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COUNTY BOROUGH OF PRESTON.



REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
ON THE HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH
FOR THE YEAR
1924.

PRESTON:
B. Seed & Sons, Printers, 43 Guildhall Street.
1925.



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HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1924-25

Chairman : MR. COUNCILLOR RICHARD DURHAM.

Vice-Chairman : MR. COUNCILLOR T. H. C. DERHAM, M.B., C.M.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.

Mr. Councillor E. C. C. FIRTH, J.P.

Mr. Alderman HENRY CARTMELL.

Mr. Councillor J. HERBERT.

Mr. Alderman H. FAZACKERLEY.

Mrs. Councillor A. M. PIMBLETT.

Mr. Councillor T. C. RAINFORD.

Mrs. Councillor M. ASTLEY-BELL, J.P.

Mr. Councillor F. W. COLLINSON, F.R.C.S.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman : MRS. COUNCILLOR A. M. PIMBLETT.

The Health Committee and Councillors SNELHAM, SERGEANT and HEAPS with the following Ladies adopted as Members :—

Mrs. BARWICK.

Mrs. TODD, J.P.

Mrs. DUNBAR, J.P.

Mrs. JAMIESON.

Mrs. MARSDEN, J.P.

Mrs. STANGER.

TUBERCULOSIS SUB-COMMITTEE.

Six Members of the Health Committee, with the following Members of the Insurance Committee adopted as Members :—

MR. J. CORBISHLEY,

MR. W. PEMBERTON.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Borough for the year 1924.

The vital statistics are practically the same as those of the last two years. The standard of living, upon which the Public Health mainly depends, has declined after several years of trade depression. This phase is reflected in the increased number of in-patients and out-patients at the Preston Royal Infirmary, the large number of admissions to the Poor Law Infirmary, and the amount of out-door relief. There has been an improvement in the state of employment, but there is still a great amount of unemployment and under-employment, more particularly felt in the Engineering trade.

The report is divided into sections, each of which deals with a particular aspect of disease prevention.

The Sanitary Inspectors dealing with environment have maintained a steady pressure upon owners to maintain their property in good order, thus avoiding an accumulation of defects which favour epidemic outbreaks. The rapid growth of the north-easterly portion of the town has rendered the appointment of an additional Inspector a matter for consideration. The pollution of the atmosphere by industrial smoke, so wasteful, depressing, and productive of disease, demands more attention from your Committee than it has hitherto received, and I recommend the appointment of an Inspector trained in boiler management to have the suppression of smoke as his one duty. The extraordinary manner in which the beauty of our town was revealed in the clear, smokeless weather prevailing at Whitsuntide, 1925, was a matter of universal comment and delight.

Captain Finch, our Veterinary Surgeon, has compiled a report of great value. It is a record of a painstaking effort to render the food of the people as free from disease and contamination as possible. The supervision of meat cannot be improved upon, and I am satisfied that we are getting an article of food of high quality. The difficulty with milk is that it is dear, the production is not under our control, and it is liable to rapid fermentative changes. The consumption per head equals $8\frac{1}{2}$ ounces per diem. I believe that the sale of milk restricted to an article produced under reasonably clean conditions and bottled at the farm would result in a greatly increased consumption.

There has been a steady decline in the number of cases and of deaths from infectious diseases. Influenza, Tuberculosis and Pneumonia remain chief among the fatal diseases, and among the non-infectious diseases Cancer, Circulatory

Diseases, and Bronchitis are to be most dreaded. It is hoped that the provision of more accommodation for Pulmonary Tuberculosis and the creation of a Nursing Service will prove valuable weapons in our fight against disease.

The mortality among infants and in parturient women remains high. The principle of extending our service and correlating with it existing organisations, such as the Voluntary Workers' Association and the Preston Royal Infirmary, has been applied. The taking over of what were Poor Law functions in the supply of Free Doctor, Midwife, Home Help, or Milk in respect of Nursing and Expecting Mothers and children under five years is causing a great expansion in our work.

The Isolation Hospital has had a busy year, and is continually extending the scope of its activities.

We have done well in the provision of new houses, but more remains to be done.

In conclusion, I tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of your Committee for their kindly help and consideration always forthcoming, and to my colleagues for their loyal and energetic efforts.

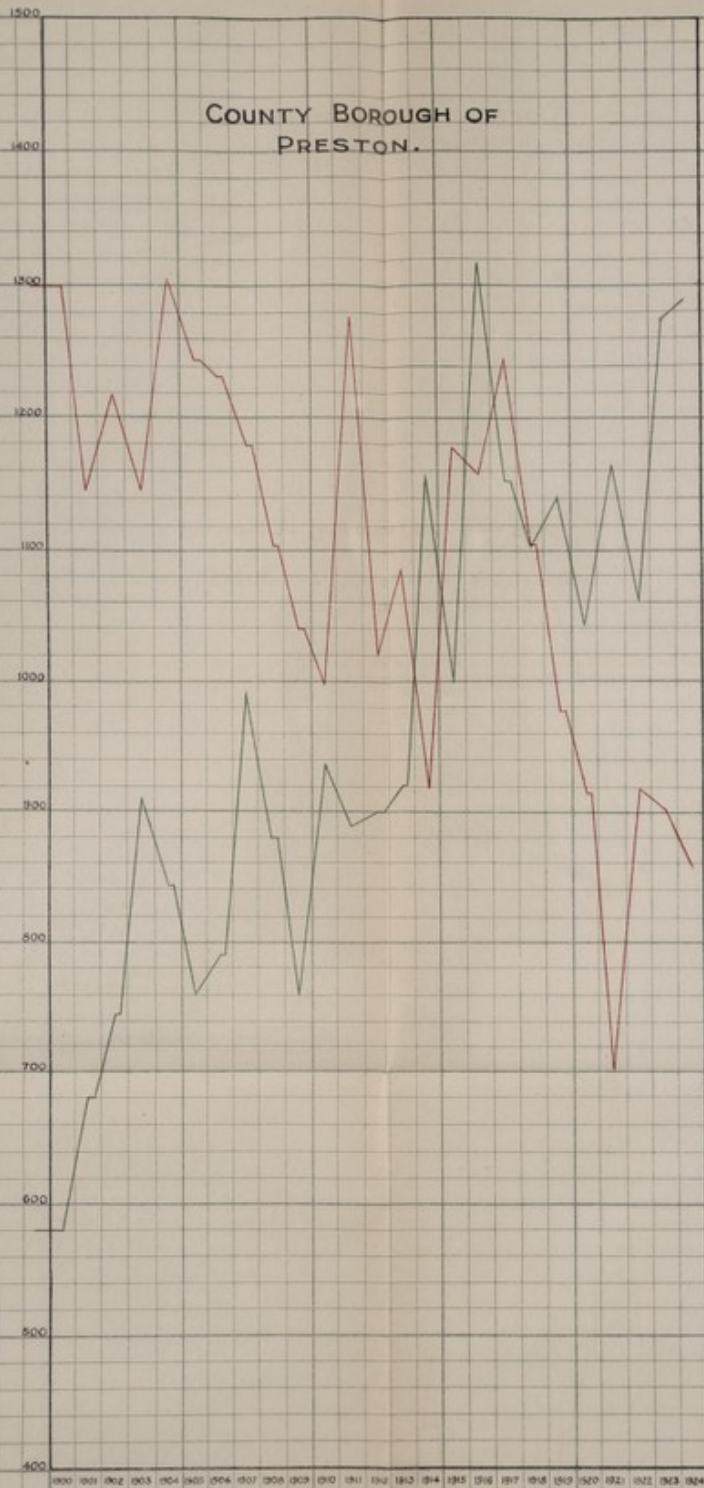
I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

F. A. SHARPE,

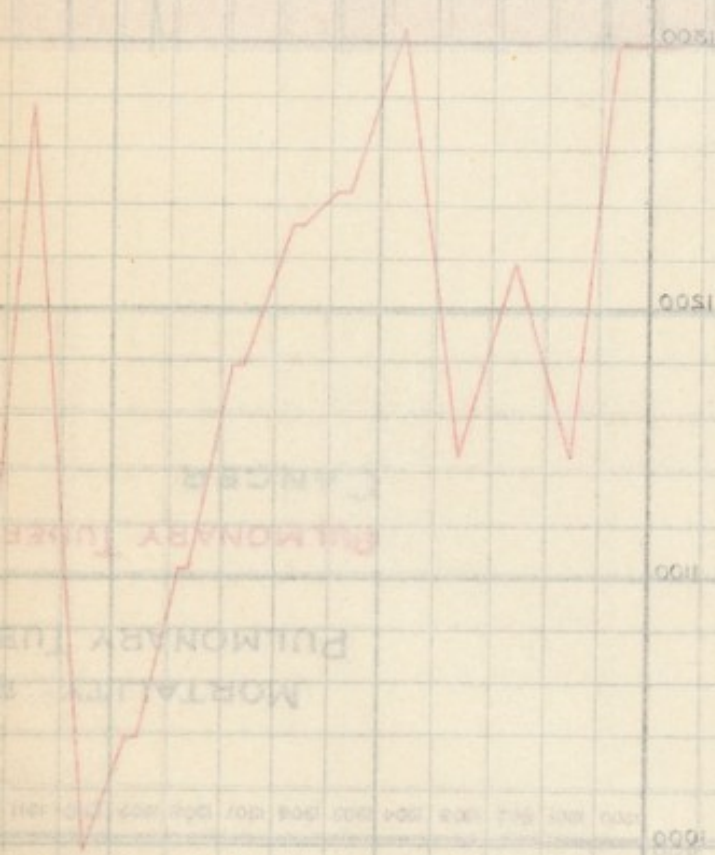
Medical Officer of Health.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF
PRESTON.

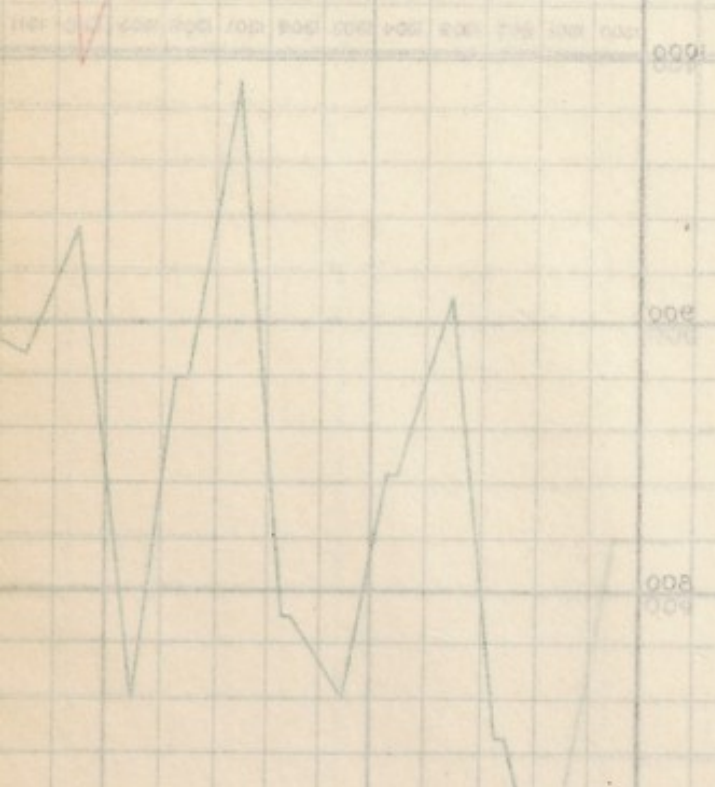


MORTALITY PER MILLION FROM
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS AND CANCER.
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS — RED
CANCER — GREEN

COUNTY BO
PREST



LUNG CANCER
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS
MORTALITY



1500
1400
1300
1200
1100
1000
900
800

I.—Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY.

Area in acres ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,964
Population, estimated middle of 1924...	...	...	...	...	123,100
		1922-23		1923-24	1924-25
Rateable Value ...	£591,770	...	£598,748	...	£605,474
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£2,100	...	£2,150	...	£2,276
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Total Rates Levied ...	13 9	...	12 6	...	11 10
Rate for Public Health	0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	0 8 $\frac{5}{8}$
„ Highways ...	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
„ Scavenging...	0 6	...	0 5	...	0 5 $\frac{1}{8}$
„ House Refuse	0 10	...	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	0 9
„ Sewerage	0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	...	0 6	...	0 5 $\frac{7}{8}$
		Males.		Females.	Birth Rate.
Births—Legitimate	1,120		1,096		18.00
Illegitimate	65		47		0.91
Deaths—Nett	1,714		Rate		13.92
Number of Marriages, 1,035			Marriage Rate, 8.4		
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child birth—					
From Sepsis—5.			From other causes—9.		
Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births—					
Legitimate—91.		Illegitimate—205.		Total—97.	
Deaths from Measles at all ages ... ..	...	...	...	...	21
„ Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	4
„ Diarrhœa (under two years) ... ..	...	...	...	...	23

POPULATION.

The following information is supplied by the Registrar-General:—

“ The procedure followed in adjusting the local Census populations of 1921 in order to arrive at estimates of resident populations for that year which could suitably be used in connection with statistics of births and deaths classified according to area of residence is described in the Registrar-General’s Statistical Review (text) for 1921.

The estimates of population as at 30th June, 1924, which are now provided have been based on the adjusted 1921 figures, after allowance for the varying rate of natural increase as evidenced by the births and deaths in each area and of migration as indicated from other sources of information, such as the changes in the numbers on the Electoral Register and the migration returns obtained by the Board of Trade, and are supplied only for use in Vital Statistics.

Estimated population, 1924—123,100."

The Vital Statistics of the various wards are set out in the table below. As will be seen, they vary very much from one another, and a reference to previous reports shews that they vary from year to year.

TABLE IA.

WARD	Census 1921	Estimated Population, June, 1924	Nett Deaths	Rate per 1000 living	Births	Rate per 1000 living	Deaths of Infants	Infant Mortality per 1000 born
St. John's ...	11647	12108	188	15.53	222	18.34	31	140
Avenham	7155	7389	113	15.29	113	15.29	10	88
Christ Church	8474	8810	140	15.89	187	21.23	24	128
Ashton ...	9030	9281	99	10.67	135	14.55	10	74
Maudland ...	9641	10014	112	11.18	195	19.47	19	97
St. Peter's ...	11319	11936	163	13.66	230	19.27	19	83
Moorbrook ...	8736	9104	107	11.75	134	14.72	9	67
Park ...	14470	15056	196	13.02	295	19.59	22	75
Trinity ...	9684	10055	174	17.30	238	23.67	19	80
Deepdale ...	10743	11717	163	13.91	236	20.14	28	119
Ribbleton ...	9065	9892	147	14.86	215	21.74	25	116
Fishwick ...	7442	7738	109	14.09	128	16.54	9	70
Unknown ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
	117406	123,100	1714	13.92	2328	18.91	225	97

In the Borough as a whole there has been a slight fall in the Birth Rate. The Death Rate is a little higher than in 1923, and the Infant Mortality is practically the same as last year.

The number of Marriages and the rate have slightly increased.

There has been an increase in the number of deaths from Measles (21—6), Cancer (159—154), Influenza (89—54), Violence (54—37), Heart Disease (194—169), and Arterio-Sclerosis (75—58), and a decrease in those caused by Whooping Cough (4—22) and Pneumonia (175—189). Deaths from other causes are approximately the same as in 1922.

There were 6 deaths from Suicide, compared with 16 last year. In the five years 1914-1918 the average was 8.8, and in the succeeding five years 12.6.

The tables which follow deal with the Vital Statistics, and compare them with previous years and with other towns. They also illustrate the mortality in the various Wards. The figures supplied by the Registrar-General agree in the totals with those locally compiled, but differ slightly in detail. Calculations have been based upon the former.

TABLE IB.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1924 and previous nine years.

YEAR.	Total Population.	BIRTHS. Nett.		CIVILIAN POPULATION.	TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Num-ber.	Rate.		Num-ber.	Rate.	of Non-resid'ts registered in the district	of Resi-dents not regist'd in the district	Und'r 1 yr. of age		At all Ages.	
									Num-ber.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Num-ber	Rate.
1915	118,118	2546	21.48	111936	1878	16.78	50	258	395	155	2086	18.63
1916	119,611	2315	19.36	109935	1581	14.39	46	239	254	109	1774	16.14
1917	118,993	2019	16.96	106747	1461	13.69	57	241	255	124	1660	15.46
1918	118,595	1906	16.07	105845	1778	16.79	66	232	213	113	1944	18.36
1919	122,168	2086	17.45	117277	1619	13.55	66	207	225	110	1760	14.72
1920	122,133	2984	24.43	121950	1539	12.57	83	203	301	101	1659	13.60
1921	119,900	2811	23.44		1449	12.08	61	207	316	112	1595	13.30
1922	120,900	2482	20.53		1528	12.64	74	208	242	97	1662	13.75
1923	121,700	2426	19.11		1527	12.54	78	227	238	98	1676	13.77
1924	123,100	2328	18.91		1573	12.78	88	229	225	97	1714	13.92

Total population at all ages 117,406

Number of inhabited houses 27,189

Average number of persons per house.. 4.31

At Census
of 1921.

Area of District in acres (Land
and Inland Water)..... } 3,964

TABLE Ic.

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during the Year 1924

Supplied by the Registrar-General.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
ALL CAUSES	M	862	145	26	31	17	36	112	248	151	96
	F	851	80	25	16	28	27	91	252	169	163
1 Enteric Fever	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Small Pox	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Measles	M	11	1	6	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	10	2	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
4 Scarlet Fever	M	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping Cough	M	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Diphtheria	M	4	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
7 Influenza	M	41	3	...	3	1	1	11	15	4	3
	F	48	...	1	1	2	...	8	21	10	5
8 Encephalitis Lethargica	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Meningococcal meningitis	M	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M	64	...	1	1	...	15	23	23	1	...
	F	41	...	...	...	7	7	17	8	2	...
11 Other tuberculous diseases	M	18	6	1	4	2	1	1	2	1	...
	F	16	3	3	1	2	4	3	3	...	...
12 Cancer, malignant disease	M	63	...	...	...	1	1	3	34	22	2
	F	96	...	1	...	...	...	2	56	28	9
13 Rheumatic Fever	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
	F	6	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	1	...
14 Diabetes	M	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	1
	F	14	...	...	...	...	1	1	5	5	2
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	M	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	13	12
	F	54	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	20	21
16 Heart Disease	M	74	...	...	...	2	...	7	27	22	16
	F	120	...	...	...	3	6	14	37	35	25
17 Arterio-sclerosis	M	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	22	5
	F	39	...	...	...	...	...	1	11	17	10
18 Bronchitis	M	80	6	1	...	...	...	9	27	17	20
	F	80	7	...	...	...	...	4	24	20	25
19 Pneumonia (all forms)	M	109	26	7	10	1	6	24	22	9	4
	F	66	6	13	5	3	...	6	21	6	6
20 Other respiratory diseases	M	9	1	...	1	...	...	3	2	1	1
	F	8	...	...	1	...	...	2	3	1	1
21 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	M	7	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	1	...
	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...
22 Diarrhœa, &c.	M	17	12	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...
	F	8	7	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
23 Appendicitis and Typhlitis	M	4	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
24 Cirrhosis of Liver	M	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...
	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
25 Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	M	16	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	3	1
	F	24	...	...	...	2	3	4	8	5	2
26 Puerperal Sepsis	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	5	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...
27 Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	9	...	...	...	...	1	8	...	...	...
28 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	M	60	59	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
	F	40	39	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29 Suicide	M	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1
30 Other deaths from violence	M	40	...	4	2	3	6	8	13	2	2
	F	14	...	...	2	1	...	1	1	2	7
31 Other defined diseases	M	133	27	4	2	3	1	13	27	28	28
	F	128	15	...	1	2	2	16	31	12	49
32 Causes ill-defined or unknown...	M	16	3	1	...	...	1	1	8	1	1
	F	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	3	...

TABLE Ic. (Continued).

Number and Causes of Death in each Ward for the Year.

CAUSE OF DEATH	St. John's ward.	Avenham Ward.	Christ Church Ward.	Ashton Ward.	Maudland Ward.	St. Peter's Ward.	Moor Brook Ward.	Park Ward.	Trinity Ward.	Deepdale Ward.	Ribbleton Ward.	Fishwick Ward.	Unknown.	TOTALS.
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	2	1	6	...	...	5	2	...	...	1	2	2	...	21
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	4
Diphtheria, Croup	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	6
Influenza	14	5	7	10	3	11	5	7	7	3	8	5	...	85
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis of Resp. System	16	6	9	4	8	19	4	9	8	8	11	3	...	105
Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	1	2	1	1	5	3	2	7	3	4	1	...	33
Cancer, Malign. Disease	13	3	9	11	8	13	14	31	13	11	19	13	...	158
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	1	1	2	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	8
Diabetes	1	2	2	2	2	3	...	1	3	3	...	2	...	21
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	10	11	10	7	7	...	6	10	9	7	4	9	...	90
Organic Heart Disease	15	18	18	17	15	16	16	22	19	21	14	7	...	198
Arterio Sclerosis	3	5	7	3	7	7	3	8	7	11	12	4	...	77
Bronchitis	17	8	11	10	8	14	8	13	23	15	18	10	...	155
Pneumonia, all forms	26	15	19	4	11	13	8	23	15	14	14	13	1	176
Other diseases of respiratory organs	1	...	...	1	1	2	1	5	4	...	...	2	...	17
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	...	...	...	1	1	3	1	1	1	...	1	...	11
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	2	2	1	...	2	1	2	...	2	6	3	1	...	22
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	6
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	2	1	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	7
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	3	1	...	2	6	6	5	6	3	3	1	...	39
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	5
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy & parturition.	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	...	2	...	8
Congen. Debility & Malformation. Premature Birth	18	5	6	6	6	11	4	9	11	9	9	6	...	100
Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	6
Other Deaths from Violence	5	4	4	4	1	8	4	5	3	10	2	5	...	55
Other defined diseases	31	17	17	15	23	18	17	39	26	31	17	19	2	273
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	3	2	5	...	4	2	...	...	3	3	3	...	...	25
Totals	188	113	140	99	112	163	107	196	174	163	147	109	3	1714

TABLE ID.

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1924.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1923, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1922. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

This Table, with the exception of the line relating to the Borough, has been supplied by the Registrar-General:—

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1000 TOTAL POPULATION	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS		
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under One Year	Certified Causes of Death	Inquest Cases	Uncertified Causes of Death	
England and Wales...	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.10	0.06	0.49	0.44	7.3	75	92.3	6.6	1.1	
105 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London.	19.4	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.18	0.03	0.12	0.08	0.45	0.40	9.2	80	92.6	6.9	0.6	
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Popul'n. 20,000-50,000)	18.9	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.09	0.06	0.50	0.36	6.2	71	93.3	5.5	1.2	
London ...	18.7	12.1	0.01	...	0.29	0.03	0.11	0.12	0.36	0.44	8.4	69	91.3	8.6	0.1	
County Borough of Preston...	18.91	13.92	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.72	0.49	8.16	97	92.5	4.3	3.2	

TABLE IE.

Abstract from the Registrar General's Report for the Quarter ended December 31st, 1924.

Population, Births, Deaths, and Infant Mortality for the 53 weeks ended January 3rd, 1925.

NAME OF TOWN.	Adjusted population Mid., 1923.	Birth Rate.	Re-corded Death Rate.	Meas-les.	Scarlet Fever.	Wh'p-ing Cough.	Diph-theria.	Influ-enza.	Diarr-hœa & Enter-itis under 2 years	Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births.
Stockport	125,700	16.2	13.4	0.33	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.63	3.4	84
Chester	41,420	20.1	11.3	0.29	0.02	0.05	0.02	0.14	10.7	84
Birkenhead	151,400	21.4	11.6	0.26	0.02	0.26	0.05	0.23	17.6	91
Wallasey	89,990	15.6	10.5	0.09	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.37	4.2	55
Liverpool	837,600	24.4	13.3	0.17	0.07	0.21	0.08	0.22	15.7	102
Bootle	72,410	25.4	10.7	0.21	0.08	0.16	0.04	0.14	11.4	82
St. Helens	107,100	24.0	12.0	0.27	0.01	0.10	0.04	0.36	9.2	106
Southport	72,020	13.1	13.3	0.04	...	0.07	...	0.53	3.1	59
Wigan	91,640	21.8	14.1	0.90	0.02	0.37	0.03	0.61	10.8	108
Warrington	78,910	21.0	11.6	0.22	0.14	0.06	0.01	0.35	7.7	81
Bolton	182,200	17.0	13.5	0.06	0.01	0.15	0.03	0.47	9.5	93
Bury	57,250	15.4	13.6	...	0.02	0.07	...	0.48	5.6	67
Manchester	752,100	19.9	13.7	0.49	0.04	0.15	0.08	0.44	12.9	97
Salford	241,600	19.2	14.0	0.61	0.01	0.26	0.07	0.44	18.5	119
Oldham	147,500	16.3	13.2	0.16	0.01	0.07	0.02	0.37	9.0	105
Rochdale	92,710	13.7	14.2	0.18	0.05	0.06	0.02	0.89	3.9	87
Burnley	104,800	16.5	14.4	0.08	...	0.03	0.08	1.23	11.4	122
Blackburn	129,000	15.6	13.8	0.15	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.74	6.9	84
Preston	121,700	19.5	13.7	0.18	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.73	8.5	90
Blackpool	74,050	15.5	15.3	0.05	0.01	0.05	0.04	0.55	5.9	73
Barrow-in-Furness.	75,690	16.8	11.4	0.03	0.01	0.14	0.05	0.49	3.6	71

THE PRESTON ROYAL INFIRMARY.

A general description of the Royal Infirmary has appeared in previous Annual Reports. The following information is abstracted from the Annual Report of the Preston and County of Lancaster Queen Victoria Royal Infirmary for the year 1924:—

The number of In-patients treated during the year was 3,416, as against 3,039 in the previous year. The daily average number of beds occupied was 202, compared with 190; the total days maintenance being 73,677, as against 69,412. 540 of the patients were transferred to the Lostock Hall Convalescent Hospital, where the average daily occupation of beds was 31 and the average stay of the patient 21 days.

Last year's record in the Out-patient Department has been exceeded—12,853 patients were treated (an increase of 2,509), including 5,194 Accident and Casualty cases, 2,900 Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, 1,765 Surgical, 322 Medical, 828 X-Ray, 906 Venereal Disease, 494 Electro-Massage, and 77 visited at home. The aggregate attendances numbered 61,177, and the prescriptions dispensed 22,793.

EXPENDITURE.—The total expenditure of the Infirmary was £34,695 15s. 2d., of which £22,630 1s. 11d. represented Ordinary Maintenance, and £12,065 13s. 3d. Extensions, Improvements, and Special Equipment.

The average costs per patient were as follows:—

	1922.			1923.			1924.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Annual cost per In-Patient at Infirmary...	107	18	0	102	19	0	101	18	10
Weekly cost per In-Patient at Infirmary	2	1	6	1	19	6	1	19	2½
Cost of each In-Patient at Infirmary ...	6	2	10	5	7	0	5	2	4
Cost of each Out-Patient at Infirmary ...	0	6	3½	0	5	10	0	5	0
Annual cost of each In-Patient at Convalescent Hospital	—			70	4	0	71	2	5
Weekly do.	1	14	9	1	7	0	1	7	4½
Cost of each In-Patient at Convalescent Hospital	8	8	0	5	18	0	4	1	8

POOR LAW RELIEF.

Mr. Thomas H. Bentham, Clerk to the Guardians, has kindly supplied the following information.

Number of persons received from the Borough of Preston into the Fulwood Workhouse Hospital:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1920 ...	229	213	66	508
1921 ...	205	294	109	608
1922 ...	237	256	89	582
1923 ...	283	279	104	666
1924 ...	329	224	76	629

The total amount of Out-door Relief paid in respect of the Borough was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1920 ...	3055	18	0
1921 ...	12133	16	0
1922 ...	11692	1	7
1923 ...	4384	12	11
1924 ...	7253	17	1

NATIONAL INSURANCE.

Mr. Irvine R. Dearnley, Clerk to the Preston Insurance Committee, has been good enough to furnish the following information:—

“INSURED POPULATION.

The number of insured persons in the Borough on the 1st April, 1925, was 58,443. Of this number 57,755 are insured through Approved Societies. This is a very large proportion of the population, the percentage of insured for the whole

country being about one-third. The figures only include those workers between the ages of 16 to 70 years whose income is up to £250 per year. This heavy proportion of the population engaged in industry in all its branches is an important factor to be borne in mind when considering health matters in the Borough.

MEDICAL BENEFIT.

The year ended 31st December, 1924, again showed a further remarkable increase in the amount of medicine consumed, and established a new record. The number of prescriptions dispensed by chemists being 269,611, against 216,335 in the previous year, an increase of 53,276. When one is reminded that the year 1923 also showed an increase of 41,211 over the year 1922, the figure is still more startling. In addition, if the same ratio is taken, the Preston Friendly Societies' Medical Association would dispense about 10,000 prescriptions for insured persons on the list of that Institution. There is no record of the private dispensing done by doctors to the uninsured population nor of medicines purchased by the people themselves direct. It is difficult to draw definite conclusions from these figures, but one wonders whether cotton workers are more susceptible to illness than others perhaps more fortunately placed. It should not be overlooked that the doctors' services are now being made use of more freely, and there is a distinct tendency to visit the doctor in the earlier stages of illness than was formerly the case. This feature should ultimately have a favourable reflection in the mortality statistics. Nevertheless the sickness incidence is higher than can be calmly contemplated, and it is to be hoped that the increase in the number of prescriptions is only of a temporary character following on a long period of trade depression, and that with an improvement in trade conditions there will be a general improvement in the health of the town.

Comparing the figures in nine of the Lancashire County Borough areas, Preston consumes 20 per cent. more medicines than any of those nine Boroughs. The general sickness incidence in Preston amongst insured persons is about 3 per cent. There are areas in the town where the sickness rate is as low as 1 per cent., and there are other areas where the sickness rate varies between 6 per cent. and 9 per cent. The total cost of the Drug Bill for 1924 for insured persons alone was £10,266 15s. 4d., an increase of £2,363 over 1923.

MEDICAL LIST.

Including the resident doctor at the Medical Association there are at present 49 doctors on the Insurance Committee's list. There are also 31 Chemists' establishments for the dispensing of medicines, and each establishment has one or more fully qualified registered pharmacist employed there.

NURSING SERVICE.

Towards the end of the year under review very amicable and close co-operation prevailed between the Health Committee of the Corporation and the Insurance Committee on the subject of a skilled domiciliary nursing service. The Insurance Committee records with considerable satisfaction its appreciation of the efforts of the Chairman of the Health Committee (Mr. Councillor R. Durham) and the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. F. A. Sharpe), and hopes the year 1925 will be marked by the successful inauguration of a Nursing Association."

UNEMPLOYMENT.

Mr. Jepson, the Manager of the Employment Exchange, has been good enough to supply the following information. Those figures relating to unemployment in Boys and Girls after September have been supplied by the Director of Education, to whose department Juvenile Unemployment has been transferred.

“

TABLE IF.

1924	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
April	3,373	2,229	68	104	5,774
May	3,203	2,149	80	163	5,595
June	1,946	501	22	11	2,280
July	2,801	2,120	75	158	5,154
August	2,333	1,251	48	36	3,668
September	2,821	2,869	59	124	5,873
October	2,575	1,155	51	69	3,850
November	2,332	1,080	65	49	3,526
December	2,595	910	41	29	3,575
1925.					
January	2,886	1,022	67	68	4,043
February	2,892	1,334	64	83	4,373
March	2,661	970	79	51	3,761

The above figures represent the numbers on our Live Register at the end of our statistical month. By comparison with the figures for similar period last year it will be noted that there has been a marked decline. This has been due mainly to the fact that in the period under review a decided and general improvement in the cotton industry has prevailed.

There are unfortunately indications that the cotton trade is not so well placed locally as was the case in the latter months of 1924, and my register next week will be a little over 7,000.

For several months past we have been comparatively free from Mill Stoppages, although there has been some under employment in the Preparatory Departments of the Manufacturing Section, viz., Winders and Warpers.

Owing to shortage of orders I have no less than six mills and two other works stopping for extended holidays at Easter, and unless our local manufacturers are successful in securing in the very near future substantial orders or contracts I am afraid that in some instances recourse will have to be had to a system of short-time working.

The electrical engineering in the district has remained fairly and consistently busy, but I am sorry to have to say that our textile machinists and firms engaged in general engineering have suffered rather severely from trade depression, and at the moment there does not appear to be any indications of improvement.

The Motor business has throughout the year been exceptionally busy, and I am given to understand are likely to remain so for some time to come.

The Building Trade has been very brisk, and there does not appear to be any likelihood of any change in this respect for a long time to come. Excepting a few Painters, which are gradually being absorbed, we have no skilled men connected with the building trade out of work.

The Unemployment Benefit paid out during the last quarter, i.e., from January to March inclusive, amounts to £37,508 17s. 5d.”

II.—Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply was described in the report for 1920. The work authorised under the Preston Corporation Act of 1921 is now in hand. The new intakes in the Langden Valley and in the Hareden Valley are completed.

The construction of the new reservoir at Longridge is progressing satisfactorily.

The following report was made by the Borough Analyst upon a sample of the town's water submitted on May 25th, 1925 :—

Parts per 100,000.	
Total solid matter in solution	6.88
Oxygen required to oxidize in 15" ⁿ	0.034
Oxygen required to oxidize in 3 hours	0.068
Ammonia	0.001
Ammonia from Organic Matter by distillation with alkaline permanganate	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates	None
Nitrogen as Nitrites	None
Combined Chlorine	1.05
Total Hardness	3.08

The water was clear, faintly yellow and odourless. It contained a trace of suspended matter which consisted of hydrated oxide of iron, vegetable debris and siliceous particles with algae, diatoms, infusoria, rotifers, anguillulae, insect remains, and particles of a few fungus spores. Reaction to Litmus—alkaline. The water is a very good and soft upland surface water, well suited for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) W. H. ROBERTS, M.Sc., F.I.C.,
Borough Analyst.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are approximately 28,050 fresh water closets, 500 waste water closets, 14 trough closets (exclusive of those in use at Schools) and 28 privy middens, all of which latter are situated on farms and cottages in the rural parts of Ashton, Deepdale, Ribbleton and Fishwick Wards, and are not within reach of a sewer.

The Sanitary Conveniences in use at Factories and Workshops and Schools are not included in the above.

SCAVENGING.

The system in force was described in the report for 1920. The work has been satisfactorily carried out.

WORK OF THE DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS.

DWELLING HOUSES.

The number of inspections and re-inspections are tabulated for each district :—

TABLE IIa. Inspections.

	SANITARY DISTRICTS					TOTAL
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Inspected on Complaint	927	803	855	905	1552	5042
Re Infectious Diseases	53	79	80	110	49	371
Housing and Town Planning Acts	97	107	100	43	25	372
Rent Restriction Act .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	1077	989	1035	1058	1626	5785

Re-Inspections.

	SANITARY DISTRICTS					TOTAL
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Inspected on Complaint	2574	1781	1111	1557	2082	9105
Re Infectious Diseases	9	79	29	250	35	402
Housing and Town Planning Acts	84	182	151	239	129	785
Rent Restriction Act .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	2667	2042	1291	2046	2246	10292

These inspections and re-inspections involved the sending of 3,179 letters with regard to the common defects, i.e., yard flagging, cleansing and limewashing, and provision of dustbins. Also 271 Informal Notices were served in connection with the surveys under the Housing Regulations, 1910, and the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1919. There were also 153 Statutory Notices under the Public Health Acts served by the authority of the Council. Legal action to enforce the requirements of the Council were taken in the following instances :—

Public Health Act, 1875 :—

Sec. 94 (Nuisances)—

Owner ordered by the Court to do the work within 8 weeks.

Sec. 46 (Limewashing)—

Case adjourned for 8 weeks for work to be done.

The results of the work are shewn in Table IIb., 5,162 houses in all have been dealt with. The improvements, repairs and alterations are multifarious and cover practically every possible kind of defect. The work done in connection with the Public Health Acts generally relating to one and only occasionally to more than one defect. That in connection with the Housing and Town Planning Act, relating as it did to the poorer class of property, dealt with a variety of defects in each individual house which were discovered during a thorough sanitary survey.

TABLE IIb.

Summary of Work done during the Year 1924.

Houses dealt with :—	Public Health Acts.					Housing and Town Planning Acts.						
	SANITARY DISTRICTS					SANITARY DISTRICTS						
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	TOTAL	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	TOTAL
1 Lighting and Ventilation improved ...	1245	638	705	989	1151	4728	59	91	75	84	125	434
2 Roofs reconstructed or repaired	24	...	16	13	17	70	28	41	7	41	31	148
3 Floors repaired or relaid	49	25	101	62	76	313	14	24	2	20	28	88
4 Fireplaces repaired or provided	22	15	27	22	20	106	4	36	14	18	27	99
5 Staircases repaired	5	1	7	12	20	45	4	19	2	18	23	66
6 Walls and chimneys pointed and repaired .....	...	3	4	1	...	8	...	1	1	7	7	16
7 Repairs and renewals to W.C. accommodation	58	6	67	35	27	193	22	50	9	33	29	143
8 Portable ashpails provided	155	103	25	181	272	736	10	18	1	18	36	83
9 New Sinks or other sanitary fittings...	436	142	129	233	436	1476	1	14	10	10	10	45
10 Yard and lobby pavements repaired...	28	3	44	12	20	107	6	16	8	3	10	43
11 Drains tested, repaired or renewed ...	75	6	34	22	24	161	5	...	1	5	15	26
12 Gutters and downspouts repaired or renewed	524	312	193	207	417	1653	...	9	3	4	23	39
13 Provided with sufficient water supply..	97	32	70	93	71	363	9	26	6	38	23	102
14 Plasterwork and limewashing	10	...	59	20	6	95	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 General nuisances	58	12	89	84	73	316	34	32	5	50	94	215
	10	28	25	86	26	175	7	20	...	7	11	45

Summary of Work done during the Year 1924.

DRAINS.

A large volume of work was done in connection with sanitary defects arising out of drains. The work done is included in the foregoing table. The inspections were as follows :—

Inspections.

	SANITARY DISTRICTS					TOTAL
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Street Gullies	1	2	2	...	20	25
Drains	322	1014	658	174	1068	4236

Re-Inspections.

	SANITARY DISTRICTS					TOTAL
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Street Gullies .....	...	...	...	...	20	20
Drains	748	3327	1184	292	1429	6980

512 Drains were opened out for inspection and testing, and were a Corporation liability. They involved the undertaking of 184 different jobs done partly by Corporation workmen and partly by Contractors. The average time expended on each job was 21.16 hours, and the average cost of labour was £1 11s. 2d. In January the cost of Corporation labour was 15.67d. and 16.22d. per hour. In July the rate was increased to 16.77d. and 17.32d. per hour. The comparative costs for labour supplied by Contractors were 19d. and 19.5d. per hour. The cost of materials added a further 3s. 2d. to each job. The proportion of the work done by the Council's men and Contractors is as follow :—

	£	s.	d.
Corporation labour, 2,138½ hours at a cost of ...	146	4	8
Contractors' labour, 1,756½ hours at a cost of ...	140	10	9½
Corporation material and haulage	12	14	2
Contractors' material	16	6	4
	<hr/>		
	£315	15	11½

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The following tables deal with the premises registered, the number of inspections and the results of such inspections. Of the 147 defects originally found, all were remedied. There is very little out-working done in the Borough, the premises upon which it is carried out have been frequently inspected and found satisfactory.

TABLE IIc.

List of Factories and Workshops on Register during the Year 1924.

	DISTRICT					TOTAL
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Artificial Teeth Makers	3	...	5	7	8	23
Bakers and Confectioners (Retail)	60	38	34	25	35	192
Bakers (Public) .....	...	2	...	1	...	3
Basket Makers	2	2	2	...	2	8
Beer Bottlers	3	3	1	1	5	13
Biscuit Makers .....	...	1	2	...	...	3
Boot, Shoe, and Clog Makers, Leather Curriers	26	20	30	26	22	124
Brass Founders .....	...	...	1	1	3	5
Breweries .....	...	1	1	...	1	3
Brush Makers	1	...	...	...	2	3
Cabinet Makers, Wood Carvers, Upholsterers...	5	9	6	5	10	35
Coach Builders	3	2	...	5	1	11
Cotton Waste Cleaners and Dealers .....	...	3	...	2	...	5
Cotton Manufacturers	24	8	13	7	4	56
Coopers	1	1	2	1	...	5
Cycle Makers and Enamellers	1	6	6	4	6	23
Engravers	3	...	...	1	6	10
French Polishers	4	2	...	2	3	11
Ironfounders, Motor Engineers & Boiler Makers	6	10	5	12	9	42
Joiners, Builders, Wheelwrights, Wood Turners	13	18	6	6	11	54
Laundries	3	...	2	...	...	5
Marine Store Dealers .....	...	4	2	3	2	11
Milliners, Dressmakers Underclothing Manu- facturers	29	48	43	39	37	196
Picture Framers, Mount Cutters, Gilders.....	2	1	1	1	3	8
Photographers	4	2	1	6	3	16
Plumbers, Painters	10	9	12	11	14	56
Printers, Bookbinders .....	...	3	...	8	16	27
Restaurant Keepers	3	25	31	4	4	67
Rope and Twine Makers	2	1	...	...	...	3
Saddlers	2	4	1	2	1	10
Smiths, Black and White, and Tinsplate	5	12	5	6	10	38
Stone and Marble Masons	9	1	2	1	1	14
Sugar Boilers	4	1	...	1	2	8
Tailors	17	20	8	18	34	97
Watch Makers and Jewellers	10	9	3	6	7	35
Wire Workers .....	...	2	2	...	1	5
Offensive Trades	Fell Mongers .....	...	...	...	1	1
	Soap Boilers .....	...	...	1	2	3
	Fat and Tallow Melters ...	1	2	...	1	2
	Knacker Yards	1	...	...	...	1
	Gut Scrapers .....	...	1	...	...	1
Tripe Boilers	1	2	2	...	...	5
Various	5	13	16	30	21	85
TOTAL	263	284	245	246	289	1327

TABLE II D.

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Home-Work.

1.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Visits to Warehouses	138	...	...
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	113	...	...
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	1200	...	...
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	89	...	...
Total	1540	...	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Act :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	27	27	...	
Want of Ventilation	3	3	...	
Overcrowding	2	2	...	
Want of drainage of floors	49	49	...	
Other Nuisances	16	16	...	
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	7	7	...	
{ unsuitable or defective... ..	23	23	...	
{ not separate for sexes....	18	18	...	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) .....	...	...	...
Breach of special Sanitary requirements for bakehouses (s.s. 97 to 100).....	2	2	...	
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) .....	...	...	...
Total	147	147	...	

TABLE II. HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.								OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.			
	Lists received from Employers.						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists.	Prosecutions.		Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made (S. 110).	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).
	Twice in the Year.			Once in the Year.				Failing to keep or permit inspection of Lists.	Failing to send Lists.						
	Lists.	Outworkers.	Con-tractors.	Work-men.	Lists.	Outworkers.	Con-tractors.			Work-men.					
Wearing Apparel:—															
(1) making, &c. ...	13	4	17	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(2) cleaning and washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	26	8	34	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.							Number.	Class.							Number.
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	194	Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—							
								Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133) 1901 ...							2
Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	871	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 ...							16
Workplaces	67								Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector...	14
Retail Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	192	Other ...							129
Public do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	Underground Bakehouses (s. 101):—							
								Certificates granted during the year ...							...
								In use at the end of the year ...							...
Total number of Workshops on Register ...							1327								

TABLE II.F.

Summary of Work done under the Factory and Workshop Act, during the Year 1924.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	No. 4 District.	No. 5 District	Total.
Number of Factories and Workshops on Register	263	284	245	246	289	1327
„ Circular Letters sent re Out-workers .....	...	27	...	...	...	27
„ Out-workers reported .....	...	34	...	...	...	34
Visits to Factories and Workshops ...	7	435	45	54	107	648
„ Retail Bakehouses	60	280	24	48	56	468
„ Public Bakehouses .....	...	16	...	2	...	18
„ Home-workers premises .....	...	28	...	...	...	28
Drains tested	4	...	11	4	13	32
DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED :—						
Defective Drains	4	2	11	3	29	49
„ Slopstone Pipes	1	...	2	...	1	4
„ Spouts and Roofs .....	...	...	2	...	2	4
„ Water Closets	1	2	4	14	13	34
„ Yard Pavement .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Limewashing required	2	...	8	15	2	27
General Nuisances	3	...	2	...	...	5
Insufficient W.C. accommodation for Females .....	...	...	4	7	...	11
Insufficient W.C. accommodation for Males .....	...	1	...	6	...	7
No receptacle for refuse .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manure Accumulations	1	...	...	3	1	5
Overcrowded .....	...	...	...	1	...	1

Total defects found, 147; remedied, 147.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following offensive trades are established in the Borough:—

Fell Monger, 1; Soap Boiler, 3; Fat and Tallow Melter, 6; Knackers Yard, 1; Gut Scraper, 1; Tripe Boiler, 5.

All these premises are subject to frequent inspection. 675 Visits were paid during the year and one nuisance was remedied. The conditions are as satisfactory as the nature of the trade will allow. One bone dealer's premises were re-constructed and re-drained, and 1 tripe works improved.

PIG KEEPING.

There are 18 Pig Keepers in the Borough, 3 of whom have been granted permission since 1918. Nine are Farmers and 10 kept pigs before the War. The total number of pigs kept is 163.

The sanitary conditions, especially those relating to the distance from inhabited dwellings, drainage, conditions of floors and buildings, and means of temporary storage of manure are satisfactory in most cases. 43 Visits were made to the premises.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 34 Common Lodging Houses on the register, two having been closed since 1916. The accommodation consists of 910 beds in 226 rooms. The average number of lodgers per night is 1,172; twice as many as the average of 1923.

The premises were visited regularly at intervals of 3 days or 3,853 visits in all. Proper conditions as to cleanliness, ventilation, keeping of registers, white-washing and avoidance of overcrowding, etc., were firmly enforced by the Sanitary Inspectors.

There are no houses let in lodgings on the register. A few which might come under this designation are regarded and treated as Common Lodging Houses.

In 4 instances the sanitary condition of the buildings has been improved, 34 have been limewashed and cleansed, and 16 nuisances abated. In 4 cases the drains were found defective, and were cleansed and repaired.

THE RAG FLOCK ACT.

No samples have been taken.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

The advice of the Department was sought by proprietors of infested premises on numerous occasions. Buildings were inspected as follows:—

Factories	...	...	...	...	6
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	27
Groups of Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	57

In 73 instances the cause of the invasion was found to be defective drains. In each case the possibility of further infestation was removed by the execution of the necessary repairs. In these operations over 1,229 rats were destroyed. At a bone dealer's premises, since rat-proofed, over 300 rats were caught. The necessary inspections and supervision of the work entailed called for 294 visits of the staff.

STABLE PREMISES

Have been the subject of 49 visits. As a result 1 stable has been abolished, 11 have been cleansed, 2 new drains installed, new middens provided in 1 instance, covers to middens in 7 instances, 7 old middens abolished, and 5 offensive accumulations abolished, 3 structural repairs carried out.

THEATRES AND CINEMAS.

In 17 Theatres and Cinemas, of which 2 are used for theatrical performances and the remainder as cinemas, the seating is as follows:—

Cinemas, 15.	Total Seats, 13,607.
Theatres, 2.	Total Seats, 4,452.

In accordance with the regulation issued by the Ministry, Circular 120, 25/8/20, each place of entertainment has been visited and a certificate issued to the proprietor for presentation to the Licensing Authority, who require such certificate before they can grant the licence. This certificate must state that the premises are satisfactory in sanitary and other respects. Special attention has been paid to ventilation, cleanliness, condition of the dressing rooms and, in the case of picture houses, the proximity of the front seats to the screen. The standard laid down in the Interim Report of the Joint Committee on Eyestrain in Cinemas appointed by the Illuminating Engineering Society in October, 1919, which has been adopted, was given in the report for 1921.

By the adoption of this standard, the removal of 6 rows of seats in 2 cinemas was effected.

In 2 cases cinemas were unsatisfactory as regards ventilation, and have been improved. One, unsatisfactory in sanitary and other respects, has been abolished.

During the year the District Inspectors paid 73 official visits to places of entertainment.

SHOPS ACTS 1912 and 1913.

The administration of these Acts was transferred to the Police on January 1st, 1924.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In addition to the work under the foregoing heads, a large volume of inspection under miscellaneous heads was carried out. These were:—

Hospitals	...	...	...	...	8 visits.
Tents and Vans	...	...	...	...	108 visits.
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	10 visits.
Animals so kept as to cause a nuisance	...	...	...	...	24 visits.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

The question of the reduction of the permissible limit of Black Smoke was unsuccessfully brought before your Committee in December, 1922.

There are approximately 135 factory chimneys in the Borough, and observations have been made upon 77 of them.

The pollution of the atmosphere is severe, and must have a serious effect upon the health of the inhabitants. Observations showed that the chimneys could be classified into good, moderate and bad. The conditions show an improvement over those of last year.

There were 4 which at one or another observation emitted black smoke for five or more than five minutes in the half hour (Group A), 25 chimneys did not reach the five minutes (Group B), and 49 chimneys were not observed to emit black smoke during any part of an observation (Group C).

The result of the observations are tabulated below. The whole of the observations made in each group of chimneys are included, although black smoke was not necessarily in the case of groups A and B emitted at each observation.

TABLE IIc.

	GROUP.			
	A.	B.	C.	TOTAL.
NUMBER OF CHIMNEYS	4	25	48	77
No. of Observations of 30 minutes' duration	61	162	160	383
Time in Minutes :—				
BLACK SMOKE	198½	210¾	...	409¼
Average per Observation	3.25	1.30	...	1.07
MODERATE SMOKE	698	2066¼	563	3327¼
Average per Observation	11.44	12.75	3.5	8.68
NONE OR SLIGHT	933½	2582½	4237	7753
Average per Observation	15.3	15.94	26.4	20.24
Total Observations (Minutes)	1830	4860	4800	11490
No. of Chimneys with :—				
Mechanical Feed only	1	6	7	14
Forced Draught only .....	...	3	...	3
Both Mechan. Feed & Forced Draught	...	4	7	11

Nature of Smoke Prevention Appliances in use in the Borough.

NAME	No. of Mills	No. of Boilers
Leache's Patent	3	3
Proctor's do.	18	55
Johnson's do.	2	6
Green's do.	3	8
Hodgkinson's do.	1	2
Binnes' do.	4	5
Meldrum's do.	2	6
Bridge's do.	1	2
Underfeed Patent	1	4
Whittaker do.	1	1
Without Specific Appliances	76	132

DISINFECTION.

The Disinfectors are responsible for the disinfection of premises after infectious disease and after death from Tuberculosis or change of address of persons suffering from Tuberculosis. The work is summarized below :—

TABLE IIH.

	District No. 1	District No. 2	District No. 3	District No. 4	District No. 5	Total.
Beds	81	52	85	69	55	342
Mattresses	27	22	31	14	11	105
Bolsters	93	60	88	66	53	360
Pillows	209	196	231	142	111	889
Other items of Bedding, etc.	163	110	148	121	86	628
Houses	199	173	230	108	110	820
Rooms	310	271	332	168	172	1253
Schools	1	...	1	...	...	2
Institutions	4	8	...	2	...	14
Jumble Sales	4	14	5	11	5	39
Picture Palaces	12	12	12	12	...	48
Vehicles ... ..	...	3	...	...	...	3
Books	20	18	22	14	12	86

REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CANAL BOATS ACTS,
1877 and 1884.

The records shew that 57 Boats have been registered, of which 29 have been cancelled, thus leaving 28 on the Register. Of this number 6 are laid up or under repairs, leaving 22 for transport purposes. Two infringements of the Regulations were found, these were promptly dealt with on informing the owners. One boat, the "Mary Ann," has been broken up.

On inspection, the Boats were found in a fairly satisfactory condition.

No case of infectious disease was reported during the year.

The work of Inspection has been carried out by Inspector W. Baron in addition to his other duties as Port Sanitary Inspector, no special remuneration being provided for this part of his work.

The following table shews the details of occupation and inspection for the past 3 years :—

	1922.	1923.	1924.
Number of Inspections	288	46	189
Males in Occupation	39	26	36
Females in Occupation	15	14	14
Children in Occupation	7	5	6

TABLE II.

Amount of Shipping entering the Port Sanitary District during the Year 1924.

	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of Orders Issued	
			By the Med. Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector			
Foreign	Steamers	221	196657	43	208	50	50
	*Motor	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sailing	3	1750	2	2	...	...
	Fishing	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Foreign	224	198407	45	210	50	50	
Coastwise	Steamers	1147	179609	36	914	265	265
	*Motor	12	3266	...	12	...	...
	Sailing...	6	729	3	6	...	...
	Fishing	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Coastwise	1165	183604	39	932	265	265	
Total Foreign and Coastwise	1389	382011	84	1142	315	315	

*Includes mechanically-propelled vessels other than steamers.

TABLE IIj.

Rats destroyed by dogs, traps and ferrets, and number of Baits set for destruction of Rats in 1924.

Number of	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total In Year
Black Rats	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	9
Brown Rats	47	56	48	52	54	36	43	44	33	27	32	21	493
Grey Rats	39	48	37	37	64	43	55	52	30	444	71	50	970
Rats examined .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rats infected with Plague...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. of Baits set.	500	530	570	495	985	1070	815	935	1015	815	930	940	9600

TABLE IIK.

Precautions Against Plague.

Particulars Relating to Vessels "Infected" or "Suspected," or from Infected Ports.

Name of Vessel.	Date of Arrival.	Whether infected, suspected or from an infected Port?	Method of Rat Destruction employed.		Number of Rats killed.	Whether a certificate of Deratisation was issued?
			Trapping, poisoning, etc.			
SS. Telemachus	Sep. 29th, '24.	}			555	In the case of SS. Debrezgen
SS. Debrezgen	Oct. 20th, '24.					
SS. Argos	...					
SS. Gothea	...					
SS. Lifland	...					
SS. Trito	...					
SS. Ulrikka 2nd	...					
SS. Switzerland	...					
SS. Foina	...					
SS. Millocrat	...					
SS. Eidsvold	...					
SS. Stineas	...					
SS. Polmanter	...					
SS. Odland	...					
SS. Albia	...					
SS. Ethel	...					
SS. Vesta	...					
SS. Vledderveen	...					
SS. Carpate	...					
SS. Bokland	...					
SS. Annie Ahrens	...					
SS. Greenland	...					
SS. Iceland	...					
SS. Budeny	...					

Vessels (other than those dealt with in Table IIk.) subjected to Measures of Rat Destruction.

No. of Vessels on which trapping, poisoning, etc., were employed 200

No. of Rats killed 150 and others

TABLE II.
Return of Port Sanitary Work for the Year 1924.

Foreign	{ Steamships Inspected 208
	{ Sailing Vessels Inspected... .. 2
	{ Re-Inspections Nil.
Coastwise	{ Steamships Inspected 926
	{ Sailing Vessels Inspected 6
	{ Re-Inspections 300
Condition of all Vessels Inspected	{ Good 827
	{ Defective 315
DEFECTS REMEDIED.—	
Forecastle re-painted 18	
Do. cleansed 194	
Dirty Lockers, Washhouses, Store Rooms, etc. cleansed ... 279	
Foul Water Tanks cleansed 104	
Do. Bilges cleansed	
Do. and defective W.C.'s cleansed and repaired 157	
Accumulations of Offensive Refuse removed 29	
Gear stored in Crew's Quarters removed 3	
Damp Quarters remedied 8	
Leaky Decks overhead caulked 8	
Defective Port-lights, Sky-lights, and Dead-lights remedied ... 22	
Do. Ventilators repaired	
Do. Chain Pipes repaired 4	
Inadequate Drainage remedied	
Defective Lavatories and Waste Pipes repaired 10	
Dirty Galleys Cleansed 32	

The Chief Imports.	Source.	The Chief Exports.	Destination.
Wood Pulp	Sweden, Norway and Finland.	General	Dublin & Belfast.
Timber	Canada, Norway, Sweden & Finland.	Coal and Coke ...	Ireland, Norway, Sweden, etc.
Stone	Norway, Sweden, Wales & Ireland.	Salt Cake	Norway and Sweden, etc.
China Clay	Cornwall.		
Potatoes	Ireland & Jersey.		
Live Stock	Dublin.		
Esparto Grass	Oran & Azew.		
Cement	London & South Wales.		
General	Sweden, Belfast, Dublin, London and Norway.		
Whiting	London and Cornwall.		
Motor Spirit	London.		
Slates	Wales.		

In addition to the measures of rat destruction as set forth in Table IIk, it should be stated that the Port Sanitary Authority employ a whole-time rat catcher, who acts under the instruction of the Port Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Baron, himself a whole-time officer. Every foreign ship is visited by the rat catcher and dealt with according to the necessity of the case. The methods used are trapping by cage and spring traps, rat-catching varnish, poisoning by phosphorus, squills, barium carbonate, etc., and killing by ferrets and dogs. Judging by the number of baits set it is estimated that a total number of 1,472 rats were destroyed in the year, of which 150 were poisoned on ships other than those dealt with in Table 2k. 405 rats were caught in traps, and 555 were caught on ships arriving from infected ports. The estimated total rats caught is 2,400.

Public Health (Unsound Food) Regulations, 1907.

LIST OF IMPORTED ARTICLES INSPECTED.

Wheat	Barley	Flour	Oatmeal	Sugar	Nuts
Herrings	Sardines	Brislings	Beef	Pork	Mutton
		Potatoes.			

LIST AND WEIGHT OF ARTICLES CONDEMNED AND DESTROYED.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef	0	9	1	24
Mutton	0	0	3	14
Potatoes	4	14	0	0

THE PRESTON (SHELL FISH) REGULATIONS, 1923.

These Regulations forbidding the picking of Mussels for human food, in the estuary of the River Ribble, came into force in October, 1923. Since then placards have been posted in prominent places on both sides of the River and at Preston. All the fishermen on both the north and south sides of the River and at Preston have been served with a copy of the Notice. The mussel beds have been visited regularly by Inspector William Baron, who paid 20 visits to these beds during 1924.

On the 24th of March, 1924, a Lytham fisherman was fined £5 and costs for a contravention of the above-named Regulations.

III.—Food.

By R. FINCH, F.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

MILK SUPPLY.

Milk retailed in the Borough amounts approximately to 6,390 gallons daily.

It is produced and distributed as follows:—

11 Dairy Farmers and 3 Cowkeepers in the Borough produce and retail	400	galls.
27 Dairies in the Borough retail	1036	„
48 Resident Kitters in the Borough retail	1704	„
28 " Mixed Business " Shops retail	343	„
101 Dairy Farmers outside the Borough produce and retail	2907	„

There are 4 Dairy Farmers and 2 Cowkeepers less producing milk in the Borough than there were last year. On the other hand, there is an increase of 13 in the number of Resident Kitters and there are 18 more Dairy Farmers delivering milk from outside the Borough. The shops of the mixed business type have been reduced from 74 to 28.

The supervision of the Milk Supply has necessitated the following work:—

Visits to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops in the Borough—

By Veterinary Officer	75
By District Sanitary Inspectors	773
Number of Examinations of Cows by Veterinary Officer ...	997
Number of Visits outside the Borough by Veterinary Officer to investigate Tuberculous Milk Samples	49
Number of Visits outside the Borough by Veterinary Officer to investigate Contaminated Milk Samples	34

No of Samples of Milk taken for examination:—

	1923.	1924.
For Tubercle Bacillus	51	229
At Borough Laboratory for dirt contamination	154	304
Under Food and Drugs Act	133	9

The policy of sampling for examination at the Borough Laboratory as a preliminary to sampling under the Food & Drugs Acts has been continued. This, coupled with frequent sampling for the detection of the Tubercle Bacillus at the Public Health Laboratory, Liverpool, is considered the best means of ensuring the public against contaminated, adulterated, or tuberculous milk.

Considerable sanitary alterations and improvements have been carried out at several of the farms situated in the Borough. Further recommendations have been made with regard to structural alterations of others. There is a tendency to

withhold any expenditure on these farms, as the land is being gradually sold off for building purposes, thus diminishing the value of the farm buildings as such.

I. TUBERCLE BACILLUS IN MILK.

162 Samples of mixed milk were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacillus; 19 of these were found positive requiring a further 67 samples. This gives a percentage of 11.73 positive (last year's percentage which was taken from 51 samples was 17.67). Each one of the positive samples has been followed up and investigated in order to eliminate the cow or cows giving Tuberculous milk. In all the cases, except three, the source of infection was discovered either on the primary visit by clinical veterinary examination or later by a process of further sampling. In the three remaining cases animals had been sold off the premises prior to the completion of veterinary investigation and as further sampling of these herds showed the milk to be free from Tubercle Bacilli it is presumed that the affected cows had been sold off. Two farms had two cows in each herd affected with Tuberculosis of the Udder.

II. GRADE "A" AND CERTIFIED MILK.

There are no Grade "A" producers in Preston. There is one retailer who sells "Certified" milk which is of a higher quality than Grade "A" milk.

III. EXAMINATION FOR THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF BUTTER FAT AND MANURIAL CONTAMINATION.

The examination of these samples is carried out by your Veterinary Officer in the Borough Laboratory.

Out of a total of 304 samples submitted from the various sources 79 were found to be unsatisfactory for one or more of the following reasons :—

Manurial contamination visible to the eye	74
Discoloured owing to absorption of contaminated material	22
Sour	7
Deficient in fat content	1
	1923. 1924.
Number of samples examined	154 ... 304
Number of samples defective... ..	72 ... 79
Percentage defective	46.7 ... 26.0

The Public Analyst shows that the average fat content of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act was 3.92 per cent. (9 samples) as against 4.29 per cent. for 133 samples taken in 1923.

All persons from whom unsatisfactory samples of milk have been taken were notified of the conditions found. They are also supplied with literature on the production of clean milk. A further sample is taken at a later date to ascertain if the measures suggested have been sufficient.

In addition, 83 personal visits have been made to farms in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health for the Preston Rural District Council in order to investigate on the spot the more seriously contaminated supplies.

It was apparent on these visits, without exception, that there was ample cause for contamination to be found in the unsatisfactory methods adopted or through dirty conditions of the cows or utensils. These visits have had beneficial effects, nevertheless the producer is not likely to alter his present methods for more costly ones, without the stimulus of a better market which means a better price.

The grooming of cattle and the sterilisation after previous washing of milking utensils, although recognised by all dairy experts to be two essentials in the production of clean milk, are not often items in the daily routine of many of the present-day producers.

The personal element which counts so much in the cleanly production of milk is also at fault, as many producers are dirty in their methods, in their clothing, and equipment in general. Education of the public as to the necessity for a clean milk supply is of the greatest importance. This at the present time being done to a great extent by frequent articles in the daily press and agricultural papers, and it is to be hoped that with the higher standard of education now obtaining this knowledge will be absorbed by both the public, who are consumers, and the dairy farmer, as the producer.

As far as Preston is concerned the grading of milk by legislation has not proved a success, and I maintain, as stated in my last report, that a standard should be adopted below which milk cannot be sold. Matters which should appeal to the public, and which every dairyman who wishes to succeed in his business should adopt, are :—

1. A clean milk cart.
2. Clean milk churns and cans.
3. Person in charge dressed in a suitable washable overall.
4. The adoption of taps instead of open kits for the withdrawal of milk or the retailing of it in bottles.

IV. MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912 AND 1917.

One sample of cream and 10 samples of preserved cream were purchased, each of which met the requirements of the above regulations.

V. ICE CREAM.

The conditions are as described in the report for 1922. 70 Visits of inspection were paid. It would be of great advantage if the manufacture and sale of ice cream were subject to annual licence and registration.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT.

The diseases scheduled under the Diseases of Animals Acts are :—

Cattle Plague.	Sheep Scab.	Rabies.
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Swine Fever.	Anthrax.
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Epizootic Lymphangitis.	Parasitic Mange
Sheep Pox.	Glanders and Farcy.	(Horses).
	Epizootic Abortion (Cattle).	

It is the duty of the Local Authority to carry out the work in connection with the above diseases, when they occur, inside the Borough. In connection with this work the Cattle Market, Railway Station, Pig Keepers' premises, Knacker Yard, and occasionally other premises where animals are housed have to be visited. The following table gives the number of visits paid to the various premises in the course of inspection work :—

Cattle Market and Saleyard	...	...	92 visits.
Other premises	...	...	21 visits.

Number of live animals inspected from January 1st to December 31st, 1924—

TABLE A.

Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
Fat—9,060 Store & Dairy— 15,340.	60,963.	10,998.	8,495.
Horses ...	2,481.	Dogs ...	2.

The following cases of diseases were dealt with :—

ANTHRAX.

Four cases of Anthrax were reported, and confirmed by microscopical examination both by the Board of Agriculture and your Veterinary Officer. In addition to which several blood smears were taken from animals which had died suddenly and where there was a suspicion that Anthrax might have been the cause of death. Of the four cases referred to, three of these were discovered in animals (cows) which had been brought in to the Public Abattoir for the purpose of dressing and for preparation of food. As each of these cases was an emergency slaughter on the farm of origin outside the Borough, formal notification was sent to the appropriate Local Authority so that proper measures could be taken without delay to prevent the spread of the disease. In order to prevent carcasses infected by Anthrax being brought to the public abattoir more stringent methods are being enforced. In addition to the probability of Anthrax spores from spilt blood being distributed broadcast, dangerous to human life and a source of infection to live animals coming in contact with ground infected by the slaughter of the animal, considerable expense was incurred in the destruction of the carcase and efficient disinfection after each case. The fourth case of Anthrax was found at the knacker yard and was suitably dealt with. All these cases were dealt with under the Anthrax Order, 1910.

EPIZOOTIC ABORTION.

Two suspected cases were reported during the year at the Saleyard. As it was impossible to get the necessary evidence that the animals had calved prematurely, no action was taken under the Epizootic Abortion Order, 1922.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

On account of an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the prescribed area the market was practically closed during February, March and April.

As in the preceding year the Borough has been fortunate enough to escape from an outbreak of this disease.

Efficient control of the movement of live stock by means of the Animals Transit and General Order, 1924, which deals with the efficient disinfection of lairages, railway trucks, boats, etc., have been contributing factors in preventing the outbreak becoming widespread throughout the country. As an epidemic of Foot and Mouth Disease is liable to occur at any time from foreign infection it behoves all local authorities to have efficient veterinary supervision of markets and saleyards so that the first suspicion of this disease can be promptly and efficiently dealt with and infection limited.

The following brief particulars are given of the total number of outbreaks in England, Scotland and Wales for 1924:

England, 1,363; Scotland, 47; Wales, 30.

Cheshire had 362 and Lancashire had 98 of these outbreaks.

Numbers of animals slaughtered:—

Cattle, 42,737; Sheep, 28,362; Pigs, 17,548; Goats, 78.

Amount paid in compensation, £1,392,417.

In 1882, a year of exceptional prevalence, there were 18,737 separate outbreaks, and 219,289 cattle, 217,492 sheep, and 24,232 pigs were slaughtered.

PARASITIC MANGE.

Five cases involving five animals on five different premises were reported and dealt with under the Parasitic Mange Orders, 1911 and 1918. In each case the animals were suffering from the psoroptic form.

RABIES.

Two cases of suspected Rabies were reported. On investigation neither of these was confirmed. At the present time this country is entirely free from this disease.

SWINE FEVER.

Two cases were reported and neither was confirmed on investigation. Restriction of Movement Order was served on one premises, and this was withdrawn after a period, during which the animals were kept under observation.

ORDERS ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

In addition to the various Foot and Mouth Disease Orders issued during the year and the miscellaneous Orders already in force, the following are new Orders introduced during the year :—

- Jan. 23rd. Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order, 1924.
 Feb. 18th. Diseases of Animals (Arbitration) Order, 1924.
 „ 29th. Foreign Animals (Amendment) Order, 1910. (No. 1).
 „ 29th. Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order, 1924. (No. 2)
 Mar. 14th. Foreign Animals Order, 1924.
 April 7th. Foreign Animals (Amendment) Order, 1910. (No. 2).
 „ 7th. Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order, 1924. (No. 3).
 „ 15th. Channel Islands (Amendment) Order, 1924.
 „ 15th. Animals (Transit and General) Order, 1924.
 May 15th. Canadian Cattle (Marking) Order, 1924.
 July 15th. Foreign Animals Order, 1924. (No. 2).
 „ 15th. Imported Animals Order, 1924.
 Aug. 22nd. Order amending the Sheep (Double Dipping) Order, 1920.
 „ 20th. Foot and Mouth Disease (Amendment) Order, 1924.
 Sep. 20th. Animals Transit and General (Amendment) Order, 1924. (No. 2).
 „ 29th. Order amending the Foreign Animals Order, 1910.
 „ 29th. Foreign Hay and Straw Order, 1924. (No. 4).
 Oct. 1st. Amendment of Animals (Landing from Ireland, Channel Islands, and Isle of Man) Order, 1923.
 „ 15th. Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order, 1924. (No. 5).
 „ 15th. Order amending the Foreign Animals Order, 1910.
 „ 20th. Imported Animals Order, 1924. (No. 2).
 „ 28th. Imported Animals Order, 1924. (No. 3).

Many of these Orders impose new work upon the local authorities thereby increasing its work of inspection.

IMPORTATION OF LIVE STOCK FROM IRELAND.

The following figures show the number of animals which were landed from Ireland at the Preston Docks during 1924 :—

Cattle, 25,817; Sheep, 44,223; Pigs, 690.

The number of these which had to be slaughtered as casualties or for emergency reasons, are as follows :—

Cattle, 6; Sheep, 145; Pigs, 4.

The carcasses of these are carefully inspected before being passed as fit for food. All carcasses or portions condemned are included in the general list of diseased conditions for which meat is condemned. The Veterinary Inspection of all animals arriving at the lairage is carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

HOME KILLED FRESH MEAT.

As stated in my previous annual report, this is about 55 per cent. of the total meat consumed in the Borough. The remaining 45 per cent. consisting of—Foreign, Chilled, Salted or Preserved.

FRESH HOME KILLED.

With the exception of occasional small consignments from Birkenhead abattoirs, all this meat is killed and inspected either at the public abattoir or the private local slaughterhouses.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

In 1896 there were 83 licensed slaughterhouses, to-day there are 13. The following table shows their reduction since 1914:—

TABLE IIIA.

	1914.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Registered	—	—	—	—	—	—
Licensed	21	14	14	14	14	13

The following tables show the number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the public abattoir and private slaughterhouses respectively. These returns have been kept separate in order to show by comparison the number of animals killed and inspected in the public abattoir as compared with the number killed and inspected in the private slaughterhouses:—

TABLE IIIB.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

Cattle.		Sheep.		Pigs.		Calves.	
Killed.	Inspected.	Killed.	Inspected.	Killed.	Inspected.	Killed.	Inspected.
4,070	... 4,450†	20,691	... 21,464	1,940	... 3,158*	2,325	... 2,384

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

(including the Co-operative Society slaughterhouse and slaughterhouse attached to the Lairage).

Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
Killed. Inspected.	Killed. Inspected.	Killed. Inspected.	Killed. Inspected.
2,237 ... 2,259	15,122 ... 11,392	2,540 ... 7,603	446 ... 453
Totals— 6,307 ... 6,709†	35,813 ... 32,856	4,480 ... 10,761*	2,771 ... 2,837

†Excess due to Foot and Mouth Disease Restrictions.

*Excess due to country dressed pigs coming in direct to the shops.

To carry out the work of supervision and inspection of all animals slaughtered inside the Borough at the various places has necessitated a large number of visits by both the Veterinary Officer and the Meat Inspector, as the accompanying table shows :—

TABLE IIIc.

	Veterinary Inspector.	Meat Inspector.	Sanitary Inspector.
Visits to Public Slaughterhouses ..	185	322	...
Visits to Private Slaughterhouses ..	1516	178	165
Visits to Butchers' Shops	1231	202	128

These totals do not include the visits to the slaughterhouse at the Lairage, as there is there a permanent Port Sanitary Official always on duty, and he acts in the capacity of meat inspector when occasion arises. The large number of visits to the butchers' shops were necessary in order to have under inspection and control 6,281 pigs which have been killed and dressed in the country, and brought into the shops. This number compares with 4,176 pigs in the previous year's report, which only accounts for 10 months of the year. It is anticipated that this inspection of pigs in shops will be considerably reduced as the result of the new Meat Regulations, which come into force on April 1st, 1925, and which provides for compulsory notification of intention to slaughter all animals for public consumption.

The weight of meat condemned and surrendered as unfit for human consumption was 108 tons 9 cwts. 0 qrs. 2 lbs.

TABLE III.D.

Animal	Whole carcasses	Part carcasses	Offal.	Total
Cattle	131,768 lbs.	40,352 lbs.	39,637 lbs.	211,757
Sheep	3,963 "	197 "	1,436 "	5,596
Pigs	7,277 "	1,076 "	12,046 "	20,399
Calves	5,042 "	97 "	39 "	5,178

72 Tons 5 cwts. was condemned on account of Tuberculosis.

Table III.E. gives the number of the various organs condemned for Tuberculosis and other conditions.

With regard to Tuberculosis of the Udder (marked * in table) particular care has been taken to compile this return as it gives some idea of the extent to which this disease can affect the mammary gland with serious consequences to the milk supply.

In all these cases an effort was made to trace where the particular animals came from, and it is satisfactory to know that none of these, as far as could be ascertained, had been in any milking herds supplying milk to the Borough, with the exception of such cases as were discovered during the process of inspecting dairy herds, and which cases were slaughtered under supervision.

TABLE III.E.
Various Organs.

	Tuberculosis.				Other Conditions.			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Head	383	...	444	...	36	6	2	1
Lungs	1537	...	451	4	101	46	43	6
Liver	272	...	312	1	321	410	48	2
Heart	63	...	162	...	9	4	16	2
Spleen	57	...	...	...	6	...	...	...
Kidneys	162	...	...	...	26	...	2	...
Udder	58*	...	...	...	197	...	...	...
Stomach	48	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Skirts	171	...	...	...	9	...	...	...
Mesentery	75	...	37	...	1	...	...	...

TABLE IIIF.

Causes of Condemnation in detail.

Disease.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Tuberculosis	146,919	...	14,830	91
Dropsy	26,744	1,591	316	465
Septicaemia	11,439	195	25	141
Fevered	7,635	288	322	82
Fractures and Bruising	5,561	150	347	257
Anthrax	2,025	...	...	...
Decomposition	1,515	136	235	46
Mammitis	1,468	...	22	...
Asphyxia	1,150	1,366	1,805	300
Distomatosis (Liver)	1,147	387	...	...
Peritonitis and Enteritis	985	280	305	243
Angioma (Liver)	851	...	...	...
Actinomycosis	774	...	...	...
Abscess	759	38	85	35
Septic Peritonitis	615	...	...	...
Parasitic Cysts	594	186	130	5
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	510	55	161	15
Fatty (Liver)	371	3	...	...
Cirrhosis (Liver)	367	795	193	...
Arthritis	266	...	58	...
Tumour	58	...	...	...
Nephritis	4	...	...	...
Pyæmia .....	...	...	336	...
Immaturity (Calves) .....	...	...	...	3361
Erysipelas (Swine) .....	...	...	1010	...
Jaundice .....	...	52	219	137
Lymphadenitis .....	...	74	...	...
Totals	211,757	5,596	20,399	5,178

TABLE IIIc.

The following table gives the number of whole carcasses (602) condemned for the diseases stated :—

Disease.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
Tuberculosis	178	...	15	2
Dropsy and Emaciation	61	39	4	6
Septicaemia	28	2	3	2
Fevered	18	2	3	4
Anthrax	3	...	...	...
Decomposition	2	2	...	1
Asphyxia	1	5 ¹	7	8
Pyæmia .....	...	...	1	...
Urticaria .....	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas (Swine) .....	...	...	4	...
Immaturity (Calves) .....	...	...	...	133
Peritonitis .....	...	3	3	6
Lymphadenitis .....	...	1	...	...
Jaundice .....	...	1	2	2
Bruising, Fractures, etc. ....	...	2	...	1
Totals	291	103	43	165

OTHER FOODS.

Preston Corporation Act, 1921, part 6, section 45—46, provides for the registration of premises used for the manufacture, etc. of potted meat, and for proper precautions against contamination of sausages and other such foods. A register has now been prepared, giving the names and addresses, and the amount and kind of food manufactured of all food preparing premises inside the Borough. The total number of which is 92. This number consists mainly of butchers shops, who, in addition to selling meat, manufacture one or other of the following prepared foods :—potted meat, polonies, saveloys, sausages, dripping, brawn, black puddings and tripe. Of the total number 12 of these manufacture on a large scale.

Generally speaking, the premises of the small manufacturers, although kept reasonably clean, are not what would be considered suitable premises for the manufacturing of prepared foods. This manufacturing on a small scale will be kept under careful supervision with regard to cleanliness, a freedom from contaminating influences, and any infectious or contagious diseases in the household or shop. In addition to the above premises are the fish friers, and tripe manufacturing premises, which are regularly visited for the purposes of inspection by the Food and District Sanitary Inspectors.

The wholesale manufacturers of food in addition to being registered and under our supervision, are also controlled by the Factory and Workshops Acts Inspectors. These premises are not all in keeping with modern requirements, and considerable difficulties are experienced in making suitable structural alterations. It is necessary to emphasize the necessity for greater cleanliness and care in the handling, preparation, storage and distribution of such foods. Under the new Meat Regulations, 1924, further powers are given with regard to the condition of premises, where meat is exposed, deposited, or in the course of preparation, and such regulations will be strictly enforced.

In connection with the work of compiling this Register and the inspection of all Food Preparing Premises the following visits have been made :—

By the Veterinary Officer ...	...	...	...	198.
By the Meat Inspector ...	...	...	...	116.

MEAT MARKET.

The meat is all submitted to inspection prior to its exposure for sale. The stalls are carefully inspected every Saturday, attention being paid to the quality and condition of the meat and the cleanliness of the stalls, etc.

Number of visits made—

By the Veterinary Officer ...	...	...	...	62.
By the Food Inspector ...	...	...	...	117.

FRIED FISH SHOPS

Have been the subject of 183 visits by the District Inspectors. The conditions are satisfactory. Sanitary improvements have been effected in 10 instances.

The wholesale Fish Market is regularly supervised by Inspector Crossthwaite, 275 visits being paid. The retail markets (1028 visits) are also continuously examined.

The neighbouring Port of Fleetwood supplies the largest amount of fish to the town and the outlying districts, although consignments are received almost daily from many other fishing centres, viz. :—

Wet Fish—Grimsby, Milford Haven, Hull, Swansea, Peterhead, Glasgow, Campbeltown, Rothesay, Oban, Liverpool, Eyemouth, Baltimore, Londonderry, and Killibegs.

Dry Fish—Lowestoft, Yarmouth, Hull, Fraserburgh, and Wick.

Shell Fish—Cark-in-Cartmell, and Barra (Oban).

Rabbits—Dumfries, Kirksanton (Carnforth), Lazonby, Dalbeattie, and Hereford.

The quantity of goods reaching the markets and the amount condemned are as follows :—

TABLE IIIH.

Weight	Rabbits, Game, Poultry,			Fruit and Vegetables.			Wet Fish.			Dry Fish.			Shell Fish.			Totals.					
	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.			
Examined	41	1	2	1	17	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	30	17	1	3	353	2	1	73	16	3	34	86	19	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Condemned	0	1	1	1	17	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	0	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	2	3	0	2	0	9	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$			

The possibilities of danger to the public health arising from shell-fish was reported upon by the Inspector for the Ministry of Health, and resulted in the publication of the Preston Shell-fish Regulations, 1923, by which the taking of mussels for food in the Ribble Estuary has been rendered illegal.

The Butter and Fruit Markets are subjected to frequent inspections. 84 visits were paid by the Veterinary Inspector, 146 by the Food Inspector, and 556 by the District Inspectors, making a total of 786.

TABLE III.
Public Analyst's Report.
Sale of Food & Drugs Act. Action taken in regard to Adulterated Samples.

Articles Purchased.	Number Analysed.	Number Genuine.	Number Adulterated.	Number of Sample.	Formal.	Informal.	Amount of Adulteration.		Action taken.
Whisky	14	11	3	137	...	1	41.5°	u.p. = 6.5° below standard.	Formal Sample taken. Fined £5 and advocate's fee of £2, or 21 days. Further Sample taken and found genuine.
Do. ....	...	...	...	214	1	...	40.4°	u.p. = 5.4° do.	
Do. ....	...	...	...	515	...	1	42.5°	u.p. = 7.5° do.	
Milk	9	8	1	225	1	...	Fat, 2.98%. Total Solids, 10.20%. Other Solids, 7.22%. Sample contained 15% added water.		Fined £2 2s. od. and advocate's fee, or 14 days.
Rice	2	1	1	252	...	1	Sample consisted of dried peas.		Formal Sample taken and found genuine.

Articles Purchased.	Number Analysed.	Number Genuine.	Number of Sample.	Report.		Action taken.
Dried Milk	10	10	234	Incorrectly labelled.		No action taken owing to new regulations coming into force at time of purchase.
Do. ....	...	...	235	Do.	do.	
Do. ....	...	...	236	Do.	do.	
Do. ....	...	...	237	Do.	do.	
Do. ....	...	...	243	Do.	do.	
Do. ....	...	...	438	Do.	do.	
Preserved Cream ..	10	10	242	Fat, 54.4%. Borates, 0.24%.		No action taken.
Potted Shrimps	2	2	517	Contained Borates, 0.68%.		
Do. ....	...	...	591	Do. do. 0.27%.		
Lemon Squash	4	4	528	Do. 2.3 gr. Salicylic Acid per pint.		
Do. ....	...	...	604	Do. 2.2 gr. Salicylic Acid per pint.		
Lemon Crystals ...	3	3	539	Do. 6.2% Tartaric Acid.		
Tinned Peas	1	1	538	Do. 2 gr. Cryst. Copper Sulphate.		
Orange and Quinine Wine ...	1	1	540	Do. 8.1% absolute Alcohol, 1 gr. Quinine Hydrochloride per fluid ounce.		Do.
Black Currant Wine	2	2	541	Contained 12% absolute Alcohol.		Do.
Do. ....	...	...	599	Do. 10% do.		Do.
Camphorated Oil ..	3	3	576	Do. 20.1% Camphor.		Do.
Sulphur Ointment .	3	3	581	Do. 10.3% Sulphur.		Do.
Tartaric Acid	3	3	582	Do. 99.0% Tartaric Acid.		Do.
Cream of Tartar ...	3	3	583	Do. 99.0% Potass. Hyd. Tartrate.		Do.
Mince Meat	2	2	584	Do. 1.4 gr. Benzoic Acid per lb.		Do.
Sausage	3	3	524	Do. 0.3% Borates.		Do.
Do. ....	...	...	592	Do. 0.13% do.		Do.
Do. ....	...	...	593	Do. 0.32% do.		Do.
Sponge	2	2	602	Do. 0.35% do.		Do.

IV.—Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.

The seven principal Zymotic Diseases—Enteric Fever, Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, and Diarrhœa—caused 75 deaths, giving a Zymotic rate of 0.47 per 1,000 living, as against 0.61 last year and 1.13 for the previous ten years. A table shewing the mortality from and the morbidity of these diseases for the previous five decennia appeared in the Report for 1920. A similar table dealing with the past ten years (Table IV.A.), followed by tables relating to the age, sex, ward and time distribution of these diseases is appended (Tables IV. B, C and D). A continuation of the wet cold weather of 1923 during 1924 accounts for the comparatively small number of deaths from Diarrhœal conditions among children. Measles shews its periodical increase, and accounted for slightly less than the average number of deaths. Enteric Fever and Scarlet Fever caused a few deaths. Small Pox had no effect upon the mortality figures. Among the infectious diseases which are not included in the principal Zymotic Diseases, Influenza is given as the cause of death in 89 instances.

The decline in the number of deaths from Tuberculosis, which was interrupted during the war years, has not yet resumed its downward tendency. The number from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and from other forms of Tuberculosis was exactly the same as in 1923. An outbreak of Chicken Pox in the Spring lasted throughout the whole year but caused no mortality.

The group of diseases including Cerebro Spinal Fever, Encephalitis Lethargica and Poliomyelitis were fortunately not present in epidemic form. The after effects of the two latter diseases, both mental and physical, are of a very distressing and disabling nature.

TABLE IVA.

Summary of Zymotic Deaths for 1924 and the preceding ten years.

YEAR	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	Average FOR 10 YEARS 1914-1923.
Population	123100	121700	120900	119900	121950	117277	105845	106747	109935	111936	118514	115470.4
No. of Deaths.												
Enteric ...	1	3	2	1	1	2	4	2	11	4	10	4.0
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	21	6	64	...	14	26	2	35	14	61	45	26.7
Scarlet Fever	2	4	2	3	2	2	...	...	10	23	42	8.8
Whooping Cough	4	22	4	29	10	5	35	28	12	27	23	19.5
Diphtheria ...	6	10	9	13	13	19	13	24	38	36	25	20.0
Diarrhoea ...	25	30	27	70	30	43	42	50	69	88	67	51.6
Totals ...	59	75	108	116	70	97	96	139	154	239	212	130.6
Zymotic Rate	0.47	0.61	0.89	0.95	0.57	0.82	0.90	1.30	1.40	2.13	1.79	1.13

ENTERIC FEVER.

	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.
No. of cases notified	18	16	10	13
No. of deaths	1	3	2	1
Case incidence per 1,000 population	0.14	0.13	0.083	0.108
Mortality per 1,000 population ...	0.008	0.02	0.016	0.008
Morbidity per cent. of cases notified.	5.5	18.75	20.00	7.69

Seventeen cases of Enteric were notified in 1923 and one more in 1924. As in the previous year, when the maximum number notified in any one month was 3, there was no real epidemic prevalence. After a single case in January, there were two cases in May, one in June, seven in July, three in August and four in the next three months. Blood tests were performed either by the medical attendant or your Medical Officer in each case and the identity of the disease with a modified type of Enteric Fever, i.e., that caused by the *Bacillus Paratyphosus B.* established in fifteen instances. Our cases bore no causal relation with those which constituted the Chorley epidemic in September and October. There was one instance where a patient directly infected her aunt who was acting as her nurse. In another instance the father of a case had himself suffered from Enteric in the previous year although at the time of the enquiry there was no evidence, pathological or otherwise, that he had so suffered. In one instance a history of a fondness for watercress was the beginning of a careful examination of the watercress beds in Dorsetshire courteously undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health of that County. In view of the fact that Paratyphoid Fever is endemically present in the near East and especially in Salonika, samples of currants and raisins were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination with a negative result. One patient, a baker, continued to excrete Typhoid bacilli for some time after convalescence. He abstained from work until a series of negative results had been obtained.

In making the necessary enquiries, the Sanitary Inspectors, in addition to making a careful examination for sanitary defects, were instructed to enquire as to the ultimate source of every article of foodstuffs consumed for a period before the onset of the disease. In no case were we able to trace the disease back to an infected article of food. No gross sanitary defects were discovered and one was led to the conclusion that the disease was imported by a carrier, probably an old Army man, and transmitted through some article of food by flies. The solitary death from the disease did not occur among our cases but was that of a Preston sailor who, infected on board ship, died in a Liverpool Fever Hospital.

SCARLET FEVER.

	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.
No. of cases notified	219	223	226	367
No. of deaths	2	4	2	3
Case incidence per 1,000 population	1.77	1.83	1.87	3.06
Mortality per 1,000 population ...	0.016	0.032	0.016	0.02
Morbidity per cent. of cases notified..	0.9	1.8	0.88	0.82

The number of cases notified was practically the same as in 1922 and 1923. Nearly two-thirds of the cases occurred in the second half of the year, the heaviest months being July (25), October (26), November (28), and December (25). Nearly half the cases were aged 5—10. They were evenly distributed over the town and the sexes were equally affected. 85 per cent. of the cases notified were treated at the Isolation Hospital, compared with 84 per cent. in the previous year.

The type of case remains mild although severe complications are still met with. The disease seems to be kept alive by the chronic carrier and the mild unrecognised case.

DIPHThERIA.

	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.
No. of cases notified	131	144	153	178
No. of deaths	6	10	9	13
Case incidence per 1,000 population	1.14	1.183	1.26	1.49
Mortality per 1,000 population ...	0.05	0.08	0.074	0.108
Morbidity per cent. of cases notified..	4.58	7.00	5.88	5.88

There has been a slight diminution in the number of cases of Diphtheria and the number of deaths caused thereby. This diminution has been observable during the last four years.

The cases were spread over the whole year with a noticeable excess in October and December. There were six deaths compared with 10 in 1923, and a decennial average of 20. All the deaths occurred at the Isolation Hospital, to which 175 or 88 per cent. of the total notified cases were removed, compared with 78 per cent. in 1923.

MEASLES.

1924 proved to be a year of epidemic prevalence, 2,216 cases causing 21 deaths having come to our notice. Isolated cases occurred in the early months of the year, 44 in May, 202 in June, 246 in July. There was a decline during August and September and a recrudescence in October, 567 cases were notified in November, 732 in December and the epidemic died down in the early part of 1925. As in our previous experience the brunt of the disease was borne by children between 4 and 10 years, nearly one-third of the children were 4 years of age, and the sexes were equally affected. The town was equally affected, the denser populated central wards, i.e., those with the largest young families, had the most cases.

Of the deaths, 3 were those of infants, 11 were aged 1—2, 6 were aged 2—5, and 1 was aged 5 years. The value of the postponement of an attack of Measles until the later ages is apparent. The bulk of the cases were promptly visited by a Health Visitor and advice as to nursing and general management given. The welfare of the patients is sought and prompted by arranging for the proper nursing, proper food, and provision of medical attendance; thus, free milk was provided in 94 instances (4.2 per cent. of all cases) for a period of 10 days, in 2 instances home treatment by a private practitioner was arranged for. Thirty-one children were removed to Hospital; these were children already suffering from Pneumonia

or under poor home conditions, or in lodgings. During that part of the epidemic which took place in 1924, 72 children, or 3.2 per cent., were nursed by special arrangement made by the Health Committee. The nurse's duties were to visit the cases selected by the Medical Officer of Health for the purpose of carrying out simple nursing, taking a record of the pulse and temperature, blanket bathing the patients, making the bed, and supervising the preparation of special diets. This course of action was varied or supplemented as desired by the Medical Practitioner in charge of the case. In all, between November 6th, 1924, and January 24th, 1925, 106 children were nursed. The total number of visits paid was 607. Eleven of the children died. Considering that the cases were selected mainly on account of the severity of the illness, the results must be considered to be encouraging to further effort on these lines.

In my opinion, these remedial measures, i.e., advice by the Health Visitors, removal of cases to the Hospital, provision of domestic nursing, the provision of milk and other necessities have materially contributed to the diminished mortality from this disease. It is of interest to note that 1,304, or 58 per cent., of the cases were notified by medical practitioners, 139 or 6 per cent. by the parents, 391 or 17 per cent. by the School Teachers, and 382 or 17 per cent. were discovered by the Health Visitors occurring either as primary or secondary cases.

One-third of the cases were properly isolated in a bedroom, the remainder were treated in the kitchen. One looks in vain for evidence of an increase of knowledge as to the dangers of this disease on the part of the public. Repeated references have been made in previous reports as to adverse factors such as unwillingness to isolate, the delay in sending for the doctor, continued reception of neighbours' children from infected houses, and a general casual outlook upon the disease until serious symptoms set in. If adequate care were taken of the children in the early stages of the disease very few deaths would occur. Attempts at prevention of the disease have hitherto been unavailing.

INFLUENZA.

The great part played by Influenza in our Vital Statistics may be illustrated by the following summary, in which deaths due to Bronchitis and Pneumonia are also included.

				No. of deaths caused by		
				Influenza.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.
1915	...	...	...	33	230	237
1916	...	...	...	37	150	173
1917	...	...	...	31	160	176
1918	...	...	...	391	151	210
1919	...	...	...	166	183	168
1920	...	...	...	37	154	153
1921	...	...	...	32	118	139
1922	...	...	...	85	151	151
1923	...	...	...	54	161	189
1924	...	...	...	89	160	175
Average...				95.5	161.8	177.1

Influenzal Pneumonia and Primary Pneumonia are notifiable diseases, but the number brought to the notice of the Department is disappointingly small. Thus the total deaths from Pneumonia and Influenza were 264, while the notifications amounted to 95 only. As I have previously said, it is highly probable that the failure to notify is due to the knowledge that there is no adequate Nursing Service available.

As in 1922 a Spring epidemic of moderate severity caused a considerable number of deaths in the town. In January and February together there were 12 deaths, in March there were 44, in April 20, and in May 3. The total number of deaths was 89, as compared with 81 in 1922, and 52 in 1923. There was no distinction as to sexes, and the disease seemed to be spread equally over the town. The number of deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia seemed not to have been affected by the presence of the disease in epidemic form, and to be very near the decennial average.

TABLE IV E.
Ward and Month Incidence of Deaths from Influenza in 1924.

WARD.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
St. John's	2	3	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14
Avenham ...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Christ Church	1	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ashton ...	...	1	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	10
Maudland ...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
St. Peter's	...	...	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	11
Moorbrook	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Park ...	1	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
Trinity ...	...	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6
Deepdale ...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ribbleton ...	...	...	6	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fishwick ...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Totals	4	8	44	20	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	85

*Total given by Registrar-General—89.

SMALL POX.

The endemic of mild Small Pox, more particularly in Derbyshire, has continued throughout the year. At the time of writing there are 130 cases of Small Pox in Derby, and the Medical Officer of Health reports to his Council that some of the cases are assuming the dangerous and loathsome aspect of Small Pox as it was known in previous epidemics.

Our Committee have come to a highly satisfactory arrangement with the Fylde and Garstang Joint Small Pox Hospital Board, and is now seeking the requisite power to join that body.

The one case which occurred in Preston was reported upon at the time, but the following report, reprinted from the British Medical Journal of October 4, 1924, gives a fuller account of a situation which was not without its dangers.

SMALL POX: AN UNRECOGNISED OUTBREAK.

BY

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Medical Officer of Health, Preston.

The following history illustrates the behaviour of unrecognised small pox in a community where the only control was the previous partial vaccination of the contacts, and the fact that it occurred in institutions under discipline and observation. The facts are related as they came to my knowledge in order better to convey the method by which the outbreak was discovered.

On Saturday, February 16th, I was asked by the medical attendant to see a girl, resident in an institution for female adolescents which is supported partly by voluntary contributions and partly by laundry work. I gave it as my opinion that the patient was suffering from chicken-pox, and very much relieved the administration by offering to remove the case to the Preston Isolation Hospital. This offer was accepted, and the patient was removed to an isolation ward in the diphtheria block at the isolation hospital.

During the week-end I became suspicious of my original diagnosis, and asked Dr. Fisher, of the Lancashire County Council staff, to see the case. He diagnosed the case as one of small pox, the points being:

1. The rash was preceded by a definite illness on February 8th—headache, pains in the back, and sickness.
2. The rash first appeared on the face and forehead on February 13th.
3. When the rash was fully developed (February 18th) it tended to affect the extremities rather than the centre of the body, and the exposed rather than protected surfaces. Thus the back of the hand and the arm, the front of the leg, and the forehead were affected, whereas the abdomen, the groin, and the front of the neck were free.

4. The rash appeared in one crop upon the face and appeared successively at different sites lower down the body, affecting the feet last; thus the rash on the face was much older than that upon the feet, and all the spots upon the feet were of the same age.

5. The spots were circular and deeply seated in the skin.
6. The vaccinal condition was definitely negative.
7. Re-vaccination was not successful.

The diagnosis was agreed to by my assistant and the original medical attendant of the case and by the medical officer of the small pox hospital to which the patient was removed on that day. She made a good recovery, but was somewhat scarred. There were no subsequent cases.

The usual inquiries as to the source of infection revealed the fact that the laundry was regularly receiving parcels of laundry work from an adjoining institution for boys. This home is managed by a religious brotherhood and receives fifty resident boys on behalf of the Home Office. At this home on December 25th there occurred an illness in one of the boys. A rash appeared on December 29th. I saw the case on December 31st in consultation with the medical officer, and diagnosed the illness as chicken-pox. Bearing this case in mind, I at once inquired as to the subsequent history, and found that fourteen additional cases had occurred, as shown in the table.

TABLE IVF.

Case No.	Date of Onset.	Vaccinal Condition.	Case No.	Date of Onset.	Vaccinal Condition.
1	Dec. 25th	Nil.	9	Jan. 12th	4 scars
2	Jan. 8th	4 scars	10	" "	4 scars
3	" "	4 scars	11	Jan. 13th	Nil.
4	Jan. 11th	Nil.	12	" "	Nil.
5	" "	1 scar	13	Jan. 14th	Nil.
6	" "	Nil.	14	Jan. 18th	Nil.
7	" "	1 scar	15	" "	Nil.
8	Jan. 12th	3 scars			

These lads all suffered from an illness similar to that of the first boy. There was, I am assured, a prodromal illness, nausea, and backache, and in one or two instances sickness. The rash appeared first on the face. As the cases occurred they were removed to an empty dormitory and looked after by the resident nurse.

At the date of my visit (February 19th) all the boys were well and mixing freely with the other lads. They presented scars on the shins, knees, and feet, and the boys affected later in the outbreak showed characteristic "seeds" in the soles of the feet. Individual scars were also indicative.

An examination of the remaining boys showed that with one exception all had been vaccinated either in infancy or subsequently. Also that on February 1st and February 15th the medical officer of the institution had arranged for the vaccination of the eight among the above who had not been previously vaccinated. In seven of the eight the attempt to vaccinate was unsuccessful both on February 1st and February 15th. In one case, which in its attack had only a single spot and no scars, vaccination was successful. The seven of the fifteen cases in the table were unsuccessfully re-vaccinated on February 20th.

In view of the fact that the usual experience of public vaccination, using Government lymph, is 99 per cent. case success and a slightly lower figure for insertion success, the unsuccessful attempt to vaccinate these unvaccinated boys was the subject of correspondence between the public vaccinator and the Government lymph establishment, to which my attention was called by the Ministry of Health early in March.

Summarising, I found that an epidemic illness resembling small pox had occurred, and that it had (1) infected all but one of those eight boys not protected by previous vaccination; (2) infected seven boys protected by previous vaccination; (3) failed to infect forty-nine boys and staff protected by previous vaccination; (4) rendered those infected immune to vaccination.

On January 28th the nurse who had attended to the sick boys took her uniform to the laundry at the girls' institution. The case in the latter home occurred on February 8th—eleven days later.

Several interesting points arise. The attack rate was as follows:—

TABLE IVc.

Institution.	Period of Exposure.	Previously Vaccinated.	No. of Cases.	Percentage.	Unvaccinated.	No. of Cases.	Percentage.
Boys' Home	Unlimited	56	7	12.5	9	8	88.8
Girls' Home	8 days	14	...	...	6	1	16.6
Isolation Hospital	2½ days	48	...	...	9	...	...

The total contacts at the three institutions numbered 126, of whom 111 had been previously vaccinated, and 15 were unvaccinated. All, with 10 exceptions (recent Army vaccinations 8, refusals 2) were submitted to vaccination in connection with the small pox outbreak.

The case success in those previously vaccinated was 102:22, or 21.5 per cent.

In the 14 who had never been vaccinated it succeeded in all but one case.

An examination of the dates of attack in the boys' home shows that Case 1 infected the remaining cases, and that the removal of the subsequent cases to a separate dormitory without any special precautions was sufficient to check any further spread of the disease. Although the unprotected were with one exception attacked, yet they were not, as one might expect, attacked first. Cases 7, 8, 9, and 10, who were previously vaccinated, became infected before Cases 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, who were not. All the cases were of the mild type, and there was no practical difference in severity between the cases arising among the protected and the unprotected. In the girls' home secondary cases were looked for with some assurance. Their immunity was perhaps due to the fact that each girl had a separate bedroom. The boys' home is planned on the dormitory system.

TABLE IVH.

						Vaccination.	
						1922.	1923.
No. of Births	...	...	...	...	...	2,509	2,474
Vaccinated successfully	...	...	...	...	...	1,434	1,476
Unsusceptible	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
Conscientious objectors' refusals	...	...	...	...	...	638	553
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	172	185
Postponements—Removals to other districts	...	...	...	...	...	143	49
Remaining	...	...	...	...	...	117	207

TUBERCULOSIS, 1924.

By Dr. James Walker.

(1) INCIDENCE OF THE DISEASE.

In the year under review the total number of cases of Tuberculosis (all forms) notified in Preston was 232. This figure shows a slight increase over that of the previous year, when the number was 208.

The following table shows the number of notifications in Preston during the last eight years, and it will be observed that the increase in 1924 is due mainly to the pulmonary form of the disease.

TABLE IV.

Year	NOTIFICATIONS.—Preston.		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1917	338	49	387
1918	238	22	260
1919	281	25	306
1920	246	60	306
1921	166	52	218
1922	191	46	237
1923	163	45	208
1924	184	48	232

The following chart shows for purpose of comparison the notification rates of Tuberculosis in Preston and in England and Wales during the last ten years. This chart illustrates the progressive fall in the incidence of the disease throughout the country, and bears witness to the effect that anti-Tuberculosis schemes are slowly but surely producing.

This decline is also reflected in the general death-rate from Tuberculosis, which shows a corresponding decrease.

The following three tables deal with the age and sex distribution of the notified cases (primary notifications on Form A), the relative incidence in the different wards of the Borough, and the occupations in age and sex groups.

It will be noted from the Ward table that the highest incidence of the disease is in those parts of the town where the home conditions are the worst and where overcrowding is more rife. This illustrates the fact that bad housing and environment play an important part in the production of this disease.

TABLE IVj.
Summary of Notifications during the Year 1924.

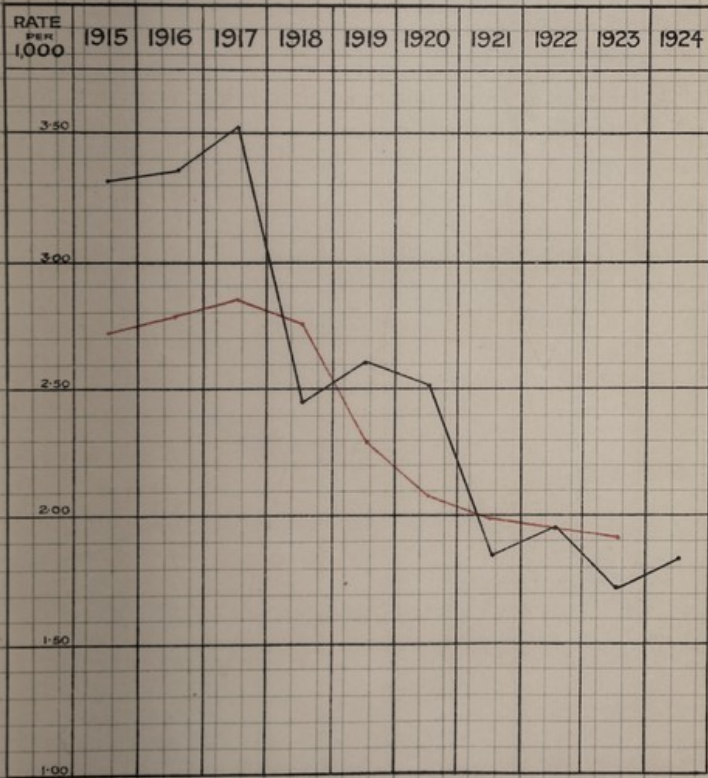
Age periods	Notifications on Form A.											Total
	0-1.	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-	
Pulmonary Males	..	2	3	2	7	17	30	20	15	7	2	105
" Females	...	1	1	4	16	19	20	6	10	1	1	79
Non-Pulmonary Males	4	7	2	3	3	2	2	..	1	..	..	24
" Females	...	5	2	3	4	2	6	2	..	..	..	24

TABLE IVk.
Ward Incidence of Tuberculosis.

WARD	Number of Notified Cases.			Incidence Rate per 1000 of the population.
	Males	Females	Total	
Avenham ...	9	6	15	2.03
Trinity ...	12	13	25	2.49
Deepdale ...	11	11	22	1.88
Fishwick ...	7	1	8	1.03
St. Peter's ...	12	7	19	1.59
Ashton ...	8	4	12	1.29
St. John's ...	16	13	29	2.40
Moor Brook ...	9	8	17	1.87
Park ...	17	16	33	2.19
Maudland ...	8	9	17	1.69
Christ Church ...	15	6	21	2.38
Ribbleton ...	6	8	14	1.42
TOTALS ...	130	102	232	1.88

CHART 1.

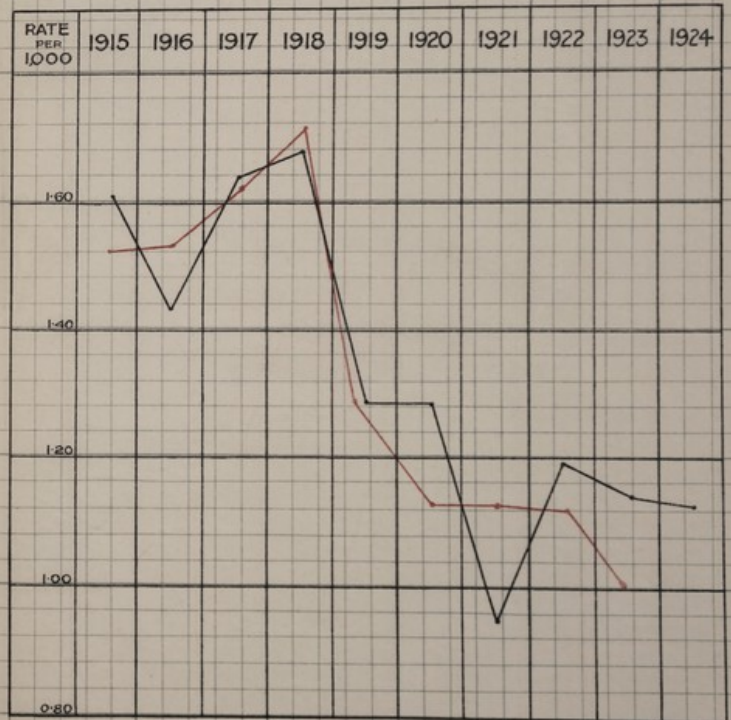
NOTIFICATION RATES OF TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS)
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES AND FOR PRESTON 1915-1924.



PRESTON RATE SHOWN THUS —————
RATE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES SHOWN THUS —————

CHART 2.

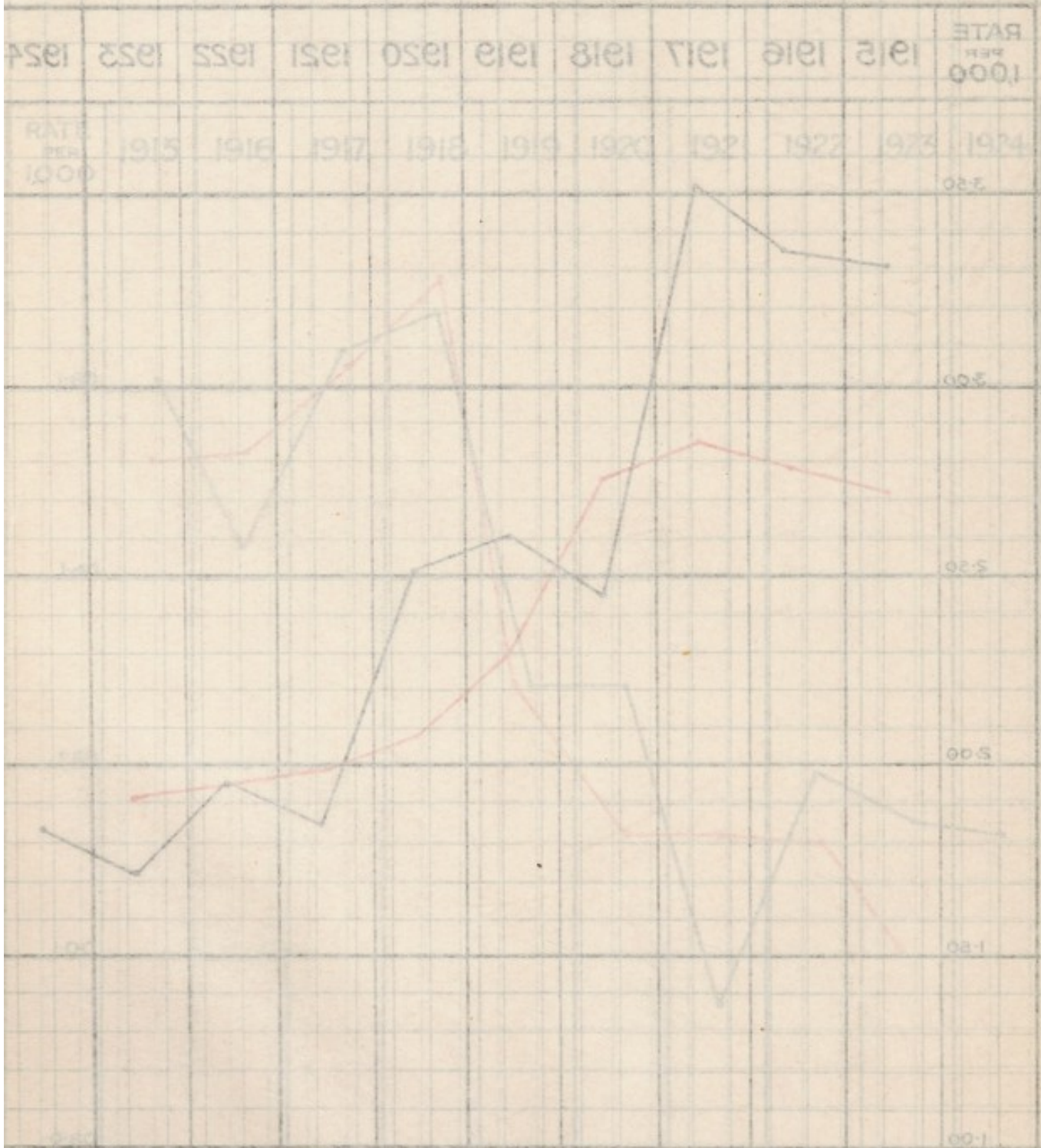
DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS)
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES AND FOR PRESTON 1915-1924.



PRESTON RATE SHOWN THUS —————
RATE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES SHOWN THUS —————

CHART 1

NOTIFICATION RATES OF TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS)
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES AND FOR PRESTON 1915-1924



PRESTON RATE SHOWN IN BLACK
RATE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES SHOWN IN RED

TABLE IVL.
Occupation in age and sex groups of notified cases of Tuberculosis in 1924.

Occupation		0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-	Totals
Under School Age	M	4	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
	F	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
School Children	M	...	...	5	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
	F	...	...	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Domestic Duties	F	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	6	2	1	6	4	...	...	1	27
Cotton Mill Operatives	M	...	...	...	1	3	4	1	2	1	...	3	2	...	...	...	17
	F	...	...	...	...	14	11	9	5	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	44
Labourers	M	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	4	2	2	1	3	2	2	...	21
Clerks	M	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
	F	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shop Assistants	M	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
	F	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Engineers and Mechanics	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
	F	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7
Iron Workers	M	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Rubber Workers	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3
Electrical Workers	M	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	F	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wood Workers	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Occupations	M	...	...	...	...	2	8	7	3	5	4	3	3	...	...	...	35
	F	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
No Occupation	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	2	9
	F	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4
Totals	M	4	9	5	5	10	19	19	13	12	8	8	8	3	4	2	232
	F	...	6	3	7	20	21	13	13	3	5	6	4	...	1	1	

(2) DEATHS.

During 1924 the number of deaths registered in Preston as due to Tuberculosis (all forms) was 139. This figure is exactly the same as in the previous year, but, owing to population increase, yields a slightly lower rate of mortality.

Of the total deaths from Tuberculosis 105 were due to the pulmonary form and 34 were caused by other forms of the disease, including Tuberculous Meningitis. Thus out of the total deaths in the Borough one in every twelve was due to Tuberculosis in some form or other, while the death-rate from this disease was 1.13 per 1,000. The pulmonary form of the disease was responsible for a death-rate of .85 per 1,000, while other forms of the disease caused a rate of .28 per 1,000.

The age and sex distribution of these deaths is shown in the following table, and Chart 2 compares the Tuberculosis death-rate of Preston with those of England and Wales for the past 10 years.

TABLE IV.M.

Cause of Death.	Sex	All Ages	0—1	1—2	2—5	5—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65—75	75 and over
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	{ M	64	...	1	1	...	15	23	23	1	...
	{ F	41	...	...	...	7	7	17	8	2	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases...	{ M	18	6	1	4	2	1	1	2	1	...
	{ F	16	3	3	1	2	4	...	3	...	...

(3) PROGRESS OF THE CORPORATION'S SCHEME.

During the year 1924 the Corporation's scheme for dealing with Tuberculosis has been carried on along the usual lines, and there have been no outstanding developments to record.

The restrictions which for some time had prevented Local Authorities incurring increased expenditure for Tuberculosis schemes has been to some extent removed by the Ministry of Health. Consequently the Corporation has been able to consider means for the extension and improvement of its scheme, and a start has been made in this direction.

The necessity for increased facilities for the treatment of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis has long been recognised, and during the year a scheme was submitted and approved. This provides for increasing the number of beds at the Preston Royal Infirmary for the more acute cases and also for additional accommodation for the more chronic cases at other institutions. This extension of the scheme will come into force in 1925.

The other addition to the scheme concerns the Chestnuts Sanatorium, where the long-felt want for increased and better accommodation seems about to be realised. During the year the Council considered and approved a scheme providing for the erection of a new pavilion on the existing site. This building will accommodate 30 patients, and will enable the type of cases treated there to be dealt with in a more satisfactory manner. The scheme has now been approved by the Ministry of Health, and it is anticipated that the work of building will be commenced in the very near future.

During the year under review the Chestnuts has continued to do very useful work in spite of the inherent defects of the present building.

Miss E. Doherty relinquished her appointment as Matron of this institution in August, 1924, and Miss F. Keene was appointed Matron in October.

There have been no administrative changes in the Dispensary organisation during the year. The number of beds available to the Corporation at the various institutions for the treatment of Tuberculosis has remained the same and the only alteration in the distribution of beds has been that those at Stanhope Sanatorium have been given up and an equal number obtained at the Meathop Sanatorium, Grange-over-Sands, to replace them. The reason for this change was to decrease the distance patients have to travel.

The average number of beds available to the Corporation at the end of 1924 was 54. These beds were distributed as follows:—

Crossley Sanatorium, Cheshire	...	7 adults	...	...	Pulmonary cases
Bowdon	„	5 „	3 children	...	„
Meathop	„	6 „		...	„
Eastby	„	4 children		...	„
Freshfield	„	6 children		...	„
“The Chestnuts,”	Preston	13 adults, 4 children		...	„
Heswall Institution	Cheshire	4 children		...	Non-Pulmonary cases
Royal Infirmary	Preston	2 acute surgical cases		„	„

(4) WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year under the Dispensary Organisation :—

(a) AT THE DISPENSARY.

During the year 422 new patients were examined by the Tuberculosis Officer, either at the Dispensary or at their own homes.

Old patients made 3,730 attendances at the Dispensary for treatment, reports, or observation purposes.

Of the new patients, 168 were diagnosed as suffering definitely from Tuberculosis in some form or other—136 from pulmonary and 32 from non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The pulmonary cases were classified according to the stage of the disease as follows :—

Stage 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Stage 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Stage 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

In the 32 non-pulmonary cases the disease affected the different tissues of the body as follows :—

Lymphatic Glands	...	...	...	...	...	16
Spine	...	...	...	...	...	6
Abdomen (peritoneum, mesenteric glands)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Organs (skin, bones, internal organs, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	7

Details of the work done in the Bacteriological Laboratory will be found in another part of the report.

(b) WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS NURSES.

The nurses (two in number) have made 208 visits to the homes of new patients and 2,913 re-visits to those of old patients.

The following table, compiled from the Nurses' House Reports deals with the number of persons in infected houses. The figures above the heavy line shew the number of families where there were more than two persons per room—they number 12 families, consisting of 107 persons.

TABLE IVN

No. of Rooms in Infected Houses.	Number of Persons.												TOTAL.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Houses	Occupants.
	Number of Families.													
1 Room	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	9
2 Rooms	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	14
3 Rooms	...	4	12	5	8	5	2	1	1	...	...	...	38	165
4 Rooms	1	4	14	14	18	16	7	1	...	1	...	...	76	360
5 Rooms	...	1	13	18	19	11	7	4	4	1	1	4	83	460
6 Rooms	...	1	1	1	2	3	4	1	...	1	...	1	14	80
7 and over	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	20
Families	1	12	43	42	50	36	17	7	6	2	1	5	222	...
Persons	1	24	129	168	250	216	119	56	54	20	11	60	...	1108

(c) RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT.

The following table shews the number of patients who received institutional treatment during the year, the institutions to which they were admitted, and the average duration of stay in each institution.

TABLE IVo.

Institution.	Males	Females	Total Cases	Average duration of stay	
				weeks	days
Crossley Sanatorium ...	14	14	28	12	4
Meathop " ...	14	...	14	15	2
Stanhope " ...	4	...	4	11	6
Bowdon " ...	...	32	32	9	4
Eastby " ...	12	...	12	14	4
Freshfield " ...	3	10	13	18	1
"The Chestnuts" " ...	18	31	49	17	4
Heswall Institution ...	5	3	8	20	...
Preston Royal Infirmary ..	8	16	24	4	6
Shropshire Orthopædic Hospital ...	2	...	2	28	1
TOTALS ...	80	106	186	13	4

There were thus 186 cases that received residential treatment during the year—of these 63 were children under the age of 14 years.

WORK DONE IN BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY DURING 1924.

The following is the number of specimens examined during the year:—

Specimens of sputum examined for Tubercle Bacilli ...	561
Throat Swabs examined for Diphtheria Bacilli ...	805
Other miscellaneous specimens ...	14
	1,380

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Dr. W. H. Pimblett, the Medical Officer in charge of the arrangements, reports as follows :—

	1924.	1923.	Difference.
Total New Cases	456	384	+72
Total Attendances at Clinic...	5423	5373	+50
,, ,, Males	3646	3463	+183
,, ,, Females	1777	1910	-133

These figures apply to the Clinics before the opening of the new extension for the local treatment of Gonorrhœa in both sexes, and the attendances here will show a large increase in the future and a considerable decrease in the average cost per case treated.

During the year the extensions and alterations sanctioned by the Ministry of Health were completed and a full and up-to-date equipment provided giving facilities for diagnosis and treatment equal to any in the country.

The Clinics and the work performed there have been periodically inspected by Dr. Candler from the Ministry and he was thoroughly satisfied with everything he saw.

The new departments were opened on January 14th, 1925, and the attendances at once showed a large increase.

The Medical Officer of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres of the Corporation has also joined the Female Clinic with special reference to the local treatment of Gonorrhœa, with very satisfactory results.

The great decline in the number of new cases of Syphilis all over the Country testifies to the soundness of the principle of stopping the spread of Venereal Disease by rendering the greatest possible number of infected persons non-infective by treatment.

The effects which can be obtained by good and efficient treatment with a high standard of cure in the case of Gonorrhœa are not so clearly apparent to the general public, so that considerable work is necessary before we can say, as I think we can in Syphilis, that we have the problem well within our grasp.

TABLE IVp.
RETURN relating to all persons who were treated at the Treatment Centre at Preston Royal Infirmary during the Year ended 31st December, 1924.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancere		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		TOTAL	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1. Number of persons who, on the 1st January, 1924, were under treatment or observation for :—										
2. Number dealt with during the year in the out-patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from :—										
Syphilis only	99	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	99	58
Soft Chancere only .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gonorrhoea only .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis and Soft Chancere .....	...	...	...	...	119	14	...	...	119	14
Syphilis and Gonorrhoea	9	4	...	...	9	4	...	...	18	8
Gonorrhoea and Soft Chancere .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis, Soft Chancere and Gonorrhoea .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Conditions other than venereal .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	81	59	81	59
Total—Item 2	108	62	...	...	128	18	81	59	317	139
Total—Items 1 and 2	310	179	...	...	245	32	81	59	636	270
3. Number of persons who ceased to attend the out-patient Clinic										
(a) before completing the first course of treatment for	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) after one or more courses but before completion of treatment for	52	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) after completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure of .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Number of persons transferred to other Treatment Centres after treatment for	12	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
5. Number of persons discharged from the out-patient Clinic after completion of treatment and observation for	69	19	...	...	138	4	81	59	288	82
6. Number of persons who, on the 1st January, 1925, were under treatment or observation for :—	168	148	...	...	105	28	...	...	273	176
Total—Items 3, 4, 5 and 6	310	179	...	...	245	32	81	59	636	270
7. Out-patient attendances :—										
(a) For individual attention by the Medical Officer ..	2062	1332	...	...	1343	284	241	161	3646	1777
(b) For intermediate treatment, e.g., irrigation, dressings, etc. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Attendances	2062	1332	...	...	1343	284	241	161	3646	1777
8. Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of treatment given to persons who were suffering from :—										
9. Examination of Pathological material :—										
(a) Specimens which were examined at, and by the Medical Officer of, the Treatment Centre	5	...	...	...	166	...	Nil.	...	Nil.	...
(b) Specimens from persons attending at the Treatment Centre which were sent for examination to an approved laboratory .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	508

TABLE IVQ.

Statement showing the services rendered at the Treatment Centre at the Preston Royal Infirmary during the Year, classified according to the areas in which the patients resided.

	Preston	County of Lancs.	Manchester	West-morland	Black-burn	Chester	Black-pool	Leeds	Liverpool	Total
A. Number of persons from each area dealt with during the year at or in connection with the out-patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—										
Syphilis	119	44	...	1	4	...	...	...	2	170
Soft Chancres .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gonorrhœa	104	36	...	...	2	...	1	...	2	145
Conditions other than venereal	105	33	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	141
Total	328	113	...	1	8	...	2	...	4	456
B. Total number of attendances at the out-patient Clinic of all patients residing in each area	3654	1658	6	13	44	6	12	18	12	5423
C. Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
D. Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given in the										
1. Out-patient Clinic										
Novarsenobillon	239	108	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	349
.....	537	221	...	8	19	1	...	...	...	786
.....	80	90	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	174
Hg.	888	456	...	11	25	4	...	...	2	1386
Other Medicines	1134	509	5	...	9	1	8	13	3	1682
2. In-Patient Department to patients residing in each area .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
E. Give the names of arsenobenzol compounds used in the treatment of syphilis and the usual initial and final doses										
F. State the amount and kind of treatment usually administered to a case of Syphilis of each of the types usually dealt with at the Treatment Centre										
G. State the nature of tests applied in deciding as to discharge of patients referred to in Item 5 on previous page										

N.A.B. Initial .45, Final .75.

(1) Primary infection with negative Wasserman. Two courses of 4.2 grammes N.A.B. and 8 grains Mercury, Pot. Iod. for 14 days, Hyd.-c-cret T.D.S. for 3 months.

(2) Primary infection with positive Wasserman and secondary cases. 3 Courses in the 12 months, with 90 days intermission between each course and Pot. Iod. and Hyd.-c-cret as above. In latter part of the year the scheme of treatment outlined in St. Thomas' Hospital Gazette has been followed.

(1) Primary infection with negative Wasserman. Two years' observation from commencement of treatment. Wasserman every 3 and later 6 months.

(2) Primary infection with positive Wasserman and secondary cases. Two years' freedom from all signs of the disease after suspension of all treatment. A Wasserman being taken every three months. N.A.B. Provocative and Wasserman used as required.

Gonorrhœa in Males. Resume usual habits, foods and exercise. Full sized Bougies, AgNO₃ gr $\frac{v}{i}$ to $\frac{ii}{i}$ instilled. No urethral discharge. Palpation over metal Bougies. Microscopical examination of films made from threads and centrifugalized deposits. Palpation and massage of prostate and seminal vesicles and films made from any secretion.

Gonorrhœa in Females. Resume usual habits, foods and exercise. AgNO₃ 15% to cervical canal. Palpation urethra. Discharge, if any, examined as described above. Ferguson's speculum. Discharge from vagina and cervix examined.

V.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The number of children born (2,328) and the Birth Rate which was 18.91 per 1,000 living continued the decline which has been apparent since 1920. Of the 2,328 births, 1,185 were males and 1,143 females; 2,216 were legitimate and 112 illegitimate. The percentage of illegitimate births was 4.8. This proportion has gradually declined since 1918 and has now reached the pre-war figure.

The number of infant deaths was 225; of these 145 were males and 80 females. Legitimate children numbered 202, illegitimate children 23. The death rate per 1,000 born was 97, one point lower than the rate last year.

The Birth Rate and Infant Mortality Rate are given in detail in Tables IA, IB, and IE, and a detailed statement of the causes of and age periods at death in Table VA.

A comparison with the Lancashire and Cheshire Great Towns, Table IE, relating to the figures for the 53 weeks ended January 3rd, 1925, shows that while Preston's figures have improved, the rest of the County on the whole shows figures not so good as in the previous year. Thus in 1923 there were 3 towns with a rate of 100 or over, Preston's rate being 98 for this period. In 1924 there were 6 towns with a rate of 100 and over, Preston's rate being 90.

The two sexes are not affected equally in either their birth rate or their mortality in 1923. The Infantile Mortality rate for males and females is 107 and 88 respectively, in 1924 the rates were 122 and 70. For every 4 females who failed to reach 1 year of age, 7 male infants died.

Year	Legitimate Births	Deaths of Legitimate Children	Rate per 1000 born	Illegitimate Births	Per cent of total	Illegitimate Deaths	Rate per 1000 born
1913	2722	...	...	142	5.2	...	...
1914	2671	...	...	147	5.5	...	...
1915	2387	...	...	132	5.5	...	...
1916	2150	...	...	143	6.6	...	...
1917	1831	...	...	167	9.0	...	...
1918	1754	...	...	181	10.3	...	...
1919	1984	...	...	174	8.0	...	...
1920	2810	280	99	174	5.8	21	120
1921	2534	278	109	177	6.3	38	215
1922	2350	225	95	132	5.6	17	129
1923	2316	220	95	110	4.5	18	164
1924	2216	202	91	112	4.8	23	205

TABLE VA.

Infantile Mortality, 1924.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	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 Deaths under One Year.	
										M	F
All Causes:—											
Certified	58	18	11	6	93	32	30	32	28	215	
Uncertified	5	...	..	...	5	2	2	...	1	10	
Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria and Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	2	4	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	2	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	...	5	1
Convulsions	1	3	...	...	4	3	3	2	2	7	7
Laryngitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis .....	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	6	3	6	8
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	11	10	25	6
Diarrhoea .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis .....	...	...	2	...	2	11	10	1	3	18	9
Gastritis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis .....	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Rickets .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	...
Atelectasis	5	...	...	...	5	...	1	...	...	1	5
Congenital Malformations	9	3	1	1	14	2	1	...	1	12	6
Premature Birth	41	9	4	3	57	2	1	1	...	35	26
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	4	2	1	1	8	4	2	2	1	13	4
Other causes	2	1	2	...	5	3	2	1	4	12	3
Total.....	63	18	11	6	98	34	32	32	29	145	80

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Eight cases of Puerperal Fever were notified during the year which is the same number as in 1923. Of these eight cases five died. On investigation of the five deaths, however, it would appear that it is doubtful if two of them should have been credited to Puerperal Fever as in one case the patient actually went back to work for a considerable time after her confinement. In the other case the patient appeared to have been extremely ill during practically the whole of her pregnancy and it is doubtful if she actually died from Puerperal Septicaemia. Two of the deaths occurred in the Preston Royal Infirmary and one occurred in the Isolation Hospital two days after removal there.

TABLE VB.

Summary of Cases of Puerperal Fever.

YEAR	No. of Cases Notified	No. of Deaths	No. of Births Registered	Incidence Rate per 1000 Births	Mortality per 1000 Births
1911	6	2	2726	2.20	0.73
1912	2	1	2753	0.72	0.36
1913	7	2	2888	2.42	0.69
1914	7	2	2841	2.46	0.70
1915	9	5	2546	3.53	1.96
1916	3	3	2315	1.29	1.29
1917	1	1	2019	0.49	0.49
1918	3	2	1906	1.57	1.05
1919	9	1	2086	4.31	0.48
1920	16	9	2984	4.69	3.01
Average	6.2	2.6	2506.4	2.47	1.03
1921	8	7	2811	2.82	2.49
1922	8	3	2482	3.22	1.20
1923	8	3	2426	3.30	1.24
1924	8	5	2328	3.40	2.15

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTS AND DISEASES OF PREGNANCY AND PARTURITION OTHER THAN PUERPERAL FEVER.

There were eight deaths from Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy in the Borough. Of these eight deaths two occurred from Eclampsia in spite of medical attention during the pregnancy. One was a sudden death from Pulmonary Embolism which was unavoidable, three died from Hæmorrhage and although two were assigned to other causes, on investigation it would appear that these two died from Puerperal Septicaemia. Of the deaths, three occurred in the Preston Royal Infirmary and one in the Isolation Hospital.

	Births	Infant Deaths	Puerperal Fever		Deaths from other diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition
			Cases	Deaths	
Private Houses	1994	202	7	2	4
Nursing Homes	50	1	...	...	1
Royal Infirmary	283	14	1	2	2
Isolation Hospital .....	...	2	...	1	1
Other Institutions	1	6	...	...	...
	2328	225	8	5	8

TABLE Vc.

Attendance on Women at Child Birth.

THE BIRTHS WERE ATTENDED BY :—	District 1	District 1a	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	Total
Midwives alone	232	38	335	252	206	221	1284
Doctors and Midwives	194	18	113	100	117	102	644
Doctors and Monthly Nurses ..	6	6	...	6	...	11	29
Doctors and Unqualified Women	24	6	32	32	23	14	131
TOTALS	456	68	480	390	346	348	2088

TABLE Vd.

Notification of Births Act.

Received from :—

District	Midwives	Doctors	Parents	Royal Infirmary	Private Nursing Homes	Total
1*	340	2	57	83	2	484
1A*	38	—	7	10	7	62
2*	379	2	47	83	23	534
3	358	1	53	37	8	457
4	311	—	35	45	—	391
5	260	1	33	40	3	337
	1686	6	232	298	43	2265

*Districts 1 and 2 divided to form District 1A in October, 1924.

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of bodies of still-born children interred at the Preston Cemetery during 1924 was 141, but five of these belonged to districts outside the Borough.

It has been possible to investigate the probable cause of 66 of these still-births. Adopting the same arbitrarily chosen divisions as formerly these were as follows :—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	23
Accidents of Labour	...	...	...	...	...	24
Illness of Mother	...	...	...	...	...	5
Abnormality of Child	...	...	...	...	...	4
Macerated Foetus	...	...	...	...	...	10
						66

Without prolonged laboratory work and without connection with a Hospital it is not, in my opinion, possible to get any further with the investigation of still-births, especially in connection with those under the headings of Prematurity and Macerated Foetus.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

At the Ante-Natal Clinic, 2 North Road, 238 new patients, who made 386 attendances, were seen. Reviewing the work of the year in this department one is driven to the conclusion that the Clinic cannot fulfil its real function without very close and definite co-operation with a Hospital with a Maternity Department. At the time of going to press the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer has assisted at the Venereal Disease Clinic for women at the Preston Royal Infirmary and as far as can be seen the arrangement is highly satisfactory and it is possible that a similar arrangement might be as satisfactory if carried out in the Maternity Department. It seems a pity that two Ante-Natal Clinics entirely unconnected with each other should be run in a town the size of Preston. I should like here to acknowledge the ready courtesy of those responsible for the Maternity Department of the Royal Infirmary in admitting cases sent from the Ante-Natal Clinic.

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

At the end of the year 1924 there were 42 names on the Register of Midwives, 29 of whom were trained and 13 untrained. 125 routine inspections were made and 19 special inspections, while 11 midwives were inspected during their conduct of a case. No midwife was reported to the Central Midwives' Board for infringement of the rules. There has been formed in Preston a Midwives' Association which is affiliated to the Midwives' Institute. Lectures on suitable subjects have been arranged. The midwives appreciate these lectures highly, as they give them not only the opportunity of revising their knowledge of midwifery but also a chance for learning any new methods that from time to time may be evolved.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The attendances at the Centres have increased during the year. The actual numbers will be seen in the table below. The courses given in Cookery, Sewing and Dressmaking continue to prove attractive and very useful.

The growth of the work is indicated by the following statement of attendances at the Centres since opening :—

TABLE VE.

Situation of Centre	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Deepdale Mill Street	144	1139	1471	1836	1741	2722	3318	3509	4024	4137
Walker Street .....	...	1573	3051	2536	2398	2850	2824	4150	5233	5728
Fylde Road	502	984	1771	2402	1543	2648	2732	2338	2889	3322
Savoy Street .....	...	...	72	1280	997	754	1639	1896	2362	3345
Manchester Road ...	...	260	1435	1774	1811	1991	2507	2488	2990	4509
North Road .....	...	...	...	...	83	203	180	384	397	386
Totals	647	3956	7750	9828	8573	11177	13200	14765	17895	21427

The details of the attendances are as follows :—

TABLE VF.

Number of Attendances at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and at the Ante-Natal Clinic.

Situation of Centre	Total Infants (a)	New Infants included in (a) (b)	Older Children	Expectant Mothers	Total Attendances
Deepdale Mill Street .	3005	287	921	211	4137
Walker Street	4077	295	1319	332	5728
Fylde Road	2369	255	789	164	3322
Savoy Street	2697	193	518	130	3345
Manchester Road	3433	222	900	176	4509
Ante-Natal Clinic, North Road .....	...	...	...	386	386
Totals	15581	1252	4447	1399	21427

453 Persons received Free Food in the form of Cows Milk or Dried Milk from the Corporation. The average length of time that this relief was given equalled 146 days. The total amount involved was £1,509 10s. 8d. and the average cost per head equalled £3 6s. 8d. The investigation of the income of applicants and the administration of the scheme together with that relating to the provisions of Home Helps, Midwives and Doctors absorbs a tremendous amount of work on the part of the Staff and the responsible Sub-Committee. At each monthly meeting over 200 individual cases have to be considered with full reports on each. Co-operation with the Board of Guardians, the Pensions Committee, the Employment

Exchange, the Friendly Societies and charitable agencies is maintained by diligent enquiries and collation of information. The work is rapidly growing and will probably continue to do so until trade improves.

TABLE Vg.
Statement of Sale of Foods and Free Samples during the Year 1924.

	Cows Milk.	Dried Milk.	Lactogol.	Virol.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Foods Sold	Nil.	664 9 6	10 18 9	74 15 11
Foods Supplied Free...£	1266 3 6	494 9 2	0 7 6	14 1 8
TOTALS.....	1266 3 6	858 18 8	11 6 3	88 17 7

	Ovaltine.	C.L.O. Emulsion	C.L.O. and Malt.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Foods Sold	179 0 10	18 1 6	11 4 0
Foods Supplied Free...£	19 8 6	4 12 3	10 8 1
TOTALS.....	198 9 4	22 13 9	21 12 1

	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value of Foods Sold	958 10 6	1039 7 0	1075 6 2	1566 5 1
Value of Foods Supplied Free	1509 10 8	932 4 1	576 0 3	893 8 3

Other Services rendered by the Committee in relation to Maternity.

Nature of Service	No. of Instances	Average Cost per Instance	Total Cost	Borne by the Council	Borne by the Applicant
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
The provision of a Midwife ...	115	1 5 6	146 10 0	146 10 0	...
„ „ Home Help .	36	2 11 6	92 15 0	89 15 0	3 0 0*
„ „ Doctor ...	47	2 7 9	112 7 0	93 11 0	18 16 0*

*Amounts outstanding.

TABLE Vg. SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

District	Wards	Visits to										Total Visits				
		Ante-Natal Cases		Births		Older Children				Disease Conditions						
		1st Visits	Re-Visits	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Fever	Diarrhoea, etc.	Measles	Whooping Cough	Mumps, Chicken Pox, etc.	Epidemic Enteritis		
1	Fishwick	330	456	1290	564	281	265	337	9	1	...	457	16	106	1	4113
	Ribbleton															
1A	Deepdale	76	64	447	241	81	33	70	...	...	...	255	4	86	...	1357
	Park (part of) ...															
2	Park (part of).....	202	480	980	706	810	625	671	...	...	...	413	18	250	11	5166
	Trinity															
3	St. Peter's	206	390	1210	352	376	279	336	2	...	...	341	...	147	...	3639
	Moorbrook															
	Maudland(partof).															
4	Christ Church ...	151	346	984	623	582	603	328	8	...	...	329	6	204	20	4184
	Ashton															
	Maudland(partof).															
5	St. John's	158	353	996	695	516	375	370	5	...	...	245	53	243	4	4013
	Avenham															
	Totals	1123	7996		10119							3234				22472

THE WORK OF THE VOLUNTARY WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

The following items are abstracted from the Ninth Annual Report of the Association. The amount and the quality of the work done demand a continuous and self-sacrificing effort on the part of the ladies concerned for which no praise is too high.

SNOW HILL CENTRE.

1.—Treatment Department.

(Dr. Rhoda Murdoch).

			Cases.		Attendances.
1921	...	...	145	...	787
1922	...	...	775	...	1470
1923	...	...	990	...	1650
1924	...	...	1184	...	1920

The cases are children under 5 years of age suffering from so called Minor Ailments, and include Rickets, Tuberculosis of Glands, etc., Anaemia, Epilepsy, and Gastro Intestinal and Respiratory conditions.

2.—Massage Clinic.

(Miss G. W. Spencer).

			Cases.		Attendances.
1921	...	...	34	...	892
1922	...	...	36	...	1012
1923	...	...	47	...	1020
1924	...	...	52	...	1119

Diseases treated:—Deformities and Paralysis due to Rickets, Infantile Paralysis and Congenital Deformities.

3.—Dental Clinic.

(Mr. P. A. Gardner, L.D.S.).

			Cases.			Attendances.
			Women	Children		
1922	...	...	54	18	...	270
1923	...	...	124	30	...	290
1924	...	...	195		...	360

Details of Dental Operations :—

	1922.	1923.	1924.
Extractions :—			
Local Anaesthetic ...	250	170	85
General	34	60	125
Simple	6	5	4
Fillings	112	160	140
Dressings	73	70	120
Scalings, etc.	50	60	50
Dentures :—			
Partial Sets	—	7	13
Complete Sets	—	5	4
Cases completed	13	13	17

The total cost for Dentures during 1924 has been £59 15s. od., of which £23 14s. 6d. has been contributed by patients.

4.—Cookery Lessons.

“ Mrs. Simmonds has conducted a highly successful short course of lessons in plain cooking at the Snow Hill Centre on Tuesday evenings. As the Mothers attended without their children they were able to derive much more benefit from the course, and this fact seems to indicate there is scope for further development on educational lines, possibly in the direction of Home Nursing, etc.”

BABY DAY.

“ Baby Day was successfully celebrated on Wednesday, 24th September, when two gatherings took place in the Public Hall. In the afternoon the mothers from the various Welfare Centres attended with their children, and after partaking of tea they had the pleasure of witnessing a film appropriate to the occasion.

There was a good exhibition of various work undertaken by the mothers during the year, when in attendance at the Centres. Specimens of Needle Work, Knitting, Renovating, Plain Cooking, etc., were amongst the exhibits. The difficult task of judging was undertaken by Misses Bannister, McCourty, and Marshall, who deserve the best thanks of the Committee for their exacting labours.

The evening meeting was fairly well attended. The Mayor (Alderman F. W. F. Matthew) presided, and was supported by Councillor Mrs. Astley-Bell, Councillor Mrs. Pimblett, Councillors Durham and Hunt, and Dr. F. A. Sharpe (Medical Officer of Health).

After the Mayor had paid a tribute to the Infant Welfare Organisation of the town, Dr. Sharpe enlarged upon the various activities connected with Child Welfare that were directly under the control of the Council, plainly indicating that if the facilities provided were only used to the fullest extent much unnecessary pain and suffering could be avoided by many of the poor women of the town.

During the afternoon and evening Mr. Will Onda kindly exhibited several films, both entertaining and instructive in character, and in the evening the Preston Light Orchestra, who also gave their services, played most attractive selections, under the able conductorship of Mr. J. Roy Hulme.”

VI.—Sanitary Administration.

(1) STAFF.

F. A. SHARPE, M.D.(Lond.), B.S., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health, Schools Medical Officer, Port Medical Officer, Tuberculosis Officer.

JAMES WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Vict.
Assistant Medical Officer, Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

MARY LOWRY, M.B., Ch.B., M.A. (Edin.).
Assistant Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare Officer.

RICHARD FINCH, F.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Veterinary Officer and Officer in charge of Food Inspection arrangements.

W. H. ROBERTS, F.I.C., Borough Analyst.

Chief Clerk : W. SHARP.

Matron, Isolation Hospital : J. G. BOOTH.

Matron, " Chestnuts " Hospital for Consumption : F. KEENE.

Health Visitors : M. M. BOTTOMLEY, E. A. COOPER, L. ROSS, E. PARK,
D. LAFFERTY, J. MORTIMER.

Tuberculosis Nurses : J. EDMONDSON, M. COLE.

Sanitary Inspectors : W. BARON, Cert. R.S.I. E. CROSTHWAITE, Cert. R.S.I. H. HOLDEN, Cert. R.S.I. H. D. WRIGHT, Cert. R.S.I. J. B. MORGAN, Cert. R.S.I. H. HORNBY, Cert. R.S.I. A. S. WILLIAMS, Cert. R.S.I.

(2) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Hospital is a modern institution, consisting of an administration block, 4 ward blocks, laundry, and other necessary premises.

The ward blocks contain two main wards and two side wards each. The accommodation is for 60 beds.

During the year 374 cases were admitted, compared with 334 in 1923 and 312 in 1922.

In addition to Enteric Fever, Scarlet Fever, and Diphtheria, a large number of cases of other illnesses were treated.

TABLE VIA.

Disease	In Hospital Dec. 31, 1923	Admitted		Dis- charged	Deaths	Remaining Dec. 31, 1924
		No.	Per cent of Notified			
Enteric Fever	...	12	67	12	...	...
Scarlet Fever...	14	188	86	179	1	22
Diphtheria.....	3	115	88	93	6	19
Measles .....	...	31	1.4	22	4	5
Erysipelas .....	...	6	15	6	...	...
Tuberculous Conditions...	1	2	...	2	1	...
Pneumonia ...	...	5	5	3	1	21
Encephalitis Lethargica } Infantile } Paralysis }	...	4	80	4	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	5	62	2	3	...
Anthrax	1	...	...	1	...	...
Chicken Pox ...	...	3	1	3	...	...
Marasmus .....	...	3	...	1	1	1
TOTALS	19	374	...	328	17	48

TABLE VI B.

Length of Stay in Hospital of Patients who died or were discharged in 1924
whether admitted in that year or previously.

Disease for which admitted.	No. of Cases Died or Discharged during 1924	Total Days in Hospital	Average length of stay	Corresponding Figures for :		
				1923	1922	1921
Enteric Fever	12	232	19.33	20.00	25.22	29.57
Scarlet Fever	180	6228	34.60	32.66	35.86	33.85
Diphtheria	99	2564	25.89	23.00	30.44	39.49
Measles	26	487	18.73	40.50	17.33	...
Erysipelas	6	105	17.5	7.50	...	...
Tuberculous Conditions.	3	192	64.00	6.33	...	...
Pneumonia	4	90	22.50	13.50	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica & Acute Poliomyelitis...	4	107	26.75	5.00	...	...
Puerperal Fever	5	52	10.40	14.00	38.00	...
Anthrax	1	72	72.00	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	3	36	12.00	...	...	...
Marasmus	2	88	44.00	...	...	...
Total	345	10253	29.7	27.63	32.87	32.00

TABLE VIc.

Disease for which Admitted.	Total Days in Hospital in 1924	Average Beds occupied daily	Corresponding Figures for :		
			1923	1922	1921
Enteric Fever	232	0.63	0.81	0.52	0.66
Scarlet Fever	6489	17.77	17.27	18.49	26.14
Diphtheria	2782	7.62	7.32	9.81	9.63
Measles	487	} 2.99	0.99	0.98	...
Erysipelas	105				
Tuberculous Conditions...	101				
Pneumonia	90				
Encephalitis Lethargica & Acute Poliomyelitis ...	107				
Puerperal Fever	52				
Anthrax	23				
Chicken Pox.....	36				
Marasmus	88				
Total	10592					29.01	26.40	29.80	36.43

TABLE VIc.

Diagnosis of Cases admitted in 1924.

Disease for which admitted.	Actual Disease found													TOTAL		
	Pneumonia	Constipation	Gastro Enteritis	Teething Rash	Skin Disease	Sc. Fever & Diphtheria	German Measles	Small Pox	Sunstroke	Marasmus	Septic Throat C'ditions other than Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Diph. & Chicken Pox		No Disease diagnosed	Orig. Diag. confirmed
Enteric Fever	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	12
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	180	188
Diphtheria	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	11	8	1	2	89	115
Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	31
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6
Tuberculous Conditions.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Pneumonia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
Encephalitis Lethargica & Acute Poliomyelitis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
Chicken Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Marasmus .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	8	1	6	334	374

VII.—Housing.

That portion of the work of the Public Health Department relating to the fitness of dwellings has been dealt with in Section II. A summary appears in the appended Schedule :—

In the Inspections under the Housing Regulations, 1910, attention is directed to the number of rooms per house, and the number of persons occupying them. The following are the facts elicited :—

Enquiries re Housing—357.

Total Occupants—1,572.

TABLE VIIA.

No. of Rooms per House.	Number of Persons per House.												TOTAL.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Houses.	Occupants.
	No. of Families.													
1 Room	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2 Rooms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3 Rooms	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
4 Rooms	6	30	31	32	31	16	3	12	3	2	..	..	166	702
5 Rooms	3	12	21	26	15	19	2	6	5	2	1	..	112	521
6 Rooms	3	11	15	15	9	10	5	1	3	1	1	..	74	326
7 and over	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	4	22
Total Families	13	53	68	73	56	45	12	19	11	5	2	..	357	..
Total Persons	13	106	204	292	280	270	84	152	99	50	22	..	..	1572

The figures above the heavy lines represent families living under conditions of overcrowding, that is, more than two persons per room.

There is no evidence of gross overcrowding, the average number of persons per house being 4.40, as compared with 4.26 at the 1921 Census; 6 houses (1.6 per cent.) were overcrowded. The occupants of these overcrowded houses numbered 48 or 3.05 per cent. of the whole; the corresponding figure at the 1921 Census was 7.4.

The Census for 1921 gives the population of the Borough as 117,426, an increase of 313 since 1911. The Registrar-General estimates the population in 1924 to be 123,100, an increase of 5,674. The natural increase, that is, the excess of births over deaths, was 7,504.

The houses erected since the 1911 Census are shewn below to amount to 1,332, which on the basis of 4.26 persons per house is sufficient to absorb the natural increase, but make no provision for those badly housed or in lodgings or overcrowded.

No. of Houses built each year 1911 to 1924.

Year.	No.
1911	193
1912	143
1913	142
1914	118
1915	95
1916	45
1917	19
1918	2
1919	1
1920	13
1921	8 + 226 by the Council.
1922	33 + 244 " "
1923	50
1924	186
	1518

From August, 1923, to December, 1924, a subsidy has been granted on 149 houses included in the 186 above.

HOUSING SCHEDULE.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	186
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme	...

1.—INSPECTION.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	5785
--	------

Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	372*
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	2
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to in the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	5207

* Included in 5,785 above.

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	5162
---	------

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(a). Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) by owners	...
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners intention to close	* Nil.

(b). Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	145
Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) by Owners	145
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...

(c). Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ..	...
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	...
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ..	...
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	...
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	...

7 Houses were voluntarily closed and 6 demolished.

During the year an investigation was made into the housing conditions in a congested area comprising property in the three streets Springfield Place, Buckingham Street and Clarence Street, involving 4, 14, and 29 houses respectively, making a total of 47 houses occupied by a total of 218 persons. Most of the houses are of the four-roomed type, comprising a living-room and a small scullery on the ground floor and two bedrooms on the upper floor. The average rent is 4s. per week.

The houses were found to be in a general condition of delapidation and disrepair, and considering them as individual dwellings the works necessary to render them in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation would have amounted to reconstruction—an impossible demand to make on owners commanding such small rents. There were, however, other considerations which indicated that demolition and re-housing of the occupiers on a fresh site was the only remedy.

The deficiency of light, air, and ventilation, and the want of proper sanitary conveniences was found to be such that the houses were unhealthy, irrespective of their condition of repair. There was found to be a concentration of 45.71 occupied houses per acre as compared with 6.83 houses per acre in the Borough, and a population of 212.04 persons per acre as compared with 29.75 persons per acre in the Borough.

All the houses were found to be short of yard space; 20 of them were without proper w.c. accommodation, and in 16 others weekly removal of house refuse had to be effected through the living room, there being no communication between the yards and street except thereby.

The area was submitted as a " Part I. Scheme " to the Health Committee on 18th November, 1924. Owing to difficulties which would have been encountered in re-housing, aggravated by the shortage of houses which already existed in the Borough, it was the opinion of the Committee that the time was not opportune for proceeding with the scheme. Meanwhile every effort is being made, by co-operation with the owners, to give immediate attention to nuisances and sanitary defects as they arise, to maintain the area in as healthy a condition as is possible under difficulties which will continue until some method is formulated to deal comprehensively with the area.

Although there is no evidence of numerical overcrowding in the Census recorded above, yet everyone is familiar with the more disagreeable kind of overcrowding caused by the presence of more than one family in a house. Instances abound where the son or daughter of a house has married, and in the absence of a house suitable to a young couple's purse have begun married life at the house of either parents. Apart from the additional overcrowding caused by such a procedure, the loss of temper and consequent rupture in what should be cordial relationship, marriage under such conditions starts with none of the inducements for either party to make mutual concessions and to learn the art of house management. The case is no better if the lodger should be a stranger, except that in many cases the relationship of tenant and lodger is further embittered by the extortion of a very high sub-rent.

The question of the provision of a large number of small houses which can be let at something approaching an economic rental remains the most urgent problem of the public health.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF PRESTON.

THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December 1924.

**The Medical Service Sub-Committee of the Elementary Education
Sub-Committee, January 1st—November 9th.**

MR. ALDERMAN J. HUBBERSTEY, Chairman.

MR. COUNCILLOR T. SNELHAM.	THE VERY REV. MGR. E. PYKE.
MR. COUNCILLOR J. HERBERT.	E. P. BERRY, ESQ.
MR. COUNCILLOR W. E. MORRIS.	H. HOWARTH, ESQ.
MR. COUNCILLOR A. RAMSEY, M.B., C.M.	MISS HOYLE.
MRS. COUNCILLOR A. M. PIMBLETT.	MRS. MEGAHY.

**The Medical Service Sub-Committee of the Education Committee,
as from November 10th.**

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Mr. Councillor Snelham).
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Mr. Councillor Firth).
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE (Mr. Councillor Snelham).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE
(E. P. Berry, Esq.)

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE
(Mr. Councillor Adkins).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE
(E. P. Berry, Esq.)

MR. COUNCILLOR COLLINSON, M.D., F.R.C.S.	THE VERY REV. MGR. PYKE.
MR. COUNCILLOR LEY.	H. HOWARTH, ESQ.
MR. COUNCILLOR DURHAM.	MISS HOYLE.
MR. COUNCILLOR HERBERT.	MRS. MEGAHY.
MR. COUNCILLOR RAMSAY, M.B., C.M.	THE REV. N. TREWBY.
	THE REV. FATHER GRAFTON.

Officers :

I.—

Superintendent School Medical Officer : F. A. SHARPE, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.
School Medical Officer : ELIZABETH ROSE, M.B., Ch.B.
Dental Surgeon : E. HUTSON, L.D.S.
School Nurses : MARGARET E. MARSDEN, AMY BUTTERFIELD, MAY SINGLETON,
GERTRUDE WHALLEY.
Dental Nurse : ANNIE L. WHITEHEAD.

Clerical Staff :

W. A. KENNY (Resigned November, 1924).
T. GRAY (Appointed December, 1924).
C. POMFRET (Appointed May, 1924).

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE
SUB-COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report upon the work of the School Medical Service during the year 1924.

In the Report for 1923 I stated that we had reached a position where no further improvement was possible without increase of staff and re-organisation.

The Report received very careful consideration at your hands, and it is hoped that the definite proposals made by your officials will come into force during this year.

At the time of writing a survey of the Mentally Defective Children is being undertaken. This effort has been made possible by the temporary medical assistance and the increased clerical assistance granted by your Committee.

The Military Authorities have given up the hospital at Moor Park, and the necessary alterations for its conversion into a School for Mentally Defective and Backward Children on open-air school lines are well advanced.

The question of the provision of adequate treatment and supervision of the crippled child has been referred to frequently in my recent Reports. This subject deserves close attention, not so much from the point of view of the size of the problem, but rather from a realisation of the adverse physical, educational, and moral effect of the lack of organised treatment and supervision.

The question of the efficiency of the Dental Service has been raised in successive Reports, and to summarise what has been said before and what is dealt with in detail in the body of the Report, our present system is by reason of its small scope inefficient and not performing its true function of prevention.

The general growth of the demands made upon the service are such that the question of its re-organisation and an increase in the staff have become very pressing.

I have to thank my colleagues, Dr. Rose and Mr. Hutson, together with the members of the staff, for their excellent work and loyal support, and also for the ready sympathy and help always forthcoming from the Director of Education.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F. A. SHARPE,
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TITHEBARN STREET,
PRESTON,

2.—CO-ORDINATION.

The scheme of supervision of child life under the auspices of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee includes the visiting of children up to the age of five years. The records obtained in this way are transferred from the Public Health Department to the School Medical Service. Thus, during the past year a medical and social history of all children born in 1919 who entered upon school life during 1924 was furnished to the Inspecting Medical Officer and the important details transferred to the School Medical Card.

The Head Teachers report through the Director to the Medical Officer of Health all cases of absence supposedly due to infectious sickness. These children are visited, and a report furnished. The Director is kept informed of any exclusions necessitated and of re-admissions which have been advised. The offices of Medical Officer of Health and of School Medical Officer are combined in one person to the mutual advantage of both services.

3.—SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The accommodation available and the average attendance for the year 1924 are as follow :—

	Number of Schools.	Recognised Accommodation.	Average attendance for year ended 31st March, 1924.
Church of England	19	13311	6786
Roman Catholic	9	9322	5773
Nonconformist	7	2933	2256
Council	4	2060	1618
Total	39	27626	16433

The average attendance is 89 less than that of 1923, which was 24 less than that of 1922.

During the year decorations and repairs have been carried out at the following schools :—

Holy Trinity, St. James's Mixed, Talbot Infants, Christ Church Infants, St. Jude's.

4.—MEDICAL INSPECTION.

As in former years the same age groups were taken for Routine Inspections. These comprised (1) the children of 5-6 years of age, of which there were 1,566; (2) the children of 8-9 years of age, numbering 1,676; and (3) the children aged 12-13 years, numbering 1,881, making in all 5,123.

A comparison of the numbers in the three groups examined this year and in 1923 shows the following :—

1923.		1924.	
Entrants	1509	Entrants	1566
Intermediates	1951	Intermediates	1676
Leavers	1809	Leavers	1881
 Total	<u>5269</u>	 Total	<u>5123</u>

5.—FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

(a) UNCLEANLINESS.

Unfortunately the housing question is no better than it was last year, and the overcrowding must make it exceedingly difficult for mothers to keep their children as clean as they would like to do. In spite of this, however, one very rarely sees cases as bad as those which were fairly common some years ago.

Number of home visits paid by the nurses on account of uncleanness :—

1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.
2972	2938	2691	2622	2446

The Nurses examined 21,308 children during their visits to schools. Of these 3,126 required attention on account of uncleanness.

No. examined—21,308.	No. requiring attention—3,126 = 14.67%
	1924.
No. examined—22,563.	No. requiring attention—3,214 = 14.24%
	1923.

(b) MINOR AILMENTS.

Very few minor ailments are noted during Routine Inspection. The teachers notice these as they occur, and refer the child to the Inspection Clinic. By minor ailments is understood Contagious Skin Diseases and Sores, Conjunctivitis, temporary ailments such as Indigestion, Headaches, or Colds in the Head.

(c) TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

The number of cases referred for treatment of Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids was 297, the number for 1923 being 279.

No. in—						
1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.	1919.	1918.
297	279	208	148	290	323	282

(d) TUBERCULOSIS.

As in former years children who were thought to be suffering from Tuberculosis disease were sent on to the Tuberculosis Dispensary. There were 25 cases dealt with in this manner. The question of school attendance or exclusion

and of arranging for treatment is decided upon by consultation between the Tuberculosis Officer and the School Medical Officer.

Classification of cases referred to the Tuberculosis Officer :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Tubercular Glands	—	1	1
Bronchitis	3	5	8
No definite signs of Tuberculosis ...	4	11	15
Diagnosis pending	1	—	1

(e) SKIN DISEASE.

Not many children are referred for treatment during Routine Inspection, most of the minor skin troubles being observed by the teachers or parents, and the children affected sent on to the Inspection Clinic.

(f) EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.

As in the case with the skin disease, by far the greater number of children suffering from External Eye Diseases have attention at the Treatment Centre Only 20 were noted during Routine work.

1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.
20	17	17	25	62

(g) VISION.

There were 651 children found to be suffering from Defective Vision. This shows an increase of 70 compared with last year, and taking the two groups of Intermediates and Leavers together the percentage of those requiring treatment is 14.2, as against 12.4.

Numbers for the last seven years :—

1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.	1919.	1918.
651	581	553	614	627	615	810

The following gives the distribution of the numbers in the two groups :—

Age.		No. examined.	No. referred for treatment.	Percentage referred.
8-9 years.	Boys	842	118	14.0
	Girls	834	139	16.7
12-13 years.	Boys	958	115	12.0
	Girls	923	132	14.3

(h) EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.

There were 56 cases suffering from Ear Diseases noted during 1924 and 25 cases suffering from Deafness. These do not, of course, include the many cases which have been sent by parents or teachers, etc., to the Treatment Centre. The comparative numbers are :—

1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.	1919.	1918.
56	41	46	34	66	50	62

(i) DENTAL.

The number of children submitted for inspection is slightly more than that of last year. Our scheme includes the examination of children ages 6 and 7, and the re-inspection of older children who have been inspected in previous years. Thus in June, 1915, at the inception of the scheme, the routine examination was of children aged 6 and 7. This took 2 years and 3 months to perform. At the next inspection new children aged 6 and 7 were examined and the children who had been examined previously, now aged 8 and 9, were re-examined. This examination took 4 years. We are now engaged upon the third inspection. This consists of new entrants, aged 6 and 7, re-examination of those examined in the second inspection, now aged 10 and 11, and the re-examination of those examined at the first inspection, now aged 13 and 14.

As pointed out in previous Reports, the length of time required to complete an inspection of children aged 6 and 7, with the necessary re-inspection, is a fatal bar to success. The officers of the Board of Education have pointed out this great weakness. The scheme as it stands fails entirely in its preventive aspect, in that children put right at 6 or 7 have three to four years in which to develop further defects. These defects are more numerous and much more severe than would be the case were the children re-examined every year. Quite obviously to re-examine certain children every year would mean an effective scheme as far as those particular children are concerned, but it could only be done by means of the employment of another Dental Surgeon or by more drastic restriction of the service. Our present scheme is restrictive, in that only children who are 6 and 7 at the time of inspection are included in the scheme, and as four years are required to get round, it follows that three-quarters of the children are not affected by its operation.

A reference to the table on page xiv. will show over 1,000 extractions. In a properly organised dental clinic, extraction should be a rare event. An extraction is a failure of preventive dental hygiene. An extraction demands time and energy which should be devoted to preserving teeth. Extractions should be performed at a hospital or by private dental practitioners.

(j) CRIPPLING DEFECTS.

A very detailed account of the Crippling Defects amongst school children was given last year. The actual numbers found at the Routine inspections will be found in the various tables given later.

In all, we may say that there are of school age 100 children who are crippled in some degree. Of these 30 owe their defect to Tuberculosis, 50 to Infantile Paralysis, 15 to Congenital Defects, and the remainder to Injuries and Rickets. Eighty-eight per cent. of them can attend an ordinary school without any difficulty; 12 require a special school where education and treatment can proceed side by side. Half the children would benefit by special treatment, and another quarter by after care. There can be no doubt as to the value of special remedial clinics for this class of case, where nurses who have had special training in this class of work, fitting on splints, massage, remedial exercise, etc., could work under the direction of an Orthopædic Surgeon.

6.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Under the system in operation in the Borough it is the duty of the Head Teacher to report the occurrence of and the suspected occurrence of Infectious Diseases among the scholars to the Medical Officer of Health. The cases are visited by the staff of the Medical Officer of Health and the results of these visits transmitted through the Director to the Head Teacher. Information as to the period of necessary exclusion and the actual cause of absence in suspected cases is also given. Daily information collected from the records of the Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitors, Tuberculosis Nurses and School Nurses is prepared and collated with the information in possession of the School Attendance Officers. The following table shows how the different schools were affected. Measles was present in epidemic form. There was an increase in the amount of Whooping Cough and Chicken Pox.

School closure was resorted to in one instance, viz., St. Stephen's Infants from June 24th until the end of the summer term (July 11th).

TABLE A.

Cases of Infectious Disease Reported by Head Teachers.

SCHOOL.	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whoop- ing Cough.	Diph- theria.	Chicken Pox.	Mumps.	Ringw'rm, Rozema, Sore Eye, Heads, &c.	Influ- enza.
Parish Church .....	...	...	4	...	10	1	...	..
St. James' .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Augustine's	1	1	...	...	6	8	...	...
St. Saviour's .....	...	6	24	...	2	7	4	...
Grimshaw Street	1	7	10	1	16	4	...	...
St. Stephen's	1	61	5	...	8	29	3	35
Christ Church .....	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hincksman Memorial	2	18	1	...	9	...	...	...
St. Mary's R.C.	2	19	...	...	16	...	5	1
St. Wilfrid's	2	14	6	...	7	...	3	...
St. Michael's	2	8	...	...	1	1	...	...
Sacred Heart	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ashton Wesleyan .....	...	3	...	...	16	...	...	...
St. Andrew's	1	3	...	2	...	...	...	...
Roebuck Street Council	6	38	...	1	2	...	12	36
St. Walburge's .....	...	23	...	1	18	1	1	...
St. Mark's	2	12	...	1	5	3	...	...
St. Peter's	1	31	...	...	7	...	...	...
Emmanuel	2	30	...	1	...	...	...	...
St. Cuthbert's .....	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eldon Street Council	1	49	1	1	3	1	...	...
Moor Park Wesleyan .....	...	33	...	...	29	...	...	...
English Martyrs' Elementary .....	...	53	1	...	8	3	5	...
St. Jude's .....	...	25	18	...	5	6	...	...
Deepdale Council	1	33	2	...	6	20	1	8
St. Paul's	1	11	1	...	9	1	1	...
St. Ignatius' Elementary .....	...	60	2	2	37	3	4	...
All Saints' .....	...	15	...	...	5	1	1	...
Holy Trinity ..	1	10	1	...	...	...	...	...
Orchard U.M.F.C. ....	...	19	...	1	20	1	...	...
St. Luke's .....	...	5	...	...	35	...	...	...
St. Joseph's .....	...	18	2	...	...	...	1	...
St. Matthew's	1	35	2	1	6	5	1	...
St. Matthew's Branch .....	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ribbleton Avenue	1	32	1	...	8	23	...	1
St. Mary's National .....	...	24	1	1	3	...	...	...
St. Mary's Street Wesleyan .....	...	4	...	...	...	2	2	30
St. Thomas's .....	...	11	...	...	5	...	...	...
Open Air School .....	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
	30	734	82	13	302	122	44	111
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.								
Park Secondary School	1	5	...	...	1	3	...	...
Catholic Convent .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Catholic College .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Preston Grammar School .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

7.—FOLLOWING UP.

In order to find out if the defects found during Routine Inspection had received adequate medical attention the Nurses paid 3,714 home visits, as compared with 3,649 in the preceding year.

No. of visits during the last five years—				
1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.
3714	3649	3667	3564	4080

The results of following up are best seen in a study of the figures given under Medical Treatment and of Table IV.

Children having defects are visited during their whole school life or until the defect is remedied. There have been no prosecutions.

8.—MEDICAL TREATMENT.

That the daily Inspection Clinic is appreciated by the parents and teachers is well shown by the number of children brought or sent each morning. The activating idea of the Inspection Clinic is the provision of a skilled and impartial adviser as to the propriety of school attendance. A large number of children are brought by the parents with the object of receiving an opinion as to the child's physical condition. Others to obtain if possible a reinforcement of their resistance to the School Attendance Officers' importunities. Others again are referred by these officers as school absentees on alleged medical grounds which require investigation. The need for this organisation, which was started in 1921, is shown by the increasing numbers attending.

INSPECTION CLINIC.

Particulars regarding attendances during 1924:—

Defect.	On Books		New Cases.	Discharged.	Left on the books			
	1st Jan., 1924.							
Malnutrition or Debility	...	24	...	81	...	71	...	34
Uncleanliness, Head	...	1	...	32	...	31	...	2
" Body	...	—	...	1	...	1	...	—
Skin Diseases	...	11	...	397	...	401	...	7
Eye	...	7	...	304	...	289	...	22
Ear	...	10	...	170	...	166	...	14
Nose and Throat	...	13	...	178	...	175	...	16
Enlarged Glands	...	2	...	98	...	98	...	2
Defective Speech	...	—	...	4	...	4	...	—
Teeth	...	1	...	40	...	41	...	—
Heart and Circulation	...	4	...	71	...	54	...	21
Lungs	...	11	...	56	...	43	...	24
Tuberculosis, Definite	...	13	...	55	...	36	...	32
" Suspected	...	11	...	15	...	13	...	13
Nervous System	...	5	...	17	...	16	...	6
Deformities	...	2	...	21	...	16	...	7
Other Defects	...	31	...	918	...	934	...	15
Total	...	146	...	2458	...	2389	...	215

Total attendances for the last four years—

1924. 4920	1923. 4450	1922. 3453	1921. 1287
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(a) MINOR AILMENTS.

The Minor Ailments Treatment Centre is open each morning (Saturday included) and each afternoon of the school week. The afternoons are more especially given over to cases of otorrhœa or cases where a second dressing is advisable.

The following table supplies the particulars for 1924.

MINOR AILMENTS TREATMENT CENTRE.

Defect.	Remaining on Books Dec. 31st 1923.	New Cases	Discharged.	Remaining on the Books Dec. 31st 1924
Ringworm, Head and Body	16	143	147	12
Scabies	2	9	10	1
Impetigo	12	355	348	19
Other Skin Diseases	5	31	34	2
Otorrhœa	54	242	249	47
Blepharitis	14	240	237	17
Miscellaneous	51	1612	1578	85
Total	154	2632	2603	183

	Total Attendances.	New Cases.
1924	32,233	2,632
1923	31,625	2,092
1922	30,964	2,175
1921	35,640	2,797
1920	29,605	2,402

VISITS OF NURSES TO CHILDREN FOUND DEFECTIVE.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Home visits, following up	3564	3667	3649	3714
Home visits re Cleanliness of Head	2622	2691	2938	2972
Children inspected re Cleanliness of Head	22049	21806	22563	21308
School visits	385	416	363	315

(b) TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

During 1924 there were 297 children found to be suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids. To 115 of these the Royal Infirmary gave operative treatment and non-operative treatment to four. Private practitioners operated on 13 cases and gave medical attention to 40. There were also 198 children who had been examined previous to 1924 who received treatment in the following manner :—

Infirmary : 169 surgical, 1 non-surgical.

Private practitioners : 6 surgical, 22 non-surgical.

Summarising, 293 received operative and 67 non-operative treatment for their condition.

(c) TUBERCULOSIS.

The treatment of Tuberculosis is largely in the hands of the Tuberculosis Officer, who decides which children would benefit by residence in Sanatoria. He also advises the School Medical Officer as to which children should be excluded from school. Non-infectious cases are received at the Open Air School in Moor Park.

By agreement with the Preston Royal Infirmary, the Health Committee retain two beds at the Royal Infirmary for the treatment of acute surgical tuberculosis and four beds at Heswall, Cheshire, for the treatment of the more chronic cases. This latter institution is approved by the Board of Education as an educational establishment.

The Committee have also arrangements for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis at various sanatoria. The numbers of children treated during the year is as follows :—

			Boys	Girls
Freshfield (Southport)	...	...	1	10
Bowden (Cheshire)	...	...	—	9
Eastby (Skipton)	...	...	8	—
Heswall (Cheshire)	...	...	1	2
Preston Royal Infirmary	...	...	11	10

(d) SKIN DISEASE.

The number referred for treatment on account of Skin Disease was, as in former years, small, being only 27, as compared with 28 last year, the percentage being .53.

(e) EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.

As in 1923 Blepharitis was the commonest external eye disease, and although comparatively few were referred for treatment by their own doctors many were treated for this condition at the Clinic.

(f) VISION.

The number of children found to have Defective Vision was 651, of whom 381 received treatment. Including cases belonging to former years there were 891 cases which were submitted to refraction: 818 of these had attention at the Infirmary, the remaining 73 having gone to private doctors or opticians. Glasses were obtained by 469 children, or 53 per cent.

The Education Committee provide glasses for all necessitous cases. Seventeen children took advantage of this part of the scheme, so that the balance represents that large class of persons who do not obtain the needed glasses on the following suggested grounds:—

- (1) They do not believe in the existence of a defect.
- (2) They object on æsthetic grounds to the wearing of glasses.
- (3) They think that the wearing of glasses is prejudicial to the obtaining of employment.
- (4) They are indifferent or idle.

(g) EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.

There were 81 cases of Ear Disease or Defective Hearing referred for treatment during the year. Many more cases are sent on to the Treatment Centre, the number for 1924 being 296.

(h) DENTAL DEFECTS.

The large amount of work done by the Dental Department can be best seen by a glance at the tabular report. Twenty-seven more children attended the Dental Clinic than in 1923, and 50 more attendances were recorded. There were 71 more extractions, 160 more stoppings, but 264 fewer dressings than in the previous year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOLS' DENTAL OFFICER.

For the Period January 1st to December 31st, 1924.

SCHOOLS VISITED	Number of Children Examined at School	No. of Treatment Required	Number requiring Treatment.	Number accepted Treatment.	Number refused Treatment.	No. Information available	Own Dentist.	Particulars of Attendances and Work at Dental Clinic.					
								Number attended Clinic	No. of Actual Attendances at Clinic	No. of Teeth Extracted	No. of Stoppings	No. of Dressings	No. of Scalings
Roper's .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	...	93	11	...
St. Mary's R.C.	102	49	53	47	5	...	1	41	136	...	194	58	3
English Martyrs	444	215	229	155	34	...	40	171	626	...	896	311	7
St. Thomas's	215	94	121	75	38	...	8	71	325	2	467	166	12
St. Wilfrid's	79	35	44	29	2	...	13	28	138	...	184	74	3
Moor Park Wesleyan	206	90	116	67	1	...	48	52	235	...	309	144	3
Eldon Street	132	57	75	53	2	...	20	51	217	...	311	105	6
Emmanuel	186	63	123	87	5	...	31	46	154	3	240	88	1
Open Air School	103	34	69	69	...	...	...	51	227	2	262	81	...
Casuals Examined at Dental Clinic	1067	...	1067	1067	...	...	...	1067	1441	1014	942	72	...
TOTALS ... 1924	2534	637	1897	1649	87	...	161	1578	3554	1021	3898	1110	35
do ... 1923	2511	627	1884	1669	54	...	161	1551	3504	950	3738	1374	59
do ... 1922	2539	719	1820	1578	86	...	156	1539	3595	926	3786	1570	35
do ... 1921	2918	1047	1871	1570	42	...	259	1493	3760	731	3783	1909	15
do ... 1920	2597	1066	1531	1365	31	...	112	1334	3515	433	3047	3159	8
do ... 1919	1939	870	1069	986	26	...	34	1052	2442	497	1976	2238	4
do ... 1918	2657	171	1486	1278	102	...	54	1287	1976	437	2035	1650	12
do ... 1917	2354	353	1470	1268	103	...	72	1116	2044	683	1301	1762	43
do ... 1916	2689	1428	1340	1234	46	...	56	1220	2388	771	2084	2480	105

(i) SPEECH DEFECTS.

Unfortunately it has not been found possible to do anything in the way of starting a class for the benefit of those children who suffer from defects in speech

9.—OPEN AIR EDUCATION.

(a) PLAYGROUND CLASSES.

There are no Playground Classes in this area.

(b) OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

The Open Air School continues to do its good work. Its greatest fault was that it was too small, but now that the Military Authorities are dispensing with the block next to the school there will be more room obtainable and children who have been on the waiting list for months will be admitted.

The number of those who attended during 1923 and 1924 :—

	1924.	1923.
On the Books 1st January, 1924	83	89
Admitted	57	49
Discharged	68	55
Remaining on Books 31st December, 1924 ...	80	83
Re-admitted	8	10

Average daily attendance during the year was 72.7, as compared with 74.00 during last year.

The Age and Sex of those admitted.

Age	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Totals
Boys	2	3	4	10	5	4	4	1	33
Girls	5	3	6	5	4	6	3	...	32
Discharged—										
Boys	2	4	1	7	3	6	5	28
Girls	1	...	3	8	6	5	11	6	40

The average length of stay of those discharged in 1924 was, inclusive of holidays, 18 months 13 days. In 1923 this figure was 19 months 17 days.

10.—PHYSICAL TRAINING.

No specially trained instructor has been appointed. At all the schools careful attention is given to the physical training of the children. The syllabus prepared by the Board of Education is used, and marked benefit is received.

11.—PROVISION OF MEALS.

The number of free meals supplied to children is lower than that of last year, being 71,585, as compared with 79,715, and the number of children 478, as compared with 696.

The following table gives the particulars with regard to each of the four centres :—

Centre.	Number of Meals supplied.	Number of Children.
Marsh Lane	17384	135
Glover's Court	36422	225
Maitland Street	6995	48
Roebuck Street	10784	70
Total	<u>71585</u>	<u>478</u>

12.—SCHOOL BATHS.

3,912 Attendances were made by boys and 3,463 by girls at the Saul Street Baths.

In addition to these the Open Air Baths were used by large numbers of children whenever the weather proved suitable.

13.—CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

As time goes on, parents are becoming more willing to take advice regarding the health of their children. There is no doubt that the work begun by the Infant Welfare Centres has its effect when the children become of school age.

14.—CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.

One cannot speak too highly of the cordial help and co-operation of the school teachers in furthering the efforts of the service. They spare themselves of neither time nor trouble in ensuring by daily observation of their charges that ailing children shall come under the notice of the doctor or nurses.

15.—CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

There is very close co-operation between the School Attendance Officers and the school medical work. Each week a list of the absentees from the Treatment Centre is given to them, so that irregular attendance may be avoided as far as possible. As formerly, they take charge of cases requiring free clogs or glasses and obtain records of all specially defective children. The Juvenile Employment lists are also in their care, the children requiring Medical Inspection being sent on by them to the Inspection Clinic.

16.—BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

(a)

Ten children were examined on account of Mental Deficiency, the necessary certificates being forwarded to the Director of Education.

(b)

Blind (including partially Blind) attending Certified Schools	Blind Asylum, Liverpool	1 Boy.
	Blind Home, Fulwood	5 Boys.
	Do. do.	3 Girls.
Deaf and Dumb attending Certified Schools	Royal Cross School, Preston	2 Boys.
	Do. do.	4 Girls.
	Boston Spa	1 Boy.
	Do.	1 Girl.
Mentally Defectives attending Certified Schools	Pontville	3 Boys.
	Allerton Priory	2 Girls.

17.—SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

PARK SCHOOL.

The fine airy buildings and the excellent instruction in physical culture have no little part in the good health and fine physique of the girls attending the Park School. There were 521 girls examined during the year, compared with 395 in the previous one.

The following report, for which thanks are due to Miss Warne and Miss Bass, gives the percentages of those found with defects.

Number examined.	Age.	No Defect.	1 Defect.	2 Defects.
23	10	30%	57%	13%
73	11	42%	55%	3%
91	12	57%	37%	6%
95	13	57%	39%	4%
92	14	47%	42%	11%
72	15	50%	42%	8%
46	16	52%	46%	2%
23	17	52%	35%	13%
6	18	84%	...	16%

Return of Defects found in the course of Medical Inspection in 1924.

Defect or Disease.	Number recommended for Treatment.	Number kept under observation.
Heart and Circulation	10	5
Lungs (Bronchitis, etc.)	—	1
Skin Affections	2	—
Ear Affections	2	—
Dental Defects	221	3
Defective Vision	21	7
Tonsils and Adenoids	6	—
Nervous System	1	—
Other Defects and Diseases ...	10	2

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The number of boys examined during the year was 383, as compared with 322 in 1923.

The health of the school as a whole has been good, and the standard of physical fitness of the new boys has been maintained.

The total number of defects found during the course of routine examination shows a slightly higher percentage than in the previous year. In the great majority of cases, however, the defects have not been of a serious nature. Dental diseases alone have accounted for 39 per cent. of the total defects.

There has been little difficulty in getting treatment carried out when necessary, and in most cases the defects have been remedied by the time of the next examination.

The following tables show the number of boys examined and the defects found in the different age groups.

Ages	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Malnutrition ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	4
Skin Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eye Diseases ...	1	1	2	4	4	12	10	3	2	...	...	39
Ear Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	3
Nose and Throat ...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	5
Cervical Glands...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Speech ...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Teeth, Dental Diseases .	3	1	9	9	14	8	11	6	...	1	...	62
Heart and Circulation ...	...	...	3	4	4	5	5	3	...	...	...	24
Lungs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis—												
Pulmonary...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nervous System ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deformities ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	7
Other Defects & Diseases	...	...	...	1	2	2	3	1	...	1	...	10
Total Number Examined	5	4	22	38	73	78	87	52	19	8	3	383

18.—EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

181 Children were examined for work during 1924, the number for 1923 being 168.

Delivering newspapers, delivering milk, or going errands were the usual forms the employment took, and most of the children were quite strong enough to undertake the work.

19.—TREATMENT OF UNCLEANLINESS.

(a). The average number of visits per annum made by the School Nurses to each School	3
(b). The total number of Examinations of Children made by the School Nurses at the Schools during the year	21308
(c). The number of individual children found unclean	3126

TABLE I.—Return of Medical Inspections.

1st January to 31st December, 1924.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

	Number of Code Group Inspections		Total
	Boys	Girls	
Entrants	787	779	1566
Intermediates	842	834	1676
Leavers	958	923	1881
No. of other Routine Inspections.....	...	...	...
Total	2587	2536	5123

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

	Boys	Girls	Total
No. of Special Inspections...	34	142	280
No. of Re-Inspections	139	127	266
Total.....	273	269	546

TABLE II.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1924.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTION		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS		
	NO. OF DEFECTS.		NO. OF DEFECTS.		
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment
1	2	3	4	5	
Malnutrition .....	...	...	...	...	...
Uncleanliness Head .....	...	...	...	...	...
" Body .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Ringworm, Scalp .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ " Body .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Scabies	2	...	...	...	...
{ Impetigo	4	...	...	...	...
{ Other Diseases(non-tubercular)	21	1	6	...	...
{ Blepharitis	13	...	1	...	...
{ Conjunctivitis	5	...	1	...	...
{ Keratitis .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Corneal Opacities	1	...	1	...	...
{ Defective Vision	454	50	124	...	...
{ Squint	18	2	3	...	...
{ Other Conditions	46	2	6	...	...
{ Defective Hearing	25	2	13	...	...
{ Otitis Media	55	...	9	...	...
{ Other Ear Diseases	1	...	2	...	...
{ Enlarged Tonsils	174	19	30	...	...
{ Adenoids	32	9	20	...	...
{ Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	8	...	7	...	...
{ Other Conditions	20	16	6	...	...

Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tubercular).	17	...	...	2	...
Defective Speech .....	...	...	...	...	...
Teeth :—Dental Diseases	32	...	...	1	...
Heart and Circulation { Heart Disease :—	21	9	4	...	...
{ Organic	15	5	2	...	...
{ Functional	94	2	11	...	...
{ Anaemia	63	32	11	...	...
Lungs { Bronchitis	14	13	2	...	...
{ Other non-tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	...	...
{ Pulmonary :—	16	...	2	...	...
{ Definite	7	...	...	...	...
{ Suspected .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Non-Pulmonary :—	...	...	...	...	...
{ Glands .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Spine .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Hip .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other Bones and Joints..	...	...	...	...	...
{ Skin .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other Forms .....	...	...	...	...	...
Nervous System { Epilepsy .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Chorea .....	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other Conditions .....	...	...	...	...	...
Deformities { Rickets	2	...	...	...	...
{ Spinal Curvature	2	...	...	...	...
{ Other Forms	4	1	...	...	...
Other Defects and Diseases	72	9	29	...	...

LITTLE'S CONCISE SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

TABLE III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

		Boys	Girls	TOTAL	
BLIND (including partially blind).	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified School or Classes for the Blind Attending Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution	2 2	7 2	
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified School or Classes for the Blind Attending Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution	1 3 ... 3	2 5 ... 3	
	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified School or Classes for the Deaf Attending Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution	3 3	5 1	
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified School or Classes for the Deaf Attending Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution .....	... 1 ... ...	... 2
	MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.	Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority).	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children Attending Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution 1 2
		Notified to the Local Control Authority.	Feeble-minded Imbeciles Idiots 5 1	... 6 1
EPILEPTICS.		Suffering from severe Epilepsy.	Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools Attending Public Elementary Schools 2 3

Epilepsy which is not severe.	Attending Public Elementary Schools At no School or Institution	14 1	4 ..	18 1
Infectious pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At Other Institutions At no School or Institution .....	......	.........	.........
Non-infectious but active Pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Certified Day Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution	1 .. 3 9	2 ... 1 10	3 ... 4 19
Delicate children (e.g., pre or latent tuberculosis, mal-nutrition, debility, anaemia, etc.).	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Certified Day Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution .....	.. 58 45 .. ..	... 82 42 ... ...	... 140 87
Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution .....	.. 4 .. ..	... 2 ... 3	... 6 ... 3
Crippled Children (other than those with active Tuberculous disease), e.g., children suffering from paralysis, etc., and including those with severe heart disease).	At Certified Hospital Schools At Certified Residential Cripple Schools At Certified Day Cripple Schools At Public Elementary Schools At Other Institutions At no School or Institution .....	.. .. .. 45 .. 5	... ... ... 44 2 6	... ... ... 89 2 11

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE.

B.—Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group	Number of Children		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment
	Inspected	Found to require Treatment	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Code Groups :			
Entrants	1566	209	13'3
Intermediates	1676	421	25'1
Leavers	1881	405	21'5
Total (Code Groups).....	5123	1035	20'2
Other Routine Inspections..	...	...	...

TABLE IV.—Return of Defects Treated during the year ended
31st December, 1924.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see
Group V.).

Disease or Defect	Number of Defects treated, or under Treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Skin—			
Ringworm, Scalp and Body	157	2	159
Scabies	11	—	11
Impetigo	364	3	367
Other Skin Disease	33	3	36
Minor Eye Defects—			
External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.	244	10	254
Minor Ear Defects	267	29	296
Miscellaneous, (e.g. Minor Injuries, Bruises, Sores, Chillblains, etc.)	1637	26	1663
Total	2713	73	2786

TABLE IV.—*Contd.*

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (Excluding Minor Eye Defects Treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

Defect or Disease	Number of Defects dealt with			
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Submitted to Refraction by Private Practitioner or at Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	818	49	24	891
Other Defect or Disease of the eye (excluding those recorded in Group I.) .....	...	...	...	...
Total	818	49	24	891

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 706

(b) Otherwise 54

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 415

(b) Otherwise 54

The number of children who were provided with glasses by the Education Committee was seventeen.

TABLE IV.—*Contd.*

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.				
Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment	Total Number Treated
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	By Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
284	19	303	67	370

TABLE IV.—*Contd.*

GROUP IV.—DENTAL DEFECTS.

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist :
Aged :

Routine Age Groups.	5.....	—	} Total.....1467
	6.....	306	
	7.....	365	
	8.....	12	
	9.....	19	
	10.....	244	
	11.....	278	
	12.....	140	
	13.....	93	
	14.....	10	

Specials 1067

Grand total 2534

	Routine	Special	Total
(b) Found to require treatment.....	830	1067	1897
(c) Actually treated	511	1067	1578
(d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination ...	...	...	...
(2) Half-days devoted to ...	{ Inspection..... 16 Treatment.....420 }		Total.....436
(3) Attendances made by children for treatment			3554
(4) Fillings	{ Permanent Teeth...3898 Temporary Teeth... — }		Total.....3898
(5) Extractions	{ Permanent Teeth... 449 Temporary Teeth... 572 }		Total.....1021
(6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions			—
(7) Other operations	{ Permanent teeth...1000 Temporary teeth... 145 }		Total.....1145

TABLE IV.—*Contd.*

GROUP V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	3
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses	21308
(3) Number of individual children found unclean	3126
(4) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	60 approx.
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 ... ..	...
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws ... ..	...