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URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



FOR THE YEAR 1957

T.P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

VERNON K. HALLOWS, M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
LEES.



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U R B A N D I S T R I C T O F L E E S .

Chairman of the Council 1957 - 1958.

Councillor H. Slack J.P.

Health Committee 1957 - 1958.

Councillor H. K. Dyson, Chairman.

Councillor J. Gartside.

Councillor S. Pearson.

Councillor F. Ward.

Councillor H. Travis, J. P.

Councillor F. Rowland.

Councillor H. First.

Councillor J. Dunkerley.

Councillor J. G. Gartside.

Councillor A. E. Hardy.

Councillor J. Albison.

Councillor H. Sherwin.

Councillor J. A. B. Taylor.

Councillor L. Vaughan.

Medical Officer of Health.

T. P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector.

VERNON K. HALLOWS, M.A.P.H.I.

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Council Offices,

Cross Street,

LEES.

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

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the health of the district for 1957.

During the year there were 43 births and 60 deaths and the Registrar General's estimated mid-year population was 4,020 as compared with the 1951 census figure of 4,160.

Notified infectious diseases totalling 90 for the year were largely made up of measles cases, and to a lesser extent whooping cough. It is of interest to refer to the prevalence of influenza in the late summer of 1957. This was part of a wide spread epidemic which fortunately was for the most part mild in character.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was introduced during the year to protect children in specified age groups. Environmental conditions affecting health such as housing and atmospheric pollution have been stressed in previous reports and are sufficiently appreciated by members of the Committee to require no further comment.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I thank you and the members of your Committee for your unfailing courtesy and co-operation throughout the year. I acknowledge gratefully the ever-willing help and co-operation given by Mr. Hallows, and I thank Mr. Cropper, Clerk of the Council, for his willing assistance at all times.

Yours sincerely,

T.P. O'GRADY.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

General Statistics.

Area in Acres.	288.
Population - Census 1951.	4,160.
Registrar-General's Estimate 1956.	4,020.
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1956.	1,463.
Rateable Value.	£34,933.
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£130.

Vital Statistics.

		1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Live Births.	No.	43	48	59	56	73
	Crude Rate	10.7	11.9	14.4	13.7	17.7
	Adj. Rate	11.8	13.2	16.0	15.2	18.0
Stillbirths.	No.	3	2	1	2	0
	Rate	65	40	17	34	Nil.
Deaths.	No.	60	49	68	57	55.
	Crude Rate	14.9	12.1	16.6	13.9	13.3
	Adj. Rate	15.5	12.6	15.9	13.3	12.1
Infant Mortality.	No.	1	1	1	2	3
	Rate.	23	21	17	36	41
Neonatal Mortality.	No.	0	0	1	2	1
	Rate	Nil	Nil	17	36	14

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.	1957 Total.	1956 Total.	1955 Total.	1954 Total.	1953 Total.
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
- Other forms.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective & parasitic disease.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant neoplasms. -							
Stomach	1	-	1	3	2	2	3
Lung & Bronchus	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Breast	-	2	2	-	-	-	2
Uterus	-	2	2	1	-	-	-
Other sites.	1	2	3	9	3	5	3
Vascular lesions of							
nervous system	2	3	5	6	9	6	2
Coronary disease, angina.	5	3	8	11	14	5	-
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	1	1	-	3	-	-
Other heart disease.	6	3	9	8	11	15	25
Other circulatory disease.	1	4	5	2	5	7	5
Influenza.	2	1	3	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	2	2	4	-	1	1	2
Bronchitis.	6	1	7	2	4	1	4
Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	-	1	-	1	3	-
Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Pregnancy.	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	2	3	2	5	6	4
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
All other accidents.	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Suicide.	-	2	2	-	2	-	-
Totals.....	30	30	60	49	68	57	55

DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

Years.	M.	F.	1957 Total	1956 Total.	1955 Total.	1954 Total.	1953 Total.
Under 1	-	1	1	1	1	2	2
1 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
3 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	2	2	-	-	-	1
25 - 44	1	-	1	-	3	-	1
45 - 64	10	8	18	14	19	14	15
Over 65	19	19	38	33	45	39	35
Totals.....	30	30	60	49	68	57	55

SECTION B.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

The total number of cases of infectious disease rose sharply again last year to take account of the outbreak of measles and whooping cough which, following their recognised cycles, occurred among the non-resistant and new attenders at the nursery and infant schools. There were, too, 9 cases of pneumonia as a direct result of the 'flu epidemic, one case of which proved fatal.

Food poisoning occurred again, this time affecting man and wife of one household only and giving no clear indication of the cause although the vehicle of infection appeared definite.

Four notifications of tuberculosis were received during the year, the highest yearly total since 1953, but the total of cases remaining on the register was 25 at the end of the year.

There were no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis to record.

Notifiable Disease (Tuberculosis).

Ages.	New Cases				Deaths.					
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Total Cases.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8
45-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	3
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Totals.	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	13	12
	4		-		1		-		25	

Notifiable Disease (Other than Tuberculosis).

	Cases Notified. Ages.											Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	Yearly Totals.				
	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	45	65			1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	14	1	7	
Measles.	2	3	8	10	13	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	131	23	
Whooping Cough.	2	2	4	-	2	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	9	20	
Polio-paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
Polio-Non-paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	28	6	2	
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	7	-	1	-	
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Acute Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	2	4	7	1	1	3	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	
Totals.....	4	5	12	10	16	31	3	3	2	2	4	7	1	20	75	150	55	

SECTION C.

The Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, is the responsible authority for the provision and maintenance of personal health services. These services e.g.,

- Maternity & Child Welfare Services.
- Midwifery Services.
- Mental Health Services.
- Home Help Services.
- Ambulance Services.
- Care of School Children.
- Care of the Aged.
- General Welfare Services.

are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme by Divisional Health Committee No. 14 through the Divisional Medical Officer, "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton (Tel:MAIn 6251).

Ante-natal clinics are held fortnightly in the district and child welfare clinics weekly. No school clinic facilities are available so school children attend in other parts of the Division. One midwife is resident and employed to serve in the district as is one district nurse. Home helps are available for emergencies. A charge is made for home help services dependent on the means of the person helped.

Hospital facilities are provided and maintained through the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committees without regard to local authority boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and samples of milk, ice-cream, water and other foods is undertaken, without charge to the authority, by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester 10.

The Urban District Council is responsible for those matters likely to affect or be concerned with the maintenance of high standards of environmental health. These include:

- Inspection of houses re fitness for human habitation.
- Control of infectious disease (Including food poisoning).
- Control of slaughtering facilities and inspection of meat.
- Control of food and food preparing premises.
- Provision of suitable water supplies.
- Detection and prevention of nuisances.
- Prevention of atmospheric pollution.
- Control of rodent and insect infestations.
- Collection and disposal of refuse.
- Provision of sanitary accommodation and public conveniences.

Report of the Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the District and the work done during the year 1957.

The year was mainly uneventful in that there were no mishaps nor reverses worthy of note and only one advancement worthy of mention took place. This one advancement was the final demolition of the buildings and clearance of the site defined in Clearance Area No. 1 of the proposed schedule despite the complete absence of house building in the district.

Details of the other work accomplished are given in the following pages under their appropriate headings.

May I take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to all Members of the Council and also to the Staff for the co-operation and assistance I have received during the year.

Yours faithfully,

Vernon K. Hallows.
Public Health Inspector.

SECTION D

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Drainage and Sewerage

The whole district is drained and sewered but the authority possesses no sewage disposal works. Sewage is conveyed to sewers of the Oldham County Borough via three main junctions, the respective flows being measured by Lea recorders, and is treated by that authority at their disposal works in Slacks Valley, Chadderton.

Public Cleansing

A weekly collection of household refuse is maintained throughout the year; collection being direct from household bins to a motor vehicle and disposal by tipping. Tins are recovered for salvage whilst the refuse is being hand levelled at the tip face and some paper is removed for incineration on the tip top.

Dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the general rate fund. 161 dustbins were supplied during the year as replacements.

The number of moveable dustbins in the district is some 1500.

Rodent Control

No full-time rodent operative is employed, all necessary works being carried out by members of the road maintenance staff who have attended Ministry courses of instruction in rodent destruction. The sewer system receives a twice yearly treatment irrespective of other matters and complaints of rodent infestation are handled as the circumstances permit. 64 infestations were successfully treated throughout the year.

Sanitary Accommodation

All houses in the district are on the water carriage system although not all possess a fresh water closet. 56 waste water closets still remain and progress in their elimination is painfully slow. Four were converted during the year under review.

Number of waste water closets	56
Number of conversions	4
Number of fresh water closets	1500
Number of houses on water carriage	
system.	1463

Smoke Abatement

The authority co-operates in the joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution formed by 17 local authorities and has one lead peroxide gauge for the determination of sulphur pollution sited in the Cemetery grounds.

Smoke emissions from factory chimneys during the year did not call for any action other than verbal cautions, but electrification of workplaces continues to be the greatest help in reducing and eliminating smoke emissions.

Water Supply

The district is served by upland surface water from the Oldham County Borough supply. Filtration and sterilization by the chloramine process takes place at the source of the supply and 10 bacteriological and 4 chemical tests undertaken by the supplying authority were all reported as satisfactory during the year. Three bacteriological samples taken in the district were also reported as satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspections

During the year 850 visits were made to 451 premises, namely,

343	dwellinghouses
90	shops and business premises
13	factories
5	schools

In the dwellinghouses 232 defects or nuisances were found and during the year 251 of these matters were remedied. It was found necessary in 11 cases to serve formal notices to ensure that the repairs were carried out, but otherwise 31 informal notices and personal visits obtained the desired results.

4 houses were found to be verminous but each infestation responded to a lindane/DDT treatment and was satisfactorily cleared.

No legal action was called for during visits to the shops and in general conditions are satisfactory.

There are 5 schools in the district, one being a private school. Although each is drained and has a water supply, two schools still possess and have to make use of obsolete trough-type closets, four schools have unsatisfactory washing facilities and three schools have unsatisfactory drinking water facilities.

There are 28 factories among which 30 visits were made. No notices or prosecutions under the Act were found necessary.

Rodent Control Work

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Other Premises	Agri-cultural
Number of properties in the district.	11	1463	233	6
Number of properties inspected.	4	65	1	2
Number of properties found infested by:-				
Rats - Major	-	-	1	-
" - Minor	2	51	-	-
Mice - Major	-	-	-	-
" - Minor	-	10	-	-
Number of infested properties treated by local authority.	2	61	1	-

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The majority of the shops in the district sell foodstuffs of one type or another. Out of 90 shops there are no less than 72 selling food for human consumption. The various trades are represented as under:-

General grocers	21
Greengrocers	5
Fishmongers	1
Butchers	8
Fish Fryers	7
Bakers/Confectioners	10
Sugar confectioners	6
Inns, clubs, etc.	12
Others.	2
	72

During the year it was found necessary to issue condemnation certificates in respect of 147½ lbs. of food from the above shops. These were the foods concerned:

Tinned Ham	54½ lbs.
Tinned Tongue	13
Tinned Gammon	80

Sampling of foods is carried out by officers of the Lancashire County Council staff and Dr. S.C. Gawne, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., informs me that during the year 7 samples of foodstuffs were obtained in the district.

2 samples	Gravy browning.
1 sample	Fruit curd.
1 "	Golden raising powder.
1 "	Vinegar.
1 "	Cornflour.
1 "	Orange crush.

27 samples of milk (including 1 sample of Channel Islands milk) were taken during the year.

There are 35 distributors of milk in the district. Only heat treated milk may be retailed and 26 of the distributors sell only sterilized milk.

The one slaughterhouse continued to be used throughout the year, the record being as under.

	Cattle excl. cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	18	66	-	-	-
Number inspected.	18	66	-	-	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	9	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis.	-	15.15	-	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	7	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	11.10	10.60	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis only.</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses refrigerated	-	-	-	-	-

The following amounts were found to be unfit for food at the slaughterhouse.

Tuberculosis	Carcase meat	230 lbs.
	Offal.	225 lbs.
Other disease	Carcase meat	-
	Offal.	78 lbs.

The condemned meat is disposed of by incineration in nearby mill boilers.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| (i) By the local authority | Nil |
| (ii) By other bodies or persons. | Nil |

Inspection of dwelling-houses.

Number inspected formally or informally for housing defects.	107
Total inspections made	220
Number found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.	49
Number made fit following informal action	28
Number so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation at year end.	160

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	5
Number in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
By owners.	5
By local authority in default.	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Acts.

Number in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs.	6
Number which after service of formal notices were rendered fit	
By owners	4
By local authority in default	Nil
Number demolished	10
Number closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owner.	Nil
Parts of buildings closed.	Nil
Number of clearance areas represented	Nil

Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act.

Number closed.	16
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Proceedings under Housing Acts 1949/54.

Number of applications for improvement grants made by private individuals.	5
Number of dwellinghouses affected	5
Number of applications approved	4
Any other action under the Acts.	Nil

