

[Report 1951] / Medical Officer of Health, Northwich U.D.C.

Contributors

Northwich (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1951

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/pb7hjcqz>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

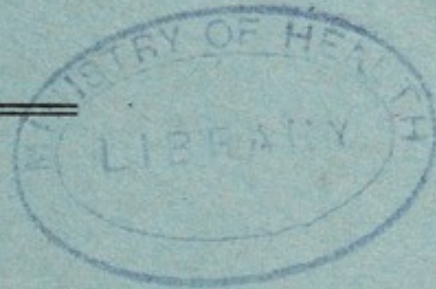
Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY

Northwich Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended 31st Dec., 1951.

NORTHWICH:

W. HOBSON & SON, LTD., PRINTERS.



Northwich Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended 31st Dec., 1951.

NORTHWICH:

W. HOBSON & SON, LTD, PRINTERS.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29922100>

Northwich Urban District Council.

Health Report for 1951.

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

Mesdames and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1951.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	2,137 acres
Population — Registrar-General's latest estimate of population	...	...	...	...	...	17,160
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	5,432
Rateable Value (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	£126,404
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£496

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	Legitimate ..	232	119	113	} Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	14·10
	Illegitimate ..	10	7	3		
Still Births	Legitimate ..	4	2	2	} Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ..	16·26
	Illegitimate ..	—	—	—		
Deaths..	..	259	144	115	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ..	15·09
					After adjustment by the Comparability Factor ..	15·09

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1000 live births	..	..	..	..	45·45
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	43·10
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	100·00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	39
.. .. Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	—
.. .. Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	—

The following table compares the main statistics for 1951 with the years 1940-1950:—

Year.	Popu- lation	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	No. of Deaths from Cancer	No. of Deaths from Tubercu- losis
1940.	18,730	14.89	14.48	73.68	32	16
1941.	18,690	15.14	11.28	48.44	28	13
1942.	18,290	15.14	11.31	57.76	33	9
1943.	18,130	18.42	12.18	47.90	32	7
1944.	18,070	17.43	14.27	41.26	40	13
1945.	18,130	19.02	13.67	60.86	32	8
1946.	19,150	21.14	12.95	46.91	38	13
1947.	19,580	20.02	11.54	40.81	32	1
1948.	19,230	18.09	11.18	28.73	41	9
1949.	18,810	17.33	12.59	39.87	28	8
1950.	18,330	13.64	13.42	32.00	40	—
1951.	17,160	14.10	15.09	45.45	39	4

CAUSES OF DEATH — 1951.
(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables).

	MALES.	FEMALES	TOTAL.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	1	4
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1
4. Diphtheria...	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough...	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis...	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	4	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus...	11	—	11
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms...	7	9	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
16. Diabetes	2	—	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	15	22
18. Coronary disease, angina	12	9	21
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease	25	35	60
21. Other circulatory disease	7	8	15
22. Influenza	8	3	11
23. Pneumonia	8	4	12
24. Bronchitis	10	4	14
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	6	1	7
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis...	1	3	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	2	—	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	18	11	29
33. Motor vehicle accidents...	1	—	1
34. All other accidents	2	1	3
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	144	115	259

The steady reduction in the population of the Northwich Urban District in the last five years, viz., 19,580 in 1947 to 17,160 in 1951, is no doubt the outcome of the Urban District Council's solid effort to re-house their residents in the best possible environment. This in many cases has resulted in the wholesale movement of families living in undesirable and crowded circumstances in the Town to Urban Council houses erected in the more open environments of the adjoining Rural District.

From a public health standpoint, there is much to be said for this enlightened attitude on the part of the Council in giving their younger people and their families the chance to live away from the crowded sub-standard town houses. What the urban area suffers by way of reduced population is balanced by the gain in well-being of the town's former residents.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(A) Provided by the District Council.

(1) Staff.

W. S. Slater, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts, the County Council and N. & M-C. H.M.C.).
Clerical Staff.	1 person (whole-time).	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts).
T. Baines, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods.	Senior Sanitary Inspector.	(Northwich Urban Dis- trict Council only).
F. Johnson, M.S.I.A., Cert R.S.I. Meat and other Foods.	Additional Sanitary Inspector.	-do-
F. Lamb.	Junior Assistant	-do-
G. Dutton	Junior Clerk	-do-

(2) Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Services in Manchester, which are provided free of charge to the Northwich Urban District Council, proved adequate during the year.

(3) Environmental Services.

Details of the other Services, e.g. Sanitary and Housing Inspections, Food Examinations, etc., etc., provided by the Northwich Urban District Council are recorded later in this report.

(B) Isolation Hospital Services.

Davenham Isolation Hospital, under the North and Mid-Cheshire Hospital Management Committee provided Hospital treatment for the area's infectious cases and during the year admitted 17 patients from the Northwich Urban District.

(C) Provided by the County Council.

The Cheshire County Council have Officers discharging duties in the Urban Area under the following Services:— School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, School Dental, Health Visiting, Weights and Measures Inspection, Specialist Services, e.g. Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Home and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, etc., etc.

(D) Provided by the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee (under the auspices of the County Council).

The Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee provided the following Services:—

(a) Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.

The work done during the year 1951 in Northwich Urban District is detailed as follows:—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

No. of children who have completed treatment during 1951 154

In addition, 28 booster injections were given.

Vaccinations.

No. of children who have been vaccinated during 1951 140

Immunisation against Whooping Cough.

No. of children who have been treated during 1951 ... 13

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme was curtailed during the year owing to the prevalence of Infantile Paralysis in the country. It was thought advisable to discontinue mass immunisation from August to October.

A certain number of children received the protective treatment at their own Doctor's Surgeries and at home. The protective treatments against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Smallpox remain a free service under the National Health Service Act.

(b) Sitting Case Car and Ambulance Service.

The service provided in the area, primarily for Mid-Cheshire, has dealt with the Northwich Urban cases expeditiously and without serious complaint throughout the year.

(c) Prevention of Illness — Care and After Care.

A variety of medical equipment and comforts were provided for the use of the sick in a number of homes during the year.

(d) Domestic Help Service.

Domestic Helps have been provided during 1951 in the local households, chiefly for confinements, for old age patients unable to gain admission to Hospital, and in cases of sickness of the housewife, e.g., Tuberculosis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, etc.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—The water services are under the control of the Mid & South East Cheshire Water Board.

During the course of the year, 16 samples of the Town's water supply were submitted to the Laboratory for bacteriological or chemical examination. All but two samples were reported upon satisfactorily. These came ex Heyeswood Reservoir and received the attention of the Board, with the result that subsequent samples were in order.

Swimming Bath.—The plant installed in 1950 has maintained the improvement of the water in the baths during the year 1951.

The number of actual bathers using the swimming baths during the season of 1951 was 44,640. Of this number, 13,824 were children from the various schools in the district, who attended in organised parties.

Four bacteriological examinations of the water in the Town's Swimming Bath were submitted to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory and all were reported upon satisfactorily.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. — There is no change to report, as this is a matter which is closely connected with the pollution of the rivers.

Rivers Pollution.—There is no change in the position with regard to the pollution of the River Dane from that reported last year, but preliminary work is in hand for the preparation of a scheme involving the system of sewerage and disposal over the whole district. The new development of the town centre is also closely connected with the scheme.

Closet Accommodation. — During the year, 18 conversions of pail-closets to the water-carriage system were carried out, thus completing the contract for conversions.

The number of pail-closets now remaining will be diminished as property is dealt with under the Housing Act, 1936, and within the next two years there should be less than 30 in existence throughout the district.

The number remaining in the district at the end of 1951 is as follows:—

(1) Attached to properties scheduled for demolition	...	52
(2) Attached to properties where drainage is impracticable	...	17
(3) Premises to be dealt with	... ..	2
(4) Awaiting conversion by contract	... ..	—
		—
	Total ...	71
		—

Schools.—The school premises in the district are the responsibility of the County Education Committee, but it is the intention of the Sanitary Inspector to visit them all during the coming year, and in co-operation with the education authorities he hopes to effect improvements in the amenities, washing facilities, sanitation, etc., where necessary.

Factories.—Close contact is maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories, and in spite of labour and material shortages, every opportunity is taken to push forward schemes for improvement in sanitation, washing facilities, lighting and ventilation, and other amenities for the benefit of the workers.

Public Cleansing.—Mr. Baines, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows:—

“The collection of refuse can be regarded as highly satisfactory. The labour question is the greatest difficulty, but in spite of this, a regular weekly collection is in existence throughout the district. This service, although not spectacular, is one that is essential and the public appreciate the regularity with which their dustbins are emptied.

It is estimated that some 6,500 dustbins are emptied weekly, and what is surprising is the fact that, on an average, less than 10 complaints per week are received.

A new 10 cu. yard Dennis Vehicle was purchased in September, 1951.

Whilst some improvement in tipping was noticeable, trouble still continued from the firing of the tip by irresponsible people. Another difficulty is the tipping at week-end of various types of trade refuse. In spite of these handicaps, aggravated by the lack of suitable covering material, fewer complaints have been received of nuisances from the refuse tip.

The tip is situated off Manchester Road, and it has become apparent that another site is necessary.

The Council proposes to try and acquire a site which will allow the refuse from Castle and Winnington areas to be disposed of, and eventually, when the site has been filled up, it could then be used as a sports field, open space, or for such other purpose as may be decided upon ultimately.

In order to dispose of refuse in the best possible manner, the Council is to consider the question of 100% controlled tipping. Since this is likely to involve the purchase of mechanical equipment, the matter will be considered when the proposed new tipping site is under discussion.

The system of supplying dustbins out of the general rate has continued to prove satisfactory, the greatest difficulty has been to obtain good quality bins.

The salvage figures show how prices for paper soared during the year. Whilst this was excellent from an income point of view, it was not possible to gain full benefit owing to strong competition from many interests outside.

During the year the Council agreed to purchase an electric waste-paper baler, but in view of the difficulty in obtaining suitable electric power at the present depot, the purchase has been deferred until a new depot is erected."

The figures and amounts of salvage collected and disposed of during 1951 are as follows:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	173	19	0	2,401	14	2
Salvage other than Waste Paper	117	15	2	461	4	2
Total ...	291	14	2	2,862	18	4

Recreational and Open Spaces. — Under this heading, the Engineer and Surveyor of the Council reports:—

"In commemoration of the Festival of Britain, the Council laid out two hard tennis courts and a crown bowling green at the Vickersway Park, and a football pitch on the River Bank Improvement Scheme.

During 1951 work on the Castleton Slopes Development Scheme was confined to the layout of the land adjoining the entrance gates in Castle Street, and included the kerbing of the entrance drive, flagging of the surround to ornamental garden and the turfing of adjoining areas.

The Council decided to provide children's playgrounds in James Street and on the Parkfield Estate. A prefabricated concrete cricket pitch was purchased by the Council and the pitch is laid out on the Church Walk Playing Field during the summer months."

Offensive Trades.—No action has been necessary in connection with Offensive Trades, but arrangements are still being made to provide suitable sites away from the centre of the town, for the existing marine store dealers.

Rodent Infestation.—It has not been necessary to take any statutory action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, during the year.

A free rat and mice service is available to the public, except at business premises. This service encourages the public to report any evidence of infestation.

During 1951 a total of 49 private dwellings and 13 Local Authority premises were treated on one or more occasions for rat

and mice destruction. It is particularly pleasing to report that the refuse tip is comparatively free from infestation.

Contracts for regular treatment at 15 business premises in the district were entered into. There is no doubt that the regular treatment given under these contracts has a great effect on the prevention of infestations.

Rat Destruction in Sewers.—The sewers are test-baited for the presence of rats, and although the manholes treated were situated throughout the district, these baits were not taken and it is assumed, therefore, that the sewers are free.

The Sewage Works at Winnington are regularly treated, and although the infestation varies from time to time, there is no reason to suppose that there is any real or permanent infestation.

Common Lodging Houses. — There are only two of these premises in the district, and there is every reason to think that their use will be discontinued in the coming months and the property demolished.

Canal Boats.—No new canal boats were registered during the year. There are 30 boats registered with the Authority.

Licensed Camping Sites.—There are no licensed camping sites in the Northwich Urban District. One application was received but no licence granted, as the site was considered to be unsuitable.

From the repeated occupation of land in one area by Hawkers and gipsies, it is apparent that the Council will have to consider strong action to clear the site permanently.

The occupants of these caravans come into the District for varied periods, but often leave before any action can be taken against them for creating a nuisance. The only remedy would be to close the sites and prevent access, since they sometimes occupy the land without the owner's permission.

Disinfestation of Premises.—During the year, 52 premises were treated for various insect infestation, i.e., bugs, beetles, ants, wasps, etc. This service is carried out by the Health Department and every encouragement is given to people to report any infestation in order that the necessary treatment may be carried out. No charge is made.

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.—This Act came into force on 1st November, 1951 and the Northwich Urban District Council is responsible for its local administration.

Only one factory in the district is affected and this was registered for manufacture.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Statement of Inspections made and Notices Issued.

(Based on Statement made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Nature of Inspections made	Num-ber.	Number of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices.			
		Statu-tory.	Infor-mal.	Notice compli-ed with	Remai-ning in hand.	Prosecutions	
						Institu-ted	Pend-ing
1. Dwelling Houses (general inspection)	1616	..	139	110	29	..	..
2. Cellar Dwellings .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Back-to-Back Houses	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	71	..	13	12	1	..	..
5. Courts, Yards, Passages .. .. .	—	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Pail Closets	9	..	9	9	..	..	..
7. Cesspools .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. House Drainage	147	..	43	43	..	..	..
9. Ditches, Watercourses	12	..	1	1	..	..	..
10. Offensive Accumulation	32	..	9	9	..	..	..
11. Keeping of Animals	4	..	1	1	..	..	..
12. Offensive Trades	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. (a) Slaughterhouses (Public) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. (Private) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Other Places where food is produced or sold	527	..	6	6	..	..	..
14. Piggeries	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
15. (a) Dairies	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Cowsheds .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Milkshops	27	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. (a) Factories	49	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Workshops .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Workplaces .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(d) Outworkers' Premises	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Bakehouses (Overground)	79	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. (Underground) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Common Lodging Houses	18	..	..	..	..	..	..
19. Houses let in Lodgings .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20. Smoke Nuisances .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21. Canal Boats .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22. Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits	93	..	..	..	..	..	..
23. Miscellaneous	312	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3029	..	221	191	30	..	..

FACTORIES INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		In-spections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	20	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	93	108	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	106	128	5	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

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

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Provision of New Houses.—53 permanent houses were erected and occupied during the year. Of this total, 44 houses were erected by the Council on the Manor Park Estate and 8 houses on the Council's Leftwich Housing site. Also, 1 house was erected by Private Enterprise.

All construction work on the Council's Manor Park Estate was completed, including roads and sewers.

Housing Act, 1936. — During the year, 34 dwellings were represented under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and 1 under Section 12. Demolition Orders were made in the case of the 34 dwellings and a Closing Order in 1 case.

The tenants of all these houses were re-housed by the Council and the demolition of the properties is proceeding.

In common with many other districts, great difficulties are being experienced in getting essential repairs carried out. There appears to be no immediate solution to the problem, which is a national one and not confined to Northwich.

It is not uncommon for an owner to ask for his property to be condemned as unfit in order that he may be relieved of what has become a liability.

There is still a shortage of skilled labour and certain materials, so that the process of getting property repaired is often slow and calls for much patience. Much time is spent in persuading owners to carry out repairs, and it has not been necessary therefore to serve any statutory orders to comply with repair notices.

There is complete co-operation with the Housing Department, and it is often possible to deal with an unfit house under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936, which might otherwise become empty and be sold or re-let.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Northwich Urban District Council remains the responsible Authority for the registration of milk distributors and their dairies, except when the distributor is also a milk producer.

There are 19 milk distributors operating in Northwich and 1 registered dairy.

The Northwich Urban District Council is also responsible for granting licences authorising milk distributors to use the special designations "Tuberculin Tested," "Accredited" and "Pasteurised."

The following licences were granted to milk distributors in 1951:—

- 7 licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk.
- 5 licences to sell Pasteurised Milk.

Supplementary Licences:—

- 3 licences to sell Tubeculin Tested Milk.
- 4 licences to sell Pasteurised Milk.

At Castle Park Dairies, there is a Pasteurising Plant which is licensed by the Cheshire County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

Milk Sampling.—During the year under review, 46 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, as follows:—

	Satisfactory
2 Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
8 T.T./Pasteurised Milk	8
29 Pasteurised Milk	27 + (1 void & 1 unsatisfactory)
7 Ungraded Milk	6 + (1 unsatisfactory)

There is no legal standard for ungraded milk and the 1 ungraded milk sample was considered unsatisfactory by comparison with the standards laid down for raw graded milk.

In addition, 10 samples were submitted for Tuberculosis examination, all samples proving negative.

The milk supply in this town can be considered to be very satisfactory. Few samples fail the prescribed tests and when failures do occur, the source of the trouble is ascertained and corrected.

Most local dairymen are co-operative and have a strong appreciation of their obligations to the public to provide milk which is clean and safe to consume.

(b) **Ice Cream.**—Ice cream still continues to be a popular commodity and is no longer a summer refreshment, but consumed, often as part of a meal, all the year round. At Northwich the manufacture and sale of ice cream is controlled by the Council, which is responsible for the administration of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, and the appropriate sections of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year, 6 new registrations were granted and the position at the end of 1951 was as follows:—

Registered premises for the sale of ice cream	46
Registered premises for the sale and manufacture of ice cream	3
Total	49

The Methylene Blue test is still employed as an indicator of cleanliness of ice cream, and during 1951 12 samples were submitted for examination, with the following satisfactory results:—

Grade I	...	...	...	11 samples
Grade II	...	...	...	0 samples
Grade III	...	...	...	1 sample
Grade IV	...	...	...	0 samples

(c) Food Inspection

(i) **Meat and Meat Products.** — The private slaughterhouses were closed in 1939 and subsequently, all slaughtering was transferred to Winsford, and all meat has to be transported into Northwich from the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse and Depot at Winsford.

Both Sanitary Inspectors are qualified Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods, and although there is no longer any inspection at slaughterhouses, they keep an eye on meat and other foods exposed for sale in retail shops. It has been possible, from time to time, to secure improvement of the quality of meat allocated to local butchers.

From time to time, one hears complaints about the present arrangements for centralised slaughtering and vague rumours that a return to the use of the private slaughtering under the pre-war system is likely. Most of the complaints of the present system which we hear relate principally to the handling and transport of meat from the Winsford depot to the local shops. I feel that we would hear no more complaints of this nature if only butchers themselves, with their own competent staffs, were allowed to collect their meat at the Winsford depot, using their own vehicles.

(ii) **Fried Fish.** — There are 22 registered premises for the frying of fish.

(iii) **Bakehouses.** — The 30 bakehouses in the district are satisfactory and steps are taken at every opportunity to bring about improvements wherever necessary.

64 routine inspections were made during the year.

(iv) **Other Foods.** — During 1951, a total of 1 ton 18 cwt. 45 lb. of food of all kinds was condemned or surrendered as unfit by traders at local shops, cafes and canteens. A very noticeable and regrettable feature was the large amount of imported tinned boiled ham.

In accordance with a Circular letter issued by the Ministry of Food in October, 1951, notices have been displayed in all food stores, etc., requesting customers not to bring dogs into premises in which food is sold. These notices were generally welcomed by the business proprietors concerned.

(v) **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.** — Two licences were renewed for the Slaughter of Animals, the number now in operation being 5.

In addition, the following, based upon a statement by the County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples obtained in the Northwich Urban District during the year 1951:—

Name of Sample	Number obtained	No. adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Beef and Ham Paste	2	—
Blancmange Powder	1	—
Boracic Powder	1	—
Bread (White)	2	—
Castor Oil	1	—
Coconut (Desiccated)	1	—
Coffee (Ground)	1	—
Cornflour	1	—
Fish Paste	1	—
Friars Balsam	1	—
Jam	1	—
Jelly (Table)	2	—
“Koray” Tablets (Drug)	1	—
Lemonade	1	—
Limeade	1	—
Milk (Fresh)	40	3*
Olive Oil	1	—
Pepper (White)	1	—
Saccharin Tablets	1	—
Zinc & Castor Oil Cream	1	—
Totals	62	3

* The three milks shown as non-standard were from one trader—a sample was purchased from a retailer and found to be 19.3% deficient in fat. Next day two corresponding “appeal to cow” samples were taken from the cows producing the milk and these were certified, respectively, as “naturally deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 7.5%,” “naturally deficient in fat to the extent of 1.6% and also 0.3% deficient in non-fatty solids.”

In view of this poor quality milk from the cows, the only action which could be taken against the seller was to caution him in respect of the original sample.

It is very satisfactory to note that, with the exception of the above milk, all the samples were found to be **genuine** in the Northwich Urban District.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

- (1) The incidence of Infectious Diseases, with the exception of Measles, was low, as may be gathered from the following table:—

Incidence of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during the year 1951.

DISEASES.	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	TOTAL DEATHS
Scarlet Fever	13	13	—
Pneumonia	34	—	12
Erysipelas	2	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Dysentery	13	—	—
Infantile Paralysis	—	—	—
Measles	302	3	—
Whooping Cough	89	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—

Copies of reports on all pathological specimens submitted by the local Doctors to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory are received by me. These are of great value in that immediate preventive measures can be put in hand by the Health Department where needed.

(2) TUBERCULOSIS.

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5 years ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-15 " ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 " ...	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 " ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 " ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55 " ...	3	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
55-65 " ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	10	6	2	1	3	1	—	—

During 1951, 15 cases were admitted to and 13 discharged from Sanatoria.

Number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years:—

1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
160	160	165	175	185	182	176	146	151	146	137	101

(3) DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

The disinfection of 34 homes and other premises was carried out during the year as follows:—

For Tuberculosis (plus steam disinfection of bedding) ...	14
For Infectious Diseases, etc. ...	20

I would like to say, in closing this report, how much I appreciate the help I have received from the Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1952.



