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**URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH**



**Annual Report**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**For the Year 1950.**



**T. S. JONES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.:**  
**Medical Officer of Health.**

**Including the Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector  
and Cleansing Superintendent**

**HUGH C. SLATER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.**



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URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH.

The

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1950

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T. S. JONES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H:

## URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FAILSWORTH

### Health Committee, 1950-51 :

- Councillor B. Brereton (Chairman).  
,, E. Battersby.  
,, H. Crossley.  
,, J. Evans.  
,, J. Fogarty.  
,, W. Howard, J.P.  
,, G. Howarth.  
,, G. Hughes.  
,, F. Jones, J.P.  
,, J. Kemp.  
,, D. Makinson.  
,, A. Schofield.  
,, F. Whyatt.  
,, G. F. Wilson.  
,, F. Yarwood.

### Medical Officer of Health :

- A. V. STOCKS, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 31/7/50).  
T. S. JONES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
(commenced 1/8/50).

### Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

- HUGH C. SLATER, Cert., R.S.A. (Scot.).  
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods, R.S.I.

### Additional Sanitary Inspector :

- HUGH P. LAWRENCE, Cert. R.S.I.

### Clerks in Public Health Department :

- T. COYLE (Joined H.M. Forces, 5/6/49).  
W. SCHOFIELD (Joined H.M. Forces, 19/10/49).  
L. M. KINAHAN (Commenced 12/10/49, Resigned 31-1-50).  
Mrs. E. G. HINES (Commenced 24/4/50).



Town Hall,

Failsworth,

July, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration the Annual Report on the health of Failsworth during 1950. Dr. Stocks was your Medical Officer of Health for the first part of the year, when I succeeded him on August 1st.

May I draw your attention to a few points in the report, viz:—

- (1) The total number of births has declined again this year and the number of deaths have also decreased, but you will notice from Table I that heart disease is the chief cause of death followed by cancer and bronchitis.
- (2) The increase in notification of dysentery due to the greater notice that is being taken of this mild condition which is very widespread amongst the community. It is only when it occurs in such communities as day nurseries, however, that the Health Department receives notification of this disease. It is essentially a disease spread by non hygienic personal habits and the more lavish use of soap and water, especially after using the toilet would reduce the incidence of both dysentery and food poisoning very considerably.
- (3) The control of pulmonary tuberculosis is becoming more of a problem especially in the instance where a patient is discharged from hospital or sanatorium still in an infectious state and liable to infect his family and immediate contacts. This is a reflection of the nursing shortage in sanatoria where in normal times the patient would be kept till complete recovery had been obtained and at least he would not be infecting the community.

I take this opportunity to record my appreciation of the interest and support shown by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the co-operation of chief officials of other departments and especially the help given at all times by Mr. Slater and the staff of the Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. S. JONES,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

### PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Failsworth is a compact Urban District of 1072 acres, of which nine acres are covered with water.

There is a gradual rise from 286 feet above sea level at the Manchester extremity to 354 feet above sea level at the Oldham extremity.

The district is divided into two Wards—the Lower near Manchester, and Higher near Oldham. This division is effected by the Rochdale Canal which passes through the district.

The sub-soil is chiefly clay, with sand and gravel in places overlying the coal measures.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) .....	1072
Population (Census 1931) .....	15724
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-year 1950) .....	18280
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931) .....	3883
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1950) according to Rate Books .....	5873
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (Census 1931) .....	4077
Rateable Value .....	£102828
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate (estimated) .....	£440

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Total. Males. Females.

Live Births—

Legitimate ...	266	132	134	} Birth Rate per 1000.....	14.8
Illegitimate ...	5	2	3		
Total.....	271	134	137		

Still Births ..... 10    4    6 — Rate per 1000 Total Births... 36

Deaths..... 206    106    100 — Crude Death Rate per 1000... 11.3

Deaths from puerperal causes—	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal sepsis .....	—	—
Other puerperal causes .....	—	—
Total .....	—	—

Death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live Births:—

All Infants, 33; Legitimate, 34; Illegitimate, —

Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages) .....	72
Deaths from Bronchitis (all ages) .....	14
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	29

Population, 18,280.

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1 Year per 1000 Live Birth
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Mean of 5 Years							
1945-1949 . . .	18.2	12.6	0.50	1.89	0.63	0.62	40
1949 .....	16.2	12.5	0.33	1.65	—	—	27
1950.....	14.8	11.3	0.55	—	—	—	33

Increase or decrease

On 5 years' average,

1945-1949 ...	-3.4	-1.3	+0.05	—	-0.63	-0.62	- 7
Previous year	-1.4	-1.2	+0.22	—	—	—	+ 6

1950 adjusted Death-rate (comparability factor 1.13)=12.7 per 1000.

1950 adjusted Birth-rate (comparability factor 0.93)=13.8 per 1000.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the Number 14 Health Division whose office is at "Tylon," Middleton Road, Chadderton.

### MATERNITY SERVICE.

Two domiciliary midwives serve the district and can be contacted through the ante-natal clinic which is held at Firs Hall, Oldham Road, on Tuesday afternoons between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Post-natal clinics are also held at Firs Hall on the first Friday of each month between the hours of 2 p.m. and 3-30 p.m.

### INFANT WELFARE SERVICES.

Two welfare sessions continue to be held weekly on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Firs Hall. Children are referred from these clinics to the Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic and Dental Clinics as required.

### DAY NURSERIES.

There are two day nurseries, one of 39 place accommodation at Oldham Road, and one of 58 place accommodation at Totton Road, which are the responsibility of the County Council. There are also a further two nurseries attached to cotton mills in the district.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The ambulance service is provided by the Oldham Corporation and is the financial responsibility of the Lancashire County Council.

### HOME HELP SERVICE.

Home helps are available for emergency cases, priority being given to maternity cases, general sickness cases, and the elderly and infirm. The services of a home help can be obtained on application to the Home Help Organiser at the Divisional Health Office.

### HOME NURSING.

There are two Queen's trained nurses resident in the district who are available for nursing in the home on application by the General Practitioner.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

	1940	1948	1949	1950
Diphtheria .....	66	3	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	71	29	71	46
Pneumonia .....	54	19	25	10
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	2	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	1	2	2	—
Erysipelas .....	2	3	2	2
Meningococcal Infection .....	4	2	4	1
Tuberculosis .....	19	20	24	23
Measles .....	297	240	178	232
Whooping Cough .....	25	54	100	87
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	2	—	2
Dysentery .....	—	4	—	59
Typhoid (including Paratyphoid)...	1	—	2	—
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	18
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	542	378	408	481
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**DIPHTHERIA.**

Although we have been fortunate enough to have had no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria the public must not be allowed to become complacent and not continue with the immunisation of their children. Whenever a case of Diphtheria does occur especially in the unimmunised child it can still be a killing disease.

**SCARLET FEVER.**

There was a decrease in the incidence of scarlet fever, 46 notifications having been received as against 71 in the previous year. It was of a mild type which enabled all but four of the cases to be nursed at home.

**PNEUMONIA.**

Ten cases were notified against 25 in the previous year. There were four deaths from Pneumonia.

**PUERERAL PYREXIA.**

Only one case occurred during the year.

**ERYSIPELAS.**

As in previous years the number of cases notified was small: only two cases occurred and both made a good recovery.



**MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.**

The one case notified died in hospital.

**MEASLES.**

There was an increase in the number of Measles cases notified: 232 against 178 in the previous year.

Only three of the cases were admitted to hospital although it is a much more dangerous disease than scarlet fever because of the complications such as running ears, visual defects and general ill health which may result.

**WHOOPING COUGH.**

There was a decrease from 100 in 1949 to 87 in the current year. The great majority of the cases occurred in the 1 to 5 years age groups. Only three of the cases required hospital treatment.

**ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.**

Two cases were notified during the year. Both cases were of a mild type and good progress is being made towards complete recovery.

**DYSENTERY**

It will be noticed that there was an increase in the notifications of dysentery which were entirely of the sonne type. This type of dysentery is very prevalent in the community but because of its mild nature those affected do not call in medical aid and thus the Health Department never hears of the majority of cases. The main source of notification occurs when dysentery appears in a small community such as a day nursery.

**FOOD POISONING.**

There was no major outbreak of food poisoning during the year but it will be observed that there were 18 cases all of which were sporadic and not connected with each other. Here again there must be many mild cases which go undetected and it is only by early notification to the Health Department, preferably by telephone, that it is at all possible to trace the source of infection. Early notification would enable the staff to obtain samples of remaining food which may have caused the symptoms, and also obtain specimens of any food vomited by the patient.

**PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.**

The number of specimens examined by the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall, Manchester, and the results of such examination were as undernoted:—

	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Positive</i>
Diphtheria .....	6	—
Streptococcal .....	139	33
Dysentery .....	31	18
Tuberculosis .....	2	—
Typhoid .....	22	—

## METHODS OF DEALING WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

On receipt of a notification the house is visited by the Sanitary Inspector and particulars as to character of house, number of occupants, schools attended by children, milk supply, etc., are obtained, and any possible source of infection is thoroughly investigated. If school children are concerned, the headmaster of the school attended is at once notified and children from the house are not allowed to attend school. The laundries in the locality are notified of all cases of infectious disease. Isolation of the patient is insisted upon, and if this cannot be satisfactorily carried out at home, arrangements are made whereby the patient is removed to the Westhulme Isolation Hospital, Oldham; Monsall Hospital, Manchester; or the Borough Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Printed instructions as to methods of isolation, etc., are left at the house. Disinfectant fluid and soap are supplied free of charge. Houses where cases are being treated at home are kept under observation by the Sanitary Inspector.

As soon as the patient is certified as being no longer infectious, the infected room or rooms are fumigated with formaldehyde vapour. Bedding is removed for disinfection by steam in the Oldham Corporation Disinfector.

Any nuisances and defects at infected houses are noted and dealt with.

In cases of enteric fever, special sanitary receptacles are provided and the contents disposed of by the sanitary authority.

During the year 66 premises have been disinfected and articles of clothing, bedding, etc., have been disinfected in the steam disinfector belonging to the Oldham Corporation.

The following schools in the district were disinfected:—Senior Boys' School, Senior Girls' School, Mather Street School, Holy Trinity School, St. Mary's School, Stansfield Road School and St. John's School.

No facilities exist in the district for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings.



## Cases of Infectious Disease notified (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1950.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.													HOSPITAL.			
	Total Cases at all Ages	AT AGES - YEARS.												Total Deaths.	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.	
		Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and over.				
Scarlet fever .....	46	...	2	5	14	21	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia .....	10	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	3	1	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Dysentery .....	59	1	13	11	14	10	2	2	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...
Meningococcal Infection .....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	87	9	9	16	15	18	16	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	3	...
Measles .....	232	17	29	32	51	33	67	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning .....	18	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	7	2	...	1	...
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1950.

Age—Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>Years</b>								
0—1 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10.....	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
10—15.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20.....	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
20—25.....	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—35 .....	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
35—45.....	2	3	...	...	2	...	...	...
45—55 .....	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
55—65 .....	5	1	...	...	2	...	1	...
65 and upwards...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
<b>Totals</b>	10	11	0	2	7	3	1	1
	21		2		10		2	

The notification of tuberculosis in this district is quite efficient, and no action has been necessary in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

No action has been necessary relating to tuberculosis employees in the milk trade, nor for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from the disease.

The duties of tuberculosis visitation are carried out by the staff of the County Council. Paper handkerchiefs and cardboard sputum cups are kept in the Health Department, and are given on demand.

Disinfection of the rooms and bedding is carried out in all cases of pulmonary tuberculosis when the patient dies, removes from the district, or enters sanatorium.

The number of new cases was the same as last year but the number of deaths increased from 6 to 12. It will be observed from the Table that the majority of the deaths occurred in the higher age groups.

At the end of the year there were 95 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 42 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the register.



TABLE I.  
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE.  
*Causes of Death, 1950.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males	Females
All Causes .....	106	100
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	7	3
Tuberculosis, other.....	1	1
Syphilitic Disease .....	1	...
Diphtheria .....	..	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...
Meningococcal Infections .....	1	...
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	...
Measles .....	...	...
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	...	...
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus .....	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	...	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	...	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	8	9
Leukæmia, aleukæmia .....	...	...
Diabetes .....	...	...
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	7	10
Coronary disease, angina .....	17	9
Hypertension with heart disease .....	5	5
Other Heart Disease .....	17	19
Other Curculatory Disease .....	3	3
Influenza .....	1	4
Pneumonia .....	1	3
Bronchitis .....	7	7
Other disease of respiratory system .....	3	...
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	1	...
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	...	...
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	2	...
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	1	...
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	...	...
Congenital malformations .....	1	...
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	11	16
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	...	2
All other accidents .....	2	1
Suicide .....	2	3
Homicide and operations of war.....	...	...



TABLE II.

*Causes of, and Ages at Death during the*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Total all ages	Under 1 year	1 & under 2 years	2 & under 3 years	3 & under 4 years
		13	14	15	16
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	10	...	...	...	...
2 Tuberculosis, other .....	2	...	...	...	...
3 Syphilitic disease .....	1	...	...	...	...
4 Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping Cough.....	...	...	...	...	...
6 Meningococcal Infections .....	1	1	...	...	...
7 Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...
8 Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.....	...	...	...	...	...
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .....	4	...	...	...	...
11 Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	5	...	...	...	...
12 Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .....	2	...	...	...	...
13 Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.....	1	...	...	...	...
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm.....	17	..	...	...	...
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	...	...	...	...	...
16 Diabetes .....	...	...	...	...	...
17 Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	17	2	...	...	...
18 Coronary Disease, Angina .....	26	...	...	...	...
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	10	...	...	...	...
20 Other Heart Disease .....	36	...	...	...	...
21 Other Circulatory Disease .....	6	...	...	...	...
22 Influenza .....	5	...	...	...	...
23 Pneumonia .....	4	2	...	...	...
24 Bronchitis .....	14	...	...	...	...
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory System.....	3	...	...	...	...
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....	1	...	...	...	...
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	...	...	...	...	...
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	2	...	...	...	...
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	1	...	...	...	...
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations .....	1	1	...	...	...
32 Other defined and ill-defined Diseases .....	27	3	...	...	...
33 Motor-vehicle Accidents .....	2	...	...	...	...
34 All Other Accidents .....	3	...	...	1	...
35 Suicide .....	5	...	...	...	...
36 Homicide and Operations of War.....	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TOTALS.....</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>...</b>



TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1950.  
*Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under  
 One Year of Age. Compiled from Local Returns.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 24 Hours	1-6 Days	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
	All causes { Certified .....	3	3	1	...	...	7	1	...	1	...
{ Uncertified .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Intracranial Haemorrhage	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis.....	2	1	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
Asphyxia .....	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
	3	3	1	...	...	7	1	...	1	...	9

Nett Births in the year—legitimate, 266; illegitimate, 5.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47.

No applications were made under the above Act during the year.



**REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR  
AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.**

To the Chairman and Members of  
The Failsworth Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report upon the Sanitary Circumstances of the District and the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1950.

The various activities of the Department are commented upon under the appropriate headings in the report.

Despite continued shortage of various building materials and an upward trend in prices a considerable amount of repair work to dwellinghouses was carried out during the year. A growing number of houses, however, are reaching the stage when they are incapable of being rendered fit for habitation by ordinary repair.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Members and Officials of the Council and the staff of the Public Health Department for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH C. SLATER,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.*



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### WATER SUPPLY.

All dwelling-houses in the district are supplied direct from public water mains. The whole of the district is supplied by Oldham Corporation, with the exception of 14 houses which are supplied by Manchester Corporation. The supply from both these sources is satisfactory in quality and quantity, and there has been no evidence of plumbo-solvent action.

One hundred and twenty eight samples of treated water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination. One hundred and nineteen of these were reported as satisfactory and nine as unsatisfactory.

The results of four samples of water submitted for chemical analysis were satisfactory.

Negotiations have taken place between the Local Authority and the Water Undertakers regarding complaints of low water pressure in houses.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Medlock adjoins the Sewage Works, and receives the sewage effluent. It flows along the south-east border of the district. The sewage effluent has satisfied the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee. On the opposite boundary of the district is the Moston Brook, which flows into the river Irk.

A smaller brook, named Lord's Brook, flows into the Medlock, and another small stream occurs near the Cemetery.

### SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

No extensions to the sewerage system were made during the year.

All drains are examined before being covered in, and smoke or water tests applied where applicable.

The sewers in the district are partly brick and partly pipe. Most of the storm water finds its way into the sewers. They are periodically flushed and are ventilated by open manholes and gratings. House drains are well trapped and soil pipes are properly ventilated. The sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Works.

TREATMENT OF SEWAGE AT DISPOSAL WORKS.—The dry-weather flow of sewage exceeds 1,000,000 gallons per day. The sewage enters the works through a cast-iron pipe, 3 feet in diameter, and passes over a water-wheel, which breaks up the solids, and at the same time works a lime mixer. The crude sewage is treated with lime and ferrous sulphate and passes through detritus tanks, on through precipitation and settling tanks, and through 12 sprinkler filters, the effluent being subjected to humus tanks and strainer filters before being discharged into the river Medlock.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**

The following table shows the approximate number of the various sanitary conveniences in the district at the close of the year:—

CLOSETS.	Houses and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories	TOTALS
Privy-midden closets ... ..	...	...	...	
Pail-closets .....	53	2	3	58
Fresh waterclosets .....	6218	192	604	7014
Waste waterclosets .....	123	...	...	123
	6394	194	607	7195

A scheme has been prepared for the conversion of 18 pail closets at Hale Lane to the water carriage system and it is anticipated that the work of conversion will be completed in the summer of 1951.

Four waste-water closets were converted to fresh-water closets during the year. The waste-water type of closet is most unsatisfactory and should be abolished at the earliest possible opportunity. The Local Authority have powers under the Public Health Act, 1936, to require the conversion of such closets.

The following table shows the approximate number of the various refuse receptacles:—

REFUSE RECEPTACLES.	Houses and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories	TOTALS
Privy-middens (covered) ...	...	...	...	...
Dry ashpits (covered).....	...	...	...	...
Metal ashbins .....	6036	54	36	6126
	6036	54	36	6126



## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Three seven cubic yard, 14 horse power Karrier Bantam refuse collectors are employed full time on the collection of refuse. A special once weekly collection of paper salvage is made from certain shops and business premises, but generally trade refuse and salvage are collected during the normal course of the house refuse collection service.

Because of the increase of population, occupation of new houses and the reduction of the weekly working hours of employees, the Council authorised the appointment of two additional ashbinmen from the 1st October, 1950. The personnel of the Department is now 18, comprising a foreman, three drivers, eleven ashbinmen, two tip attendants and one paper baler/rodent operative.

Refuse is collected from approximately 6,000 premises and while it was not always possible to maintain a regular weekly collection, the frequency of collection generally proved to be adequate.

The Council have operated a scheme for the provision and maintenance of dustbins as a charge upon the general rate fund since 1st April, 1949; 583 dustbins were provided under the scheme during the past year.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on low lying land near Broadway, and adjoining the Manchester Boundary. This land is adjacent to the Council's Lower Park and tipping is at present taking place to extend the area used as football pitches. At the present rate of progress it should be possible to accommodate a further pitch by the autumn of 1951.

We are entirely dependant on ashes, etc., solicited from various sources for covering material for the tip and quite often suffer from acute shortages of such material.

Fifty-eight pail closets are emptied weekly by one of the refuse collection vehicles which is fitted with a tank for that purpose. Disposal is direct to the sewer through a specially designed chute situated near Lord Lane.

Street cleansing is carried out by six street orderlies working on the beat system and gullies are emptied by a mechanical gully emptier hired from the Droylsden Urban District Council.

During the early part of the year there was no demand for paper salvage and all paper had to be disposed of by tipping or burning. By the end of the year, however, paper again came into short supply and the demand for salvage was renewed. Twenty-two tons 19 cwt. of waste paper were sold and realised the sum of £159 9s.

**SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**

The following tabular statement has been prepared in accordance with Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and contains information as to:—

- (a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year;
- (b) The number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from informal notices;
- (c) The result of the service of such notices.

*(Please refer to next page)*



### Tabular Statement of Sanitary Inspections for the Year ended 31st December, 1950.

INSPECTIONS.		Number of	No. of Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices		
			Informal	Statutory	Complied with By Owner or Occupier.	By Council in Default.	Not Complied with Outstanding
Water Supply .....	164	18	...	7	...	11	...
Drainage .....	296	75	12	80	...	7	...
Stables and Piggeries .....	43	3	...	3	...	...	...
Offensive Trades .....	12	1	...	1	...	...	...
Ashbins .....	583	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	93	9	...	9	...	...	...
Factories .....	183	11	...	11	...	...	...
Outworkers .....	164	...	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Collection .....	496	...	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Disposal .....	197	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smoke Observations .....	54	6	1	7	...	...	...
Rats and Mice .....	189	7	...	7	...	...	...
Schools .....	26	3	...	3	...	...	...
Shops .....	651	16	...	16	...	...	...
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits .....	187	4	...	4	...	...	...
Interviews .....	192	...	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Accumulations .....	22	5	...	5	...	...	...
Dwelling Houses .....	1479	523	35	532	4	22	...
Revisits to Property .....	913	...	...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding—Number of Houses Inspected .....	62	...	...	...	...	...	...
Verminous Premises—Number of Houses Inspected .....	130	12	...	12	...	...	...
Inspections re Cases of Infectious Disease .....	102	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits .....	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
Visits to Premises where Food is prepared, sold or stored (including Vehicles) .....	763	12	...	12	...	...	...
Visits to Ice Cream Premises .....	79	...	...	...	...	...	...
Visits to Cowsheds .....	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dairies and Milkshops .....	131	...	...	...	...	...	...
Visits in connection with Sampling Milk—Bacteriological .....	26	...	...	...	...	...	...
Visits in connection with Sampling Food and Drugs .....	45	...	...	...	...	...	...
Petroleum .....	39	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals .....	7343	705	48	709	4	40	...

## DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1950.

DWELLING HOUSES—	No.
Unclean Houses .....	8
Verminous Houses .....	12
Kitchen ranges, fireplaces and flues .....	18
Washboilers .....	2
Defective Plaster .....	82
Defective ceiling plaster .....	47
Floors and stairs .....	37
Doors, windows and cords .....	131
Damp walls .....	31
Sinks .....	9
Waste pipes and channels .....	3
Roofs .....	57
Pointing and brickwork of walls .....	55
Yard paving and paths .....	33
Rainwater pipes and eaves gutters .....	142
Drains cleansed or repaired .....	55
Defective W.C. apparatus and buildings .....	53
Defective chimney stacks .....	9
Defective water supply and cisterns .....	4
Defective ashbins .....	626
Ventilation .....	1
Offensive accumulations .....	2
Miscellaneous .....	15
<b>FACTORIES—</b>	
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation .....	6
Other nuisances .....	5
<b>FARMS AND DAIRIES—</b>	
Cowsheds limewashed .....	3
<b>FOOD PREMISES—</b>	
Cleansing and limewashing .....	8
Structural defects .....	2
Removal of refuse .....	2
Miscellaneous .....	1
Total ...	1459
Complaints received and investigated .....	290



### TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, CAMPING SITES, ETC.

The number of moveable dwellings in occupation at the end of the year was seven. These are situated on enclosed land and are provided with satisfactory water supply and sanitary accommodation. Regular inspections were made to ensure compliance with Bye-laws made by the Council in 1928.

No licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, have been issued by the Local Authority.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Fifty-four smoke observations were taken during the year. No legal action was taken, but it was found necessary on a number of occasions to inspect the boiler plants at factories in an endeavour to reduce the output of smoke.

Representatives of the Ministry of Fuel and Power visited several factories by agreement with the owners to advise on technical matters, and the results of these visits were very encouraging.

A joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution has been formed by seventeen Local Authorities and lead peroxide gauges are to be installed throughout the area.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Twelve houses were treated by the Council with insecticides containing D.D.T. The results obtained were very satisfactory. Re-inspections were made to check re-infestation and tenants were advised on precautions to be taken.

### RODENT CONTROL.

One trained Rodent Operative is employed part time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention. All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry, and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

Regular meetings are held between representatives of contiguous Local Authorities, County Agricultural Executive Committee and Railway Executive as a Workable Area Committee, under the auspices of the Ministry's Divisional Rodent Officer. Joint action is planned between representatives when necessary.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review :—

<i>Type of Property</i>	<i>No. of proper ties Inspected</i>	<i>No. of inspections made</i>	<i>Number of treatments carried out</i>	
			<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Local Authority's property	12	49	7	2
Dwelling house .....	834	1241	117	45
Business premises .....	128	122	15	2
Agricultural property .....	10	22	Nil	Nil
Total .....	984	1434	139	45

### SCHOOLS.

There are seven schools in the district:—

- County Modern Secondary School for Boys (Partington Street).
- County Modern Secondary School for Girls (Stansfield Road).
- Mather Street County School (Junior, Mixed and Infants).
- Stansfield Road County School (Junior Mixed and Infants).
- St. John's Church of England School (Junior, Mixed and Infants)
- Holy Trinity Church of England School  
(Junior, Mixed and Infants).
- St. Mary's Roman Catholic School  
(Junior, Mixed and Infants).

The schools are supplied with town's water, and are provided with closets on the water carriage system.

### HOUSING.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—

- (a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b)—
  - (i) By the Local Authority ..... 34
  - (ii) By other Local Authorities ..... 2
  - (iii) By other bodies and persons ..... 4
- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—
  - (i) By the Local Authority ..... 34
  - (ii) By other bodies or persons ..... Nil

1—INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

- (i) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..... 1479



(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	2392
(ii) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	46
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	97
(iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	350
(iv) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	347
2—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—	
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .....	386
3—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—	
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs .....	26
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners .....	17
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .....	1
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	46
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners .....	52
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	3
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	1

(ii) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	1
<i>D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>	
(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	Nil*
(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	Nil

#### 4—HOUSING ACT, 1935. OVERCROWDING.

The exact position re overcrowding is not known, and to obtain it a new Survey would have to be carried out.

\*Three dwellinghouses closed by agreement with owners.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### (a) MILK SUPPLY.

There were three dairy farms in the district at the end of the year. The milk from two of the farms is sent direct to pasteurising plants, and that from one farm is retailed in the district by the producer.

Producers licences are now granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, but periodic inspections of the farms were made with regard to cleanliness and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

A very high percentage of the milk retailed in this district is pasteurised milk from the United Co-operative Dairies, Broadway, Failsworth.

The Lancashire County Council is responsible for the licensing of pasteurising plants, but as there is complete co-operation between the County Sanitary Officers and your Sanitary Inspectors we have ample opportunity for inspecting and supervising the premises.

Particulars of registrations made and licences granted under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations are as follows:—

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:—

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Own dairies in district .....	1
(b) Dairy farms in district .....	1
(c) Premises outside the district .....	5

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of dealers licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1950 in respect of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk:—

(i) Bottling .....	1
(ii) Distribution .....	3

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of licences issued in respect of "Heat Treated" milk:—

Retail distributors :

(a) "Pasteurised" .....	3
(b) "Sterilised" .....	47

Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938 and the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947:—

All premises registered for the manufacture or sale of Ice-Cream were regularly inspected. Premises and storage accommodation were found to be maintained in a satisfactory hygienic condition.

No. of premises registered to manufacture Ice-Cream	1
No. of premises registered to sell Ice-Cream .....	36



*(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.*

Bye-Laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air, came into operation on the 17th July, 1950.

Copies of the Bye-Laws were supplied to all food premises in the district and the provisions of the Bye-Laws were generally well observed.

Private slaughterhouses remained closed throughout the year and all slaughtering for the district continued to be done at the Government controlled abattoirs in Manchester.

Butchers shops were regularly inspected. Premises and equipment were generally maintained at a high standard of cleanliness and the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations well observed.

All premises where food is prepared, stored or sold were periodically inspected. Twelve informal notices were served and complied with during the year.

It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings in any case.

The following table gives the quantity of meat and other foods seized or surrendered during the year, upon being found unfit for human consumption:—

<i>Description of Food.</i>	<i>Weight Condemned.</i>			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Meat .....	—	1	3	25
Tinned Meat .....	—	1	3	8
Tinned Fish .....	—	—	1	9
Tinned Milk .....	—	4	2	27
Tinned Vegetables .....	—	7	3	1
Tinned Soups .....	—	—	—	18
Tinned Fruits .....	—	2	1	4
Sauces .....	—	—	2	8
Jams .....	—	—	1	20
Miscellaneous .....	—	—	2	12
Total .....	1	0	2	20
	—	—	—	—

**BAKEHOUSES.** There are 19 in the district at the present time. All were frequently inspected, and verbal intimations given regarding limewashing or structural defects were promptly complied with. One bakehouse was substantially improved by considerable structural alterations.



### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. 1938.

The Lancashire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority, and the undernoted particulars of the sampling carried out under the provisions of the above Act in Failsworth during the year 1950, were supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

A total of 97 samples was obtained, of these 69 were of milk and the 28 others comprised:—

2 Sago.	1 Dried Peas.
3 Borax.	2 Macaroni.
3 Cocoa.	1 Cornflour.
4 Coffee and Chicory	1 Malted Oatmeal.
Essence Liquid.	1 Ice-Cream.
1 Drinking Chocolate.	1 Self-Raising Flour.
1 Beef Sausage.	2 Custard Powder.
1 Semolina.	2 Table Jelly.
2 Tea.	

All the above samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1 Informal Milk	Deficient 13.3% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Informal Milk	Deficient 5.0% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Informal Milk	Deficient 2.3% of Solids-not-fat. The freezing point indicated the presence of 1.9% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 Sago	Consisted of Tapioca containing about 10% of Sago.	Vendor notified.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only offensive trade in the district is one tripe boiling premises which has been in existence for a considerable time. The work is carried on in such a manner to be free from nuisance.

### RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the District at which rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

### STORAGE OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

Licences were granted to 21 firms for the keeping of Petroleum, to which the Petroleum Acts apply, each licence being for the duration of twelve months.

All the petroleum is kept in separate stores, specially constructed of fire-proof material throughout, and the Regulations otherwise complied with.

### Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. **Inspections**, for the purposes of provisions as to health  
(Including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections 2	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions 4
Factories with Mechanical Power .....	138	1	...
Factories without Mechanical Power.....	34	2	...
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises .....	11	...	...
Total.....	183	3	...

2. **Defects found.**

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecu- tions 5
	Found 2	Remedied 3	Referr'd by H.M. Inspector 4	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) .....	5	5	1	...
Overcrowding (S. 2) .....	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) .....	...	...	...	...
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4).....	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) .....	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
insufficient.....	2	2	1	...
unsuitable or defective .....	4	4	1	...
not separate for sexes .....	...	...	...	...
Other offences against the Act .....	...	...	...	...
Not including offences relating to Outwork				
Total.....	11	11	3	...

Number of Returns in Outworkers' Section—Nil.





