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BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH

MAYOR: ALDERMAN F. WILKINSON, J.P.

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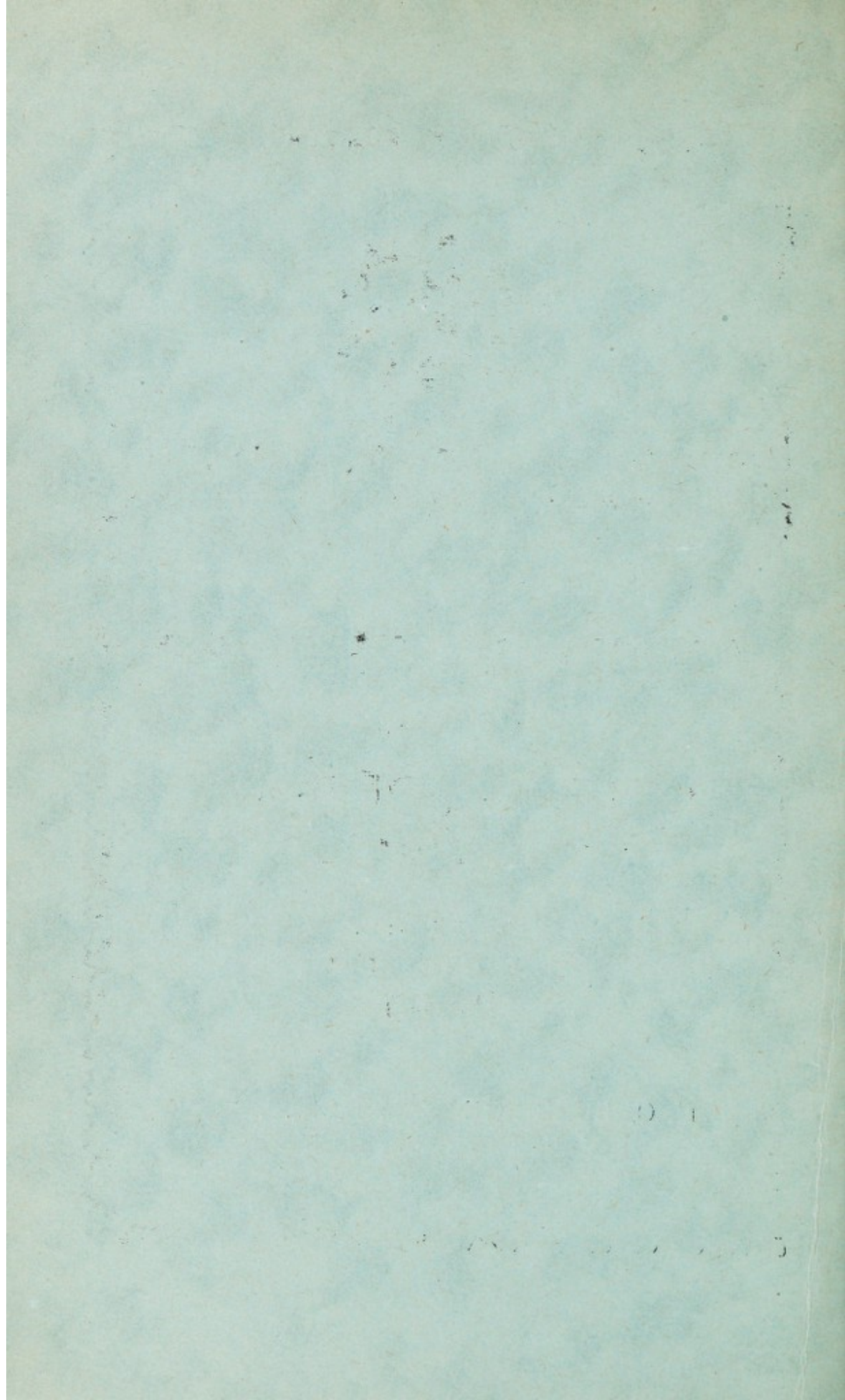
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER.

1940

H. C. BURBIDGE, M.B., L.R.C.P. & S.
Medical Officer of Health





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BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH.

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1940-41.

Chairman : Alderman Mrs. A. A. Keech, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Butterworth.

The Mayor : Alderman F. Wilkinson, J.P.

Alderman A. Pimlott.

Alderman A. E. Williams.

Councillor F. Bolton.

Councillor J. D. Crewdson.

Councillor J. Haddow, J.P.

Councillor A. Naylor.

Councillor G. H. Oversby, C.C.

Councillor C. E. Travis.

Councillor C. W. Thompson.

Medical Officer of Health :

H. C. BURBIDGE, M.B., L.R.C.P., & S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

L. T. J. TRIPPIER, N.R.P. Cert.

Cert. of Meat and other Foods, R.S.I.

San. Insp. Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

H. KELLETT, San. Insp., Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Cert. of Meat and other Foods, R.S.I.

Smoke Inspectors, Cert. R.S.I.

Sanitary Science, Cert. R.S.I.

(To 6th June. Called up for Active Service in the R.A.M.C. under the National Service Armed Forces Act, 1939).

J. KAY, San. Insp. Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Cert. of Meat and other Foods, R.S.I.

Clerks in the Public Health Department :

G. E. STANLEY, San. Insp., Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

(Appointed Temporary Additional Sanitary Inspector as from 27th June).

Miss M. HOLLAND.

MORTALITY STATISTICS

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1940.

Area—The Borough of Prestwich has a total area of 2,420 acres.

Population—

Registrar-General's Estimate at Mid-Year, 1940, 33,760
Census, 1931... .. 23,881

Density—The mean density of the Borough is equal to 13.9 persons per acre.

Live Births—

Legitimate 187 males 212 females ... 399
Illegitimate 5 males 3 females ... 8

Total ... 407

Annual Rate of Births per 1,000 of the population ... 12.0

Still Births (Males 9) (Females 7) Total ... 16

Annual Rate of Still Births per 1,000 total births ... 37

Deaths (Males 175) (Females 189) Total ... 364

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population ... 10.7

Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.03)
per 1,000 of the Population ... 11.0

Deaths from Puerperal Causes... ..

Death rate
per 1,000

Deaths total births

Puerperal Sepsis nil. ... nil.

Other Maternal Causes 1 ... 2.34

Totals 1 ... 2.34

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:—

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births 12

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births 125

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births ... 14

Deaths from Cancer (All Ages) ... 52

„ „ Measles (All Ages) ... —

„ „ Whooping Cough (All Ages) ... —

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... —

BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

To the Sanitary Authority of the Borough of Prestwich.

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration the Annual Report for the year 1940. It is a curtailed report as requested by the Ministry of Health and deals with health matters, Public Health Services, vital statistics, notification of infectious diseases and sanitary work of importance.

Notwithstanding the economic difficulties and the war, the standard of efficiency has been maintained.

Population.

The estimated population as calculated by the Registrar General up to mid 1940 is 33,760 an increase of 900.

The number of inhabited houses is 9,899, being an increase of 19 on the previous year. The average number of persons per occupied house is 3.4 approximately.

The rateable value is £236,354 and a penny rate represents the sum of £931.

During the periodical inspection of houses in the district; conditions were found to have improved as regards cleanliness but still it is necessary to keep many houses under observation.

Unemployment.

The extent of unemployment in Prestwich is very difficult to determine, Prestwich being a dormitory area is subject to registration by great numbers of persons who reside outside the district, in consequence of which the official Ministry of Labour figures show a percentage of over 3 whereas the true approximate figures are not more than 2% for Prestwich residents.

The majority of the inhabitants are engaged in business in Manchester and Salford and the health on the whole has been fairly well maintained, especially is this the case of the children whose needs are well looked after by the Welfare Centres in the district.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows how the vital statistics for
Prestwich compare with those for England and Wales and
with other Local Authorities.

RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.

	England & Wales	125 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns resi- dent popula- tion 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis- trative County	Prestwich
BIRTHS :					
Live	14.6	16.0	15.7	13.7	12.0
Still	0.55	0.64	0.55	0.44	0.47
DEATHS :					
All Causes	14.3	15.8	12.8	17.8	11.0
Typhoid Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.62	0.07	0.05	0.01	0.03
Influenza	0.32	0.29	0.30	0.18	0.24
NOTIFICATIONS :					
Measles	10.24	9.23	9.99	1.78	10.28
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.32	0.33	0.29	0.28	0.18
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.63	1.53	1.57	0.82	0.89
Diphtheria	1.16	1.29	1.21	0.61	0.65
Enteric Fever	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.06	0.06
Erysipelas	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.35	0.44
Pneumonia	1.20	1.37	1.00	0.87	1.15
Whooping Cough	1.34	1.29	1.35	0.22	1.66
RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS :					
Deaths under 1 year of age...	55	61	54	50	14
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.6	5.9	4.4	5.8	—
MATERNAL MORTALITY ,					
Puerperal Infection... ..	Not Available				—
Others					2.43
Total					2.43
RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (i.e., Live and Still).					
MATERNAL MORTALITY :					
Puerperal Infection	0.52	Not Available			
Others	1.64				
Total	2.16				
NOTIFICATIONS :					
Puerperal Pyrexia	11.96	13.90	9.73	13.30	7.1
“ Fever					

VITAL STATISTICS.

The births registered during the year numbered 407 an increase of 5 on the previous year. Of this number 192 were males and 215 were females.

POPULATION 32,410.	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION.			MATERNITY MORTALITY		
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer	RATE Per 1,000 Live Births	Rate of Deaths under one year per 1,000 Live Births
Mean of five years, 1935-1939	12.4	9.8	0.40	1.46	4.38	42
Year 1939	11.4	10.1	0.36	1.58	5.29	26
Year 1940	12.0	*10.7	0.35	1.54	2.43	14
Increase or decrease in 1940						
on 5 years average 1935-39	-0.4	+0.9	-0.05	+0.08	-1.95	-28
Previous year	+0.6	+0.6	-0.01	-0.04	-2.86	-12

*1940 adjusted death rate (comparability factor, 1.03) = 11.0 per 1,000.

Vital Statistics (continued).

I am pleased to report a decrease in deaths of children under 1 year. The number of deaths recorded is 6 compared with 10 in 1939 or a death rate of 14 per 1,000 live births. The good attendance of mothers and expectant mothers at the Child Welfare Centre, which is constantly increasing its activities, continues.

The number of deaths registered was 364, viz.:—175 males and 189 females, being an increase of 29 on the preceding year.

The number of births exceeds the deaths by 43.

Heart disease again heads the list of deaths, viz.:—73. Then follows cancer 52; Bronchitis 47.

Hospital Accommodation.

Prestwich is situated in close proximity to Manchester, Salford and Bury, and in consequence is well served in the provision of hospital accommodation.

1. Infectious Diseases.

There is no Fever Hospital in the district but under the Bury and District Joint Hospital Amendment Order, 1936, dated the 23rd May, 1936, Prestwich have become constituent members of the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board, which provides hospital accommodation for all acute specific fevers, Smallpox, etc. No retaining fee is now paid but the structural and establishment expenses of the hospital are met by a precept based on the rateable value of the district of each constituent member; while cost of maintenance of patients is divided on a basis of "patient days."

The estimated cost of hospital treatment for the year ended 30th September, 1940, is £1,593 0s. 3d. against £1 862 14s. 2d. for the year ended 30th September, 1939. 45 Cases of infectious diseases were admitted to the Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury, during the year under the above scheme.

2. Maternity.

There is no maternity hospital within the district. St. Mary's Hospital and the Northern Hospital, Manchester, are available for complicated cases. There are two Registered Maternity Nursing Homes, The Redcliffe Nursing Home, Hilton Lane, and No. 4 Buckingham Road.

Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia are admitted to the Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury.

3. Children.

The Northern Hospital, Manchester, and the Children's Hospital, Pendlebury, are available for the inhabitants.

4. Tuberculosis.

A patient notified by a medical attendant is reported to the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Radcliffe, then sent from there to Ashton-u-Lyne for X-Ray, and subsequently to the County Area Sanatoria for treatment.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Infectious Cases.

A motor ambulance is provided by the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board for the removal of infectious cases to Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury.

(b) Disinfecting Van.

For removal of bedding to the Council's Disinfecting Station a motor vehicle is provided and maintained by the Local Authority.

(c.) Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.

A motor ambulance has been provided and is maintained by the local Council for the removal to hospital of accident cases occurring within the Prestwich District, and also medical cases to Hospitals, Infirmaries, Nursing Homes, etc. No charge is made in the case of an accident, and in private cases the use of the Ambulance is given free to residents up to a distance of ten miles, a shilling being charged for each mile over ten.

Co-ordination of Ambulance Services.

An arrangement exists with neighbouring authorities whereby accident cases occurring on the boundaries of the district are dealt with by the first ambulance to arrive, irrespective of which side of the boundary the case occurs. An agreement also exists between the Councils of Prestwich and Whitefield under which when the ambulance of one Council is engaged urgent cases are dealt with by the ambulance of the other. This system is worked on a "knock for knock" basis, an endeavour being made to keep the number of outside cases dealt with by each Authority even.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Centre is open at Prestwich each Thursday and at Heaton Park each Monday between 2 and 4 pm..

Dr. Hutchinson, of the Child Welfare County Council Authority, and a nurse are in attendance at each session, and there is a voluntary Committee of five ladies—Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Vernon, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Jackson, and Miss Bullintyne.

The mothers attending are instructed in the correct way of feeding, clothing and training their babies. The babies are undressed and weighed each week. All new babies are seen by the Doctor and if ailing, the mothers are advised to see their own medical attendant. In addition healthy babies are examined once a month.

The voluntary Committee takes charge of the sale of dried milk-foods.

In 1940 there was an average attendance of about 73 mothers and babies at the Heaton Park Centre, and 81 at the Prestwich Centre, making a total weekly attendance of 154.

When babies have reached the school age of five they then come under the supervision of the County Council, who periodically have them examined at the schools. If the children are found to be suffering from any ailment they are referred to their own medical attendant. If treatment has not been obtained within one month they are referred back to the Child Welfare Centre.

Professional Nursing in the Homes.

General Nursing and Maternity Nursing is usually carried out by the nurses of the District Nursing Association and to these nurses the warmest thanks are due for the care given to patients in the district.

There are four midwives practising in the area, and their work during the past year has to be commended.

Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.

There are two registered Nursing Homes in the district, which are visited periodically by the Medical Officer of Health.

		No. of Beds.
Medical, Surgical and Maternity...	1	3
Maternity only...	1	10

CAUSES OF DEATHS, 1940.

	Males	Females	Totals
Diphtheria	1	—	1
Influenza	4	4	8
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	8	4	12
Other Tubercular Diseases...	1	1	2
Cancer	20	32	52
Diabetes	1	3	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	11	16	27
Heart Disease...	28	45	73
Other Circulatory Diseases	5	7	12
Bronchitis	30	17	47
Pneumonia (all forms)	5	5	10
Other Respiratory Diseases	6	4	10
Ulcer, Peptic...	7	1	8
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Other Diseases of the Liver	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases...	3	10	13
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	7	5	12
Other Puerperal Diseases...	—	1	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	2
Syphilitic Diseases	3	—	3

Encephalitis	1	...	—	...	1
Congenital Debility, Premature					
Birth, Malformations, etc.	3	...	3	...	6
Road Traffic Accidents... ..	2	...	0	...	2
Suicide... ..	2	...	1	...	3
Other Violence	4	...	4	...	8
All other causes	22	...	24	...	46
	175	...	189	...	364

Males Females Totals

Deaths of Infants under one year :—

Legitimate	3	...	2	...	5
Illegitimate	1	...	—	...	1
Totals ...	4	...	2	...	6

Males Females Totals

Live Births :—

Legitimate	187	...	212	...	399
Illegitimate	5	...	3	...	8
Totals ...	192	...	215	...	407

Males Females Totals

Still Births :—

Legitimate	9	...	7	...	16
Illegitimate	—	...	—	...	—
Totals ...	9	...	7	...	16

Population ... 33,760.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water.

The sources of supply are from the Manchester Woodhead Reservoir, the Irwell Valley Water Board and the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board.

During the year one complaint of badly discoloured water was received relative to water supplied by the Irwell Valley River Water Board. Investigation followed and a sample taken which was submitted for bacteriological examination. The report was unsatisfactory and the Authority concerned were communicated with, they informed me that it was due to their inability to carry out the usual systematic flushing of the mains on account of the very extreme shortage of water. With the return of normal rainfall, the complaint was abated.

In addition to the above 2 other samples were taken from a dwelling house and a farm and submitted for bacteriological examination. Both reports were satisfactory.

There are still two dwelling-houses, two dairy farms and two piggeries which obtain their supply from wells, springs, etc.

Rivers and Streams.

These have received special attention during the year and have been kept clear of accumulation of silt and debris by the owners, while periodical inspections have been made of septic tanks, filter chambers, and other possible sources of pollution.

Sewage Disposal.

The Sewage is treated at the Council's Disposal Works in Detritus and Sedimentation tanks, afterwards passing through percolating filters to the Humus Tanks and thence the effluent is discharged into the River Irwell.

Heavy storm flows are dealt with in separate storm water tanks before the effluent is discharged into the river.

In a portion of the Simister Area, which is semi-rural, the treatment of sewage is by septic tank and cesspools.

Chief Sanitary Requirements.

The chief Sanitary requirement of the district is the drainage of Simister, which is still in urgent need of attention. A scheme was in course of preparation, but has been held up because of hostilities.

Closet Accommodation at the end of 1940.

Number of Middens 18. 18 in 1939.
 Number of Closets attached to Middens 26. 26 in 1939.
 Number of Pail Closets 140. 142 in 1939.
 Number of Fresh Water-closets 10,477. 10,467 in 1939.
 Number of Waste Water-closets 48. 55 in 1939.
 Number of Dry Ashpits nil. nil in 1939.
 Number of Moveable Ash-bins 10,650. 10,626 in 1939.
 Number of Waste Water-closets converted to Fresh Water-closets 7. 80 in 1939.
 Number of Houses at which Moveable Ash-bins have been substituted for fixed receptacles nil.

Gully Cleaning.

All dwelling-houses and other premises in the district are visited periodically by two workmen connected with the department, who cleanse and disinfect the sink and bath waste grids and gullies. During the year 1940, 4,475 premises were visited and 7,011 gullies cleaned.

By resolution of the Council such work does not include the clearance of any grids or gullies which have been stopped up by improper use, or repairs of any kind.

Public Cleansing.

The sources of supply are from the Manchester Woodhead from all premises in the district and in the case of certain business premises, twice a week; this work is carried out by S. & D. Freighters working on a relay system.

The Council have installed a Refuse Destructor and Salvage Plant sufficient to deal with the needs of the district.

The Council possesses an S. & D. Motor Cesspool and Gully Emptier, which is a great improvement on the tank cart wagon previously used. The tank cart wagon is now used only for emptying earth closets and for such cess-pools as are inaccessible to the Motor emptier.

Inspections.

Number of Premises Visited	1,753
Sanitary Inspections during the year numbered ...	3,237
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	1,020
Number of defects or nuisances abated	968
Number of Informal Notices served	614
Number of Statutory Notices served	61

Smoke Nuisances.

The number of observations made was 4. The time limit allowed for black smoke is two minutes per half hour.

When cause for complaint has arisen, the respective firms have been written to and on a further observation being made some improvement has been shown.

Observations ceased on receipt in August, 1940, of Home Security Circular, No. 24/1940, relative to the production of extra smoke. All concerned by this Circular were communicated with and their co-operation requested.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

57 Cases of Rats and Mice infestation were investigated during the year under review.

In order to assist in the extermination of rodents, rat traps belonging to the Health Department are loaned to occupiers of infested premises and periodical visits made by workmen connected with the Department. 42 rats were caught and destroyed during the year by such means.

Local Rat-catchers have throughout the whole of the year been actively engaged, week by week, in ferreting and exterminating rodents in the district.

No. of Rats caught and destroyed during the year ... 2,038

A National Rat Week was not held in 1940.

Offensive Trades.

There are two offensive trades in the district, viz. :—
Soap boiling on a small scale and a Dog Oil business.

The licences are granted annually by the Council.

Fish Frying Businesses.

There are 12 fish fryers registered in the district. These businesses are controlled under Bye-laws made by the Council in 1927 and are generally conducted in a satisfactory manner. Periodical inspections have been made during the year and particular attention has been paid to cleanliness.

Schools.

At each holiday period during the year the under-mentioned schools in the district were disinfected, also the drain gullies and grids cleansed and disinfected.

Hope Park Senior Girls' School. Park View Junior School.
Heaton Park Council School. Sedgley Park Junior School.
Lady Wilton's (Simister Lane) School, St. Margaret's C. E. School. Fairfax Road R. C. School. St. Mary's C. E. School. St. Hilda's C. E. School and Heys Senior Boys' School.

Housing.

The housing conditions in the district may be classified as good. The types of houses, to a great extent, vary with the periods in which they were erected. Since the war 1914-18 the chief type of house has been the semi-detached, containing three bedrooms, bath, inside W.C., and a sufficient accommodation for the proper storage of food. These houses have gardens back and front surrounded by low privet or paling fence.

The number of inhabited houses at the 1931 census was 5,724. The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year according to the rate books, was 9,899.

Number of houses owned by Local Authority :

1919 Act	377
1923 Act	288
1924 Act	372
1930 Act	55
	<hr/>
	1,092
	<hr/>

Number of Houses Erected during the Year.

	Houses.
(a) TOTAL—including numbers given separately under (b)	24
(1) By Local Authority	—
(2) By other Local Authorities... ..	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	24
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(1) By Local Authority	—
(2) By other bodies or persons... ..	—

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Dairies.

There are 119 persons registered under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922—Milk and Dairies Order, 1926. This number comprises 7 cowkeepers, 57 dairymen or retail roundsmen, 55 persons registered for the sale of bottled milk only.

In the case of persons selling bottled milk only, the person is registered as a retail purveyor of milk, but the premises are not registered as a dairy.

There has been improvement noticed in the cleanliness of the dairies and in the methods of distributing milk throughout the district and the cowkeepers' premises have been lime-washed as often as necessary to keep them in a cleanly condition.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

During the year 5 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination:—

Result of Examinations.

Total No. of samples	No. satisfying Methylene Blue Test	No. not satisfying Methylene Blue Test	No. of Bacteria found per c.c.				Presence of B. Coli.				
			under 10,000	10,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 500,000	over 500,000	Absent in			Present in	
							1.0 c.c.	0.1 c.c.	0.01 c.c.	0.01 c.c.	1.0 c.c.
5	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-

PRESENCE OF T.B. INNOCULATION TEST.

	No. of samples	T.B.	T.B.
	Submitted	not found	found
Milk	5	4	1

In addition to the above 4 samples, 3 of which proved negative, have been taken for the County Medical Officer of Health from milk supplied to school children.

In instances where the samples did not comply with a reasonable standard of cleanliness the farmers were written to, directing attention to the methods applied during milking, the grooming of cattle, and the proper washing and sterilisation of all utensils, vessels, etc., employed in connection with milk.

One sample was found to contain tubercle bacilli. The particulars were forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health who arranged with the Ministry of Agriculture to take the necessary action under Part IV of the Agriculture Act, 1937. One cow was dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, and a group sample taken from the remainder of the herd proved negative.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences were issued under the above Order during the year.

Licences to sell Milk as Tuberculin Tested	4
Accredited Milk Licences Bottling	—
Distribution	3
Licences to sell Milk as Pasteurised	2
Licences in respect of Pasteurising Plants... ..	1

Slaughter Houses.

There are two registered private slaughter-houses in the district, also one in connection with the County Medical Hospital.

The two private slaughter-houses serve the businesses of well-known butchers' shops, and high grade animals are slaughtered.

The slaughter-houses are kept in a cleanly condition and lime-washed periodically in accordance with the Council's bye-laws.

Slaughtering at the two private slaughter-houses was stopped under the Live Stock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940, S. R. and O., 1940 No. 41, made by the Minister of Food which came into operation on 15th January, 1940.

The following are the particulars of the number of inspections made and the number of carcasses examined, etc.

Number of inspections	22
No. of notices received	6
No. of Beasts slaughtered	13
No. of Calves slaughtered	2
No. of Sheep and Lambs slaughtered	69
No. of Pigs slaughtered	2

The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, and a resolution of the Council to include sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs, as from the 11th day of February, 1934, makes the use of a mechanically operated instrument for the stunning of animals compulsory.

No. of Slaughtermen's Licences issued... .. 9

The following table shows the amount of meat condemned from various causes during 1940.

No. of Seizures	Cause of Seizure	Approx. Weight in lbs.
3	Tuberculosis... ..	42
5	Distomatosis	34
—	—	—
8		76
—	—	—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Inspected	13	—	2	69	2
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :—					
Whole Carcases condemned... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	38.4%	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole Carcases condemned... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	23.1%	—	—	—	—

Retail Meat Shops.

The retail meat shops have been regularly visited, attention being paid to the condition of the meat, general cleanliness of premises, utensils, etc., and inspection of cellar and back premises.

Food Preparing Premises.

The food preparing premises are mostly premises where meat products, such as, Sausages, Black Puddings, Pies, etc., are made

The premises are regularly visited and strict attention is paid to cleanliness.

Sampling of Food and Drugs.

This part of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, is administered by the Lancashire County Council, and I am indebted to Mr. F. W. Mason, County Sanitary Inspector, who has kindly furnished the following particulars of samples taken within this district.

Milk	45	Flaked Beef Suet	1
Malt Vinegar	2	Golden Glucose Syrup...	1
Self Raising Flour...	3	Epsom Salts	1
Lard	2	Olive Oil	1
Jam	4	Quinine and	
Pepper	2	Phosphorus Tablets ...	1
Margarine	2	Bleach Ointment	2
Jelly	2	Tanna Flavine Jelly ...	1
Ground Ginger...	1	Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	
Ground Almonds	1	with Parrish's Food...	1
Coffee	1	Liquid Paraffin	1
Egg Vermicilli...	1	Glycerine of Thymol ...	1

All samples were found to be genuine with the exception of 11 milk samples which were found to be deficient in solids not fat ranging from 1% to 20%. In connection with 10 of these samples court proceedings were taken against the vendor who was convicted and fined with costs. The 11th milk sample was 10% deficient in solids not fat, a further sample was taken and found genuine.

1 Jam sample was found to be 2.5% deficient of soluble solids, further samples from the same vendor proved genuine.

Bakehouses.

There are 18 bakehouses on the register, the majority of these being carried on in connection with retail confectionery businesses.

They have been periodically inspected during the year, attention being paid to the cleanliness of the premises, period for limewashing or cleansing and sanitary accommodation.

Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium.

The number of licences to "keep" issued in respect of petroleum spirit was 14 being a decrease of 11 on last year.

Also four licences have been issued in respect of inflammable Cellulose solutions.

No licences have been issued for Carbide of Calcium.

In all cases where licences have been issued the petrol is stored in welded steel tanks underground, fitted with pumps, and in all cases the regulations are complied with.

Shops Acts, and Shops (Hours of Closing) Acts, 1912-1934, and Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936.

During the year 61 visits were made to shops in the district for the purpose of inspecting records as to the employment of Young Persons, and ascertaining that other requirements of the above Acts were being complied with.

11 Warning letters were sent to shop-keepers relative to the keeping of records, closing hours, Assistants' Weekly Half-holidays, seats for female shop assistants, facilities for meals, washing accommodation, sanitary conveniences, lighting and ventilation, etc. Also printed pamphlets giving brief particulars of the Shops Acts were issued to shop-keepers, in addition to posters being exhibited in public places.

Infringement of Shops Acts.

Proceedings were taken against one shop-keeper with respect to the above as follows :—

Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928 (Sect. 1), Case proved and defendant fined 10s. 0d.

Shops Act, 1912 (Sect. 4 and order made thereunder). Case proved and defendant fined £2 0s. 0d.

Applications together with statutory declaration forms, were received from two Jewish Traders, for permission to open their businesses until 2 p.m. on Sundays, and in each case the application was granted.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911-1928.

There are no premises in this district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Mortuary.

The mortuary has been cleansed and disinfected after use, also at regular intervals throughout the year, and was used on 11 occasions for the reception of bodies.

FACTORIES' ACT, 1937.

1.—Inspection of Factories.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with Mechanical Power	20	2	—
Factories without Mechanical Power...	5	—	—
Total	25	2	—

11.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Number of defects			Number of Prosecu- tions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
*Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness	4	4	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	6	6	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation :				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	—	—
Not Separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factories' Act :				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bake- house (S. 101)	—	—	—	—
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses (S.S. 97 to 100)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
Total	12	12	—	—

Number of Premises on the Registers.

No. of Factories with Mechanical Power 48

No. of Factories without Mechanical Power 11

No. of Lists of Out-Workers (Twice a year)—

 Sent out 1

 Received 3

The Factories were usually found to be in good condition, but it has been found necessary, on occasions, to call attention to general untidiness and want of cleanliness.

Outworkers.

During the year 52 visits have been made to outworkers premises, in order to ensure that the lighting and ventilation was adequate and the premises were suitable.

Factories Act, 1937—Means of Escape in Case of Fire.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector appointed under the above Act to enforce the necessary requirements has carried out numerous inspections of factories in the district for the purpose of ascertaining that the regulations have been complied with.

Conservancy System.

No. of Privies abolished	—
„ „ Middens attached to Privies abolished	—
„ „ Privies converted to Pail Closets	—
„ „ Ash-bins provided in lieu of Middens	—
„ „ Ash-bins provided in lieu of Ash-pits	—
„ „ Ash-bins provided to new houses	24
„ „ Privies existing in the district	26
„ „ Middens attached to privies existing in the district	18
„ „ Pail Closets existing in the district	140
„ „ Ash-bins existing in the district	10,650
„ „ Ash-pits existing in the district	—

Water Carriage System.

No. of Fresh Water-closets provided in lieu of Privies	—
„ „ Waste Water-closets converted to Fresh Water-closets	7
„ „ Waste Water-closets existing in the district	48
„ „ Fresh Water-closets existing in the district	10,499

The majority of Privy Middens are situate in the out-lying villages where there is no system of sewers available.

„ „ handrails provided to staircases	5
„ „ handrails provided to cellar steps	1
„ „ defective washing boilers renewed	7
„ „ „ wash bowls renewed	1
„ „ „ and dangerous steps	5
„ „ cases of defective brickwork or brickwork pointing	20
„ „ defective and dangerous boundary walls and coping stones	11
„ „ defective and dangerous chimney stacks and pots made good	1
„ „ defective yard gates repaired or renewed ...	7
„ „ „ path or yard surfaces made good ...	11
„ „ „ or choked eaves gutters made good ...	29
„ „ rainwater pipes made to discharge over trapped gullies	2
„ „ defective rainwater pipes, soilpipes, etc., made good	33
„ „ gullies (R.W.P.; sink waste; bath waste, etc.,) renewed	6
„ „ cases of absence of or badly fitting dishstones to gullies	10
„ „ general defects to W.C. outbuildings repaired	6
„ „ defective or choked water closet pedestals ...	25
„ „ additional water closets installed in houses...	1
„ „ defective water closet cisterns or flushing apparatus made good	9
„ „ waste water closets converted to fresh water closets	7
„ „ defective private drains made good	38

5	„ „ defective combined drains made good... ..	4
	„ „ choked private drains cleansed	48
	„ „ „ combined drains cleansed	16
	„ „ „ inspection chambers to private drains...	9
	„ „ „ inspection chambers to combined drains... ..	7
	„ „ defective covers and frames to inspection chambers... ..	13
	„ „ cases of defective brickwork to inspection chambers... ..	6
	„ „ stoppers missing from raking arms of inter- ceptor traps	13
	„ „ defective ash-receptacles renewed	168
	„ „ accumulations of waste materials	40
	„ „ infestations of rats and mice	57
	„ „ „ „ bugs	17
	„ „ „ „ beetles, snails, etc.... ..	6
	„ „ dirty houses cleansed	3
	„ „ miscellaneous housing and other defects ...	36
	Total	968

STATISTICS 1926—1940.

The following table shows the closet and ash-pit accommodation in the district at the end of each of the past fifteen years :—

	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Privies... ..	83	66	61	60	53	51	45	45	44	43	34	31	26	26	26
Middens attached ...	61	49	46	45	38	36	32	32	31	30	22	20	18	18	18
Pail-Closets	125	124	124	123	126	130	135	135	135	134	155	154	145	142	140
Fresh Water-Closets	5554	5775	5957	6253	6496	6787	7180	7430	8300	8945	9499	9963	10290	10467	10499
Waste Water-Closets	211	211	210	209	209	203	190	185	185	173	170	130	135	55	48
Ash-pits	512	473	442	388	373	356	217	97	93	73	10	—	—	—	—
Ash-bins	3899	4162	4379	4718	4986	5291	5910	6319	7451	7810	9653	10127	10449	10626	10650

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses During the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)...	108
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	490
(2) (a) Number of houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ...	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	103

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	47
---	----

Note :—The above figures refer only to action taken in reference to housing defects.

Notices with regard to other premises, drainage and other defects are included under Sanitary Inspections.

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A.—Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 16 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By Owners | 16 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | — |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 3 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By Owners | 3 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | — |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made | Nil. |
| (2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders | 2 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | — |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit | — |

4. Housing Act 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year	4
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	4
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	30
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year :	
(1) Rehoused by Council	1
(2) Occupiers removed to larger privately owned houses	1
(3) Lodgers or members of family left overcrowded house	—
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases :	
(1) Rehoused by Council	5
(2) Occupiers removed to larger privately owned houses	8
(3) Lodgers or members of family left overcrowded house	—

Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

During the year 6 dwelling-houses were measured for the purpose of ascertaining the "permitted number" of persons allowed to occupy them, and 22 certificates were issued.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year 17 cases of Bug infestation were reported to this department, 2 cases in Council Houses, and 15 cases in privately owned houses.

By the end of the year all but 3 of these cases had been abated, 2 cases in the Council Houses which were being attended to by the Health Department and 1 case in a private house.

By resolution of the Tenancy Committee the houses of all prospective tenants of Council Houses are inspected by a Sanitary Inspector and the Housing Supervisor prior to a Council House being allotted. This applies whether the prospective tenant resides in or outside the boundaries of Prestwich.

82 inspections were made during the year.

As a precautionary measure all individual unfit houses were fumigated prior to the tenants taking over the tenancy of Council Houses.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

During the year there were 30 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, a decrease of 11 on the previous year.

There were 22 cases of Diphtheria notified, a decrease of 27 on the previous year. The spread of the Clinical type of Diphtheria was due to contact of children in schools with others suffering from sore throats. It was only by swabs being taken that many cases were recognised.

Notifiable Pneumonia increased from 23 to 39 this number includes Mental Hospital cases.

**Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases notified
during the Year ended 31st December, 1940.**

Disease	No. of Cases Notified	No. of Cases Removed	No. of Cases Fumigated	COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL	
				No. of Cases Notified	No. of Cases Removed
Scarlet Fever	27	20	27	3	—
Diphtheria	22	15	22	—	—
Pneumonia	22	—	—	17	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	5	—
Erysipelas	6	3	6	9	—
Measles	347	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	3	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	6	4	6	—	—
Malaria	1	1	1	—	—
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid)	2	2	2	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	—	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	55	—	—	—	—
Totals	493	48	69	34	—

Cases notified in the District 493

Cases notified in the County Mental Hospital ... 34

Total ... 527

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

A Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin is provided by the Council, free of charge and supplied to Medical Practitioners for the treatment of residents in Prestwich. This is kept at the Health Department, Town Hall, Police Station, Rectory Lane, and the Medical Officer's Residence, Bury New Road.

185,000 units were supplied during the year.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

Number of specimens examined in 1940 by the Public Health Department, Salford, and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Diphtheria—Throat or Nose Swabs	136
Virulence Tests	3
Tuberculosis—Sputum	22
Others—Widal Tests	2

Action taken with regard to (a) Contacts, (b) Return Cases, (c) Carrier Cases.

(a) Contacts excluded from school and in some cases from work.

No. of contacts traced :—

Scarlet Fever—10 School Contacts—57 Others.

Diphtheria—20 School Contacts—75. Others

(b) Nil.

(c) Nil.

Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Number of vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health :

(a) Primary ... Nil. (b) Re-vaccination ... Nil.

Disinfection.

The disinfection of infected premises is done by means of fumigation with formaldehyde vapour, and when deemed necessary the walls of any room or rooms are sprayed with formalin.

Bedding and clothing is removed for disinfection in the steam disinfectant provided by the Council.

The number of disinfections carried out were as follows :

Rooms	106
Articles of bedding and clothing	1,664
Public Library Books	255
Articles of bedding and clothing destroyed	87

Disinfection is carried out by workmen connected with the Health Department.

Liquid disinfectant is provided free in suitable "poison" bottles for which a deposit of threepence is required.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR, 1940.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases of all ages	Under 1	Total Cases Notified Years										65 and over	Total Deaths from the district	Total Cases removed to Hospital from the district	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65				
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	30	—	—	2	3	3	8	6	4	3	—	1	—	20	—	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup) ...	22	—	1	—	8	1	6	2	1	2	1	—	—	15	1	—
Acute primary pneumonia & Acute influenza pneumonia	39	2	1	1	—	1	2	—	1	4	6	15	6	10	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	2	4	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	347	4	22	21	40	60	184	7	2	5	2	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	55	6	2	9	4	8	25	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Dysentery	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	11	1	3	—	—
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid)	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
Totals	527	13	27	33	55	73	225	15	8	24	14	31	9	12	48	3

*All in County Mental Hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
			Non-				Non-	
	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—
20—25	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	1
25—35	2	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
35—45	6	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
55—65	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
	14	8	2	3	8	4	1	1
Totals ...	22		5		12		2	
	27				14			

During 1940 there was a decrease of 5 on the previous year in the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified.

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 12 against 12 in 1939.

The number of deaths from other Tubercular affections is 2 against 3 in 1939.

The rates are as follows :—

	Per 1,000 of Population
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.35
Other Tuberculous Diseases	0.06

If taken together as tubercular affections we have 14 deaths or a rate of 0.41 per 1,000 of the population.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis)

Regulations 1925.

No action was taken relating to Tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

Prevention of Blindness—Ophthalmic Neonatorum.

One case has been notified during the year and was treated in hospital.

Air Raid Precautions and Civil Defence.

Although the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Staff have given a considerable amount of their time to the running and organisation of the A.R.P. Casualty Services, they have nevertheless succeeded in coping with the various and onerous duties of the Public Health Department. I have nothing but praise for their loyalty, help and watchfulness during this trying period of war.

In conclusion I beg to thank the Council, the various Committees for the support given to the Health Officials; Mr. F. H. Ashton and Mr. Handel Kay for their helpful advice; Mr. L. T. J. Trippier, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the enormous amount of work put in during the year; Mr. H. Kellett, Mr. J. Kay and Mr. G. Stanley, Additional Sanitary Inspectors for their wholesale support and finally Miss M. Holland and the Health Office Staff for their conscientious attention to duties.

HENRY C. BURBIDGE,

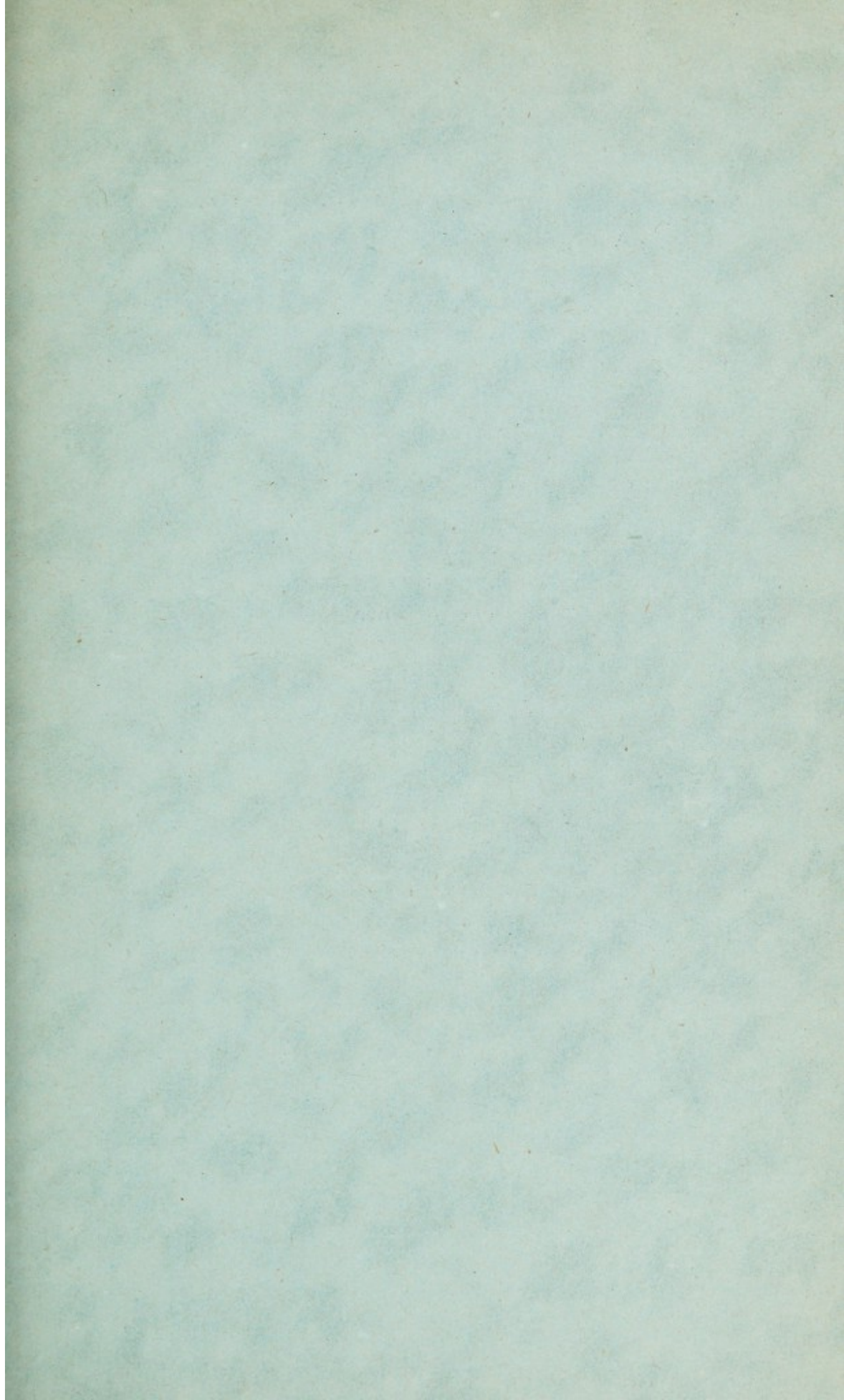
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