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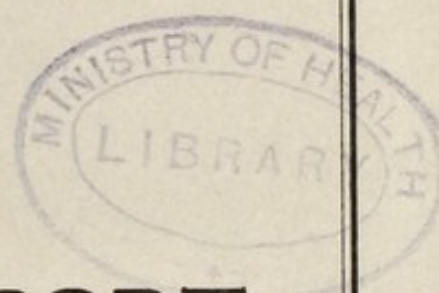


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BOROUGH OF LYTHAM ST. ANNES



ANNUAL REPORT


OF

The Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

1953



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BOROUGH OF LYTHAM ST. ANNES

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1953

BY

A. DODD, M.D., M.R.C.S., 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

BOROUGH OF LYTHAM ST. ANNES

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman LADY EDGE, J.P., Chairman

Councillor HOYLE, Vice-Chairman

Alderman PICKLES, C.C.

Councillor J. R. BUTTERFIELD

Councillor L. R. BUTTERFIELD

Councillor Mrs. COOPE, J.P.

Councillor CROSSLEY

Councillor FAULKNER

Councillor HEAL

Councillor HINCHCLIFFE

Councillor LLOYD

Councillor MAYMON

Councillor SODEN

Councillor URWIN

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

A. DODD, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

*FRED HAWORTH, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

*S. MILLWARD, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

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

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee of the Borough of Lytham St. Annes**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector for the year ending December 31st, 1953.

The figures contained in this report reflect a satisfactory state of public health in the Borough. The birth-rate again increased—being higher than in any year since 1948. The death-rate decreased, but, unfortunately, the infantile mortality rate showed an increase.

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred during the year, and is commented upon in the body of the report.

I thank the Committee, and the Clerk, for courtesy and help, and am grateful to the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Sanitary Inspector, and all members of the Public Health Department staff for assistance and co-operation.

A. DODD,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (exclusive of Foreshore), 5,802 acres.

Area of Foreshore, 5,891 acres.

Population : Census 1931, 25,760.

Population : Census 1951, 30,343.

Population (Mid-1953, estimated by Registrar General) : 29,830.

Physical Features and Character of the Area

The Borough is a seaside resort, situated on the Fylde Coast, and extends from the Estuary of the River Ribble to the Southern boundary of Blackpool, a distance of six and three-quarter miles. The curving coast line faces successively South, South-west, and West. The district is very flat and the climate equable. The soil is of a sandy nature near the sea, but inland is chiefly clay.

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1951)	....	8,637
Number of inhabited houses (December, 1953)	....	9,451
Rateable Value	....	£370,191
Produce of Penny Rate	....	£1,500

Social Conditions,

including the Chief Occupations of the Inhabitants

The population is more residential than industrial. The industries include slipper and boot manufacturers, a shipbuilding and engineering works, and several laundries. None of these has any special influence on public health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Home population (Registrar General's estimate), mid-1953 : 29,830.

Live Births :

		Total		M.		F.
Legitimate	....	352	....	196	....	156
Illegitimate	....	9	....	3	....	6
		—		—		—
Total	....	361	....	199	....	162
		—		—		—

Birth-rate per thousand estimated population : 12·1.

Adjusted Birth-rate per thousand population : 12·8.

Stillbirths :

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	5	1	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Rate per thousand total births : 14.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age :

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	9	8	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age :

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	7	6	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths	478	195	283

Death-rate per thousand population 16·0

Adjusted death-rate per thousand population 11·2

Maternal mortality rate per thousand total births : 2·73

Infantile mortality	Total No. of deaths
.....	9

Rate per 1,000 live births	25
----------------------------	----

Infantile mortality (neo-natal)	Total No. of deaths
.....	7

Rate per 1,000 live births	19
----------------------------	----

Deaths from :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis 7 rate 0·13 per 1,000

Malignant neoplasms, etc. 78 rate 2·61 per 1,000

TABLE I
Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1953
(Provisional figures)

	Rate per 1,000 Home Population		ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION								Rate per 1,000 Related Live Births		
	Live births	Still births	All causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	Pneumonia	Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	All causes under 1 year of age
England and Wales	15.5	0.35	11.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.20	0.16	0.00	0.01	0.55	1.1	26.8
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	17.0	0.43	12.2	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.24	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.59	1.3	30.8
160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census)	15.7	0.34	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.17	0.00	0.01	0.52	0.9	24.3
London Administrative County	17.5	0.38	12.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.64	1.1	24.8
LYTHAM ST. ANNES	12.8	0.16	11.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	24.9

	Puerperal	Others	Total
Maternal mortality rate for England and Wales per 1,000 Total births	Sepsis 0.10	0.66	0.76
LYTHAM	Nil	2.73	2.73
ST. ANNES	Nil	2.73	2.73

TABLE II

Comparative Table of Births, Deaths, Stillbirths, Maternal and Infant Mortality

LYTHAM ST. ANNES	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal	
									No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1953	361	12.8	478	16.0	5	14	1	2.73	9	25	7	19
" 1952	357	12.0	489	16.5	6	17	1	2.75	4	11	3	8
" 1951	340	11.3	553	18.4	4	12	Nil	Nil	12	35	8	24
" 1950	360	11.9	522	17.3	10	27	1	2.70	11	31	10	28
" 1949	327	10.9	475	15.8	12	35	Nil	Nil	11	34	—	—
" 1948	413	13.6	485	16.0	9	21	1	2.36	12	29	—	—
Average 5 years—1948-52	—	11.9	—	16.8	—	22	—	1.56	—	28	—	—

Adjusted (live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.06)) = 12.8 per 1,000

" (death-rate (comparability factor, 0.70)) = 11.2 per 1,000

NATIONAL STATISTICS

TABLE III

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1953.

(Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Administrative County
RATES PER 1,000 HOME POPULATION				
Births :				
Live	15.5	17.00	15.7	17.5
Still	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38
	22.4(a)	24.8(a)	21.4(a)	21.0(a)
Deaths :				
All causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	—	—
Whooping cough	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64
Notifications (corrected)				
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02
Whooping cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis) :				
Paralytic	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07
Non-paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Food poisoning	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38
Puerperal pyrexia	18.23(a)	24.33(a)	12.46(a)	28.61(a)
Deaths :				
All causes under 1 year of age	26.8(b)	30.8	24.3	24.8
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related Live Births.

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

	Causes of Death	1953			1952		
		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	2	4	2	5	7
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	1	—	1
3	Syphilitic disease	1	—	1	1	—	1
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	1
8	Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	2	—	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	6	14	5	6	11
11	" " lung, bronchus	10	2	12	13	2	15
12	" " breast	—	8	8	—	7	7
13	" " uterus	—	1	1	—	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	28	43	19	24	43
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	—	—	2	1	3
16	Diabetes	—	1	1	1	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	33	55	88	27	57	84
18	Coronary disease, angina	35	29	64	38	25	63
19	Hypertension with heart disease	2	4	6	3	5	8
20	Other heart disease	35	71	106	36	60	96
21	Other circulatory disease	6	12	18	4	13	17
22	Influenza	1	2	3	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	10	2	12	3	6	9
24	Bronchitis	8	11	19	18	9	27
25	Other disease of respiratory system	3	—	3	1	2	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	3	3	2	5
27	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhœa	3	—	3	1	2	3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3	6	3	4	7
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4	8	—	8
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1	—	1	1
31	Congenital malformations	—	1	1	3	—	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	14	30	44	19	26	45
33	Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	2	—	2
34	All other accidents	3	7	10	5	4	9
35	Suicide	1	2	3	4	1	5
36	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—
	All Causes Total	195	283	478	224	265	489

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF LYTHAM ST. ANNES DURING 1953

	Percentage of total deaths
All other Causes	6.94%
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1.25%
Tuberculosis	0.83%
Pneumonia	2.51%
Other Circulatory Disease	3.76%
Bronchitis	3.97%
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	9.2%
Malignant Neoplasms (All Sites)	16.31%
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	18.41%
Heart Disease	36.82%

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

1. Population.

The population of the Borough at the middle of 1953 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 29,830 ; 110 more than in 1952, and 4,070 more than the 1931 census, and 468 less than the 1951 census.

2. Births.

According to the Registrar-General, 361 live births—199 males and 162 females—occurred in the Borough during the year. This is 4 more than in the previous year, and gives a crude birth-rate of 12·1 per thousand.

CORRECTED BIRTH-RATE.

1953 adjusted birth-rate (comparability factor, 1·06) = 12·8 per 1,000. Table I shows the comparative figures for the remainder of the country.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

There has been a decrease in the number of illegitimate births—9, of which 3 were males and 6 females—as compared with 14 in 1952. This represents 2·49 per cent. of the total live births, and an illegitimate birth-rate of 0·30 per 1,000 of the population. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 3·92 per cent. and 0·47 per thousand.

STILL-BIRTHS.

There has been a decrease in the number of still-births—5, 1 male and 4 females—as compared with 6, 3 males and 3 females, during the previous year. This represents 1·38 per cent. of the total births, and a still birth-rate of 0·16 per 1,000 of the population. The corresponding figures for 1952 were 1·68 per cent. and 0·20 per thousand.

3. Deaths.

There has been a decrease in the number of deaths during the year ; 478, as compared with 489 in 1952. The uncorrected death-rate is 16·0 per thousand ; this is 1·5 below that for the previous year.

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.

1953 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor—0·70) = 11·2 per thousand.

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 direct 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 action on lead, and the water is afterwards chlorinated.

The Water Board carry out periodical bacteriological examinations of the water. Of the 21 examinations of the raw water, there were no abnormal results.

Twelve examinations were made of the water going into supply ; there were no abnormal results. One chemical analysis of the water was taken, and the result was satisfactory.

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.

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)	22
(b) Number of inspections and re-inspections made for the purpose	81
(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	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	—
(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 Nil

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 Nil

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 which, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit—

(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 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners 7

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(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 improves.

During the year, 56 permanent houses and 24 flats were erected by the Corporation, and 146 permanent houses and 7 flats by other bodies or persons; and at the end of the year work was in progress on 118 permanent houses. The erection of a further 90 was under contemplation.

In December, 1953, there were approximately 820 applicants for houses on the Corporation's list.

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.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

List of Adoptive Acts of Parliament

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts II, III, IV and V.

Museums and Gymnasium Act, 1891.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Public Libraries Acts, 1892 to 1919.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, with certain exceptions and amendments which are fully set out in Section 8 of the Lytham Saint Annes Corporation Act, 1923.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Section 86, as to dealers in old metal and marine stores.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Section 85, as to Registries for Servants.

The following parts and sections of the Public Health Act, 1925, viz.: Sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31 and 35 comprised in Part II.

Sections 38, 42 and 43, comprised in Part III.

Sections 45, 46, 47 and 50, comprised in Part IV.

Sections 51, 52, 53, 54 and 55, comprised in Part V.

On the 16th May, 1927, the Minister of Health declared the Council to be the Local Authority for the purpose of administering the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926, to the exclusion of the County Council.

By "The Borough of Lytham St. Annes (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order, 1924," the Minister of Health on the 6th December,

1924, confirmed the Order of the Council under Sec. 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as amended by Sec. 51 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, declaring the trades, business or manufactures of a Gut Scraper, a Rag and Bone Dealer, a Bone Crusher or Grinder, and a Fish Frier within the Borough to be offensive trades.

(This Order, so far as it relates to the trade of a Fish Frier, was revoked by Sec. 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936.)

The Lancashire County Council, by agreement dated 6th May, 1952, delegated to the Council such of their functions under Part II and Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, as are specified in the Third Schedule to the Lancashire County Council Town and Country Delegated Planning Scheme, 1952.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT, 1951

S. 13—Slaughter of Animals other than for human consumption.

S. 14—Registration of Hawkers and their premises.

The Council, by resolution (No. 791, dated 17th December, 1951) has fixed 1st April, 1952, as the appointed date for the coming into operation of S. 13 (Slaughter of Animals other than for human consumption) and S. 14 (Registration of Hawkers and their premises) of the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. (Advertisement in Lytham St. Annes Express and Lytham Times of 8th February, 1952.)

LOCAL ACTS OF PARLIAMENT

Lytham Saint Annes Corporation Act, 1923, Royal Assent 31st July, 1923.

LYTHAM ST. ANNES (FOOD) ORDER, 1946

The Minister of Health, by the Lytham St. Annes (Food) Order, 1946, declared Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, to be in force in the Borough of Lytham St. Annes, with effect from the 21st day of August, 1946.

Section 14 contains provisions relating to the registration of premises used in connection with—

- (a) the sale or manufacture for the purpose of sale of ice cream or the storage of ice cream intended for sale ; and
- (b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale.

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE WITHIN THE BOROUGH

DATE		
15th June, 1880	....	Pleasure Boats and Vessels, Lytham.
29th April, 1889	....	The Beach, Lytham.
2nd Oct., 1891	....	Pleasure Boats and Vessels, St. Annes.
24th Oct., 1903	....	Seashore and Esplanade, St. Annes.
29th May, 1907	....	The Beach, Lytham.
15th June, 1907	....	Seashore, Lytham.
5th Feb., 1923	....	Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.
26th Mar., 1923	....	Cleansing of Footpaths and Pavements, Removal of Household Refuse, etc.
26th Mar., 1923	....	Public Slaughter-houses.
26th Mar., 1923	....	Public Bathing.
26th Mar., 1923	....	Cemeteries.
26th Mar., 1923	....	Horses, Ponies, Mules or Asses.
26th Mar., 1923	....	Mortuaries.
4th April, 1923	....	Nuisances.
13th June, 1924	....	Routes for Motor Omnibuses.
18th May, 1925	....	Offensive Trades.
18th Aug., 1925	....	Routes for Motor Omnibuses.
29th Dec., 1925	....	Tramways and Motor Omnibuses.
14th April, 1926	....	Employment of Children and the Regulation of Street Trading by Children and Young Persons.
9th June, 1926	....	Bye-laws with respect to the Management of the Park Cemetery. (Amended 25th October, 1948.)
9th Sept., 1927	....	Routes for Motor Omnibuses.
15th May, 1928	....	Public Slaughter-houses.
18th Dec., 1928	....	Nursing Homes.
26th Sept., 1932	....	Parks and Pleasure Grounds.
13th Dec., 1934	....	Employment of Children.
30th Nov., 1936	....	Good Rule and Government (Dogs and Bicycles).
19th Dec., 1938	....	Public Sanitary Conveniences.
19th Dec., 1938	....	Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.
19th Dec., 1938	....	Smoke Abatement.
30th Jan., 1939	....	Good Rule and Government (Roller Skating).
24th April, 1939	....	Queues.
11th May, 1939	....	Building Bye-laws.
25th Sept., 1939	....	New Streets.
27th Sept., 1948	....	Regulations with respect to the Management of the Park Cemetery.
27th Sept., 1948	....	Table of Fees and Payments with respect to the Park Cemetery.
25th Oct., 1948	....	Table of Fees to be taken by Ministers of Religion at Interments in the Park Cemetery.
30th Jan., 1950	....	Sale of Contraceptives in Slot Machines.
30th Jan., 1950	....	Handling and Sale of Food.
25th Sept., 1950	....	Hackney Carriages.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, DISEASE

(a) Notifiable Diseases :

1. Smallpox.

No cases were notified during the year.

2. Scarlet Fever.

During the year, 51 cases of scarlet fever—5 more than the previous year—were notified. All cases were mild and there were no deaths. 22 cases were removed to the Blackpool Infectious Diseases Hospital ; the others were satisfactorily isolated at home. The age and sex distribution is as follows :

	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25 & Over	Total
Male.....	1	2	11	13	0	1	28
Female	—	2	14	3	3	1	23
Total	1	4	25	16	3	2	51

3. Diphtheria.

No cases were notified during the year.

4. Enteric or Typhoid Fever.

No cases were notified during the year.

5. Paratyphoid Fever.

No cases were notified during the year.

6. Measles.

Measles was much more prevalent than in the previous year—393 cases having been notified, as compared with 63 in 1952. There were no deaths. The age and sex distribution is as follows :

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25 & Over	Total
Male	8	40	47	92	3	2	1	193
Female	4	35	56	94	4	4	3	200
Total	12	75	103	186	7	6	4	393

7. Acute Pneumonia.

15 cases were notified during the year.

8. Whooping Cough.

39 cases were notified, as compared with 15 in the previous year. There were no deaths. The age and sex distribution is as follows :

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25 & Over	Total
Male	0	6	2	10	0	0	0	18
Female	3	4	7	6	0	0	1	21
Total	3	10	9	16	0	0	1	39

9. Puerperal Pyrexia.

Two cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

10. Meningococcal Infection.

No cases were notified during the year.

11. Acute Poliomyelitis.

12 cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

12. Acute Encephalitis (Infective and Post-Infectious).

No cases were notified during the year.

13. Sonne Dysentery.

Three cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

14. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases were notified during the year.

15. Erysipelas.

Two cases were notified during the year.

16. Malaria.

No cases were notified during the year.

17. Food Poisoning.

51 cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

In June there was a large outbreak of food poisoning, which resulted from the consumption of meat pies manufactured by a bakery in this Borough.

Two detailed reports of the extensive investigations carried out were submitted to the Council on the 28th September, 1953, and the 29th March, 1954, respectively. The following is a summary of the salient features of these reports :

The total number of persons affected was approximately 1,100, and cases occurred within the areas of 17 Local Authorities.

In this Borough there were 88 cases, 45 of which were notified, the remainder being discovered during the investigation. The organism responsible for the outbreak was *salmonella morbificans bovis*.

Approximately 6,000 meat pies were manufactured at the bakery and distributed in a large area. Most of the pies had been eaten before any indication was received that they were infected with food poisoning organisms.

The interval between the ingestion of a pie and the onset of symptoms varied from three to forty-eight hours, and the symptoms included vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain and varying degrees of prostration. There were no fatal or secondary cases in the Borough. In 21 cases the causative organism was isolated from samples of faeces.

The proprietors of the bakery suspended meat pie production when it was intimated that meat pies manufactured by them may have been responsible for an outbreak of food poisoning. Samples of the commodities used in meat pie production were examined and swabs were taken from associated equipment. These investigations yielded negative results. The bakery staff concerned with meat pie production had frequent faecal and blood tests, and the organism was only isolated from samples of faeces taken from employees who had consumed meat pies, and no evidence of a carrier was discovered at the bakery.

Gelatin was at first considered to be the most likely cause of meat pie contamination, but repeated tests of dry and mixed gelatin prepared under actual working conditions by the staff who had prepared the gelatin used in the infected meat pies proved negative. Gelatin was also used concurrently in the manufacture of confectionery at the bakery without evidence of contamination.

There was no evidence of rodent infestation at the bakery or of the contamination of foodstuffs by other animals.

The meat used in the production of the infected pies was traced, and it was found to have come from four sources. Unfortunately, it was only possible to obtain a sample of the meat from one of these sources, and examination of this proved negative.

A large amount of experimental work was undertaken to determine the thermal death point of the *salmonella morbificans bovis*. From these experiments it is possible to say that should any of the meat pies have been infected prior to baking, the organisms could, in some instances, have resisted baking. The meat pies responsible for the outbreak received a fixed amount of gelatin after baking, and then remained at room temperature until they were delivered. During the period of the outbreak the weather was warm and the room temperature of the bakery consequently high. It has since been shown experimentally that a small number of *salmonella* in a meat pie surviving the baking temperature and subsequently receiving gelatin and remaining at a high room temperature multiplied considerably. It was also established, when considering bacterial destruction by baking, that within certain temperature limits the duration of the baking period was more important than the temperature to which the pies were subjected.

Definite proof of the cause of the outbreak has not been obtained, but a close and careful study of all the results of investigation, together with experimental data, is sufficiently convincing to justify the conclusion that infected meat was the cause.

It is desired to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. N. Broughton, Dr. G. A. Steele (Assistant Divisional Medical Officers), Mr. F. Haworth (Chief Sanitary Inspector), and Mr. S. Millward (Sanitary Inspector), who gave willingly of their own time in the extensive investigations involved.

18. Tuberculosis.

There has been a slight increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified—29, compared with 26 in 1952—and a decrease in the number of deaths—4, compared with 8 in 1952.

During the year, 4 deaths were attributed to tuberculosis, giving a death-rate of 0·13 per 1,000, which is 0·15 below the average rate for the previous five years, and 0·13 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 :

TUBERCULOSIS
New Cases and Mortality during 1953

Age periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
75 and upwards	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	15	13	1	—	3	1	—	—
	28		1		4		—	

(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 3 deaths were attributed to this cause during the year, it cannot have been prevalent to a great extent in a serious form.

2. Malignant Neoplasms.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of deaths from cancer ; 78 deaths—33 males and 45 females—being registered as due to this disease, as compared with 79 in the previous year. The death-rate is 2·61 per 1,000, which is 0·02 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.

Infantile Mortality Rate.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the year was 25 per 1,000 live births, as against 11 in 1952, and is made up of 8 male and 1 female deaths.

Neo-natal Death Rate.

The Neo-natal Death Rate, which represents the number of deaths of infants under four weeks of age per 1,000 live births, is 19, and is made up of 6 male and 1 female deaths.

SCHOOL HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

County Council Clinics held in the Borough are as follows :

St. Annes. Public Offices, Clifton Drive South.

Monday a.m. Ophthalmic Clinic (as arranged).
p.m. Ophthalmic Clinic.

Tuesday a.m. Dental Clinic.
a.m. Minor Ailments Clinic.
p.m. C.W.C.

Thursday a.m. Minor Ailments Clinic.
a.m. Immunisation (4th Thurs. in each month)
a.m. Vaccination (4th Thurs. in each month)
a.m. Dental Clinic
p.m. Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic (as arranged)

Friday p.m. Speech Therapy

TABLE VI—INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table below shows the number of infectious diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1953.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total cases at all ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED AGE PERIODS—YEARS										Total deaths	HOSPITAL	
		0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Age unknown		Total cases removed to hospital	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to District
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	51	—	1	4	25	16	3	2	—	—	—	—	22	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or typhoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding rubella)	393	12	75	103	186	7	6	4	—	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping cough	39	3	10	9	16	—	—	1	5	3	—	—	6	—
Acute pneumonia	15	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Puerperal pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic	5	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	5	—
Non-paralytic	7	—	—	—	4	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	6	—
Acute encephalitis:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning	51	—	—	2	2	—	16	15	11	5	—	—	—	—
Any other disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	568	15	86	119	236	25	31	31	17	8	—	—	43	—

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Supervision of Food Supplies

Milk, etc.

23 licences for sale of "T.T." milk, 2 for "Accredited" milk, 13 for the sale of "Pasteurised" milk, and 12 for the sale of "Sterilised" milk were granted by the Council during the year.

15 samples of milk were submitted for the phosphatase test, and 15 for the methylene blue test, and all of these were satisfactory. 10 samples of raw milk were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli, and these proved negative. 64 visits were made to dairies.

39 samples of ice-cream were obtained, and of these 6 were of grades 3 or 4. Subsequent samples taken of these were placed in grade 1. 75 visits were made to premises where ice-cream is either manufactured or sold, and advice given as to effective sterilisation of plant and utensils.

Meat. (St. Annes Public Abattoir.)

All animals slaughtered for food in the Borough are first humanely stunned by a mechanically-operated instrument.

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excl'ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed.....	1,624	955	1,437	9,304	2,858
Number inspected.....	1,624	955	1,437	9,304	2,858
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	7	140	15	44
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	321	337	5	1,169	249
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	19.8%	36%	10%	12.7%	10.2%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	15	4	—	21
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	197	359	—	—	148
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	12.4%	39.1%	0.27%	—	5.9%

The total amount of meat condemned was : 31 tons, 12 cwts., 1 qtr., 7 lbs.

Number of visits to Abattoirs : 413.

Other Food.

Number of visits to general food premises	....	....	....	146
Number of visits to fried fish shops	....	....	....	16
Number of visits to bakehouses	....	....	....	72
Number of visits to restaurants and licensed premises	....	....	....	22

Particulars of other food surrendered as unfit for food :

1,047 tins of fruit, vegetables and meat.

79 lbs. bacon.

218 lbs. ham.

93 lbs. canned tongue.

105½ lbs. canned boiled ham.

28 lbs. shelled egg.

58 lbs. poissons.

40 lbs. sausages.

44 rabbits.

6 cases of prawns.

10 bags of prawns.

6 barrels of crab.

6 gallons of cockles.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1950

By courtesy of the Lancashire County Council, the following particulars of samples taken by the County Sampling Officer under the Food and Drugs Act in Lytham St. Annes during the year 1953 are given :

3 pork sausage	1 cornflour
1 sauce	1 treacle
1 cheese	1 fish paste
4 tea	1 self-raising flour
3 peas, dried	2 custard powder
1 liquid paraffin	1 porridge oats
1 Parrish's chemical food	2 oatmeal
2 shredded suet	1 cream of tartar
2 curry powder	1 compound syrup of figs
1 camphorated oil	1 tincture of iodine
1 mustard compound	2 cocoa
1 baking powder	1 rum butter
1 table jelly	2 sultanas
1 gelatine	1 raisins
1 cockles, bottled	1 currants
1 fresh cream	1 extract of malt with cod liver oil
1 salad cream	1 sage and onion stuffing
1 beans, canned	1 rice

All the samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine, with the exception of the following :

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
1 pork sausage	Deficient of 3·8% of the minimum percentage of meat	No action taken
1 pork sausage	Deficient 11 % of the minimum percentage of meat	Vendor cautioned
1 formal milk	Deficient 8·3% fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 2% of extraneous water	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained
1 formal milk	Deficient of 5% fat and low in solids-not-fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	Deficient 10% fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	Deficient 1·6% fat	Vendor notified
1 formal milk	Deficient 5% fat	Vendor notified
1 pork sausage	Meat content only 58%	Vendor notified

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION

Summary of Visits and Inspections

Visits to—Abattoirs	413
Dairies	64
Factories (including bakehouses)	422
Fishmongers (including shellfish)	26
Food poisoning investigations	174
Food premises	120
Fried fish shops	16
Ice cream premises	75
Infectious diseases	54
Marine stores	1
Moveable dwellings	18
Nuisances (including re-inspections)	333
Offensive trades	12
Pet Animals Act	11
Piggeries and Stables	8
Public conveniences	108
Restaurants and licensed premises	22
Schools	7
Shops	45
Tips, etc. (Rodent Control)	38
Of miscellaneous character	616
Drainage inspections	219
Smoke observations	29

Defects Remedied—Dwelling-houses :

Drains ventilated	1
Ceilings repaired	2
Chimney stacks repaired	1
Dampness abated	6
Dustbins (new) provided	70
Doors repaired	2
Drains repaired	6
Drains cleared of obstructions	18
Drains tested	76
Fireranges repaired	2
Eaves gutter repaired	1
Roofs repaired	4
Walls, external, repaired	6
Walls, internal, repaired	1
Windows repaired	20
Waterclosets repaired	4
Animals—Nuisance abated	1
Offensive accumulations removed	1
Soil pipes repaired	3
Gully benched and covered	1
Anti-siphon pipe provided	1
Downspout provided	1

Defects Remedied—Food Premises :

New premises built	1
Premises cleaned or re-decorated	5
Hot-water supply provided	10
Sinks provided	2
Washing facilities provided	9
Sanitary accommodation provided or improved	1

Defects Remedied—Factories :

Cleanliness improved	1
Additional accommodation provided	2
Accommodation cleansed, repaired	37
I.V.S. provided	5
Lighting improved	3
Accommodation door repaired	1
Accommodation marked for sexes	10

Defects Remedied—Shops :

Repaired or cleansed	.....	2
Notices served :		
Informal	.....	248
Statutory	.....	1

Closet Accommodation

Excrement disposal is almost entirely by water carriage, and there are in the Borough approximately 13,154 fresh water closets and 31 waste water closets. At the end of the year, there were in use 3 privies and 49 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.

Smoke Abatement

29 routine smoke observations were taken, and in no case was the limit imposed by the Corporation bye-laws exceeded.

Shops

45 visits have been made to shops during the year ; 4 notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.

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	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	21	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	205	395	55	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	6	1	—
Total	230	422	59	—

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)	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(a) Insufficient	1	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	58	56	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act	Nil	Nil	8	Nil	Nil
Total	59	59	8	Nil	Nil

Disinfection and Disinfestation

110 rooms were disinfected on account of infectious diseases, etc., 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. 14 houses infested with bugs and other insects 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 31 public conveniences under the control of the Department (15 ladies, 16 gents). These are maintained in a satisfactorily clean condition, although on occasions are much abused.

Rodent Control

The work of rodent repression was continued during the year with one operator. 251 infestations were dealt with, and the total number of rats and mice estimated to have been killed was 1,312. Regular visits are made to the Corporation tips, food shops, etc.

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

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
Report for 15 months ended 31st March, 1954

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	Total
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	25	9,451	45	1,680	11,201
2. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 15 months ended 31st March, 1954, as a result of (a) notification,	(a) 15	119	9	40	183
(b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949,	(b) 10	—	28	123	161
(c) otherwise <i>e.g.</i> when visited primarily for some other purpose	(c) —	—	3	132	135
3. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats	Major 1	—	—	—	1
	Minor 17	36	8	10	71
4. Number of properties inspected which were found to be seriously infested by mice	—	83 (minor)	—	29 (minor)	112 (minor)
5. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	18	119	8	39	184
6. Number of notices served under Section 4 (1) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural Works (<i>i.e.</i> Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority following the issue of a notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
8. Legal proceedings	Nil				
9. Number of "block" control schemes carried out	Nil				

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL

Year ending 31st March, 1954

Refuse Collection.

The collection of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole district. Four complete units are engaged, and a weekly collection of refuse is now operative and only varies slightly on the incidence of Bank Holidays. During the summer months the refuse from a number of private hotels is collected twice weekly.

The total amount of refuse collected during the period 1st April, 1953, to 31st March, 1954, was 10,437 tons 15 cwts., an increase of 768 tons 15 cwts. compared with the previous year.

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

				Tons.		Cwts.
1951-52	....	....	....	9,188	....	0
1952-53	....	....	....	9,668	....	17
1953-54	....	....	....	10,437	....	15

Refuse Disposal

The disposal plant has continued to give complete satisfaction.

Salvage operations and mortar-making resulted in the sum of £13,353 12s. 0d. being received. This is made up as under :

				£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	....	....	....	765	14	6
Baled Scrap	....	....	....	1,141	0	2
Cinders	....	....	....	266	6	6
Dust	....	....	....	1	7	0
Scrap Iron and Rags	....	....	....	148	18	6
Miscellaneous Receipts	....	....	....	20	2	6
Mortar	....	....	....	11,010	2	10
				<hr/>		
				£13,353	12	0
				<hr/>		

The following table shows the cost of removal and disposal of house refuse during the year ended 31st March, 1954 :

(NOTE.—Included in the disposal column is the cost of making and sale of mortar)

	Collection			Disposal			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross expenditure	13,993	15	2	14,063	19	3	28,057	14	5
Gross income	99	8	6	13,353	12	0	13,453	0	6
Net cost	13,894	6	8	710	7	3	14,604	13	11
Net cost per 1,000 population	463	2	10	23	13	7	486	16	5
Net cost per ton	1	6	5	0	1	4	1	7	9
RATE POUNDAGE :									
Net cost equivalent rate in the £	8·8d.			0·47d.			9·27d.		
Percentage of above to rates in the £	3·4%			0·29%			3·69%		

