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# Medical Officer's Report

ON THE

HEALTH and  
SANITARY  
CONDITION

OF THE

## Urban District of Lees

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER

1947



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# REPORT

ON THE  
HEALTH and SANITARY CONDITION  
OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1947

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*To the Chairman and Members  
of the  
Lees Urban District Council*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to submit for your consideration my  
Annual Report for the year 1947.

## **1.—General Statistics**

Area (acres).....	288
Population (1931).....	4738
Population (Registrar General estimate of mid-1947) .....	4092
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1947 according to Rate Books .....	1480
Rateable Value .....	£20,831
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	£80





## 2.—Causes of Death

	Male	Female
All causes .....	30	31
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	0	0
2 Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever .....	0	0
4 Whooping Cough .....	0	0
5 Diphtheria .....	0	0
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	0	2
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	1	1
8 Syphilitic diseases .....	0	0
9 Influenza .....	0	0
10 Measles .....	1	0
11 Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph. ....	0	0
12 Ac. inf. enceph. ....	0	0
13 Cancer of buc.cav. and oesoph (M) uterus (F)	1	0
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum .....	1	0
15 Cancer of breast .....	0	0
16 Cancer of all other sites .....	0	1
17 Diabetes .....	0	0
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions.....	4	4
19 Heart Disease ..	10	14
20 Other diseases of Circulatory system .....	2	3
21 Bronchitis .....	0	0
22 Pneumonia .....	2	0
23 Other Respiratory Diseases .....	0	0
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	1	0
25 Diarrhœa, (under 2 years) .....	1	0
26 Appendicitis .....	0	0
27 Other Digestive Diseases .....	0	1
28 Nephritis .....	0	1
29 Puerperal and post-abortive Sepsis .....	0	0
30 Other maternal causes .....	0	0
31 Premature birth .....	1	0
32 Con. mal. birth inj. infact dis. ....	1	0
33 Suicide .....	1	1
34 Road traffic accidents.....	0	0
35 Other violence causes.....	1	0
36 All other causes .....	2	3



### 3—Notifiable Diseases, (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1947 :—

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED												Deaths.	Hospital.	
	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS—YEARS.										Total removed to Hospital		Deaths in Hospital	
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-				45-
Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	8	...	...	...	1	5	1	...	...	1	...	...	5	...	...
Diphtheria including membranous croup .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Enteric Fever, including Paratyphoid... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, excluding German Measles ... ..	20	4	4	4	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Whooping Cough.....	32	6	5	9	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
AcutePneumonia, primary and influenzl. ....	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute polio:encephalitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Malaria, contracted in this country .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria, contracted abroad .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any others notifiable in district, e.g. Chicken pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease...(Scabies).....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals .....	64	6	9	13	5	8	18	1	0	2	1	1	7	1	1

## TUBERCULOSIS

(1)—The notification of Tuberculosis is efficient in the district.

### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1947.

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...								
1—5 ...								
5—10 ...								
10—15 ...				1				
15—20 ...							1	1
20—25 ...								
25—35 ...		1						
35—45 ...						1		
45—55 ...								
55—65 ...		1				1		
65 & upward								
Totals ...	0	2	0	1	0	2	1	1
	2		1		2		2	

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES	Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hospital				
Number Notified						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0



#### **4.—Causes of Sickness.**

Measles and Whooping Cough were the chief causes of sickness during the year.

#### **SCHOOL CLOSURE**

None of the Schools in the District have been closed at any time during the year on account of Whooping Cough, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Chicken Pox, Influenza, or any other diseases.

#### **SPECIAL REPORTS**

No Special Reports have been made under Article 17(7) Sanitary Officers' (outside London) Regulation, 1935.

#### **5.—Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available in the District**

Professional Nursing in the home.

##### **(a) General Nursing :**

The Lees Sick Nursing Association which is supported by voluntary contributions, employs one Nurse, who attends non-infectious cases among the sick poor. No nursing is provided by the Local Authority.

##### **(b) Infectious Diseases :**

No provision for nursing is made.

#### **MIDWIVES**

There is a resident County Midwife in the District.

#### **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES**

A School for Mothers and Ante-natal Clinic is provided in this District by the County Authorities at Princess Street School, Wednesdays 2 to 3 p.m.

#### **DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION**

The scheme for Immunisation has been in operation throughout the year.

During the year 111 children have been immunised.

- (a) Pre-school children, 58. Prophylatic used, A.P.T.
- (b) School children, 53.                   ,,                   ,,   T.A.F.

## HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

FOR SMALL-POX. There is an agreement with Chadderton Joint Hospital Board for the treatment of Smallpox.

FOR OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, by arrangement with Oldham. Payment per case per week.

There is no Hospital Accommodation in the District for (a) Maternity cases ; (b) Children ; (c) Tuberculosis ; and no institutional provision for un-married mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES

are provided by arrangement with Oldham for (a) Infectious Cases, and (b) Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.

## 6.—Laboratory Work

22 Bacteriological Examinations have been carried out in addition to those by the County Tuberculosis Officers.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept at the Council Offices and Police Station, Lees, and is supplied gratuitously to medical men on request.

## 7.—Sanitary Administration

### WATER SUPPLY

There is an efficient supply of water of good quality from the Oldham Corporation Waterworks.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination,

Filtration and treatment with Chlorine and Ammonia for Sterilisation purposes.

No cases of contamination by Lead of the water supplied have been notified.

Water supplied from public mains direct to houses .....1480



## SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE

This is carried out satisfactorily by the Sanitary Authority. Sewerage of the greater part of the district is conveyed to the sewers of the Oldham Corporation, and is treated at their Outfall works. That of the remainder is treated at our own Sewage works, by the method of precipitation, continuous filters, percolating filters and humus tanks.

Excrement is disposed of on the water carriage system, only a few pail closets now remaining.

Refuse is disposed of in Dustbins. They are emptied weekly and the contents removed to the Council's tip.

The following table indicates the number of the various sanitary conveniences in the district at the close of each of the last five years.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Number of Privy Middens .....	—	—	—	—	—
„ Pail Closets .....	26	2	2	2	2
„ Fresh Water Closets .....	1414	1414	1414	1420	1422
„ Waste Water Closets .....	81	81	81	81	81
„ Dry Ashpits .....	—	—	—	—	—
„ Movable Ashbins .....	1414	1450	1450	1454	1456

## NUISANCE INSPECTION

Number of Notices {	Informal .....	45
	Statutory.....	0
Number of Notices complied with .....		17
Number of Legal Proceedings .....		0
Number of Premises visited .....		396

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

These are administered by the Police.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

- (a) MILK SUPPLY—There are three cowkeepers within the district, their premises being regularly inspected.
- (b) MEAT SUPPLY—Slaughtering is not carried out in the district at the present time owing to the centralisation of Slaughter houses.
- (c) FOOD PREMISES are inspected regularly. Food inspected and condemned being unfit for human consumption—14 lbs. of Butter, 12 lbs. of Bacon, 27 tins of various foods.



## ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1947

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health including inspection made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power	30		
without mechanical power			
Other premises under the Act			

2. Defects found.

Particulars	Number of defects			No. of Prosecus
	Found	Remed'd	Rep. to H.M. Ins.	
Want of cleanliness				
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature				
Inadequate ventilation				
Ineffective drainage of floors				
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) insufficeint				
(b) unsuitable or defective				
(c) not separate for sexes				
Other offences against the Act				
Totals	—	—	—	—

### 8.—Public Health Staff.

*Medical Officer of Health (part time):*

T. D. HUNTER, M.A., B.Sc., M.D.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

CHARLES A. FORD

resigned from office 30th March, 1947

## 9.—Housing.

### Unfit Dwelling Houses

#### 1—Inspection

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....  | 123 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....   | 205 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....     | 0   |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....   | 0   |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....                                 | 0   |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..... | 35  |

#### 2—Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notices

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ..... | 48 |
|---|----|

#### 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 ..... | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices         |   |
| (a) By owners .....   | 0 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners.....  | 0 |

##### B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts :*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..... | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices                 |   |
| (a) By owners .....  | 0 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....  | 0 |



*C. Proceedings under Sec. 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :*

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..... 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... 0

*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 ..... 0
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... 0

*E. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding :*

- (1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..... 109
- (b) Number of families dwelling therein ..... 183
- (c) Number of persons dwelling therein ..... 757
- (2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..... 12
- (3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..... 9
- (b) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..... 45

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*THOMAS D. HUNTER, M.A., B.Sc., M.D.*

*Medical Officer of Health, Lees.*







