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Contributors

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Urban District Council of Ince-in-Makerfield



ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 1936
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



G. H. Potter,
Medical Officer of Health.

Urban District Council of Ince-in-Makerfield



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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1936

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH



G. H. P. [Name]
[Address]

Ince-in-Makerfield Urban District Council.

To the Public Health Committee,

MRS. WINSTANLEY AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the District during the year 1936.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area : 2,320 acres.

Population (Census 1931) : 21,763.

Estimated mid-1936 (Registrar General) : 21,410.

Total number of Houses (Census 1931) : 4,630.

Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1936, according to Rate Books : 5,031.

Number of Families or separate occupiers (Census 1931) : 5,322.

Rateable Value : £61,709 (Reduced).

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £257 2 5 (Gross).

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

		Male		Female		TOTAL
Live Births	Legitimate	194	...	184	...	378
	Illegitimate	2	...	4	...	6
	TOTAL ...	196	...	188	...	384
Still Births	Legitimate	17	...	10	...	27
	Illegitimate	1	...	—	...	1
	TOTAL ...	18	...	10	...	28
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	Legitimate	16	...	8	...	24
	Illegitimate	1	...	1	...	2
	TOTAL ...	17	...	9	...	26
		DEATHS ...	125	...	108	...
						233

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	17.9
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.8
Adjusted Death Rate (Comparability factor 1.25) per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	13.5
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births	67.0
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of Pregnancy and Childbirth :	
From Sepsis	—
From other causes	1
Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births	2.42
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	67
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	63
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	333
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	23
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	3
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	3

TABLE I.

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of deaths under 1 year per 1000 Live Births.
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Cancer Death Rate	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total (Live & Still Births)	
Mean of 5 years—							
1931—1935	19.8	12.9	0.80	0.92	5.87	5.53	92
1935 ...	18.3	11.9	0.77	1.09	2.48	2.30	72
1936 ...	17.9	10.8	0.32	1.07	2.60	2.42	67
Increase or Decrease in 1936 on—5 years' average 1931—1935	—1.9	—2.1	—0.48	+0.15	—3.27	—3.11	—25
—on Previous year's average—	—0.4	—1.1	—0.45	—0.02	+0.12	+0.12	—5

The Table below shows these Rates for ten years back, and Averages for the same period.

TABLE A.

Year	Death Rate all causes	Birth Rate	Infantile Death Rate per 1000 Births
1926	13.2	23.0	125
1927	12.9	19.4	105
1928	11.8	20.6	88
1929	15.9	19.1	137
1930	12.2	18.8	121
1931	13.9	22.6	102
1932	12.0	19.5	84
1933	15.5	20.6	123
1934	11.5	18.0	82
1935	11.9	18.3	72
Average for 10 years			
1926—1935	13.0	19.9	103
1936	10.8	17.9	67

The Death Rate for England and Wales during 1936 was 12.1 per 1,000 population as against 11.7 per 1,000 population in 1935, but the local Crude Death Rate shows a decrease from 11.9 per 1,000 population in 1935 to 10.8 per 1,000 in 1936.

Average Death Rate for 10 years, 1892—1901	23.3
Average Death Rate for 10 years, 1926—1926	13.0
Death Rate for 1936	10.8

The Birth Rate for England and Wales shows a slight increase from 14.7 per 1,000 population in 1935 to 14.8 per 1,000 in 1936, but the local Birth Rate has declined from 18.3 per 1,000 population in 1935 to 17.9 per 1,000 in 1936.

The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales have decreased from 4.10 per 1,000 live births, and 3.93 per 1,000 Total (live and still) births in 1935 to 3.81 per 1,000 live births and 3.65 per 1,000 Total births in 1936.

The Local Rates show a slight increase from 2.48 per 1,000 live births and 2.30 per 1,000 Total (live and still) births in 1935 to 2.60 per 1,000 live births and 2.42 per 1,000 Total births in 1936.

The number of women dying in, or in consequence of Pregnancy or Childbirth, is given by the Registrar General as 1; none being due to Sepsis, and 1 to other causes.

The Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales has increased from 57 per 1,000 live births in 1935 to 59 per 1,000 in 1936, but the local Rate shows a welcome decrease from 72 per 1,000 live births in 1935 to 67 per 1,000 in 1936.

An Infantile Death Rate of 67 per 1,000 live births is the lowest on record for the district, the figure of 72 per 1,000 in 1935 being the previous record.

Average Infantile Death Rate for 10 years, 1892—1901	203
Average Infantile Death Rate for 10 years, 1926—1935	103
Infantile Death Rate for 1936	67

Subjoined is a Table showing the causes of the Deaths among Infants under one year of age.

TABLE B.
ANALYSIS OF INFANT DEATHS.

Cause of Death	Total at all periods up to 1 year	Under 1 month	1—3 months	4—6 months	7—9 months	10—11 months
Premature Birth	14	13	1	—	—	—
Weakness from Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ..	4	—	2	—	—	2
Congenital Deformity	4	1	3	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis	2	—	2	—	—	—
Convulsions	1	—	1	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia Neonatorum (difficult labour)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intussusception	1	—	—	1	—	—
	26	14	9	1	—	2

Of the 26 deaths, 14 occurred during the first month of life, and 13 of these were certified as due to Premature Birth. 4 deaths were due to Congenital Deformities and 4 were due to Bronchitis and Pneumonia.

Finally, in the next Table are shown the chief causes of Death and number of Deaths from each cause in 1936 as compared with the previous year.

TABLE C.

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>No. of Deaths 1935</i>	<i>No. of Deaths 1936</i>
Typhoid Fever	0	0
Measles	15	0
Whooping Cough	0	3
Diphtheria	2	5
Scarlet Fever... ..	1	0
Influenza	3	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1
Phthisis	17	7
Other Tubercular Diseases	0	2
Cancer : Malignant Disease	24	23
Heart Disease	51	48
Bronchitis	15	16
Pneumonia	27	19
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2	3
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
Other Diseases of Parturition	1	1
Suicide	1	1
Accidents	10	6
Other Diseases	91	96
	<u>261</u>	<u>233</u>

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer—G. H. POTTER, M.B., D.P.H.,
(part time to 31st December, 1936).

Consultant Obstetrician to Ante-natal Centre—A. LLOYD POTTER, M.D., M.C.O.G.

School Dental Officer—E. A. HAIGH, L.D.S. (Eng.), (part time).

Sanitary Inspector—W. THORPE, Sanitary Insp. Cert. and Meat Insp. Cert. (whole time).

Sanitary Inspector's Apprentice—B. FRANCE.

HEALTH VISITORS AND NURSES—

<i>NURSE QUARMBY</i> —	Whole time Health Visitor. (retired 31st December, 1936).
<i>NURSE SAYER</i> —	Whole time Health Visitor.
<i>NURSE PLUMPTON</i> —	Whole time School Nurse.
<i>NURSE DRAPER</i> —	Whole time School Nurse.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED OR AVAILABLE.

12 beds and 1 cot are provided for Infectious Cases in the Isolation Hospital (East Ward), and if necessity arises, cases can also be sent to Hindley or Wigan Isolation Hospitals, by arrangement, without the payment of any retaining fee.

10 beds are provided for Smallpox in a pavilion in the grounds of the Isolation Hospital.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children within the district, nor is there a Day Nursery.

The Hospital Accommodation within or without the district available for the use of the inhabitants of the area may be classified as follows :—

a—General Medical	} Treated at Wigan Infirmary, or at Liverpool and Manchester Hospitals.
b—General Surgical	... ..
c—Children	... ..
d—Maternity	... ..
e—Venereal Diseases	} Cases sent to Sanatoria by County Consultant Tuberculosis Officer.
f—Tuberculosis	... ..
g—Chronic Sick...	} Public Assistance Hospital at Billinge and the County Asylums.
h—Mental	... ..
i—Mental Deficiency	} Cases dealt with by Lancashire Asylums Board.
j—Orthopædic	... ..
k—Ear, Nose and Throat	} Cases treated at Biddulph Hospital under Lancashire County Orthopædic Scheme.
l—Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	... ..
		} Cases treated at Wigan Infirmary.

Ince-in-Makerfield District Nursing Association, affiliated to the Lancashire County Nursing Association, is now a well-established institution in the area. Two nurses are regularly employed by the Association, and their magnificent work among the sick people of the township makes one wonder how we have managed in the past without such an organisation.

The District Nurses do not undertake Midwifery Cases nor Monthly Nursing.

No contribution has yet been made by the Local Authority towards their upkeep, which depends upon a Provident Scheme of regular weekly contributions by the householders of the District.

There are 11 midwives on the Register, most of whom are actually practising and resident in the district, and their number may be considered sufficient. No midwives are employed or assisted by the Local Authority.

A Child Welfare Centre is established at the Council Offices (East Ward), a central position, and is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m., and an Ante-Natal Clinic is held there on Mondays at 3-15 p.m.

A School Clinic is provided as part of the School Medical Service, but cases requiring Artificial Light treatment attend at the Wigan Infirmary.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES—

Infectious Cases are removed to Hospital in the Council's own horse ambulance.

During 1936 Non-Infectious, Accident, and Maternity Cases were dealt with by either the motor ambulances belonging to the Wigan Borough Police, or by the motor ambulance belonging jointly to the Urban Districts of Ince, Hindley, and Abram.

3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY—

The two sources of the Water Supply are the Council's own Deep Wells at Golborne, and the Rivington Reservoirs belonging to the Liverpool Corporation. The supply is constant, good and sufficient, and the possibilities of contamination are very slight.

Out of a total of 5,031 inhabited houses at the end of 1936 (according to the Rate Book), 5,027 houses are supplied directly, and 4 by Stand Pipe.

The water drawn from the well at Golborne has been analysed on several occasions, and certified to be a pure drinking water, but extremely hard. The Total Hardness is equivalent to 32 degrees, which is a very high figure, but fortunately the hardness is all temporary, i.e., it consists of the Bicarbonates of Lime and Magnesia, and the water can be very effectively softened by a lime process.

The township has been supplied during 1936 with the Well water softened to an average of 5 degrees of hardness, by means of the modern Softening and Filtration Plant, which was installed at the Golborne Waterworks in 1934.

● SCAVENGING AND HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL—

This work is carried out by the Sanitary Authority. Privy Middens and Ash Bins are emptied regularly by day throughout the year and one horse-drawn vehicle and two S.D. freighter motor vehicles are engaged in the removal of refuse to controlled tips.

There is no destructor in the district.

The removal of House refuse is supervised by the Sanitary Inspector, but he is not responsible for the scavenging of the streets.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE—

The Drainage System is of the usual type : storm water and sewage carried away in a common sewer.

At the Sewage Works, Bacterial Filter Beds are in use, and no outstanding development has taken place during the year.

Drain testing, flushing, etc., is carried out as required. Work under the Scheme for General Conversion to the Water Carriage System is now well in hand, and during 1936 354 conversions to fresh water closets of privy middens and pail closets were made, and furthermore, 73 additional water closets were provided in cases of insufficient accommodation.

Under the General Conversion Scheme the Local Authority pays half the cost of each conversion with a maximum of £4 per conversion.

Fresh water closet accommodation is provided for all new property erected in the district.

No action has been required with regard to the pollution of streams.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT THE END OF 1936—

Number of Privy Middens	196
Number of Closets attached to Privy Middens	337
Number of Pail Closets	86
Number of Freshwater Closets	4745
Number of Waste Water Closets	—
Number of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens)	5
Number of Movable Ashbins for Refuse	4807

During 1936, 381 houses have been provided with movable ashbins in place of fixed receptacles.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1936—

Number of premises visited	1139
Number of Nuisances discovered	2037
Number of Nuisances abated	1823
Number of Informal Notices served	552
Number of Statutory Notices served	145

No legal proceedings were undertaken during 1936.

SMOKE NUISANCE—

No special action has been taken with regard to smoke abatement.

21 factory and works chimneys are in actual use in the district, but no observations have been made, as a time limit for the emission of black smoke per hour has not been fixed by the Authority.

SHOPS—

No action has been taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops, and to sanitary conveniences.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS—

There are none in the District.

ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS—

No Council houses were found to be infested, but during the year 56 other houses were discovered and were disinfested by spraying with Solution D.

The belongings of tenants from condemned houses, before removal to Council houses, are all fumigated in a special van with hydrocyanic acid gas, this work being carried out by a special contractor.

OFFENSIVE TRADES—

Premises in Pennington Lane have been converted for Tripe Boiling, and this trade is being carried on there without offence, with the permission of the Sanitary Authority, and under the constant supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Offensive Trades are dealt with by the Authority under local Bye-laws, dated 1909.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES—

There are none in the district.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES—

There were 56 workshops, 2 workplaces, and 20 Factories in the District during 1936, and 206 visits were paid to these premises, under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, and their condition was found satisfactory.

SCHOOLS—

The sanitary condition of the Schools in the district is quite satisfactory.

CANAL BOATS—

40 Canal Boats were inspected during the year, the inspections being made on eighteen separate occasions, and 4 infringements were discovered.

There were no cases of overcrowding.

4. HOUSING.

34 houses were erected by the Local Authority during 1936 for the purpose of re-housing under the Housing Act, 1930. 9 Clearance Areas comprising 23 houses, were cleared, and the tenants re-housed. 20 more houses are being built for re-housing under the 1930 Act, and the Council are negotiating for further sites. Suitable housing sites are, however, difficult to find, owing to mining subsidence and large areas of land being under water.

The township consists chiefly of low standard working-class houses, old in type and joined together in long streets. Although there are no real slums, certain parts of the district are badly congested, and a shortage of houses at reasonable rents causes overcrowding. The Local Authority is endeavouring to cope with this shortage by building new property, and private enterprise is given every encouragement.

The Overcrowding Survey conducted under the Housing Act, 1935, shows that 462 houses were overcrowded at the end of 1936, comprising 609 families and 3,349 persons.

Old houses are continuously in need of repairs, and mining subsidence is responsible for much damage to structure. Back-to-back houses becoming vacant, are broken through and converted into through dwelling houses, and badly arranged houses in yards are scheduled for clearance. The approximate number of back-to-back houses in the district is 70.

A large number of houses have been re-conditioned and brought up to standard by various owners at the request of the Sanitary Authority.

3,744 houses in the district have private sanitary accommodation within their own curtilage; the remaining inhabited houses (approximately 1,287) having combined accommodation (either water closet or other forms of sanitation), while all houses have an internal water supply, with the exception of 4, which are supplied by standpipe in common yards.

The Authority is a member of the Wigan and District Joint Town Planning Statutory Committee, constituted to deal with the question of Town Planning, as required by the Town Planning Act, 1925.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	77
	(i) By the Local Authority	34
	(ii) By other Authorities	—
	(iii) By other bodies and persons... ..	43
(b)	With State Assistance under the Housing Acts :	
	(i) By the Local Authority	34
	(ii) By other bodies and persons... ..	—

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)	972
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose approx. ...	3500
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head [1] above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925... ..	86
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose approx. ...	200
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	51
(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	755

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	554
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS during the year :

A.—Proceedings under Section 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

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

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	201
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
	(a) By owners	146
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made...	19
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	4

D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

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

4. HOUSING ACT, 1935—Overcrowding :

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year...	462
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ...	609
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	3349
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	—
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	—
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	—

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY—

An adequate supply of milk is produced within, or brought into the district.

During 1936, 68 samples of milk were taken by the County Police and submitted for examination, all being found satisfactory.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops in the district have been regularly inspected, and at all times their condition has been found satisfactory.

The total number of Cowkeepers on the Register is 2, and 25 Inspections of their premises were made during the year. The approximate number of cows in the district is 50.

When a cow is suspected of suffering from any disease, the County Police arrange for a local Veterinary Surgeon to examine the animal.

There are 20 Milk Purveyors (other than Cowkeepers) in the district. 13 Licences for the sale of Pasteurised Milk have been issued to retail distributors, and 2 Supplementary Licences in respect of the sale of Accredited and Tuberculin Tested Milk were granted during the year.

(b) MEAT—

There is no slaughter house in the district.

Routine inspections are made of meatshops, etc., and the Clean Meat Regulations are enforced. All diseased meat is at once seized and destroyed by the Sanitary Inspector.

(c) 18 BAKEHOUSES and 1 BRAUN WORKS in the district are all kept in satisfactory condition.

The amount of food condemned or surrendered during 1936 as unfit for human consumption was as follows :—

1. Tuberculous Carcases and Parts—Nil.

2. Unwholesome Food (not Tuberculous) : 6 lbs. Veal, 98 lbs. Tinned Fruit, 31 lbs. Rabbit, 12¼ lbs. Bloater Paste, 9 lbs. Tinned Salmon, 111½ lbs. Tinned Milk.

Food samples are taken for analysis under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, by the County Police, and by the kindness of the Police Superintendent for the Division, I am able to show the following list of samples taken in Ince during 1936 :

Arrowroot	4	Magnesia	1
Baking Powder	3	Margarine	2
Boric Ointment	1	Meat Paste	1
Butter	5	Milk (Condensed)	2
Barley	1	Fish Paste	2
Cheese	4	Ground Ginger	1
Blanc-Mange Powder	1	Glauber's Salts	2
Cocoa	1	Rice	1
Coffee	3	Sauce	2
Cornflour	1	Pepper	1
Borax	1	Seidlitz Powder	1
Cayenne	1	Tartaric Acid	1
Fruit (Canned)	1	Tea	4
Epsom Salts	1	Zinc Ointment	1
Jelly	1	Milk	68
Lard	2		

121

According to the Analyst's Certificates, all the samples were genuine.

6. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

222 cases of notifiable disease were notified during the year 1936, as against 238 in 1935.

50 cases of Pneumonia were notified, as against 93 in the previous year, and 19 deaths were certified as due to this disease.

60 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, as against 112 in 1935, and of the 60 cases, 31 were removed to hospital for treatment. There were no fatal cases.

A severe type of Diphtheria was prevalent throughout the whole district during the year, and 99 cases were notified. 94 of them being removed to hospital for treatment. 5 fatal cases occurred, all among the patients removed to hospital.

1078 children (school and pre-school) and teachers, were immunised against Diphtheria by Dr. W. E. Cooke with a single injection of 0.5 cc. Alum Precipitated Toxoid (Parke, Davis & Co.), without preliminary Schick testing.

Supplies of Diphtheria Antitoxin are kept at the Council Offices and at the Higher and Lower Ince Police Stations, and are always available to the Medical practitioners.

No cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever or Enteric Fever occurred during the year, but one case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis was notified. The patient, a boy aged 5 years, was a mild case, and was removed to the Rochdale Cripples Hospital for treatment, where he made satisfactory progress.

School Closure was not considered necessary during 1936.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations for Ince patients are carried out at the Laboratory of Wigan Infirmary, and during the year Dr. W. E. Cooke reported to the Authority on the following specimens : 317 Throat Swabs, and 2 samples of Ince water (bacteriologically).

23 deaths were certified as due to Cancer during the year, as against 24 in the previous year. Facilities for Radium treatment are available to Ince residents, at the Radium Institute, Manchester, and at the Radium Clinic at the Wigan Infirmary.

DISINFECTION—

Number of Articles disinfected during 1936	...	...	...	1063
Number of Houses disinfected during 1936	...	...	...	206

Houses are disinfected by the method of Formalin Spray, and it is usual, in the district, to disinfect after Phthisis, but not as routine after Measles.

A Steam Disinfector is provided in the grounds of the Isolation Hospital for the disinfection of the Clothing, Bedding, etc., of patients not removed to Hospital.

There is a Bath at the School Clinic for cases of school children whose uncleanliness demands action, but disinfestation was unnecessary in 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS—

32 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1936, and there were 9 deaths from the disease in its various forms.

Notification of the disease in the district is quite satisfactory, and no action has been necessary under the Public Health Act, 1925, relating to the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to Hospital.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

The subjoined Table shows the new cases of Tuberculosis and the deaths in age groups.

TABLE E.
TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	1
5—10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...
15—20	...	2	1	1	...	1	...	...
20—25	1	2	2	3	...	...	...	...
25—35	1	4	...	1	2	3	...	...
35—45	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—55	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
TOTALS	9	8	5	10	3	4	1	1
	17		15		7		2	

No non-notified tuberculosis deaths occurred in 1936.

7. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Two Infant Welfare Centres are held weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-0 to 4-0 p.m., and the babies are weighed and advice is given to the mothers about themselves and their infants, by the Medical Officer and the Nurses.

Dried Milk is sold at the Clinics at cost price, and valuable help is afforded us by the Voluntary Ladies Child Welfare Committee in the work of the Clinics. In addition, the Ladies, by financial assistance, enable us to allow free milk, etc., in necessitous cases. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Ladies for their splendid help in this important branch of our public health service.

The Council also supply Free Milk (with the Ministry of Health's sanction to the scale of income) in necessitous cases, to nursing and expectant Mothers. Other Foodstuffs, such as Cod Liver Oil and Malt are supplied in necessitous cases to sick and delicate children up to 5 years of age.

There are no Maternity Homes in the Township, nor is there any institutional provision for dealing with unmarried mothers or illegitimate children.

On the 1st April, 1935, an Ante-Natal Clinic was established at the Council Offices. The Clinic is held once weekly on Monday afternoons at 3-15 p.m., and is conducted by A. Lloyd Potter, Esq., M.D., M.C.O.G.

During 1936, 158 Expectant Mothers attended the Clinic, making a total number of 608 attendances. It is a great source of satisfaction to note the gratifying number of attendances at the new Clinic, and also the splendid reception given to the venture by the Doctors and Midwives practising in the area.

In addition, the Health Visitors paid 92 first visits, and a total number of 417 visits to Expectant Mothers at their homes.

The Nurses report as follows on the Infant Welfare work :—

Number of First Visits to new Babies	353
Number of Supervision Visits—under one year	4605
Number of Supervision Visits—over one year and up to five years	5291
	9896
Number of attendances at the Clinic during the year—	
(a) by children under one year of age	4347
(b) by children between the ages of one and five years... ..	2174
	6521
Number of children who attended at the Clinic for the first time during the year—	
(a) Children under one year of age... ..	281
(b) Children between the ages of one and five years	21
	302
Number of illegitimate children attending the Clinic	4
Number of Deaths under one year of children attending the Clinic...	4

In accordance with the Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations of 1926, arrangements have been made with the Wigan Infirmary for the provision of consultant advice, hospital treatment, and bacteriological examinations, where requested by the medical practitioner, while home nursing of these cases is taken over by the Health Visitors from the attendant Midwives. During 1936, 3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified, and all were removed to Hospital for treatment, and progressed satisfactorily.

Maternal Deaths are investigated by the staff of the County Medical Officer, with the co-operation of the District Medical Officer.

Orthopædic treatment for children under five years of age is carried out under the Lancashire County Scheme at the Wigan Clinic, in close co-operation with the similar treatment of school children under the School Medical Service. X-ray and Sunlight cases receive treatment at the Wigan Infirmary and Manchester Royal Infirmary, while operation cases are admitted to the Biddulph Grange Orthopædic Hospital.

Under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations of 1926, the home nursing of Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases is undertaken by the Health Visitors, while cases requiring hospital treatment are sent to the Whelley Sanatorium or the Public Assistance Hospital, at Wigan.

Cases occurring during 1936 are classified as follows :—

Number Notified	Ophthalmia Cases		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Treated at Home	Treated in Hospital				
—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Health Visitors act as Infant Protection Visitors for the discharge of the functions of the Local Authority under Part 1 of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

Maternity and Child Welfare work is undoubtedly a progressing branch of our public health work, and we are reaping the benefit in a reduction of Infant Mortality and of maternal deaths and disorders due to puerperal sepsis and the other diseases of parturition.

No local action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness, but the administration of the Blind Persons Act, 1920 is undertaken in this area by the staff of the County Medical Officer of Health.

I conclude this Report, which is the Ordinary Report required by the Ministry of Health, by tendering my thanks to the Officials of the Council, and the Staff of the Sanitary Department, and especially to the Sanitary Inspector for valuable help and co-operation at all times.

Finally, I should like to express my thanks to the Members of the Public Health Committee for the courtesy and consideration they have always displayed towards me.

I remain, Mrs. Winstanley and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. H. Potter

Medical Officer of Health

to the Ince U.D.C.

