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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON
IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1973

GILBERT R. BRACKENRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Medical Officer of Health
Public Health and Health and Welfare Offices,
Town Hall, Middleton

(Tel: 061-643-6291)

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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

1973/74

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor G. Allen

Vice Chairman:

Councillor J. P. Brown

His Worship the Mayor - Councillor N. Weall }
Councillor L. Worsley }

Alderman J. L. Albiston

Alderman F. Sanson

Councillor Mrs. S. Bonner

Councillor D. J. Brereton

Councillor Mrs. D. Burton

Councillor J. F. Farrar

Councillor N. Haslam

Councillor H. Hill

Councillor G. Mills

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

Medical Officer of Health:

GILBERT R. BRACKENRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

JOAN M. CURTIS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.,

Staff of the Public Health Department

Chief Public Health Inspector:

A. T. TRAYNOR, F.A.P.H.I., M.Inst. S.W.M., M.R.S.H.
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods, Smoke Inspector's Cert.
Testamur of Inst. P.C.
City & Guilds in Boiler House Practice

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

C. KELLY, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.Inst. S.W.M.
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods (Liverpool)
Diploma R.Inst. P. Health and Hygiene
City & Guilds in Boiler House Practice

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

L. H. KERR, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. of Meat and Other Foods
W. HOLLINGWORTH, M.A.P.H.I.
W. J. CHADWICK, M.A.P.H.I. (Smoke)

Clerical Staff:

Mrs. I. FIELDEN (Senior Clerk)
Miss S. CROSSLEY (Shorthand-Typist)
Miss V. Wilkinson (Clerk-Typist)

Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

M. J. PORTER
B. C. MELLING

Smoke Officer:

D. THOMSON, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I.
Dip. Air Pollution Control

Technical Assistant Smoke Control:

B. ROSBOTHAM (Commenced June)

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

DELEGATED HEALTH AND SCHOOL HEALTH FUNCTIONS

Medical Officers: (Departmental)

R. BULLOUGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst.

Part
Time

(N. R. DE, M.B., B.S.

(S. A. P. JENKINS, M.B., Ch.B.

(S. L. ROYCE, M.B., Ch.B.

(L. SCHREIBER, M.B., Ch.B., M.D.

(R. K. PATEL, M.B., B.S., D.Obst. Recog. DEP.

Senior Administrative Officer:

K. PATTON

Dental Officer:

R. A. COLLINS, L.D.S., R.S.C.

Dental Anaesthetists:

DR. P. W. JACKSON M.B., Ch.B., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A.

Ophthalmologists:

DR. L. B. HARDMAN

Physiotherapists:

MRS. M. GREGORY State Regd.

MRS. G. SHEARING State Regd. Chartered

Public Health/Delegated Health Departments,
Town Hall,
MIDDLETON,
M24 4EA.

1st March, 1974

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the introductory letter to my Annual Report for 1972, I referred to the probability that, having regard to the timetable of Local Government and National Health Service Reorganisation, it was unlikely that a similar Report for 1973 could be presented to existing Authorities before this demise on 31st March, 1974. Much of the essential data normally presented in Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector is not available until the second quarter of the following year - for example population data supplied by the Registrar - General, or data collected locally from other agencies of Local Government.

Within the last few days, however, the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security has written to all Medical Officers of Health requesting that, wherever possible, Local Authority Health Departments should prepare an Annual Report, albeit abbreviated, for 1973, to ensure that it can be made available - updated if necessary - to successor Authorities. With the present pressure of work in Local Authority Health Departments it would in any case be impossible at present to prepare the report in its usual form. There is moreover the problem that it will be impossible to present this formally to Councils in the usual way.

In consultation with other officers in the Department, I am, therefore, arranging that this report will be based on the information available locally at 28th February, 1974, in the hope that it can be ready for duplication by about 11th March, and despatched about 15th March. I would hope that it can be formally accepted by those Councils meeting after that date, but members of Authorities will appreciate that there is no statutory need for them to formally approve or accept the report - the obligation is on the Medical Officer to present it.

In order to reduce the clerical workload we have attempted to prune content drastically and to concentrate on presenting in tabular form such data as is available, on the assumption that this will be of most use as a matter of record and to those of you who will be serving as members of new Authorities - whether Metropolitan District Councils, Health Authorities or associated Advisory or Consultative Bodies. We have attempted where possible to give "estimated" figures based on local returns where corrected annual figures are not yet available, e.g. the Total Deaths by multiplying the deaths in the first eleven months of the year by 12/11.

We have had to eliminate completely certain sections where the available data is either so incomplete as to preclude "estimates", or where analysis of existing data would be so time-consuming as to delay our printing and distribution of the report.

I am acutely conscious that this report is thus, in many respects, a much less informative document than those of my predecessors, whose high standards I have endeavoured to maintain. Yet I am delighted at the belated recognition of their value as an irreplaceable source of local information; it is perhaps an indication that the planners and legislators for the Reorganised Local Government and Health Service have suddenly realised that Local Authority Health Departments were geared up to the publication of information that would not otherwise have been generally available.

The report also includes my abbreviated report on the School Health Service in the Borough during 1973. This has normally been printed separately and distributed to the Education Committee but again by reasons of pressure of time and also because of the shared duties of members of Health Department Staff between Health and School Health Services, I consider it will probably be more convenient to incorporate all work done by Health Department Staff in this one report.

In just four weeks time the honourable office of Medical Officer of Health will pass into history, the phoenix of "Community Physicians" rising from the ashes. It is not for me to forecast how effective the new systems of Health Care will eventually prove - I would only again ask that Members of Authorities, and the public, make reasonable allowance for those problems and confusion that may arise in the immediate future when those of us with any Administrative responsibilities are trying to get the new machinery into operation. I personally am proud to have held office as a Medical Officer of Health and to have had the opportunity to serve in the National Health Service since its inception in 1948.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours sincerely,

GILBERT R. BRACKENRIDGE

Medical Officer of Health

PART A

STATISTICS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES REPORT

Table A.1

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the Borough (acres)	5,170
Population at Census (1961)	57,674
Population at Census (1971)	53,510
Registrar General's Est. Mid-Year Population (1973)	53,340

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF LOCALITY

The Borough of Middleton, which forms part of the South East Lancashire industrial conurbation, lies to the North of Manchester and is roughly equidistant from the nearby County Boroughs of Manchester (to the South), Bury (North-West), Rochdale (North-East) and Oldham (East). The district is fairly low lying, the original township having developed along the banks of the River Irk, which flows from East to West through the Borough.

The district was formerly almost entirely dependent on cotton spinning for economic prosperity but many of the mills have been closed or adapted for other purposes and the major industries of the district now include foam rubber upholstery, tobacco manufacture, industrial chemicals and light engineering. There is also a long-established brewery. Since 1950 the district has seen intensive residential housing development, with its population nearly doubled. There is a limited amount of farming land principally to the North of the Borough.

The town has good road communications with adjacent districts and the Borough is served by regular bus services of the SELNEC transport undertaking and also by the North Western and Ribble Companies.

TABLES A.2 & A.3

POPULATION - 1971 CENSUS

The following tables are based on information published by the Registrar-General:-

Total Population (both sexes)		53,510	100%
Child Population	Children under school age	4,165	8%
	Schoolchildren aged 5-14	10,100	19%
	Total children under 15	14,265	27%
Total Males 15-64 "Working Population"		16,855	31.5%
Females	Age 15-44 "Reproductive Population"	10,195	19%
	Age 45-60	5,360	10%
Elderly Persons	Females 60 and over	4,870	9%
	Males 65 and over	1,970	3.5%
	Total "Pensionable"	6,840	12.5%

HOUSING - 1971 CENSUS

Total "Households"		17,000	100%	
Tenure	Owner Occupied	7,190	42%	
	Local Authority Owned	8,550	50%	
	Rented Unfurnished	1,170	7%	
	Other Types Tenure	90	0.5%	
Amenities	With exclusive use of	Hot Water System	16,650	98%
		Fixed Bath	16,170	95%
		Water Closet	16,790	99%

Table A.4

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births		687
	Males	Females
	364	323
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population:-		
Crude Rate		12.9
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births		Not Available
Stillbirths		12
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths		17
Total live and stillbirths		699
Infant Deaths (death under 1 year)		17 E
Infant Mortality Rates:-		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ..		24.7 ER
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)		Nil
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live and stillbirths		Nil
Total deaths (all ages)		586 E
Death Rate per 1,000 population:-		
Crude Rate		11.0

E: Estimated on basis of returns to 31 Oct. 1973

ER: Estimated rate based on estimated returns

Table A.5

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS

		1973	1972	1967	1962	1952
Live Births	No.	687	757	877	1,148	466
	Adj. Rate	12.9 CR.	15.7	14.6	17.3	14.0
Stillbirths	No.	12	15	16	26	14
	Rate	17	19	18	22.1	29
Total Live and Stillbirths	No.	699	772	893	1,174	480
Total Infant Deaths	No.	17 E.	15	13	51	13
	Rate	24.7 ER.	20	15.3	29.0	28
Maternal Deaths	No.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Rate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Deaths	No.	586 E.	594	542	541	414
	Adj. Rate	CR.	14.0	14.0	13.6	13.0

Table A.6

INFANT MORTALITY (To 31 Oct. 1973)

	Ages at Death					Total
	Under 1 day	1 day and less than 7	1 week and less than 4	4 weeks and less than 6 months	6 months and less than 12	
Totals	9	4	-	1	-	14

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The full revised list of diseases notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health is now as follows:-

Anthrax	Paratyphoid Fever
Cholera	Plague
Diphtheria	Poliomyelitis (Acute)
Dysentery	Relapsing Fever
Encephalitis (Acute)	Scarlet Fever
Food Poisoning	Smallpox
Infective Jaundice	Tetanus
Leprosy	Tuberculosis
Leptospirosis	Typhoid Fever
Malaria	Typhus
Measles	Whooping Cough
Meningitis (Acute)	Yellow Fever
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	

TABLE A.7

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES - 1972

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED														
	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS - YEARS													
		0 -	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	25 and over	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	
Mesles (excluding rubella)	40	7	4	7	6	5	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	9	-	2	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Scarlet Fever	28	-	-	3	3	5	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Acute Meningitis	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Food Poisoning	30	0 -	5 -	15 -	45 -	65 and over	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	Age unknown	
		7	2	2	2	2	1	1	16						
Infective Jaundice	22	0 -	1 -	2 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	20 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -	75 -	Age unknown
Tuberculosis		-	-	6	4	4	1	2	1	3	1	-	-	-	-
Respiratory	13	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	2	-	3	2	1	1	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	8	2	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

Table A.8

Notifiable Diseases	1973	1972	1967	1962
Scarlet Fever	28	35	38	15
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-
Measles	40	592	530	372
Whooping Cough	8	3	148	1
Pneumonia *	-	-	13	14
Dysentery	9	6	18	49
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas *	-	-	1	4
Food Poisoning	30	2	4	1
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis Non Paralytic ..	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	1	5	1	2
Infective Jaundice +	22	35	-	-
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	13	6	19	32
Tuberculosis Non-Pulmonary ...	-	1	1	7
Diphtheria	-	-	-	1
Totals	151	685	773	498

* Not notifiable after 30th September, 1968

+ Notifiable after June, 1968

TUBERCULOSIS

Table A.9

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1973

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 4 years ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years ...	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 - 44 years ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years ...	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
55 - 64 years ...	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 - 74 years ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 and over	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	8	5	-	-	2	2	-	-

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Blood specimens from the ante-natal clinics were sent either to the Pathology Department, Oldham and District General Hospital; The Serological Laboratory, Withington Hospital, or to the National Blood Transfusion Service, Royal Infirmary, Manchester.

Otherwise practically all the routine specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Withington Hospital, Manchester, 20.

During the past year the following specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

Table A.12

Faeces Specimens 536

Thanks are due once again to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory and his staff for their ever-ready co-operation and practical help given to the Health Department.

SWIMMING BATHS

Middleton Corporation owns the sole swimming bath in the Borough. This was constructed in 1938, and consists of a large pool (100 ft. x 35 ft.) with a maximum depth of 10 ft. 3 ins., a smaller children's pool (30 ft. x 22 ft.) with a maximum depth of 3 ft., 4 hot and cold showers, changing accommodation and 4 chlorinated footbaths are provided from the dressing accommodation to the plunge baths. There are 16 slipper baths (8 females and 8 males).

The baths are supplied with water from the town mains (West Pennine Water Board) and further treated by chlorination and sand filtration.

During the winter months, the building is closed to bathers and used as a social centre. The slipper baths remain open throughout the year.

HOSPITALS

There are no hospitals situated in the Borough and patients are admitted to hospitals in the surrounding districts, chiefly Oldham and Manchester.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 (SECTION 47)

No action was taken under this Section during the year.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

There are two Corporation controlled cemeteries in the Borough in addition to a small number of church burial grounds. The old cemetery (6½ acres) is adjacent to the Parish Church near the centre of the town, while the New Cemetery (12 acres) lies on the edge of the Boarshaw Estate near the eastern boundary. A total of 93 interments took place in those cemeteries in 1973 and a further 464 remains were cremated at the Borough Crematorium. The Medical Referee to the Crematorium is the Medical Officer of Health.

MORTUARY

During 1973 91 bodies were received in the town's Mortuary, which is a modern well-equipped building situated on Grimshaw Lane.

PART B

DELEGATED HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Child Health Centres

There are 5 Child Health Centres in the Borough; 2 being at purpose-built combined Clinics at Durnford Street, Middleton and at Borrowdale Road on the Langley Estate. The remaining 3 were held in rented premises at Middleton Junction (Wade Street Scout Hall), Rhodes (All Saints Parish Church School) and Alkington Community Centre.

Durnford Street Clinic - Tuesday and Thursday, 2-4 p.m.

Langley Clinic - Wednesday 10 a.m.-12 noon and Thursday 2-4 p.m.

Alkington - Monday 2-4 p.m. and Wednesday 10 a.m.-12 noon.

Wade Street - Wednesday 2-4 p.m.

Rhodes - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.

Both Langley and Durnford Street Clinics are well equipped modern buildings: the latter was extensively re-constructed in 1969. The construction of the Alkington Branch Clinic commenced in 1972 on a site adjacent to the Alkington Community Centre and is now complete.

Routine examinations of infants is normally undertaken at these Child Health Sessions (see also Table B.2) and the National Welfare Foods - National Dried Milk and Vitamin Tablets - are available in addition to certain proprietary brands of baby foods and vitamin supplements available for purchase on the recommendation of the Medical Officer.

Ante-Natal and Post-natal Clinics

(See under Midwifery and Table B.3)

Family Planning

Neither the Borough Council nor the County Council run their own Family Planning Clinics, but have arrangements with the Family Planning Association, and evening sessions are held at Durnford Street Clinic, Middleton, each Monday and Wednesday. Also a Tuesday evening session at Langley Clinic. Intrauterine devices can be fitted by arrangement at this latter clinic. A female doctor is in attendance at these sessions.

The County Council have agreed on case payments, and where necessary, the supply of appliances, in respect of women referred to the Family Planning Clinic, on medical grounds and certain social grounds.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum in domiciliary practice during the year.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

(Establishment at 31st December, 1973 was 11).

There were 8 District Midwifery Sisters during 1973, all of whom were qualified to administer analgesics.

Mrs. C. F. Copland
Mrs. H. Greenfield
Mrs. C. Hartle
Mrs. C. N. Holland
Mrs. F. Hutchinson
Mrs. I. R. Richards
Mrs. D. B. Smith
Mrs. M. E. Ward

At 31st December, 1973, three posts were unfilled on establishment. It was not considered necessary to engage staff to fill these posts by reason of the falling local demand for domiciliary midwifery services.

During the year the Midwives attended 63 confinements, analgesia was administered in 35 cases.

Ante-natal Clinics are held twice weekly at Langley School Clinic and at Durnford Street Clinic. The number of women attending local clinics, and the number of attendances have fallen considerably in recent years due, in part to the falling local birth rate and in part to increasing proportion of hospital confinement and ante-natal care.

Blood tests are carried out routinely on all mothers attending the ante-natal clinics and blood specimens are submitted to Oldham and District General Hospital and Withington Hospital.

Midwives complete a short report on each individual expectant mother at the time of booking. From an analysis of 63 cases booked locally in 1973 one should record that in all cases the physical state of the expectant mother was satisfactory at the time of booking; 2 of the mothers were pregnant for the 5th or later time; 13 mothers did not book until after the 24th week of pregnancy. Such late bookings inevitably mean a drastic curtailment of normal ante-natal care.

All Local Health Authorities maintain a register, and notify the Registrar General, of all infants who are recognised to have any form of Congenital Abnormality at or after birth. This information is obtained primarily from the midwife or maternity nurse in attendance. In Middleton, 19 infants were born with malformations (including 4 still-born infants) an incidence of 27.1 per 1,000 total births. An analysis of abnormalities recorded is shown in Tables B.6 and B.7.

Relaxation classes are held weekly at Durnford Street Clinic on Thursday evenings. A Physiotherapist is in attendance and the Health Visiting and Midwifery staff run a joint education programme at these classes.

90 mothers attended the classes in the year ended 31st December, 1973.

HEALTH VISITING

(Total establishment at 31st December, 1973 was 17)

Health Visitors employed were:-

Mrs. N. Brady
Mrs. B. Cotton
Mrs. D. Green
Mrs. R. A. Hargan
Mrs. M. Hartley
Miss B. Jackson
Mrs. E. Knight
Mrs. P. Newton (commenced 24.9.73)
Mrs. V. Simpkins (part-time)
Mrs. J. Sinclair
Mrs. J. Turner (commenced 24.9.73)

There were also 6 School Nurses

Mrs. M. T. Greenfield (part-time)
Mrs. M. A. Harding (part-time)
Mrs. V. Howard (part-time)
Mrs. M. M. Hudson (part-time)
Mrs. D. Mort
Mrs. B. M. Robson

During the year one Health Visitor resigned and two Full-time Health Visitors were appointed. The Health Visitors are also helped by the School Nurses, but they are not authorised to carry out the full range of Health Visiting Duties.

Health Visiting staff are deployed on the basis of partial attachment to most large-list General Practitioners in the town and not as formerly on a

geographical basis. While this arrangement does lead to improved liaison with General Practitioners, it is not possible to derive the full benefit of liaison arrangements by reason of shortage of staff. Similarly, by reason of staff shortage, Health Visitors have limited opportunity for extending their work in Health Education.

The scope of work undertaken by Health Visitors has changed from exclusive concentration on services to mothers with young children, and now includes a large proportion of services to the elderly. In 1973 Health Visitors paid 5,862 visits to children under 5 years and 204 visits were paid to expectant mothers. 1,739 visits were paid to those over the age of 65.

Since 1970, the former urine screening (Phenistix) test for early detection of phenylketonuria was discontinued, being replaced by the Scriver blood test. A small sample of blood is taken from the heel of infants at about 2 weeks of age. Specimens are analysed at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury. The test is much more accurate and gives early indication of a wider range of rare metabolic diseases.

Health Visitors duties also include School Medical work, although the more routine work of medical inspection is shared by School Nurses without Health Visitor qualifications.

Details of this service are given in Table B.8.

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE

(Total establishment at 31st December, 1973 was 16.)

District Nursing Sisters:

Mrs. H. Ashwell
Mrs. M. P. Black
Mrs. J. M. Bolton
Mrs. D. Halliwell
Mrs. P. A. Herring
Mrs. I. M. Marr
Mrs. M. Murrells (commenced 1.8.73)
Mrs. B. Smith

District Charge Nurse:

Mr. J. D. Begg

District Nurses (S.E.N.'s):

Mrs. M. Brame
Mrs. E. Coffey
Mrs. E. M. Ogden
Mrs. M. Pearson

Nursing Auxiliaries:

Mrs. M. Barnett
Mrs. M. Bramall
Mrs. E. C. Hogan

The District Nursing Service continues to carry out extremely useful and valuable work in co-operation with the General Practitioners within the Borough and the major proportion of their time is devoted to the care of the elderly. The Service considerably eases the burden on relatives, undertaking long term care at home, and reduces the need for General Practitioners to request hospital accommodation for the chronic sick.

All nursing staff in the Borough are organised as a series of "teams" - usually comprising 2 District Nursing Sisters, one District Nurse and/or Nursing Auxiliary. The teams are allocated duties on the basis of each team covering the patients of groups of General Practitioners in the Borough. This arrangement does lead to a much closer working liaison between General Practitioners and District Nursing staff.

The nurses issue, on loan, various articles of equipment required by their patients. However, there is still an urgent need for a proper loan store room especially since the reconstruction of Durnford Street Clinic.

During the year, the nurses paid a total of 43,771 visits to individual patients.

Details of the services are given in Table B.9.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The presently recommended schedule for Immunisation and Vaccination is as follows:-

6 months	First	} Diphtheria/ Whooping Cough/ Tetanus	} (and First and Second and Third)	} Polio
8 months	Second			
12-14 months	Third			
15 months	Measles			
5 years	Diphtheria/Tetanus booster. Polio booster			
10-13 years	B.C.G.			
11-13 years	Rubella (girls only)			
15 years	Tetanus booster. Polio booster.			

The ages are intended only as a general guide, and the schedule may have to be modified for individual children.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Only 70% of infants are protected in their first year of life by combined immunisation against these three diseases although this causes minimum disturbances and inconvenience to both mother and child. Older children are, in general, given booster doses against either diphtheria only or with combined material against diphtheria and tetanus. A number of younger children for various reasons, are immunised with separate antigens.

Active immunisation against tetanus is offered to all casualties with open wounds attending Oldham Royal Infirmary by joint arrangement between the Hospital, Oldham County Borough and County Council medical staff.

Detailed figures of routine immunisation are given in Table B.10.

Poliomyelitis

With the virtual disappearance of poliomyelitis as an "epidemic" disease, there has been a considerable decline in interest in poliomyelitis vaccination by the general public. 535 persons under 16 received full course of immunisation during 1973 of which 353 children were under 2 years of age.

Measles

During 1973 supplies of measles vaccine were readily available, and vaccination is offered to parents of all infants who have not had measles by the age of about 15 months. Unfortunately, there has been considerable reluctance amongst mothers to have their children vaccinated against measles, partly due to earlier vaccines giving some adverse reaction, but the newer vaccines certainly give less reactions, and upset to children receiving them.

During the year 362 children in the Borough received measles vaccine.

Rubella

From 1970 onwards, Rubella Vaccine has been available to all girls age 11 to 13, and parents are advised to allow their daughters to receive this vaccine; a total of 281 girls in the Borough were vaccinated.

Although Rubella itself is a mild disease, it can give rise to major congenital defects in an infant if contacted by a mother in pregnancy. The vaccine must not be given to any women "at risk" of pregnancy.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

There is one Ambulance Station within the Borough (situated in Highfield Street, off Oldham Road) but the Ambulance Service is administered by Lancashire County Council Health Division No. 14. The vehicles are directed by the radio control centre at Whitefield (Tel. No. 766 6666).

Six ambulances and four dual-purpose vehicles are based on the Middleton Station, which is manned on a 24 hour basis. The vehicles also serve Chadderton Urban District and parts of Failsworth and Royton.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS - CARE AND AFTER CARE

(a) Tuberculosis

The Chest Clinic serving the Borough is situated at Oldham and District General Hospital and close liaison is maintained with the Consultant Chest Physician. 44 persons received inoculation with B.C.G. vaccine during the year (this does not include school children given B.C.G. vaccine through the School Health Service).

There is one Health Visitor with special responsibility for Tuberculosis cases - Mrs. B. H. Howat - in the district and her duties include visits to patients at home, arrangements for examination of contacts, reports of environmental and economic difficulties and attendance at the Chest Clinic.

For details of B.C.G. vaccination see Tables B.11 and B.12.

(b) Laundry Service

The service, which also permits the supply of disposable incontinence pads, is intended for any sick person in need of frequent changes of bed linen where no family help is available in laundering. Such soiled linen is not normally accepted by a commercial laundry.

Laundering is carried out at Oldham and District General Hospital and individual arrangements are normally made through the District Nurses.

This service has been free to recipients since 1st April, 1967.

During the year, the service was utilised by 62 patients.

(c) Chiropody Service

Chiropody sessions were held four times weekly - three times at Durnford Street Clinic and once at the Chiropodist's own surgery. The chiropody service is a free service to men and women of 65 and over, expectant mothers and registered handicapped persons. Over 45% of cases are treated in their own homes.

During the year a total of 579 individuals received Chiropody treatment. Of this total, 275 were treated at clinic sessions, 16 at the Chiropodist's surgery and 288 at home. The service was almost wholly utilised by aged persons

For details see Table B.13.

(d) Cervical Cytology

Since May, 1966, cervical cytology screening tests have been carried out weekly by County medical staff. Applications may be made direct to Durnford Street or Langley Clinic, or through patients own doctors. During the year, 363 first test and 3 repeat tests have been taken. 11 women were referred to their General Practitioners for other conditions.

Special Clinics are usually held at Durnford Street on Friday mornings and on two evenings per month. Comparatively few applications are made by women who have borne more than two children.

Apart from this Local Authority Service, facilities for Cervical Smear examinations are also provided by the Family Planning Association and by a number of General Practitioners in the Borough.

OTHER SERVICES

(a) Meals and Recreational Facilities for the Elderly

The Lancashire County Council operate a grant scheme in co-operation with County districts, including Middleton, to give financial assistance to voluntary organisations providing meals and/or recreational activities for the elderly. Under this scheme, grants may be given to such organisations as Meals on Wheels, Luncheon Clubs and similar projects.

In 1973/74 the Borough Health Committee made grants totalling £3,600 under this scheme.

(b) Special Medical Examinations

A total of 332 medical reports were completed during the year. Of this, 145 reports were made without examination after scrutiny of a declaration of fitness form. For details of the remaining 187 reports after examination, see Table B.14.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The following services were transferred to the Social Services Department during 1972 in accordance with the Local Authority Social Services Act of 1970:-

- (1) Convalescence.
- (2) Day Nurseries:-
 - (a) Local Authority Day Nurseries
 - (b) Child Minders
 - (c) Pre School Playgroups
- (3) Home Help Service.
- (4) Welfare Services:-
 - (a) Physically Handicapped
 - (b) Blind
- (5) Mental Health Service.

Table B.1

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

Notified births (i) occurring in, and (ii) finally belonging to the Borough in 1973

	In Hospitals, Maternity Homes, etc.						In the Home						Total					
	Live Births			Still- births	Live Births			Still- births	Live Births			Still- births						
	*Preme- ture	Mature	Total		*Preme- ture	Mature	Total		*Preme- ture	Mature	Total							
	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Total Number occurring in the Borough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
No. transferred out of Borough:-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(i) to other Divisions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(ii) to County Boroughs or other Counties	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Total outward transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Net No. occurring in and belonging to Borough	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	31	30	31	1	-	-	30	31	30	31	
No. transferred into Borough:-																		
(i) from other Divisions	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	
(ii) from County Boroughs or other Counties	26	25	304	263	330	285	5	6	1	-	-	-	26	25	305	263	331	285
Total inward transfers	26	25	307	267	330	285	5	6	1	-	-	-	26	25	308	267	331	285
Final No. belonging to Borough	26	25	307	267	330	285	5	6	31	31	31	1	26	25	338	298	364	323

* A birth is regarded as "premature" if the birthweight is 5½ lbs. or less.

Table B.2

CHILD HEALTH CENTRES

Number open at 31st December, 1973 - 5

Work done at individual centres during the year

Address of Child Health Centre	No. of sessions	Number of individual children attended and who were born in:			Number of attendances of children		
		1973	1972	1968-1971	0-	1-	2-4 inclusive
Darnford Street, Middleton	101	215	214	48	2,569	448	53
Wade Street, Middleton Junction	51	62	60	47	973	214	96
All Saints School, Rhodes, Middleton	23	24	27	12	289	65	15
Community Centre, Middleton	99	86	75	80	1,152	241	192
Borrowdale Road, Langley	103	238	244	151	2,344	401	158
TOTALS	377	625	620	338	7,327	1,369	514

Table B.3

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Number open at 31st December, 1973 - 2

Work done at individual clinics during the year

Address of Clinic	No. of Sessions	No. of individual women attending	No. of Attendances
Durnford Street, Middleton	99	50	245
Borrowdale Road, Langley	71	60	376
Totals	170	110	621

Table B.4

MIDWIFERY SERVICES

Summary of work done by Midwives during the year
 Livebirths, stillbirths, hospital discharges and deaths

Livebirths	Stillbirths	Cases attended where patient had been confined in hospital and discharged before 10th day	Deaths	
			Mother	Child (under 1 month)
62	1	675	-	-

Table B.5

VISITS

To confinements and miscarriages shown above	To Hospital discharges shown above	Total
1,742	2,837	4,579

Table B.6
Incidence of Congenital Abnormalities

Mother's Age	20 & under	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41 & over	All ages
1st Confinement	5	2	-	-	-	-	7
2nd Confinement	-	-	3	1	-	-	4
3rd Confinement	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
4th Confinement	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
5th Confinement	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
6th or later Confinement	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
All Confinements	5	3	8	3	-	-	19

Table B.7
Congenital Abnormalities Notified
(12 infants with single abnormality only)

Nature of abnormality	Male Infants		Female Infants	
	Living	Stillborn	Living	Stillborn
Anencephaly	1	2	-	1
Malformation of leg	-	-	1	-
Spina Bifida	2	-	-	-
Malformation of Hands	1	-	1	-
Multiple Anomalies	-	1	1	-
Hard Lip and Cleft Palate	1	-	-	-
Talipes	2	-	1	-
Naevi on Head	-	-	1	-
Heart Malformation	1	-	1	-
Haemangioma on Face	1	-	-	-

Table B.8

HEALTH VISITING

No. of Visits paid by Health Visiting Staff during year.
Visits to:-

	Total Visits
1. Children under 5 years of age	5,862
2. Children between 5-16 (not seen as School Health)	496
3. Adults aged 17-64	2,767
4. Adults aged 65 and over	1,739
5. Expectant Mothers	204
6. Ineffective Visits	2,035

Table B.9

DISTRICT NURSING

Initial Treatment of cases by Place and Age group

Place of Initial Treatment	Number of persons treated aged -			Total
	Under 5	5 - 64	65 and over	
Patient's Home	27	475	755	1,257
Health Centres	-	-	-	-
G.P.'s premises (excluding those in health centres)	205	923	211	1,339
Maternity and child health centres	-	-	-	-
Hospital	-	-	-	-
Residential homes	-	3	112	115
Elsewhere	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	232	1,401	1,078	2,711

Table B.10

Vaccination and Immunisation
 against Measles, Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Rubella and Smallpox
 Children resident in the District

	Primary - By year of birth						Reinforcement - By year of birth							
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1966-69	Others Under 16	Total	1973	1972	1971	1970	1966-69	Others Under 16	Total
Children protected against:-														
Diphtheria	-	366	106	15	58	14	559	-	4	6	3	514	46	573
Whooping Cough	-	332	103	13	28	4	480	-	2	4	2	26	2	36
Tetanus	-	366	107	16	60	36	585	-	4	6	4	517	138	669
Poliomyelitis	-	353	98	13	57	14	535	-	4	7	4	491	76	582
Measles	-	184	143	18	17	-	362	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rubella	-	-	-	-	-	281	281	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	5	5	10	21	82	123	-	-	-	1	16	118	135

Table B.11

B.C.G. VACCINATIONS BY CHEST PHYSICIAN

	Under 16 years	16 years and over
No. of persons tested (for suitability for B.C.G. vaccination)	32	1
No. found positive	4	-
No. found negative	28	1
No. of persons vaccinated	43	1

Table B.12

B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS AND STUDENTS

Category	No. of schools completed	No. of parents' consent forms			No. of children			
		Sent to parents	Returned		Tuberculin test performed	Tuberculin test positive	Tuberculin test negative	Vaccinated with B.C.G.
			Refused	Consented				
School children - under 14	6	308	32	185	210	6	188	188
14-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Students - further education		-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table B.13

CHIROPODY SERVICE

Service	No. of Clinics operating at year end	Total No. of Clinic sessions held	No. of treatments given to patients				No. of individuals treated			
			In Clinics	In Surgeries	At home	Total	In Clinics	In Surgeries	At home	Total
Direct	1	118	770	38	1,286	2,094	275	16	288	579

Table B.14

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Particulars of medical examinations carried out by medical staff during 1973:-

	No. of examinations
(i) Fitness for employment - County Council employees -	
(a) No. of medical examinations carried out in connection with posts designated as requiring them	23
(b) No. of medical examinations carried out following scrutiny of declaration of fitness forms	2
(ii) Other local authority Superannuation schemes	2
(iii) Children in care of Social Services Committee	89
(iv) Entry to Teachers' Training Colleges	67
(v) Entrants to Teaching profession ..	4

ROUTINE SCHOOL CLINICS

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

Durnford Street - Monday to Friday
9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.

Borrowdale Road, Langley - Monday to Friday
9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.

DENTAL CLINICS

Durnford Street - Monday to Friday
(by appointment only)

Borrowdale Road, Langley - Monday to Friday
(by appointment only)

OPHTHALMIC CLINICS

Durnford Street - Friday afternoon
(by appointment only)

Borrowdale Road, Langley - Tuesday afternoon
(by appointment only)

PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC

Durnford Street - Alternate Friday
mornings
(by appointment only)

CHILD PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC

5 Durnford Street, Middleton

Monday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon
(by appointment only)

Sessions given as at 31st December, 1973 but subject to variation.

TABLE C.1. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

	No. of Individual Pupils inspected				No. of Parents interviewed
	Entrants	Intermediate	Leavers	Total	
1973	849	294	453	1,596	929
1972	1,043	119	541	1,703	1,015

TABLE C.2 SPECIAL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS RE-INSPECTIONS

	No. of individual Pupils Inspected at Schools or Clinics	No. of Parents Interviewed	No. of Re-Inspections at Schools or Clinics
1973	391	349	12
1972	451	382	NIL

TABLE C.3 MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED AND ASSISTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING NURSERY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

<u>Schools</u>	<u>School Nurses</u>	
	<u>1973</u>	<u>1972</u>
Number of visits paid to schools	529	521
Inspections for Verminous Infestation		
Total no. of individual examinations of pupils in schools	24,624	26,260
Number of instances of Infestations	1,570	2,628
Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	585	1,148
Number of interviews with parents in school	5	18
Number of Health Education Sessions in school	7	7
<u>Homes</u>		
Number of visits paid to homes re: verminous infestation	53	126
No. of visits to homes re: "other conditions"	155	244
Number of pupils seen at home	131	196
Number of interviews with parents at home	190	332
Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2) Education Act, 1944)	6	5

Please note: 1972 figures are given for comparison.

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

The following table shows the number of children (including a small number of pre-school children) who attended local school clinics and were treated for minor ailments during the year.

TABLE C.4 (Figures for 1972 are given in parenthesis for comparison)

No. of sessions	No. of attendances by children	No. of Defects Treated (new cases only)
501 (505)	5,673 (6,045)	1,497 (1,630)

The primary purpose of the Minor Ailment Clinics is to provide immediate treatment for any child thought by school teaching staff to require medical attention. The majority of children attending are suffering from minor bruises and cuts, minor skin, or foot conditions.

OPHTHALMIC CLINICS

The following table shows the number of children (including a small number of pre-school children) attending local Ophthalmic Clinics during the year.

TABLE C.5 (Figures for 1972 are given in parenthesis for comparison)

No. of sessions	No. of attendances	No. of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed
74 (57)	689 (782)	247 (330)

SPEECH THERAPY

A Speech Therapist (Miss G. Bradley) was appointed on 20th August, 1973 to cover Division 14 and Middleton. She attended Durnford Clinic on Wednesdays and also visited the Schools in the Middleton area. From 20th August, 1973 to 31st December, 1973, 104 Middleton children were seen by the Speech Therapist.

CONVALESCENCE

Convalescent arrangements made for children through the School Health Services are free, as distinct from convalescence arranged for adults or pre-school children. In the case of school children, recommendations for convalescence are made by School Medical Officers if satisfied that, as a result of recent acute illness, the child would benefit from a period of supervised recuperation.

CHILD PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE

This service is based at 5 Durnford Street, Middleton (almost opposite the Durnford Street Clinic). Two Educational Psychologists (Senior - Mr. Flatman and Mr. Marinsson) are based at these premises and Dr. A. Pool, Consultant Psychiatrist usually attends there for two sessions each week (Monday and Wednesday afternoons).

Number of sessions held by Psychiatrist	95
Number of children seen for first time by Psychiatrist	30

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

The following table is a summary of the work carried out in the School Dental Service during the year:-

	<u>School Children</u>	<u>M. & CH.W. Cases</u>
1. Number of pupils inspected	2,240	36
2. Number found to require treatment	1,144	28
3. Number offered treatment	1,118	28
4. Number of individuals treated for first time during year	707	23
5. Attendances for treatment	2,490	71
6. Half days devoted to:-		
Inspection	18	-
Treatment	<u>400</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>418</u>	<u>11</u>

DENTISTRY

Throughout the year, only one full-time Dental Officer was in post and it was necessary that he divide his time between the two Dental Clinics at Langley and Lurnford Street.

Difficulty was also experienced in the recruitment of Dental Surgery Assistants to replace two who resigned the service during the year but at 31st December, 1973 one full-time Dental Surgery Assistant was in post working with the Dental Officer.

Both major clinics have completely equipped modern dental suites including dental x-ray units.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Certain categories of "Handicapped Pupils" are defined in the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations of 1953. Any child suspected of being handicapped is examined by a School Medical Officer under Section 34 of the Education Act, 1944. The School Medical Officer will then tender advice to the Education Committee as to any special schooling necessary.

The Alderman Kay School for educationally subnormal children is the only special school in the Borough and by the end of the year a total of 109 Middleton pupils were attending. In addition, there were a number of pupils from Education Division 20. The Education (Handicapped Children) Act 1970 transferred the responsibility for severely subnormal children to the Education Committee from the Health Committee. Middleton children in this group attend the Laurels Special School, Baytree Avenue, Chadderton.

With most categories of handicapped pupils, it should be possible for a child to attend a day special school but for some (e.g. epileptics or those suffering from the more severe degrees of physical disability) it is necessary to draw from a wider catchment area to secure sufficient pupils to justify the economic deployment of qualified teaching staff. Such schools are, therefore, normally residential.

During the year, 74 forms A.S.C.1 were received from head teachers and 6 children were referred from other agencies, relating to children thought to be retarded in school progress by reason of intellectual handicap. Such children are seen initially by an Educational Psychologist and then, if necessary, referred for medical opinion.

Of the 80 referrals at 31st December, the following action had been taken:-

- 19 children were referred to Medical Officer for examination under Section 34 of the Education Act.
- No children were referred for psychiatric opinion.
- 38 children were to remain at present schools.
- 14 children were awaiting Educational Psychologist assessment.
- 5 children were referred for remedial reading.
- 4 referrals were cancelled.

During the year, 18 examinations were carried out by Medical staff under Section 34 of the Education Act, usually following upon Educational Psychologist's report. As a result of these examinations:-

- 11 children were recommended to attend Special Day Schools for Sub-normal pupils.
- 2 children were recommended to attend Special Day Schools for Severely Sub-normal pupils.
- 5 children were recommended to attend Birch Tutorial Classes.

Pupils from the Borough were attending at the undermentioned special schools at 31st December, 1973:-

	<u>Day Schools</u>	<u>Residential Schools</u>
(a) Blind pupils	NIL	1
(b) Partially Sighted pupils	5	NIL
(c) Deaf pupils	5	5
(d) Partially Hearing pupils	4	NIL
(e) Epileptic pupils	NIL	3
(f) Physically Handicapped pupils	14	3
(g) Delicate pupils	6	6
(h) Day Spastic Centre	2	-
(i) Unit for Language Disorders	1	-
(j) Maladjusted pupils	21	11
(k) (i) Educationally Subnormal pupils ESN(M)	110	8
(ii) Severely Subnormal pupils ESN(S) (These are pupils attending the Laurels Special School, Chadderton)	34	-

PART D

THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department
Town Hall
Middleton
Manchester

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with some regret that I present this, my thirteenth and final annual report to the Committee - that for the year 1973 - having served as your Chief Public Health Inspector since April, 1961.

The year was an exceptional one in that it was the final run-up to the reorganisation in April, 1974 in which the Borough becomes part of the Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale - together with the Rochdale C.B., Heywood M.B., and the Littleborough, Milnrow, and Wardle U.D.C.'s. My own appointment as Chief Officer in the new authority's Environmental Health Department, and Mr. C. Kelly's designation as Deputy Chief Officer threw a tremendous burden upon the Middleton Health Department so that the very heavy work-load borne during 1972 was even further increased. The task of planning for a new organisation fell upon this small office, whilst the two senior officers were frequently and lengthily absent from their normal posts whilst attending innumerable vital meetings in Rochdale and elsewhere. The administrative staff again responded magnificently and my thanks are due to Mrs. Fielden, Miss Crossley, and Miss Wilkinson. The depleted public health inspectorate - Mr. Hollingworth, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Chadwick and Mr. Thomson - were also affected and whilst expressing my gratitude to all of them, I must particularly refer to Mr. Hollingworth who has been of immense help in the task of reorganisation planning, and Mr. Kerr, who has so willingly taken on the task of "work-horse" and without whom much of the work devoted to reorganisation would not have been possible.

During the year, the Department also organised and directed a House Condition Survey involving 1,100 dwellings in the constituent authorities of the Rochdale Metropolitan Borough, and in early 1974 Mr. Chadwick and Mr. Thomson undertook the lion's share of the house inspections - extending beyond the Middleton boundary.

Despite all this additional work, a creditable level of performance was achieved in the normal fields of activity, and the clean air programme was pressed forward.

The refuse collection service, although happily not bedevilled by unrest, again suffered badly from the shortcomings to which I referred in my report for 1972; the refuse disposal service again functioned with remarkable efficiency and the performance of the incinerator was again a credit to the Controller, Mr. Neumann, and his staff. Here too, I must thank the Foreman, Mr. Poulson, who has supervised all these services since 1960.

Many expressions of appreciation for the pest control service under the control of Mr. Whiteman were again received.

In drawing to the end of this last report I pay tribute also to my Deputy, Mr. C. Kelly. With the Council's consent, I have undertaken a number of onerous duties both locally and nationally; none would have been possible without Mr. Kelly's unstinting aid and assistance, and throughout my service with the Council I could not have wished for a better colleague.

I could not conclude, however, without especial reference to your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. G. R. Brackenridge. It is common knowledge in the service that in some areas the relationship between Medical Officers and Public Health Inspectors is - to say the least - an uneasy one. I consider myself fortunate to have served "under the general direction" of Dr. Brackenridge; our relationship has from the first been an excellent one, and the results of his desire for a partnership of equals is, I feel, evident in the Department's achievements over the past thirteen years.

I have benefited greatly from my association with Dr. Brackenridge and so too have my colleagues; I therefore express here my sincere appreciation to him, my regret that this happy and fruitful association is soon to end, and the best wishes of the entire staff for his future in the reorganised National Health Service.

Finally, I take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Committee for their encouragement and support during what - with some understatement - might be described as a difficult year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

A. T. TRAYNOR

Chief Public Health Inspector

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Middleton's sewage is conveyed through the main sewers of Manchester to Davyhulme Sewage Disposal Works for treatment by Manchester Corporation. Davyhulme Sewage Disposal Works is continually being improved and expanded and treats most of the sewage in the Greater Manchester area by means of the Activated Sludge Process.

The main sewers through the Borough are currently being re-appraised and works being undertaken to bring main sewers and overflows up to Royal Commission Standards.

With the exception of isolated farmhouses, the only areas of the Borough without proper drainage and sewerage are the villages of Birch and Bowlee.

A pail collection service is in operation and all pails are emptied twice weekly. Disinfectants and deodorants are utilised in the collection.

WATER SUPPLY

The town is supplied with water by the West Pennine Water Board. The supply is upland water of good quality.

Water supplies are drawn from the gathering grounds in the Cheesden and Naden valleys, north west of Rochdale. The Cheesden Valley feeds the Ashworth Moor reservoir, containing some 350 million gallons capacity, while the Naden Valley drains into three small reservoirs (total capacity 400 million gallons) and the large new Greenbooth reservoir, completed in 1964, with a capacity of 800 million gallons. Total main reservoir capacity is therefore some 1,550 million gallons.

The water is filtered through either of two filter stations (a) the Ashworth Moor Filter Station, containing 4 Permutit continuous filter tanks, which filters supplies from Ashworth Moor principally supplying Heywood or, (b) the Clay Lane Filter Station. This station has a store reservoir of 60 million gallons, a battery of 6 Permutit Caluminous filter tanks and takes supplies from Ashworth Moor and also the whole supply from the Naden Valley. There is a spill (open) reservoir for filtered water.

The Middleton service reservoir at Hatters Farm contains approximately 6 million gallons and constantly supplies the whole Borough by a "ring-main".

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The types and numbers of closets existing in the Borough at the end of the year were:-

Table D.1

Pail Closets	37
Waste Water Closets	190

Under the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Corporation offers to owners a grant towards the cost of conversion of waste water closets, etc., to fresh-water closets.

During the year 5 owners took advantage of this facility.

REFUSE COLLECTION

A work studied incentive Bonus Scheme is in operation.

There are in the Borough:

- 21354 Dustbins
- 237 Containers (1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cu. yd.)

REFUSE DISPOSAL

In 1905, the Authority constructed an Incinerator for the disposal of refuse. With the growth of the town, the annual tonnage of refuse collected became more than the Incinerator could handle.

By 1936, almost one quarter of the refuse was having to be tipped, and the Incinerator was finally closed down in 1937.

In June, 1938, a new Separation and Incineration Plant was officially opened. Again the growth of the town outstripped the capacity of the plant, and after 24 years, it was finally closed down in early 1962, being in need of complete renewal.

In 1966, the Council accepted the tender of Messrs. Motherwell Bridge (Tacol) Limited for the provision of a full incineration plant, to the design of Vereinigte Kesselwerke, A.G. of Dusseldorf, West Germany (the "Dusseldorf system") and a new Depot, including garages, stores, fitters shop, and store, paper baling buildings, sanitary and welfare facilities. Loan sanction in the sum of £364,274 was received.

The plant was officially opened by the Rt. Hon. Anthony Greenwood, M.P., Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 18th October, 1968. The buildings were taken over by the Council in May, 1969 and the Department moved into the new Depot, to enjoy facilities which it had never before experienced.

There was a flood of visitors to the plant, from local authorities, from professional bodies, from engineering consultants new to this field, and from various other Countries throughout the World; all were lavish in their praise for the Council in its pioneering work in this new phase of refuse disposal - now of course being followed by many local authorities all over Great Britain.

Since the 1st October, 1969, following an agreement between the two Authorities, the whole of the domestic refuse and some trade refuse arising in the Urban District of Royton has been processed in the Plant.

The tip at Alkington Park Road continued in use.

Table D.2

INCOME FROM SALES OF SALVAGED MATERIALS

	T.	C.	Q.	£
Waste Paper	770	11	0	9462.44
Baled Destructor Scrap ..	717	16	3	4420.07
	<u>1488</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>13882.51</u>

Table D.3

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The following tables give details of the various inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

	Inspections made etc.
Drainage Work	601
Conversions	20
Water Supply	91
Civic Amenities	69
Licensed Premises (PHA)	7
Tents, vans, sheds, caravans etc.	5
Schools	2
Workshops and workplaces	4
Outworkers	22
Hairdressers and barbers	2
Pet Shops	6
Accumulations	376
Factories	25
Bakehouses	2
Pest Control	148
Stables, piggeries, farms etc.	28
Houses	885
Investigation of Infectious Diseases and Disinfection	524
Verminous conditions and disinfestation ..	35
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	536
Total ..	3,388

(b) HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1969

Houses inspected	232
Life queries and searches	436
Investigations - overcrowding	45
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	389
Total ..	1,102

(c) FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Samples taken:-	
Milk for bacteriological analysis	4
Milk for chemical analysis	8
Other Foods for chemical analysis	169
Visits to:-	
Food preparing etc., premises	52
Dairies, milk shops, milk vehicles	68
Market and shops	157
Unsound food	104
Butchers shops	22
Fish and chip shops	17
Ice cream shops	2
Fishmongers and Poulterers	1
Greengrocers	4
Clubs	10

Restaurants and Confectioners	6
Grocers shops	48
Bakehouses	44
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	53
Schools	6
Wholesalers	81
Canteens	11
Street Vendors	8
Licensed premises	64
Total ...	<u>758</u>

(d) FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Factories	25
Outworkers	<u>134</u>
Total ...	<u>159</u>

(e) OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Visits	179
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(f) DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS 121

(g) PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rat Infestation	334
Mice Infestation	429

(h) CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Number of visits industrial	107
Number of visits on survey	1,178
Smoke observations	27
Inspections of work	412
Other visits	<u>1,092</u>
Total ..	<u>2,816</u>

Table D.4

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Year ended 31st December, 1973

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	Types of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	20,593	43
2. (a) Total number of properties (incl. nearby premises) inspected following notification	758	5
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	329	5
(ii) Mice	429	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reason other than notification	14	-
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	-	-
(ii) Mice	5	-

(i) CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

(a) Operative Smoke Control Areas:

The position at 31st December, 1973, was as follows:-

Acres	Total Premises	Dwellings
3,211 (62%)	10,947 (53%)	10,689 (61%)

(b) Smoke Control Areas - Confirmed by Ministry but not operative:

Middleton No. 21 (Rochdale Road) 53 (Acres) 509 (Premises) 500 (Dwellings)

INDUSTRY:

107 visits were paid to industrial premises either as routine or to inspect alterations and fitting of equipment, and in connection with smoke emissions.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956. SECTION 3

There were 2 notifications of intention to instal furnaces over 55,000 Btu's hr.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1968. SECTION 6

Three applications for prior approval of chimney heights were made and granted.

POLLUTION INVESTIGATIONS:

The Corporation is a Member Authority of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution and Noise.

This body again did much valuable work during the year and the seventh annual revision of the Schedule of Standard Costs of Conversion was carried out in June.

Two volumetric smoke and sulphur dioxide measuring apparatus is maintained in the district; the readings taken are passed to the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Ministry of Technology.

MISCELLANEOUS VISITS

Atmospheric Pollution	290
Fairs and Markets	148
Interviews with owners, builders etc.	342
Public Conveniences	738
Refuse Collection and Disposal	601
Improvement grants	213
Land charge searches	490
Noise nuisance	58
Total	2,880

Total number of visits 11,866

COMPLAINTS

Number of complaints during the year 959

NOTICES

Nuisances found	289
Nuisances abated	217
Verbal notices given	134
Verbal notices complied with	121
Informal notices served	119
Informal notices complied with	92
Statutory notices served	52
Statutory notices complied with	46

Table D.5

INDUSTRY: FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Defects found	14
Defects remedied	13
Written notices served	14
Verbal notices given	-

Table D.6

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

(a) Number of Council houses found to be infested ...	14
Number of Council houses disinfected	14
(b) Number of other houses found to be infested	6
Number of other houses disinfected	6

Premises are treated by spraying with DDT or BHC in either kerosene or water formulations, Malathion and Gammexane Emulsion conc. are also used.

THE CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967 AND THE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF VEHICLES REGULATIONS, 1968

Upon receipt of a complaint concerning a vehicle which has been found apparently abandoned within the Borough, an inspection is made to determine whether the vehicle is a 'wreck' or a 'runner'.

If a 'wreck', a notice is affixed to the vehicle, advising the owner that, unless it is removed within seven days, arrangements will be made for its removal and subsequent destruction. If the vehicle is not removed in compliance with the notice, and the owner is traced, he is sent an account for the sum of £2.00.

If, however, the vehicle is a 'runner', the owner is asked to remove it, or to submit the registration book, together with a letter requesting the Corporation to dispose of the vehicle.

The Department also operates a service for the 'voluntary surrender' of unwanted vehicles. No charge for this service is made.

The Corporation has an agreement with a Contractor to remove abandoned and scrap vehicles from within the Borough at a charge to the Contractor of 50p. for each vehicle which he is able to tow away.

Table D.7

The following 'wrecks' were dealt with under the above legislation during 1973:-

Notices affixed	Vehicles removed by owner within 7 days	Vehicles removed by Contractor
38	18	20

In addition, 16 vehicles were voluntarily surrendered to the Local Authority.

Table D.8
Summary of Progress of
Housing Programme in 1973

HOUSING

STATISTICS

Number of new houses erected during the year	1973 Figures	
	Traditional permanent houses	Flats
1. By the Local Authority	-	27
2. By other Local Authorities	-	-
3. By other bodies or persons	147	-
Total number of dwellings owned by any Local Authority, existing in district at end of year		
		8,639

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) 940
- (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal made for the purpose 1586

2. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas:-

	Houses Demolished 1973	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	93)		
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	-)	270	90
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act 1957	-)		

3. HOUSING ACT, 1949 AND HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958, IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, ETC.

Action during year:	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of dwelling houses or other	No. of buildings affected	No. of dwelling houses or other	No. of buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	-	188	-	-
(b) Approved by local authority	-	184	-	-
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	-	-	-	165
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-	-	165
(e) Work completed	-	136	-	113
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (c) above	-	4	-	-

HOUSING ACTS 1936-1957

Summary of Properties Included in Clearance or
Compulsory Purchase Orders in 1973

No. of Area	Designation of Area	No. of Properties Involved
1	Top O' Middleton C.P.O. (1973)	43
2	The Wood Street C.P.O. (1973)	15
3	Parkfield C.P.O. (1973)	42
4	Slattocks C.O. (1973)	12
	Total	112

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Food and Drugs Acts

The number of samples submitted for analysis during the year was 175, 41 of which were found to be adulterated.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS WHERE LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS TAKEN - 1973

There were 57 food complaints during the year, proceedings were taken against 6, 2 are pending and the remainder were dealt with informally.

Case No.		Fine	Costs
8/73	Mouse dropping in chicken sandwich	£275	-
12/73	Wasp in tin of peas	£ 10	-
13/73	Fly in sliced loaf	£ 25	-
21/73	Matchstick in Meat and Potatoe Pie	£ 25	-
42/73	Insect in peas	£ 35	-
44/73	Mice dropping in custard	£ 75	-
	Total	£445	-

Table D.9

MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

Number of registered distributors operating from:-

- (a) Dairies in the District 10
- (b) Shops in the District other than dairies 143

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1965

Number of dealers' licences in force at end of year in respect of:-

- (a) Pasturising Plant (Reg. 12 (1) (b)) 1
- (b) Sterilising Plant (Reg. 12 (1) (b)) -
- (c) Pre-packed milk (Reg. 12 (1) (c)) 158

(d) Untreated milk 5
 Terberculin tested milk (Reg. 12 (1) (d)) -

MILK SAMPLING

Four samples of milk were sent for analysis and all proved satisfactory.

The majority of farms in the District have herds which are registered under the Brucellosis (Accredited Herds) Scheme. This decreases considerably the number of samples which need to be taken.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	216	25	9	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	219	25	9	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	9	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Out-work) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Total	14	13	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel Making etc.	89	-	-	-	-	-
Household Linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed Toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Xmas Crackers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	89	-	-	-	-	-



