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BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH

Mayor ... Councillor J. SUTCLIFFE, J.P.

INTERIM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER,

• 1946

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

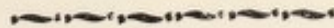
Medical Officer of Health





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ANNUAL REPORT

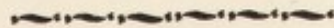
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Medical Officer of Health



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BOROUGH OF PRESTWICH.

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1946-47.

Chairman: Councillor A. E. PIMLOTT.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J. E. HART.

The Mayor: Councillor J. SUTCLIFFE, J.P.

Alderman A. Pimlott	Alderman A. L. Williams.
Councillor C. P. Beardsall.	Councillor L. F. Barrow.
Councillor F. Butterworth.	Councillor J. Chapman.
Councillor R. Cleasby.	Coun. Mrs. V. B. Dickinson.
Councillor C. A. Hyde.	

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. (Returned from active
service with R.A.M.C. 2/1/46).

†G. E. STANLEY, Cert. R.S.I. (to 26/9/46).

†J. ROYLE, Cert. R.S.I. (from 18/11/46).

†Certified Meat and Food Inspectors.

Office Staff:

Mrs. K. BENFELL (Temporary Typist to 6/4/46).

Mrs. F. ROSCOE (Temporary Typist from 10/4/46 to
19/10/46).

Mrs. M. DONALDSON (Temporary Typist from
28/10/46).

Miss E. WILSON (Loaned Central Typing Dept.)

H. DIXON (Junior Clerk. On Active Service since
November, 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 an Interim Annual Report dealing with the Public Health Services in your Area for the Year 1946.

The health of the people has been maintained in spite of the continued unavoidable shortage of fats, and various post war anxieties in their homes. This has probably been balanced by the beneficial effect of a summer of abundant sunshine.

A great amount of work on health problems has also been carried out by all the officials of this Department.

POPULATION.

This was estimated by the Registrar General at 34,130 showing an increase of 1,730 on the previous year.

This being probably due to the combined influx of people from Manchester and Salford as stated in my Annual Report of last year.

BIRTH RATE.

The living birth rate shows an increase on last year viz. 543 against 507.

Still Births show a slight increase on the figure last year viz. 16 against 12.

Contrary to last year the living birth rate showed a slight increase of 36 with the still birth rate of an increase of 4.

The good attendance of mothers at the ante-natal clinic continues to increase, with corresponding good results.

DEATH RATE.

This rate also shows a slight increase per 1,000 of the population viz, 10.7 against 10.5 the previous year.

I beg in conclusion to thank the Chairman and all members of the Health Committee, Mr. F. H. Ashton, Town Clerk and other officials of the Council, for their kind support and advice, Mr. L. T. J. Trippier, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Kellett, Mr. G. E. Stanley and Mr. J. Royle, 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, Lady 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. 1946 ...	34,130.
Census, 1931	23,881.
Density (persons per acre)	14.1
Number of inhabited houses end of 1946	
according to rate books	9,851
Rateable Value	£236,610.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£960.

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

Actual figures as to the extent of unemployment in this area during 1946, are not available, but an estimate puts it at just over 1% of the insured population

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Males		Females		Totals
	(Legitimate	281	...	246	...	527
Live Births	(Illegitimate	10	...	6	...	16
		—		—		—
	Totals	291	...	252	...	543
	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident					
	population	15.9				

		Males		Females		Totals
	(Legitimate	9	...	7	...	16
Still Births	(Illegitimate	—	...	—	...	—
		—		—		—
	Totals	9	...	7	...	16

Rate of still births per 1,000 total births	28.
Deaths	182 ... 186 ... 368
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.7
Deaths from puerperal causes :—	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still).
	Deaths Births
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis nil.	nil.
Other Maternal Causes	nil. nil.
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :—	
All infants per 1,000 live births	34
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	36
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ...	nil.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	63
„ Measles (all ages)	nil.
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil.
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Per 1,000 of estimated population				Maternal mortality rate			Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
	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		
Population 34,130								
Mean of 5 years.								
1941-45	13.7	11.1	0.39	1.68	1.90	1.83	38	
Year 1945	15.6	10.5	0.27	1.38	1.97	1.92	39	
Year 1946	15.9	§10.7	0.29	1.84	nil.	nil.	34	
Increase or decrease								
in 1946 on 5 years'								
average 1941-1945 ...	* 2.2	† 0.4	†0.10	*0.16	†1.90	†1.83	† 4	
Previous years	* 0.3	* 0.2	*0.02	*0.46	†1.97	†1.92	† 5	

§ 1946 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor $\frac{1}{1}$) = $\frac{1}{1}$ per 1,000.

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 1946. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	126C. Bs. and Great England and Wales		148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census		London adm. County		Prestwich
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—							
Live Births	19.1 †...	22.2 ...	21.3 ...	21.5 ...	15.9		
Still Births	0.53†...	0.67 ...	0.59 ...	0.54 ...	0.46		
Deaths :—							
All Causes	11.5 † ..	12.7 ...	11.7 ...	12.7 ...	10.7		
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 ...	0.02 ...	0.02 ...	0.00		
Diphtheria	0.01 ...	0.01 ...	0.01 ...	0.01 ...	0.00		
Influenza	0.15 ...	0.13 ...	0.14 ...	0.12 ...	0.08		
Smallpox	0.00 ..	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	— ...	—		
Measles	0.00 ...	0.01 ...	0.00 ...	0.01 ...	0.00		
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—							
Deaths under 1 Year of Age	43 *...	46 ...	37 ...	41 ...	34		
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 Years of Age	4.4 ...	6.1 ...	2.8 ...	4.2 ...	0.03		

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 ...	0.44
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02 ...	0.02 ...	0.01 ...	0.01 ...	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05 ...	0.05 ...	0.04 ...	0.06 ...	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.38 ...	1.51 ...	1.33 ...	1.42 ...	0.96
Whooping Cough	2.28 ...	2.48 ...	2.05 ...	2.22 ...	0.73
Diphtheria	0.28 ...	0.32 ...	0.31 ...	0.24 ...	0.67
Erysipelas	0.22 ...	0.25 ...	0.22 ...	0.27 ...	0.29
Smallpox	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00
Measles	3.92 ...	4.73 ...	3.70 ...	7.35 ...	2.52
Pneumonia... ..	0.89 ...	1.02 ...	0.74 ...	0.75 ...	0.79

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

(a) Notifications :—

Puerperal Fever... ..	} 8.50 ...	10.35 ...	7.63 ...	(1.60) ...	8.40
Puerperal Pyrexia					
	— ...	—	(†9.60) ...	—

† 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... ..	0.13 ...	0.06 ...	0.18 ...	1.06
Prestwich	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00 ...	0.00

Abortion—Mortality per million women aged 15-45—
England and Wales :—

	No. 140 with Sepsis.	No. 141 without Sepsis.
England and Wales	11 ...	5
Prestwich	0 ...	0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1946.

	Males	Females	Totals
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	8	2	10
Other Tubercular Diseases	0	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	0	1
Influenza	2	1	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0	1	1
Cancer	34	29	63
Diabetes	0	3	3
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	11	25	36
Heart Disease	48	44	92
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	8	17	25
Bronchitis	13	10	23
Pneumonia	6	9	15
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	3	6
Ulcer Stomach Duodenum	1	0	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	1	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	7	8	15
Other Digestive Diseases	6	3	9
Appendicitis	1	0	1
Nephritis	7	8	15
Road Traffic Accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	2	1	3
Other Violence	5	0	5
All other causes	17	18	35
Totals	182	186	368

B—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1)—Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Infectious cases are 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.

(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 5,024 attendances; a weekly average of 107.

Dr. G. J. Wollham and Nurse M. E. Allen 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, the Glenside Nursing 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, 1946, was £2,622 10s. 9d.

49 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 IN 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 1946.

	No. 1946	No. 1945
Middens	17	17
Closets attached to Middens	22	22
Pail Closets	139	139
Fresh Water Closets	10495	10485
Waste Water Closets	42	44
Moveable Dust Bins	10658	10654
Waste Water Closets converted to Fresh Water Closets	2	nil.

- 3.—Gully Cleaning :

During the year 2,620 premises were visited and 5469 gullies cleaned by workmen from the department.

- 4.—Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

Number of Premises visited (including Housing)	2295
Number of Inspections	4283
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	1325
Number of defects or nuisances abated	993
Number Drains Tested by Water... ..	10
Number of Drains Tested by Smoke	35
Number of Drains Tested by Colour	47

- 5.—Number of Notices Served :

(1) Informal Notices	575
(2) Statutory Notices	56

All Statutory Notices except 9 were complied with at the end of the year.

- 6.—Bug Infestation :

12 cases of infestation were dealt with during the year including 2 cases in Council Houses. All cases were abated, 2 early in 1947.

7.—Factories Act, 1937 :

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

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

Outworkers :

4 Lists were received involving 45 visits to premises. In all cases conditions were found to be satisfactory.

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

54 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 the Infestation Order, 1943, control of rodents was actively carried out during the year. The Rodent Operative was employed continuously carrying out investigations, treatments and re-treatments.

During the year the following surface infestations were treated :—

Rats.

(a) Type of Infestation—

Reservoir	3
Major	1
Minor	101

(b) Estimated Kill 1571

(c) Bodies Recovered 237

Mice.

(a) Infestations 33

(b) Estimated Kill 193

(c) Bodies Recovered 137

The "Reservoir" and "Major" Infestations were at the Sewage and Refuse Disposal Works and at certain factory premises in the area. "Reservoir" infestations were reduced to "major" and finally to "minor" infestations. The occupiers of factory premises and shops and stores actively co-operate in all measures for the destruction of rodents. The Ministry of Food (Infestation Division) methods are used in all treatments and there has been close liaison with the Ministry's officials.

During the year in accordance with the Ministry of Food direction order of March, 1944, two Maintenance Treatments of the Council's Sewers were carried out. All the manholes showing "pre-bait" takes during the original treatment in 1945, 115 in number were re-baited. Two treatments were carried out during May and November, the following table shows the work carried out.

	1st Maintenance Treatment.	2nd Maintenance Treatment.
Number of manholes pre-baited ...	148	121
Number of manholes poison baited ...	45	33
Number of "pre-bait" takes expressed as a % of No. of manholes baited	1.3%	0%
Intensity of Infestation	Small	Small
Extent of Infestation	Limited	Limited

From the results obtained, it is clear that the initial treatments of the sewers were successful in reducing the rat population.

D—HOUSING.

1.—General.

Four new houses were erected by the Local Authority during 1946.

The number of houses owned by the Local Authority under the 1919-30 Acts is now 1096.

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 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 1001 applicants at the end of 1946.

This Authority is acutely aware of the shortage of houses and plans have been drawn up for the erection of 208 permanent houses on two sites. Building commenced 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 private building has taken place during 1946.

2.—Overcrowding.

At the beginning of the year there were 3 cases outstanding. A further 16 cases were found during the year giving a total of 19 for attention. 10 of these cases were re-housed by the Council, leaving 9 outstanding at the end of the year.

STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	4
(i) By the Local Authority	4
(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)	4
(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 the Public Health or Housing Acts)	568
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1813
(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 respects reasonably fit for human habitation	175

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 51

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 Nil.

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

(a) By Owners Nil.

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

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 11

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

(a) By Owners 7

(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 ... Nil.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil.

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

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 9*
- (ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... 21
- (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 66½
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 16
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 10
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 72½

*Certain of these cases re-housed early 1947.

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. Inspection of farms, dairies and milk shops is carried out periodically.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-46.

The following Licences were issued.

“Tuberculin Tested Milk.”

(i) Bottling	Nil.
(ii) Distribution	3

“Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk.”

(i) Bottling	Nil.
(ii) Distribution	1

“Accredited Milk.”

(i) Bottling	Nil.
(ii) Distribution	1

“Pasteurised Milk.”

(i) Pasteurising Plants	1
(ii) Distribution	3

Examination of Milk.

44 samples were taken for bacteriological examination of which 19 were found unsatisfactory, the farmers concerned were communicated with and improvement was noted.

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

The nineteen unsatisfactory samples include fifteen taken during investigation of milk from a local pasteurisation plant, groups of samples being taken on the same day. The Department now possesses a N.P.L. (tested) milk thermometer and the pasteurisation plant is checked periodically.

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.

3 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 amount of foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered to the Department and condemned as unfit for human consumption.

426 Tins—Tinned Foodstuffs.
 21 Packets—Pudding Powders.
 7 lbs.—Dried Egg Powders.
 4 Jars—Jam.
 21 lbs.—Flour.
 2½ lbs.—Bacon.
 50 lb.—Rabbits.
 2 Forequarters—Veal.
 3 Forequarters—Lamb.
 2 Ribs—Beef.
 1 Large Clod—Beef.
 6 lbs.—Caulfat.
 1—Beef Shin.
 115 lbs.—Breakfast Oats.
 1—Fowl.
 2½ 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	53
Sultanas	2
Sugar	2
Tea	2
Baking Powder	3
Sauce	3
Mixed Spice	3
Aspirin Tablets	3
Cocoa	3

All these samples were genuine with the exception of 2 milks which were deficient of 3.3 per cent fat and 3 per cent fat respectively. Further samples were obtained from the same source and these were genuine.

5.—Ice Cream.

During the year 15 samples were taken from the manufacturers and retailers of this commodity within the area of the Borough. No legal standard exists from a Bacteriological point of view, the following standard was adopted by the Salford City Pathologist who carried out the various tests.

(a) Coliform Organisms.

.1 m.l.	.05 m.l.	.01 m.l.	.001 m.l.	Classification
Present ...	Present ...	Present ...	Present ...	Unfit
Present ...	Present ...	Present ...	— ...	Doubtful
Present ...	Present ...	— ...	— ...	Just Passable
Present ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	Passable
— ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	Fit

(b) Bacterial Count.

On Yeastral Agar at 37°C for 48 hours, **not** to exceed 100,000 per m.l.

Four of the fifteen samples were passed as "fit," one "passable," two "just passable," one "doubtful," and seven "unfit." As a point of interest the four fit samples were wrapped ice-cream produced on a large scale under factory conditions.

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, Dysentery and Erysipelas showed a decrease on the previous year. Scarlet Fever cases dropped from 69 to 33, Dysentery from 89 to 39 and Erysipelas from 8 to 7. Of the 23 cases of Diphtheria notified only 8 affected children under the age of 15 years, and of this number 5 children had not been immunised.

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 lookout 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 253 pre-school children and 89 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 1946 by the Registrar General's office, 47% of children in Age Group 0 to 4 years inclusive, and 77% 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, 1946, 3989 children of which 2926 were of 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 1946 inclusive.

31st December of the corresponding year.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	
0 —	86	<u>65</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>117</u>)
1 —	159	<u>92</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>91</u>)
2 —	149	55	41	<u>7</u>	16	24)
3 —	145	54	37	6	<u>9</u>	9)
4 —	138	46	44	5	13	<u>12</u>)
5 —	127	49	50	6	14	8)
6 —	113	32	50	5	22	17)
7 —	120	32	58	6	15	9)
8 —	111	28	41	3	16	16)
9 —	<u>134</u>	22	43	4	12	12)
10 —	98	<u>20</u>	64	4	15	11)
11 —	85	21	<u>47</u>	4	10	9)
12 —	67	16	16	<u>—</u>	9	3)
13 —	59	16	29	5	<u>10</u>	3)
14 —	15	4	7	<u>—</u>	17	<u>1</u>)
15 —	2	—	1	<u>—</u>	7	—)
16 —	—	—	—	—	6	—)
	<u>1608</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>766</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>454</u>	<u>342</u>	Grand Total
							3989

From the above table it will be seen that the total inoculated age under 5 years on 31st December, 1946, was 1063.

Total inoculated aged 5—14 years on 31st December, 1946, was 2455.

Total inoculated aged 15 years and over on 31st December, 1946, was 471.

Grand Total 1941—46 3989

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1946.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases of all ages	Under 1	Total Cases Notified Years										65 and over					Total from the Hospital from the district	Total Cases removed to Hospital of persons belonging to district	Deaths in Hospital
			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...	33	—	1	1	3	—	19	7	2	—	—	—	—	20	—	—				
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group) ...	23	—	2	—	—	2	3	1	1	7	—	7	—	23	—	—				
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	7	1	1	—	—				
Measles (excluding German Measles)...	86	4	18	—	21	—	36	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Whooping Cough ...	25	1	10	—	11	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)...	24	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	3	2	6	9	9	Known	Not				
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Dysentery ...	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	17	2	14	—	—	—				
Erysipelas ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—				
Totals ...	257	5	31	1	35	3	62	12	8	24	23	18	35	9	49	—				

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

In County Mental Hospital, Prestwich:—2 Erysipelas, 7 Pneumonia, 39 Dysentery, 14 Enteric.

3.—Diphtheria Anti-Toxin.

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

120,000 Units were issued during the year.

4.—Tuberculosis.

New cases and Mortality during 1946.

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	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
20—25	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45	1	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
45—55	3	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
55—65	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	14	4	2	4	7	—	—	—
	18		6		7	—		

I have to report a comparatively large decrease of 14 in the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified over the previous year the figures being 24 cases against 38 in 1945. The number of deaths dropped from 10 to 7, those for Pulmonary Tuberculosis being 7 against 9 in 1945, and for Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis Nil, against 1 in 1945.

The rates are as follows :—

Per 1,000 of Population.

Other Tubercular Diseases	0.00
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.20

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.

18 cases an increase of 7 from 1945 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.

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 1946 for diagnosis of Infectious Disease by the Public Health Laboratories of Manchester and Salford were as follows :—

Diphtheria—Throat or Nose Swabs	90
Virulence Tests	Nil.
Scarlet Fever—Swabs	Nil.
Tuberculosis—Sputum	22
Dysentery—Faeces	Nil.

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	14	School ...	95	Others
Diphtheria	1	School ...	31	Others

(b) and (c) No action required.

9.—Public Health (Smallpox) 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 Public Health Department.

Number of Disinfections carried out :—

Rooms	127
Articles of Bedding and Clothing	2336
Public Library Books	69
Articles, Bedding and Clothing Destroyed	92

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

