinic, Station Road, Haydock).

Assistant Divisional Medical Officer-Dr. E. I. Smiddy.

Health Visitors-Mrs A. Boyes and Mrs H. M. McCaffery.

Sessions: Weekly-each Wednesday-morning and afternoon. The purpose of these Clinics is to facilitate the medical examination and general supervision of infants and small children up to the age of 5 years, and to advise the mothers regarding their nurture and welfare. As an ancillary service, in order to help the parent to implement the advice received regarding feeding methods, a number of artificial infant foods and of vitamin preparations etc., are available at cost price to those regularly attending, and Ministry of Health "Welfare Foods", i.e. cod liver oil, orange juice and vitamin tablets are also dispensed at these sessions. In addition, expectant mothers who attend with infants or other young children are advised regarding the maintenance of their general health, and on other problems connected with their pregnancy: and are of course referred for special obstetrical advice to the Ante-Natal Clinic.

The following figures show the use made of the Child Welfare Centre during the year:-

<u>No of individual children</u> <u>in attendance</u>			<u>No of</u> <u>attendances</u>
Born in 1959	...	113	2764
" " 1958	...	129	839
" " 1957/1954	...	188	883
Total			4486

(5) MIDWIFERY ARRANGEMENTS

Two whole-time salaried Midwives are employed by the County Council-the "Local Health Authority" and "Local Supervising Authority"-for the purpose of conducting domiciliary confinements, either as midwives, (when assuming sole responsibility for the delivery, etc.), or as maternity-nurse, (when assisting at delivery in conjunction with a Doctor). The general policy is that each midwife should use a car, in order to enable her to respond speedily to urgent calls, and to transport analgesia apparatus.

The names and addresses of these midwives are: Miss W. Stirrup, 2, Folds Road, Haydock. Telephone St. Helens 7135. Mrs. M. E. Brown, 31, Pimblett Road, Haydock. Telephone Ashton-in-Makerfield 7477.

No private midwife practises within the district, nor is there any private Maternity Home so situated. These ladies were therefore responsible, either as midwives or maternity-nurses, for the 83 domiciliary confinements which took place during the year.

(6) HEALTH VISITING ARRANGEMENTS

The scope of this work is steadily expanding; the responsibility now rests on Health visitors to advise on general health matters relating to the family as a whole, also on the welfare of the aged and handicapped, and not solely in relation to infants, young children and school children. Furthermore they have a specific responsibility to advise on immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, and on the importance of vaccination.

These domiciliary visits, so necessary as regards not only supervision but also health education, are complementary so far as pre-school children are concerned, to the work carried out at the Child Welfare Centre.

Two Health Visitors, Mrs A. Boyes and Mrs H. M. McCaffery, share the Health-visiting and School-Health responsibilities of the district, the former covering mainly the western half, and the latter the eastern portion of the township.

(7) MENTAL HEALTH ARRANGEMENTS

The District is covered for this purpose by the two Authorised Officers (one full time, one part time) of the Local Health Authority attached to No. 10 Health Division, assisted by a lady mental welfare worker. These workers deal with all aspects of mental health, including cases for which investigation, supervision and appropriate action is required under the Lunacy Acts, Mental Deficiency Acts and the Mental Treatment Act.

The names and addresses of these officers are:

No.10 Divisional Health Offices,
The Old Rectory, Winwick,
Nr. Warrington

Mr. F. L. S. Griffin	ditto
Mr. D. Ryan	ditto
Miss D. M. Bexson	ditto

The services of a duly authorised officer may be obtained in emergency at any time: during normal office hours, by communicating with the Divisional Health Office. (Tel. Warrington 33144), outside these hours, and at week-end, by telephone to the Newton-le-Willows Ambulance Station, (Newton-le-Willows 2013).

(8) HOME HELP ARRANGEMENTS

This is a permissory service provided by the County Council through its Divisional Health Scheme. (No.10 Divisional Health Committee), and is one which is not necessarily provided free of cost to the public. It aims to provide domestic help where required by reason of the presence in a household of sickness, pregnancy, a parturient woman, children under compulsory school age or a mentally defective person. A steadily increasing demand for such help has been satisfied during the current year, most of the help being given in the homes of the aged and disabled. In some cases also, "night helps" are made available to meet the urgent need for night attendance of people seriously ill.

The "Home Helps" engaged are all part-time workers; none is full time, but all must undertake a minimum of 22 hours per week if required. The Home Help Organiser and Welfare Worker, responsible for the day to day operation of the scheme in this District, is Miss P. Butler, No.10 Divisional Health Office, The Old Rectory, Winwick, near Warrington, who is assisted by Miss M. McLean.

During the current year 66 cases in the district have been helped by a staff of 19 part-time home-helps. Of these 66 cases, 50 were persons of the age of 65 years or over, and 16 persons under the age of 65.

(9) HOME NURSING ARRANGEMENTS

Nursing help in the home is now provided by the Local Health Authority, which employs fully trained and registered Home nurses for this purpose. The public demand for this onerous work has grown considerably, and the assistance of part-time relief nurses has been required from time to time.

The "Home Nurse" for the District is:-

Miss V. M. Dunn, 99, Central Drive, Haydock. Tel. St. Helens 7302.

(10) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE OF SICK PERSONS, (INCLUDING THOSE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS), THE PROVISION OF CONVALESCENT ACCOMMODATION, AND OF EXTRA NOURISHMENT WHERE RECOMMENDED.

Responsibility for the above rests with the Local Health Authority partly on an obligatory, and partly on a permissive basis: 'illness' also includes mental defectiveness. The scope of such arrangements is very wide, and includes all the methods of "Health Education" and propaganda relating to health matters, health-visiting in the homes, (including those of persons suffering from Tuberculosis) the provision of ancillary nursing equipment, the after-care of patients who have suffered from illness, whether at home or in hospital, and the provision of convalescent accommodation and rehabilitation measures where these are required to enable those recently sick to regain full health and strength. Extra nourishment may also be provided where necessary for cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, on the recommendation of the Chest Physician.

The Tuberculosis Health Visitor for the District is Mrs Evans. She maintains supervision of patients in their homes, and arranges for their examination and re-examination, also for that of "contacts" (including X-ray investigation), at the Chest Clinic at St. Helens, administered by the St. Helens and District Hospital Management Committee of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

As regards Health Education-a very important and essential factor in the prevention of illness-it is emphasised that although some responsibility for this side of preventive medicine is accepted, by the County Council as Local Health Authority, the permissive powers of the Urban District Council, (as a Local Sanitary Authority), to carry out measures of health education under Section 179 of the Public Health Act, 1936, are still extant, particularly in respect of the dissemination of information relating to the control of infectious diseases.

(11) VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION ARRANGEMENTS

Vaccination, and immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus, are available free of cost to all who desire it, either through the family doctor, who carries it out as part of his duty to his patients, or by attendance at one of the Immunisation Sessions held at approximately monthly intervals at the School Clinic, Station Road, where the work is carried out either by one of the local doctors or by the Assistant Divisional Medical Officer. Infants and young children may also be immunised at the normal Child Welfare sessions on Wednesdays.

Whilst the immunisation position shows no grounds for complacency, the situation as regards the "immunisation state" of children under 15 years of age is more satisfactory than in most areas: on 31st December, 1959, the proportion was 83.7%, as compared with 65.1% for No.10 Health Division as a whole. Fortunately the vaccination state has improved, and here again the Urban District is securing a higher proportion of infant vaccinations than is the majority of County Districts in the Health Division. If one deducts from the 198 births notified in 1958 the 7 infant deaths recorded in 1959, out of the 191 survivors, 157 were vaccinated, a proportion of 82% of the newly born babies. (The rate of the County as a whole-in 1959 was 46.8%.

During the year 2025 persons up to the age of 26 received two injections against poliomyelitis, 1340 being under the age of 15. In addition 1445 third or booster injections were given.

(12) THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948. THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1953. THE ADOPTION ACT, 1950.

In the main the Children Act of 1948 provides for the care and welfare of children and young persons up to the age of 18 years who for one reason or another are deprived of a normal home life, and it thus has an important bearing on the mental and physical health and development of such children.

The County Council, which is the Local Authority for the purposes of this Act, exercises its functions through its Children's Committee and the Children's Officer, who is responsible to the Committee for the efficient administration and day to day operation of the Service which is carried out on a regional area basis.

The Haydock Urban District lies administratively within the purview of the Area Children's Officer of the Leigh Area, who is assisted by Children's Visitors, and is responsible for all matters relating to "deprived" children, e.g. the provision of accommodation, the inspection of and report on prospective foster homes, infant life protection, supervision of adopted children during the probationary period, and the care and conveyance to suitable "places of safety" of children committed by the Courts to the care of the Authority as a "fit person", under the provisions of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, and so on.

The Area Children's Officer and her visitors work in close liaison with the Divisional Medical Officers and their staffs, and I am happy to say that in this district (included in No.10 Health Division) the co-operation is excellent.

The Area Children's Officer is:-

Miss J. W. Cole, Area Office, 89/91, Railway Road, Leigh, and the Children's Visitor for the Urban District is:-

Miss J. Thompson, Area Office, 89/91, Railway Road, Leigh, until October 1959. From October 1959, Miss R. Emans.

(13) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 (AND 1951)

The Local Authority carrying responsibility for the implementation of Parts III and IV of this Act is the County Council, and the administrative machinery, in this case also, is on the divisional basis. The main provisions of Part III relate to residential accommodation for the disabled and aged, to temporary accommodation for persons who, by virtue of circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen, are without lodging, and to welfare services in general, for persons handicapped by infirmities such as blindness, deafness, dumbness, crippling physical defects and other disabilities of a permanently handicapping character.

The approved scheme of the County Council in regard to Welfare utilises very fully the services rendered by various voluntary agencies already in existence prior to this legislation. The scheme opens up a tremendous field of activity for all, both voluntary and salaried workers.

Section 47 of this 1948 Act prescribes the procedure whereby aged or infirm persons, if not receiving adequate care and attention in their own homes may, by Court Order, be removed to a suitable hospital following a hearing by the Court of evidence in support of a certificate issued by the Medical Officer of Health, after due consideration of all the circumstances of the case: the 1951 Act prescribes emergency procedures on similar lines. No cases were admitted to hospital under this section during the year.

Section 50 of the Act places on each County District Authority the duty of arranging for the burial or cremation of the body of any person who has died or been found dead within the district, when it appears to the Authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been or are being made otherwise than by the Authority. No action under this section was required during the year.

Section 10 of the 1911 Act provides for the appointment of a committee of inquiry to inquire into the conduct of the business of the company and to report thereon to the shareholders. The committee is to be appointed by the shareholders at a general meeting of the company, and its members are to be chosen from among the shareholders. The committee is to have the right to call for and examine all the books and accounts of the company, and to require the production of any documents or papers which may be necessary for the purpose of its inquiry. The committee is also to have the right to examine and cross-examine any person who may be called upon to give evidence before it, and to administer oaths. The committee is to report its findings to the shareholders at a general meeting of the company, and its report is to be binding on the shareholders.

The committee is to be empowered to make such recommendations as it may think fit to the shareholders, and to take such steps as may be necessary to give effect to its recommendations. The committee is also to have the right to make such inquiries as it may think fit into the conduct of the business of the company, and to report thereon to the shareholders.

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