

[Report 1945] / Medical Officer of Health, Prestwich Borough.

Contributors

Prestwich (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1945

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BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH

Mayor ... Alderman C. E. TRAVIS, J.P., C.C.

INTERIM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER,

1945

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

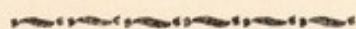
Medical Officer of Health.





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BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH.

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1945-46.

Chairman : Councillor A. E. PIMLOTT.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor J. E. HART.

The Mayor : Alderman C. E. TRAVIS, J.P., C.C.

Alderman A. Pimlott.

Alderman A. L. Williams.

Ald. F. Wilkinson, J.P., C.C. Councillor L. F. Barrow.

Councillor F. Butterworth. Coun. Mrs. V. B. Dickinson.

Councillor C. A. Hyde.

Councillor A. Matz.

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

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

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

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

Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

†H. KELLETT, Cert. R.S.I. (on Active Service
with R.A.M.C.)

†W. A. BARKER, Cert. R.S.I. (to 25/11/45).

†G. E. STANLEY, Cert. R.S.I. (Temporary)

†Certified Meat and Food Inspectors.

Office Staff :

Mrs. F. ROSCOE (Temporary Typist to 3/11/45).

Miss E. D. WILSON (Loaned Central Typing Dept.).

H. DIXON (Junior Clerk). (On Active Service since
Nov., 1944 with R.A.C.)

Public Health Department,

Monsall Lodge,

Bury New Road, Prestwich.

To The Mayor,

and Members of the Prestwich Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration a curtailed Interim Annual Report dealing with the Public Health Services in your Area for the Year 1945.

The war had come to an end on May 7th after nearly six years of anxiety, stress and grim determination on the part of the people. Notwithstanding, the Health of the people in this area remained fairly good. A tremendous amount of work, was carried out by your officials in all departments, which by their aid and continual zeal helped to keep that standard good. The inhabitants responded well to all advice and instructions given, thus helping us in our endeavours to keep epidemics of serious infectious diseases, from breaking forth as they usually do in times of war.

POPULATION

This was estimated by the Registrar General at 32,400, showing an increase of 60 on the previous year and I am of the opinion that an increase will go on each year, owing to the people of the neighbouring cities of Manchester and Salford leaving for more open spaces and freedom from the crowded atmosphere of the city streets.

BIRTH RATE.

The living birth rate shows a slight decrease on last year viz. 507 against 510.

Still Births remained at the same figure as last year viz. 12 which was a decrease on previous years and showing that the continuation of the good attendance at Ante-Natal Clinics by prospective mothers is having the desired effect.

DEATH RATE.

This rate also shows a decrease per 1,000 of the population viz. 10.5 against 12.1 the previous year.

It would be well here to refer to a report by Sir W. Jameson, K.C.B., Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health as after the trying years of war it gives us hope for the future, a better appreciation of the role of science and medicine, and an urge for greater endeavour for the betterment of Public Health. He stated that great advances were made in Preventive Medicine during the last seven years, and the most outstanding achievements of world wide significance have been the use of new insecticides, and of new drugs of prophylactic as well as of curative value. We have in our armamentarium of preventive medicine drugs such as penicillin and sulphonamides, and their action on prevention of disease is now well known to us. An insecticide known as D.D.T. if properly applied will rid the world of any large scale louse-borne epidemic. He compared conditions in Europe at the present time with those that prevailed after the 1914-1918 War. Then Poland was subjected to a dire outbreak of Typhus Fever. Now despite the devastated condition of many of the larger German towns, coupled with overcrowding and short rations, the first post-war winter has not produced a major outbreak of Typhoid in Germany. This D.D.T. insecticide promises us vastly improved methods of fly and mosquito control, and an easier method of disinfection for bed-bugs, not only disinfecting but proofing against early reinfestation. Other insecticides are now being tried out and have proved so far to be eliminating the head louse and scabies. Malaria, intestinal troubles and infectious disease are all being gradually crushed out and it is hoped that in the future years to come, Public Health Authorities will be in the happy position of looking at Statistics showing the elimination and stampede of Infectious and deadly diseases, which are known so well by the Public in general, and which cost the Country yearly enormous sums in the fight of elimination.

I beg in conclusion to thank the Chairman and all members of the Health Committee, Mr. Ashton and other officials of the Council, for their kind support and advice, Mr. Trippier, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Barker and Mr. Stanley, Sanitary Inspectors, as well as the Clerical Staff who I must say work with a will and give of their best in the daily heavy work of Public Health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. BURBIDGE,
Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH.

A—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	2,420.
Population :	
Registrar-General's Estimate, Mid. 1945 ...	32,400.
Census, 1931	23,881.
Density (persons per acre)	13.3

Number of inhabited houses end of 1945	
according to rate books	9,851.
Rateable Value	£236,496.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate... ..	£947.

Social conditions are good. The area is mainly residential, the chief industries being Bleaching, Dyeing and Finishing, also manufacture of Soap.

Actual figures as to the extent of unemployment in this area during 1945 are not available, but an estimate puts it at 1% of the insured population.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Males	Females	Totals
Live Births	(Legitimate	268	217	485
	(Illegitimate	13	9	22
	Totals	281	226	507

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.6

		Males	Females	Totals
Still Births	(Legitimate	7	5	12
	(Illegitimate	—	—	—
	Totals	7	5	12

Rate of still births per 1,000 total births	23.
Deaths	163 ... 178 ... 341
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.5
Deaths from puerperal causes :—	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still).
	Deaths Births
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis nil.	nil.
Other Maternal Causes	1 1.92
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :—	
All infants per 1,000 live births	39
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	39
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ...	45
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	45
„ Measles (all ages)	1
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil.
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	nil.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Per 1,000 of estimated population				Maternal mortality rate		
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
Population 32,400							
Mean of 5 years							
1940-1944	13.0	11.1	0.41	1.72	1.99	1.92	33
Year 1944	15.7	12.1	0.30	2.07	nil.	nil.	37
Year 1945	*15.6	§10.5	0.27	1.38	1.97	1.92	39
Increase or decrease							
in 1945 on 5 years'							
average 1940-1944	* 2.6	† 0.6	†0.14	†0.34	†0.02	nil.	* 6
Previous years	† 0.1	† 1.6	†0.03	†0.69	*1.97	*1.92	* 2

§ 1945 adjusted death-rate not known (comparability factor not available).

The following tables show how the vital statistics for Prestwich compare with those for England and Wales and other authorities in respect of :—

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and cases rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1945. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126C. Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census	London adm. County	Prestwich
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—					
Live Births	16.1 †...	19.1 ...	19.2 ...	15.7 ...	15.6
Still Births	0.46†...	0.58 ...	0.53 ...	0.40 ...	0.37
Deaths :—					
All Causes	11.4 †...	13.5 ...	12.3 ...	13.8 ...	10.5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00
Scarlet Fever... ..	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02 ...	0.02 ...	0.01 ...	0.02 ...	0.00
Diphtheria... ..	0.02 ...	0.02 ...	0.02 ...	0.01 ...	0.00
Influenza	0.08 ...	0.07 ...	0.07 ...	0.07 ...	0.06
Smallpox	— ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	—
Measles	0.02 ...	0.02 ...	0.02 ...	0.01 ...	0.03

Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—

Deaths under 1 Year

of Age 46 *... 54 ... 43 ... 53 ... 39

Deaths from Diarrhoea

and Enteritis under

2 Years of Age 5.6 ... 7.8 ... 4.5 ... 7.6 ... 0.00

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

* Per 1,000 related births.

† Rates per 1,000 Total population.

Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—

Notifications :—

Typhoid	0.01 ...	0.01 ...	0.01 ...	0.01 ...	0.03
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01 ...	0.00 ...	0.01 ...	0.00 ...	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05 ...	0.05 ...	0.05 ...	0.06 ...	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.89 ...	2.02 ...	2.03 ...	1.57 ...	2.13
Whooping Cough	1.64 ...	1.65 ...	1.47 ...	1.25 ...	0.63
Diphtheria... ..	0.46 ...	0.52 ...	0.56 ...	0.31 ...	0.37
Erysipelas	0.25 ...	0.28 ...	0.24 ...	0.31 ...	0.25
Smallpox	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	— ...	0.00 ...	0.00
Measles	11.67 ...	10.89 ...	11.19 ...	9.03 ...	11.66
Pneumonia	0.87 ...	1.03 ...	0.72 ...	0.78 ...	0.67

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :—

(a) Notifications :—

Puerperal Fever... ..)	9.93 ...	12.65 ...	8.81 ...	(3.60) ...	3.85
Puerperal Pyrexia)	(†5.87) ...	

† Including Puerperal Fever.

(b) Maternal Mortality—England and Wales :—

	No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis.	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis.	No. 147 Puerperal Infections.	Nos. 142-6 148-150 other.
England and Wales	0.25 ...	0.08 ...	0.24 ...	1.22
Prestwich	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	1.92

Abortion—Mortality per million women aged 15-45—

England and Wales :—

	No. 140 with Sepsis.	No. 141 without Sepsis.
England and Wales	18 ...	6
Prestwich	0 ...	0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1945.

	Males	Females	Totals
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	4	5	9
Other Tubercular Diseases... ..	0	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	2	0	2
Influenza	1	1	2
Measles	1	0	1
Cancer	17	28	45
Diabetes	1	2	3
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	7	26	33
Heart Disease	45	39	84
Other Diseases of			
Circulatory System	3	5	8
Bronchitis	21	16	37
Pneumonia	6	4	10
• Other Respiratory Diseases	5	3	8
Ulcer, Stomach Duodenum	5	0	5
Congenital Debility, Premature			
Births, Malformation, etc.	11	3	14
Other Maternal Causes	0	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	4	4	8
Nephritis	7	6	13
Road Traffic Accidents	1	0	1
Other Violence	3	4	7
All other causes	19	30	49
	—	—	—
Totals	163	178	341
	—	—	—

B—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1)—Ambulance Facilities :—

(a) Infectious cases removed to Florence Nightingale Hospital in ambulances provided by the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board.

(b) Non-Infectious and Accident Cases :—

The Borough Ambulance service was augmented in February, 1942, by the provision of a new Ambulance, making two Ambulances in commission. The service greatly benefited thereby, and continues to function satisfactorily.

(2)—Nursing in the Home.

General and Maternity Nursing is carried out by the nurses of the District Nursing Association. The warmest thanks are due to the nurses for their excellent work.

There are four midwives including the County Council Midwife practising in the area. Their work during the past year has to be commended.

Financial assistance given by Local Authority to the above Association amounted to £20.

(3)—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Centre is open at Prestwich on Wednesdays, 2 to 4 p.m. and at Heaton Park on Mondays, 9-30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. During the year there were 5725 attendances, a weekly average of 123.

Dr. J. S. B. MacKay and a Nurse of the Lancashire County Council Authority are in attendance at each session and there is a voluntary Committee of four ladies, Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Gibson, Miss Ballantyne and Mrs. Madeley.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held at "The Uplands" Whitefield, each Monday from 1-30 to 3-30 p.m. and in addition on alternate Mondays from 10 to 11-30 a.m.

(4)—Hospital Accommodation.

(a) General: Accommodation is provided by Hospitals in Manchester, Salford and Bury.

(b) Maternity: There is no Maternity Hospital in the district. The Northern and St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester, are available for complicated cases.

There are three Registered Nursing Homes for Maternity cases, The Redcliffe Nursing Home, "Glen-side" Nursing Home and The Holyrood Nursing Home.

(c) Children: The Northern Hospital, Manchester and the Children's Hospital Pendlebury, are available.

(d) Infectious Diseases: Cases are treated at the Florence Nightingale Hospital Bury, which is maintained by the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board, of which Prestwich is a constituent member. [Structural and establishment expenses of the Hospital are met by a precept based on the rateable value of the district of each constituent member.]

Cost of maintenance of patients is divided on a basis of "patient days."

The estimated cost of treatment for the year ended 30th September, 1945 was £1,663 10s. 0d.

58 cases were admitted to the above Hospital during the year.

(e) Tuberculosis: Cases from this district are provided for by the Lancashire County Council Sanatoria.

C—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—No important changes have taken place during the year with regard to water supplies, sewerage, drainage, rivers and streams.

2.—Closet accommodation at the end of 1945.

	No. 1945	No. 1944
Middens	17	18
Closets attached to Middens	22	23
Pail Closets	139	139
Fresh Water Closets	10485	10484
Waste Water Closets	44	44
Moveable Dust Bins	10654	10653
Waste Water Closets converted to Fresh Water Closets	nil.	3

3.—Gully Cleaning :

During the year 1,459 premises were visited and 2,759 gullies cleaned by workmen from the department.

4.—Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

Number of Premises visited (including Housing)	1310
Number of Inspections	2653
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	1179
Number of defects or nuisances abated	522
Number of Drains Tested by Water	5
Number of Drains Tested by Smoke	32
Number of Drains Tested by Colour... ..	49

5. Number of Notices Served :

(1) Informal Notices	468
(2) Statutory Notices	73

All Statutory Notices except 12 were complied with at the end of the year.

6. Bug Infestation :

18 Cases of infestation dealt with during the year including 2 cases in Council Houses. All cases were abated, 4 early in 1946.

7.—Factories Act, 1937 :

(a) Mechanical Power	58
(b) Without Mechanical Power	9

33 Inspections of Factories were made. 9 defects were found and all were remedied.

Outworkers :

3 Lists were received involving 28 visits to premises. In all cases conditions were found to be satisfactory.

8.—Procedure under Shops Acts, 1912-1936 :

46 Visits were paid to shops to ascertain that the requirements of the Acts were being observed. In very few cases non-compliance with Regulations were found.

No Court proceedings were taken against shop-keepers during the year.

9.—Laboratory Facilities :

No changes have taken place since my last report and facilities are still available at the Public Health Laboratories of Manchester and Salford.

10.—Rodent Control :

Under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, and Infestation Order, 1943, control of rodents was actively carried out during the year. The Rodent Operator was employed continuously in the carrying out of investigations, treatments and re-treatments.

During the year 95 cases of surface infestations were attended to. 92 of these infestations were of the minor type and all except 14 had been abated by the end of the year. The remainder of the cases consisted of the reservoir infestation at the Council's Refuse Disposal Works which received three re-treatments during the year with encouraging results, and two major infestations, both of which were successfully reduced.

The three usual methods of trapping, poisoning and gassing were utilised, the total number of rats destroyed being 1491. Trapping also accounted for 150 mice.

In addition to the above, treatment of sewers under directions issued by the Ministry of Food (Directorate of Infestation Control) was commenced in December, 1944, and completed in November, 1945. Two treatments were carried out, the first using Sausage Rusk and Zinc Phosphide and the second with Bread Mash and Barium Carbonate.

The following table gives an indication of the work carried out.

Total number of manholes surveyed and traced—1641.

(Excluding the County Mental Hospital).

	1st Treatment.	2nd Treatment.
Number of Manholes pre-baited	1612	1157
Number of Manholes poison-baited...	218	100
Number of Manholes found		
infested	108	49
Number of Poison "takes"	104	49
Number of Rats estimated killed ...	1202	367
Percentage of Manholes found		
infested with rats	6.6%	3.0%
Average number rats estimated		
killed per infested manhole	11	7½

From the above it will be seen that the first treatment was most successful in reducing the sewer infestation, and there is no doubt that the 2nd Treatment will be seen to have produced equally good results, when Maintenance treatments are carried out in 1946.

On behalf of the Lancashire County Council the sewers of the County Mental Hospital situate in Prestwich were also given two treatments with the following results.

	1st Treatment.	2nd Treatment.
Number of Manholes pre-baited	131	50
Number of Manholes poison-baited...	29	19
Number of Manholes found		
infested	19	6
Number of Poison "takes"	18	6
Number of Rats estimated killed ...	195	45

D—HOUSING.

1—General.

No new houses were erected by the Local Authority during 1945.

The number of houses owned by the Local Authority under the 1919-30 Acts shows no change namely 1092.

Generally speaking the housing conditions in the area may be regarded as satisfactory, although many of the older houses are showing signs of disrepair and dilapidation owing to the effect of the war. Great difficulties continue to be met with regard to taking action under the Public Health and Housing Acts in respect of the fitness of houses, chiefly due to the shortage of labour and certain building materials.

No action was taken during the year regarding Clearance and Improvement areas.

The shortage of houses is a most serious problem and the extent to which this Authority is burdened, is shown by the number of applicants on the waiting list for Corporation-owned houses having increased from 470 in 1944 to 786 applicants at the end of 1945.

This Authority is acutely aware of the shortage of houses and plans have been drawn up for the erection of 212 permanent houses on two sites. It is hoped that building will commence about the middle of 1946. Approximately 500 more houses are contemplated, which will practically complete the development in this area in accordance with the Green Belt proposals of the Regional Planning Committee.

No information is to hand in respect of private building.

2—Overcrowding.

At the beginning of the year there were 2 cases outstanding. A further 6 cases were found during the year giving a total of 8 for attention. 5 of these cases were rehoused by the Council, leaving 3 outstanding at the end of the year.

STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	Nil.
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil.
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil.
(iii) By other bodies or persons	Nil.
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Act :	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above)	Nil.
(ii) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii) above)	Nil.

1—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	221
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	921
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	Nil.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to Health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of these referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respect reasonably fit for human habitation	96

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 49

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 5

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 4

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 1

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 7

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 5

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil.

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil. |
| (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 : | |
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 1 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil. |

1—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—

- | | |
|---|----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 3 |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein | 4 |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein | 17 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 6 |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 5 |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 33 |

E—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1.—Milk Supply.

There are 113 persons registered under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and Milk and Dairies Order, 1926. This figure comprises 6 cowkeepers, 54 dairymen or retail roundsmen, and 53 persons registered for the sale of bottled milk only.

The cleanliness of premises and methods of distribution continued to be generally satisfactory in spite of the restrictions of war conditions. Inspection of farms, dairies and milk shops is carried out periodically.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-43 :

The following Licences were issued.

“Tuberculin Tested Milk.”

(i) Bottling	Nil.
(ii) Distribution	Nil.

“Accredited Milk.”

(i) Bottling	Nil.
(ii) Distribution	2

“Pasteurised Milk.”

(i) Pasteurising Plants	1
(ii) Distribution	3

Examination of Milk.

9 samples were taken for bacteriological examination of which 4 were unsatisfactory, the farmers concerned were communicated with and improvement was noted.

6 samples were submitted for Tubercle Bacilli Test and all were reported as negative.

2. Meat and other Foods.

There are two licensed private slaughter houses in the district, also one in connection with the County Mental Hospital. Slaughtering at the two private slaughter houses was stopped under the Live Stock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940.

5 Slaughtermen's licences were issued.

The retail meat shops have been regularly visited to inspect the meat and see that the Public Health (Meat) Regulations were being observed. Conditions have been generally satisfactory and no statutory action has been necessary.

There are 18 bakehouses on the register; periodical inspections have been carried out and only on rare occasions has it been necessary to draw attention to overdue lime-washing and cleanliness.

Other food premises have been inspected regularly and strict attention has been paid to cleanliness.

3.—Unfit Foodstuffs.

The following amounts of foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered to the Department and condemned as unfit for human consumption.

733—Tins—Tinned Foodstuffs.

261 Packets—Pudding and Sauce Powders.

48 lbs.—Sausage.

5 doz.—Eggs.

28 lbs.—Breakfast Oats.

1—Fowl.

129 lbs.—Dried Peas.

2 lbs.—Mincemeat.

1 Jar—Calf's Foot Jelly

3 Bottles—Sauce.

10 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.—Butter.

4.—Adulteration, etc., Sampling of Food and Drugs.

The Lancashire County Council administer the above and I am indebted to Dr. F. Hall, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following particulars of samples taken within the district.

Milk	6
Pudding Powder	1
Brawn	1
Sausage	1
Bismuth Carbonate	1
Confectionery	1
Coffee	1
Lemonade	1
Beer	1
Semolina	1
Dessert Mould	2
Pudding Mould	2

All samples were genuine, but the samples of Dessert Mould and Table Dessert were found to be unfit for human consumption and the vendors were informed accordingly.

F—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

1.—General.

There were no serious outbreaks of Infectious Disease in the area during the year.

I am pleased to report that the number of cases notified for Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Diphtheria showed a decrease on the previous year. Scarlet Fever cases dropped from 114 to 69, Whooping Cough from 33 to 21 and Diphtheria from 13 to 12. Of the 12 cases of Diphtheria notified only 6 affected children under the age of 15 years, and of this number 3 children had not been immunised.

Measles increased from 128 cases in 1944 to 378, and I regret to say that one death from this disease was recorded.

In view of the number of Small Pox Contacts and cases coming into this Country from foreign ports, contacts coming into this area were kept under surveillance and a sharp look-out kept for fresh cases. Fortunately no further action was required.

2.—Diphtheria Immunisation.

Sessions continued to be held at the Public Health Department as in former years. I am indebted to the Lancashire County Council for the loan of Nurse Allen, whose assistance and help in this work has been most valuable.

During the year 301 pre-school children and 153 children were immunised.

The methods employed for the carrying out of the immunisation have remained the same as set out in my previous reports.

Percentage of Children Immunised.

Working from figures supplied for mid-year 1945 by the Registrar General's office, 50% of children in Age Group 0 to 4 years inclusive, and 59% in Age Group 5 to 14 years inclusive in the Prestwich Area have now been immunised.

Since January, 1941, when the scheme was commenced I have immunised to the end of December, 1945, 3647 children of which 2599 were school age, and I am glad to report there were no serious effects after the injections.

The table given below shows the number of children immunised in the years 1941 to 1945 inclusive.

31st December of the
corresponding
year.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	
0 —	<u>86</u>	65	145	122	155	1048
1 —	159	<u>92</u>	93	90	108	
2 —	149	55	<u>41</u>	7	16	
3 —	145	54	37	<u>6</u>	9	
4 —	138	46	44	5	<u>13</u>	
5 —	127	49	50	6	14	2285
6 —	113	32	50	5	22	
7 —	120	32	58	6	15	
8 —	111	28	41	3	16	
9 —	134	22	43	4	12	
10 —	<u>98</u>	20	64	4	15	
11 —	85	<u>21</u>	47	4	10	
12 —	67	16	<u>16</u>	—	9	314
13 —	59	16	29	<u>5</u>	10	
14 —	15	4	7	—	<u>17</u>	
15 —	2	—	1	—	7	
16 —	—	—	—	—	6	
	1608	552	766	267	454	Grand Total. 3647

From the above table it will be seen that the total inoculated age under 5 years on 31st December, 1945, was 1048.

Total inoculated aged 5-14 years on 31st December, 1945, was 2285.

Total inoculated aged 15 years and over on 31st December, 1945, was 314.

Grand Total 1941-45 ... 3647.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1945.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases of all ages	Total Cases Notified Years												Total from the district	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district	Hospital
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever... ..	69	1		3	4	5	31	13	8	2	1	1	—	48	—	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	12	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	4	1	—	—	9	—	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid).	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Measles (excluding German Measles)...	378	10	29	34	40	64	179	11	8	3	—	—	1	—	—	
Whooping Cough	21	1	4	1	—	5	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Pneumonia														Not Known		
(Primary and Influenzal)...	22	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	5	10	10	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	16	20	38	14	—	—	
Erysipelas	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	6	—	1	—	
Totals	602	13	33	39	45	74	224	27	19	30	24	50	24	11	58	

NOTE :—The following cases are included in the above table :

In County Mental Hospital, Prestwich :—3, Erysipelas, 7, Pneumonia, 89, Dysentery.

3.—Diphtheria Anti-Toxin.

This is issued free of charge to all Medical Practitioners on application.

264,000 Units were issued during the year.

4.—Tuberculosis.

New cases and Mortality during 1945.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	—
20—25	5	5	—	—	—	2	—	—
25—35	6	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	3	3	1	—	1	1	—	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
55—65	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	19	13	3	3	4	5	—	1
	32		6		9		1	

I regret to report a comparatively large increase of 13 in the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified over the previous year the figures being 38 cases against 25 in 1944. The number of deaths however dropped from 12 to 10, those for Pulmonary Tuberculosis being 9 against 10 in 1944 and for Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 1 against 2 in 1944.

The rates are as follows :—

	Per 1,000 of Population.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.27
Other Tubercular Diseases	0.03

No action has been necessary during the year in respect of non-notification of Tuberculosis, or under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

5.—Scabies.

11 cases a drop of 14 from 1944 were reported to the Department the majority of notifications received being from the Manchester Public Health Department in respect of Prestwich residents attending their Hospitals for treatment.

Compulsory notification is not required in this area.

There is no change in facilities and procedure as detailed in previous reports.

6.—Venereal Diseases.

No cases have been notified at the Health Department, and it would appear very few cases occur in this area. 2 Male deaths from Syphilitic diseases were given in the death returns supplied by the Registrar General.

Posters and Notices with warnings and advice are exhibited over the district and are renewed when necessary.

Facilities for treatment are available at the Salford Municipal and Lancashire County Council Clinics.

7.—Pathological and Bacteriological Examination.

Number of specimens examined in 1945 for diagnosis of Infectious Disease by the Public Health Laboratories of Manchester and Salford were as follows :—

Diphtheria—Throat or Nose Swabs	121
Virulence Tests	2
Scarlet Fever—Swabs	2
Tuberculosis—Sputum	16
Dysentery—Faeces	2

8.—Infectious Diseases. Action taken with regard to (a) Contacts (b) Return Cases (c) Carrier Cases.

(a) Contacts excluded from school where necessary and in a few cases from work.

No. of contacts traced :—

Scarlet Fever	43	School	176	Others
Diphtheria	8	School	34	Others

(b) and (c) No action required.

9. Public Health (Small Pox) Prevention Regulations, 1917.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

10. Disinfection.

Disinfection of premises is carried out by formalin spray or formalin vapour.

Infected bedding, and other articles suitable for disinfection by steam are removed and dealt with at the Steam Disinfection Station provided by the Council at the Refuse Disposal Works, Prestwich.

Disinfection is carried out by workmen attached to the Health Department.

Number of Disinfections carried out :—

Rooms	106
Articles of Bedding and Clothing	920
Public Library Books	104
Articles, Bedding and Clothing Destroyed ...	52

At holiday periods the schools in the district are disinfected with formalin and the drains cleansed and disinfected with Chloride of Lime.



