BOROUGH OF LYTHAM SAINT ANNES.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1948

BY

L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Together with the

ANNUAL REPORT OF

FRED HAWORTH, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PUBLIC OFFICES,
CLIFTON DRIVE,
LYTHAM ST. ANNES.

AUGUST, 1949.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: James Mair, M.B., C.M., D.P.H. (to September, 1948).

L. Fay, M.D., D.P.H. (from October, 1948).

SANITARY INSPECTORS: (Chief) H. Yates, C.R.S.I., M.I.P.C. (retired 31st March, 1948).

* Fred Haworth, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H. (Chief Sanitary Inspector from 1st April, 1948).

* J. K. Yates, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

* Also holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as a Meat and Foods Inspector.

† HEALTH VISITORS: Miss K. Sott, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. R.S.I.

Miss A. J. Bentham, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. R.S.I.

† Transferred to Lancashire County Council Staff 5th July, 1948.

CHIEF CLERK: P. Snape.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	5,802 acres
Population (census 1931)	25,760
Population (midsummer 1948, estimated by Registrar-General)	30,310
Number of inhabited houses (census 1931)	6,300
Number of inhabited houses (rate book end of 1948)...	8,800
Rateable value	£354,184
Produce of penny rate	£1,462

Live births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	211	186	397
Illegitimate	9	7	16
Total	220	193	413

Birth-rate (live births per 1,000 of the estimated population) 13.6

Still births: Males ... 6 Females ... 3 Total ... 9

Still births: rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 21

Number of deaths: Males .. 219 Females .. 266 Total .. 485

Death-rate 16.0

Deaths from puerperal causes ..... Nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	8	4	12
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	8	4	12

Death-rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births 29

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births . 30

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	(8)	Rate ...	0.26
" " Other Tuberculosis Disease	(2)	Rate	0.06
" " Scarlet Fever	(Nil)	Rate ..	0.00
" " Diphtheria	(Nil)	Rate ..	0.00
" " Measles	(Nil)	Rate ..	0.00
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	(1)	Rate ..	0.03
" " Cancer	(72)	Rate ..	2.37

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF LYTHAM ST. ANNES.

Causes of Death	1947 Male	1947 Female	1947 Total	1948 Male	1948 Female	1948 Total
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	1	-	1	-	-	-
3. Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	6	11	5	3	8
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	-	1	1	-	2	2
8. Syphilitic diseases	-	1	1	2	-	2
9. Influenza	-	3	3	-	1	1
10. Measles	1	-	1	-	-	-
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	1	-	1	-	-	-
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	1	-	1	1	1	2
13. Cancer of bucal cavity and oesophagus (M); uterus (F)	5	4	9	3	3	6
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	6	6	12	8	9	17
15. Cancer of breast	1	14	15	-	5	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	22	32	54	19	25	44
17. Diabetes	-	2	2	1	5	6
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	33	46	79	37	46	83
19. Heart diseases	94	72	166	56	89	145
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	6	8	14	10	10	20
21. Bronchitis	15	16	31	23	10	33
22. Pneumonia	7	5	12	3	2	5
23. Other respiratory diseases	2	1	3	3	2	5
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	2	5	4	1	5
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	1	1	1	-	1
26. Appendicitis	-	1	1	-	1	1
27. Other digestive diseases	4	4	8	7	10	17
28. Nephritis	11	14	25	2	8	10
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Other maternal causes	-	-	-	-	1	1
31. Premature birth	5	1	6	-	1	1
32. Congenital malformations; birth injuries; infantile diseases	7	1	8	4	2	6
33. Suicide	2	1	3	3	1	4
34. Road traffic accidents	1	-	1	2	1	3
35. Other violent causes	4	3	7	2	6	8
36. All other causes	19	26	45	23	21	44
All causes .. Total ..	256	271	527	219	266	485

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

1. POPULATION.

The population of the Borough at the middle of 1948 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 30,310; 750 less than in 1947 and 4,550 more than at the last census (1931).

2. BIRTHS.

According to the Registrar-General 413 live births - 220 males and 193 females - occurred in the Borough during the year. This is 28 less than in the previous year, and gives a birth-rate of 13.6 per 1,000, which is 4.3 below the rate for England and Wales, and 5.6 below that for the 148 smaller towns.

Illegitimate births.

There has been an increase in the number of illegitimate births - 16, of which 9 were males and 7 females, as compared with 8 in 1947. This represents 3.8 per cent of the total live births, and an illegitimate birth-rate of 0.52 per 1,000 of the population. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1.8% and 0.26 per 1,000.

Still births.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of still births - 9 (6 males and 3 females), as compared with 12 during the previous year. This represents 2.1 per cent of the total births, and a still birth-rate of 0.29 of the population. The corresponding figures for 1947 were 2.6 and 0.39.

3. DEATHS.

There has been a decrease in the number of deaths during the year: 485 as compared with 527. The decrease was mainly in deaths registered as being due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system (15); nephritis (15); and cancer (18). Road traffic accidents increased from 1 to 3. The uncorrected death-rate is 16.0; this is 0.9 below that for the previous year; 5.2 above that for England and Wales; and 5.3 above that for the 148 smaller towns.

Corrected death-rate.

This cannot be given as the comparability factor is not available.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied by the Fylde Water Board; the supply has been satisfactory in quality and ample in quantity. Practically all houses in the Borough receive their supply directly from the mains, but some of the larger houses, hotels, etc., are provided with storage cisterns.

All water is mechanically filtered; lime water is added to prevent any possibility of action on lead, and the water is afterwards chlorinated.

No samples are taken locally but the Water Board carry out monthly bacteriological examinations of the water. Of the 24 examinations of the raw water, there were no abnormal results. 6 examinations were made of the water going into supply, and none contained coli aerogenes in 100 ml. Chemical analyses of the water were not taken.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There have been no alterations or extensions during the year.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The only stream in the district is the Liggard Brook which flows into the Ribble Estuary and is largely fed by ditches which drain the moss on the landward side of the town. Some of the latter are occasionally subject to pollution from the overflowing cesspools of neighbouring farms.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 38
(b) Number of inspections and re-inspections made for the purpose 96
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..... Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..... Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 21

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers 17

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 ..... Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
(a) By owners ..... Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners ..... Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
(a) By owners 2
(b) By local authority in default of owners ..... Nil

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..... Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... Nil
(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 Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.... Nil

The general standard of housing is high. Quite a large proportion of the houses are owner-occupied. There are a few old cottages in the Lytham area which will be scheduled for demolition when the housing situation eases.

During the year 27 permanent houses were erected by the Corporation and 4 permanent houses by private builders; and at the end of the year 76 permanent houses were in process of erection. The erection of a further 56 houses and 14 flats was under contemplation.

At the end of the year, there were approximately 750 applicants for Council houses.

OVERCROWDING.

There are a number of instances of overcrowding, where whole families are accommodated in one or two rooms, owing to the shortage of houses. This will be relieved as new accommodation is provided.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, DISEASE.

(a) Notifiable diseases:-

1. SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 32 cases of scarlet fever - twice the number of the previous year - were notified. All the cases were mild and there were no deaths. 23 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital; the others were satisfactorily isolated at home. The age and sex distribution is as follows:-

	1-3 years	3-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	Total
Male	1	3	5	1	1	1	12
Female	1	2	13	2	-	2	20
Total	2	5	18	3	1	3	32

2. DIPHTHERIA.

The age and sex distribution of the five cases notified during the year is given below. 4 cases were from a children's convalescent home and had all been immunised. All the cases were removed to hospital.

	3-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	Total
Male	1	1	-	2
Female	-	1	2	3
Total	1	2	2	5

Diphtheria antitoxin.

Antitoxin was available up to the 5th July to medical practitioners free of charge, and could be obtained from the Public Health Office or from either of the Police Stations in the Borough.

Immunisation.

Immunisation was carried out as in former years, and to the end of June 185 children were immunised as compared with 147 for the same period in 1947. The age distribution is given below.

Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	Total
29	133	16	2	2	3	-	185

In addition, 66 children received a re-inforcement dose. The immunising agents used were Alum Precipitated Toxoid and Toxoid-Antitoxin Floccules (Suspension).

3. ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS.

Only one case occurred during the year - that of a boy aged 1½.

4. MEASLES.

Measles was slightly less prevalent than in the previous year - 152 cases having been notified as compared with 187 in 1947. One half the number of cases occurred between October and December; of the remainder, 57 were confined to the June quarter. There were no deaths. The age and sex distribution is given below.

	Under 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	45-65 years	Total
Male	1	15	18	38	3	1	2	1	79
Female	-	9	22	38	2	2	-	-	73
Total	1	24	40	76	5	3	2	1	152

5. WHOOPING COUGH.

77 cases were notified as compared with 30 in the previous year. There were no deaths. The age and sex distribution is given below.

	Under 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	Total
Male	2	9	13	13	-	37
Female	4	12	10	13	1	40
Total	6	21	23	26	1	77

Whooping cough immunisation.

Whooping cough immunisation started in March. 75 children were immunised up to the end of June. The age distribution is as follows.

Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	Total
4	28	16	13	9	5	75

6. TUBERCULOSIS.

There has been an increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified - 36 compared with 29, but a slight decrease in the number of deaths. During the year, 8 deaths were attributed to pulmonary tuberculosis, giving a death-rate of 0.26 per 1,000, which is 0.01 above the average rate for the previous five years, and 0.09 below the previous year.

The age and sex distribution of the new cases and of the deaths occurring during the year are given in the following table.

Age periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	1
20 -	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 -	5	3	-	2	1	2	-	-
35 -	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 -	4	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
55 -	3	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	—	-
Totals	20	11	1	4	5	3	-	2
	31		5		8		2	

7. ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

8. CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

9. PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

No cases were notified during the year.

(b) Non-notifiable diseases:-

1. INFLUENZA.

Influenza is not notifiable and information as to its prevalence is mainly obtained from the death returns. As only one death, a female, was attributed to this cause during the year, it cannot have been prevalent to any great extent.

2. CANCER.

There has been a decrease in the number of deaths from cancer: 72 deaths (male and female) being registered as due to this disease. The death rate is 2.37 per 1,000 which is 0.18 below the rate for the previous five years.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the maternity and child welfare functions of the Local Authority were transferred to the Lancashire County Council on the 5th July, 1948; and, unless otherwise stated, details in this section relate to the period 1st January to the 5th July, 1948.

MATERNAL DEATHS.

Only one maternal death occurred during the year.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

Under the Borough scheme approved by the Minister of Health 59 cases were admitted to the maternity block at the St. Annes War Memorial Hospital, and 27 cases to the maternity ward at Lytham Hospital, making a total of 86 cases for the Borough. It is interesting to compare the number of confinements occurring in hospitals, nursing homes, and private houses. For this purpose, the number for the whole of 1948 has been taken.

Total births	413
Infants born in hospitals	375
" " " nursing homes	12
" " " private houses	26

In 1938, 83% were born in hospitals or nursing homes and 17% in private dwellings.

In 1948, 94% were born in hospitals or nursing homes and only 6% in private dwellings.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

An ante-natal clinic was held once a month at each hospital at which cases referred to the consulting obstetrician by private practitioners were seen, and 854 attendances were made. This is in addition to the weekly ante-natal clinics held by the maternity sisters at each hospital.

INFANT MORTALITY.

During the year, 12 infants died within twelve months of their birth, giving an infant mortality of 29 per 1,000 live births, which is 14 below the rate for the previous year. The corresponding rate for England and Wales is 34, and for the 148 smaller towns 32. The deaths were all those of legitimate infants.

The ages at, and causes of, death are as follows:-

Cause of death	Age at death						Total
	1-7 days	14-21 days	21-28 days	1-2 months	3-4 months	10-11 months	
Premature births	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital defects	2	-	1	2	1	-	6
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bronchitis and pneumonia	1	-	-	2	-	-	3
Enteritis	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total	4	-	1	5	1	1	12

HEALTH VISITING.

This was carried out on the same lines as in former years.

Visits by health visitors:-

To expectant mothers: (1) First visits, 44: (2) Total visits, 117
To infants under 1: (1) First visits, 152; (2) Total visits, 544
To children 1-5: Total visits, 646.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The two infant welfare centres continued to be held at the Public Offices, St. Annes, and the Lytham Baths, on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons respectively.

The attendances at the centres are set out below:-

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Children under 1 year	1327	1192	1567	1649	1569
Children from 1 to 5 years	1295	656	992	712	772
Mothers	2394	1171	2487	2235	2607

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

Children under school age suffering from crippling defects were sent to the Orthopaedic clinic at Fleetwood by appointment. Four cases were referred:-

Flat foot 2
Knock-knee 2

Similar arrangements were made by the County Council for the treatment of school children.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases were notified during the year.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

This work was continued on the same lines as in former years. At the end of June, there were nine foster parents and 34 children on the register. 20 of these children were being maintained at residential nurseries.

INFANT MORTALITY.

During the year, 12 infants died within twelve months of their birth, giving an infant mortality of 29 per 1,000 live births, which is 14 below the rate for the previous year. The corresponding rate for England and Wales is 54, and for the 148 smaller towns 56. The details were all those of legitimate infants.

The ages at, and causes of, death are as follows:-

Causes of death	Age at death						
	1-7 days	14-21 days	21-28 days	1-2 months	3-4 months	10-12 months	Total
Premature births	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital defects	2	-	1	2	1	-	6
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	1	-	-	2	-	-	3
Infantile	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total	4	-	1	5	1	1	12

HEALTH VISITING.

This was carried out on the same lines as in former years.

Visits by health visitors:-

To expectant mothers, (1) First visits, 444; (2) Total visits, 1,[illegible]
To infants under 1: (1) First visits, 1021; (2) Total visits, 4[illegible]
To children 1-5: Total visits, 918.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The two Infant Welfare centres continue to be held at the Public Offices, St. Annes and the Lytham Baths, on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons respectively.

The attendances at the centres are set out below:-

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939
Children under 1 year	1047	1102	1127	1249	1239	
Children from 1 to 5 years	1202	986	989	778	777	
Mothers	2294	1171	2197	2288	2027	

CHIROPODIC TREATMENT.

Children under school age suffering from ailments, defects were sent to the Chiropodic clinic at Blackpool by prescription. Four cases were referred:-

Flat foot .....
Bunion .....

Similar arrangements were made by the County Council for the treatment of school children.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases were notified during the year.

CAR OF LIFE PROTECTION.

This work was carried on the same lines as in former years. A [illegible] of 1,000, 1,[illegible] were also under Infant Protection and 61 children on the Prophylactic. 30 of these children were being maintained by voluntary workers.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Excrement disposal is almost entirely by water carriage and there are in the Borough approximately 12439 fresh water closets and 31 waste water closets. At the end of the year, there were in use 16 privies and 53 pail closets, all belonging to houses where no sewer was available. The privies are emptied regularly by the Corporation; and the pail closets, which are attached to farmhouses, are emptied by the occupants.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

Four hundred and eighty nine nuisances have been located, as under; and 484 of them have been remedied, the remaining 5 being in course of abatement at the end of the year:-

Blocked drains	21
Blocked gullies	2
Dampness in ceilings	4
Dampness in walls	12
Insufficient water supply	12
Defective-	
Bath and lavatory waste pipes	2
Chimneys	1
Downspouts	1
Drains	8
Dustbins	319
Eaves gutters	1
Fire ranges	2
Floors	3
Roofs	4
Soil pipes	4
Walls	4
Waste water pipes	4
Water closets	10
Smoke nuisances	3
Insanitary-	
Manure receptacles	2
Yards	1
Accumulations of manure	2
Dirty rooms	2
Verminous houses	7
Miscellaneous	40
Bakehouses not limewashed	9
Factories-	
W.C's. unsuitable or defective	6
W.C's. not separate for sexes	3

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Visits to nuisances (including re-inspections)	615
" " abattoirs	432
" " cowsheds	79
" " dairies	118
" " factories and bakehouses	91
" " infectious diseases	40
" " manure receptacles	8
" " offensive trade establishment	58
" " public conveniences	109

Visits to ice cream premises	22
" " shops	173
" of miscellaneous character.....	179
Smoke observations.....	33
Houses inspected (along with Building Inspector) prior to granting of Habitation Certificate	3

Number of notices served:

Informal: Verbal, 399 Written, 90 Statutory, 9

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The time limit for the emission of black smoke is 2 minutes in any given half hour. During 1948, 33 observations were made. In 3 instances the limit imposed by the Corporation was exceeded. Representations were made to the firm concerned and the nuisance was abated.

SHOPS.

The majority of the shops in the Borough are combined with living accommodation and have through ventilation and adequate sanitary arrangements on the premises. In the case of those lock-up shops where it has not been possible to arrange for conveniences on the premises, provision has been made for such accommodation in the immediate vicinity. During the year, 173 visits have been made.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	37	10	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	172	79	4	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	2	Nil	Nil
Total	211	91	4	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	9	9	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).					
Unsuitable or defective	6	6	Nil	5	Nil
Not separate for sexes	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	18	18	Nil	5	Nil

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

180 rooms were disinfected on account of infectious diseases, the method employed being the formalin lamp and formalin spray. This procedure is also adopted in cases of tuberculosis and non-notifiable diseases on request. Seven houses infested with bugs were also dealt with. These are sprayed with an insecticide incorporating D.D.T., and in each instance was found to be effective in eradicating the vermin.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are 21 public conveniences under the control of the Department (10 ladies, 11 gents). These are maintained in a satisfactorily clean condition, although, on occasions, are much abused. Minor repairs are required at a number of the conveniences, whilst adequate washing facilities are required at the St. Annes Monument conveniences. (These matters were being remedied in 1949).

RODENT CONTROL.

The work of rodent repression was continued during the year with one operator. No major infestation was found. 100 minor infestations (principally mice) were dealt with and the total number of rats and mice estimated to have been killed was 1428. Regular visits are made to the Corporation tips, food shops, etc.

The sewers were test-baited and found to be free from infestation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The dairies and cowsheds have been visited 197 times, and, with two exceptions, were found to be in a clean condition. Representations were made to the farmers in each case, and an immediate improvement was made.

9. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of defects were found				Number of cases in which improvements were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To E.M. Inspector or	Referred To H.M. Inspector or	
Want of cleanliness (S.3)	8	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
Unsuitable or defective	8	8	Nil	8	Nil
Not separate for sexes	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	19	19	Nil	8	Nil

INSPECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

180 rooms were disinfested on account of infestations of bedbugs, the method employed being the formalin lamp and formalin spray. This procedure is also adopted in cases of tuberculosis and non-tuberculosis diseases on request. Seven houses infested with bugs were also dealt with. These are sprayed with an insecticide incorporating D.D.T., and to such instances, was found to be effective in eradicating the vermin.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are 21 public conveniences under the control of the Department (10 ladies, 11 gents). These are maintained in a satisfactorily clean condition, although, on occasions, are much abused. Three toilets are reduced as a number of the conveniences, whilst adequate washing facilities are required as the 25, Annex Monument conveniences. (These matters were being remedied in 1949).

RODENT CONTROL.

The work of rodent repression was continued during the year with one operator. Six major infestations were found. 109 minor infestations (principally mice) were dealt with and the total number of rats and mice estimated to have been killed was 1230. Regular visits are made to the Corporation sites, food depots, etc.

The samples were test-baited and found to be free from infestation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The dairies and cowsheds have been visited 187 times, and with two exceptions, were found to be in a clean condition. Improvements were made to the premises in both cases, and an insecticide improvement was made.

20 licences for the sale of 'Tubeculin Tested' milk, one for bottling 'Accredited' milk, one for the sale of 'Accredited' milk and two for the sale of 'Pasteurised' milk were granted by the Council during the year.

One sample was taken and submitted for bacteriological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. This sample was found to be negative.

Five samples of milk were submitted for the phosphatase and methylene blue tests and all of these were satisfactory.

MEAT SUPPLY.

All animals slaughtered for food in the Borough are killed at the Public Abattoirs, St. Annes. A Sanitary Inspector is present at the time of slaughtering and inspects all meat. All animals are stunned by a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter.

Carcases inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1233	657	1476	6969	247
Number inspected	1233	657	1476	6969	247
All diseases except Tuberculosis -	1890				
Whole carcases condemned	14		27	6	7
Carcases of which some * part or organ was condemned	105		5	9	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.3		2.2	0.2	5.7
Tuberculosis only -					
Whole carcases condemned	26		7	-	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	470		-	-	41
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	26.2		0.47	-	17.8
Liver cirrhosis not included *	1346		-	480	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Liver cirrhosis	75.5		-	6.9	-

The total amount of meat condemned was 27 tons 14 cwts.

OTHER FOOD.

Food shops are regularly inspected; and during 1948, the following were condemned:-

20 licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk, one for bottling 'Accredited' milk, one for the sale of 'Accredited' milk and two for the sale of 'Pasteurised' milk were granted by the Council during the year.

One sample was taken and submitted for bacteriological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. This sample was found to be negative.

Five samples of milk were submitted for the phosphatase and methylene blue tests and all of these were satisfactory.

MEAT SUPPLY.

All animals slaughtered for food in the Borough are killed at the Public Abattoirs, St. Annes. A Sanitary Inspector is present at the time of slaughtering and inspects all meat. All animals are stunned by a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter.

Carcases inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1232	607	1276	8959	847
Number inspected	1232	607	1276	8959	847
All diseases except Tuberculosis -					
Whole carcases condemned	14	27	-	6	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	135	2	-	9	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	2.3	2.2	-	0.2	1.7
Tuberculosis only -					
Whole carcases condemned	20	7	-	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	470	-	-	-	41
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	38.2	1.17	-	-	12.3
Liver abscess not included -	1848	-	-	800	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Liver abscess	75.5	-	-	8.9	-

The total amount of meat condemned was 27 tons 14 cwts.

OTHER FOOD.

Food shops are regularly inspected. During 1948, the following were condemned:-

2,841 tins of meat, vegetables, milk, fruit, etc.;
3½ cwts. of fish;
254½ lbs. of butter;
2,450 lbs. of poultry;
27½ lbs. of ham and bacon;
18 lbs. of walnuts;
60 lbs. of beef and pork;
94 lbs. of rabbit;
65 lbs. of sausage meat;
111 lbs. of crab and lobster.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

By the courtesy of the Lancashire County Council, the following particulars of the samples taken by the County Sampling Officer under the Food and Drugs Act in Lytham St. Annes during the year 1948 are given:-

A total of 157 samples was obtained; 92 of these were of milk and the 65 other comprised:-

2 gelatine	2 cheese
4 coffee	1 ice cream
4 cooking fats	1 syrup
2 oatmeal	1 treacle
1 coffee and chicory	1 curry powder
2 saccharin tablets	2 sultanas
2 meat, canned	1 jelly
2 vegetables, dried	2 mincemeat
2 barley flakes	2 aspirin tablets
2 liquorice powder	1 sugar
1 soya flour	1 sugar, brown
1 barley	1 baking powder
3 arrowroot	1 golden raising powder
2 gin	1 olive oil
3 rum	1 white pepper
4 margarine	1 mixed spice
2 beef sausage	1 cinnamon
4 butter	1 mustard compound

In addition two "appeal-to-cow" samples of milk were obtained.

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

Sample	Result	Action taken
1 formal milk	deficient 13 per cent. fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	deficient 13.3 per cent. fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	deficient 18.3 per cent. fat	Vendor notified
1 saccharin tablets	Packed in plain envelopes. No declaration of number of tablets or saccharin content. Offence under Saccharin (Control and Maximum Prices) Order, 1944.	Vendor notified

2,141 kgs of meat, vegetables, milk, fruit, etc.;
84 qrts. of fish;
2063 lbs. of butter;
2,490 lbs. of poultry;
274 lbs. of ham and bacon;
18 lbs. of venison;
60 lbs. of beef and pork;
94 lbs. of rabbit;
65 lbs. of sausage meat;
111 lbs. of crab and lobster.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

By the courtesy of the Lanarkshire County Council, the following particulars of the samples taken by the County Sampling Officer under the Food and Drugs Act in Lytham St. Annes during the year 1948 are given:-

A total of 157 samples was obtained; 32 of these were of milk and the 25 other samples:-

2 gelatine	2 cheese
4 coffee	1 ice cream
1 cooking fats	1 syrup
2 custard	1 granule
1 coffee and chicory	1 curry powder
2 saccharin tablets	2 sultanas
2 meat, canned	1 jelly
2 vegetables, dried	2 mincemeat
2 barley flakes	2 aspirin tablets
2 liquorice powder	1 sugar
1 rice flour	1 sugar, brown
1 barley	1 baking powder
4 arrowroot	1 golden raising powder
2 gin	1 olive oil
2 rum	1 white pepper
4 margarine	1 mixed spice
2 beef tallow	1 oilcloth
4 butter	1 medicated compound

In addition two "appeal-to-cow" samples of milk were obtained.

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

Sample	Result	Action taken
1 formal milk	deficient 15 per cent. fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	deficient 13.3 per cent. fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	deficient 18.3 per cent. fat	Vendor notified
1 aspirin tablets	Packed in plain envelope. No description of tablets or accompanying contents. Offence under Medicines (Control and Manufacture Prices) Order, 1944.	Vendor notified

Sample	Result	Action taken
1 rum	36.5 degrees under proof. Contained 2.3% excess water.	Vendor cautioned
1 beef sausage	deficient 28 per cent. of the minimum percentage of meat.	Prosecution. Case dismissed on payment of 3 gns. costs.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1949.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The collection of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole district. Difficulty was experienced during the winter months in maintaining a regular collection owing to:-

1. The excessive amount of refuse at each house caused by inferior coal, thereby making considerably more waste matter;

2. The increased number of bins to be collected and emptied owing to the conversion of a large number of houses into flats, which, in many cases, trebled and even quadrupled the number of bins kept on the one premise.

3. The reduction in the number of hours worked to 44 per week.

4. The heavy incidence of sickness with the difficulty of obtaining temporary labour.

To overcome this phase, the Council (in March 1949) authorised the purchase of two refuse collecting vehicles (one to replace a thirteen-year old vehicle).

The total amount of refuse collected during the period 1st April 1948 to 31st March 1949 was 9198 tons, an increase of 690 tons over the previous year.

The following table shows the amount collected during the past three years:-

	T.	C.
1946/7	8438	1
1947/8	8508	6
1948/9	9198	0

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The disposal plant has continued to given complete satisfaction. Early in the period under review, repairs were carried out to the elevator and furnaces.

Salvage operations and mortar making resulted in the sum of £8,265 : 2 : 0 being received. This is made up as under:-

	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	1,890	3	0
Increased paper allowance - Board of Trade	103	6	9
Baled scrap	695	18	1
Cinders	308	10	6
Dust	8	6	6
Clinkers	15	2	6
Scrap iron	166	6	9
Textiles and miscellaneous receipts	222	9	0
Mortar	4,854	18	11
	£8,265	2	0

The following table shows the cost of removal and disposal of house refuse during the year ended 31st March, 1949.

	Collection			Disposal			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross expenditure	7,885	12	8	9,492	9	2	17,378	1	10
Gross Income	55	4	0	8,265	2	0	8,320	6	0
Net cost	7,830	8	8	1,227	7	2	9,057	15	10
Net cost per 1,000 population	258	6	11	40	9	10	298	16	9
Net cost per ton	-	17	0.3	-	2	8.0	-	19	8.3
RATE POUNDAGE Net cost equivalent rate in the £	-	--	5.3	-	-	0.8	-	-	6.1
Percentage of above to rates in the £	2.6%			0.4%			3%		
