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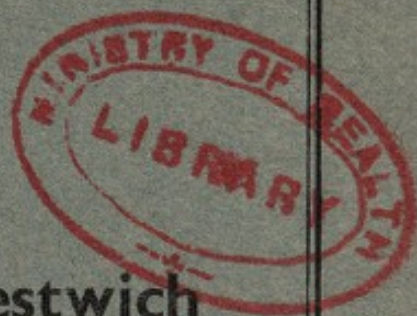
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Urban District of Prestwich

Chairman of the Council : A. NAYLOR, ESQ., J.P.



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended

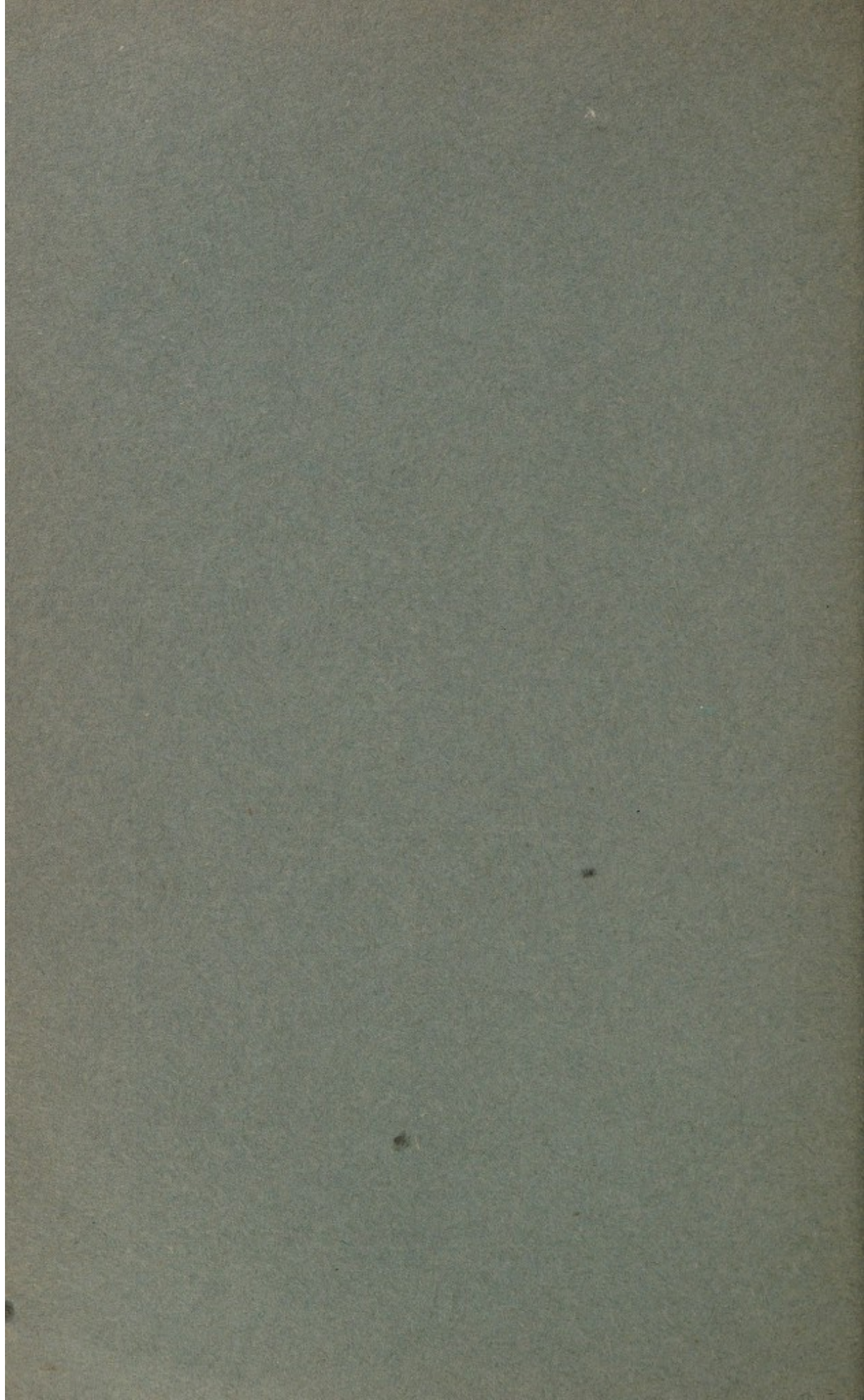
31st December,

1938



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

Medical Officer of Health





Urban District of Prestwich

Chairman of the Council : A. NAYLOR, ESQ., J.P.



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

Medical Officer of Health

Urban District Council of Prestwich

Health Committee, 1938-9.

Councillor S. Turnbull, J.P., *Chairman*.

Councillor Mrs. A. A. Keech, J.P.	Councillor J. Chapman
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Councillor J. D. Crewdson
Councillor W. Butterworth	Councillor A. Naylor, J.P.
Councillor J. Haddow	Councillor A. Pimlott
Councillor G. H. Oversby, C.C.	Councillor C. W. Thompson
Councillor T. Spencer	Councillor W. J. Walsh
Councillor A. Walkden, C.A.	Councillor F. Wilkinson
Councillor J. White	

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. C.A.G.S. 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. BIRCHWOOD, San. Insp. Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods, R.S.I.
To 27th October, 1938.

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.

J. KAY, San. Insp. Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.
From 1st December, 1938.

Clerk in Public Health Department :

G. R. HALLIWELL.

Mortality Statistics

Statistical Summary, 1938.

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

Population—

Registrar-General's Estimate at Mid-Year, 1938	32,410
Census, 1931	23,881

Density—The mean density of the Urban District is equal to 13.4 persons per acre.

Live Births—

Legitimate	212 males	180 females	392
Illegitimate	2 males	8 females	10
Total			402

Annual Rate of Births per 1,000 of the population	12.4
Still Births (Males 8) (Females 13) Total	21
Annual Rate of Still Births per 1,000 total births	49
Deaths (Males 144) (Females 161) Total	305
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	9.4
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.04)	
per 1,000 of the population	9.7
Deaths from Puerperal Causes.	

	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 total births
Puerperal Sepsis	1	2.36
Other Puerperal Causes	1	2.36
Totals	2	4.72

Death rate of infants under One Year of Age:—

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Live Births	40
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Live Births	100
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	42
Deaths from Cancer (All Ages)	50
„ „ Measles (All Ages)	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (All Ages)	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (Under two years of age)	1

PRESTWICH URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

To the Urban Sanitary Authority of Prestwich.

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration the Annual Report for the year 1938, on the Health, Sanitary Condition, and Sanitary Circumstances of the district, together with the vital statistics relative to that period.

The Annual Report for 1938 in the main follows on the lines of previous years; it reviews the progress made during the year in health matters and contains detailed information with regard to the public health services of the Urban District, also the usual vital statistics, records of notifications of infectious diseases, tabulations of sanitary work accomplished, etc.

Notwithstanding the continued economic difficulties there has been a progressive development in many health services. The standard of efficiency of these services has been maintained. The gain to individual health by the thorough administration of communal health services cannot be valued in terms of money.

Prestwich Urban Sanitary Authority stands 384 feet at its highest point above sea level, and is practically an out-

lying residential suburb of Manchester, from which it is about four miles distant. It covers an area of 2,420 acres. A considerable part of the district, including the County Mental Hospital, and Heaton Park stands on coal measures. The remainder is on permian and new red sandstone formations. All these formations are overlaid by superficial deposits, consisting of glacial sand and clay, excepting a small and thinly populated part of the district in the valley of the river Irwell, where the superficial deposits consist of post glacial gravel.

Prestwich Sanitary Authority is one of the largest outlying districts to the north of Manchester, and owing to increasing building operations a good deal of its rural aspect is fast disappearing.

It is one of the healthiest districts north of the City, as is evidenced by its low death rate and the healthy condition of the inhabitants. Consequently it has been noted that a large influx of people from Manchester and Salford environments has taken place during the past few years.

Population.

The estimated population as calculated by the Registrar General up to mid 1938 is 32,410, an increase of 700.

The number of inhabited houses is 9,756, being an increase of 426 on the previous year. The average number of persons per occupied house is 3.3.

The rateable value is £230,377, and a penny rate represents the sum of £902.

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 20, whereas the true approximate figures are not more than 7.4% for Prestwich residents.

The majority of the inhabitants are engaged in business in Manchester and Salford and notwithstanding depressions in trade and the number out of work, 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.

		125 County England Boroughs and Wales Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns, resi- dent popula- tion 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis- trative County	Prestwich
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BIRTHS.

Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	12.4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	0.40

DEATHS.

All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	9.8
Typhoid Paratyphoid Fever	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	—
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	—
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.12
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.12

NOTIFICATIONS.

Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	1.85
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	2.18
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	—
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.25
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	0.65

RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Deaths under 1 year of age ..	53	57	51	57	42
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1	2.36

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	Not Available	{	2.48
Others	2.19			2.48
Total	3.08			4.96

RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (i.e. Live and Still).

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	Not Available	{	2.36
Others	2.11			2.36
Total	2.97			4.72

NOTIFICATIONS.

Puerperal Pyrexia	14.42	18.08	12.51	15.46	18.88
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VITAL STATISTICS.

The births registered during the year numbered 402, a decrease of 57 on the previous year. Of this number 214 were males and 188 were females.

	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION				MATERNITY MORTALITY RATE		Rate of Deaths under one year per 1,000 Live Births
	POPULATION 32,410	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	
Mean of five years, 1933-37		12.1	9.7	0.46	1.38	2.85	49
Year 1937		14.4	9.8	0.37	1.13	6.35	56
Year 1938		12.4	*9.4	0.24	1.54	4.72	42
Increase or decrease in 1938 on 5 years average 1933-37		+0.3	-0.3	-0.22	+0.16	+1.87	-7
Previous year		-2.0	-0.4	-0.13	+0.41	-1.63	-14

*1938 adjusted death rate (comparability factor, 1.04) = 9.7 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 17, compared with 26 in 1937, or a death rate of 42 per 1,000 births. The chief cause of death was premature 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 305, viz:—144 males and 161 females, being a decrease of 7 on the preceding year.

The number of births exceeds the deaths by 118.

Heart disease again heads the list of deaths, viz:—81. Then follows cancer 50. Other circulatory diseases 23. Cerebral Haemorrhage 20.

ANNUAL RATE OF BIRTHS per 1,000 on Registrar General's estimated population	12.4
CRUDE DEATH RATE per 1,000 on Registrar General's estimated population	9.4
ADJUSTED DEATH RATE per 1,000 on Registrar General's estimated population (Areal Comparability factor 1.04)	9.7
MATERNAL DEATH RATE per 1,000 total births	4.72

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths of children under 1 year is 17, or 42 per 1,000 births. The number of deaths under 1 year recorded in 1937 was 26.

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 provide 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, 1938, is £1,016 0s. 9d., against £1,294 1s. 0d., for the year ended 30th September, 1937.

The average cost per patient for year ended 30th September, 1938, is £9 8s. 2d.

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. 3 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.

Birth Rate.

It will be noticed that the number of births for 1938 shows a decrease of 57 on the number for 1937 after a continuous rise for the three previous years.

It is interesting to note that the numbers of young people in this country are already falling and that more changes in the population will occur during the coming years. Statisticians have already forecast that in 100 years' time the population will fall to less than 20,000,000 if the fertility and mortality rates remain unchanged for the next two or three generations. This subject of decline in the birth rate has had much publicity given to it in recent years.

Statistical facts are clear enough. The birth rate has been declining for 50 years but the effect of this on the numbers of the population has been largely offset by a decline in the mortality rate, particularly among infants. The only people who really matter in a population are the women of reproductive age and the reproduction rate is more important than the birth and death rates as it is an index showing whether or not the women of reproductive

age in one generation are producing enough girl babies to reproduce themselves in the next. In 1921 in England and Wales this index was 1.09, by 1938 it had fallen to 0.73, which means that for every 100 potential mothers in this generation there will be only 73 in the next. It stands to reason, therefore, that if the fertility rate does not go up or the mortality rate sink even lower, a quarter of the population will disappear in each succeeding generation. Already the average age of the population is rising, for during the past 15 years there has been a decline of about a million and a half in the child population of Great Britain. The tasks which will face the young people at the end of this century are likely to be terrific for they will not only have to pay for all the vast loans which will have accumulated but they will also have to support a large army of pensioners. The causes of decline are given as war and unsettled conditions, emancipation of women, the lack of deep religious feeling in the community and industrial depression.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

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

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. Powell, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Walsh and Miss McNee who are very interested in this form of work.

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.

There is an average attendance of about 95 mothers and babies at each Centre, making a total weekly attendance of 190.

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.

Maternal Mortality.

Two deaths were recorded during the year from childbirth, making a death-rate of 4.72 per 1,000 total births, against a rate of 6.35 in 1937.

Arrangements for the supply of milk and food are made for necessitous cases by the Lancashire County Council.

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
Medical and Surgical only	Nil	Nil
Maternity only	1	10

CAUSES OF DEATHS, 1938.

Diseases	Males	Females	Totals
Diphtheria	2	2	4
Influenza	2	2	4
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	3	5	8
Other Tubercular Diseases	—	2	2
Cancer	24	26	50
Diabetes	2	5	7
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	9	11	20
Heart Disease	38	43	81
Other Circulatory Diseases	9	14	23
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Pneumonia (All forms)	11	4	15
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
Diarrhoea (under two years) ..	1	—	1
Appendicitis	—	2	2
Other Diseases of the Liver	1	—	1
Other Digestive diseases	5	3	8
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	5	7
Puerperal Sepsis	—	1	1
Other Puerperal diseases	—	1	1

Congenital Debility, Premature

Birth, Malformations, etc.	7	4	11
Senility	4	7	11
Suicide	1	—	1
Other Violence	4	6	10
Other Defined Diseases	11	13	24
Totals	144	161	305

Males Females Totals

Deaths of Infants under one year:—

Legitimate	10	6	16
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Totals	11	6	17

Live Births:—

Legitimate	212	180	392
Illegitimate	2	8	10
Totals	214	188	402

Still Births:—

Legitimate	7	12	19
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Totals	8	13	21

Population 32,410.

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.

A number of complaints were received from residents of the dirty condition of the mains supply of water supplied by the Manchester Corporation and the Irwell Valley Water Board, as a result of which 13 samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, duplicate samples being taken by representatives of the water authorities concerned. Of these samples 7 were good, 3 bad and 3 fair. The Authorities concerned were communicated with and they informed me that the low state of the reservoirs due to the drought experienced during the early part of the year was responsible for silt entering the mains. Everything possible was done to minimise the nuisance, and with the return of normal rainfall the grounds for complaint entirely disappeared.

During the year the mains were extended to all new property on housing estates and to seven dwelling-houses and one dairy farm in the Simister area, which were previously supplied by wells.

There are still two dwelling-houses, 2 dairy farms and 2 piggeries which obtain their supply from wells, springs, etc. Twenty-one samples were taken from these sources during the year and on examination 9 were found to be good; 4 fair, and 8 bad. I am hoping the mains will be further extended during the coming year to include these premises.

Rivers and streams.

These have received special attention during the year and have been kept clear of accumulations 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.

Sanitary Improvements.

A mains supply of water has been connected up to one dairy farm; a row of five cottages; and two cottages in connection with piggeries.

On rat infestation being reported in a row of 13 shops in Bury Old Road, a County Main Road, investigations were made and the source of infestation traced to an old disused culvert running under the footpath in front of the shops. The matter was immediately taken up with the Council's Surveyor, in consequence of which the whole length of the culvert (233 yds.) was abolished and filled in at a cost of £220. The shop premises were made rat proof by the owners, rat holes, etc., made good, and since this work was completed no further complaints have been received.

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 is at present in course of preparation for the carrying out of this work.

Closet Accommodation at the end of 1938.

- Number of Middens 18. 20 in 1937.
- Number of Closets attached to Middens 26. 31 in 1937.
- Number of Pail Closets 145. 154 in 1937.
- Number of Fresh Water-closets 10,290. 9,963 in 1937.
- Number of Waste Water-closets 135.
- Number of Dry Ash-pits nil. Nil in 1937.
- Number of Movable Ash-bins 10,449. 10,127 in 1937.
- Number of Waste Water-closets converted to Fresh Water-closets 2. 10 in 1937.
- Number of Houses at which Moveable Ash-bins have been substituted for fixed receptacles 5.

A further survey of the waste water closets in the district was made during the year in connection with the Council's Scheme for contributing to the cost of conversion under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, when it was found that there were 137 such closets in existence. Two of these were converted to fresh water closets, leaving a total of 135 at the end of the year.

The Council's Scheme is now complete and will be submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval early in the coming year, after which I anticipate a rapid reduction of the number of these closets.

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 1938, 6,634 premises were visited and 10,638 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 local authority carry out weekly collection of refuse 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.

Sanitary Inspections during the year numbered	893
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	2,064
Number of defects or nuisances abated	1,809
Number of informal notices served	701
Number of Statutory notices served	52

Smoke Nuisances.

The number of observations made was 25. 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.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

During the year a number of cases of rat infestation have been reported on private premises, which has necessitated a large amount of work being carried out for the extermination of such rodents and the making of premises rat proof. In one case the source of infestation was an old disused culvert running under the footpath in front of a row of shops; the culvert was abolished by the Council and the existing rat holes filled in. Since this work has been carried out no further complaints have been received.

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. Sixteen 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	1,088
No. of Rats caught and destroyed during National Rat Week	67
No. of Rats tails received by the Health Department during the year	395

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 Business.

There are fifteen 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. 12 inspections have been made during the year and particular attention has been paid to cleanliness.

Schools.

At each holiday period during the year the undermentioned 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.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the district at present. The Council have in recent years had schemes for the provision of public swimming baths under consideration but these have all been deferred for the time being.

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 the chief type of house has been the semi-detached, containing three bedrooms, bath, inside W.C., and sufficient accommodation for the proper storage of food. These houses have gardens back and front surrounded by low privet or paling fence.

Private enterprise has not been lacking, a fact much appreciated. A large number of private-enterprise houses are being purchased and occupied by persons from outside the district. The "mortgage occupier-owner" system prevails, thus leaving the much needed class of property for the working class population to be provided for by the Local Authority.

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 9,756. The number of persons or separate occupiers averages about 3.3 per house.

The population at the 1931 census was 23,881 and the Registrar General's estimated population for 1938 is 32,410.

Number of houses owned by Local Authority.

1919 Act	377
1923 Act	288
1924 Act	372
1930 Act	43
	<hr/>
	1,080
	<hr/>

Number of Houses Erected During the Year.

	Houses
(a) TOTAL—including numbers given separately under (b)	322
(1) By Local Authority	—
(2) By other Local Authorities	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	322
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(1) By Local Authority	—
(2) By other bodies or persons	—

Number of Houses Demolished During the Year.

Five houses were demolished during the year.

Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions (Amendment) Act 1933, and Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1938.

During the year the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1938, came into operation. It provided for the registration of all houses between the Rateable Values of £13 and £20, claimed by the owner to have become decontrolled prior to the 26th May, 1938. The Act also provided that the register of Class "C" houses i.e. houses with a rateable value of less than £13 should be closed on the 26th August, 1938.

The following is a summary of the work carried out under the Acts.

No. of Lower Class "B" houses registered	325
No. of late applications received during year for registration of Class "C" houses	5
Total No. of Class "C" houses registered	438
No. of registration certificates issued—	
(Class "C" houses)	6
(Lower Class "B")	32
No. of certificates issued with regard to state of repair	—

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Dairies.

There are 120 persons registered under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922—Milk and Dairies Order,

1926. This number comprises 7 cowkeepers, 52 dairymen or retail roundsmen, 61 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 11 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination :—

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Result of Examination.

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	
							10 c.c.	0.1 c.c.	0.01 c.c.	0.01 c.c.	1.0 c.c.
11	6	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	8	—

PRESENCE OF T.B. INNOCULATION TEST.

	No. of samples Submitted.	T.B. not found	T.B. found.
Milk	10	9	1

In addition to the above eight samples, all 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. Two cows were dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, and a 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	5
Accredited Milk Licences Bottling	1
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 Mental 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 limewashed periodically in accordance with the Council's bye-laws.

No inspection of carcasses has been carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors at the County Mental Hospital since 11th November, 1934.

The inspections ceased as the result of a communication from the Medical Superintendent, stating that the facilities (previously obtaining) for the inspection of carcasses could no longer be continued, which coincided with a date when the sale of offals to a tripe dresser was also discontinued.

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

No. of inspections	419
No. of notices received	104
No. of Beasts slaughtered	115
No. of Calves slaughtered	6
No. of Sheep and Lambs slaughtered	1,219
No. of Pigs slaughtered	37

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 1937.

No. of Seizures	Cause of Seizure	Approx. Weight in lbs.
37	Tuberculosis	1,447
21	Distomatosis	188
1	Echinococcus Cysts	10
9	Cirrhosis	44
1	Emphysema	15
1	Haematoma	5
5	Strongylosis	36
4	Abscesses	36
2	Congestion	9
1	Inflammation due to Wounds	100
4	Pneumonia	20
1	Johnes Disease	35
1	Pleurisy	10
3	Pentastomum	34
1	Rotation	3
<hr/>		<hr/>
92		1,992
<hr/>		<hr/>

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	115	—	6	1219	37
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	34	—	—	4	9
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	29.8%	—	—	.41%	24.3%

Tuberculosis Only :—

Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	12	—	—	—	11
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis	11.3%	—	—	—	29.7%

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.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

The Act is administered by the County Police Authorities, and I am indebted to Superintendent Hogg who has kindly furnished the following particulars and results obtained of food, etc., purchased by the Inspectors within this district and submitted for analysis to the County Analyst.

Milk	...	...	37	Damson Jam	...	...	1
Self Raising Flour	...	...	1	Lard	...	...	1
Gravy Browning	...	...	1	Tapioca	...	...	1
Ground Almonds	...	...	1	Vinegar	...	...	1
Mixed Pickles	...	...	1				

All samples were found to be genuine with the exception of one milk sample which was found to be 10% deficient in fat, on further samples being taken from this vendor, same were found to be 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.

Statistics.

No. of Complaints	893
„ „ Statutory Notices	52
„ „ Petroleum Licences Granted	24
„ „ Cellulose Solutions Licences Granted	4
„ „ Carbide of Calcium Licences Granted	Nil
„ „ Game Licences Granted	4
„ „ Pawnbrokers Licences Granted	1
„ „ Tuberculin Tested Milk Licences Granted ...	5
„ „ Accredited Milk Licences Granted	4
„ „ Licences in respect of pasteurising plant ...	1
„ „ Pasteurised Milk Licences Granted	2

Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium.

The number of licences to “keep” issued in respect of petroleum spirit was 24, being an increase of 1 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.

Tramcar Licences.

Omnibuses have now been substituted for tramcars on all routes within the district and, therefore, no licences were issued for Tramcars, Tramcar Drivers, or Conductors.

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

During the year 205 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.

One hundred and forty-six 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.

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

Servants Registry Offices.

There are two on the register, which are controlled under the bye-laws, and they appear to be made very little use of. The establishment of the Employment Exchange appears to have largely put them out of use.

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 ten occasions for the reception of bodies. Of these

9 were removed there for post-mortem examination and 1 as the result of a case of suicide.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

and Factories Act, 1937.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories, including Factory Laundries...	86	8	—
Workshop, including Workshop Laundries	7	—	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises)	—	—	—
Total	93	8	—

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

Particulars	Number of defects			Number of Prosecutions
	ound	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
*Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:				
Want of Cleanliness	7	7	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation:				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)	—	—	—	—
Breach of Special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (S.S. 97 to 100)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	1	1	—	—
Total	9	9	—	—

*Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Number of Premises on the Registers.

No. of Factories	19
„ „ Workshops and Workplaces	49
„ „ Lists of Out-Workers (Twice a year)—	
Sent out	2
Received	3

The Workshops and Workplaces 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 eleven visits have been made to outworkers premises, in order to ensure that the lighting and ventilation was adequate and the premises were suitable.

Serious complaints were received from residents in the district regarding the emission of fumes and lead particles from factories in the Swinton area.

- (1) Elektron Magnesium Works, Clifton Junction (Process of manufacturing magnesium metal).

Complaint of Chlorine fumes and humming noise from the above mentioned works.

Members of the Health Committee visited on several occasions and interviewed the Manager who assured them that everything possible was being done to remedy the complaint.

- (2) Chloride Works, Clifton.

On investigation lead deposits containing Arsenic were found on foliage, grassland, wheat, barley and potato crops at farms in the Prestwich and Whitefield areas. As a result of pressure being brought to bear on the owners, use of the plant where lead was extracted from disused electrical batteries was discontinued and the matter left in the hands of the Swinton Health Authorities and the Factory Inspector to approve of the proposed new plant before recommencing that type of work.

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 adequate means of escape in case of fire were provided for the employees.

Factory owners have been communicated with giving details of additional requirements and a large amount of work has been carried out by them in altering and extending the existing facilities to meet the new requirements.

Conservancy System.

No. of Privies abolished	5
„ „ Middens attached to Privies abolished	2
„ „ Privies converted to Pail Closets	—
„ „ Ash-bins provided in lieu of Middens	2
„ „ Ash-bins provided in lieu of Ash-pits	—
„ „ Ash-bins provided to new houses	322
„ „ Privies existing in the district	26
„ „ Middens attached to privies existing in the district	18
„ „ Pail Closets existing in the district	145
„ „ Ash-bins existing in the district	10,449
„ „ Ash-pits existing in the district	Nil

Three pail closets were abolished when the dwelling-houses 2, 4, 6 Catty Green were demolished.

Water Carriage System.

No. of Fresh Water-closets provided in lieu of Privies	3
„ „ Waste Water-closets converted to Fresh Water-closets	2
„ „ Waste Water-closets existing in the district	135
„ „ Fresh Water-closets existing in the district	10,290

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

General Inspections.

No. of Inspections of Dwellings	1,172
„ „ Nuisances found to exist	2,064
„ „ Re-inspection of nuisances in process of abatement	2,026
„ „ Water Tests applied to drains	52
„ „ Smoke Tests applied to drains	413
„ „ Colour Tests applied to drains	28
„ „ Shops Inspections	205
„ „ Houses Inspected prior to occupants being given the tenancy of a Council house	178
„ „ Houses measured to ascertain “permitted” number	111
„ „ Schools Fumigated	49
„ „ Inspections re cases of infectious disease ...	165
„ „ Stables and Piggeries inspections	15
„ „ Meat Shops, etc., inspections	53
„ „ Slaughter-houses inspections	446
„ „ Inspections of Fried Fish and Chip Shops	12
„ „ Bakehouse inspections	23

Nuisances Abated.

No. of defective roofs of houses repaired	47
„ „ bulging external walls of houses	4
„ „ fractured walls of houses	19
„ „ cases of dampness of internal walls remedied	30
„ „ „ „ defective wall plaster remedied	89
„ „ „ „ „ ceiling plaster remedied ...	59
„ „ defective kitchen ranges repaired or renewed	19
„ „ „ „ cooking ovens repaired or renewed	12

„ „ „ firebottoms and/or firebacks re- paired or renewed	24
„ „ „ chimney flues repaired	4
„ „ „ skirting boards made good	4
„ „ „ wooden floors made good	26
„ „ „ flag floors made good	36
„ „ broken window cords renewed	39
„ „ defective window and door catches repaired	32
„ „ cases of broken window glazing	39
„ „ „ defective putty pointing to windows ...	5
„ „ „ „ window woodwork	30
„ „ „ „ woodwork of doors and door frames	31
„ „ „ insufficient opening window space remedied	28
„ „ defective kitchen sinks renewed	13
„ „ „ or untrapped sink waste pipes renewed	61
„ „ „ water taps repaired	8
„ „ burst water pipes repaired	11
„ „ handrails provided to staircases	24
„ „ handrails provided to cellar steps	27
„ „ defective washing boilers renewed	14
„ „ „ wash bowls renewed	5
„ „ „ and dangerous steps	7
„ „ cases of defective brickwork or brickwork pointing	37
„ „ defective and dangerous boundary walls and coping stones	13
„ „ defective and dangerous chimney stacks and pots made good	9
„ „ defective yard gates repaired or renewed ...	7
„ „ „ path or yard surfaces made good ...	26
„ „ „ or choked eaves gutters made good	21

„ „ rainwater pipes made to discharge over trapped gullies	32
„ „ defective rainwater pipes, soilpipes, etc., made good	35
„ „ „ gullies (R.W.P.; sink waste; bath waste, etc.) renewed	55
„ „ cases of absence of or badly fitting dishstones to gullies	11
„ „ general defects to W.C. outbuildings repaired	19
„ „ defective or choked water closet pedestals ...	19
„ „ additional water closets installed in houses	2
„ „ defective water closet cisterns or flushing apparatus made good	31
„ „ privies converted to fresh water closets	3
„ „ waste water closets converted to fresh water closets	2
„ „ defective private drains made good	100
„ „ defective combined drains made good	7
„ „ choked private drains cleansed	79
„ „ „ combined drains cleansed	13
„ „ „ inspection chambers to private drains	31
„ „ „ inspection chambers to combined drains	8
„ „ defective covers and frames to inspection chambers	30
„ „ cases of defective brickwork to inspection chambers	12
„ „ stoppers missing from raking arms of inter- ceptor traps	35
„ „ defective ash-receptacles renewed	306
„ „ accumulations of waste materials on vacant land	20
„ „ infestations of rats	19
„ „ „ „ bugs	20

„ „ „ „ other vermin	7
„ „ miscellaneous housing defects	20
„ „ miscellaneous other defects	33
	<hr/>
	1,809
	<hr/>

The cost of the work carried out by the Health Committee in default of compliance of notices under the Public Health and Housing Acts amounted to £23 17s. 10d.

STATISTICS, 1924-1938.

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

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Privies	118	97	83	66	61	60	53	51	45	45	44	43	34	31	26
Middens attached ...	85	73	61	49	46	45	38	36	32	32	31	30	22	20	18
Pail-closets	111	115	125	124	124	123	126	130	135	135	135	134	155	154	145
Fresh Water-closets .	5137	5329	5554	5775	5957	6253	6496	6787	7180	7430	8300	8945	9499	9963	10290
Waste Water-closets .	217	214	211	211	210	209	209	203	190	185	185	173	170	130	135
Ash-pits	539	528	512	473	442	388	373	356	217	97	93	73	10	—	—
Ash-bins	3440	3651	3899	4162	4379	4718	4986	5291	5910	6319	7451	7810	9653	10127	10449

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)	126
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	579
(2) (a) Number of houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	12
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	42
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	12
(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	114

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	75
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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 | 4 |
| (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 | — |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | — |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices: | |
| (a) By Owners | — |
| (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 | 16 |
| (2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders | 5 |

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	11
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	11
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	81
(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	2
(2) Occupiers removed to larger privately owned houses	—
(3) Lodgers or members of family left overcrowded house	2
	—
	4
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases:	
(1) Rehoused by Council	15
(2) Occupiers removed to larger privately owned houses	—
(3) Lodgers or members of family left overcrowded house	13
	—
	28

Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

During the year 111 dwelling-houses were measured for the purpose of ascertaining the “permitted number” of persons allowed to occupy them, and 88 certificates were issued.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year 20 cases of Bug Infestation were reported to this department, 3 cases in Council Houses, and 17 cases in privately owned houses.

The three Council Houses were fumigated under contract by a firm using their own preparation, the nature of which is not revealed. Fifteen privately owned houses were also fumigated by this firm, while one privately owned house was thoroughly cleansed by the tenant.

In only two cases was the first fumigation not entirely successful.

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.

178 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.

Other Vermin.

Cricket Infestation.

Complaints were received from residents of houses in Middleton Road, Prestwich, on the Middleton Boundary relative to an infestation of crickets from a tip in the Middleton area, and controlled by the Middleton Corporation. Investigations were carried out and joint action taken by

the two Authorities concerned. The paths round the houses in the Prestwich Area were sprinkled with Chloride of Lime and the interiors sprayed with Zaldecide; whilst the tip was covered with Lime and sprayed with Zaldecide, Creosote and Ammoniacal Liquor. This treatment was effective.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

H. C. BURBIDGE, M.B., L.R.C.P. & S.	Medical Officer of Health. (Part Time).
L. T. J. TRIPPIER, Cert. R.S.I., and S.I.E.J.B. Cert. Insp. Meat and Food (R.S.I. Cert.), N.R.P. Cert., C.A.G.S. Cert.	Chief Sanitary Inspector, Petroleum, Hackney Carriage and Shops Inspector, also Authorised Officer, Rent Restrictions Acts. Air Raid Precautions Officer (Whole Time).
H. BIRCHWOOD, Cert. R.S.I., and S.I.E.J.B., Cert. Insp. Meat and Food (R.S.I. Cert.). until 27th October, 1938.	Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Shops Inspector. (Whole Time).
H. KELLETT, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B. Cert. Insp. Meat and Food (R.S.I. Cert.). Cert. Smoke Inspector (R.S.I. Cert.).	Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Shops Inspector. (Whole Time).

J. KAY, Additional Sanitary Inspector
 Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B. and Assistant Shops Inspector.
 (Whole Time).
 from 1st December, 1938.

G. R. HALLIWELL. Clerk in Health Department.
 (Whole Time).

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

During the year there were 63 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, a decrease of 7 on the previous year.

There were 73 cases of Diphtheria notified, an increase 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 decreased from 46 to 22, this number includes Mental Hospital cases. The number of deaths was 7.

Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during the Year ended December 31st, 1938.

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	63	52	67	—	—
Diphtheria	70	67	72	—	—
Pneumonia	19	—	—	3	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	2	—
Erysipelas	6	—	6	2	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	6	9	—	—
Pneumococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	167	125	154	7	—

Cases notified in the District	167
Cases notified in the County Mental Hospital ...	7
	<hr/>
Total ...	174
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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.

271,000 units were supplied during the year.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

Number of specimens examined in 1938 by the Public Health Department, Salford, and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Diphtheria—Throat or Nose Swabs	365
Virulence Tests	3
Tuberculosis—Sputum	21
Others—Agglutination Tests	2
Haemolytic Streptocci	1

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—34 School Contacts—173 Others.

Diphtheria—73 School Contacts—203 Others.

(b) Nil.

(c) One carrier case of Diphtheria notified.

Patient isolated at home and swabs frequently taken.

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 disinfector provided by the Council.

The number of disinfections carried out were as follows:

Rooms	173
Articles of bedding and clothing	1,841
Public Library Books	222
Articles of bedding and clothing destroyed	90

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, 1938

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases of all Ages	Under 1	Total Cases Notified Years										65 and over	Total Deaths 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	63	1	2	3	4	2	30	12	4	4	—	—	52	1	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup) ...	70	—	1	3	6	7	23	18	5	4	2	2	67	3	—
Acute primary pneumonia & acute influenzal pneumonia	22	—	2	—	—	2	3	1	1	2	3	7	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	6	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—
Totals.....	174	1	5	6	10	11	56	31	10	18	10	14	125	11	4

*All in County Mental Hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality During 1938.

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	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	1	2	1	2	—	2	—	—
25—35	4	4	—	1	—	1	—	1
35—45	4	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
45—55	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	1
55—65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	14	13	2	5	3	5	—	2
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	27		7		8		2	

During 1938, there was an increase of 2 on the previous year in the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified.

Notification of Tuberculosis in the district is effectively carried out by the Medical Practitioners, although in one instance a case was not notified until after it had appeared in the Weekly Death Return supplied by the Local Registrar.

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 8 against 17 in 1937.

The number of deaths from other Tubercular affections is 2 against 2 in 1937.

The rates are as follows:—

	Per 1,000 of population.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.2464
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	0.0616

If taken together as tubercular affections we have 10 deaths or a rate of 0.308 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—Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases have been notified during the year.

In conclusion I beg to thank the Council, the various Committees for the support given to the Health Officials; Mr. Ashton and Mr. Kay for their helpful advice; Mr. Trippier, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the enormous amount of work put in during the year; Mr. Birchwood and Mr. Kellett, Additional Sanitary Inspectors for their wholesale support and finally Mr. Halliwell, Clerk in the Health Department.

HENRY C. BURBIDGE,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
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Prestwich.

June, 1939.



