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**URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH**



**Annual Report**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**For the Year 1952.**



**ELLIS TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**  
**Medical Officer of Health.**

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

**WILFRED L. MONKS, M.S.I.A.**



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URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH.

The

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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ELLIS TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

## URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FAILSWORTH

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### **Health Committee, 1952-53 :**

- Councillor H. Crossley (Chairman)  
,, G. E. Edge.  
,, G. A. Hughes.  
,, J. Evans.  
,, W. Howard, M.B.E., J.P.  
,, G. Howarth, J.P.  
,, F. Whyatt.  
,, F. Yarwood, C.C.  
,, R. Ord.  
,, J. Fogarty.  
,, D. Makinson.  
,, E. Battersby.  
,, J. Kemp.  
,, G. F. Wilson.  
,, J. Stanhope, J.P.

### **Medical Officer of Health :**

ELLIS TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### **Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :**

HUGH C. SLATER, Cert., R.S.A. (Scot.)  
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods, R.S.I.  
(Resigned 30th June, 1952)

WILFRED L. MONKS, M.S.I.A.,  
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods, R.S.I.  
(Commenced 22nd September, 1952)

### **Additional Sanitary Inspector :**

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

### **Clerk in Public Health Department :**

Miss N. WILD.

Town Hall,  
Failsworth,  
*June, 1953.*

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

It gives me much pleasure to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health of Failsworth during 1952.

Matters of interest to which your attention might be drawn are:—

- (1) The decline of the birth rate to the 1950 level of 14.8 compared with a rate for England and Wales of 15.3 per 1,000 population.
- (2) As a result of the reduction in the number of births and an increase in infant deaths, the infantile mortality rate increased to 41.
- (3) The town escaped from any infection by Diphtheria or Alastrim.
- (4) A most interesting and stimulating report was submitted by the County Medical Officer of Health during the year on a survey of the District. The Council is already considering how to implement the most urgent recommendations.

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

E. TAYLOR,  
*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.

Procedure has commenced to alter the number and boundaries of the Wards.

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 1952) .....	17980
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931) ...	3883
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1952) according to Rate Books .....	5970
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (Census 1931) .....	4077
Rateable Value .....	£111445
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate (estimated) .....	£460

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Live Births—

	Total.	Males.	Females.		
Legitimate	260	136	124		
Illegitimate	7	6	1	Birth Rate per 1000 .....	14.8
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
Total ....	267	142	125		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
Still Births .....	4	2	2	Rate per 1000 Total Births ...	15
Deaths .....	210	125	85	Crude Death Rate per 1000 ...	11.7

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

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

### Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All Infants, 11. Legitimate, 11. Illegitimate, —.  
Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births, 41.

### Neo-natal Mortality.

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age .....	7
Mortality rate per 1000 live births .....	26
Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages) .....	60
Deaths from Bronchitis (all ages) .....	15
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	51

	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							
1947-1951 ...	16.9	12.2	0.48	1.48	Nil	Nil	31
1951 ...	16.5	12.5	0.22	1.72	Nil	Nil	10
1952 ...	14.8	11.7	0.17	2.84	Nil	Nil	41

### Increase or decrease on 5 years average

1947-1951 .....	- 2.1	- 0.5	- 0.31	+ 1.36	Nil	Nil	+ 10
Previous Year	- 1.7	- 0.8	- 0.05	+ 1.12	Nil	Nil	+ 31

1952 adjusted Death rate (comparability factor 1.12) = 13.1 per 1000.

1952 adjusted Birth rate (comparability factor 0.92) = 13.7 per 1000.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the No. 14 Health Division whose office is at "Tylon," Middleton Road, Chadderton.

### MATERNITY SERVICE

Two domiciliary midwives serve the district. The ante-natal clinic is held at Firs Hall, Oldham Road, on Tuesday afternoons between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

### HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES

Two full-time Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the area.

### CLINICS.

Regular sessions of the following clinics are held at Firs Hall, Oldham Road, Failsworth, as follows:—

Ante and Post Natal: Every Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Maternity and Child Welfare: Every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation: By appointment.

### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The Divisional Medical Officer and the Assistant Divisional Medical Officer are also School Medical Officers. Clinics are held at Firs Hall, as follows:—

Minor Ailments: Every Thursday morning at 10 a.m.

Ophthalmic, Orthodontic, Child Guidance and Speech Therapy Clinics attended by appointment only.

The School Dental Clinic was re-opened in 1952 and a School Dental Officer is in attendance each morning. Treatment is by appointment only.

### CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948.

The work in connection with Infant Life Protection and Adoption of Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

The Area Childrens' Officer for this District has an office at Enville House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

### DAY NURSERIES.

There are two day nurseries, one of 37 places accommodation at Oldham Road, and one of 50 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.**

The ambulance service is provided by the Oldham Corporation under an agency agreement with the Lancashire County Council. This arrangement will continue until new ambulance stations are established at Middleton and Crompton.

**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 Divisional Medical Officer.

**HOME NURSING SERVICE.**

Provided by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

**CONVALESCENCE.**

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

**CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.**

Under arrangement made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

**UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.**

Provision for their care is made by Lancashire County Council in conjunction with Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

**WELFARE SERVICE.**

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council. Resident accommodation is provided at Boundary Park Annexe and at various Hostels for aged people.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

The Chest Clinic is situated in Brook Street, Chadderton, where all suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred. X-Ray facilities are available at the Clinic.

## HOSPITAL SERVICE

Hospitals available to residents of Failsworth are:—

General and Maternity Cases: Boundary Park and Manchester Hospitals.

Infectious Diseases: Westhulme and Monsall Hospitals.

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

	1942	1950	1951	1952
Diphtheria .....	4	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	59	28	28
Erysipelas .....	—	2	3	1
Food Poisoning .....	—	18	—	—
Measles .....	225	232	108	237
Meningococcal Infection .....	7	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .....	24	10	25	30
Poliomyelitis .....	1	2	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	2	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	71	46	44	51
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis .....	29	23	17	17
Typhoid and Paratyphoid .....	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough.....	36	87	40	69
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	399	481	266	434
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**DIPHThERIA.**

Although we have been fortunate enough to have had no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria the public cannot afford to become complacent. Immunisation of all children still remains the sheet anchor of prevention. Whenever a case of Diphtheria does occur, especially in the unimmunised child, it can still be a killing disease.

**SCARLET FEVER.**

There was a slight increase in the incidence of scarlet fever, 51 notifications having been received as against 44 in the previous year. It was of a mild type which enabled all but 2 of the cases to be nursed at home.

**PNEUMONIA.**

Thirty cases were notified against 25 in the previous year. There were 10 deaths from Pneumonia.



#### PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

No cases occurred during the year.

#### ERYSIPELAS.

As in previous years the number of cases notified was small : only one case occurred and made good recovery.

#### MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.

No cases occurred during the year.

#### MEASLES.

There was the expected biennial increase in the number of Measles cases notified : 237 against 108 in the previous year.

No 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 an increase from 40 in 1951 to 69 in the current year. The great majority of the cases occurred in the 1 to 5 years of age group.

#### DYSENTERY

It will be noticed that there were 28 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 many of those affected do not call in medical aid and thus the Health Department never hears of the majority of cases.

#### FOOD POISONING.

No cases were notified during the year.

#### 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 .....	10	—
Streptococcal .....	6	2
Dysentery .....	501	175
Tuberculosis .....	4	—

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

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

**Cases of Infectious Disease notified (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1952.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.													Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district		
	Total Cases at all Ages	AT AGES—YEARS.																
		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 .....	15	2	4	3	9	29	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
Measles .....	237	33	34	24	41	92	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	69	9	13	10	12	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia....	30	1	—	2	—	3	1	—	7	—	9	—	—	5	—	—	—	7
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery .....	28	1	5	3	2	3	2	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	



11  
TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1952.

Age-Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0—1 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 .....	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 .....	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 .....	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 .....	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1
55—65 .....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	3	12	1	1	3	1	0	1
	15		2		4		1	

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.

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 showed a decrease of 2 from last year's figures.

At the end of the year there were 92 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 23 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the register.

*Causes of, and Ages at Death during the*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Total all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 4 years
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	3	...	...	...	...
2. Tuberculosis, other .....	1	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease .....	1	...	...	...	...
4. Diphtheria .....	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough .....	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal Infections .....	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...
8. Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	1	1	...	...	...
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .....	13	...	...	...	...
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus...	6	...	...	...	...
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .....	4	...	...	...	...
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .....	1	...	...	...	...
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm ...	27	..	...	...	...
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	...	...	...	...	...
16. Diabetes .....	2	...	..	...	...
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	28	1	...	...	...
18. Coronary Disease, Angina .....	18	...	...	...	...
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	...	...	...	...	...
20. Other Heart Disease .....	42	...	...	...	...
21. Other Circulatory Disease .....	11	...	...	...	...
22. Influenza .....	2	...	...	...	...
23. Pneumonia .....	10	2	...	...	...
24. Bronchitis .....	15	...	...	...	...
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....	...	...	...	...	...
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.....	1	...	...	...	...
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	4	...	...	...	...
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	1	...	...	...	...
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	...	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital Malformations .....	3	3	...	...	...
32. Other defined and ill-defined Diseases ...	13	1	...	...	...
33. Motor-vehicle Accidents .....	...	...	...	...	...
34. All Other Accidents .....	2	1	...	...	...
35. Suicide .....	1	...	...	...	...
36. Homicide and Operations of War .....	...	...	...	...	...
Totals .....	210	9	...	...	...





## REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE.

*Causes of Death, 1952.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males	Females
All Causes .....	125	85
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	2	1
Tuberculosis, other.....	..	1
Syphilitic Disease .....	1	..
Diphtheria .....	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	..	..
Meningococcal Infections .....	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	..	..
Measles .....	..	..
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	1	..
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	5	8
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus .....	5	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	..	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	..	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	16	11
Leukæmia, aleukæmia .....	..	..
Diabetes .....	..	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	14	14
Coronary disease, angina .....	16	2
Hypertension with heart disease .....	..	..
Other Heart Disease .....	29	13
Other Circulatory Disease.....	4	7
Influenza .....	2	..
Pneumonia .....	5	5
Bronchitis .....	12	3
Other disease of respiratory system .....	..	..
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	..	..
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	..	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	..	4
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	1	..
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	..	..
Congenital malformations .....	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	9	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	..	..
All other accidents .....	1	1
Suicide .....	1	..
Homicide and operations of war.....	..	..

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1952.  
*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 .....	2	4	—	1	—	7	1	3	—	—
} Uncertified .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia .....	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Atelectasis .....	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Heart .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Hydrocephalus... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Intercranial Haemorrhage ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Sub-Arachnoid Haemorrhage.	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
	2	4	—	1	—	7	1	3	—	—	11



**REPORT OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
ON THE INSPECTION OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF  
FAILSWORTH, 8th OCTOBER, 1952.**

During the year, in accordance with Article 6 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, a comprehensive survey of the district was made by the County Sanitary Officer on behalf of the County Medical Officer of Health.

The following observations and recommendations have been extracted from the report:—

**GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.**

From the survey of the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District it is evident that many sanitary improvements have been effected in recent years. In particular, the provision of new housing accommodation has received much attention and the public cleansing service has been efficiently organised.

The implementation of the new Clean Food Bye-laws, which is a task of considerable dimensions in a district of this kind, has been well begun although much work still remains to be done.

With regard to the reduction in the emission of industrial smoke, the Council are supporting schemes to measure the pollution of the atmosphere and the number of observations of smoke emissions has progressively increased during the past five years.

It is apparent nevertheless, that there is scope for increased attention to this work.

In relation to the reconditioning of existing house property, progress is being made and the Council are urged to consider means to accelerate this work for which much urgent need remains.

The clearance of insanitary houses has, commendably, already commenced, and should be continued as suitable alternative accommodation for the displaced tenants becomes available.

It became obvious during the Survey that the Council are frequently faced with a serious problem arising from the use of land by gipsies and other itinerant dwellers in caravans. It is suggested that the Council may consider it desirable to make provision suitable for a limited number of such caravans in order to avoid the nuisance which arise under present conditions.

**PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATIONS.**

The Urban Council is recommended to:—

1. Continue its efforts in providing new houses so as to facilitate the demolition and clearance of insanitary dwelling houses.

2. Continue its efforts towards providing a sufficient supply of water from the town's mains to each house.

3. Consider the practicability of increasing the present rate of conversion of insanitary closets to fresh water closets.

4. Consider means to increase the work of reconditioning and repair of existing dwelling houses.

5. Continue the improvement in the hygienic standard of premises used for the preparation, storage and sale of food.

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

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Failsworth,  
*June, 1953.*

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Health Committee.

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 1952.

As you are aware this is the first occasion when I have submitted such a report and would point out that most of the work was carried out by Mr. H. C. Slater and Mr. H. P. Lawrence, as I only commenced duty as your Senior Sanitary Inspector on 22nd September, 1952.

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the Members and Officials of the Council and to the Staff of the Health Department for the invaluable co-operation and assistance which I have received during these first few months in Failsworth.

WILFRED L. MONKS,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector  
and Cleansing Superintendent.*



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### WATER SUPPLY.

All dwelling houses in the district are supplied direct from 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.

Forty-six samples of treated water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination. Forty-three were reported as satisfactory and three as unsatisfactory.

Negotiations have taken place between the Local Authority and the Water Undertakers regarding complaints of low water pressure in houses due to silt from the mains blocking the service pipes.

### 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.

These streams are polluted but so far as can be ascertained the pollution occurs mainly outside the district.

### SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Thirty-two houses in Broadway and Park Avenue and the sanitary conveniences in Lower Park have been connected to the Manchester sewer by arrangement with Manchester County Borough Council.

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 1,250,000 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 .....	35	2	3	40
Fresh water-closets .....	6322	192	604	7118
Waste water-closets .....	115	—	—	115
Trough closets.....	—	34	6	40
	6472	228	613	7313

Two 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 RECEPTACIES.	Houses and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories	TOTALS
Privy-middens (covered) .	—	—	—	—
Dry ashpits (covered) ...	—	—	—	—
Metal Ashbins .....	6134	54	36	6224
	6134	54	36	6224



## 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.

The personnel of the Department is 18, comprising a foreman, three drivers, eleven ashbinmen, two tip attendants and one paper baler/rodent operator.

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; 325 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.

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.

We have had some considerable trouble on the tip due to outbreaks of fire and disturbance of the refuse by persons sorting out materials after tipping.

In all probability the fires were started by these unauthorised persons on the tip.

Due to the difficulty in disposing of waste paper large amounts are being placed in the bins and so the constitution of the refuse has altered, considerably increasing the fire risk.

Forty pail closets are emptied weekly by one of the refuse collection vehicles which is fitted with a tank for that purpose.

Street cleansing is carried out by six street orderlies working on the beat system.

The demand for waste paper rapidly decreased, disposal became extremely difficult and a paper salvage scheme of minimum proportions was maintained. The price of waste paper fell from £16 to £6/10/0 per ton. Twenty-three tons of paper were sold realising the sum of £229, a drop of £548 from the previous year. There appears to be some improvement in disposal but it is not expected that the fantastic price of previous years will recur.

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, 1952.**

INSPECTIONS. Nature of	Number of	No. of Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices		
		Informal	Statutory.	Complied with		Outstanding
				By Owner or Occupier.	By Council in Default.	
Water Supply .....	47	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage .....	327	105	22	92	16	19
Stables and Piggeries .....	40	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades .....	12	1	—	1	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds.....	36	3	—	3	—	—
Factories .....	132	5	—	5	—	—
Outworkers .....	66	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Collection .....	425	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Disposal .....	163	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Observations .....	50	6	—	6	—	—
Rats and Mice .....	2948	—	—	—	—	—
Schools .....	28	—	—	—	—	—
Shops .....	725	10	—	9	—	—
Interviews .....	307	—	—	—	—	—
Dwelling Houses .....	1056	391	39	15	12	12
Revisits to Property .....	1209	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding—Number of Houses Inspected .....	50	—	—	—	—	—
Verminous Premises—Number of Houses Inspected .....	27	7	—	7	—	—
Infectious Disease .....	50	—	—	—	—	—
Disinfection after Infectious Disease .....	38	—	—	—	—	—
Visits to Premises where Food is prepared, sold or stored (including Vehicles) .....	107	—	—	—	—	—
Visits to Ice Cream Premises .....	80	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops .....	147	—	—	—	—	—
Visits in connection with Sampling Milk—Bacteriological .....	18	—	—	—	—	—
Visits in connection with Sampling Food and Drugs .....	27	—	—	—	—	—
Petroleum.....	42	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	8157	528	61	138	28	31



## DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1952.

DWELLING HOUSES—	No.
Unclean Houses .....	Nil
Verminous Houses .....	2
Kitchen ranges, fireplaces and flues .....	7
Washboilers .....	1
Defective Plaster .....	102
Defective ceiling plaster .....	25
Floors and stairs .....	25
Doors, windows and cords .....	78
Damp walls .....	60
Sinks .....	13
Waste pipes and channels .....	4
Roofs .....	42
Pointing and brickwork of walls .....	73
Yard paving and paths .....	16
Rainwater pipes and eaves gutters .....	101
Drains cleansed or repaired .....	22
Defective W.C. apparatus and buildings .....	46
Defective chimney stacks .....	20
Defective water supply and cisterns .....	10
Defective ashbins .....	325
Ventilation .....	Nil
Offensive accumulations .....	2
Miscellaneous .....	5
FACTORIES—	
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation .....	1
Other nuisances .....	4
FARMS AND DAIRIES—	
Cowsheds limewashed .....	1
FOOD PREMISES—	
Cleansing and limewashing .....	4
Structural defects .....	4
Removal of refuse .....	2
Miscellaneous .....	2
Total .....	997
Complaints received and investigated .....	198

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

The number of moveable dwellings in occupation at the end of the year was nine. 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 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.

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

## DISINFESTATION.

Four 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 Operator 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	10	80	8	—
Dwelling Houses .....	2200	2556	39	17
Business Premises .....	196	286	20	8
Agricultural property .....	10	26	—	—
Total .....	2416	2948	67	25

### 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, in the case of St. John's Church of England School and St. Mary's Roman Catholic School, however, these are obsolete trough closets which should be abolished at the first opportunity.

The yard surfaces of these two schools were paved during the year.

The insufficient water supply at St. John's School is giving serious trouble and it is to be hoped that the negotiations now in hand will bear fruit in the coming year.

### HOUSING.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b)—	
(i) By the Local Authority .....	56
(ii) By other Local Authorities .....	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons .....	2
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(i) By the Local Authority .....	56
(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) .....	1056

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	2265
(ii) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	20
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	56
(iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	337
(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 .....	287
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 .....	304
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 .....	15
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners .....	12
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .....	4
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	24
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners .....	15
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	16
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	Nil

(ii) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	13
<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, 1936. OVERCROWDING.

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

### 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 these farms is sent direct to pasteurising plants.

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 .....	0
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies ...	46
(d) 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 1952 in respect of " Tuberculin Tested " Milk :—

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

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

No. of dealers licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1952 in respect of:—

(a) Pasteurised .....	7
(b) Sterilised .....	48

*(b)* ICE CREAM.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14, 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 .....	40

## (c) 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. Ten 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>
Fresh Meat .....	—	3	0	6
Tinned Meat .....	—	1	0	23
Tinned Fish .....	—	—	—	24
Tinned Fruit .....	—	6	0	6
Tinned Vegetable .....	—	1	2	25
Tinned Ham .....	—	—	1	13
Tinned Milk .....	—	—	2	0
Miscellaneous .....	—	—	1	7
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>

## BAKEHOUSES.

There are 19 in the district at the present time. All were frequently inspected, and were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

### 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 1951, were supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health

A total of 140 samples was obtained, of these 102 were of milk and the 38 others comprised:—

2 Cheese.	2 aspirin tablets.
2 blanc mange powder.	2 arrowroot.
1 rice.	2 camphorated oil
1 cake and pudding mixture (sweetened).	1 golden raising flour.
1 dessicated coconut.	2 pickled onions.
1 margarine.	1 saccharin tablets.
1 butter.	1 tea extender tablets.
1 lard.	1 sultanas.
1 flour.	1 currants.
1 self raising flour.	3 epsom salts.
1 fine oatmeal.	2 seidlitz powders.
1 coffee.	2 fruit, canned.
2 oatmeal.	1 baking powder.
	1 mixed pickles.

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 .....	Freezing point indicated the presence of 2.0 per cent. extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and a further sample obtained.
1 informal milk .....	Freezing point indicated the presence of 3.3 per cent. extraneous water.	} Same Vendor. Vendor cautioned and a further sample obtained.
1 informal milk .....	Freezing point indicated the presence of 4.0 per cent. extraneous water.	
1 informal milk .....	Deficient 3.3 per cent. fat and low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified.



<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis.</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1 fine oatmeal .....	Sample contained a trace of mouse excreta.	Stock surrendered.
1 oatmeal .....	Sample contained a trace of mouse excreta.	Stock surrendered.
1 informal milk .....	Deficient of 8.3 per cent. fat and low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified.
1 tea extender tablets	Contained approximately 10 per cent. of powdered paragan tea leaves in addition to extract.	Manufacturers communicated with.
1 seidlitz powder ....	Average weight of white packets only 2.0 grams. Appearance of old stock which had been damp.	Stock examined and withdrawn from sale.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only offensive trade in the district is one tripe boiling premises which has been in existence for a considerable time.

#### RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 to 1951.

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.

#### SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no swimming baths in the District. Failsworth residents use the baths in the adjoining districts of Manchester, Oldham and Chadderton.

## 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)	Prosecution 4
Factories with Mechanical Power .....	101	1	—
Factories without Mechanical Power .....	29	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises .....	2	—	—
Total.....	132	1	—

### 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) .....	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .....	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) .....	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective .....	1	1	1	—
Not separate for sexes .....	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act .....	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Outwork)				
Total.....	5	5	—	—

Number of Returns in Outworkers' Section—Nil.

BYE-LAWS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE  
IN THE DISTRICT.

BYE-LAWS.	<i>Came into force.</i>
Nuisances ... ..	13th March, 1900.
Slaughter-houses ... ..	13th March, 1900.
Hackney Carriages ... ..	26th March, 1900.
New Streets and Buildings ... ..	9th December, 1926.
Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures ... ..	15th August, 1928.
Smoke Bye-Laws ... ..	14th March, 1929
Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air ... ..	17th July, 1950.

REGULATIONS with respect to:—

- Drains and Sewers, etc., 3rd November, 1898.
- Cemetery Regulations and Charges, 10th April, 1919.

ACTS.

The undermentioned Adoptive Acts are in force in the district:—

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890—

- Part III, adopted 1st April, 1896; ..
- came into force 1st June, 1896.

- Part IV., adopted 13th June, 1912;
- came into force 1st August, 1912.

The Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1893. Adopted 13th October, 1903; came into force 1st December, 1903.

The Private Street Works Act, 1892. Adopted 12th February, 1907; came into force 1st April, 1907.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Section 86 came into force 31st December, 1912.

Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, \*30, 31, 32 and 33. comprised in Part II.

Section 95, comprised in Part X.

All the above came into force 21st March, 1913.

\* Section 30 is subject to certain conditions and adaptations.

Sections 76 and 77 comprised in Part VI. Came into force 18th July, 1922.

The Public Health Act, 1925—

- Part II., adopted 14th April, 1926; came into force 1st June, 1926, with exceptions, viz. :—Sections 21 and 22.

Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.











