

[Report 1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Oldham County Borough.

Contributors

Oldham (England). County Borough Council. nb2004302054

Publication/Creation

1940

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ke5pfw7r>

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>



COUNTY BOROUGH OF OLDHAM

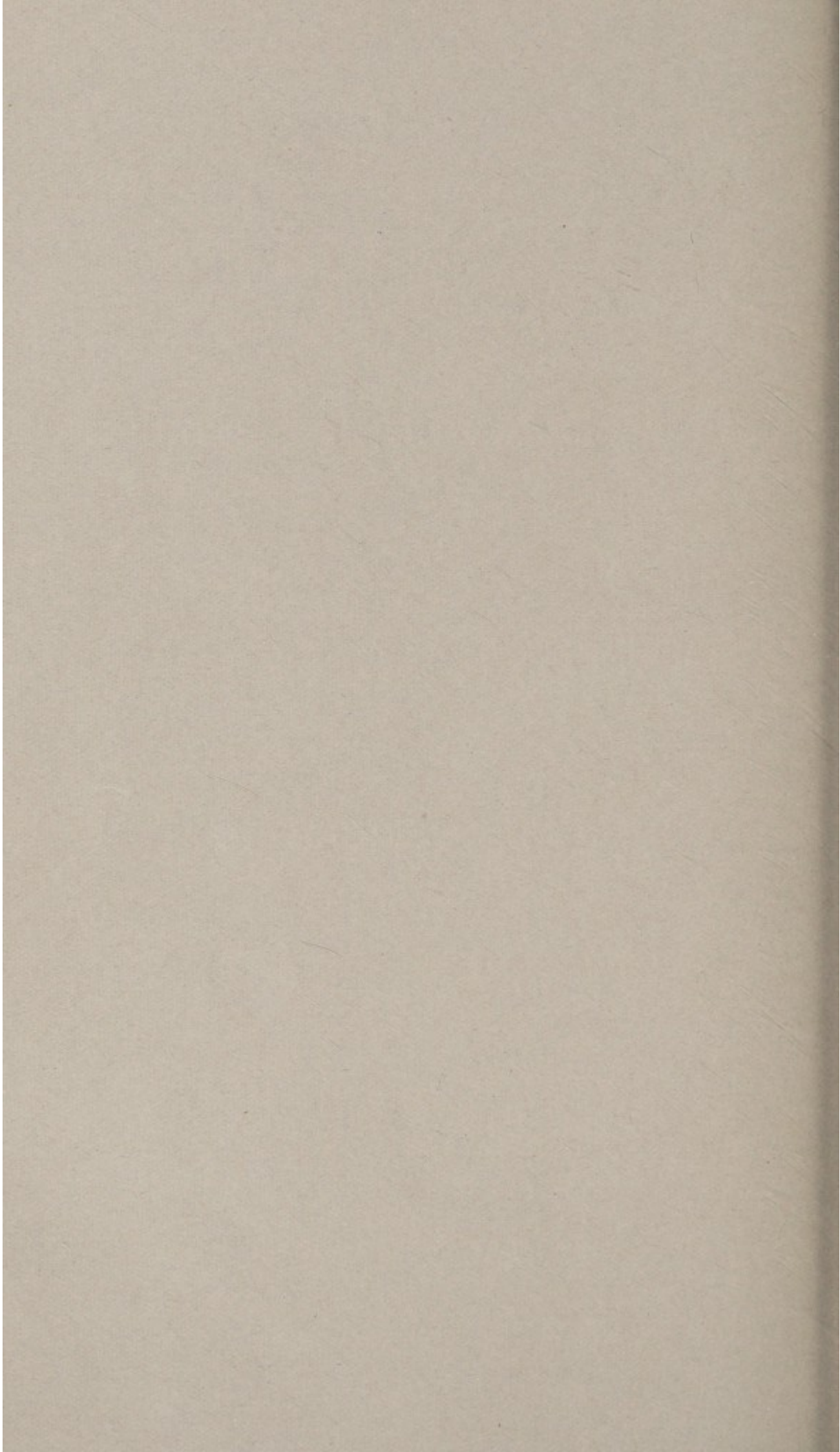
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH



1940





COUNTY BOROUGH OF OLDHAM

ANNUAL REPORT


OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH**



1940





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

<https://archive.org/details/b29937139>

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

	PAGE
Introduction 	4
Constitution of Committees 	6
Public Health Staff 	7
Summary of Statistics 	10
SECTIONS—	
I. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area ...	12
II. General Provision of Health Services for the Area	24
III. Maternity and Child Welfare... *... 	34
IV. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area... 	47
V. Housing 	60
VI. Inspection and Supervision of Foods 	67
VII. Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases 	73
VIII. Tuberculosis 	89
IX. Venereal Diseases 	101
Index 	102-104

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Oldham.

October, 1941.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my fifth Annual Report on the Health of Oldham and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1940.

The vital statistics will be found in the body of the Report and I would commend the various tables to your careful study. The Report covers the first complete year during which the population have lived under war conditions and it is gratifying to find that no serious effect is apparent in the health of the community.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases was low apart from an epidemic of Measles which occurred in the early part of the year and which was mild in character. Cerebro Spinal Meningitis showed no prevalence but one death occurred. Recent research and new methods of treatment have completely changed the outlook of this disease and in the majority of cases complete recovery is expected and results.

Diphtheria showed no increase but seven deaths were registered as due to this disease. Early in the year, an outbreak of paratyphoid occurred, cases being notified in Oldham and adjacent areas. Close co-operation with the Medical Officers of Health concerned resulted in prompt investigation being made of the suspected source.

The new maternity unit at the Municipal Hospital was completed and opened during the year and the Greenacres Home was closed. Prior to the opening of the unit the Health Committee interviewed representatives of the local Medical Practitioners and it was agreed that patients should be allowed to have their own

doctors in attendance provided they paid the full maintenance charges and the doctor's fees. This facility has been much appreciated by both patient and doctor, and allows practitioners to attend their patients under the best possible conditions.

Towards the end of the year following the resignation of the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, a Lay Administrative Officer was appointed and additional duties were placed upon the Assistant Medical Officers of Health, Dr. J. Starkie and Dr. H. S. Bagshaw. This arrangement has worked well, and enabled the medical staff to devote more time to purely medical duties. During the year, additional work has fallen on the staff owing to war conditions and the demands of Air Raid Precautions.

I wish to tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for their continued support and encouragement. My thanks are also due to all members of the staff, medical, nursing and clerical, for their loyal co-operation and assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. CHALMERS KEDDIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Health Committee

Chairman :

Councillor Marron.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor W. H. Taylor.

The Mayor :

Alderman Buckley, J.P.

Councillor Feber.

Councillor Bonney.

Councillor Glover.

Councillor Clough.

Councillor A. Tweedale.

Councillor G. A. Taylor.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee :

Consists of all the Members of the Health Committee, with
the addition of—

Mrs. Bainbridge, B.A.

Mrs. Jackson, J.P.

Mrs. Firth.

Miss Rothwell.

STAFF.

The Public Health Department:

Consulting Medical Officer of Health :

J. B. Wilkinson, M.D., C.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer :

Alex. R. M. Moir, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H. (To 31/3/40).

R. Neil Walker, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H. (1/4/40 to 15/11/40).

Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare :

Margaret J. T. Leitch, M.B., CH.B., M.M.S.A., D.C.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health and Assistant School Medical Officers :

Annie Mooney, L.S.A., D.P.H.

John Starkie, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Henry S. Bagshaw, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (From 8/1/40).

School Dental Officers :

Donald Gibson, L.D.S., Senior Dental Officer.

F. I. Wilson, L.D.S.

G. C. Kent, L.D.S.

Consultants to the Public Health Department :

H. Poston, M.B., M.CH., B.A.O., Orthopaedic Surgeon.

E. A. Gerrard, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.C.O.G., Obstetrician.

Neil MacInnes, M.A., M.B., CH.B., Ophthalmic Surgeon.

W. R. Cammock, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.(ED.), Aural Surgeon.

R. M. Maher, B.Sc., M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P., Physician (H.M. Forces, 24-10-40)

A. Graham Bryce, M.D., D.P.H., F.R.C.S., Thoracic Surgeon.

Public Vaccinators :

Dr. P. B. Murray.

Dr. A. S. McGowan.

Dr. T. D. Hunter.

Dr. H. G. Halliday.

Dr. W. Graham.

Dr. C. Thompson.

Public Analyst (Part Time) : S. Ernest Melling, F.I.C.

Sanitary Inspectors :

†*Harold V. Cass, Chief Inspector.

sp†*J. Brook, Deputy Chief Inspector.

*H. Waller.

†*H. Shaw.

*J. Crosdale.

†*V. C. Quin.

†*J. Mann.

†*S. Davies

h†*J. McKenna.

†*W. L. Leach.

Health Visitors :

- ‡*xa**Miss L. Pugh, Superintendent.
 ||*¶*Mrs. N. B. Gregoire. *¶*Mrs. M. A. Dyson.
*x*Mrs. M. Redfern. *ca*¶Miss N. Hanmer (H.M. Forces
ca¶Miss N. Sanderson (To 30/11/40). 16/2/40).
ca¶Miss S. Hawcroft (To 30/12/40). *ca*¶Miss M. M. Willis.
*x***ca*¶Miss F. Farrar (From 24/5/40). *xa*¶Mrs. F. Taylor (From 4/12/40).
 ¶Mrs. F. Wilde, Tuberculosis Nurse.

Lay Supervisor of Municipal Midwives :

- a*¶Miss J. H. Birtwell (From 30/5/40 to 11/12/40). *ma*¶Miss M. Fensom (From 9/12/40).

Municipal Midwives :

- xa*Miss A. Bailey. *xa*Miss M. Dowdall (To 21/7/40).
a¶Mrs. N. Davies. *a*¶Mrs. E. Crompton.
a¶Mrs. E. Lees. *a*¶Miss A. Winstanley.
a¶Miss B. T. Heathcote (To 21/7/40). *a*¶Miss A. Galvin (To 21/7/40).
*xa*Mrs. L. D. Eccles. *xa*¶Mrs. H. Wild (From 21/3/40).
a¶Mrs. C. Smith. *xa*¶Mrs. E. Dove (From 26/6/40).
a¶Miss M. Rainey (From 24/6/40).

School Nurses :

- a*¶Miss C. Wild. *¶a*Mrs. A. G. Willmott.
x||Mrs. E. Pendlebury. *¶a*Miss E. Johnson.
a¶Miss E. M. Metcalfe (From 3/1/40).

Massage Staff :

- Miss A. John, C.S.M.M.G., M.E., L.E.T., N.S.R., S.R.E.
 Miss H. I. Schofield, C.S.M.M.G., M.E., L.E.T.

Lay Administrative Officer :

- H. Allen Lord (From 18/11/40).

Vaccination Officer :

- E. Stansfield.

- * Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Sanitary Inspector).
 † Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Foods).
 s Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Smoke Inspector).
 p Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Sanitary Science & Public Works).
 h Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (General Hygiene).
 || Fever Trained Nurse.
 x General Trained Nurse.
 ¶ State Registered Nurse.
 a Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.
 c Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Health Visitor).
 ‡ Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Maternity and Child Welfare).
 y State Registered Children's Nurse.
 n Diploma in Nursing (Leeds).
 m Teacher's Diploma in Midwifery.
 x Temporary Staff.

The Municipal Hospital:

Medical Superintendent :

R. M. Maher, B.Sc., M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P. (H.M. Forces 24/10/40).

Acting Medical Superintendent :

A. H. Barber, M.A., M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. (From 24/10/40).

Visiting Staff :

R. A. Jackson, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Surgeon.
 W. R. Cammóck, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.(ED.), Aural Surgeon.
 Neil MacInnes, M.A., M.B., CH.B., Ophthalmic Surgeon.
 H. Poston, M.B., M.CH., B.A.O., Orthopædic Surgeon.
 E. A. Gerrard, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.C.O.G., Obstetrician.
 A. H. Richardson, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.M.R., Radiologist.

Resident Surgical Officer :

A. H. Barber, M.A., M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.

Resident Medical Officers :

E. Circuit, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (To 29/3/40).
 I. Libman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (To 18/11/40).
 A. Dunkerley, L.M.S.S.A.(LOND.), (To 23/3/40).
 L. M. McGrath, M.B., CH.B.(BELF.) (To 5/6/40).
 D. G. O'Sullivan, M.B., CH.B., B.A.O. (From 5/6/40).
 Cecile R. Doniger, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (From 21/9/40).
 M. Libman, M.B., CH.B. (From 1/12/40).
 H. Burton, M.A., B.M., D.R.C.O.G. (From 4/5/40).

Matron :

Miss E. Lewis.

Westhulme Hospital:

Resident Medical Officers :

H. S. Bagshaw, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (To 7/1/40).
 James L. Hill, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H. (From 1/1/40). (H.M. Forces
 4/7/40)
 I. Libman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.(From 18/11/40).

Matron :

Miss A. M. Busley.

Strinesdale Sanatorium:

Matron :

Miss I. C. Ball.

Greenacres Maternity Home:

Matron :

Miss J. H. Birtwell (To 17/10/40).

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1. General Statistics.

Area in Statute Acres (1931 census figure)	4,735 acres
Area fully developed or in course of development	3,639 acres
Enumerated Population (census 1931)	140,314
Registrar General's Estimate of Population, middle of 1940	118,400
Density of Population, i.e., Number of Persons per Acre (whole Borough)	25
Number of Houses in Borough, December, 1940	40,787
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1940)	36,500
Number of New Houses erected in 1940	85
Rateable Value (March, 1940)... ..	£687,894
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1940)	£2,514
Amount of Poor Law (Outdoor) Relief paid in 1940	£50,728

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	726	758	1,484
Illegitimate	27	31	58
	<hr/> 753	<hr/> 789	<hr/> 1,542
Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			13.02
Still Births : Legitimate	22	30	52
Illegitimate	2	1	3
	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 31	<hr/> 55
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			34.44
Deaths (Males 982, Females 968)			1,950
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			16.47
Death Rate (adjusted by R.G.'s A.C.F. figure, 1.00)			16.47

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (R.G.'s Short List)—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths
Puerperal Sepsis... ..	1	0.62
Other Puerperal Causes	9	5.62
Total	10	6.24

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 105

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	67.91
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	67.87
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	68.96

Death Rates per 1,000 population from—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.59
All Forms of Tuberculosis	0.75
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	2.83
Cancer	1.83
Principal Zymotic Diseases : Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, and Membranous Group	0.17

Death Rate from Diarrhœa and Enteritis of Children under 2 years of age, per 1,000 births	5.18
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	4
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	7
Deaths from Diarrhœa (children under 2 years of age)	8

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Oldham is situated in the County of Lancashire, on the south-western slopes of the Pennines. Its highest point is 1,225 feet and its lowest 350 feet above sea-level.

During the year trade has been brisk, and many works have been employed to full capacity. There is an almost continuous demand for juvenile labour, which cannot be satisfied. Towards the end of the year the demands on man-power began to be felt, and difficulties were experienced by many employers in obtaining suitable able bodied men.

Area and Population.

The area of the Borough is 4,735 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the Borough at the middle of 1940 is 118,400. This is 6,000 less than that for 1939, and shows that the population continues to diminish. At the 1931 census the population was 140,314.

Rateable Value.

The rateable value on the 1st April, 1940, was £687,894, and the sum represented by a 1d. rate £2,514.

Unemployment.

The following figures, showing the number of persons wholly unemployed or temporarily stopped, registered during each month of the year 1940, have been supplied (a) by the Manager of the Employment Exchange in respect of young men, young women (18 to 21 years), men and women, and (b) by the Juvenile Employment Officer in respect of boys and girls (14 to 18 years).

Poor Law Relief.

The total amount of outdoor relief expended in Oldham during the year was £50,728, as compared with £63,694 in 1939. The weekly average number of persons in receipt of out-relief was 2,111, comprising 1,452 cases. There were 855 admissions of Oldham persons to the Westwood Park Institution.

Health Insurance.

The total number of insured persons in Oldham on the 31st December, 1940, was approximately 68,959, or 58 per cent. of the total population. The number of insured persons is 1,567 less than at the corresponding period of the previous year.

Meteorology.

The system of daily observation at Alexandra Park and Strinesdale Sanatorium continued as usual during 1940. A summary of the findings is given in the table on pages 14 and 15.

WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED.								TEMPORARILY STOPPED.							
Month	Men	Young Men	Boys	Wo-men	Young Wo-men	Girls	Total	Men	Young Men	Boys	Wo-men	Young Wo-men	Girls	Total	Gross Total
January ...	2329	42	33	702	12	13	3131	552	26	45	153	8	12	796	3927
February ...	2132	32	27	604	6	14	2815	874	39	8	135	9	7	1072	3887
March	2075	25	43	530	5	12	2690	280	9	8	94	6	—	397	3087
April	1834	29	31	498	3	5	2400	183	4	1	116	4	3	311	2711
May	1640	22	12	458	6	2	2140	185	9	1	329	31	—	555	2695
June	1286	14	9	394	7	3	1713	150	2	1	122	3	—	278	1991
July	1093	15	31	482	14	14	1649	115	3	1	131	9	9	268	1917
August	971	14	45	395	10	19	1454	152	2	3	124	13	3	297	1751
September	933	35	24	341	8	21	1362	176	3	2	140	15	21	357	1719
October ...	876	30	29	405	11	18	1369	197	2	2	199	5	5	410	1779
November...	716	21	13	363	19	11	1143	209	1	5	140	6	1	362	1505
December	637	30	9	314	10	12	1012	105	3	4	108	2	2	224	1236
Monthly Average ...	1377	26	25	457	9	12	1906	265	9	7	149	9	5	444	2350

Weekly Means of Meteorological Observations for the Year 1940.

DATE	Barometer reduced to Sea Level at 32°	Thermometer	HYGROMETER		% of Saturation	TEMPERATURES								Rainfall 12 in. above ground	Number of Days on which rain fell	Clouds Covered—10 Clear—0	Sunshine recorded at Strinesdale
			Dry	Wet		Maximum in Shade.	Minimum in Shade	Maximum in Sun Black Bulb	Maximum in Sun Black Bulb in Vacuo	Minimum on Grass	Temperature 12 in. below surface	Temperature 4 ft. below surface					
1940																	
Jan. 6	29.76	34	34	34	100	39	26	32	44	22	35	40	—	0	6	20.50	
13	30.31	35	36	36	100	42	29	35	47	25	36	33	.06	3	8	16.40	
20	29.97	26	26	25	85	39	21	27	43	18	32	28	—	0	6	10.70	
27	29.92	31	32	30	77	33	22	30	42	22	34	35	.03	1	8	10.70	
Feb. 3	28.70	28	28	28	100	34	24	29	42	25	31	*	—	0	9	—	
10	28.81	34	34	34	100	35	26	29	43	23	29	*	.65	1	7	2.70	
17	29.57	28	28	28	100	49	21	25	48	20	34	*	—	0	6	11.55	
24	29.59	41	41	41	100	46	30	40	56	27	34	40	.40	3	8	4.60	
March 2	29.87	38	38	38	100	49	36	39	63	33	33	33	.23	3	7	19.95	
9	31.58	36	36	36	100	46	29	35	63	30	36	*	.22	4	8	20.55	
16	29.55	35	38	38	100	49	31	37	62	29	38	*	.97	6	9	4.85	
23	29.55	48	48	48	100	58	32	50	64	34	42	*	2.06	7	8	0.70	
30	29.66	43	43	43	100	51	32	46	80	28	44	*	.13	3	5	29.70	
April 6	29.57	47	47	47	100	52	36	46	73	34	43	42	.92	5	8	10.10	
13	30.06	44	44	43	92	50	32	45	78	30	44	46	.43	4	7	18.20	
20	29.56	41	41	41	100	54	32	42	82	32	42	42	1.24	4	6	24.50	
27	29.75	51	52	51	93	55	36	52	85	39	44	44	.45	3	7	2.17	
May 4	29.86	54	54	54	100	60	38	55	87	38	46	37	—	0	3	26.45	
11	29.93	55	55	55	100	62	34	56	86	40	52	53	.26	1	7	29.20	
18	30.12	51	52	52	100	61	42	56	80	40	49	50	.41	2	4	41.85	
25	29.93	61	61	60	94	64	40	62	100	44	54	55	.04	2	5	36.90	
June 1	30.15	59	59	58	94	64	44	60	98	38	49	51	.49	6	8	13.20	

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

There were 2,092 live births (1,034 males and 1,058 females) registered in the Borough during the year. After correction for inward (37) and outward (587) transferable births, the net total of births is 1,542 (753 males and 789 females).

The BIRTH RATE is 13.02 per thousand of the population, as compared with 12.5 for the previous year and 14.6 for England and Wales. The illegitimate live births numbered 58, or 3.76 per cent. of the total live births.

Stillbirths.

During the year 78 stillbirths were registered. After being adjusted by inward and outward transfers, the number is 55, giving a rate of 34.44 per thousand total live and stillbirths and .46 per thousand of the population, as compared with 54.51 and .72 respectively in 1939.

Marriages.

There were 1,329 marriages during the year, the rate per thousand of the population being 11.22. In 1939, the number was 1,173, the rate being 9.43.

Deaths.

During the year 2,359 deaths (1,210 male, 1,149 female) were registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (101) and outward (510) transferable deaths, the net total deaths is 1,950 (982 males and 968 females), an increase of 12 on the total for 1939.

The DEATH RATE is 16.47 per thousand of the population, as compared with 15.70 for the previous year and 14.3 for England and Wales.

Of the 1,950 deaths registered, 802 or 42.15 per cent. occurred in one or other of the following institutions:—

The Municipal Hospital	...	...	...	...	435
Westwood Park Institution	...	...	...	...	203
Oldham Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	...	108
Westhulme Hospital	...	...	...	...	35
Strinesdale Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	21

The table on page 21 shews the age, sex, distribution and causes of death in 1940. Of the total deaths, 994 or 49.69 per cent. occurred in persons aged 65 years or over.

The following are the chief causes of death in order of frequency:—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	551
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	217
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	206
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	177
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	106
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	89
Suicide and other violence	...	...	...	...	...	80
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	54
Arterial Disease	...	...	...	...	...	44

These groups of diseases represent 1,524 deaths occurring during the year, or 78.1 per cent. of the total deaths registered.

Maternal Deaths.

There were 10 deaths directly due to pregnancy or child-bearing, compared with 13 for the previous year. The maternal mortality rate is 6.24 per thousand live and stillbirths, as compared with 7.87 for the previous year and 2.16 for England and Wales.

Infantile Mortality.

There were 135 deaths (81 males and 54 females) of infants under one year of age registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (2) and outward (32) transferable deaths, the net total of infant deaths is 105 (61 males and 44 females), an increase of 10 on the total for 1939.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 67 per thousand births as compared with 60 for the previous year and 55 for England and Wales.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per thousand legitimate live births is 67.87, as compared with 60.26 in 1939.

Of the 105 infant deaths, 4 were those of illegitimate children. The death rate of illegitimate infants per thousand illegitimate births is 68.96, as against 71.4 for the previous year.

The table on page 23 gives the causes of death of children at various ages under one year. Of the 105 deaths, 48 occurred in infants under four weeks old, equivalent to a neo-natal mortality of 31.05 per thousand births.

The following table shows the neo-natal mortality, compared with the infantile mortality, during the last ten years :—

Year	Infant Deaths under one month	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	Total Infant Deaths under one year	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births
1931	109	56.53	203	105.29
1932	69	38.52	149	83.19
1933	65	38.32	120	70.75
1934	66	38.59	121	70.76
1935	58	34.05	106	62.24
1936	67	39.76	118	70.03
1937	60	35.61	115	69.00
1938	66	39.26	103	61.27
1939	47	30.08	95	60.86
1940	48	31.05	105	67.91

Vital Statistics of the Borough for the Year, and previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE BOROUGH		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE BOROUGH			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate.	of Non-residents not registered in the Borough	of residents not registered in the Borough	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 net Births		
1919	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1920	...	2294	2246	15.7	2390	17.2	225	56	213	95	2221	16.0
1921	143,154	3336	3312	23.6	2285	16.0	205	60	355	105	2140	15.0
1922	148,300	3149	3136	21.3	2333	15.9	207	52	341	109	2178	14.8
1923	148,300	2828	2835	19.3	2531	17.2	256	57	301	106	2332	15.8
1924	147,500	2633	2617	17.8	2560	17.4	264	56	289	110	2352	16.0
1925	147,300	2397	2433	16.3	2226	14.9	237	56	260	107	2045	13.7
1926	146,200	2279	2279	15.5	2376	16.1	255	65	236	103	2186	14.8
1927	143,000	2316	2338	16.1	2565	17.7	805	68	241	103	2328	16.0
1928	141,400	2104	2095	14.6	2249	15.7	281	86	181	86	2054	14.4
1928	143,200	2059	2044	14.1	2289	15.9	300	88	181	88	2064	14.4
Averages for years 1919-1928	.....	2539	2533	17.4	2380	16.4	303	64	259	101	2190	15.0
1929	142,500	1946	1887	13.2	2913	20.3	330	73	221	117	2646	18.5
1930	142,500	1956	1902	13.3	2277	15.9	309	88	134	70	1950	13.7
1931	141,900	2035	1928	13.5	2370	16.7	333	70	204	105	2035	14.3
1932	138,900	1992	1791	12.8	2305	16.5	347	60	149	83	1942	13.9
1933	136,700	1912	1696	12.4	2387	17.4	390	65	120	70	2049	14.9
1934	135,200	2007	1710	12.6	2317	17.1	331	64	121	70	1962	14.5
1935	133,300	1975	1703	12.7	2334	17.5	379	72	106	62	1947	14.6
1936	131,000	1991	1685	12.8	2295	17.5	419	78	118	70	1954	14.9
1937	127,800	2084	1685	13.1	2397	18.7	442	73	115	69	2028	15.8
1938	126,100	2088	1681	13.3	2157	17.1	410	69	103	61	1816	14.4
Averages for years 1929-1938	.....	1998	1767	12.9	2375	17.4	369	71	139	77	2033	14.9
1939	x124,400 *123,400	2125	1561	12.5	2300	18.6	442	80	95	60	1938	15.7
1940	118,400	2092	1542	13.0	2359	19.9	510	101	105	67	1950	16.4

Area of the Borough in Acres, 4,735. Average number of persons per house, 3.8.
 AT CENSUS OF 1931.—Total population at all ages, 140,314. Number of inhabited houses, 36,071.
 * Estimated for Deaths. x Estimated for Births.

Comparative Statistics of the Wards.

The table below sets out the principal vital statistics for the year in respect of the twelve wards in the Borough.

WARD	Census Population 1931	Area in Acres.	Density (Persons to an Acre).	No. of Nett Births Register'd	Birth Rate per 1,000 Populat'n	No. of Deaths under 1 yr. of age	Infantile Death Rate	No. of Nett Deaths Register'd	Death Rate per 1,000 Populat'n
St. Mary's.....	9,870	124	79.6	119	12.0	7	.7	132	13.3
St. Peter's	9,934	284	31.4	82	8.2	3	.3	136	13.7
Werneth	10,922	264	41.4	110	10.1	4	.3	165	15.1
Westwood.....	13,672	281	48.6	122	8.9	11	.8	194	14.1
St. Paul's	16,279	485	33.5	196	12.0	11	.6	231	14.2
Coldhurst	7,592	143	53.1	62	8.1	—	—	108	14.2
Hartford	11,662	202	57.7	125	10.7	9	.8	175	15.0
Hollinwood	12,126	417	29.0	150	12.3	9	.7	156	12.8
Clarksfield	16,015	652	24.5	211	13.2	22	1.3	235	14.6
Mumps	7,810	135	57.8	87	11.1	8	1.0	84	10.7
St. James'	10,218	967	10.5	114	11.1	6	.5	149	14.5
Waterhead	14,214	781	18.1	164	11.5	15	1.0	185	13.0

Comparative Statement of Vital Statistics for the Year 1940.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Local Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate		Death Rate from Phthisis	Death Rate from other Tubercular Diseases	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Births)		
				Year 1940	Average, Five Years 1935-1939			Puerperal Sepsis	Other Causes	Total
England & Wales ...	14.6	14.3	...	55	55	*	*	0.52	1.64	2.16
126 Great Towns ...	16.0	15.8	...	61	59	*	*	*	*	*
Birkenhead ...	18.7	16.1	16.9	79	68	0.8	0.09	0.76	1.54	2.3
Blackburn ...	12.0	17.2	1.03	77	64	0.68	0.02	1.47	2.20	3.67
Bolton ...	13.9	16.2	16.2	57	59	0.590	0.105	1.70	2.55	4.25
Burnley ...	12.42	17.36	16.66	72.4	67.9	0.66	0.15	...	6.41	6.41
Bury ...	12.62	16.93	16.24	65	59	0.30	0.10	...	1.32	1.32
Halifax ...	13.0	15.6	14.5	45	63	0.44	0.09	1.5	7.0	8.5
Huddersfield ...	12.47	15.60	15.13	75	61	0.47	0.08	0.625	3.125	3.75
Manchester ...	15.88	16.86	18.38	69.76	71	1.05	0.12	0.46	1.93	2.39
Oldham ...	13.02	16.47	16.47	67.91	64.68	0.59	0.16	0.62	5.62	6.24
Preston ...	15.77	16.07	16.72	91	73	0.58	0.074	0.55	4.97	5.52
Rochdale ...	12.37	18.17	17.44	89	65	0.95	0.14	...	1.78	1.78
Salford ...	16.6	19.1	21.2	76	79	1.1	0.17	...	2.3	2.3
St. Helens ...	18.0	13.4	16.1	78.2	77.5	0.65	0.12	...	1.02	1.02
Stockport ...	14.57	15.28	15.59	60.25	63.19	0.78	0.11	0.49	0.98	1.47
Warrington ...	17.9	13.9	16.1	65.0	72.0	0.7	0.06	2.19	2.9	5.1
Wigan ...	16.62	15.81	18.78	74	88	0.68	0.12	2.23	2.23	4.47
Wallasey ...	13.9	16.5	15.34	62.9	56.3	0.75	0.19	0.79	...	0.79

* Not available

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during the Year 1940.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages	0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
ALL CAUSES... ..	M	982	61	17	9	104	350	441
	F	968	44	17	13	101	265	528
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Cerebro-spinal fever	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
3 Scarlet Fever	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	...	1	...	...	1
4 Whooping Cough	M	5	4	1	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	2	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria	M	3	...	2	1	...	...	...
	F	4	...	2	2	...	...	...
6 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M	43	...	1	...	18	23	1
	F	27	...	...	...	22	5	...
7 Other tuberculous diseases	M	5	...	1	1	3	...	...
	F	14	...	2	5	6	1	...
8 Syphilitic diseases... ..	M	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
	F	2	1	...	...	1	...	...
9 Influenza	M	14	...	...	...	3	7	4
	F	10	...	...	...	2	4	4
10 Measles	M	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
	F	3	...	2	1	...	...	...
11 Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Acute infective encephalitis	M	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
13 Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus... ..	M	15	...	...	...	...	3	12
13 Cancer of uterus	F	13	...	...	...	3	5	5
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum... ..	M	27	...	...	...	2	15	10
	F	21	...	...	...	1	5	15
15 Cancer of breast	F	11	...	...	...	2	6	3
16 Cancer of all other sites	M	70	...	...	...	3	42	25
	F	60	...	...	...	4	24	32
17 Diabetes	M	5	...	...	...	1	2	2
	F	13	...	...	...	2	2	9
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions	M	74	...	...	...	...	26	48
	F	103	...	...	...	1	38	64
19 Heart diseases	M	264	...	...	1	15	80	168
	F	287	...	...	...	16	79	192
20 Other diseases of circulatory system	M	18	...	...	...	...	3	15
	F	26	...	...	...	1	4	21
21 Bronchitis	M	115	...	...	1	9	50	55
	F	91	3	1	...	5	23	59
22 Pneumonia (all forms)	M	65	17	5	1	6	22	14
	F	41	9	5	...	7	10	10
23 Other respiratory diseases	M	16	...	1	...	2	8	5
	F	7	...	...	...	1	3	3
24 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	16	...	...	...	6	8	2
	F	4	...	...	...	...	3	1
25 Diarrhoea (under two years)	M	3	2	1	...	...	...	...
	F	5	5	...	...	...	...	...
26 Appendicitis	M	4	...	1	...	1	2	...
	F	4	...	...	1	1	1	1
27 Other digestive diseases	M	23	2	...	...	2	12	7
	F	17	...	1	...	...	5	11
28 Nephritis	M	29	...	...	...	5	10	14
	F	25	...	...	...	4	14	7
29 Puerperal and post- abortive sepsis	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
30 Other maternal causes	F	9	...	...	...	9	...	...
31 Premature birth	M	23	23	...	...	...	...	...
	F	13	13	...	...	...	...	...
32 Congenital malformation, birth injury, etc.	M	9	9	...	...	...	...	...
	F	11	11	...	...	...	...	...
33 Suicide	M	6	...	...	...	...	6	...
	F	5	...	...	...	1	3	1
34 Road traffic accidents	M	14	...	...	1	4	6	3
	F	5	...	1	...	1	1	2
35 Other violent causes	M	27	2	2	1	9	6	7
	F	23	...	1	1	1	5	15
36 All other causes	M	85	2	1	2	14	17	49
	F	107	1	...	2	8	24	72

Table showing the Birth-rates, also Rates of Mortality from all causes, from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, and from Phthisis, Bronchitis, and Pneumonia, during the years 1903-1940.

Year	Population	RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM						Deaths under 1 year to 1000 births
		Births	Deaths all causes	7 principal Zymotic Diseases	Phthisis	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	
1903	138,786	25.6	18.6	2.4	1.6	2.4	1.6	160
1904	139,497	24.9	18.3	2.3	1.4	2.2	1.5	155
1905	140,225	24.3	18.1	2.1	1.5	1.9	1.6	150
1906	140,969	26.9	18.8	2.8	1.3	1.7	1.6	146
Average 5 years		25.5	18.6	2.3	1.4	2.0	1.6	152
1907	141,730	26.5	19.3	1.5	1.6	2.5	1.9	144
1908	142,507	28.4	20.1	2.6	1.5	2.2	1.5	159
1909	143,301	27.4	19.0	1.1	1.4	2.2	1.8	119
1910	146,700	25.2	16.7	1.8	1.1	1.7	1.5	127
1911	147,751	24.4	18.2	2.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	159
Average 5 years		26.4	18.6	1.9	1.3	2.0	1.6	141
1912	148,840	22.9	16.3	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.3	117
1913	149,936	23.2	17.1	1.4	1.2	2.0	1.3	139
1914	151,044	23.0	17.8	2.5	1.2	1.9	1.4	136
1915	141,781	20.8	18.0	1.0	1.4	2.3	1.6	126
1916	*136,126	17.8	16.7	0.9	1.3	1.8	0.9	122
Average 5 years		21.5	17.2	1.4	1.3	1.9	1.3	128
1917	*133,721	14.4	16.0	0.8	1.3	2.1	1.3	110
1918	149,285	13.8	21.1	1.0	1.2	2.7	2.3	118
1919	—	15.7	16.0	0.6	0.9	2.2	1.1	95
1920	143,154	23.6	15.0	0.4	1.1	1.6	1.2	105
1921	148,300	21.3	14.8	0.5	0.8	1.7	1.2	109
Average 5 years		17.7	16.6	0.6	1.1	2.1	1.4	107
1922	148,300	19.3	15.8	0.7	0.9	2.0	1.2	106
1923	148,300	17.8	16.0	0.5	0.8	2.2	1.5	110
1924	147,300	16.3	13.7	0.3	0.8	1.7	1.2	111
1925	146,200	15.5	14.8	0.5	0.8	1.7	1.1	103
1926	143,000	16.1	16.0	0.7	0.8	1.9	1.4	106
Average 5 years		17.0	15.2	0.5	0.8	1.9	1.3	107
1927	141,400	14.6	14.4	0.2	0.7	1.7	1.2	86
1928	143,200	14.1	14.4	0.4	0.8	1.6	0.9	88
1929	142,500	13.2	18.5	0.86	1.0	2.5	1.7	117
1930	142,500	13.3	13.7	0.3	0.7	1.6	1.0	70
1931	141,900	13.5	14.3	0.2	0.7	1.8	1.4	105
Average 5 years		13.7	15.0	0.3	0.7	1.8	1.2	93
1932	138,900	12.8	13.9	0.2	0.7	1.3	1.1	83
1933	136,700	12.4	14.9	0.14	0.6	1.6	1.5	70
1934	135,200	12.6	14.5	0.48	0.7	1.3	1.1	70
1935	133,300	12.7	14.6	0.24	0.6	1.7	1.0	62
1936	131,000	12.8	14.9	0.41	0.4	0.8	0.8	70
Average 5 years		12.6	14.5	0.28	0.6	1.3	1.1	71
1937	127,800	13.1	15.8	0.17	0.6	0.9	0.9	69
1938	126,100	13.3	14.4	0.18	0.6	0.5	0.7	61
1939	x124,400 *123,400	12.5	15.7	0.09	0.7	0.8	0.7	60
1940	118,400	13.0	16.4	0.17	0.7	1.7	0.8	67

x Estimated for Births.

* Estimated for Deaths.

Infant Mortality during 1940.

Deaths from stated causes and various ages under one year.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 day	1-2 days	2-3 days	3-4 days	4-5 days	5-6 days	6-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
ALL CAUSES { Certified Uncertified	14	7	6	2	2	3	1	35	5	6	2	48	21	17	11	8	105
Measles
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria
Influenza
T.B. of Nervous System
T.B. of Intestines and Peritoneum
Other T.B. Diseases
Syphilis
Meningitis
Convulsions
Bronchitis
Pneumonia
Broncho-Pneumonia
Other Respiratory Diseases
Inflammation of Stomach
Diarrhoea and Enteritis
Hernia—Intestinal Obstruction
Congenital Malformations
Congenital Debility and Sclerema
Icterus
Premature Birth
Diseases of Umbilicus
Atelectasis
Suffocation in Bed and not stated
Congenital Heart Disease
Injury at Birth
Other Causes
Totals	14	7	6	2	2	3	1	35	5	6	2	48	21	17	11	8	105

Section II.**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.****Staff.**

Full particulars of the staff of the various departments are given at the beginning of the report.

Laboratory Facilities.

There has been no alteration in the arrangements for this work, which is undertaken at the Oldham Royal Infirmary and at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Details of the examinations made during the year are given below :—

	Health Dept.	Westhulme Hospital	Strinesdale Sanatorium	School Medical Dept.	Totals
Swabs (for Diptheria)	296	1024	—	203	1523
Virulence Tests ...	—	19	—	—	19
Widal Tests ...	132	4	1	—	137
Fæces and Urine ...	40	43	1	—	84
Cerebro Spinal Fluid	—	14	—	—	14
Other Examinations	14	28	3	—	45

The cost of the above mentioned examinations was as follows :—

Manchester Public Health Laboratory ...	£130 19 6
Oldham Royal Infirmary ...	411 16 6
	<hr/> £542 16 0 <hr/>

Ambulance Facilities.

Two motor ambulances are kept at Westhulme Hospital and are used for the removal of cases of infectious disease and tuberculosis.

One ambulance is maintained by the Public Assistance Committee and is used for the removal of patients to Westwood Park Institution and for the transfer of patients to and from the Institution to The Municipal Hospital.

The Police Department possess six ambulances, and provide a very efficient service for the Borough and the adjacent areas of Chadderton, Royton, Springhead, Shaw, Lees and Failsworth.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

General. A voluntary body, the Oldham and District Nursing Association whose home is situated in Union Street West, undertakes the professional nursing of cases of general sickness in the home. The staff consists of 14 nurses.

Infectious Diseases. No provision is made for the nursing of cases of infectious disease in the home.

Midwives. In addition to the Midwives employed at The Municipal Hospital and the Maternity Home, at the end of the year there were nine Midwives employed by the Council.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The treatment centres and clinics provided by the local authority remain as in last year's report.

HOSPITALS—PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY.

The Municipal Hospital.

This is a General Hospital maintained under the Local Government Acts and the Public Health Acts. It serves the County Borough of Oldham and the adjacent areas of Middleton, Royton, Crompton, Lees and Chadderton.

The following statistical returns are extracted from Form Hosp. 6 and Form Hosp. 7, which are completed for the Ministry of Health:—

Total number of Beds provided in the Institution for sick, maternity and mental cases at 31st December, 1940:—

(a)	For men	122
(b)	For women.....	247
(c)	For children (under 16 years of age).....	61
	Total	430

Statement of Cancer Patients for the Year.

- I. Total number of patients who were admitted to the Council's Hospitals, 120. Of these:—
 - (i) Number of patients who were admitted after previous advice or treatment at another hospital—
 - (a) organs readily amenable to treatment, 1 Breast, 1 Stomach.
 - (b) remainder 12.
 - (ii) Number of patients who were admitted without previous advice or treatment at another hospital—
 - (a) organs readily amenable to treatment, 3 Breast, 2 Uterus, 2 Rectum, 2 Stomach, 1 Colon.
 - (b) remainder 74.
- II. Total number of patients provided with advice or treatment at another hospital under arrangements made by the Council—
 - (a) organs readily amenable to treatment, 1 Breast, 2 Cervix, 1 Uterus.
 - (b) remainder 18.
- III. Total deaths certified in the area, 274.

I.—Table showing the Classification of the Accommodation for Sick, Maternity and Mental Cases, and the Number of Beds occupied on the 31st December, 1940.

Classification of Wards (1)	Number of Wards (2)	BEDS							
		MEN		WOMEN		CHILDREN (under 16 years of age)		TOTAL	
		Provided (3)	Occupied (4)	Provided (5)	Occupied (6)	Provided (7)	Occupied (8)	Provided (9)	Occupied (10)
1. Medical	15	90	77	119	80	8	6	217	163
2. Surgical	4	38	35	30	35	—	—	68	70
3. Children	1	—	—	—	—	53	42	53	42
4. Maternity	—	—	—	80	70	—	—	80	70
5. Other	3	2	1	10	4	—	—	12	5
TOTALS	23	130	113	239	189	61	48	430	350

The Maternity Unit provides:—

(a) General	...	...	...	16 single bed wards	(b) Ante-Natal	...	...	5 single bed wards
				4 four "				1 three "
				4 six "				2 four "
				(c) Isolation	...	...	...
				Observation	...	4	4 single bed wards	
					...	4	"	
					...	"	"	

II.—Statistics relating to the Year ended 31st December, 1940.

(a) In-Patients.

1.	Total Number of Admissions (including infants born in hospital)	5,882
2.	Number of Women confined in hospital	1,062
3.	Number of Live Births	1,006
4.	Number of Still Births	56
5.	Number of Deaths among the Newly-born (i.e., under four weeks of age)*	26
6.	Total Number of Deaths among Children under one year (including those given under 5)	76
7.	Number of Maternal Deaths among Women admitted to hospital for confinement	13
8.	Total Number of Deaths	704
9.	Total Number of Discharges (including infants born in hospital)	5,042
10.	Duration of stay of Patients included in 8 and 9 above. Number of cases whose total stay was for the following periods :—	
	(a) under four weeks	5,120
	(b) four weeks and under thirteen weeks	592
	(c) thirteen weeks or more	34
11.	Number of Beds occupied (excluding cots in maternity wards) ;	
	(a) average during the year	298
	(b) highest, 377 on 12/12/40 ; (c) lowest, 226 on 1/1/40	
12.	Number of Surgical Operations under general anæsthetic (excluding dental operations)	672
13.	Number of abdominal sections	366

*This figure relates only to children born in hospital.

(b) Out-Patients.

There is no Out-Patients Department except for the Ante-Natal Clinic, where 994 mothers made 6,466 attendances.

(c) **Classification of In-Patients who were discharged from or who died in the Institution during the year ended 31st December, 1940.**

DISEASE GROUPS					Children (under 16 years of age)		Men and Women	
					Dis- charged	Died	Dis- charged	Died
A.	Acute Infectious Disease	...	...	...	18	4	21	4
B.	Influenza	...	...	...	8	—	20	2
C.	Tuberculosis—							
	Pulmonary	...	...	...	2	—	35	7
	Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	5	6	7	5
D.	Malignant Disease	...	...	...	—	—	99	85
E.	Rheumatism—							
	(1) Acute rheumatism (rheumatic fever), together with sub-acute rheumatism and chorea	...	...	...	14	—	51	3
	(2) Non-articular manifestations of so-called "rheumatism" (muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica)	...	...	...	—	—	13	2
	(3) Chronic arthritis	...	...	...	1	—	—	2
F.	Venereal Disease	...	...	...	—	—	12	4
G.	Puerperal Pyrexia—							
	(a) Women confined in the hospital	...	...	...	—	—	30	4
	(b) Other cases	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
H.	Other Diseases and Accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth	...	...	...	15	2	255	19
I.	Mental Diseases—							
	(a) Senile Dementia	...	...	...	—	—	33	3
	(b) Other	...	...	...	2	—	8	—
J.	Senile Decay	...	...	...	—	—	26	10
K.	Accidental Injury and Violence	...	...	...	10	1	100	16
<i>In respect of cases not included above :</i>								
L.	Disease of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	...	...	...	26	5	111	30
M.	Disease of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	137	21	291	111
N.	" " Circulatory	...	...	...	21	5	322	192
O.	" " Digestive	...	...	...	76	13	343	47
P.	" " Genito-urinary	...	...	...	27	—	240	35
Q.	" " Skin	...	...	...	104	2	99	2
R.	Other Diseases	...	...	...	74	6	214	19
S.	Mothers and Infants discharged from maternity wards and not included in above figures—							
	Mothers	...	...	...	—	—	1062	1
	Infants	...	...	...	946	26	—	—
T.	Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	...	...	...	118	8	45	2
TOTALS					1604	99	3438	605

Westhulme Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

At the beginning of the year the accommodation available according to the Ministry of Health standard was 122 beds, of which number 30 were beds for tuberculosis patients. In addition to the Sanatorium Pavilion there are two blocks consisting of three wards and an Isolation Block of four small wards. There is no cubicle accommodation which is an urgent need. At the end of the year the accommodation was reduced by 30 beds owing to damage to the Sanatorium Pavilion.

Strinesdale Sanatorium.

This institution provides accommodation for 56 patients, 54 being in the main ward and two in separate chalets. At the end of the year 9 additional patients were accommodated by beds being placed in the female day room.

Racefield Hospital, Chadderton.

The arrangements for the treatment of patients suffering from smallpox are the same as in previous years. No patients were admitted to the Hartshead Hospital during the year.

Greenacres Maternity Home.

This home with 15 beds, including one isolation bed, provided accommodation for maternity cases. The home was closed consequent upon the work of the home being transferred to the new Maternity Unit of The Municipal Hospital.

Under an agreement with the Trustees of the War Organisation of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, the home was taken over by that organisation on the 17th October, 1940, as a Convalescent Home for Service patients.

Castleshaw Camp School.

On the outbreak of hostilities, it was decided by the Public Assistance Committee to evacuate the various Children's Homes, owing to the fact that it was anticipated that the Ministry of Health would probably require them under the Emergency Hospital Scheme.

Mr. Frank Lord placed the Castleshaw Camp School at the Public Assistance Committee's disposal, and the children are accommodated there pending further instructions in regard to these Homes.

The Camp School has therefore not been available during 1940 for the use of school children.

Oldham Royal Infirmary.

This is a voluntary hospital of 186 beds which serves the Borough and adjacent areas. It has a large out-patient department, a fully equipped electrical and X-ray department, and a special fracture clinic. In addition to beds for general surgical patients, there is accommodation for ear, nose and throat cases, and eye cases.

The venereal diseases clinic is held at this institution, and much of the pathological work of the Health Department is carried out in its laboratory.

Woodfield Nursing Home.

On the 1st July, 1939, through the generosity of Miss Marjory Lees, this Home of 18 beds was given to the Oldham Royal Infirmary. The Home is used for the treatment of private patients and for maternity cases, and is the only nursing home in the Borough.

Westwood Park Institution.

This serves the Oldham County Borough and part of the Lancashire County Area, including Chadderton, Middleton, Crompton, Royton, Shaw and Lees.

The Institution provides accommodation for male and female able-bodied persons, for chronic and infirm persons who are not acute medical or surgical cases, and for mental cases.

Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.

There are six District Medical Officers, who are under the control of the Public Assistance Committee.

There have been no developments or alterations in the arrangements for Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.

Oldham Council for Mental Health.

This is a voluntary association which is affiliated to the National Council for Mental Hygiene. I am indebted to Miss Elizabeth Martland, the honorary secretary, for the following report:—

Owing to the exigencies of war, the activities of the Council have been more individual than corporate, each member finding plenty of scope in daily work but little time for meetings and lectures.

As the Secretary has been taking an active part in mental welfare throughout the Civil Defence Region, in conjunction with the ministries, local authorities and voluntary organisations, it has been possible to keep in touch with the latest developments in child guidance, the assistance of refugees and evacuees suffering from nervous and emotional disturbances, the prevention and handling of panic in air-raids, the care of the feeble-minded and aged bombed out of their homes, the mental stability of industrial workers, problems of juvenile delinquency and other matters of urgency arising out of war conditions.

Thanks to the ready co-operation of local officials, doctors, teachers and others concerned, there has been constant exchange of information and advice. A fully trained psychiatric social worker with a regional office in Manchester is now available for emergency work as required, in addition to those engaged on specific tasks under various local authorities in different parts of the region. Important regional and local developments are in prospect, especially with regard to child guidance and juvenile delinquency.

During the summer months, Dr. Maberly, of London, gave lectures to many hundreds of civil defence workers in Oldham on nervous manifestations in time of war and the prevention and handling of panic. An address on more general lines was given by

Dr. E. Howard Kitching, of the Manchester Royal Infirmary, who explained to the ordinary citizen how the stress and strain of war may be met.

It is worthy of note that the morale of the people remains remarkably high throughout the country, even where air-raids have been extremely severe and continuous. On the other hand, symptoms of nervous illness due to over-strain and anxiety are commonly seen. Evacuation has borne hardly on many children, and a great deal of emergency psychiatric work has become necessary among those who show signs of nervous instability. The break-up of family life through the absence of men on service, the migration of workers, and the call for women in industry brings in its train a number of formidable problems in social and mental adjustment. Black-out conditions and other departures from normal happy life impose heavy strains upon many.

With the aftermath of the last war in mind, every effort is being made to prevent breakdowns in health and conduct, and to minimise as far as possible the ill-effects of the difficult times through which we are passing.

Medical Examinations—Corporation Employees.

During the year the Medical Staff of the Department undertook 780 medical examinations for the various Corporation Departments, and 5 samples of blood were taken for Widal tests in connection with employees of the Waterworks undertaking.

This has thrown a considerable amount of extra work on the Medical Officers of the Department, and the following return summarises the examinations made during the year:—

Department.	Entrants to the Corporation Services,	Disability Pensions.
Air Raid Precautions	3	—
Baths and Wash-houses	2	—
Borough Engineer and Surveyor's	2	1
Borough Treasurer's	3	—
Carrying and Cleansing	6	3
Education	14	—
Electricity	42	—
Gas and Water	14	3
Housing	3	—
Maternity and Child Welfare	9	1
Parks and Cemeteries	7	1
Passenger Transport	183	3
Public Assistance	29	3
Public Health	75	1
Public Libraries	4	—
Street Lighting	1	—
Town Clerk's	1	—
Waterworks	7	—
	<hr/> 405	<hr/> 16

Special Examinations.

Transport		
(a) Road Traffic Acts	23	
(b) Other examinations	8	
	<hr/>	31
Carrying and Cleansing		1
Waterworks		2
Civil Defence Personnel		
(a) Entrants	272	
(b) Other examinations	53	
	<hr/>	325
		<hr/> 359

Section III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

During the year the work of the Department has proceeded on similar lines as before the outbreak of war. The centres have remained open throughout the year, although attendances have shown some reduction compared with previous years, the most likely explanation of this is that many mothers have been obliged to seek employment on war work, and place their children in the care of relatives, mostly elderly, who cannot spare the time, nor take the trouble to bring the children to the centres.

Three first aid posts are being utilised as Child Welfare Centres, and this arrangement is working most satisfactorily.

The various centres in the borough, with times and places of meeting are set out below:—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Centre	Day of Meeting	Hours
Central, Town Hall— Ante-Natal Clinic	Monday Wednesday & Friday	2 to 5 p.m. 10 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
Infant Clinic	Tuesday & Thursday Friday	10 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 2 to 5 p.m.
Hollinwood Church Institute, Incline Road	Thursday	2 to 5 p.m.
St. Barnabas' School, Balfour Street	Wednesday	2 to 5 p.m.
Scottfield School	Tuesday	2 to 5 p.m.
Brunswick Methodist School	Tuesday	2 to 5 p.m.
St. Ambrose School	Thursday	2 to 5 p.m.
Hope Chapel, Abbeyhills	Wednesday	2 to 5 p.m.

At the Branch Centres, the Infant Consultations and School for Mothers are held on alternate weeks.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is also held in connection with the Maternity Unit at The Municipal Hospital. Patients attend for the first consultation on Monday afternoons between 2 and 4 p.m. Subsequent consultations are held on Tuesday afternoons, 2 to 4 p.m., Wednesday mornings, 10 to 12 a.m., and Friday evenings, 5 to 7 p.m. This ante-natal service is for the use of such expectant mothers as have booked maternity beds in the hospital.

The following figures relate to attendances at the Central Welfare during 1940:—

Number of Individual Cases who attended and who,
at the end of the year, were—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	120
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	156

Number of Attendances (mother and baby count as one)—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	2,102	
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	1,535	
							3,637

Total Number of New Cases who attended—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	162	
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	20	
							182

Total Number of Sessions 145

Average Attendance per Session 25

Total Number of Doctor's Consultations 1,413

The following figures relate to the work of the Branch Centres during 1940 :—

Name of Centre	Sessions Held	New Cases Attending	Individual Cases Attending		Average Attendance	Total No. of Attendances
			Under 1 year	1—5 years		
Hollinwood	49	158	96	194	41	2,014
Brunswick	49	250	202	171	45	2,224
S. Barnabas	50	206	197	170	55	2,755
Scottfield	49	186	115	145	41	2,017
S. Ambrose	50	139	81	179	53	2,674
Hope	47	255	129	184	41	1,945
TOTALS	294	1,174	820	1,043	276	13,629

The Central Ante-Natal Clinic.

Facilities for Consultation.

The Ante-Natal Clinics are held at the Town Hall Centre on Monday, 2-0 to 4-0 p.m., and Wednesday and Friday, 10-0 to 12-0 a.m., with Dr. M. J. T. Leitch, Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare in attendance.

The Consulting Obstetrician, Dr. E. A. Gerrard, has entered the Services and, in his absence, Mr. C. Philip Brentnall attends the Ante-Natal Clinic at the Town Hall Centre on the first Monday in each month, at 2-0 p.m., and afterwards visits Boundary Park General Hospital.

Facilities, as in previous years, are offered to medical practitioners who wish to avail themselves of the opinion of the Consultant.

The following figures give particulars of attendances:—

Number of Sessions held	129
Total Attendances	1,179
Average Attendance per Session	10
Number of New Cases attending	96
Number of Cases referred to Consultant	234
Number of Sessions held by Consultant	11

Emergency Maternity Unit.

Arrangements are made with St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester, for the use of their Emergency Maternity Unit, for cases in the County Borough of Oldham area where hospital treatment may be required immediately for pregnant or parturient women, but removal to hospital would be dangerous owing to the patient's condition. The personnel and equipment of the Unit is provided and maintained by St. Mary's Hospitals, and the Medical Service is rendered by the Visiting Obstetric Staff.

The Greenacres Maternity Home.

During the year 237 cases were admitted and 231 delivered, 54 being attended by the staff and 177 by doctors.

There were 232 babies born, 3 of which were still-births.

There were seven deaths within 10 days of birth and one maternal death.

One case of puerperal pyrexia was notified.

The Home was opened on September 25th, 1928, and since this date 3,024 patients have been admitted, 2,885 babies have been born living, and 92 still-born.

The above figures cover the period from the 1st of January to the 8th of October, when the Home was closed consequent upon the opening of the new Maternity Unit at the Municipal Hospital.

Births.

The Notification of Births Act requires that all births should be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of occurrence. During the year 1,607 notifications were received, relating to 1,519 live births and 88 still-births. In addition there were 574 notifications received which were transferred to the Medical Officers of the authorities concerned.

The 1,607 live- and still-births were notified by the following:—

Midwives	1,529
Doctors and Parents	78

Transferred Births.

The names and addresses of 766 infants and young children who left the Borough (including those children born in Oldham Hospitals whose home addresses were outside the district) were notified to Medical Officers of the areas of their destination, and 119 notified as coming to live in the Borough.

Health Visiting.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors:—

Visits to Newly-born Infants	1,507
Re-visits—Infants under 12 months	6,600
Infants 1 to 5 years	13,681
Visits to—Ophthalmia neonatorum	43
Puerperal Pyrexia	19
Measles	1,735
Whooping Cough	289
Infantile Deaths	74
Still Births	52
Ante-Natal Cases	519
Number of Sessions held at the Welfare Centres	294
Attendances at the Centres by Health Visitors	401

Supervision of Midwives.

Seventy-nine midwives notified their intention to practise during the year, compared with 69 in 1939. Of these, 12 related to midwives in private practice, 49 to nurses in The Greenacres Maternity Home and The Municipal Hospital, and the remainder to Domiciliary Midwives.

During the year several visits were made by the Supervisor of Midwives for the purpose of investigating the source of infectious disease occurring in the midwives' practices.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Borough:—

Stillbirths	19
Notification of death	14
Artificial Feeding	71
Liability to be a source of infection	9

There were 341 Medical Aid Forms sent in by midwives. This figure compares with 354 for the previous year. The conditions for which medical aid was sought were as follows:—

Conditions in Mother		Conditions in Child	
1. Ante Partum Hæmorrhage	5	1. Feebleness or Premature	18
2. Abortion or Threatened Abortion	3	2. Discharging Eyes ...	45
3. Other Ante-Natal Conditions	42	3. Other Conditions	28
4. Delayed Labour	40		
5. Occipito Posterior ...	1		
6. Other Malpresentations	15		
7. Adherent Placenta ...	1		
8. Ruptured Perineum ...	100		
9. Placenta Prævia ...	—		
10. Post Partum Hæmorrhage	6		
11. Pyrexia... ..	18		
12. Other Conditions... ..	19		
Total ...	250	Total ...	91

The total cost of these claims amounted to £278 6s. 0d. Of this amount £154 1s. 6d. was recovered from the patients.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were 15 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified during the year. The following are the results of these cases :—

Vision unimpaired	...	...	...	...	11
Vision impaired	...	...	...	...	—
Still under treatment	...	...	...	...	—
Died	...	...	...	...	—
Removed from district	...	...	...	...	4

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Seventeen cases of pyrexia were notified during the year. 4 cases in The Municipal Hospital, 1 in Greenacres Maternity Home, 1 in Woodfield Nursing Home, and 11 were notified by private practitioners.

Infant Life Protection.

The supervision of infants under the age of nine years received for maintenance and reward is carried out by the Health Visitors. In addition to being visited frequently, the children are medically examined at the various Infant Welfare Centres.

The following are the figures for the year :—

(i) Number of Foster Parents on the register—					
(a) at the beginning of the year	...	...	...	...	18
(b) at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	17
(ii) Number of Children on register—					
(a) at the beginning of the year	...	...	...	...	18
(b) at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	30
New Cases during the year	...	...	...	...	17
Total Cases for 1940	...	...	...	...	35
Removed from register during year—					
Returned to Parents	...	...	...	...	1
Over 9 years	...	...	...	...	3
Adopted by Foster Parents	...	...	...	...	—
Removed from Town	...	...	...	...	—
Died	...	...	...	...	1

Assisted Milk Supply.

In July, the Ministry of Food introduced the National Milk Scheme.

The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Food through divisional and local milk officers, and makes available to expectant

and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age, one pint of milk daily per head. The normal price of milk under this scheme is 2d. per pint. In cases where the joint weekly income of the parents is less than 40/-, or in the case of an only parent 27/6, plus 6/- in respect of non-earning dependants, the milk is provided free of cost.

This entirely supersedes the local authorities' schemes for the supply of milk to necessitous mothers and children, and also supersedes the proposals which were set out in Circular 1840 issued in 1939.

Whilst the Ministry of Health anticipated that in general the Welfare Authorities would think it unnecessary to continue other arrangements made by them for the supply of milk to mothers and children, the local Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has arrangements to supplement independently the provisions under the National Milk Scheme, in cases where such a course appears desirable on medical grounds. Where this is supplementary to the provisions of the scheme, the cost is defrayed by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

The arrangements with the Milk Officer provide for clerks attached to the Milk Office to attend at the several Welfare Clinics for the purpose of distributing supplies of National Dried Milk. This arrangement represents a great convenience to the mothers.

In October the scope of the scheme was enlarged to bring in expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age, resident in institutions. This arrangement resulted in the hospitals administered under the Public Health Acts being able to purchase milk at 2d. per pint in respect of these classes of patients. It has also resulted in an estimated saving to the hospitals of approximately £250 per annum.

The proprietary brands of dried foods are no longer stocked by the Department, and have been replaced by a standard 20-ounce packet of National Dried Milk, which is retailed at the price of 1/2, and is available in full and half-cream standards.

Prior to the commencement of the National Milk Scheme, i.e., the 28th July, 5,458 lbs. of dried milk, costing £347 3s. 3d., and 7,942 gallons of liquid milk, costing £907 15s. 9d. (supplied by local farmers), were supplied free to children and expectant and nursing mothers from the beginning of the year. In addition, 29 lbs. of Virol costing £2 18s. 0d., and 37 lbs. of cod liver oil and malt, costing £1 5s. 6d., have been supplied free during the year.

No arrangements exist for the supply of meals to expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age.

Dental Treatment.

By arrangement with the Education Committee, the Senior Dental Officer, Mr. Donald Gibson, is responsible for the duties of the dental service, and his report is as follows:—

1. The proposed scheme for the establishment of a comprehensive co-ordinated dental service remains in abeyance, but it is pleasing to report that, during the year, the arrangements for the dental treatment of expectant mothers have been modified on those principles of co-ordination which provide for the development of the most efficient service with economy.

2. By co-ordination with the Education Committee, treatment is not now restricted to the weekly session at Cannon Street Dental Clinic, but may be undertaken at any of the three school dental clinics, according to ease of access from the patient's home, upon any day after the close of the school clinic afternoon sessions. In addition, provision has been made for patients to receive treatment under prolonged nitrous oxide and oxygen anaesthesia by use of the facilities which have been established at Gower Street Dental Clinic. These arrangements have proved to be very successful in securing a higher rate of acceptance of treatment, in the maintenance of a higher standard of treatment, and in ensuring completion of treatment.

3. By co-ordination with the Manchester Dental Hospital Authority, provision has been made for the reference of exceptional dental cases to the Hospital for advice and treatment. The importance of this arrangement is to be assessed at the value of the specialist services now readily available to patients, and not by the number of cases referred to the Hospital.

4. In the Annual Report for 1939, reference was made to the inadequacy of a dental scheme limited to necessitous cases. At the moment of writing, approval has been given to the extension of the service to include provision for those patients who, while ineligible for treatment as necessitous cases, are unable to obtain treatment out of their resources. In approved cases, if it is necessary to provide dentures, an Assessment Sub-Committee determines the amount of the patient's contribution according to the cost of dentures and the patient's financial circumstances.

5. There is no service for the dental treatment of children of pre-school age, and again it is necessary to refer to the resultant appalling dental conditions of school entrants. The school dental service now provides more adequate facilities for emergency and routine treatment of school entrants, but in nearly every case the treatment necessarily consists of multiple dental extractions for relief of pain and elimination of oral sepsis, the effects of which must, in many cases, nullify the benefits received from other health measures already established. There is pressing need, at the earliest favourable opportunity, for the establishment of a dental service for the pre-school child based upon a system of regular periodic inspection and treatment, and co-ordinated with the existing dental services for mothers and school children.

Summary of Dental Treatment

Cases Treated	Clinic Attendances	NUMBER OF			
		Extractions	Fillings	Other Operations	Dentures Provided
35	267	233	4	184	40

The Orthopædic Clinic.

The Orthopædic Clinic provides treatment for cases from the School Medical Department, the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, the Tuberculosis Dispensary, and cases referred by private practitioners. The Orthopædic Surgeon (Mr. H. Poston) is on the staff of the Municipal Hospital, where operative treatment is provided when necessary.

The artificial sunlight apparatus consists of one "British Hanovia Quartz Vapour Lamp" and two "Jesionch Mercury Vapour Lamps" for collective treatment. There is also a two-power Infra-Red Ray Generator.

The following treatments were recommended by the Surgeon :—

	School	M. & C.W.	T.B.	Private	Total
Massage	2	2	—	10	14
Stretchings	1	11	—	—	12
Splints	4	107	—	2	113
Adaptions to Boots ...	25	99	2	4	130
Plasters	7	3	5	6	21
Strappings	4	6	1	7	18
Postural and Remedial Ex's.	38	38	1	11	88
Hospital Treatment...	11	5	2	7	25
U.V.R.	6	109	2	1	118
Infra Red	—	—	1	3	4
Dressings	1	—	2	—	3
Electricity	—	—	—	5	5
Radiant Heat	6	1	3	34	44
Surgical Appliances ...	—	2	7	2	11
Observation	21	9	24	4	58
Totals ...	126	392	50	96	664

The following table shows the defects from which the cases examined by the Orthopædic Surgeon were suffering, and the results of treatment :—

Defects.	Discharged			Still Attending		Discontinued		Total
	Cured	Impd.	I.S.Q.	Impd.	I.S.Q.	Impd.	I.S.Q.	
Fractures ...	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3
Synovitis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Metatarsalgia...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Hallux Valgus ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	3
Torticollis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Muscular Rheumatism	—	—	—	4	1	1	—	6
Rheumatoid Arthritis	2	—	—	11	2	1	3	19
Osteo-Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spondylitis ...	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	4
Ant. Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	5	3	—	1	10
Osteomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hammer Toe ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Rickets ...	8	1	1	49	18	26	36	139
Pes Cavus ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Pes Planus ...	6	—	—	12	6	5	12	41
Congenital Talipes ...	1	—	—	6	1	—	2	10
Congenital Deformities	1	—	—	12	—	5	—	18
Spinal Curvature ...	2	—	—	3	1	4	4	14
Spastic Paralysis ...	—	—	—	10	11	2	2	25
Other Conditions ...	6	2	—	12	6	3	5	34
T.B. Bones and Joints	1	2	—	30	6	5	2	46
Hallux Rigidus ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	32	6	1	160	61	54	69	383

These cases were referred as follows :—

School Medical Department ...	84
Infant Welfare Centre ...	200
Private Practitioners ...	53
Tuberculosis Dispensary ...	46
Total ...	383

The following table shows the cases treated by Artificial Sunlight and the results obtained :—

Defects	New Cases.	Remain- ing from 1939	Total.	Discharged		Discontinued		Still under treatment at end of 1940	
				Imp.	I.S.Q.	Imp.	I.S.Q.	Imp.	I.S.Q.
Debility and									
Anæmia...	74	17	91	18	1	28	19	20	5
Bronchitis ...	1	6	7	2	—	2	2	1	—
Rickets ...	83	32	115	2	—	27	31	40	15
Skin Diseases ...	5	—	5	2	—	1	—	2	—
Asthma ...	3	—	3	—	—	2	—	1	—
Enlarged									
Glands ...	10	2	12	3	—	4	2	3	—
T. B. Adenitis...	15	24	39	13	1	8	7	10	—
T.B. Bones &									
Joints ...	5	1	6	—	—	1	1	3	1
Lupus ...	3	10	13	2	1	1	2	6	1
Other									
Conditions ...	19	7	26	1	—	6	9	5	5
Totals ...	218	99	317	43	3	80	73	91	27

The following table shows the attendances at the Orthopædic Clinic during the year :—

	M.C.W.	Sch.	T.B.	Private	Total
Mr. Poston ...	575	292	209	224	1300
U.V.R. ...	3010	1000	1068	287	5365
Massage ...	37	101	—	606	744
Exercises...	244	341	7	413	1005
R. Heat ...	82	121	16	847	1066
I. Red ...	3	20	42	511	576
Electricity ...	—	43	—	302	345
Splints ...	122	55	63	111	351
Plaster ...	7	17	30	29	83
Totals ...	4080	1990	1435	3330	10835

Maternity Homes.

The Greenacres Maternity Home was the only one in the Borough. During the year no new homes were registered or applications for registration received.

Nursing Homes.

There is one registered in the Borough—the Woodfield Nursing Home—which receives medical, surgical and maternity cases. During the year no new homes were registered or applications for registration received.

Oldham Day Nursery.

Mrs. Rountree, the Honorary Secretary, reports as follows:—

The Day Nursery has had another year of uneventful but steady progress, the attendances being over 6,000. The health of the children was excellent, except for a very slight outbreak of measles in August.

Students taking the Social Service course at Manchester University attended the Day Nursery for practical work, and the Nursery was visited by members of the Education Authority's Child Care Reserve class.

War-time Day Nurseries.

It has been decided to establish a war-time nursery to care for the children of mothers who are engaged upon war work. Fernholme, a large house in its own grounds, has been leased for this purpose, and is now being adapted for use as a nursery. It is anticipated that the house will be opened very shortly, and will accommodate approximately 65 children.

The question of providing additional war-time nurseries is receiving consideration.

Maternal Mortality.

During the year there were 13 deaths attributed to or associated with childbirth. Of these cases 10 were true maternal deaths, giving a maternal mortality rate of 6.24 per thousand total live and still-births.

All maternal deaths are investigated, and the reports are forwarded to the Ministry of Health. These reports are of a confidential nature, and therefore only a brief statement can be made upon them.

The cause of death in each case was as follows:—

A—DEATHS DUE TO SEPSIS: 1.

Case No. 1. Age 39.

Peritonitis following spontaneous abortion caused by fear during an air raid.

B—DEATHS DUE TO OTHER PUERPERAL CAUSES: 9.

Case No. 2. Age 24.

Hæmorrhage due to recent incomplete abortion. Not sufficient evidence to show whether abortion due to natural causes or not.

Case No. 3. Age 27.

I. (a) Eclampsia and Premature Parturition.

Case No. 4. Age 38.

I. (a) Eclampsia. (b) Toxæmia of Pregnancy.

Case No. 5. Age 27.

I. (a) Post-partum Hæmorrhage.

Case No. 6. Age 29.

I. (a) Uræmic Convulsions. (b) following confinement.

Case No. 7. Age 33.

I. (a) Cardiac failure. (b) Post Operative Shock.
(c) Cæsarean Section.

Case No. 8. Age 34.

I. (a) Retained Placenta.

Case No. 9. Age 36.

I. (a) Obstetric Shock.

Case No. 10. Age 31.

I. (a) Myocardial failure. (b) Acute Puerperal Mania.

C—DEATHS ASSOCIATED WITH PREGNANCY: 3.

Case No. 11. Age 38.

I. (a) Cardiac failure. (b) Chronic Myocarditis.
II. Debility following confinement.

Case No. 12. Age 31.

I. (a) Cardiac Muscle failure. (b) Chronic Myocarditis.

Case No. 13. Age 39.

I. (a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis. (b) Laryngeal Tuberculosis.
II. Pregnancy, 7 months.

An analysis of these deaths shows that 8 could not have been prevented, but that 5 might have been prevented, and these are further analysed under the following headings:—

Lack or inadequacy of ante-natal care	.....	1
Lack or inadequacy of ante-natal care, with lack of or inadequacy of hospital or specialist treatment	.....	1
Lack or inadequacy of ante-natal care, with lack of co-operation of patient or her friends	.....	1
Lack of co-operation of the patient or her friends	.....	2

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

At the commencement of the year ten midwives were in the employ of the Council, including one employed under the Emergency Powers Act, 1939.

During the year one additional midwife was appointed, so that at the end of the year eleven midwives were in the employ of the Council, three being employed under the Emergency Powers Act.

The increasing work of the service has necessitated the appointment of a full-time supervisor, and in July Nurse Pugh, the Superintendent Health Visitor, relinquished her duties as Supervisor of Midwives to Miss Birtwell, the Matron of the Greenacres Maternity Home.

Consequent upon the opening of the New Maternity Unit at the Municipal Hospital, Miss Birtwell became the full-time Supervisor, but resigned her position in November on the occasion of her marriage. She was succeeded by Miss M. Fensom, who took up her duties early in December.

The present arrangement now provides for the residence of the supervisor at the Hospital instead of at the Greenacres Maternity Home.

The initiation of the Municipal Midwifery Service fell upon Nurse Pugh, who was already employed in a full-time capacity, and record must be made of the very efficient service she rendered whilst she occupied the position of Supervisor, which placed new and additional responsibilities upon her. Much of the smooth working of the scheme in its inception is due to her loyal and devoted service.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Municipal Midwives during the year:—

Confinements—

Number of Cases booked	725
Number of Confinements attended	747

Visits—

Ante-Natal Visits	4,348
Visits during Lying-in Period	12,798
Post-Natal Visits	1,298

Fees—

Patients paying Full Fee	610
Patients paying Reduced Fee	96
Necessitous Cases (no fee)	41
Amount of Fees received	£1,203 13 6

During the year 1,607 live and still births were notified, and of this number 839 (or 52.21 per cent.) were institutional, and 768 (or 47.79 per cent.) were domiciliary confinements. 747 (or 97.26 per cent.) of the domiciliary confinements were attended by Municipal Midwives.

Section IV.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Water Engineer (Mr. C. Busfield) has kindly supplied the following particulars :—

During the year no new sources of water supply were acquired by the Corporation.

Extensions to the distribution mains were carried out as rendered necessary to meet the increased demand created by building developments and trade consumers.

The whole area of supply is piped, and full supplies have been maintained throughout the year.

The water supplied from the Castleshaw and Readycon Dean sources is filtered and any water utilised from the Butterworth Hall Colliery works is sterilised at the source by the addition of chlorine, prior to being pumped to Piethorne Reservoir.

The whole of the water supplied for domestic purposes is sterilised by means of the Chloramine process, which consists of pre-treating the water with ammonia and then adding chlorine at such a rate as will give a required residual of chlorine after a period of contact with the water. The admission of the sterilising reagents is automatically adjusted in relation to the flow of water through the mains.

In addition a mobile sterilisation plant is now available for treating water mains after fracture. The plant is used before supplies are resumed, after the fractured main has been repaired, and ensures that any pollution which may have obtained ingress to the main while it was out of commission is eliminated.

Samples of water supplied from each of four sources are submitted quarterly for chemical analysis and monthly for bacteriological analysis, and the reports received are generally satisfactory.

Close supervision is maintained over the extensive watersheds and any water which might be suspected of being polluted is eliminated until examination has revealed it to be fit for use.

The total storage capacity of all reservoirs is 2,527 million gallons, of which 1,829 million gallons are available for domestic supply.

The area of the gathering grounds is 7,353 acres.

On December 31st, 1940, the water in storage was 2,325,044,000 gallons, or approximately 32 weeks' total supply.

The estimated population supplied during 1940 was 214,000 and the average daily consumption per head was 34.93 gallons.

The following statement shows the average daily consumption of water in the area of supply for the past seven years :—

1934	.....	.....	.....	5,426,907	gallons.
1935	.....	.....	.....	5,943,064	„
1936	.....	.....	.....	6,290,371	„
1937	.....	.....	.....	6,626,683	„
1938	.....	.....	.....	6,279,079	„
1939	.....	.....	.....	6,784,848	„
1940	.....	.....	.....	7,475,319	„

The daily quantity of compensation water supplied during 1940 was 3,079,288 gallons.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Sewage Works are under the entire control of the Manager, Mr. J. Taylor, who prior to the 4th July, 1940, reported direct to the Health Committee.

As a result of a proposal made by the Health Committee, the Surveyors and Buildings Committee intimated that they were prepared to execute and perform the powers and duties of the Council in respect of the treatment and disposal of the sewage of the Borough, and this transfer was effected as from the 4th July, 1940, after which date the reports of the Sewage Works Manager were submitted direct to the Surveyors and Buildings Committee.

Mr. Taylor has supplied the following report for the year 1940 :—

Sewage Works Annual Report.

During the year there has been no change in the method of sewage disposal and purification.

The process consists of the following :—

- (1) Detritus Tanks.
- (2) Sedimentation Tanks.
- (3) Bio-Aeration Plant.
- (4) Sprinkler Filters and Humus Tanks.

The present plant was opened in 1938 and since that time has on most occasions been adequate to deal with the quantity of sewage received. Sewage reaches the works by gravitation.

The Bio-Aeration Plant gave very satisfactory results throughout the year and fulfilled the function for which it was installed, that is to clarify the tank effluent and to relieve the burden previously existing on the sprinkler filters. Filter effluents have been consistently good and except for a short period following the keen frosts of February, the results were in conformity with the Rivers Board Standard.

The total volume of filtering media now in use is 50,000 cubic yards, giving treatment at the rate of approximately 95 gallons per cube yard per day.

Several of the old sprinkler filters are now badly in need of repair and renewal, and at some future date the distributing arms, which have now got very thin, will have to be renewed.

Sludge from the whole of the works was treated in the Primary Digestion Tanks until late September, when a fault in the hot water system developed and since then only part of the sludge produced has been so treated. The temperature of the sludge during the first period was maintained at approximately 85 degrees F. and something like 150,000 cubic feet of sludge was passed through monthly. Gas production was fairly steady at 80,000 cubic feet per day and most of this gas was utilised for the hot water system and the heating of the works buildings.

Routine work has had to be carried out with a much depleted staff and under the circumstances has been done very well. Mr. F. C. Holt was loaned in July to carry out some important work for the Consulting Engineers.

Sewage Flow: The total amount of sewage received for treatment during the year was 3,246,516,512 gallons, which is equal to an average daily flow of 8,870,200 gallons.

Sludge Disposal: The total amount of sludge deposited in the tanks was approximately 35,000 tons, equal to 10.7 tons per million gallons. The total amount of sludge cake removed from the works was 3,500 tons approximately.

Sewages and Effluents: Analyses expressed in parts per 100,000.

	Sewage	Tank Influent	Tank Effluent	Separating Tank Effluent	Final Effluent
Oxygen absorbed in four hours	5.97	6.98	5.01	2.31	1.10
Free Ammonia, as Nitrogen	3.71	4.70	3.82	3.51	0.78
Albuminoid Ammonia as Nitrogen	0.583	1.09	0.67	0.49	0.16
Nitrous Nitrogen	—	—	—	0.02	0.08
Nitric Nitrogen	—	—	—	0.20	2.29
Chlorides as Chlorine	9.90	10.0	9.9	9.9	9.8
Biological Oxygen Demand	—	—	—	3.25	1.20
Suspended Matter—					
Mineral	5.4	6.5	2.5	1.3	.75
Volatile	12.1	16.5	7.5	2.7	1.50
Total	17.5	23.0	10.0	4.0	2.25
Incubator—					
Good	—	—	—	2	92
Bad	—	—	—	43	—
Doubtful	—	—	—	6	1

Closet Accommodation.

The total number and type of closets in the Borough at the end of 1940 and the previous four years were as follows:—

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Fresh Water Closets	13,871	14,458	14,718	14,772	14,772
Waste Water Closets	24,523	24,460	24,435	24,412	24,412
Latrines	2,751	2,642	2,642	2,638	2,638
Pail Closets	1,218	1,119	1,061	1,005	1,002

The above figures for 1940 represent 40,794 houses, 584 mills and workshops, and 225 churches and schools.

It will be seen from these figures that there are still 1,002 closets not on the water carriage system.

Public Cleansing.

The Director of Public Cleansing (Mr. A. Millward) has kindly supplied the following report:—

All the house refuse from the 39,548 ash cans is collected by motor vehicles 44 per cent. is dealt with by tipping under the controlled system, and the remainder by separation and incineration at the Refuse Disposal Works.

Despite many difficulties the work of the department continued on similar lines to the previous year, except that special efforts are being made in regard to the collection of salvage.

Owing to war conditions, of course, many improvements, which the department had under consideration, had to be postponed.

The following figures indicate the amount of work done during the year:—

Gully cleansing:—

Number of gullies cleansed	18,782
Number of cleansings during the year	91,012

House and Trade Refuse Collection.

Number of Ashbins emptied	2,075,445
„ Sanitary Pails emptied	56,163
„ Collections of Butchers' Offal	328
„ Collections of Fish Offal	17,173
„ Loads of Excreta collected	574
„ Loads of Butchers' Offal collected	145
„ Loads of Fish Offal collected	1,199
„ Tons of Ashes taken to Refuse Disposal Works	13,260
„ Tons of Ashes taken to Corporation Tips ...	10,610
„ Tons of Shoddy Dirt received	12
„ Tons of Clinker removed from Refuse Disposal Works	3,123
„ Tons of Baled Tins sold	441
„ Tons of Mortar sold	883
„ Tons of Shoddy Manure sent out	440

Waste Water Closets and Latrines.

Blockages cleared (W.W.C.'s)	4,475
Blockages cleared (Latrines)	20
Drains cleared	387
Drains found blocked, requiring excavating	200
Tippers found not working and re-adjusted	187
Tippers, fittings, etc., found broken	1,099
New Tippers, fittings, etc., fixed	1,202
Visits paid flushing Latrines, etc.	10,209

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

The establishment of Sanitary Inspectors is nine Assistant Sanitary Inspectors and a Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector under the direction and control of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The following report is submitted by Mr. Harold V. Cass, the Chief Sanitary Inspector:—

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1940.

Every effort has been made to keep up-to-date with the routine work but this has been extremely difficult due to pressure of civil defence duties and also to the fact that Mr. J. Brook and Mr. H. Waller were seconded to the A.R.P. Department for the greater part of the year.

The inspection of meat also imposed an additional burden upon the department by the fact that the whole of the meat for Oldham, Royton, Crompton, Lees and Mossley was slaughtered in the town.

The Sanitary Inspectors have also co-operated, successfully, with the Ministry of Food in connection with the tracing of illicit slaughtering and this work has often necessitated many additional hours of duty.

Further progress has been made during the year in the elimination of basement bakehouses.

The report is mainly statistical and I have commented in the various sections on any action taken or interesting features of the year's work.

I beg to tender to yourself and members of the staff my sincere thanks for the willing support and co-operation received during the year.

I beg to remain,

Yours respectfully,

HAROLD V. CASS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Number of Complaints received and visited	...	...	1855
Re-inspection of Nuisances under notice	...	...	3796
Number of Houses visited on complaint	...	...	2500
Letters to Owners, Agents, etc.	...	...	817
Number of Informal Notices served...	...	...	1218
Number of Informal Notices complied with	...	...	849
Number of Cases reported to Health Committee...	...	...	689
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	217
Number of Cases dealt with by Magistrates	...	...	9

NOTICES TO OWNERS—

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Choked and Defective Drains...	...	...	...	...	...	...	280
Defective Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Defective Water Pipes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Defective Yard Surfaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective Ash Bins	...	...	...	...	...	...	447
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	40

NOTICES SERVED ON OCCUPIERS OF HOUSES—

Dirty Conditions...	11
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

MISCELLANEOUS VISITS—

Number of Visits to Houses							
(Housing Acts and Public Health Acts)							2562
Number of Visits to Cases of Infectious Disease...	...						444
" " Cases of Food Poisoning	...	...					6
" " Privies	...	...	...	...	...		12
" " Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...		86
" " Pigsties	...	...	...	...	...		41
" " Tents, Vans, and Sheds	...	...					129
" " Houses Let-in-Lodgings	...	...					91
" " Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...		36
" " Mill Lodges	...	...	...	...	...		144
" " Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...		19
" " Factories and Workshops	...	...					92
" " Shops (Shops Act, 1934)	...	...					95
Number of Smoke or other Tests	...	...	...	...	...		692
Number of Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...		65

FOOD INSPECTION—

Number of Visits paid to Slaughterhouses...	...	...	1256
Ice Cream Vendors ... ..	...	...	1
Butchers' Shops ... ..	...	...	589
Fish Shops ... ..	...	...	78
Fruit and Vegetable Shops ... ..	...	...	244
Other Shops ... ..	...	...	233
Markets ... ..	...	...	120
Cattle Wharves ... ..	...	...	15
Corporation Destructors ... ..	...	...	10
Dairies ... ..	...	...	7
Cowsheds ... ..	...	...	30

Common Lodging Houses.

These premises are under the control of the Police and regularly inspected by members of the force.

At the end of the year there were four premises, providing accommodation for 363 persons, registered as Common Lodging Houses; of these, two receive men only, one women only, and one men and women.

Average persons per night for the past twelve months, 91.

Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough:—

	1939	1940
Tripe Boilers	7	7
Marine Stores	9	9
Gut Scraper	3	3
Fat Melter	—	—
Hide and Skin Depot	2	2
Chemical Works	1	1
	—	—
TOTALS	22	22
	—	—

In most instances reasonable precautions have been taken to prevent nuisance and in no case has it been found necessary to institute legal proceedings.

The visits to these premises numbered 70. During the year a prosecution was taken against a person for establishing the trade of a fat melter without the consent of the Local Authority, (Section 107, Public Health Act, 1936). The Magistrates imposed a fine of £10.

Bakehouses.

The general standard of cleanliness in the bakehouses continues to be fairly satisfactory. With the powers of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, progress has been made in the elimination of the unsatisfactory scullery type of bakehouse, of which there are a number in the Borough.

A number of these bakehouses have been improved by structural alterations or the premises being used solely for the purposes of the business.

During the year no new premises were registered as Bakehouses and 12 were discontinued.

The following is a summary of the work done :—

Number on Register, 1st January, 1940	...	282
Number on Register, 31st December, 1940	...	270
Number of Inspections made	...	86
Number of Notices served	...	3
Number of Notices complied with	...	3

The following defects were found :—

Limewashing required	...	16
Defective Sinks	...	8
Defective Drains	...	3
Other Defects	...	91

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1. INSPECTIONS.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power ...	114	9	...
FACTORIES without mechanical power ...	51	2	...
OTHER PREMISES under the act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-workers' premises). ...	...	...	...
Total ...	165	11	...

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were Instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	4	4	...	...
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperat're (S. 3)	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) :				
Insufficient ...	1	1	...	...
Unsuitable or defective ...	33	33	...	...
Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
Other Offences ...	5	5	...	...
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) ...				
Total ...	43	43	...	...

3. OTHER MATTERS.

Class	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories— Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133), 1901 and Factories Act, 1937 (Sect. 28)	Nil
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 5), 1901 and Sec. 9, 1937 Act	Notified by H.M. Inspector. Reports (of action taken) sent to H. M. Inspector ...
Other ...	Nil
Underground Bakehouses In use at the end of the year ...	4

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (S.131) at the end of June, 1939	Number
Blacksmiths	4
Cabinet Makers	3
Carriage Builders	3
Clog, Boot and Shoe Makers and Repairers	76
Coffin Makers	2
Cotton Waste Dealers	3
Cycle Makers and Motor Engineers ...	14
Dress Makers	29
Electricians	6
Firewood Manufacturers	1
French Polishers	1
Hosiery and Stocking Knitters	3
Ice Cream Manufacturers	2
Joiners	9
Laundries	3
Liquid Soap Bottlers	1
Mantle Makers	1
Milliners	5
Monumental Masons	3
Pattern Makers	2
Plasterers	1
Plumbers	11
Printers	4
Saddlers	2
Saw Cutters	2
Scale Makers	4
Skip Makers	4
Tailors	15
Tile Fitters	2
Tinsmiths	7
Upholsterers	7
Watch Repairers	8
Wheelwrights	3
Scrap Metal Dealers	2
Sundry Trades	7
Total Number of Workshops on Register	260

5. OUTWORKERS.

Four lists were received regarding six outworkers. The premises were found satisfactory.

Basement Bakehouses.

During the year the use of 4 of the 8 basement bakehouses was discontinued. Of the 4 remaining bakehouses, in 3 cases, plans have been submitted for alterations, and in the other case the certificate has been renewed for a period of five years.

Shops Act, 1934.

At the end of the year 1,132 tenanted shops were on the register. During the year 95 visits and inspections were made to premises on the register.

OCCUPIED SHOPS.

Sale of Wearing Apparel, including Drapers, Milliners, Furriers, Costumiers, Tailors, Hosiers, Hatters, Boot and Shoes ...	180
Sale of Provisions, including Grocers, Bakers, Butchers, Green-grocers, Fishmongers, Dairies ...	526
Sale of Refreshments, including Temperance Bars, Wine Merchants, Milk Bar ...	13
Sale of Furniture, including Ironmongers, Wallpaper Dealers, Electricians and Wireless, Glass and Hardware ...	133
Sale of Other Articles, including Hairdressers, Jewellers, Pawn-brokers, Chemists, Photographers, Coal Merchants, Cycle and Motor Accessories, etc. ...	142
Mixed Shops, including Tobacconists, Newsagents, Stationers ...	132
Departmental Stores ...	6
	<hr/>
	1,132
Unoccupied Shops ...	130
	<hr/>
Total Number of Shops on Register ...	1,262

The following notices were served in respect of non-compliance with the Act :—

To provide suitable and sufficient means of Ventilation ...	0
To provide means of maintaining a reasonable Temperature ...	0
To provide suitable and sufficient Sanitary Conveniences ...	1
To provide suitable and sufficient means of Lighting ...	0
To provide suitable and sufficient Washing Facilities ...	0
To provide suitable and sufficient facilities for the taking of Meals	1
To provide seats for Female Assistants ...	0
Failing to exhibit the prescribed Form re Assistants' Half Holiday	0
Failing to exhibit the prescribed Forms under the Shops Act, 1934	1
Failing to keep records of the hours of Employment of Young Persons	1
Failing to comply with the Half-Holiday Closing Regulations ...	0

The following notices were served in respect of Sanitary Defects :—

Drains and Sanitary Conveniences unsuitable, defective, or foul ...	4
Premises dirty or with foul accumulations	1
Premises damp, roofs leaky, or waste pipes defective	10
Premises without proper receptacles for trade refuse *	2
Other nuisances	1
Total Notices served under the Acts ...	18

No legal proceedings were instituted during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

Due to the outbreak of war, smoke abatement has been in abeyance as a result of a request from one of the Government Departments.

Before the above suspension 65 smoke observations of 30 minutes duration were taken. The extent of the emission of black smoke was as follows :—

No black smoke	46
Under 1 minute	5
1 and under 2 minutes	6
2 and under 3 minutes	4
3 and under 4 minutes	4
Over 4 minutes	Nil

There are 20 mills in the Borough which have in use some form of smoke appliance. In addition to these, 14 are electrified and 19 partially electrified. In 61 mills and workshops with chimneys there are no appliances fixed. There are also 30 Factories wholly electrified and 7 partly electrified.

The following table shows the number and type of smoke appliances in use in the Borough at the end of the year :—

Name of Appliances	No. of Mills	No. of Boilers
Auto-Coking Machines	1	3
Broadbent's Louvre Air Regulators ...	4	13
Caddy's Tubular Bars	3	9
Butterworth's Sectional Bars	—	—
Hamer's Patent Expansion Joints ...	1	4
Sanger & Webster's Patent Air Regulators	—	—
Babcock & Wilcox Patent	—	—
Mellor's Patent	3	6
Jack Patent Expansion Joint	1	4
Procter's Automatic Stokers	4	10
Meldrum Steam Jets	1	1
Parabola Tubes	2	6
Totals	20	56

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

During the year an inspection was made of all premises of Flock Manufacturers and Dealers within the Borough, together with the premises of Upholsterers where Rag Flocks are likely to be used.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 154.

Distribution of Toys for Rags.

During the year 2 cases were taken before the Magistrates for contraventions of the above section. Fines of £1 were imposed in each case.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

During the year the number of complaints received was 281 ; in 256 of these cases it was found that the rat infestation was due to defective drainage. The District Sanitary Inspectors visited and investigated all complaints and advice was given to the occupants of infested premises, where necessary Notices were served to remedy defective drainage systems and for the rat proofing of the premises.

During National Rat Week copies of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Advisory leaflets were distributed throughout the Borough and 200 posters were hung on the various hoardings and in the public buildings throughout the town.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The General Superintendent of the Baths (Mr. T. Beattie) reports that the facilities at the swimming baths remain as last year.

Section V.

HOUSING.

General.

At the end of 1940 there were 40,787 dwelling-houses in the borough. This figure includes 2,379 back-to-back and single type houses, 17 caravans used for human habitation and 3 cellar dwellings.

Closing orders are operative in respect of the three cellar dwellings, and 11 of the caravans are included in confirmed clearance areas or demolition orders.

Slum Clearance.

In September of last year the Ministry of Health issued Circular 1866, which instructed local authorities to postpone their slum clearance activities.

The following is a summary of the Slum Clearance programme:—

Clearance Areas. 105 Clearance Areas, affecting 1,072 houses, have been represented to the Ministry of Health. The Ministry confirmed 100 of these areas containing 1,016 houses, which necessitated the displacement of 3,344 persons. Up to the end of the year, 3,142 persons had been displaced from 908 houses, and 752 of these houses had been demolished.

Individual Unfit Houses. Demolition Orders have been made in respect of 86 houses; of these, 74 have been vacated, 49 demolished and 202 persons displaced. In addition, an undertaking not to use for human habitation was accepted in respect of 11 houses, all of which have been vacated, involving the displacement of 43 persons.

Closing Orders. Closing Orders have been made in respect of 59 houses. All the houses have been vacated, and 136 persons displaced.

Other Demolitions. No houses were demolished or closed voluntarily during the year.

Re-housing and the Provision of New Houses.

The Housing Manager, Mr. F. G. Walshaw, has supplied the following information:—

“At the commencement of the year, the Stoneleigh No. 2 Housing Scheme and the Strinesdale Housing Scheme were in course of construction. Both these schemes had to be curtailed due to the outbreak of hostilities and the restriction on building.

In the Stoneleigh No. 2 Scheme a total of 224 houses was to be provided, but it was only found possible to complete 146 houses.

In the Strinesdale Scheme a total of 166 houses was to be provided, but it was only found possible to complete 82 houses.

If all these houses had been completed, all the families in the confirmed clearance orders would have been re-housed, and in addition, there would have been a surplus to re-house the occupants of clearance areas which were in hand at the outbreak of war."

At the beginning of the year 208 families were awaiting re-housing. Of these, 49 families moved into Corporation houses, and 65 found their own accommodation, making a total of 114 families displaced during the year, and leaving 94 families still to be re-housed at the end of the year.

Slum Clearance, 1937—Table IV.

Date of Represent- tion	AREA		Type of Premises to be Demolished in the Area										No. of Families in the Area	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry	Date of Confirma- tion of Order	Property Excluded as Result of Inquiry	Houses Vacated	**Persons Re-housed by Corporation up to Dec. 31st, 1940.	Houses Demolished to Dec. 31st, 1940
	No.	Name	Back-to-Back Houses	Single Houses	Single Room Dwellings	Through Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises	Population of Area									
25/2/37	69	Back Hargreaves Street	29	—	—	6	1	—	36	116	36	30/4/38	—	15/9/37	30/4/38	—	34	43	30
"	70	Busk Road ...	3	—	—	4	1	—	8	28	8	"	—	"	"	—	8	13	8
"	71	Castlemill Street	16	—	—	3	—	—	19	58	23	"	—	"	"	1 Through House	12	7	1
"	72	Cheapside ...	—	—	—	5	—	—	5	6	2	"	—	"	"	—	5	3	5
"	73	Clarendon Street	9	2	4	14	2	—	31	96	27	"	—	"	"	—	31	64	31
"	74	Crompton Street	2	—	—	2	—	—	4	8	3	"	—	"	"	1 Back-to-Back House.	3	3	—
"	75	Egerton Street	9	—	1	1	3	—	14	45†	7	"	—	"	"	—	14	11	14
"	76	Greenacres Road	—	3	—	1	—	—	4	13	4	"	—	"	"	—	4	10	4
"	77	Henshaw Street No. 1	—	—	2*	1	2	—	5	12	5	"	—	"	"	1 Caravan††	3	—	1
"	78	Hunters Lane	10	—	—	2	2	—	14	13	4	"	—	"	"	1 Back-to-Back House.	13	2	13
"	79	Kirkbank Street	6	8	—	15	2	—	31	81	31	"	—	"	"	—	31	42	31
"	80	Lime Gate No. 1	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	10	3	"	—	"	"	—	3	7	3
"	81	Lime Gate No. 2	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	9	3	"	—	"	"	—	3	9	3
"	82	Lord Street No. 1	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	9	4	"	—	"	"	—	4	5	—
"	83	Perth Street	6	3	—	12	—	—	21	92	21	"	—	"	"	—	21	66	21
"	84	Rochdale Road	—	3	—	—	1	—	4	8	2	"	—	"	"	—	4	6	4
"	85	Sarah Moor No. 1	2	3	—	—	—	—	5	15	5	"	—	"	"	—	5	4	5
"	86	Sarah Moor No. 2	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	5	2	"	—	"	"	—	2	—	2
"	87	Shaw Road, No. 2	—	—	—	7	—	—	7	20	6	"	—	"	"	—	6	12	—
"	88	Spencer Street	36	9	—	3	2	—	50	166	49	"	—	"	"	1 House & Shop	48	94	45
"	89	Whiteley Street	4	—	14*	4	—	—	22	52	19	"	—	"	"	3 Caravans††	19	12	18
"	90	Wilds Court	2	1	—	5	—	—	8	36	9	"	—	"	"	—	8	24	—
		22	140	32	21	91	16	—	300	898	273	—	—	—	—	8	281	437	239

*Caravan dwellings. †Includes 19 men lodgers in Common Lodging-house. ††Caravans demolished prior to inquiry.

**428 Persons (representing 148 families) were re-housed under their own arrangements, and did not accept the accommodation available.

Slum Clearance, 1938—Table V.

Date of Represent- ation	AREA		Type of Premises to be Demolished in the Area										No. of Families in the Area	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry	Date of Confirma- tion of Order	Property Excluded as Result of Inquiry	Houses Vacated	***Persons Re-housed by Corporation up to Dec. 31st, 1940	Houses Demolished to Dec. 31st, 1940	
	No.	Name	Acres	Back-to-Back Houses	Single Houses	Single Room Dwellings	Through Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises	Population of Area									
20 / 1 / 38	91	Ashworth Street	... .135	—	—	—	7	—	—	7	17	7	18 / 10 / 38	—	†	7 Through Houses	6	12	—	3
"	92	Broadbent Road No. 1	... .115	—	7*	—	—	—	—	7	11	7	"	"	23 / 2 / 39	—	5	2	—	3
"	93	Broadbent Road No. 2	... .461	—	19*	—	—	—	—	—	19	20	"	"	"	6 Caravans **	10	7	—	3
"	94	Brunswick Street No. 2	... .130	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	16	13	"	"	"	—	1	3	—	2
"	95	Chadderton Road, No. 1	... .160	11	—	1	2	—	—	—	14	36	"	"	"	—	7	2	—	2
"	96	Cowhill View	... .213	2	7	—	3	—	—	—	12	28	"	"	"	—	4	2	—	—
"	97	Darker Street No. 2	... .092	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	13	"	"	"	—	4	2	—	—
"	98	Fountain Street No. 2	... .113	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	5	16	"	"	"	—	1	—	—	—
"	99	Huddersfield Road	... .748	13	6	1	7	6	—	—	33	100	"	"	"	—	21	11	—	—
"	100	Lees Road No. 2	... .146	8	—	2	—	—	—	—	10	25	"	"	"	—	1	—	—	—
"	101	Moorhey Street	... .082	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	14	"	"	"	—	2	5	—	—
"	102	Morton Street	... .392	11	21	—	2	—	—	—	34	82	"	"	"	—	21	18	—	—
"	103	Ripponden Road	... .686	14	10	12	6	—	—	—	42	93	"	"	"	—	20	23	1	—
"	104	Taylor Street No. 1	... .073	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	16	"	"	"	—	4	9	—	—
"	105	Wellfold	... .516	6	4	—	13	—	—	—	23	73	"	"	"	—	19	40	—	3
		15	—	82	75	24	49	6	—	—	236	557	202	—	—	13	126	134	—	12

* Caravan Dwellings. ** Demolished prior to inquiry. *** 232 persons (representing 77 families) were re-housed under their own arrangements, and did not accept the accommodation available. † Owned by Corporation occupants remain in "count" for re-housing subsidy.

Overcrowding.

Due to pressure of other work it has not been possible to carry out the usual routine investigations of overcrowding.

A number of reported cases were investigated and in 13 cases the premises were not overcrowded. In 4 cases overcrowding existed and as a result of informal action the overcrowding was abated; 15 visits were paid in connection with measurements and issue of "permitted numbers." Ten cases of overcrowding were abated by removal to Corporation houses.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

	Council Houses	Other Houses
Number of houses infested	874	304
Number found infested during year	35	105
Number disinfested by H.C.N.	46	6
Number disinfested by spraying with liquid insectide	4	134

During the year the furniture of 71 families was disinfested prior to removal to a Corporation house.

Housing Statistics.

Number of New Houses erected during the year 1940 :—

(a) Total Number (including (b))	...	...	...	...	85
1. By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	46
2. By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	39
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts—					
1. By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	0
2. By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	0

The following information is given in the form required by the Ministry of Health:—

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	3,103
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...						4,643
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...						Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	175
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	438

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	290
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(A) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 & 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	53
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	47
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	1
(B) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	84
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	77
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(C) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 & 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(D) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936; Part IV—Overcrowding:—

(A) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	348
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	348
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	2072
(B) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
Number of new cases dealt with	4
(C) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	14
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases...	84
(D) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

Section VI.**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION
OF FOODS.****MILK SUPPLY.**

During the year 16 samples of mixed and unmixed milk have been collected. These were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Of 12 samples from farms within the Borough, none contained tubercle bacilli. The remainder were from milk produced outside the Borough but retailed within the Borough, 1 Yorkshire West Ridings contained tubercle bacilli.

The following milk samples were examined :—

			Number examined	Number positive
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	Nil	—
Accredited	...	...	10	Nil
Pasteurised	...	...	Nil	—
Non-designated	...	...	6	1

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

During the year 1 cow was slaughtered under this Order.

Milk Purveyors.

The following figures have been compiled from the register :—

Number of milk shops on register on 1st January, 1939	...	375
" " discontinued during the year	...	1
" " registered during the year	...	7
" " on register on 31st December, 1939	...	381
Number of visits to milk shops	...	19
Number of notices served	...	0

At the end of the year there were 27 Oldham farmers on the register and 158 farmers and dairymen who resided outside the Borough.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 27 farms in the Borough for the housing of milch cows. These farms, comprising 62 cowsheds, house approximately 450 cows.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1923 and 1936.

The following Licences were issued during the year :—

- 2 Supplementary Licences to sell milk as "Tuberculin Tested"
- 3 Licences to produce and sell milk as "Accredited"
- 7 Supplementary Licences to sell milk as "Accredited"
- 1 Supplementary Licence to sell milk as "Pasteurised"
- 1 Licence in respect of Pasteurising Establishments.

Table showing Number of Samples of Milk obtained from Various Districts, and the Percentage found to be Tuberculous for the Years 1936 to 1940.

	Year 1936			Year 1937			Year 1938			Year 1939			Year 1940		
	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive
Oldham	40	2	5.00	76	5	6.57	43	4	9.30	36	1	2.77	12	...	...
Lancashire	21	2	9.52	9	...	...	7	1	14.28	8	...	...	...	...	...
Yorkshire (W.R.)	7	1	14.28	5	1	20.00	11	...	...	13	3	23.07	4	1	25.00
Cheshire	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Westmorland .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Derbyshire .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mixed .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pasteurised.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Special	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	75	5	6.66	91	6	6.59	65	5	7.69	57	4	7.01	16	1	0.062

Meat Inspection.

On the 15th January, 1940, the Ministry of Food's national scheme came into operation with the result that the private slaughterhouses were closed. The Ministry, however, earmarked the Oldham Industrial Co-operative Society's slaughterhouse in Foundry Street and Cooper's slaughterhouse in Bow Street as Government licensed slaughterhouses.

Due to congestion and the fact that meat was being distributed to Oldham, Crompton, Royton, Lees and Mossley, it was later found necessary by the Ministry of Food to open an additional slaughterhouse, and the Oldham Equitable Co-operative Society's premises in Mortar Street were opened on the 1st April, 1940.

This brought about a more or less centralised system of slaughtering and from an inspection point of view has proved very satisfactory.

The following table shows details of carcasses inspected and condemned:—

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	4680	4702	598	56708	3739
Number Inspected ...	4680	4702	598	56708	3739
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS : Whole Carcasses con- demned	1	5	3	55	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	321	273	1	430	81
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	6.88	5.90	.66	.885	2.35
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY : Whole Carcasses Con- demned	—	41	—	—	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	204	1158	1	—	344
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	4.33	25.49	.16	—	9.46

The total weight of meat and offal destroyed was :—For tuberculosis, 103,986 lbs.; for diseases other than tuberculosis, 19,127 lbs.

The following is a summary of the Diseased and Unsound Food destroyed during the year:—

Article	Weight in lbs.	Remarks
Cattle	23,270	47 whole carcasses
Sheep	2,691	55 " "
Pigs	2,943	17 " "
Calves	127	3 " "
Parts of Carcasses and Offal	94,082	2813 Cattle, sheep, pigs, calves
Fruit and Vegetables	692	
Preserved Foods ...	630	
Poultry and Game ...	284	31 Birds
Eggs	—	
Rabbits	70	28 Animals
Fish	245	
TOTALS ...	125,034 lbs.	

During the year 2 butchers were prosecuted in connection with unsound and diseased meat. One was fined £50. In the other case the Magistrates did not reach a decision and referred the case to a re-constituted bench, who upon re-hearing dismissed the summons.

Foot and Mouth Disease Orders.

During the year 1940, 240 licences were issued under the above Orders.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act provides that no animal shall be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse or knacker's yard by any person who is not the holder of a licence granted by the Local Authority. During the year 51 licences and renewal licences have been granted by the Department.

During the year warnings were given to 2 slaughtermen for alleged breaches of the above. In each case letters of warning were sent to the offender.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

During the year three butchers were fined for breaches of the above Regulations, namely :—

- £10 - accumulations of filth in a room where meat was stored.
- £5 - for depositing meat in a room and failing to prevent filth from being splashed thereon, and
- £2 10s. for depositing meat in a room without causing same to be whitewashed and cleansed.
- £5 - for transporting meat without taking precautions to prevent contamination, and
- £5 - for failing to keep clean the inside of a vehicle in which meat was transported.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The total number of samples analysed during 1940 was 354, representing a decrease of 24 samples on the previous year.

The following table summarises the working of the Act during the year:—

Number of Samples purchased for Analysis under the Food and Drugs Acts.

Name or Description of Article examined	Number of Samples of each Article examined			Number of Samples of each Article regarded as Adulterated, below standard, or otherwise not complying with prescribed requirements		
	Formally taken	Inform'ly taken	Total	Formally taken	Inform'ly taken	Total
Milk	245	...	245	9	...	9
Butter	12	...	12	...	...	...
Lard ... ..	...	8	8	...	...	...
Peanut Butter ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Lemon Cheese ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Jam ... ..	...	5	5	...	...	...
Marmalade ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Sausage	1	8	9	...	1	1
Dripping ... ..	...	1	1	...	1	1
Tinned Herring ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Pepper ... ..	...	10	10	...	...	...
Malt Vinegar ... ..	...	4	4	...	...	...
Tinned Peas... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Custard Powder ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Dried Eggs ..... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Rice ... ..	...	10	10	...	...	...
Coffee ... ..	...	11	11	...	...	...
Borax ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Sal Volatile ... ..	...	3	3	...	1	1
Grey powders ... ..	...	3	3	...	3	3
Mercury Ointment ... ..	...	2	2	...	...	...
Calcined Magnesium ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Prepared Chalk ... ..	...	4	4	...	...	...
Rum	6	...	6	...	...	...
Whisky	11	...	11	1	...	1
Gin	1	...	1	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	276	78	354	10	6	16

During the year there were 9 samples of milk which did not conform with the requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901 and 1939.

Four of these samples were adversely reported upon by the Borough Analyst. The discrepancy, however, was so small that no legal proceedings were instituted and letters of warning were sent.

Two prosecutions were instituted.

Results of action taken with regard to samples Not Genuine.

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken
17	Milk	3.1% Added water	Letter of warning.
142	Milk	11.6% Fat deficiency	Letter of warning.
187	Milk	3.1% Added water	Letter of warning.
235	Milk	17.1% do.	Fined £5 & Analyst Fees
239	Milk	16% do.	No Action taken
240	Milk	3.7% do.	Letter of warning
243	Milk	12.5% do.	No action taken
245	Milk	2% do.	No action
257	Milk	11.1% do.	Fined £5 & Analyst Fees
264	Whisky	1% do.	Letter of warning

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.

No action has been necessary under the Act.

The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

During the year a retail purveyor of milk was fined for contraventions of the above Order as follows:—

- £1 - for filling bottles otherwise than on registered premises, and
- £1 - for conveying in a vehicle articles likely to contaminate the milk.

Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.

No conditions were observed which suggested the necessity of taking action under these Regulations.

Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.

No samples of condensed milk were submitted to the Public Analyst

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 and 1927.

Nine samples of sausages were submitted to the Public Analyst. Eight were found to be free from preservatives, and one sample taken informally was found to contain 45 parts per million of sulphur dioxide. A letter of warning was sent to the person concerned.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

Samples obtained for chemical analysis are sent to the laboratory of the Public Analyst.

Milk samples taken for bacterial count and examination for tubercle bacilli are sent to the University of Manchester, Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, 3. Here also are sent any other foods which require bacterial examination.

Section VII.**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

The following table shows the Attack Rate and Death Rate:—

DISEASE	Attack Rate per 1,000 of the population		Death Rate per 1,000 of the population		Death Rate per 1,000 Cases
	England & Wales	Oldham	England & Wales	Oldham	
Small Pox... ..	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Diphtheria	1·16	0·61	0·06	0·06	9·72
Erysipelas... ..	0·33	0·48	0·00	0·00	17·54
Scarlet Fever	1·63	1·38	0·00	0·01	12·27
Enteric Fever	0·07	0·08	0·00	0·00	0·00
Puerperal Pyrexia	* 11·96	* 10·59	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	1·64	—	0·15	92·78
Measles	10·24	18·38	0·02	0·03	1·84
Whooping Cough... ..	1·34	4·09	0·02	0·06	14·43
Influenza	—	—	0·32	0·20	—

*Rates per 1,000 total Births (*i.e.*, Live and Still).

Vaccination.

During the year 1940 the Vaccination Officer issued 1039 Q Notices requesting parents' compliance with the Acts, and 9 K Forms to defaulters. He also paid 130 home visits and notified the Public Vaccinators on H Forms of 299 cases requiring Vaccination.

The following table gives details of the work of the Public Vaccinators during the year :—

District	No. of Successful Primary Vaccinations of Persons			No. of Successful Re-Vaccinations
	Under 1 year of age	One year and upwards	Total	
1	21	—	21	—
2	37	1	38	—
3	22	—	22	—
4	—	—	—	—
5	13	3	16	—
6	36	—	36	—
TOTALS	129	4	133	—

No vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed under the Public Health (Small-pox Protection) Regulations, 1917, by the Medical Officers of the department.

No vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed at the following Institutions :—

Municipal Hospital, Westhulme Hospital, or Westwood Park Institution.

Table showing the Ultimate Vaccinal State of Infants at the end of the year following that in which these Births were Registered.

Year	Total Births Registered	Successfully Vaccinated	Percentage of Successful vaccinations to births Registered	Insus-ceptible	Had Small-pox	Exempted by Statutory Declaration	Died Un-vaccinated under 1 year of age	Postponed by Medical Certificate	Not Found	Transferred	Not Completed
1931	2021	175	8.6	0	0	1615	150	35	27	10	9
1932	1983	187	9.4	4	0	1585	121	25	3	20	38
1933	1901	203	10.6	1	0	1499	109	12	23	40	14
1934	2000	205	10.2	1	0	1603	100	10	41	25	15
1935	1975	180	9.1	1	0	1628	86	14	30	23	13
1936	1991	223	11.2	1	0	1540	116	38	31	32	10
1937	2084	245	11.75	0	0	1578	123	29	44	47	18
1938	2078	266	12.8	0	0	1529	119	24	32	94	14
1939	2092	264	12.6	4	0	1464	116	48	27	98	71

Diphtheria.

During the year there were 72 cases notified in the Borough, as compared with 72 in 1939. Of these 72 cases 69 were removed to hospital and 7 died.

Of the 72 cases notified, 13 were under school age, 50 of school age and 9 over school age; of these 23 cases were of the Severe type, 26 Average and 23 Mild.

Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied free to general practitioners for prophylactic and treatment purposes. It can be obtained at the Public Health Office during the day and at the Central Police Station, Town Hall, at other times. 260,000 units were issued for these purposes.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria was continued as in previous years. Two doses of .5c.c. A.P.T. being given with an interval of one month between, to children up to 12 years of age, and three doses of 1 c.c. T.A.F. at monthly intervals to older children.

During the year 1,167 children were immunised, 114 being of pre-school age and 1,053 of school age.

Sixty-two doses of T.A.F. and 37 doses of A.P.T. were issued free to private practitioners.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases notified was 163, compared with 324 in 1939. This is the lowest number of scarlet fever notifications recorded since 1924 when 142 cases occurred. Of these, 108 were removed to hospital and 2 died.

Erysipelas.

Fifty-seven cases were notified, compared with 58 in 1939. Of these, 13 were removed to hospital and 1 died. 33 of the cases occurred in persons forty-five years of age and over.

Enteric Fever.

(a) Typhoid.

One case of Typhoid Fever was notified to the Department during the year. Full enquiries were made as to the source of infection but no definite source was established. It was considered possible that the infection was contracted whilst the patient was resident outside the Borough.

(b) Para-Typhoid B.

Early in March a case of Para-typhoid B infection was notified to the Department from a local hospital. Subsequent cases were notified early in April and information was received from the Medical Officer of Health of Chadderton that cases were occurring in his area. The sudden occurrence of these cases suggested that an outbreak of Para-typhoid B had occurred, the probable source of infection being contaminated foodstuffs.

The closest co-operation was maintained with the Medical Officer of Health of Chadderton and after full enquiries

and investigations, the source of infection was considered to be a local bakery. Investigations were made at these premises and Widal reactions made of all persons using the same lavatory. These resulted in the removal of six employees to hospital for observation and investigation. Of these four were considered to be definite cases and two were discharged negative.

In all 22 cases occurred, nine in Oldham, eleven in Chadderton, one in Failsworth and one in Saddleworth. All the cases were brought to the notice of the Department in the four months March, April, May and June.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation received from my colleagues in Chadderton, Failsworth and Saddleworth and also to the officials of the bakery, who afforded us every facility in our investigations, and gave us every possible assistance.

A further case of Para-typhoid B occurred in October, the notification being received from a local hospital. The source of infection was not ascertained but had no relation to the previous cases that had occurred.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

During the year 6 cases were notified, and 1 death was registered as due to this disease.

Poliomyelitis.

Six cases were notified and no deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

No cases were notified, but 2 deaths of cases notified in previous years were registered as due to this disease.

Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Influenzal).

There were 194 cases of acute primary pneumonia and 36 cases of acute influenzal pneumonia notified.

The deaths from all forms of pneumonia numbered 106.

Influenza.

During the year 24 deaths were attributed to this disease, compared with 30 in the preceding year.

Measles.

This is the first year during which Measles has been compulsorily notifiable throughout the year, and these figures are the first true record of the incidence of Measles in the Borough.

Two thousand one hundred and seventy-six cases were notified, 28 cases were removed to hospital, and 4 deaths were registered as due to Measles.

An epidemic during the first half of the year proved to be fairly mild in character.

A stock of adult serum is now available at Westhulme Hospital and is issued free to any medical practitioner on application to the Medical Officer of Health or Westhulme Hospital.

Whooping Cough.

This also is the first year during which Whooping Cough has been compulsorily notifiable throughout the year.

Four hundred and eighty-five cases were notified, 20 cases were removed to hospital, and 7 deaths were registered as due to Whooping Cough.

There was a marked increase in the number of cases occurring during the last quarter of the year, although these did not assume large proportions.

No arrangements exist for immunisation against this disease.

Food Poisoning.

Seven cases of food poisoning were notified to the department during the year. All the cases were treated at home under their private practitioners, and all recovered. Full enquiries were made into each case, but a bacteriological source of infection could not be ascertained.

Dysentery.

There were two mild outbreaks of Sonne Dysentery reported from local hospitals, one of nine cases and one of five cases. All were mild in character, and no deaths were recorded.

Other Diseases.

One case of anthrax was brought to the notice of the Department, a male aged 17 years. The patient was resident in Chadderton, but the diagnosis was made whilst he was an in-patient in the Oldham Royal Infirmary. He was employed as a stone-mason, and the source of infection did not appear to be associated with his employment.

A married woman of 27 years was referred to the Department, as a case of para-typhoid infection, but on investigation was found to be suffering from Undulant Fever. The patient was subsequently removed to hospital.

No cases of epidemic jaundice or psittacosis were brought to the notice of the Health Department during the year.

Westhulme Hospital.

During the year 666 patients were treated, compared with 985 in 1939. 83 were under treatment on 1st January, 1940, and 583 were admitted during the year under review.

Staff.

There were several changes in the staff during the year.

Dr. J. L. Hill, Assistant M.O.H. and Resident Medical Officer was granted leave of absence to join H.M. forces. He joined the R.N.V.R. in July. A temporary Medical Officer took his place and stayed until the middle of November. At this time, Dr. R. N.

Walker, Deputy M.O.H., whose duties included supervision of Westhulme Hospital, left, and the position was not filled. Thereafter, work of the Medical Staff of the department was readjusted and Dr. Starkie carried out duties as Resident Medical Officer at the hospital. A temporary Assistant Resident Medical Officer was appointed at the same time to do hospital and School Medical work.

Miss Rowell, Home Sister and Assistant Matron, was granted leave of absence to join the Q.A.R.N.N.S.R., and left in June. Her place was taken by Miss Briggs who had previously held the appointment of Night Sister. She was granted four months leave of absence to take the Housekeeper's Certificate, and returned to duty in September.

Buildings.

Much useful and necessary work was carried out on the ward blocks during the year. It can be summarised briefly as follows:—

- A. Block.**—A modified heating system was installed. New baths, sluices and wash-hand basins were fitted, and in the kitchens new stoves, fireplaces and sterilizers were fitted. The whole block was redecorated. Externally, fire escapes were erected at each end of the block.
- B. Block.**—A stove and sterilizer were provided for the kitchen. New fireplaces were fitted in each ward, wash-hand basins were fitted in two wards, alterations to the bathroom and sluices were carried out and the whole block was redecorated.
- C. Block.**—New wash-hand basins were fitted in each ward and sterilizers in the kitchens.
- D. Block.** (Late Sanatorium Ward).—This ward was used for infectious cases throughout the year. New wash-hand basins and a sterilizer were provided.

The arrangement for the admission of Manchester cases to the hospital, which commenced on the outbreak of war, terminated in the latter part of 1939. The cases remaining in hospital were discharged early in 1940, and the work of the hospital returned to normal.

The hospital sustained damage as a result of enemy action in December, fortunately without casualty though all patients and staff had to be evacuated. Repair work was carried out rapidly, and with the exception of the Tuberculosis patients, who went to Strinesdale, the patients and staff were able to return after one week. The most extensive damage was to D. Block, which was considered to be beyond repair. The evacuated patients, with the exception of the Tuberculosis patients, were accommodated at two of the Public Assistance Committee's Children's Homes and at the Committee's houses at Mayall Street East. Appreciation is expressed of the help given by the Public Assistance Officer and his Staff at this time.

The admissions were made up as follows:—

AUTHORITY	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis	Measles	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Other Diseases	Totals
Oldham	90	117	61	51	14	23	42	398
Chadderton ...	14	25	—	1	1	1	2	44
Royton	5	6	—	7	—	1	2	21
Crompton & Shaw	1	1	—	4	3	1	1	11
Limehurst	3	5	—	3	1	—	—	12
Failsworth	40	41	—	—	1	—	3	85
Saddleworth ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	4
Lees	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	6
Middleton	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Totals	159	198	61	68	20	26	51	583

The 51 "Other Diseases" admissions were made up as follows:—

Scabies	2	Impetigo	1
Dermatitis	1	Malta Fever	1
C. S. M.	6	Polio-Myelitis	5
Chicken Pox	12	Dysentery	6
Mumps	1	Para-typhoid	1
Rubella	8	Typhoid	1
Pemphigus... ..	3	Laryngitis	1
Vulvovaginitis	2		

DISINFESTATION.

There is a steam disinfector, two removal vans and baths at the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station. There is also a disinfecting plant at Westhulme Hospital and one at Westwood Park Institution.

In the early part of the year a new Cochran multi-tubular boiler was installed at the Health Yard Disinfecting Station. This will undoubtedly increase the efficiency of the plant and is of sufficient power to allow for any future additional contingencies.

During the year the Department has undertaken a large amount of work for the military and civil defence authorities.

The following table shows the number of articles disinfected or destroyed by the staff of the Disinfecting Station:—

Articles	Disinfected	Destroyed
Blankets	13,560	18
Sheets	5,291	39
Pillows	6,112	187
Bolsters	2,534	45
Quilts	1,405	27
Mattresses	151	98
Beds	3,941	210
Carpets	796	12
Rugs	951	34
Curtains	1,876	16
Clothes	32,420	327
Sundry Articles	13,450	956
Bundles of Bedd'g	847	—
TOTALS	83,364	1969

1939—Total Houses Disinfected	...	...	446
Total Rooms Disinfected	...	...	1,575
1940—Total Houses Disinfected	..	...	397
Total Rooms Disinfected	...	...	1,652

CANCER.

The facilities for diagnosis and treatment as outlined in the Report for 1938 were continued during the year.

The following information has been submitted by the Superintendent and Secretary of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute :—

Referring Hospital	No. of Cases re-ferred	No. Treated by Radiation and Surgical			No. Not Treated on account of unsuitability, advancement of disease, etc.	Follow up visits made by new Patients during 1940
		I.P.	O.P.	Total		
Oldham Royal Infirmary	124	48	33	81	43	136
The Municipal Hospital ...	17	5	0	5	12	6
Total	141	53	33	86	55	142

Total Number of Examinations made at the Oldham Clinic (including 142 attendances by 1940 cases) 735

Number of Visits paid by Medical Officer from the Holt Radium Institute :—

Oldham Royal Infirmary	24
The Municipal Hospital	0
	— 24

The number of deaths attributed to cancer shows a reduction of 22 compared with 1939.

The figures for the last five years are as follows :—

1936	...	...	...	...	252
1937	...	...	...	...	232
1938	...	...	...	...	243
1939	...	...	...	...	239
1940	...	...	...	...	217

The following is an analysis of the age and sex distribution of all persons who were certified as dying from cancer during the year :—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
0-15	—	—	—
15-25	1	—	1
25-35	1	2	3
35-45	3	7	10
45-55	14	20	34
55-65	45	22	67
65-75	40	42	82
75-	8	12	20

Localisation of the Disease.

Buccal Cavity	...	{	Tongue	...	...	1
			Mouth	...	...	2
			Jaw	...	...	2
			Tonsil	...	...	1
Digestive Tract	...	{	Oesophagus	...	...	15
			Stomach	...	...	44
			Rectum	...	...	17
			Liver and Biliary	...	...	3
			Passages	...	...	9
			Pancreas	...	...	1
			Peritoneum	...	...	45
Respiratory Organs	...	{	Other Organs	...	...	4
			Larynx	...	...	15
			Lung	...	...	1
Male Genito-Urinary	...	{	Other...	...	...	5
			Bladder	...	...	7
			Prostate	...	...	2
			Scrotum	...	...	1
			Penis	...	...	1
Female Genital Organs	...	{	Kidney	...	...	13
			Uterus	...	...	6
			Ovary	...	...	3
Breast	...	...	Vulva	...	...	11
Other and Unspecified	...	...		...	...	8

Prevention of Blindness.

The Blind Persons Act is administered by the Blind Persons Act Sub-Committee of the Education Committee, on which are co-opted representatives of the local Organisations for the Blind.

Borough Coroner's Report for the Year.

The following report has been supplied by Mr. J. L. Watson, the Borough Coroner:—

The deaths reported to the Coroner during the year 1940 were 316 (males 184, females 132).

Of this total 53 were lunatics and mental defectives in institutions.

In 113 of the cases reported the deaths were investigated by the Coroner but no inquests held.

There were 203 inquests held (119 on males and 84 on females).

Of the 203 inquests, 1 was held with a Jury and 202 without a Jury.

Of the deceased persons in these cases 4 were under the age of 1 year, 10 were between 1 year and 16 years of age, and 189 were over 16 years of age.

There were 88 post mortem examinations made, in 13 of which no inquest was held. The expense of the inquests amounted to £439 0s. 1d.

The verdicts returned were:—

Suicides, 13 (males 7, females 6); want of attention at birth, 1 (a female); accident or misadventure, 105 (males 67, females 38); natural causes, 70 (males 36, females 34); open verdicts, 11 (males 7, females 4).

The ages of the 13 suicides were as follows:—

Under 21 years of age	None
Between 21 and 30 years of age.....	None
Between 30 and 40 years of age.....	2
Between 40 and 50 years of age.....	2
Between 50 and 60 years of age.....	7
60 years of age and over	2

The types of suicide were:—

Gassing	8
Drowning	1
Hanging	1
Drinking poisonous fluids	3
	<hr/>
	13
	<hr/>

There were no inquests on infants suffocated whilst in bed with their parents or others and there was one inquest on a newly-born child.

In 1939 there were 328 deaths reported, 210 inquests were held and the expenses were £477 7s. 4d.

Table showing Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1940.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NOTIFICATIONS IN AGE GROUPS.							NOTIFICATIONS IN THE VARIOUS WARDS OF THE BOROUGH											
	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	St. Mary's	St. Peter's	Werneth	Westwood	St. Paul's	Coldhurst	Hartford	Hollinwood	Clarksfield	Mumps	St. James'	Waterhead
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera—Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranaceous Group)	—	14	49	9	—	—	—	3	—	6	3	3	4	6	14	21	—	3	9
Erysipelas ...	—	2	—	4	16	24	11	6	3	7	7	8	2	2	4	5	6	3	4
Scarlet Fever ...	3	38	99	17	5	—	1	14	19	13	11	11	8	19	18	15	4	21	10
Typhus Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	2	5	3	—	—	1	1	6	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	89	1064	1009	9	4	1	—	169	130	146	143	189	115	117	212	322	137	219	277
Whooping Cough	55	254	174	1	1	—	—	50	37	28	38	47	24	19	15	58	59	56	54
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	3	14	—	—	—	1	2	4	2	—	—	2	2	1	—	3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	1	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	—	—	25	33	25	1	6	5	7	4	10	7	4	6	14	5	7	9
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	6	18	6	10	3	—	4	3	2	2	6	1	1	4	10	2	6	2
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	4	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	1	1	3	2	16	9	4	2	3	5	5	6	3	2	1	3	1	2	3
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	27	35	31	15	32	38	16	14	10	16	21	14	13	12	15	22	10	15	32
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	191	1424	1389	97	138	103	33	270	214	244	255	300	178	184	293	472	226	335	404

Relapsing Fever—None.

Continued Fever—None.

Table showing the Number of Cases of Certain Diseases notified, and the Deaths Registered from these Diseases during the several months of the year.

MONTHS.	MEASLES		SCARLET FEVER		DIPH- THERIA		X ENTERIC FEVER		PUER- PERAL PYREXIA		CEREBRO- SPINAL M'INGITIS		ACUTE POLIOMYE- LITIS		WHOOOP'G COUGH		ERY- SIPELAS		ACUTE PRIMARY PNEU- MONIA		ACUTE INFLU- ENZAL PNEU- MONIA	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
January	40	1	10	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	15	...	3	...	26	6	1	...
February ...	104	...	16	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	12	...	5	...	25	3	22	...
March	195	1	13	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	36	3	3	...
April	445	1	9	...	6	...	5	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	25	2	7	...	25	1	4	...
May	847	...	3	...	6	2	4	...	3	1	2	...	...	...	26	...	5	...	15	...	2	...
June	258	...	10	...	5	1	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	30	3	3	...	7	2	3	...
July	107	...	13	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	58	...	8	1	14	...	...	...
August	58	...	19	1	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	40	...	5	...	5	...	...	...
September ...	39	...	13	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	47	...	5	...	4	...	...	...
October	19	...	26	1	11	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	55	...	6	...	5	1	1	...
November ...	23	1	16	...	9	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	75	...	3	...	9	...	...	...
December ...	41	...	15	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	94	2	7	...	23	2	...	...
Totals ...	2176	4	163	2	72	7	11	...	17	1	6	1	6	...	485	7	57	1	194	18	36	4

SMALLPOX—None. ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA—2 Deaths.
 x Of these cases, ten were Para-typhoid B. The case notified in June was Typhoid.

Table showing the number of Cases of Certain Diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the years 1907 to 1939.

Year	Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Prxia.	Total Cases
1907	—	522	69	22	8	631
1908	—	597	89	39	21	746
1909	—	522	62	35	16	635
1910	2	217	50	24	14	307
1911	1	447	87	20	19	574
1912	—	366	49	18	10	443
1913	8	922	91	12	13	1,046
1914	4	1,265	164	18	9	1,460
1915	22	530	86	11	10	659
1916	1	149	142	5	9	306
1917	—	129	51	5	11	196
1918	—	141	55	17	6	219
1919	—	436	118	5	14	573
1920	4	434	152	3	16	609
1921	4	725	106	10	12	857
1922	50	610	89	5	15	769
1923	—	244	59	3*	9†	315
1924	—	142	80	3	7	232
1925	—	410	133	7	9	559
1926	10	326	140	1	16†	493
1927	19	188	205	3	22†	437
1928	31	279	288	1	31†	630
1929	18	668	221	6	32†	945
1930	32	712	168	—	34†	946
1931	—	272	88	8	28†	396
1932	—	209	50	2	20†	281
1933	—	407	135	—	30†	573
1934	—	342	195	2	31†	570
1935	—	588	218	—	24†	830
1936	8	187	310	—	51†	556
1937	—	214	275	2	57†	548
1938	—	259	234	—	31	524
1939	—	324	72	2	41	440
1940	—	163	72	10	17	262

* Including one case notified by Manchester Health Department.

† Including one case admitted into Oldham Union from Royton when already suffering from Puerperal Fever.

† Including Puerperal Fever.

Table showing the number of Deaths from certain Diseases in the Borough of Oldham during the years 1902 to 1939.

Year	Population	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Typhoid Fever	Diarrhoea	Total Deaths
1902	138,091	7	103	39	49	29	13	42	282
1903	138,786	23	43	30	58	111	12	47	324
1904	139,497	14	70	22	34	37	22	117	316
1905	140,225	5	65	45	11	57	12	98	293
1906	140,969	...	125	33	17	41	6	175	397
1907	141,730	...	35	17	17	66	4	78	217
1908	142,507	...	82	28	23	54	12	174	373
1909	143,301	...	43	16	14	15	12	54	159
1910	146,700	...	84	4	9	77	10	80	264
1911	147,751	...	64	5	11	13	3	260	356
1912	148,840	...	65	7	12	65	...	52	201
1913	149,936	...	38	19	19	36	3	104	219
1914	151,044	...	169	48	39	56	5	69	386
1915	141,781*	...	48	17	20	15	4	49	153
1916	136,126*	...	29	3	30	48	2	32	144
1917	133,721	...	73	3	6	4	4	25	115
1918	149,285	...	34	7	10	71	7	5	134
1919	.....	...	25	13	21	5	5	17	86
1920	143,154	...	6	6	15	17	1	12	57
1921	148,300	...	2	7	9	34	3	15	70
1922	148,300	...	70	8	11	9	3	10	111
1923	148,300	...	12	5	10	46	1	6	80
1924	147,300	...	24	2	3	13	1	5	48
1925	146,200	...	37	7	16	6	5	10	81
1926	143,000	...	23	4	19	47	2	4	99
1927	141,400	1	7	...	17	6	1	4	36
1928	143,200	...	9	1	35	4	...	21	70
1929	142,500	...	23	2	17	73	2	16	23
1930	142,500	...	21	8	17	2	...	...	148
1931	141,900	...	10	2	2	8	...	15	37
1932	138,900	...	18	...	1	15	1	10	45
1933	136,700	...	3	1	9	3	1	3	20
1934	135,200	...	19	2	25	18	2	...	66
1935	133,300	...	...	1	29	...	...	2	32
1936	131,000	...	13	2	23	16	...	10	64
1937	127,800	...	5	...	17	3	...	5	30
1938	126,100	...	8	2	12	1	...	13	36
1939	123,400*	...	...	3	6	2	...	8	19
1940	118,400	...	4	2	7	7	...	5	25

* Estimated for Deaths.

Section VIII.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Staff.

On the 31st March Dr. A. M. Moir left to take up his appointment as Deputy Medical Officer of Health for Stockport after six months service with us. He was succeeded by Dr. R. Neil Walker who left early in November. This vacancy was not filled but a re-arrangement of the duties of the Assistant Medical Officers of Health and myself was made which resulted in a slight reduction in the sessions devoted to the tuberculosis service. The system has worked well and it is gratifying to report that in spite of the war and a reduced medical staff the service has in no way been curtailed.

Facilities.

During the year the Dispensary premises in Barker Street were decorated throughout and though improved in appearance are still far from satisfactory.

The Sanatorium block at Westhulme Hospital was badly damaged during December as a result of enemy action and has not been in use since.

The Dispensary.

Dispensary Attendances.

	1938	1939	1940
Insured Persons and Ex-Service Men	1,748	2,041	1,668
Non-Insured Persons	462	396	248
Children	762	786	776
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	2,972	3,223	2,692

Invaluable work was done by the Tuberculosis Nurse, who paid no less than 904 visits to the homes of tubercular patients.

X-Ray Work.

The arrangements for the radiological examination of patients remain unchanged. During the year, 384 films were taken, as against 418 in 1939, whilst 38 films were borrowed from the Physician in charge, X-Ray Dept., Oldham Royal Infirmary, to whom our thanks are again due.

Pathological Examinations.

During the year 1,053 specimens were examined. Of these, 331 were Positive and 722 Negative for Tubercle Bacilli.

Dental Treatment.

The Senior Dental Officer, Mr. Donald Gibson, reports as follows:—

It is usual to find a low dental standard associated with tuberculosis and this fact emphasises the need for an adequate dental service to expedite the medical treatment of tubercular patients.

In the earlier part of the year there was provision only for emergency treatment of patients in Strinesdale Sanatorium and Westhulme Hospital, and, as such a service was considered to be totally inadequate, proposals were submitted to the Health Committee for the establishment of a more comprehensive dental service. In accordance with the progressive policy of the Committee, the proposals were approved and, by arrangement with the Education Committee, the Senior Dental Officer undertakes the duties of the service.

Importance was attached to the need for provision of adequate facilities and equipment to permit the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of treatment, and although limited accommodation necessitated the improvisation of a dental surgery by use of moveable equipment, it has been found possible to establish good operating conditions. However, as a general reference, in any future developments of the Council's hospital services, due regard should be given to the advantages of the separately designed dental surgery with modern fixed equipment, to enable the hospital dental services to be properly expanded as an essential part of the facilities for medical treatment of patients, in distinction to the inadequate emergency type of dental treatment so often associated with hospital arrangements.

The dental scheme has been designed to maintain routine inspection and treatment of all patients during a weekly session, apart from emergency treatment which is undertaken as required, and the treatment is comprehensive in scope, including conservation and provision of dentures.

The service was commenced in September, and the initial inspection of patients revealed a very low dental standard, so that the work of the year necessarily consisted of multiple dental extractions and provision of dentures.

It should be noted that there is no provision for the dental supervision of out-door tubercular patients, other than the institution of arrangements by which school children are specially referred from the Tuberculosis Dispensary for examination and treatment by the school dental service.

Cases treated	Attendances for treatment	Dental Extractions	Other Operations	Dentures provided
26	66	97	34	2

INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Vital Statistics.

During the year 151 new cases came to notice (102 pulmonary, 49 non-pulmonary) compared with 163 (113 pulmonary, 50 non-pulmonary) for the previous year.

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of tuberculosis and the attack rate per thousand of the population for recent years. The figures shown are derived from the number of primary notifications received (excluding pensioners arising from the present war) plus the number of new cases coming to notice otherwise than by formal notification with the exception of "live transfers" from other areas. With regard to the year under review 8 cases (6 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary) came to notice upon discharge from the Army. Four of these, all pulmonary, were attributable to war service.

Incidence and Attack Rate.

		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		All forms			
		Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate		
1936	118	.90	.....	43	.33	.....	161	1.23
1937	114	.89	.....	62	.47	.....	175	1.37
1938	132	1.05	.....	86	.68	.....	218	1.73
1939	113	.91	.....	62	.50	.....	175	1.41
1940	98	.83	.....	49	.41	.....	151	1.24

The death rate shows no material change for the year, 89 deaths (70 pulmonary, 19 non-pulmonary) were registered, giving a rate of .75 per thousand (.59 pulmonary, .16 non-pulmonary), compared with 88 deaths (71 pulmonary, 17 non-pulmonary), giving a rate of .71 per thousand (.57 pulmonary, .14 non-pulmonary) for the previous year.

We have now endured the strain and restrictions of war for sixteen months. During the year the black-out became more strict and was rigidly enforced and longer hours were worked by all. Rationing of essential foodstuffs came into force and Hitler boasted that we should be starved and defeated before winter. What effect has all this had on the incidence of tuberculosis? We have surmounted it all and we record the lowest attack rate since 1936 when an exceptional rate was recorded owing to a marked reduction in the notification of non-pulmonary disease. These figures are gratifying and encouraging but one fact must not be overlooked and may make itself felt in the future. Trade is brisk and in factories wages are high and there is a strong incentive to remain at work even if one is ill and the symptoms of early tuberculosis are apparent. Such cases if they exist should swell the figures in later years but we can only await developments.

The Dispensary Register.

The total number of notified cases on the register of the Dispensary on the 31st December, 1940, was 573, as opposed to 608 at the end of the previous year.

Live Register of Tubercular Patients.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL		
	Male	F'male	Total	Male	F'male	Total	Male	F'male	Total
No. on Register on 31/12/39 ...	211	153	364	122	122	244	333	275	608
Cases previously removed, re- turning during 1940 ...	4	3	7	—	1	1	4	4	8
New cases placed on Register during 1940 ...	45	44	89	24	22	46	69	66	135
Cases removed during 1940 ...	78	51	129	24	25	49	102	76	178
No. on Register on 31/12/40 ...	182	149	331	122	120	242	304	269	573

Removals from the Dispensary Register.

During the year 178 patients were removed for the following reasons:—

- | | | |
|---|----|------------------------------------|
| 1. Recovery..... | 28 | or 16 per cent. of total removals. |
| 2. Removal out of district | 20 | } 38 per cent. of total removals. |
| 3. Not desiring further attention | 23 | |
| 4. Lost sight of | 21 | |
| 5. Diagnosis not being confirmed | 4 | |
| 6. Death | 82 | or 46 per cent. of total removals. |

Of the 28 recovered cases removed during the year, 16 were pulmonary—9 or 32 per cent. being Tb. Minus, 4 or 14.3 per cent. Tb. Plus 1, 2 or 7.1 per cent Tb. Plus 2, and 1 or 3.6 per cent. Tb. Plus 3.

Of the 82 deaths, 74 were pulmonary cases, and their distribution in the various groups was as follows:—

Tb. Minus	17 cases—23 per cent. of total pulmonary deaths.
Tb. Plus I	3 „ 4 „ „ „
Tb. Plus II	31 „ 42 „ „ „
Tb. Plus III	23 „ 31 „ „ „

The non-pulmonary deaths are analysed in another section.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

New Cases.

During 1940, 89 new cases were placed on the Dispensary Register, and were found to be in the undermentioned stages of the

disease on the first examination. Ten other cases came to notice but were not placed on the Register.

Tb. Minus (sputum negative or absent)	32
Tb. Plus I (early cases, sputum positive)	3
Tb. Plus II (intermediate cases, sputum positive).....	36
Tb. Plus III (advanced cases, sputum positive)	18

Deaths.

During the year 70 patients, as compared with 71 patients in the previous year, died from pulmonary tuberculosis. This represents a death rate of .59 per 1,000 of the population.

Of these, 11, or 15.7 per cent., had been notified to the Tuberculosis Officer as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis more than five years prior to the date of death. A further 8, or 11.4 per cent, had been notified three to five years before death, whilst 10, or 14.3 per cent., died one to three years after notification.

The remaining 41 deaths (58.6 per cent. of the total number) occurred within one year of coming to notice. These included 8 which escaped statutory notification, 4 being certified in the local Registrar's and 1 in the Registrar General's returns as dying of pulmonary tuberculosis, and 3 being notified posthumously.

The following table shows the length of time between notification and death of the remaining 33:—

Under 1 week	2
1 to 4 weeks	9
1 to 2 months	6
2 to 3 months	0
3 to 6 months	7
6 to 9 months	7
9 to 12 months	2

Thus, of the 70 patients dying of pulmonary tuberculosis during the year, 59 or 84.3 per cent. died within five years of coming to notice.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

New Cases.

The number of new cases placed on the Dispensary Register during the year was 46. Nine other cases came to notice but were not placed on the Register.

The following table shows the incidence of this form of the disease since 1920:—

Average number of new cases per year for the period 1920-24	83
Average number of new cases per year for the period 1925-29	75
Average number of new cases per year for the period 1930-34	67
Average number of new cases per year for the period 1935-39	57
Number of new cases for the year 1940	55

The location of the disease in the new cases in 1940, compared with those of the two previous years, is shown below :—

	1938	1939	1940
Bones and Joints	17	13	10
Abdomen	17	15	11
Meninges	5	6	7
Other Organs	9	3	6
Peripheral Glands	31	15	19
Skin	1	1	2
Generalised	1	2	0

Deaths.

During the year there were 19 deaths from this form of the disease, as against 17 in 1939. This represents a death rate of .16 per 1,000 of the population.

Of this year's deaths, 10 occurred in our own hospitals, 3 in the local Infirmary, 4 at home, and 2 outside the district, the classification being :—

Abdomen	6
Meninges	10
Bones and Joints—	
Spine	2
Kidney	1

The number of new cases ascertained otherwise than by formal notification was 29, 18 being pulmonary cases and 11 non-pulmonary.

Of these 29 cases, 15 were live transfers from other areas, 3 were notified posthumously, 10 came to notice through the local Registrar and 1 through the Registrar General.

The number of non-notified deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis was 8, equal to 11.4 per cent. of the total deaths from this form of the disease. Of these 8 deaths, 3 were certified on post mortem findings and 1 after an inquest without p.m.

Non-pulmonary deaths not notified during life totalled 6, being 31.6 per cent. of the non-pulmonary deaths occurring during the year. It should be noted, however, that 3 of the 6 cases were certified as cases of tuberculous meningitis.

The percentage of non-notified deaths from all forms of tuberculosis was 15.7 per cent.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was necessary with regard to tuberculous persons engaged in the milk trade.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No cases of tuberculosis were compulsorily removed to hospital.

The following is a summary of the new cases and deaths during the year.

New Cases					Deaths			
Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 to 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	1	—	4	3	1	—	1	2
5 to 10	—	—	5	8	—	—	1	3
10 to 15	—	—	5	4	—	—	1	2
15 to 20	2	10	4	3	2	5	1	1
20 to 25	5	11	3	2	1	5	—	2
25 to 35	12	9	4	4	7	5	1	—
35 to 45	7	9	—	4	8	5	1	3
45 to 55	14	4	2	—	15	3	—	—
55 to 65	8	4	—	—	8	4	—	—
65 and upwards	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	52	47	27	28	43	27	6	13
1940	99		55		70		19	
1939	115		55		71		17	
1938	126		88		80		15	

The following list gives a summary of the principal occupations of new cases and deaths :—

	New Cases		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Cotton Operatives ...	24	8	15	3
Iron Workers ...	6	—	7	—
Textile Machinery Workers	5	1	3	—
Labourers ...	15	2	11	2
Household Duties ...	23	5	17	2
Other Occupations ...	18	5	13	1
No Occupation ...	6	2	2	1
School Children ...	1	25	—	7
Children under School Age	—	7	1	3
Stone Masons ...	1	—	1	—
TOTALS ...	99	55	70	19

STRINESDALE SANATORIUM.

This Institution has accommodation for 57 patients suffering from the pulmonary form of the disease, both adults and children being admitted. During the year 100 admissions were effected.

The arrangements under the Co-ordinated Thoracic Surgery Scheme remain unchanged, and during the year two patients have received treatment at Withington Hospital under the supervision of Mr. A. Graham Bryce, the Consultant Thoracic Surgeon.

Artificial Pneumothorax.

At the commencement of the year 2 patients were undergoing this form of treatment as in-patients, and 12 attended as out-patients. Artificial pneumothorax induction was attempted in 6 patients during the year and was successful in 4 patients. Treatment was later discontinued in 5 cases.

The number of refills given during the year totalled 97.

No bi-lateral artificial pneumothorax was attempted.

Sanocrysin.

Sanocrysin has been given to 17 patients during the year, including 3 patients who commenced a course in the previous year. This form of treatment was given in conjunction with collapse therapy to 2 patients. Treatment had to be discontinued before a complete course had been given in 13 instances.

In all, 114 injections were given during the year.

Other treatment.

Six pleural aspirations and 6 "wash outs" were performed during the year.

The following figures give some further indication of the activities of the Sanatorium.

	1938	1939	1940
Admissions.			
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	86	100	87
B. Observation Cases	26	12	12
Deaths.			
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	14	17	20
B. Observation Cases, Non-Tb.....	1	—	—
Discharges.			
Transfers to Westhulme	3	—	1
Transfers to The Municipal Hospital	—	3	1
Transfers to Withington Hospital	—	4	2
Other Discharges	76	93	75
Condition of Patients on Discharge.			
Observation Cases proved to be Non-Tubercular	5	14	13
Disease Quiescent	—	1	1
Improved	63	74	53
No Material Improvement	11	11	12

WESTHULME HOSPITAL.

The Sanatorium Block at this Hospital provided accommodation for 30 patients. The majority of the tubercular patients displaced during December were immediately accommodated at Strinesdale Sanatorium.

The following figures give some indication of the activities of the Sanatorium Block

	1938	1939	1940
Admissions.			
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	70	53	55
B. Observation Cases	9	5	6
Deaths.			
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	33	20	18
B. Observation Cases, Non-Tb.....	—	1	—
Discharges.			
Transferred to Strinesdale	5	20	26
Transferred to The Municipal Hospital	2	1	—
Other Discharges	35	36	17
Condition of Patients on Discharge.			
Observation Cases proved to be Non-Tubercular	5	6	2
Disease Quiescent	—	—	—
Improved	24	33	25
No Material Improvement	13	18	16

THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

This is a general hospital but beds are reserved for the treatment of non-pulmonary cases of Tuberculosis. The arrangements for the treatment and supervision of these patients remained as in previous years and no reduction was made in the facilities provided.

The following figures give some indication of the activities of the Hospital with regard to tuberculosis.

Admissions.			
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis—	1938	1939	1940
Pulmonary	22	18	23
Non-Pulmonary	40	25	16
B. Observation Cases—			
Pulmonary	24	19	12
Non-Pulmonary	15	25	4
Deaths.			
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	21	14	18
B. Observation Cases, Non-Tb.....	1	2	—

	1938	1939	1940
Discharges.			
Transfers to Westhulme—Pulmonary	14	5	2
Non-Pulmonary	1	3	—
Transfers to Strinesdale—Pulmonary	6	7	9
Non-Pulmonary	2	7	—
Other Discharges	60	51	30

Condition of Patients on Discharge.

Observation Cases proved to be Non-Tubercular	10	21	5
Disease Quiescent	—	—	—
Improved	60	49	21
No Material Improvement	13	3	15

Part I.—Summary of Notifications during the period from the 1st January, 1940, to the 31st December, 1940, in the area of the County Borough of Oldham.

Part II.—Supplemental Return.

Age Periods	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards	Total
Pulmonary, Males	...	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	9
" Females	1	3	3	1	1	...	9
" Non-Pulmonary Males	...	1	1	2
" Females	...	1	3	2	1	1	...	1	9

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.	No. OF CASES.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns—from local Registrars	4	6
—transferable deaths from Registrar General	1	...
Posthumous Notifications	3	...
"Transfers" from other areas (other than transferable deaths)...	10	5
Other Sources, if any (specify)	—	...

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Return showing the work of the Dispensary during the year 1940.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.			TOTAL			GRAND TOTAL
	Adults.		Children.	Adults.		Children.	Adults.		Children.	
	M.	F.	M. F.	M.	F.	M. F.	M.	F.	M. F.	
A.—(1) Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the beginning of the year	203	148	8	5						
(2) Transfers from Authorities during the year	2	5	—	—	1	3	2	2	—	608
(3) Lost sight of cases returned during the year	4	3	—	—	1	—	4	4	—	11
B.—Number of New Cases diagnosed as tuberculous during the year :—										8
(1) Class T.B. minus	18	12	—	—	—	—	18	12	—	30
(2) Class T.B. plu	25	27	—	—	—	—	25	27	—	52
(3) Non-pulmonary	—	—	—	—	10	8	12	10	8	42
C.—No. of cases included in A. and B written off the Dispensary Register during the year ...										
(1) Recovered	9	7	—	—	3	1	12	15	1	28
(2) Dead (all causes)	44	30	—	—	2	2	46	33	1	82
(3) Removed to other Areas	8	5	—	1	3	1	11	7	1	20
(4) For other reasons	17	8	—	—	12	2	29	17	2	48
D.—Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the end of the year ...	174	145	8	4	61	61	235	220	69	573

Section IX.**VENEREAL DISEASES.**

The scheme for the treatment of patients suffering from venereal diseases remains as in previous years.

At the beginning of the year 289 cases were under treatment, 8 (removed from the register in previous years as having ceased to attend) returned for treatment during the year, and 280 cases attended for the first time; thus, there were 577 cases under treatment during the year.

Of the new cases, 224 or 82.3 per cent. were diagnosed as suffering from venereal disease (71 syphilis, 153 gonorrhœa). Forty-eight were found not to have venereal disease. Seven of the syphilis cases were diagnosed congenital syphilis.

Attendances and Result of Treatment.

The total number of attendances was 9,390 (6,920 for examination by the Medical Officer and 2,470 for irrigation, dressing, etc.).

Twenty-nine patients were admitted as in-patients during the year, 17 suffering from syphilis, 10 from gonorrhœa, and 2 from non-venereal conditions.

One hundred and fifty-four cases (12 syphilis, 94 gonorrhœa, 48 non-venereal) were discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure, or after diagnosis as non-venereal. One hundred and four cases (69 syphilis, 35 gonorrhœa) ceased to attend before completion of treatment.

Eighteen cases (6 syphilis, 12 gonorrhœa) ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure.

Thirty-eight cases (18 syphilis, 15 gonorrhœa, 5 non-venereal) were transferred to other centres, institutions, or to the care of private practitioners.

Two hundred and sixty-three cases (185 syphilis, 73 gonorrhœa, 5 non-venereal) were still under treatment or observation at the end of the year.

Supplies of Arsenobenzene Compounds.

Nine doctors on the list availed themselves of this free supply, and 153 doses of various strengths of these compounds were supplied.

Pathological Examinations.

Forty-seven microscopic examinations were made for syphilis and 969 for gonorrhœa at the Centre.

One thousand four hundred and ninety-three specimens were examined at the University of Manchester Public Health Laboratory, of which 1,208 were Wasserman reactions, and 285 tests for gonorrhœa (277 fixation tests and 8 microscopic tests). One hundred and twenty-eight of these were received from general practitioners, 105 from the Municipal Hospital, 115 from other sources, and 1,145 from the Centre.

INDEX

A.

Act—Artificial Cream, 1929	72
Act—Food & Drugs, 1938	71
Act—Midwives, 1936	46
Act—Rag Flock, 1911 and 1928	59
Act—Rats and Mice Destruction, 1919	59
Act—Shops, 1934	57-58
Act—Slaughter of Animals, 1933	70
Ambulance Facilities	25
Area of the Borough	12
Arsenobenzene Compounds	101
Artificial Pneumothrax	96
Assisted Milk Supply	38
Attack Rates	73, 91
Anthrax	79

B.

Bacteriological Examinations	72
Bakehouses	54, 57
Baths and Pools	59
Births	10, 16, 36
Births, Transferred	36
Blindness, Prevention of	83
Borough Coroner's Report	84
Bugs, Eradication of	64
Basement Bakehouses	57

C.

Cancer—Deaths	82-83
Cancer—Patients	26, 83
Castleshaw Camp School	30
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	77
Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report	51
Clinics, Ante-Natal	34-36
Clinics, Attendances	35
Clinics, Dental	40-41
Clinics, Orthopaedic	41-43
Clinics, Venereal Diseases	101
Closet Accommodation	50
Common Lodging Houses	53
Contents, Principal	3
Corporation Service, Examination of Entrants	33
Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food	72

D.

Dairies and Cowsheds	67
Deaths	10-11, 16-23, 86, 88
Death Rate, Infectious Diseases	73

Demolitions	60
Dental Treatment	40-41, 90
Diphtheria	76
Diphtheria Anti-Toxin	76
Diphtheria Immunisation	76
Disinfection	81
Disinfestations	81
Drainage and Sewerage	48
Dysentery	78

E.

Emergency Maternity Unit	36
Encephalitis Lethargica	77
Enteric Fever	76
Erysipelas	76

F.

Factories—Inspections	54-59
Fees—Municipal Midwives	46
Food & Drugs Act, 1938	71
Food—Inspections	67-72
Food Poisoning	78
Foot and Mouth Disease Orders	70

H.

Health Committee	6
Health Insurance	12
Health Services, General Provision of	24-33
Health Visiting	36
Hospital, The Municipal	9, 25-29, 82, 97-98
Hospital, Westhulme	9, 30, 78-80, 97
Houses in the Borough	60
Housing	60-66
Housing Statistics	65-66

I.

Infantile Mortality	11, 17, 23
Infant Life Protection	38
Infectious Diseases	73-88
Infectious Disease Notifications	85-87
Influenza	77
Inspection and Supervision of Foods	67-72
Introduction	4, 5
Infectious Diseases—Attack and Death Rates	73

INDEX—Continued

L.

Laboratory Facilities ...	24
Localisation of Cancer ...	84

M.

Marriages ...	16
Maternal Mortality ...	17, 44-45
Maternity and Child Welfare ...	34-46
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee ...	6
Maternity Home ...	9, 30, 36, 44
Measles ...	77
Meat Inspection ...	69-70
Medical Out-Relief ...	31
Medical Examinations ...	33
Meteorology ...	14
Midwives ...	25, 37, 46
Midwives Act, 1936 ...	46
Milk—Bacteriological Examinations ...	67
Milk Purveyors ...	67
Milk—Tuberculosis Order, 1938 ...	67
Milk & Dairies Order, 1926 ...	72
Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923 and 1926 ...	67
Municipal Hospital, The ...	9, 25-29, 82, 97-98

N.

National Milk Scheme ...	38
Neo-Natal Mortality ...	17
Nursing Homes ...	44

O.

Occupied Shops ...	57
Offensive Trades ...	53
Oldham Council for Mental Health ...	31-32
Oldham Day Nursery ...	44
Oldham Royal Infirmary ...	30, 82
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	38
Orthopaedic Clinic ...	41
Orthopaedic Defects and Treatment ...	42-43
Outworkers ...	56
Overcrowding ...	64-66

P.

Pathological Examinations ...	89, 101
Pneumonia ...	77
Poliomyelitis ...	77
Poor Law Medical Out-Relief ...	31
Poor Law Relief ...	12
Population ...	12
Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases ...	73-88

Professional Nursing in the Home ...	25
Public Cleansing ...	50-51
Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 & 1927 ...	72
Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 & 1927 ...	72
Public Health (Preservatives &c. in Food) Reg., 1925 & 1927 ...	72
Public Health (Meat) Reg., 1924 ...	70
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	38

R.

Racefield Hospital, Chadder-ton ...	30
Rateable Value ...	12
Registered Workshops ...	56

S.

Samples—Food and Drugs ...	67-72
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area ...	47-66
Sanitary Inspection ...	51-59
Sanocrysin ...	96
Scarlet Fever ...	76
Sewage Works Annual Report ...	48-49
Sewerage and Drainage ...	48
Shops Act, 1934 ...	57-58
Slum Clearance ...	60-63
Smoke Abatement ...	58
Smoke Inspection ...	58
Staff ...	7, 8, 9
Statistics, Summary of ...	10-11
Statistics and Social Conditions ...	12-23
Still-Births ...	16
Strinesdale Sanatorium ...	9, 30, 96
Supervision of Midwives ...	37
Swimming Baths & Pools ...	59

T.

TABLES—

Births and Deaths ...	18-22
Causes of Death ...	21
Cancer Deaths ...	82-83
Defects and Nuisances ...	65-66
Disinfection ...	82
Food and Drug Samples ...	69-72
Hospital Accommodation ...	27-28
Hospital Cancer Patients ...	26
Hospital Disease Groups ...	29
Hospital Statistics ...	28
Infant Mortality ...	23
Infectious Diseases—Deaths ...	88

INDEX—Continued

<p>Infectious Disease—Notifi- cations 85-87</p> <p>Meat Inspection 69-70</p> <p>Meteorological Observations 14-15</p> <p>Milk Samples 68</p> <p>Mortality Rates 22</p> <p>Neo-Natal Mortality 17</p> <p>Orthopædic Defects and Treatment 42-43</p> <p>Overcrowding 66</p> <p>Registered Workshops 56</p> <p>Samples—Food and Drugs 69-72</p> <p>Slum Clearance 62-63</p> <p>Smoke Appliances... .. 58</p> <p>Tuberculosis—Dispensary Register 91-92</p> <p>Tuberculosis—Statistics ... 96-100</p> <p>Unemployed 13</p> <p>Vaccinations 74</p> <p>Vaccinal State of Infants... 75</p> <p>Vital Statistics 18, 20</p> <p>Ward Statistics 19</p> <p>Westhulme Hospital Admissions 80</p> <p>Zymotic Diseases—Deaths, 1902-1939 88</p> <p>Zymotic Diseases—Notifi- cations, 1907-1939 87</p> <p>Transferred Births 36</p> <p>Treatment Centres and Clinics 25</p> <p>Tuberculosis 90-100</p> <p>Tuberculosis—Deaths 93-99</p> <p>Tuberculosis—Dispensary 89</p> <p>Tuberculosis, Incidence of ... 91</p> <p>Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary 93</p> <p>Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ... 92</p>	<p>U.</p> <p>Unemployment 12</p> <p>Undulant Fever 78</p> <p>V.</p> <p>Vaccination 74-75</p> <p>Venereal Diseases 101</p> <p>Vital Statistics 10-11, 16-23</p> <p>W.</p> <p>Wards, Births, Deaths, and Rates 19</p> <p>Wartime Day Nurseries 44</p> <p>Water Supply 47</p> <p>Westhulme Hospital 9, 30, 78, 97</p> <p>Westwood Park Institution... 31</p> <p>Whooping Cough 78</p> <p>Woodfield Nursing Home ... 31</p> <p>Workshops Inspections 54-58</p> <p>Workshops Registered 56</p> <p>X.</p> <p>X-Ray Work 89</p> <p>Z.</p> <p>Zymotic Diseases—Deaths Tables 88</p>
--	--