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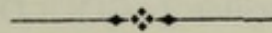
Urban District Council  
of Ince-in-Makerfield



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1953**



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF  
INCE-IN-MAKERFIELD



ANNUAL REPORT

f o r

1953

o f t h e

Medical Officer of Health

INCE-IN-MAKERFIELD  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# Public Health Committee

Chairman :  
Councillor J. GOULDING

Vice-Chairman :  
Councillor S. R. BALDWIN

Councillors :

F. BRAGG	T. DOWNING	A. ROWLANDSON
G. BYRNE	W. JOLLEY	T. SHARPLES
Z. CHARMAN	P. JONES	W. R. SIMM
W. CROOK	W. T. MILLER	MRS. R. WINSTANLEY

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## Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health :  
G. H. POTTER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :  
T. HAILWOOD  
Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute and S.I.E.J.B.  
Meat Inspector's Certificates—Royal Sanitary Institute.  
Liverpool University

Additional Sanitary Inspector :  
H. TOPPING  
Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute and S.I.E.J.B.  
Meat Inspector's Certificates—Royal Sanitary Institute.  
Liverpool University

Clerical Staff :  
Miss J. Robinson

# Ince-in-Makerfield Urban District Council

*To the Chairman and Members  
of the Public Health Committee.*

Sir, Mrs. Winstanley, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1953 compiled in the form indicated by the Ministry of Health.

I take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks to the Officials of the Council, the Staff of the Health Department, and especially to the Sanitary Inspectors for valuable help and co-operation at all times.

I desire also to express to the members of the Public Health Committee my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they have always displayed towards me.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

*G. H. Potter*

Medical Officer of Health

# 1. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area : 2320 acres.

Population (Census 1951) : 20,414

Estimated mid-1953 (Registrar General): 20,180

Total Number of Houses (Census 1951): 5402

Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1953 according  
to Rate Books : 5,570

Rateable value : £67,842

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £264 (nett)

Ince is essentially an industrial area, the principal industry being coal mining. In addition, wagon works, railway work and cotton spinning mills give employment to both sexes.

## VITAL STATISTICS

		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Live Births</i> {	Legitimate	157	165	322
	Illegitimate	3	3	6
	TOTAL...	160	168	328
		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Still Births</i> {	Legitimate	7	4	11
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
	TOTAL...	7	4	11
		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</i> {	Legitimate	9	4	13
	Illegitimate	1	0	1
	TOTAL...	10	4	14
		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</i> {	Legitimate	6	3	9
	Illegitimate	1	0	1
	TOTAL...	7	3	10
TOTAL DEATHS (all ages)		105	96	201

Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population mid-1953 .....	16.4
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population..	12.4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.....	32.0

	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality				
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	Total	Neo-Natal			
Year 1953	...	328	16.3	201	10.0	11	32	Nil	Nil	14	43	10	30
Year 1952	...	310	*15.3	—	*11.2	12	37	Nil	Nil	14	45	11	35
Year 1951	...	321	15.8	239	11.8	8	24	1	3.04	10	31	5	16
Year 1950	...	371	18.2	257	12.6	8	21	Nil	Nil	17	46	10	27
Year 1949	...	394	19.2	246	12.0	9	22	1	2.48	20	51	—	—
Year 1948	...	439	21.5	228	11.1	12	26	Nil	Nil	28	63	—	—
Average 5 years 1948—1952	...	—	18.0	—	11.7	—	26	—	1.10	—	47	—	—

\*Adjusted [live birth rate (comparability factor—1.01)=16.4 per 1000]  
[Death rate (comparability factor—1.24) = 12.4 per 1000]

In the next Table are shown the chief causes of Death and number of Deaths from each cause in 1953, as compared with the previous year.

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths	
	1952	1953
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	4	6
Tuberculosis, other .....	0	1
Diphtheria .....	0	0
Whooping Cough .....	0	0
Meningococcal Infections .....	1	0
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	0	0
Measles .....	0	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....	0	0
Cancer .....	36	34
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	0	1
Diabetes .....	2	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	30	23
Coronary disease angina .....	23	21
Hypertension with heart disease .....	3	2
Other heart disease .....	41	34
Other circulatory disease .....	8	4
Influenza .....	1	3
Pneumonia .....	7	8
Bronchitis .....	21	21
Other diseases of respiratory system .....	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	3	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	2	1
Nephritis and nephrosis .....	4	4
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	0	0
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion .....	0	0
Congenital malformations .....	1	3
Other diseases .....	27	18
Suicide and violent deaths .....	11	12
	<hr/> 266	<hr/> 201

## **2. General Provision of Health Services in the Area.**

### **LABORATORY ARRANGEMENTS.**

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Pathological Department of the Wigan Royal Infirmary and by the Public Health Laboratories, Monsall, Manchester. Bacteriological and chemical examinations of water samples are carried out by the City Analyst, Liverpool. A report on every examination is made to the Public Health Department.

During 1953 reports were made to the Authority on the following specimens : 13 samples of Water, 84 samples of Milk and 42 samples of Ice Cream.

### **AMBULANCE ARRANGEMENTS.**

During the year Non-Infectious, Infectious, Accident and Maternity Cases were dealt with adequately by the motor ambulances belonging to the Lancashire County Council stationed at Hindley and Ashton-in-Makerfield.

### **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.**

No applications were received during the year under sub-section 3, section 47, of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

## **3. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

### **WATER SUPPLY**

The District is supplied with water from the Council's own deep wells at Golborne and the Rivington Reservoirs belong to Liverpool Corporation.

The water is naturally very hard, being caused by Calcium and Magnesium Bicarbonate salts, and is softened by lime treatment at the Golborne Waterworks. The water is found to be pure bacteriologically, the supply being constant and sufficient.

During the year two bacteriological and one chemical examination of the raw water were made and found to be satisfactory, although hard. The piped supply of water was examined four times bacteriologically and four times chemically and found to be satisfactory. The analyst however, makes the observation that the results of analysis indicate that the water organically is pure, but the tendency to deposit calcium carbonate is undesirable in a public supply.

All houses in the District have a piped supply of water from the main, with the exception of the house known as Bank Top House on the Aspall boundary, whose supply is derived from an adjacent spring of pure water. It is not possible at a reasonable expense to connect this house to the Public water main.

No. of houses with a piped supply direct from the					
public water mains ...	...	...	...	...	5569
No. of houses supplied from Springs ...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of houses supplied by stand pipe ...	...	...	...	...	NIL

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The combined system of drainage is in operation throughout the District, and two sewage disposal works are used to carry out normal treatment of sewage.

During the year, 234 inspections were made in connection with drainage and conversions.

No. of choked drains cleared by the Council ...	...	...	...	184
No. of houses where new drainage was provided ...	...	...	...	8
No. of conversions to freshwater closets ...	...	...	...	NIL

The sanitary accommodation in the District at the end of the year was :—

No. of freshwater closets ...	...	...	...	5831
No. of pail closets ...	...	...	...	35
No. of privy middens ...	...	...	...	51

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

Street scavenging and removal of house refuse are undertaken by the Local Authority.

Street cleansing is under the control of the Surveyor, 14.56 miles of streets being cleansed by 6 men with 5 Street Orderly Carts.

The collection and disposal of household refuse is under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Two S.D. Freighter Motor Vehicles are engaged regularly on the collection of household refuse and the emptying of the few privy middens and pail closets that still remain. On one half day per week they are employed in the collection of waste paper from shops. The staff engaged on these duties comprises 2 drivers and 12 labourers. The average interval between collections is 9 days for dust bin refuse and 4 weeks for privy middens. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at three tips in the District, Platt Bridge, Moat House Street and Canal Street. The tips are adequate for the District and entail minimum haulage.

Difficulty is being experienced in maintenance of a 9 day collection service, especially during the holiday periods and the winter months.

Under the provisions of Section 75/3 of the Public Health Act, the Council provide and maintain dust bins for domestic refuse, the expense being met from the general rate fund. During the year 360 dust bins were replaced, 60 supplied to new Council houses and 4 to newly erected other houses.

There are 5601 dust bins, 51 privy middens and 35 pail closets within the District. The amount of refuse dealt with was as follows :—

No. of loads of refuse removed ...	...	...	2978
Approx. weight of refuse removed ...	...	...	5907 tons
Approx. No. of dust bins emptied ...	...	...	198,703
Approx. No. of privy middens emptied...	...	...	592
Approx. No. of pail closets emptied ...	...	...	1565

### Salvage

An incentive bonus scheme was adopted by the Council in 1951, and the workmen engaged on salvage collection are given a bonus at the rate of 33.33% on all waste paper above 4½ tons per month and 33.33% on all other materials salvaged.

Total amount and value of salvage collected during 1953 :

				Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	...	74	10	2	499	19	6
Rags	...	...	...	—	—	—	4	10	0
							504	9	6

## **Kitchen Waste**

The kitchen waste was collected weekly during 1953 from communal bins throughout the District by a local farmer who has a contract with the Council to collect kitchen waste for his own use.

During the current year the collection of kitchen waste has been discontinued.

## **SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA**

To secure the abatement of nuisances discovered, the following action was taken during the year :—

No. of informal notices served ...	...	...	434
No. of informal notices abated ...	...	...	399
No. of statutory notices served ...	...	...	154
No. of statutory notices abated ...	...	...	139

### **Record of Nuisances found and remedied**

No. of complaints received ...	...	...	723
No. of nuisances and defects found ...	...	...	2063
No. of nuisances and defects abated ...	...	...	1882
(a) as a result of informal action ...	...	...	1335
(b) as a result of statutory notice ...	...	...	547

## **TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS**

There are no licensed caravans or sites within the District, although there are 13 caravans which have been used as living accommodation over a period of at least 25 years, which are not licensed. They are situated on a site which is provided with pail closets, dust bins, stand pipes for water supply, and a communal wash-house.

The District is visited frequently by gypsy caravan dwellers who, with assistance from the land-owners, are quickly removed as trespassers.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

The Council are members of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee. A time limit of 2 minutes in every half hour has been fixed for the emission of black smoke.

There are 26 factory and works chimneys within the District. No formal action regarding smoke abatement was necessary during the year, co-operation with local works managers being readily obtained.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are none in the District.

## VERMINOUS PREMISES

During the year 15 Council houses and 14 other houses were found to be infested with bugs. These houses were treated with Zaldecide, a disinfectant containing 5% D.D.T., which has been found to be highly efficient. Periodical inspections of these houses are carried out to prevent re-infestation.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is only one registered offensive trade (tripe boiler) situate in the District. Many improvements have recently been made to the premises and the trade is carried on without offence.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses, but a Railwayman's Hostel belonging to the British Railways is situate within the District.

This hostel provides accommodation for 35 men and is mostly used by the railway employees working on the main line from London to the North. The premises are clean and generally kept in a satisfactory condition.

## FACTORIES

The following table gives particulars of the inspections during the year under Part 1 of the Factories Act, 1937, and an analysis of the defects which were found, with particulars of the action taken.

# FACTORIES — DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars	NUMBER OF DEFECTS				No. of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts —					
Want of Cleanliness .....	8	8	—	1	—
Want of Ventilation .....	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .....	—	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of floors .....	—	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances .....	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences —					
Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	10	10	—	8	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences .....	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	18	18	—	9	—

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspect'ns	No. of written Notices	No. of occup'rs pros'ted
Factories without Mechanical Power...	5	12	—	—
Factories with Mechanical Power....	66	71	1	—
Other premises .....	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	71	83	1	—

Under Part VIII of the Act, visits were made to premises occupied by three outworkers. The premises were satisfactory.

## CANAL BOATS

The Leeds and Liverpool canal passes through the District, but the Council is not a Registration Authority under the Canal Boats Act. Most of the canal boats are registered in the County Boroughs of Blackburn and Liverpool. Five canal boats were inspected during the year. No infringements under the Act were found.

## SCHOOLS

The water supply to the Schools in the area is constant and sufficient.

The majority of the Schools are provided with separate W.C.'s, each with its own cistern and flushing provision, but in certain schools there still remain forms of automatic flushing. It is desirable in the interest of hygiene that these should be replaced by water closets of the independently flushed type. Regular lime-washing of conveniences is arranged for by the Education Authority in the case of all Schools in the area.

The facilities for the handling of meals at six of the schools are reasonably good, but are unsatisfactory at the remaining three schools.

## RODENT CONTROL

The number of complaints received regarding the infestation of rats and mice was 95. A part time rodent operator is employed by the Council. He makes frequent inspections of various premises throughout the District and under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector deals effectively with all infestations discovered.

The sewers were treated twice during the year. 282 man-holes were baited on the first treatment, 31 being found to be infested and 230 man-holes on the second treatment, 25 being found to be infested.

The treatment of infestations found at dwelling houses is carried out free of charge, but a charge is made for the treatment of business premises.

The types of bait and poison used during all treatments were sausage rusk and zinc phosphide, and bread mash and arsenic oxide.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection by Local Authorities of Pet Shops. The main purpose is to enforce reasonable treatment and accommodation of pet animals during their sale or keeping for sale.

One person is licensed in the district to keep a Pet Shop. The premises are inspected regularly to ensure that the provisions of the Act are complied with.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Rag flock and other filling materials to which this Act applies may only be manufactured, stored or used in the course of business on premises registered or licensed by the Local Authority. There are no premises used for such purposes within the District.

## PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1928 AND 1930

24 licences to store Petroleum were issued for the year 1953 in respect of 24 premises. 30 inspections being made for this purpose.

One licence for the storage of Calcium Carbide was also issued.

## CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDINGS (DEFENCE REGULATIONS)

The Sanitary Inspector is appointed Licensing Officer to the Council.

2 licences were issued for the erection of two new houses in Petticoat Lane at a total estimated cost of £4,072. 92 essentiality certificates were issued to builders to obtain timber for essential repairs.

#### 4. Housing.

The township consists chiefly of working class houses, which are old in type, and congested in certain areas.

Mining subsidence is responsible for much damage to structure, and old houses are continuously in need of repairs, which are rendered difficult by the shortage of labour and building materials.

Most of the bad cases of overcrowding have been relieved, but the situation has not greatly improved owing to newly-married couples having to live with their parents. The problem is not one of inability to pay the rentals of houses but is the actual shortage of houses.

Schemes are in hand for the provision of 200 permanent houses to alleviate the housing position.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

Traditional permanent houses :

(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	60
(ii) By other Authorities ... ..	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons ... ..	4

#### 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) ... 1384

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1897

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head [1] above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... .. —

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... —

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... .. 6

(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... 843

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...	759

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS during the year:

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

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(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	154
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	—
(a) By owners	139
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

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

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | —        |
| (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, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :

- |  |                |      |
|--|----------------|------|
| (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year   | ... .. approx. | 450  |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein                          | ... .. approx. | 600  |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein                           | ... .. approx. | 3000 |
|  |                |      |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | ... ..         | 16   |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | ... ..         | 12   |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases                    | ... ..         | 95   |

## 5. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

### MEAT INSPECTION

There is no slaughter-house in the District. Meat supply is under the control of the Ministry of Food, and all butchers shops are supplied from the slaughtering centre and W.M.S.A. Depots in the County Borough of Wigan. Inspection of meat is carried out at the centralised slaughter-houses before distribution.

### UNSOUND FOOD

The various food stuffs detailed in the following table were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption. All were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and destroyed by incineration and by burying on the Council's Refuse Tip.

Article	Container	Weight	
		LBS.	OZS.
Apricots	3 jars	4	15½
Bacon		5	-
Beans	6 tins	4	-
Beef Loaf	6 tins	4	8
Carrots	2 tins	1	-
Cheese		21	8
Cherries	35 tins	32	3
Chicken	12 tins	45	14
Cooked Ham	26 tins	276	14
Corned Beef	4 tins	19	8
Cream	8 tins	2	8
Damsons	9 tins	6	8
Fruit Salad	4 tins	3	14½
Grapefruit	1 tin	1	-
Irish Stew	19 tins	18	3¼
Milk—			
Evaporated	200 tins	342	5½
Condensed	28 tins	48	4
Skimmed	15 tins	24	8
Peaches	67 jars	21	13½
Pears	17 tins	19	8
Peas	64 tins	45	8
Pickles	1 jar	-	11

Article	Container	Weight	
		LBS.	OZS.
Pineapples	40 jars	31	6½
Pork Luncheon Meat	48 tins	61	15
Plums	54 tins	54	4
Prunes	6 tins	5	15
	(loose)	14	-
Raisins	(loose)	30	-
Sausages		17	-
Semolina	18 packets	18	-
Soup	3 tins	3	-
Stewed Steak	45 tins	40	13
Strawberries	31 tins	30	-
Tomatoes	4 tins	2	6½
Tongue	80 tins	333	12
Tripe		504	-
Veal	95 tins	224	-

#### FOODS AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The Lancashire Council are the "Authority" under this Act, and the following samples were taken by the County Sanitary Inspector.

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	123
Table Jelly	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rolled Oats	...	...	...	...	...	2
Oatmeal	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	1
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	1
Semolina	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Lollies	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Lolly Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bread	...	...	...	...	...	1
White Bread	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brown Brown	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shredded Beef Suet with Flour	...	...	...	...	...	1

All the samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst and were found to be genuine with the exception of the following :—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.3% of extraneous water.	Further sample obtained.
1 informal milk	Deficient 5% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 informal milk	Deficient 3.3% fat.	{ Same vendor. Vendor notified.
1 informal milk	Deficient 6.6% fat.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 1.6% fat.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 8.3% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 informal milk	Deficient 6.6% fat. Freezing point indicated the presence of 11.2% of extraneous water.	{ Same vendor. Formal samples obtained.
1 informal milk	Deficient 15% fat. Freezing point indicated the presence of 17% of extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 16.3% of extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 18.1% of extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 1.6% fat.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 33% fat and low in solids-not-fat.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 15% fat and low in solids-not-fat.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 18.3% fat and low in solids-not-fat.	
1 formal Ice Lollies	Lead 4.4 parts per million. Recommended maximum limit 2 parts per million.	Manufacturers cautioned.

## MILK SUPPLY

During the year licenses under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 were issued to the following :—

Dealers of Sterilised Milk...	...	...	...	121
Dealers of Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	29
Dealers of Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk				7
Distributors	...	...	...	15

The 2 dairy farms in the District, having a total of approximately 90 cows, are now under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

There is one milk sterilising plant situate in the district, which is licensed by the Lancashire County Council, where a considerable quantity of milk is sterilised. The premises are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

A total of 84 samples of milk were submitted for examination during the year with the following results :—

Type of Milk	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Tuberculosis Test	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Ungraded ...	1	1	—	—	2	—
Heat-treated	29	11	40	—	—	—

Investigations following the 11 unsatisfactory samples of heat treated milk, produced at the same dairy situated outside the district, resulted in a new pasteurising plant being installed. Further samples obtained have all been satisfactory.

## ICE-CREAM

There are 2 ice-cream manufacturing premises in the District which are of recent construction and contain modern equipment for the efficient heat-treatment and cooling of ice-cream. One of the manufacturers produces a loose ice-cream and the other a wrapped ice-cream. Samples are taken frequently for examination and the results have been very satisfactory.

108 inspections were made of the 50 premises, mostly mixed businesses, which are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream, modern refrigerators being provided in all cases for the storage of the ice-cream.

42 samples of the various ice products sold within the District were submitted for bacteriological examination and were classified as follows:-

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

## INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

The Model Food Bye-laws have been adopted, and all food shops in the District are inspected regularly.

The following are the number of food premises, by type of business, in the district.

Type of Business	No.
Bakehouses	19
Butchers Shops	18
Fish and Chip Shops	23
Wet Fish Shops	4
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	2
Mixed Businesses	250
Greengrocers Shops	12
Food Hawkers Premises	5
Public Houses	39
Canteens and Snack Bars	23

The number of food premises registered by the local authority and the number of inspections made are :—

Type of Business	No. Registered	No. of Inspections
Ice-Cream Manufacturing Premises	2	12
Shops registered for sale of Ice-Cream	49	104
Butchers Shops	18	42
Food Hawkers Premises	5	10

10 hawkers of food products, fish, fruit and vegetables are registered under the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, which was adopted by this authority in January 1952.

Inspections were made of 3 Public Houses, new sanitary accommodation was provided at 2 Houses, new beer pipes at 2 Houses and improved facilities for the cleansing of glasses at 3 Houses.

No formal action was necessary in respect of any food premises, the minor defects found at some of the premises being remedied after informally notifying the occupiers. The general standard of cleanliness and food handling at the food shops in the District is satisfactory.

## FOOD POISONING

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year. This case occurred at the time of the outbreak resulting from meat pies supplied from a bakery at Lytham St. Annes. The person concerned worked at Leyland Rubber Works and ate one of the pies supplied (by the bakery) to the works canteen.

## **6. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.**

During 1953, cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment were removed to Whelley and Astley Hospitals.

42 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, as against 11 in 1952, and of the 42 cases, 14 were removed to hospital for treatment.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, or in the previous year.

Supplies of Diphtheria Antitoxin are kept at the Divisional Health Office, and the local hospitals, and are always available to the medical practitioners.

Free immunisation against Diphtheria is provided for any pre-school or school-child, and is performed by the Medical Officer at the Central Clinic. During 1953, 178 pre-school and 121 school children completed a full course of primary immunisation with two injections of Alum precipitated Toxoid. In addition, 258 children were given a secondary reinforcing injection.

TABLE C.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1953  
 Number of cases of Infectious Disease notified ; number of Deaths from these Diseases ; number of cases removed to Hospital ; and Deaths in Hospital during the year 1953.

DISEASES	Total Under										Total Deaths removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital persons belonging to district	
	Cases all ages	1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over			
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Scarlet Fever .....	42	...	6	10	23	3	...	...	...	...	14	...	
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding paratyphoid) ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paratyphoid Fever .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Measles (excluding rubella) .....	386	21	107	137	117	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	
Whooping Cough .....	155	10	60	46	36	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	
Acute Pneumonia (primary & influenzal) ...	9	1	3	...	...	2	...	...	2	1	...	4	
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	
Meningococcal infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paralytic .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Non-Paralytic .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Encephalitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Infective .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Post-Infective .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Erysipelas .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	
Dysentery .....	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Food Poisoning .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	
TOTALS.....	598	27	117	188	176	12	2	—	4	1	—	19	4

No preliminary and no post-Schick tests were undertaken.

No immunisation against the Enteric Group was undertaken during 1953.

Outbreaks of Measles and Whooping Cough of mild type occurred during the early part of the year.

No local action has been taken with regard to the use of measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuation, and there are no existing facilities for the typing of pneumococci and for the provision of appropriate type sera.

The general standard of cleanliness and habits in the District remains high, and the cases of infestation by head lice dealt with at the Clinic were few, and were successfully treated with D.D.T. Emulsion.

## DISINFECTION

Disinfection of all houses is carried out after death, removal to hospital or release from isolation of infectious cases. Houses are disinfected by the method of Formalin Spray, and all clothing, bedding etc., are dealt with by the steam disinfector at Platt Bridge.

The following table gives particulars of the disinfections carried out during the year :—

			No. of Cases	No. of Visits	No. of houses disinfected
Scarlet Fever	...	...	42	84	42
Tuberculosis	...	...	—	52	26
Total.....			42	136	68

35 school disinfections were also undertaken.

## CANCER

34 deaths (17 male and 17 female) were certified as due to Cancer during the year, as compared with 36 (18 male and 18 female) in 1952.

Facilities for Radium treatment are available to Ince residents at the Radium Institute, Manchester, and at the Wigan Infirmary, which for this purpose, is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre.

## TUBERCULOSIS

The dispensary service is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board, and Ince cases attend at the Chest Clinic in Millgate, Wigan.

20 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1953, 15 being cases of Pulmonary, and 5 cases of non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 7 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were registered during the year.

Notification of the disease in the District is quite satisfactory and no action has been necessary under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to Hospital.

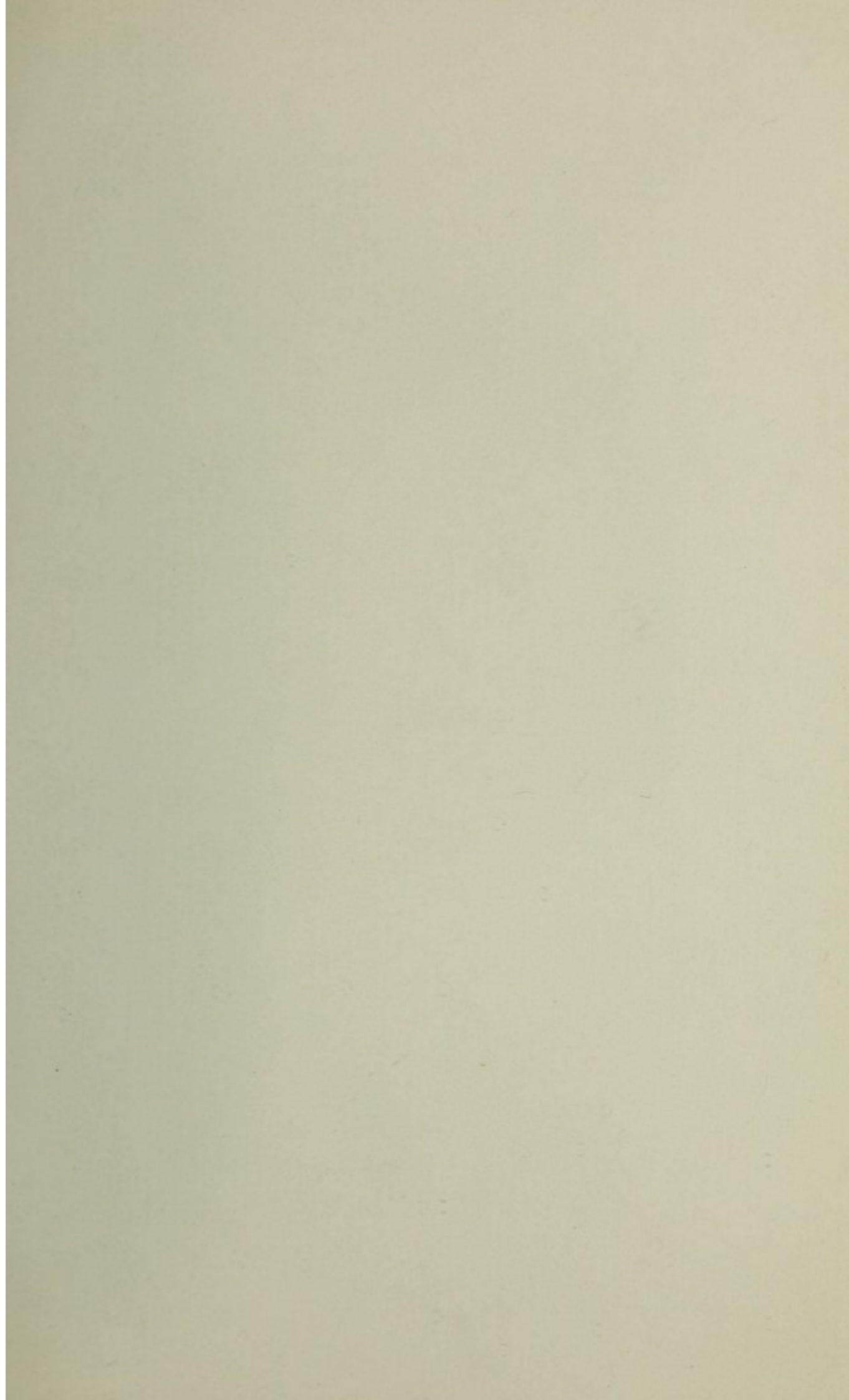
The subjoined Table shows the new cases of Tuberculosis in age groups, and the total deaths.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### NEW CASES

TABLE D.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
0—1 ... ..	—	—	—	—
1—5 ... ..	—	1	—	—
5—10 ... ..	—	—	—	1
10—15 ... ..	—	—	—	—
15—20 ... ..	2	—	—	—
20—25 ... ..	—	—	1	—
25—35 ... ..	2	—	1	1
35—45 ... ..	—	1	—	—
45—55 ... ..	4	2	—	—
55—65 ... ..	3	—	1	—
65 & up- wards ... ..	—	—	—	—
TOTALS... ..	11	4	3	2
	15		5	
Deaths ... ..	3	3	0	1
	6		1	



## CHAPTER I

The first part of the book is devoted to a general survey of the subject, and to a discussion of the various methods of investigation which have been employed.

In the second part, the author discusses the various theories which have been advanced to explain the origin of life, and the various methods of investigation which have been employed to test these theories.

In the third part, the author discusses the various theories which have been advanced to explain the origin of the human race, and the various methods of investigation which have been employed to test these theories.

The fourth part of the book is devoted to a general survey of the subject, and to a discussion of the various methods of investigation which have been employed.

## CHAPTER II

### THE ORIGIN OF LIFE

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