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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON
1949

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1949

A. V. STOCKS, M.A., M.B.,Ch.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

1949

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR A. WOLSTENCROFT, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

ALDERMAN J. L. GRADWELL, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR—COUNCILLOR A. EMERSON, J.P.

ALDERMAN MRS. C. REDFERN

*ALDERMAN MRS. C. FLETCHER, J.P.

COUNCILLOR F. BLACKBURN, J.P.

COUNCILLOR F. EVANS

COUNCILLOR R. SCOTT, J.P.

COUNCILLOR W. WELLENS

*(Deceased, 7-4-50).

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Acting Medical Officer of Health :

J. BROOKS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(up to 30th April, 1949)

Medical Officer of Health :

A. V. STOCKS, M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

(from 1st May, 1949)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

T. TURNER, M.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

S. HACKING, C.R.S.I.

G. ELLIOTT, C.R.S.I.

Clerical Staff :

Miss E. M. HOWARTH.

Miss E. DEAN

Mr. R. LAMB

HEALTH CENTRE,
DURNFORD STREET,
MIDDLETON,
July, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1949. Dr. James Brooks continued to act as Medical Officer of Health until the end of April of that year.

In consequence of the transfer of certain functions to the Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, no detailed report is given this year of the Maternity, Child Welfare and Ambulance Services, nor of the progress of diphtheria immunisation and vaccination in the borough.

It is, however, a matter of satisfaction to be able to state that the death rate of infants under one year of age was considerably less than in the previous year, being 32 per 1,000 live births compared with 39 in 1948. For the whole of England and Wales the figure was 32. A perusal of the report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough for the year 1900 shows that the infant mortality rate was then 126 per 1,000 live births and had averaged 165 for the ten years 1890-1899. The same report indicates that there were 15 cases of smallpox in the borough during 1900 and that no less than 32 deaths occurred from infectious disease, including 8 from measles and 4 each from whooping cough and scarlet fever.

Fortunately, the health of Middleton in 1949 presented a very different picture, there being no deaths at all during the year from any infectious disease. An epidemic of measles occurred early in the year and another of mild scarlet fever in the latter half of the year.

Vital Statistics and detailed figures on the various aspects of the health services administered by the Committee are given in the following pages.

I wish to express my thanks to Miss Howarth for valuable assistance in compiling this report, to Mr. Turner and his staff for their co-operation at all times and to the members of the Health Committee for their kindness and consideration.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. V. STOCKS,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

TABLE I.

Area of the Borough (acres) ... ..	...	...	...	...	5,170
Population at Census, 1931 ... ..	...	...	...	...	29,188
Registrar-General's estimated resident population (mid-year 1949) ... ..	...	...	...	...	32,340
Number of Persons per acre ... ..	...	...	...	...	6.26
Number of Inhabited Houses (estimated) ... ..	...	...	...	...	10,700
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1949 ... ..	...	...	...	...	£172,331
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1948-49) ... ..	...	...	...	...	£687 10s. 8d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

TABLE II.

	Total	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS :—				
Legitimate	500	268	232	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1949... .. 16.3
Illegitimate	26	16	10	
Total	526	284	242	
STILL-BIRTHS	9	6	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 17
DEATHS	436	224	212	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population 13.5
Deaths from puerperal causes :—				Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis			—	—
Other maternal causes			1	1.87
Total maternal mortality			1	1.87

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	32
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	30
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	77
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	67
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	—

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimate of population for the year 1949 is 32,340, which is 150 in excess of the estimated population for 1948, and 3,152 more than the Census population for 1931.

BIRTHS.

526 live births were assigned to the Borough, representing an annual birth rate of 16.3 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the figure of 16.7 for England and Wales and 18.0 for the 148 smaller towns. The annual birth rates for the past 40 years are shown in Table IV.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths for Middleton during 1949 was 436, giving a crude death rate of 13.5 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 11.7 for England and Wales and 11.6 for the 148 smaller towns.

The age and ward incidence are shown in Table III.

TABLE III.

Age and Ward Incidence of Deaths occurring in 1949.

Ward.	Under									75 and up- wards	Total
	1	1 — 2	2 — 5	5 — 15	15 — 25	25 — 45	45 — 65	65 — 75			
North ...	2	—	—	—	1	5	18	25	20	...	71
Central ...	3	—	—	—	—	2	9	24	16	...	54
South ...	1	—	1	—	1	8	38	29	35	...	113
East ...	7	—	—	1	2	6	26	25	32	...	99
Parkfield	1	—	—	—	—	2	13	11	11	...	38
West ...	3	—	—	—	1	2	16	19	17	...	58
Total ...	17	—	1	1	5	25	120	133	131		433

The zymotic death rate was 0.00 per 1,000 of the population compared with 0.09 for 1948.

One maternal death occurred during 1949. The maternal mortality rate was 1.87 per 1,000 (live and still) births compared with 1.66 in 1948.

Infant mortality showed 32 per 1,000 live births as compared with 39 in 1948. The comparative rate for England and Wales is 32 and for the 148 smaller towns 30.

The cancer death rate of 2.07 remains high, whilst the tuberculosis death rate was 0.40 as compared with 0.40 in 1948.

Comparative death rates for various diseases for the past 40 years are shown in Table IV and the classified causes of death for 1947, 1948 and 1949 are given in Table V.

TABLE IV.

Year	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Zymotic Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Cancer Death Rate	Tuberculosis Death Rate
1910...	24.2	14.6	1.4	100	0.78	1.2
1911...	23.0	16.6	2.5	181	0.57	1.5
1912...	21.4	15.1	0.6	117	0.74	1.7
1913...	21.0	12.8	0.28	98	0.66	1.0
1914...	19.8	14.6	1.6	126	1.18	1.5
1915...	17.5	16.1	0.64	93	1.2	1.47
1916...	15.8	14.2	0.81	79	1.1	1.59
1917...	14.5	15.3	0.93	114	1.52	1.76
1918...	13.0	17.2	0.90	80	1.37	1.49
1919...	14.0	14.0	0.54	76	1.29	0.90
1920...	22.6	12.3	1.00	90	1.2	1.25
1921...	19.4	13.3	0.69	78	1.2	1.21
1922...	17.5	13.1	0.38	72	1.34	1.14
1923...	14.7	12.3	0.51	72	1.24	0.87
1924...	15.2	12.6	0.34	54	1.68	0.93
1925...	13.3	14.1	0.58	95	1.38	0.90
1926...	15.3	12.6	0.21	57	1.30	0.91
1927...	14.2	13.0	0.41	63	1.55	0.55
1928...	14.6	11.2	0.07	63	1.17	0.75
1929...	14.1	17.1	1.08	96	1.28	0.91
1930...	14.7	11.4	0.23	46	1.59	0.67
1931...	13.2	14.8	0.40	99	1.69	0.67
1932...	14.0	12.9	0.51	80	1.47	0.65
1933...	12.8	14.2	0.27	61	1.89	0.62
1934...	13.7	12.6	0.24	53	1.76	0.48
1935...	12.7	14.2	0.06	35	1.54	0.89
1936...	14.3	14.4	0.30	52	1.88	0.72
1937...	13.2	12.9	0.03	51	1.27	0.30
1938...	13.6	12.5	0.23	59	1.96	0.50
1939...	15.2	13.6	0.10	46	1.77	0.36
1940...	14.8	14.0	0.10	56	1.27	0.43
1941...	15.7	13.7	0.10	41	2.13	0.77
1942...	15.8	13.5	0.17	57	2.01	0.45
1943...	17.2	13.9	0.21	61	1.91	0.35
1944...	21.3	14.8	0.25	53	2.07	0.57
1945...	15.6	13.4	0.00	38	2.05	0.53
1946...	18.8	11.9	0.19	49	2.09	0.69
1947...	22.5	13.0	0.16	54	2.18	0.49
1948...	18.2	12.5	0.09	39	2.14	0.40
1949...	16.3	13.5	0.00	32	2.07	0.40

TABLE V.
Causes of Death, 1947, 1948 and 1949

	1947	1948	1949
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	14	11	12
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	2	1
Syphilitic Diseases	5	2	1
Influenza	—	—	3
Measles	1	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cancer	67	69	67
Diabetes	3	2	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	58	47	53
Heart Disease	110	132	149
Other Circulatory Diseases	13	23	23
Bronchitis	24	16	26
Pneumonia	16	12	16
Other Respiratory Diseases	5	13	6
Peptic Ulcer	3	5	2
Diarrhœa under 2 years	4	2	—
Appendicitis	1	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	7	8	5
Nephritis	7	6	13
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	1	1
Premature Birth	13	3	7
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, etc.	9	9	7
Suicide	5	13	5
Road Traffic Accidents	—	3	—
Other Violence	10	2	6
All other Causes	24	22	30
Total	400	404	436

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. STAFF.

Full details of the Staff of the department are given at the beginning of this report.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The complete facilities of the new Public Health Laboratory (directed by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health) at Monsall Hospital, Manchester, were available and were fully utilized.

During 1949 the following specimens were submitted for examination :—

TABLE VI.

Throat Swabs	12
Blood for Wassermann	2
Faeces	15
Sputum	3
Milk samples :—	
(a) Methylene Blue	41
(b) Guinea Pig inoculation—B. Tuberc.	37
	78
	110

3. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The control of the Ambulance Service formerly operated by the Borough Council was taken over by the Lancashire County Council at the end of 1948 and administered through the divisional office. An Ambulance Superintendent was appointed in December, 1948, a new sitting-case car provided in January, 1949, and a new Commer ambulance in February, 1949.

Demands upon the service have steadily increased since the coming into force of the National Health Service Act. The following figures show the total cases removed in each quarter for the past two years :—

Quarter ending 31st March, 1948	...	241
„ „ 30th June, 1948	...	253
„ „ 30th September, 1948	...	397
„ „ 31st December, 1948	...	553
„ „ 31st, March, 1949	...	771
„ „ 30th June, 1949	...	633
„ „ 30th September, 1949	...	642
„ „ 31st December, 1949	...	1,091

4. HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS.

There are no Hospitals situated in the Borough, which is, however, well served by numerous institutions in the surrounding areas, especially Manchester, Oldham and Rochdale.

5. NURSING SERVICES IN THE HOME.

The Home Nursing Service is administered by the Lancashire County Council who employ several nurses within the borough. The District Nurses' Home is situated at 32 Mellalieu Street (Telephone No. MID 2334). The services of a home nurse are provided at the request of the General Practitioners.

6. MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICE.

The Lancashire County Council employs 4 midwives for service within the borough. The Ante-Natal Clinic is held weekly on Monday afternoons at Durnford Street Health Centre.

One maternal death occurred during the year from "other maternal causes".

7. HOME HELP SERVICE.

One full-time and several part-time home helps are employed by the Lancashire County Council, to attend households in case of confinements, illness, old age and infirmity where such help is found to be necessary.

8. CHILD WELFARE.

Child Welfare Centres are held weekly at Durnford Street Health Centre, Rhodes and Middleton Junction. Dental, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Sunlight treatment are available where required.

9. SCABIES TREATMENT CLINIC.

The Scabies treatment clinic continues to function when required.

10. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

Weekly sessions are held at the Durnford Street Centre for Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccinations are performed at this centre by special arrangement. In addition to this the Lancashire County Council pay fees to Medical Practitioners on receipt of the appropriate record card, to perform either of these services at the patient's home or at their own surgeries.

TABLE VII.

INFANT DEATHS, 1949.

Cause of death	Days		Weeks	Total	Months			Total
	Under 1	1-7	1-4		1-3	3-6	6-12	
Prematurity	3	1	1	5	2	—	—	7
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	3
Congenital Defects	2	1	1	4	1	1	1	7
Total	5	2	3	10	3	2	2	17

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, ETC.

Sewage Disposal.

Sewage is treated by Manchester Corporation at Davyhulme Works, up to six times dry weather flow. Quantities in excess of this amount are dealt with by the Manchester Corporation in storm tanks at the old sewage works at Rhodes.

Additional sewerage work has been carried out on the Hollins and the Conway Close Estates.

The only areas without proper drainage system are the villages of Birch and Bowlee with the exception of isolated farmhouses.

Flooding of the Little Park District.

On the evening of May 27th, 1949, following torrential rain, the Little Park District was flooded, due to a breach in the retaining wall of the River Irk and some backing up of flood water from the sewers.

Flood water entered a considerable number of houses occupied by 90 persons, of whom 52 were evacuated to the Unitarian School, Manchester Old Road ; the remaining 38 decided to stay the night in their own homes, despite the flooding of the downstairs rooms.

Breakfast was provided at a neighbouring cafe for 52 people and a hot dinner for the whole of the 90 people affected by the flooding.

Bedding for 47 persons who stayed the night in the schoolroom was obtained from the Boundary Park General Hospital Annexe.

Fire Brigade pumps were employed in pumping water out of the cellars and also used in hosing the mud and debris from the stone floors of the dwelling houses, footpaths and streets.

The employees of the Sanitary Department disinfected the premises which had been flooded.

The Police Force rendered invaluable help during the evacuation and subsequent return of the house-holders to their homes.

Certain of the arrangements outlined above were made by the Divisional Office Staff under the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Water Supply.

The town is supplied with water by the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board. The supply is upland surface water, of good quality. Details of the catchment area and reservoir installations have been given in previous reports.

No. of houses supplied by the Joint Board ... 10,969

No. of baths in Borough 6,027

The proposed occupation of the Board's gathering grounds as a training area by the Military Authorities has been strenuously opposed by the Board. Meetings have taken place at Regional Offices of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, with the Regional Officer, Ministry of Health and with Military Representatives on the site.

During the year the following examinations were made, and the results were satisfactory in all cases.

(a) Raw Water—Bacteriological 22
Chemical 24

(b) Water going into supply where treatment is installed—
Bacteriological 35
Chemical 32

Chlorination of the water is in operation, the dosage being 0.2 parts per million.

Supplies are collected from moorland gathering grounds, stored in impounding reservoirs, subjected to chalk addition and sedimentation, passed through sand filters and chlorine added when entering supply pipes.

The Analyst declares the water as supplied to the consumer to be "free from lead".

As a precaution against contamination, chalk is added at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ grains per gallon and when necessary Soda Ash is added at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ grain per gallon.

Existing water mains have been extended by 726 yards during the year for housing development at Hollins Estate, Stanncliffe and Alkrington.

A small number of outlying farms have independent water supplies from wells.

SANITARY SERVICES.

Closet Accommodation.

The following is a list of the types of closets existing in the Borough at the end of the year:—

TABLE XIII.

Privy middens	...	...	...	...	63
Pail closets	...	...	...	...	195
Waste-water closets	...	...	...	...	2,873
Fresh-water closets	...	...	...	...	6,698

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The weight of refuse collected during the year was 7,864 tons. Of this 7,045 tons were dealt with by the Separation and Salvage Plant and 819 tons were disposed of by Controlled Tipping.

Refuse Collection.

The number of vehicles engaged on this work is five, viz.: three "S & D" Freighters and two "Karrier Bantams". All the vehicles are fitted with steel sliding shutters to the bodies to minimise nuisance from dust.

There are approximately 7,425 moveable ashbins, 1,316 ashpits 346 wall-type dustbins and 195 pail closets in the Borough. Ashbins and pail closets are emptied weekly and ashpits fortnightly.

The majority of the pail closets are in connection with premises in the villages of Bowlee and Birch which are not sewered.

The net cost of Refuse Collection for the financial year ended 31st March, 1950, was £8,925.

Refuse Disposal.

Of the refuse collected, 7,045 tons were dealt with at the Separation and Salvage Plant and 819 tons were dealt with by tipping.

The cost of Refuse Disposal for the year amounted to £2,325.

TABLE IX.

Income from Sales of Salvage.

	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	225	17	3	1,432	2	2
Textiles	17	17	3	129	19	0
Bones	0	5	1	1	10	10
Kitchen Waste	111	18	1	256	11	9
Baled Destructor Scrap	127	13	3	199	10	6
Loose Tins	17	12	1	8	16	1
Broken Glass	8	14	1	7	3	2
Light Scrap	13	9	2	25	7	0
Non-Ferrous Metals ...	1	5	0	76	3	11
Screened Fuel	320	16	0	210	18	7
Screened Dust	4,293	13	1	—		
Total	5,139	3	0	2,348	3	0

TABLE X.
SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tables give details of the various inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year:—

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Act, 1936.

	Inspections made, etc
Drainage work	374
Refuse removal	567
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	24
Stables, piggeries, etc.	28
Common lodging houses	30
Houses let in lodgings	4
Houses	1,388
Manure dumps	8
Investigation and removal of patients	
Infectious diseases	134
Verminous conditions and disinfestation	50
Conversions	18
Water Supply	9
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	540
	3,174

Housing Act, 1936.

Housing defects	203
Measured for permitted number	—
Investigations overcrowding	48
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	30
	281

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Samples taken—Milk designated, for Bacteria	}	41
Milk ordinary, for Bacteria...		
Food preparing etc. premises		159
Dairies		36
Cowsheds		20
Markets and shops		78
Unsound food		19
Butchers' shops		167
Fish and Chip shops		143
Ice Cream shops		161
Fishmongers		26
Greengrocers		10
Milk Vehicles		37
Milk Shops		73
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits		139
		1,109

Factories Act, 1937.						Inspections made, etc.
Factories with power	...	...	...	...	...	288
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	53
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	29
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	370
						<hr/>
Shops Acts.						
Hours of closing	...	...	...	...	...	2
Health, etc. (Sec. 10)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Diseases of Animals Acts.						12
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.						
Rat infestation	...	...	...	...	...	570
Mice infestation	...	...	...	...	...	242
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	812
						<hr/>
Miscellaneous Visits.						
Re-inspection where notices in force	...	...	...	...	...	2,574
Interviews with owners, builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	370
Works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	55
Public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	84
Meetings	...	...	...	...	...	37
Tip and salvage depot	...	...	...	...	...	705
Salvage and refuse collection	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other visits	...	...	...	...	...	40
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3,874
						<hr/>
Total Number of Visits						9,634
Complaints.						
Number of complaints during the year						845
Notices.						
Informal notices served	...	...	...	...	...	790
Informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	743
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	23
Statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	18

TABLE XI.

Work carried out in compliance with Notices.

Drains cleared	124
Drains repaired or re-constructed	23
Rainwater pipes repaired	31
New water-closets installed	9
Water closets repaired	59
Eaves-gutters repaired	46
Sinks provided	3
Bins provided	301
Roofs repaired	32
Other nuisances abated	206
Plasterwork repaired	58
Skirting boards repaired	2
Rising dampness remedied	8
Fire-ranges repaired	7
Floors repaired	16
Sash-cords repaired	15
Dampness remedied	99
Waste pipes remedied	15
Doors repaired	4
Wash boilers repaired	1

TABLE XII.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Defects found	18
Notices served :—	
(a) Sanitary defects	8 Remedied, 6
(b) Other defects	10 „ 10

TABLE XIII.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(a) No. of Council houses found to be infested	6
„ „ „ disinested	6
(b) No. of other houses found to be infested ...	2
„ „ „ disinested	2

HOUSING.

TABLE XIV.

Statistics.

	<i>Prefabricated houses</i>		<i>Traditional</i>
	<i>Temporary</i>	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>permanent houses</i>
Number of new houses erected during the year			
1. By the local authority ...	—	—	87
2. By other local authorities ...	—	—	—
3. By other bodies or persons	—	—	8

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	144
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	203
(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	6
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	6
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	22
(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	122

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	53
--	----

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, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit :—	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

TABLE XV.

(a) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Fruit Pulp	29	0	2	—	—
Jams and Preserves	9	6	1	9	12
Fruit Juices	—	—	1	3	4
Vegetables	—	1	2	27	3
Tinned Meats (all varieties) ...	—	—	1	26	7½
Tinned Fish („ „) ...	—	1	—	23	14½
Fish	—	—	1	9	9½
Eggs	—	4	2	2	—
Assorted goods	—	—	3	25	2½

7 cartons cheese.

TABLE XVI.

(b) MILK SUPPLY.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of Cowkeepers registered in the district ...	69
No. of Retail Milk Sellers registered	34
No. of Cowshed Inspections during the year ...	74

Samples of milk were taken from producers and retail purveyors of milk for examination by the methylene blue test with the following results :—

TABLE XVII.

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	25
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	16

Thirty-seven samples of ordinary milk were submitted for biological test for Tubercle Bacilli, eight were found to contain Tubercle Bacilli and the remainder were satisfactory.

TABLE XVIII.

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1948, and, from 1st October, 1949, the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 :—

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1949 in respect of :

“Tuberculin Tested” milk :

(1) Bottling ... 1 (2) Distribution 7

“Accredited” milk :

(1) Bottling ... — (2) Distribution —

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1948 and, from 1st October, 1949, the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 :—

No. of licences issued in respect of “Pasteurised” milk :

Pasteurising plants 1 Retail Distributors 7

Disease of Animals Act.

Two cases of Anthrax in cattle were dealt with in accordance with the Anthrax Order of 1938.

(c) FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

It is satisfactory to note that no outbreak of Food Poisoning occurred in the borough during the year.

(d) CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

The Health Committee, having decided to initiate a Clean Food Campaign, held a meeting in November, to which Food Traders and Food Handlers were invited and a Clean Food Committee was appointed. The Committee suggested that arrangements be made to distribute literature to householders and food handlers and in addition a lecture, illustrated by film strips was arranged to take place early in the following year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Table XIX shows the number of cases occurring amongst the individual diseases, the number removed to hospital and the deaths occurring in hospital.

Total Cases Notified.

TABLE No. XIX.

Infectious Diseases.	No.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	122	59	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Pneumonia	16	1	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Erysipelas	5	2	—
Measles	444	2	—
Whooping Cough	92	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	4	—
Total	684	69	13

Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet Fever became prevalent in the second half of the year and the number of cases notified (122) was the largest for the past six years. The cases were mild in character.

Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year. In the past 5 years only 24 cases of this disease have occurred.

It is estimated that at the end of 1949, 60.52% of children under 5 years of age and 83.04% of children between the ages of 5 and 14 years had been immunised against diphtheria.

Measles.

Measles occurred in epidemic form in the first quarter of the year. 444 cases were notified, 70% of them being children under 5 years of age. 2 cases were removed to hospital but no deaths occurred. The cases were spread over the whole of the borough.

Whooping Cough.

92 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year, mainly in the first and third quarters. 72% of the cases occurred in children under 5 years of age. 1 case was removed to hospital; no deaths occurred. The cases covered all parts of the borough.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

Four cases of Acute Poliomyelitis occurred in the latter half of the year. The children were all aged between 1 year and four years. All the children recovered.