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BOROUGH OF RADCLIFFE

Mayor

ALDERMAN MRS. F. WRIGHT, J.P.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR 1951

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

W. S. HAYDOCK, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.



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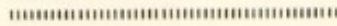
ANNUAL REPORT
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W. S. HAYDOCK, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Members **Health Committee.** *Officers*

1951—52



Chairman : ALDERMAN H. T. OGDEN, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR

MRS. E. SMITH.



ALDERMAN R. BRADBURY.

„ W. METCALFE.

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„ MRS. F. WRIGHT.

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„ T. SYKES.

„ H. S. WEST.

„ H. WHITTLE.

THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY-MAYOR (ex-officio).

Officers of the Health Department.

22-1281

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Medical Officer of Health :

W. STANLEY HAYDOCK, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

GEORGE YATES, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

WILFRED L. MONKS, M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.

Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Clerks.

MISS N. FLETCHER to 30.9.51.

MRS. E. PARTINGTON from 22.10.51.

THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY-MAYOR (see other)

TOWN HALL, RADCLIFFE.

September, 1952.

To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND BURGESSES OF THE
BOROUGH OF RADCLIFFE.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1951.

I retired from the office of Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Radcliffe in December 1951, and this therefore will be my last Annual Report.

When I took over my duties in 1926 I was fortunate in coming to a Local Authority keen to progress and fully realizing their responsibilities in matters of health: my predecessor Dr. J. M. Gibson was the first whole time M.O.H. of the Town and his appointment in 1923 was a happy choice on the part of the Council of that time. Though he held office for less than 3 years his foresight and the spade work he did during this period, made easier the development of the M.C.W. and School Medical Services, and with improvements and extensions as opportunity arose, and the addition of new services from time to time, the result was that when the County Council became responsible for the School Medical Services and the N.H. Act came into force in 1948, Radcliffe had comprehensive Health and School Medical Services which dealt, as far as a Municipal Borough had the power to do so, with all matters connected with the health and well being of the people.

Whilst the population has only increased by about 2,500 since 1919—and this increase is almost entirely due to the Boundary extensions in 1933—the number of houses in the Town has risen from 6,100 in 1919 to 9,374 at the end of 1951. One might think from these figures that the housing problem is nearing solution, but in spite of the large number of houses built between the wars, and since 1946, the waiting lists for Council houses are as long as ever and the demand is greatly in excess of the supply.

Young people to-day are not content to settle down in old houses in poor repair and living perhaps with relations or in-laws, and it is not unreasonable for them to expect a home of their own with at least ordinary conveniences such as a bath, hot water and a gas or electric cooker.

A large number of old houses are being neglected and falling into disrepair and it is difficult to get the owners of this type of property to maintain them in a reasonable sanitary condition.

The provision of sufficient modern houses and the abatement of overcrowding are most important factors in ensuing a healthy, happy and contented population.

Radcliffe is situated in an industrialised part of Lancashire and especially in the winter the town and its immediate surroundings are dreary and unattractive. The work done by the Parks Department in laying out Flower Beds in corners of the Town and the setting out and planting of derelict spaces such as the "Sandbank"—in addition to the work done in the Parks—have all added brightness to what one must admit is not a very colourful town, and there is no doubt these gay patches have at least some psychological effect and act as tonics on the many people who are compelled to live amongst the grimy and soot smeared walls of houses and other buildings in the Borough.

I have on many occasions referred to the nuisance and ill health caused by the pollution of the air by smoke and fumes : I regret that there has been no real improvement during the past few years and the folk in Radcliffe are still forced to live in an atmosphere which is responsible for much avoidable and unnecessary sickness.

The health of the community generally has been satisfactory and with the exception of measles there has been no unusual incidence of any of the notifiable infectious diseases.

It will be seen from the statistical figures in the report that the Birth Rate has again fallen and is now almost as low as it was before the war. Both the general death rate and the infant mortality rate are higher than in 1950. There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Two Blood Transfusion sessions were held during the year and were attended by 145 donors.

In submitting this, my last official Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health, I would like to pay tribute to, and to thank the many people in the Borough who have supported and helped me, the Members of the Council, the Officials of other departments, the staff of the Health Department and the General Practitioners in the Town to whom I owe much for their constant assistance and willing co-operation during the past 25 years.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. S. HAYDOCK.

Borough of Radcliffe.

A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	4,915
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population, 1951	27,580
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1951) according to Rate Book	9,374
Rateable Value	£167,500
Sum represented by a penny rate	£670

Vital Statistics.

Live Births.	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	191	171	362
Illegitimate	8	11	19
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	199	182	381
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

13.8

Still Births

4 6 10

Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births

26

Deaths

221 228 449

Crude death rate per 1,000 of resident population

16.3

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other Maternal Cases	Nil.	Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	45
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	44
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	52

Neo-natal mortality :—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	11
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	29

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	59
„ Measles (all ages)	1
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1

Deaths according to Wards :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ainsworth	25	14	39
Black Lane	65	72	137
Radcliffe Bridge	38	47	85
Radcliffe Hall	50	38	88
Stand Lane	43	57	100
	<hr/> 221	<hr/> 228	<hr/> 449

Mean Rates for the past 30 years :—

Mean Rate of 5 years	Per 1000 of Population				Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births	Rate of Death under 1 year to 1000 Births
	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer		
1920 to 1924	17.9	13.4	0.66	not available	3.5	94
1925 to 1929	13.4	13.3	0.56	„	4.9	60
1930 to 1934	13.2	13.1	0.66	1.53	2.96	51
1935 to 1939	12.5	13.7	0.42	1.89	4.7	58.7
1940 to 1944	15.6	14.4	0.34	1.93	2.9	51.7
1945 to 1949	17.8	14.2	0.22	2.27	0.42	43
1950	14.8	16.1	0.14	2.63	Nil.	39
1951	13.8	16.3	0.11	2.13	Nil.	45

The causes of death are as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	2
Measles	1
Cancer	59
Leukaemia	4
Diabetes	7
Cerebral Haemorrhage	49
Coronary Disease, Angina	39
Other Heart Disease	144
Influenza	12
Pneumonia	15
Bronchitis	32
Other Respiratory Diseases	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2
Gastro Enteritis	2
Nephritis	7
Accidents	13
Suicide	8
Other Infant Deaths	5
All other causes	44
	449

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Specimens are sent for examinations to the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall Hospital.

The number of specimens examined and the results are as follows :—

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
Swabs from suspected Diphtheria cases and contacts	97	Nil.	97
Milk for presence of Tuberculosis	8	Nil.	8
Other specimens	286	103	183

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply for the greater portion of the area is under the control of the Irwell Valley Water Board and is derived partly from deep wells and partly from water sheds.

Ainsworth is supplied with water from the Bolton Corporation Water Board.

Mr. R. Wyllie, A.M.Inst. C.E., A.M.Inst. M.&CY.E., M.I.W.E. M.R. San.I., the Engineer and Manager, has kindly given me the following particulars with regard to the Irwell Valley Water Board :—

1. 135 bacteriological and 30 chemical examinations were made of the water going into supply and found satisfactory.
2. The water is lime-treated ; 135 plumbo-solvency tests were made. Results mainly satisfactory.
3. All waters are chlorinated.

Mr. H. R. Davenport, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., the Engineer and Manager of the Bolton Corporation Water Works has also kindly given me the following particulars with regard to Ainsworth :—

1. The water supplied to that part of the Borough of Radcliffe which is in the area of supply of the Bolton Corporation Waterworks Undertaking was satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity. The new water service tank at Ainsworth, together with associated new water mains, has been completed and an ample supply is now available in this area.
2. The supply was from the Dingle slow sand filters, 12 samples of which were subjected to a full chemical analysis and 48 samples to bacteriological examination by the Borough Analyst, the results showed that general filtration and treatment of the raw water were necessary, and that the filtered and treated water was of excellent quality, B. Coli being absent in almost all cases in 100 ML. All water is treated before passing into supply.
3. From tests made weekly the water was shown to have no plumbo-solvent action.
4. No action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination.
5. During the year 948 yards of 6-inch diameter water mains were laid within the area.

There are only 10 dwelling houses—all in outlying districts—not on the main supply, and there are no houses dependent on stand pipes.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

In compliance with the Sanitary Officers' Order the following is a summary of the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1951 :—

(a) Number of inspections made during the year :—	
Inspections of houses, etc., including re-inspections	1489
Number of cases of infectious diseases reported upon	67
Number of houses disinfected	124
Number of drains tested (by smoke)	8
Number of samples of milk obtained for bacteriological examinations	18
(b) Number of Notices served :—	
(1) Informal Notices	143
(2) Statutory Notices	28

(c) Compliance with Statutory Notices :—

All the Statutory Notices except one were complied with. In this case a court order was obtained and the work done.

Three houses were found to be infested with bugs, and were suitably dealt with.

The preparation used was D.D.T. All the work was carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Financial assistance has been given for the conversion of privies to fresh water closets since 1921, and a corresponding grant was sanctioned in May, 1938, for the conversion of waste water closets. With few exceptions the privies and pail closets that were within access to sewers and the main water supply had been dealt with before the outbreak of war, and steady progress was being made with the waste water closets when war brought this work to a standstill.

The following table shows the closet and ashpit accommodation at the end of 1920, and 1926, also at the end of each of the past four years, and demonstrates the conversions and additions made since the scheme came into operation in October, 1921.

	*1920	1926	1948	1949	1950	1951
Privies	1883	297	176	172	171	170
Pail Closets	260	272	236	228	228	228
Fresh Water Closets	2635	4979	8583	8671	8788	8898
Waste Water Closets	1642	1614	1074	1050	1033	975
Wet Ashpits	1011	173	120	118	117	116
Dry Ashpits	909	808	288	285	284	284
Ashbins	1849	4289	8457	8523	8625	8735

* The figures for 1920 do not include the districts of Outwood and Ainsworth, which were added to the Borough in 1933.

HOUSING.

Statistics.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(i) By the Local Authority	56
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil.
(iii) By other bodies and persons	3

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(i) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	389
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	603
(ii) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1932	2
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	4
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(iv) 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	143

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

136

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(ii) 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.
(iii) No. of dwelling-houses demolished	Nil.

The problem of the rapid deterioration of the sub-standard house is still with us, and this class of house will have to be dealt with in the very near future. The rapid building of new houses appears to be the only solution.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	20	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	192	78	—	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	2	—	—
TOTAL	219	100	—	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found :

PARTICULARS.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Re- medied.	Referred To H.M. In- spectors.	By H.M. In- spectors.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient (S.7.)	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	14	14	—	10	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	15	15	—	11	—

Outworkers.**Section 110.**

Number of out-workers in August list required by Sect.
110 (1) (c) 6

Nature of work carried out by out-workers—Making of
Wearing Apparel 6

Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council— Nil.

Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists Nil.

Section 111.

Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises Nil.

Notices served Nil.

Prosecutions Nil.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The war-time measure of centralised killing has resulted in the cessation of the use of the local slaughter-houses, all the meat coming from Bury. Food premises are visited as normal routine, advice is given and recommendations made resulting in improvements being carried out.

At the end of 1951 there were on the register 94 dairymen or distributors of milk.

The following licences have been issued :—

Retail distributor of Pasteurised milk	17
Retail distributor of Tuberculin Tested milk	17
Retail distributor of Accredited milk	1
Retail distributor of Sterilised milk	79

Smoke Abatement.

83 smoke observations have been taken and visits paid to the various boiler houses. One firm has just completed the installation of two additional boilers whilst another firm are building an additional boiler house to accommodate four boilers. It is to be hoped that this will reduce the smoke emission from the existing chimneys of these two works.

Classes for boiler firemen have been held at the Technical School.

The work put into this problem should help in a short time to improve the boiler efficiency in the area.

Rodent Control.

The rodent operative has been fully engaged during the year and much good work has been done.

The following is a summary of the work carried out :—

Visits made to premises	779
Pre-bait laid	3480 ozs.
Poison bait laid	2187 ozs.
Poison bait taken	267 ozs.

This gives an approximate kill of 543 rats and 278 mice.

In addition to this the whole of the sewers were treated twice, 1406 manholes being examined.

Pre-bait laid	3494 ozs.
Poison bait laid	664 ozs.
Poison bait taken	171 ozs.

This gives a kill of approximately 428 rats.

There is a free service to private dwellings, but a charge is made for treating business premises.

When this is considered against the cost of damage done by the rodents, especially to food, the cost becomes negligible. Owners and occupiers of premises would be well advised to take advantage of this excellent service.

Disinfection.

The number of houses disinfected is given in a previous table.

Due to the cessation of the use of the destructor, steam has not been available for the use of the steam disinfector. A new gas fired boiler is on order and will be available during 1952.

D. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The incidence of infectious diseases was low.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified in 1951 and for the preceding four years :—

Disease	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Scarlet Fever	17	43	80	75	65
Diphtheria	4	2	—	—	—
Typhoid Group	—	—	1	—	1
Measles	293	345	189	152	770
Whooping Cough	61	69	78	73	47
Pneumonia	19	13	24	29	37
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	4	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	5	2	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	2	2	—	—
Erysipelas	4	13	6	3	6
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	37
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	16	15	18	18
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	8	4	6	8

Infectious Diseases According to Wards.

Disease	Ainsworth	Black Lane	Radcliffe Bridge	Radcliffe Hall	Stand Lane	Total
Scarlet Fever	8	19	14	11	13	65
Typhoid Group	1	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	97	250	127	97	199	770
Whooping Cough	3	12	14	9	9	47
Pneumonia	7	14	3	5	8	37
Poliomyelitis (Non Paralytic)	—	—	—	1	—	1
Erysipelas	—	1	2	1	2	6
Dysentery	—	8	16	4	9	37
	116	304	176	128	240	964

Tuberculosis.

The following Table shows the number of new cases and deaths recorded during the year:—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years.								
0-1 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1-5 .. .. .	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	1
5-10 .. .. .	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..
10-15	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15-20 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20-25 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25-35	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
35-45	3	1	1	..	1	..	..	..
45-55	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
55-65	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	15	3	4	4	3	..	1	1
	18		8		3		2	
	26				5			

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1951.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total Cases at all Ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED										Total Deaths	Total Cases Remov'd to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belongi'g to District	
		Years													
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 and over	Age un-kno'n				
Smallpox	65		4	15	32	7	5	2					58		
Scarlet Fever															
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)															
Enteric Fever (exc. Paratyphoid)	1							1						1	
Paratyphoid Fever	770	24	170	313	251	7	3	2						9	
Measles (excluding Rubella)	47	5	9	20	13									3	
Whooping Cough	37	4	3	3	3			3	12	9				10	7
Acute Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)															
Puerperal Pyrexia															
Meningococcal infection															
Acute Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	1													1	
Non-paralytic															
Acute encephalitis								1							
Dysentery	37	2	14	17	1		2	1						6	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum															
Erysipelas	6													5	
Malaria															
Food Poisoning															
	964	35	200	368	300	14	10	13	15	9			93	7	

