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COUNTY BOROUGH



OF SOUTHPORT

REPORT

UPON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS

OF THE

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTHPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1955

*(including the Forty-seventh Annual Report of the Principal School
Medical Officer)*



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THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Worshipful the Mayor
(Councillor A. E. TOWNEND, J.P.)

Chairman: Alderman MRS. E. SMITH

Vice-Chairman: Councillor L. F. SPENCE

Alderman SIR H. W. BARBER, J.P.

Alderman J. R. BILLINGTON

Alderman DR. H. COATES, J.P.

Alderman W. PAULDEN

Alderman W. BERWICK

Councillor H. E. BUCK

Councillor DR. S. J. HEPWORTH

Councillor R. E. HINDS

Councillor G. W. KENDALL, J.P.

Councillor K. A. TISSOT

Councillor MRS. F. M. TURNER

Councillor G. S. WILKINS

Councillor MRS. R. G. WOOD

DR. P. Y. LYLE, M.C.

SUB-COMMITTEES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1955

Mental Health Services

Chairman	Councillor DR. S. J. HEPWORTH
Vice-Chairman	Councillor G. W. KENDALL, J.P.
Alderman DR. H. COATES, J.P.	Councillor K. A. TISSOT
Alderman W. BERWICK	Councillor MRS. F. M. TURNER
Councillor H. E. BUCK	Councillor MRS. R. G. WOOD

DR. P. Y. LYLE, M.C.

Joint Health and Education

The Worshipful the Mayor
(Councillor A. E. TOWNEND, J.P.)

Chairman	Alderman W. BERWICK
Vice-Chairman	Alderman W. PAULDEN
	Councillor K. A. TISSOT

Home Nursing Joint Sub-Committee

Chairman	Alderman W. BERWICK
Vice-Chairman	Councillor MRS. F. M. TURNER
	Councillor MRS. R. G. WOOD

National Assistance Act, 1948

(Section 47 Cases)

Chairman	Alderman W. PAULDEN
Vice-Chairman	Councillor H. E. BUCK
	Councillor MRS. F. M. TURNER

Accounts

All Members of the Health Committee

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ON THE

31st DECEMBER, 1955

Medical Staff (Full-Time)—

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer	G. N. M. WISHART, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	Vacant
Assistant Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	ANNA I. DAVISON, M.B., CH.B.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	JOAN KNOWLES, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Staff (Part-Time)—by arrangement with the Liverpool Regional Hosp. Brd.

Medical Officer for Tuberculosis Service	R. S. COOK, M.B., CH.B.
---	-------------------------

Visiting Medical Staff—

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic	N. E. LAURENCE, F.R.C.S.
Eye Clinic	D. RANKINE, M.B., CH.B.
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	R. V. TRACEY-FORSTER, M.B., CH.B. D.L.O.
Skin Clinic	H. BARDSLEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dental Staff—

Principal Dental Officer	W. MARTLAND, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)
Dental Officer	W. L. ROTHWELL, L.D.S. (Liv.)
Dental Officer	P. L. HEATHCOTE, L.D.S. (Liv.)
Orthodontist (part-time)	H. POGREL, L.D.S. (Liv.), L.D.S.R.C.S. (Eng.), D. ORTHO. R.C.S. (Eng.)
Attendants	Mrs. M. E. BALL Misses M. FOOT and S. BUCK

Sanitary Staff—Chief Sanitary Inspector E. AVISON (a)(b)(h)(n)(o); Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector, G. E. HADLEY (a)(b); Meat and Food Inspector, D. WOOD (a)(b); Food Hygiene Inspector, T. W. ROBERTSHAW (a)(b); Meat and Foods Sampling Officer, W. VICKERS (a)(b)(h); District Sanitary Inspectors, J. BELL (a), G. Cayton (a)(b), A. H. Gelder (a)(b); Infectious Diseases Enquiry Officer, J. LLOYD; Rodent Operator, J. S. AMERY.

Health Visiting and School Nursing Staff—Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse, MISS E. DOWD (c)(d)(e); Health Visitors/School Nurses, MRS. W. WATKINSON (c)(d)(e); MISSES M. E. BRETT (c)(d)(e), J. HOLLIDAY (c)(f)(e), M. K. DONAGHEY (c)(d)(e), K. A. R. TAYLOR (c)(d)(e), D. C. ASHTON (c)(f)(e), M. A. TURVEY (d)(e), A. COWPER (c)(d)(e), E. POTTS (c)(d)(e), A. MULLAN (c)(d)(e), F. GARNER (c)(d)(e), MRS. F. M. HOWARD (c)(f)(e), E. M. ALLAN (c)(d)(e), and E. J. MURRAY (c)(d)(e). (2 vacancies).

Physiotherapist—Mrs. K. BYARS (m).

Speech Therapist—(Vacant)

Midwifery Staff—Supervisor of Midwives and Inspector of Nursing Homes, Miss M. McALEAVY (d)(e);

DISTRICT MIDWIVES, Miss S. A. CRYER (d)(e), Mrs. K. B. HARRISON (d)(e);

PART-TIME MIDWIFE, Mrs. E. SHAWCROFT (d).

Mental Health Staff—Senior Mental Health Visitor and Duly Authorised Officer, K. BAIN (r)(j); Mental Health Visitors and Duly Authorised Officers, Miss A. L. BENNETT (r)(j) and K. W. HARWOOD (r)(e)(q) (part-time); Teacher for Mentally Handicapped, Mrs. I. H. MACDONALD; Assistant Teacher for Mentally Handicapped, Mrs. M. A. TOWNLEY, S.E.A.N.

Clerical Staff—Administrative Assistant, F. H. DIX, A.C.I.S., GRAD. A.C.C.A.; Chief Clerk, W. R. HOLGATE; Senior Clerks, Miss M. E. WELLS and Miss N. SOMECH; Clerks, D. C. EVANS, MISSES B. FORSHAW, B. PARKER, B. LEES, E. SUTCLIFFE, K. HOWORTH, P. FORBES, H. SMITH, R. SHEPHERD and P. OLVERSON (one vacancy).

Day Nurseries—

Southport Day Nursery Matron: MRS. A. WILLIAMS (e)

Bedford Park Day Nursery Matron: MISS A. K. BAXTER (e)(d)(i)

Notes re Qualifications:—

- (a) Sanitary Inspectors Certificate.
- (b) Meat and Food Certificate.
- (c) Health Visitors Certificate.
- (d) State Certified Midwife.
- (e) State Registered Nurse.
- (f) Part I Certificate—Central Midwives Board.
- (g) State Registered Fever Nurse.
- (h) Smoke Inspectors Certificate.
- (j) Royal Medico-Psychological Association's Certificate.
- (l) State Registered Children's Nurse.
- (m) Member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.
- (n) Sanitary Science Certificate.
- (o) Food Hygiene Certificate.
- (q) Queen's Nurse.
- (r) State Registered Mental Nurse.

Ambulance Service—

Chief Fire Officer and Ambulance Officer, J. PERKINS, Grad. I. FIRE E.

Public Analyst

G. H. WALKER, P.H.D., F.R.I.C.

Pathologist

J. G. BENSTEAD, M.D., M.A., B.CHIR.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1955

TO THE CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEES

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1955. The Registrar General's estimate of the population for 1955 was 82,240 as compared with 82,440 in the previous year. The birth rate after adjustment by the Registrar General's factor of correction was 12·64 (1954, 12·31) per thousand of the population. The death rate when correct for age and sex distribution was 13·2 (1954, 11·34) per thousand of the population. The infant mortality rate was 35·09 (1954, 34·83) per thousand live births; this figure is again higher than the average for the country as a whole which was 24·9; of the 32 babies that died in the first year of life, 21 lived less than one week and of these 14 were prematurely born; eight infants died from infection of various kinds. It is interesting to compare the average infant mortality rate in ten year periods for the present century:—

1901—1910, 108; 1911—1920, 80; 1921—1930, 62; 1931—1940, 47; 1941—1950, 43.

The trend is a pleasing one and indicates the result of the constant work carried out by all those connected with the medical care and treatment of mothers and babies. Much remains to be done and will call for a high degree of co-operation between all those taking part in this work in the future. The need for better premises for mothercraft purposes is acute but the Minister of Health has not yet approved the plans for the development of Nos. 44/46 Hoghton Street; it has been possible, however, to include an area of land for buildings for medical purposes in the development plan for the Ainsdale area.

The death rate from tuberculosis has fallen to 0·16 per thousand of the population from 0·20 in 1954. This is due to many factors, of which one of the most important is the use of new drugs. The incidence of this disease has not yet shown a corresponding decrease though the number of primary notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis was down from 56 in 1954 to 45 in 1955. The voluntary scheme for the vaccination against tuberculosis of 13 year old school children has operated in full during the year and the response from parents has been good. No untoward reactions to the vaccine were reported. It is too early to draw conclusions as to the value of this type of vaccination, but the indications are that it has a definite part to play in the pattern of preventive medicine. One of the Mass Radiography Units of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board carried out 11,651 x-ray examinations in the town during the autumn.

The highlight of the year was the opening in February of the long-promised Southport Day Nursery by the Mayor, Alderman Mrs. E. Smith. This modern nursery for 60 children under five has filled a real community need in the Borough and will help in the future to build a solid basis of good health for many children.

It is necessary to make reference once more to the special problems presented by the large numbers of elderly people in the town in need of help. Some 15,000 persons are aged 65 years or more and though many are in good health and able to work, such a high figure leads to greater calls on the medical and ancillary services than is the case in towns with a more balanced population age range. Efforts to attract light industry to the Borough may lead to an alteration in the proportion of elderly people in the town since more people in the younger age groups may be able to find work here.

A big step forward in connection with the Mental Health Service was the acquisition from the Liverpool Corporation of the Woodvale Camp for use as an Occupation Centre for mentally handicapped persons; the Camp area, however, is intended for use ultimately for housing purposes and consideration is being given to more permanent accommodation for the Occupation Centre; throughout 1955 training has been undertaken at the Hampton Road Welfare Centre but these premises are now too small to meet the need.

Reorganisation of the staff of the Mental Health Section took place when the Senior Duly Authorised Officer and Mental Health Visitor, Mr. J. Sinnott, was required to give his full services to the Welfare Committee. Mr. K. Bain was appointed to succeed Mr. Sinnott and Mr. K. Harwood was given certain responsibilities in the Mental Health Service.

Co-operation with those engaged in other branches of the National Health Service has been satisfactory throughout the year. It is hoped that the report of the Committee set up by the Government on the training and duties of Health Visitors will soon be published and that recommendations will be made which will enable closer working relationships to be established between General Medical Practitioners and Nurses employed as Health Visitors. I am much indebted to the doctors and ancillary staffs of the General Medical Service, and of the Hospital Service for the help which they have given to members of my staff and to myself.

It is a pleasure to report that Dr. Davison, one of the Lady Assistant Medical Officers of Health, acts as examiner for the Certificate of the Nursery Nurses Examination Board, and that Miss Dowd, the Superintendent Health Visitor/School Nurse, has been appointed an examiner for the Health Visitor's Certificate Examination of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health.

Dr. John Ardley left in December on his appointment as Deputy Medical Officer of Health to the County Borough of Coventry.

Dr. Joan Knowles was appointed an Honorary Clinical Assistant to the infectious diseases side of New Hall Hospital.

Permission was given during the Autumn for the much needed improvements to the Mortuary at Duke Street, and it is expected that when these have been completed, there will be no further cause for complaint.

There was no major outbreak of infectious disease during the year, but much of the work of the Health Department continues to be concerned with the prevention and control of infections of various kinds. By agreement with the Local Medical Committee, vaccination against smallpox was introduced at the Infant Welfare Centres in the hope that this would lead to an increase in the numbers of infants so protected. Approval was obtained also to the introduction in 1956 of immunisation against tetanus, the usual method being the injection of combined diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus prophylactic.

There is still no special school for educationally subnormal children in the town, but the problem of suitable provision for such children is being met to a considerable extent by "opportunity" classes in certain schools, and by the use of places in residential special schools. There is regular consultation between the Deputy Medical Officer and members of the Chief Education Officer's staff and the teachers of "opportunity" classes, at which the special needs of individual children are given careful consideration."

The Day Special School for Physically Handicapped pupils, opened on 15th September, 1955, in conjunction with the Hospital School at the Children's Convalescent Hospital in Hawkshead Street, has proved to be of great value. Some 10 children attend and the school provides an excellent example of what can be achieved by good co-operation between those responsible for the medical and educational care of children.

The routine work of the staff of the Sanitary Section of the Health Department is an insurance against outbreaks of infectious disease. There is still room for improvement in the field of food hygiene and the expected legislation may help to develop higher standards in the food handling trades. Education in the need for such standards is more likely to be successful, than rules arbitrarily enforced, since the best of equipment can be of no avail in the prevention of infection unless those using it do so with knowledge and care. There were no major outbreaks of food borne infection but there was one fatal case from this cause in the town during the year. The fact that 108 persons attended courses in food hygiene indicates the interest taken in the subject.

The survey of property required by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government with the object of ascertaining the numbers of houses likely to be dealt with as "houses unfit for human habitation" in the near future was completed during the year.

I would again like to express my appreciation of the work done during the year by all departmental staff and my thanks to the members of the Health and Education Committees for their support and consideration throughout the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

G. N. M. WISHART

*Medical Officer of Health and
Principal School Medical Officer.*

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Part I

STATISTICAL MEMORANDA

AND

VITAL STATISTICS

Statistical Memoranda

Vital Statistics

Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality

Causes of and Ages at Death

Deaths in Various Age Groups

Infant Mortality—Causes and Ages

Births and Stillbirths

Maternal Mortality

STATISTICAL MEMORANDA

Area of Borough (including Foreshore)	18,333 acres
Area of Borough (excluding Foreshore).....	9,426 acres
Population (1951 Census)	84,057
„ (Estimated by the Registrar-General), middle of 1955	82,240
Density of Population per acre (excluding Foreshore)	8·7
Number of inhabited houses, 1st April, 1955	25,405
Number of permanent houses erected and completed during 1955	186
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1955	£991,996
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£3,948
Number of births registered	912
Legitimate	852
Illegitimate.....	60
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 of the population)	11·09
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 of the population)	12·64
Average Crude birth rate, preceding 10 years	12·22
Number of infant deaths (under one year)	32
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	35·09
(28) Legitimate (rate per 1,000 legitimate live births).....	32·86
(4) Illegitimate (rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births) ...	66·66
Average Infantile Mortality Rate, preceding 10 years	33·70
Number of deaths registered	1,552
Crude death rate (per 1,000 of the population)	18·87
Average crude death rate, preceding 10 years	16·50
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 of the population)	13·20
Number of deaths from tuberculosis (all forms)	13
Tuberculosis death rate (per 1,000 of the population).....	0·16
Average tuberculosis death rate, preceding 10 years	0·30
Number of deaths from Zymotic diseases	7
Death rate from Zymotic diseases (per 1,000 of the population)	0·09
Average death rate from Zymotic diseases, preceding 10 years	0·06
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth—	
From Sepsis	None
From other causes	1
Average domestic consumption of water per head, per day (year ending 31/3/55)	30·37 galls.
Total consumption of water per head, per day (year ending 31/3/55)	40·38 galls.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population—The Registrar-General's estimate of the population for the middle of 1955 is 82,240. The comparable figure for the middle of 1954 was 82,440.

Birth Rate—The total number of live births registered in the Borough during 1955 was 912. Of these 472 were males and 440 females. The crude birth rate for the year was 11·09 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population, and the adjusted birth rate was 12·64. 60 (6·6%) of the births were illegitimate. The number of still births registered was 21, giving a rate of 22·51 per 1,000 live and still births as compared with the rate of 23·1 for England and Wales.

Death Rate—The number of deaths occurring amongst the residents of the town was 1,552. Of these 682 were males and 870 females. The increase in the number of deaths compared with the previous year was 195.

76% of all deaths were of persons aged sixty-five years and over and 50% of all deaths were of persons of seventy-five years and over.

The gross death rate was 18·87 per 1,000 of the civilian population and the rate corrected for age and sex was 13·20 per 1,000 of the population.

Principal Causes of Death—

	1954		1955	
	Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths
Heart Disease, including diseases of the Circulatory System ...	553	40·75	646	41·62
Cancer	225	16·58	260	16·75
Vascular lesions of nervous system...	210	16·21	256	16·49
Respiratory Diseases	120	8·84	134	8·64
Violence, including Suicide... ..	58	4·28	53	3·42
Tuberculosis (all forms)	16	1·18	13	0·84
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	13	0·96	13	0·84
Influenza	7	0·52	8	0·52
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	11	0·81	8	0·52

Deaths from Violence—There were 53 deaths from violence and these were classified as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Suicide	9	5	14
Falls	1	17	18
Motor Vehicle accidents	4	3	7
Other accidents	5	8	13
Operations of War	1	—	1
	20	33	53

Zymotic Death Rate—

Diphtheria ...	...	...	Nil	Measles ...	...	...	Nil
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	Nil	Enteritis ...	...	...	7
Typhoid ...	...	...	Nil	Whooping Cough ...	...	...	Nil
Total Deaths—7	Rate per 1,000 of the population—0.09						

Infantile Mortality Rate—

Total Deaths ...	...	...	32	Rate per 1,000 births ...	...	35.09
Legitimate ...	...	...	28	do. legitimate births...	...	32.86
Illegitimate...	...	...	4	do. illegitimate births	...	66.66

1922		1921		1920		1919		1918	
Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72

1922		1921		1920		1919		1918	
Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths	Number	% of total Deaths
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72
222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72	222	40.72

BIRTH-RATES, AND DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY IN THE YEAR 1955

(Provisional figures, based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	BIRTHS			DEATHS				
	Live	Illegitimate	Still	All Causes	Under One year	Neo-natal	Maternal Causes (excl. Abortion)	Abortion
	Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths	Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population	Rates per 1,000 Related Live Births	Rates per 1,000 Related Live Births	Rates per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population
England and Wales ...	15.0	(not given)	23.1	11.7	24.9	17.3	0.54	0.13
Southport ...	12.6	66	22.5	13.2	35.1	24.1	1.07	0.16
								0.015
								—

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

VITAL STATISTICS

For years 1936 to 1955 inclusive

YEAR	Popu- lation esti- mated to Middle of each year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS**		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Uncor- rected Number (Regis- tered)	Net		Number x	Rate	of Non- residents regist'd in the District	of Resi- dents not regist'd in the District	Under 1 yr. of age		At all ages	
			Number	Rate					Number x	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	Number x	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1936	79,280	880	804	10.14	1105	13.94	81	182	41	51	1189	15.15
1937	78,960	914	837	10.60	1143	14.48	63	205	56	67	1266	16.16
1938	78,600	870	802	10.20	1157	14.65	84	159	56	70	1215	15.15
1939	* 78,900											
	* 81,840	925	752	9.53	1271	15.53	101	168	41	52	1338	16.16
1940	88,550	1147	871	9.84	1385	15.64	115	148	40	43	1418	16.16
1941	95,410	1455	949	9.94	1375	15.53	171	211	65	68	1415	14.14
1942	90,480	1371	1075	11.90	1213	13.41	108	218	41	38	1323	14.14
1943	85,140	1283	1048	12.30	1237	14.53	73	246	49	47	1410	16.16
1944	82,860	1484	1168	14.09	1150	13.88	87	241	52	44	1304	15.15
1945	81,360	1314	1018	12.51	1121	13.73	62	241	29	28	1300	15.15
1946	84,010	1557	1237	14.72	1073	12.77	63	246	40	32	1256	14.14
1947	84,240	1569	1325	15.73	1268	15.52	114	218	55	42	1372	16.16
1948	85,800	1317	1167	13.60	1126	13.12	58	204	41	35	1272	14.14
1949	85,540	1155	986	11.53	1269	14.84	89	164	38	39	1344	15.15
1950	85,500	1020	890	10.41	1339	15.66	90	151	24	27	1400	16.16
1951	83,400	1063	884	10.60	1523	18.26	88	178	36	41	1613	19.19
1952	82,980	1164	957	11.53	1301	15.68	92	145	29	30	1354	16.16
1953	82,400	1133	951	11.54	1277	15.50	95	128	20	21	1310	15.15
1954	82,440	1011	890	10.80	1315	15.95	101	143	31	35	1357	16.16
1955	82,240	1057	912	11.09	1517	18.45	101	136	32	35	1552	18.18

* 78,900 for Birth Rate—81,840 for Death Rate.

x in Column 6 are included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district, military deaths excepted.

In Column 12 is entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by the addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8, and by the addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

** "Transferable Deaths" are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales die in a district other than that in which they resided.

The following Special Cases arise as to Transferable Deaths:—

(1) Persons dying in Institutions for the sick or infirm, such as hospitals and nursing homes, have been regarded as residents of the district in which they had a fixed or usual residence at the time of admission. If the person dying in an Institution had no fixed residence at the time of admission the death is not transferable.

(2) The deaths of infants born and dying within the year of birth in an Institution to which the mother was admitted for her confinement have been referred to the district of fixed or usual residence of the parent.

(3) Deaths from violence have been referred (a) to the district of residence, under the general rule; (b) if this district is unknown, or the deceased had no fixed abode, to the district where the accident occurred, if known; (c) failing this, to the district where the death occurred, if known; and (d) failing this, to the district where the body was found.

Census	Year	1911	1921	1931	
Total population at all ages	...	69,643	71,900	78,927	84,240
Number of inhabited houses	...	15,676	16,314	20,388	24,140
Average number of persons per house	...	4.44	4.41	3.87	3.45
Area of District in acres (land and inland water)	...	9,426	9,426	9,426	9,426

DEATHS (Table 1)
Causes of, and Ages at, Death for year 1955

CAUSES OF DEATH	Totals at all ages	AGE DISTRIBUTION																	
		MALES									FEMALES								
		under 1 yr.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 & over	Totals	under 1 yr.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 & over	Totals
1 Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	—	10	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	3
2 Tuberculosis—Other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Syphilitic Disease ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
4 Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Meningococcal Infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8 Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9 Other Infective and parasitic diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	41	—	—	—	—	1	2	8	4	15	—	—	—	—	3	10	13	26	
1 Malignant Neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	44	—	—	—	—	2	19	11	5	37	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	7	
2 Malignant Neoplasm, breast ...	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	10	5	25	
3 Malignant Neoplasm, uterus ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	2	12	
4 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	135	—	1	—	1	4	23	18	11	58	—	—	—	1	3	21	28	24	77
5 Leukaemia ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	
6 Diabetes ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	
7 Vascular lesions of Nervous System	256	—	—	—	—	—	15	28	48	91	—	—	—	—	17	47	101	165	
8 Coronary Disease—Angina ...	269	—	—	—	—	2	47	54	42	145	—	—	—	—	1	23	40	60	124
9 Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	32	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	6	16	—	—	—	—	2	4	10	16	
0 Other Heart Disease ...	291	—	—	—	1	1	14	22	61	99	—	—	—	—	10	24	158	192	
1 Other Circulatory Disease ...	54	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	16	29	—	—	—	—	1	1	23	25	
2 Influenza ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	6
3 Pneumonia ...	58	3	—	2	—	—	7	1	10	23	2	—	—	—	2	5	8	18	35
4 Bronchitis ...	60	—	—	—	—	—	8	16	15	39	—	—	—	—	3	5	13	21	
5 Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
6 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	
7 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	3
8 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	
9 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	26	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	19	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
0 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
1 Congenital Malformations ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
2 Other defined and ill-defined Diseases ...	120	10	1	1	—	3	8	6	9	38	11	1	—	—	4	9	12	45	82
3 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	7	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	4	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	3
4 All Other Accidents ...	31	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	3	6	1	—	—	—	1	3	20	25	
5 Suicide ...	14	—	—	1	—	—	5	1	2	9	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	5
6 Homicide and Operations of War ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals—(All Causes) ...	1552	16	2	5	2	15	177	201	264	682	16	1	2	2	22	115	203	509	870

DEATHS (Table 2)
Number of Deaths in Various Age Groups for years 1945 to 1956 inclusive

Year	Total No. of Deaths	Under 1		1—5		5—15		15—45		45—65		65—75		75 and over	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1945 ...	1300	29	2.23	6	0.46	12	0.92	78	6.00	270	20.77	383	29.47	522	40.15
1946 ...	1256	40	3.18	5	0.39	6	0.48	67	5.33	286	22.78	338	26.90	514	40.94
1947 ...	1372	55	4.01	6	0.44	4	0.29	71	5.17	315	22.96	366	26.68	555	40.45
1948 ...	1272	41	3.22	4	0.31	2	0.16	54	4.25	302	23.74	422	33.15	447	35.17
1949 ...	1344	38	2.83	6	0.45	1	0.08	60	4.46	289	21.50	419	31.18	531	39.50
1950 ...	1400	24	1.71	6	0.43	5	0.37	67	4.78	293	20.93	415	29.64	590	42.14
1951 ...	1613	36	2.23	4	0.25	4	0.25	47	2.91	346	21.45	445	27.59	731	45.32
1952 ...	1354	29	2.15	6	0.45	2	0.14	54	4.00	291	21.50	403	29.77	569	41.99
1953 ...	1310	20	1.53	6	0.45	11	0.84	52	3.97	266	20.30	360	27.49	595	45.42
1954 ...	1357	31	2.29	2	0.15	3	0.22	47	3.46	309	22.77	378	27.86	587	43.25
1955 ...	1552	32	2.06	3	0.19	7	0.45	41	2.64	292	18.82	404	26.03	773	49.81

DEATHS (Table 3)
Rates per 1,000 population and per 1,000 births—years 1936 to 1955 inclusive

Year	Popu- lation	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation	Cor- rected for Age and Sex	Under One Year	Rate per 1,000 Births	Legiti- mate Births	Rate per 1,000 Legiti- mate Births	Illegiti- mate Births	Rate per 1,000 Illegiti- mate Births	Pulm'ry Tuber- culosis	Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation	Other Forms T.B.	Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation	Zymotic Diseases	Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation
1936	79280	557	632	1189	15.00	12.45	41	51	37	49	4	68	33	0.42	8	0.10	9	0.11
1937	78960	566	700	1266	16.03	13.30	56	67	50	64	6	120	33	0.42	8	0.10	16	0.20
1938	78600	565	650	1215	15.46	12.83	56	70	49	65	7	132	25	0.32	9	0.11	11	0.14
1939	81840	606	732	1338	16.34	13.56	41	52	37	47	4	70	40	0.49	7	0.09	17	0.21
1940	88550	608	810	1418	16.01	12.65	40	43	33	38	7	121	24	0.27	9	0.10	3	0.03
1941	95410	641	774	1415	14.80	11.69	65	57	58	54	7	115	38	0.40	7	0.07	9	0.09
1942	90480	584	739	1323	14.60	12.11	41	38	36	36	5	75	37	0.41	9	0.10	8	0.09
1943	85140	619	791	1410	16.60	13.77	49	47	43	45	6	67	43	0.50	9	0.10	8	0.09
1944	82860	565	739	1304	15.74	13.06	52	44	45	42	7	67	27	0.32	6	0.07	6	0.07
1945	81360	561	739	1300	15.98	12.63	29	28	25	27	4	35	36	0.44	5	0.06	7	0.08
1946	84010	570	686	1256	14.95	11.81	40	32	33	27	7	69	31	0.37	3	0.04	5	0.06
1947	84240	651	721	1372	16.29	12.87	55	42	50	40	5	64	39	0.46	5	0.06	7	0.08
1948	85800	566	706	1272	14.82	11.71	41	35	35	32	6	76	27	0.31	3	0.04	5	0.06
1949	85540	623	721	1344	15.71	12.10	38	39	33	35	*5	102	26	0.30	5	0.06	6	0.07
1950	85500	622	778	1400	16.37	12.44	24	27	22	26	2	34	15	0.17	5	0.06	2	0.02
1951	83400	737	876	1613	19.34	14.70	36	41	33	40	3	60	22	0.26	5	0.06	3	0.04
1952	82980	626	728	1354	16.32	12.32	29	30	28	30	1	20	12	0.15	6	0.07	1	0.01
1953	82400	606	704	1310	15.89	12.07	20	21	19	21	1	21	13	0.16	5	0.06	7	0.08
1954	82440	686	751	1357	16.46	11.34	31	35	29	34	2	39	16	0.20	—	—	6	0.07
1955	82240	682	870	1552	18.87	13.20	32	35	28	33	4	67	13	0.16	—	—	7	0.09

*One of these infants was an unknown child found in a garden; this child may or may not have belonged to Southport. Excluding this death, the rate per 1,000 births would be 82. In addition, another of these infants was allocated to Southport in error and excluding this death also the rate per 1,000 births for the remaining 3 deaths would be 61.

DEATHS (Table 4)
Infant Mortality—Year 1955

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE (weeks)					AGE (months)					Total infant deaths
	Under 1 week	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	Total under 4 weeks	1 to 3	3 to 6	6 to 9	9 to 12	Total 1 to 12 months	
Atelectasis	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	3
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2
Congenital Malformation	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	3
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2
Intra-Cranial Haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	3
Prematurity	14	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	14
Septicaemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Unascertainable due to advanced decomposition	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	21	1	—	—	22	7	2	1	—	10	32

BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS
For years 1936 to 1955 inclusive

Year	Estimated Mid-Year Population	Males	Females	Total	Legiti- mate	Illegiti- mate	Crude Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation	Correc- ted Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation	Still- births
1936	79280	412	392	804	745	59	10·14	—	34
1937	78960	388	449	837	787	50	10·60	—	35
1938	78600	402	400	802	749	53	10·20	—	41
1939	78900	382	370	752	700	52	9·53	—	28
1940	88550	448	423	871	820	51	9·84	—	40
1941	95410	494	455	949	892	57	9·94	—	40
1942	90480	555	520	1075	1008	67	11·88	—	37
1943	85140	558	490	1048	958	90	12·30	—	35
1944	82860	590	578	1168	1065	103	14·09	—	30
1945	81360	536	482	1018	906	112	12·51	—	40
1946	84010	628	609	1237	1135	102	14·72	—	31
1947	84240	692	633	1325	1247	78	15·73	—	26
1948	85800	582	585	1167	1088	79	13·60	—	28
1949	85540	532	454	986	937	49	11·53	—	22
1950	85500	472	418	890	831	59	10·41	*11·03	17
1951	83400	453	431	884	834	50	10·60	11·23	22
1952	82980	480	477	957	907	50	11·53	12·22	34
1953	82400	509	442	951	904	47	11·54	12·23	31
1954	82440	462	428	890	839	51	10·80	12·31	18
1955	82240	472	440	912	852	60	11·09	12·64	21

* A comparability factor for births was issued by the Registrar-General in 1950; similar information for previous years has not been issued.

MATERNAL MORTALITY
For years 1936 to 1955 inclusive

Year	No. of Live and Stillbirths	RATES PER 1,000 LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS					
		Sepsis		Other Causes		Total	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1936	838	1	1.19	2	2.39	3	3.58
1937	872	2	2.29	2	2.29	4	4.58
1938	843	—	—	—	—	—	—
1939	780	2	2.44	1	1.22	3	3.66
1940	911	—	—	1	1.08	1	1.08
1941	989	1	0.88	2	1.77	3	2.65
1942	1112	1	0.90	2	1.80	3	2.70
1943	1083	—	—	1	0.92	1	0.92
1944	1198	—	—	2	1.67	2	1.67
1945	1058	1	0.95	3	2.83	4	3.78
1946	1268	1	0.79	—	—	1	0.79
1947	1351	—	—	2	1.48	2	1.48
1948	1195	—	—	2	1.67	2	1.67
1949	1008	—	—	2	1.98	2	1.98
1950	907	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	906	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	991	—	—	2	2.02	2	2.02
1953	982	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	908	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	933	—	—	1	1.07	1	1.07

Part II

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Welfare Foods

Midwifery

Health Visiting

Home Nursing

Vaccination and Immunisation

Ambulance

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Home Help

Mental Health

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Ante-Natal Care—A weekly Ante-Natal Clinic was held at 44 Hoghton Street during 1955 for those mothers who had booked to have their confinement at home and also for mothers who were to be admitted to the St. Katharine's Maternity Hospital. This clinic is conducted by Mr. N. E. Laurence, who is the Obstetric Consultant for the two Maternity Hospitals in the town; the Matron or Deputy Matron of the St. Katharine's Maternity Hospital and the non-medical Supervisor of Midwives also do duty at this clinic. In addition, the Domiciliary Midwives attend in rotation to meet their own patients.

Subject to the consent of the general practitioner concerned, mothers who have booked with their family doctor may attend this clinic, to obtain additional ante-natal care. Mothers who attend this clinic have a blood test for Kahn reaction, haemoglobin estimation, blood grouping and for Rhesus factor as a routine measure.

Maternity outfits are supplied free of cost to all mothers who are having their confinements at home.

During the year, 52 clinic sessions were held and 29 mothers who had booked to have their confinements at home made a total of 119 attendances.

Post-Natal Care—All mothers who have not made arrangements to be examined by their own doctors are invited to attend the Post-Natal Clinic which is held each week at 44 Hoghton Street. The Clinic is conducted by Mr. N. E. Laurence, the Obstetric Specialist, and 296 mothers attended during 1955. In addition, 153 re-visits were made, making a total of 449 visits during the year; 48 attendances were made by Health Visitors at Post-Natal Clinics.

Child Welfare Centres—There are six centres in the town and in addition to the normal work, each Centre distributes the dried milk and vitamin foods issued by the Ministry of Health. As in the past the ladies of the Voluntary Infant Welfare Committee provided clerical and other assistance at the Centres during 1955 and their efforts and enthusiasm contributed in no small measure to the steady progress which was maintained throughout the year.

Although there are six Welfare Centres so placed that they cover the area adequately, it has been necessary to hold two sessions each week at the centre in the High Park district. The work of these centres is chiefly educational and is aimed at the improvement of the standard of mothercraft.

The sessions at the High Park and Ainsdale Centres are conducted by three medical practitioners, two of whom give general medical services in the town; the remaining four sessions are conducted by the Health Department's medical staff, one of the lady Assistant Medical Officers of Health being responsible for the Centres at Crossens, Hampton Road and Derby Road, while the Deputy Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the Liverpool Road Centre. Two Health Visitors are in attendance at each Welfare Centre session and the medical and nursing staff maintain a general supervision over the progress of the babies and young children so that appropriate advice can be given when it is necessary.

The following statement shows the attendances made at the Welfare Centres during 1955:—

	Hamp- ton Road	High Park	Liver- pool Road	Cros- sens	Derby Road	Ains- dale	TOTALS
INFANTS—under 1 year—							
No. of New Cases ...	144	149	128	95	132	70	718
No. of Re-attendances	1415	2077	1412	1308	1567	1113	8892
CHILDREN — over 1 and under 5 years—							
No. of Attendances	724	894	570	848	760	770	4566
Total No. of Attendances	2283	3120	2110	2251	2459	1953	14176
No. of Sessions ...	47	96	47	47	47	47	331
Average Attendance per Session ...	50	32	45	48	53	42	43
Total No. of Children who attended during the year ...	424	407	364	284	327	282	2088
Average Attendance per child ...	5.4	7.7	5.8	7.9	7.5	6.9	6.8
No. of Attendances made by Health Visitors ...	142	192	94	94	141	98	761

Maternity Dental Clinic—This clinic is held at 2 Church Street and there are sessions each week for expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age who are not attending primary schools maintained by the local Education Authority. Facilities are available for X-ray examination if necessary.

When dentures are required by expectant and nursing mothers arrangements are made with private dental mechanics in the town.

The following tables show the work done during the year:—

(a) Number of Cases Treated:—

	Examined	Found to be in need of Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers...	19	19	18	12
Children under 5 ...	212	118	106	66
TOTALS ...	231	137	124	78

(b) Classification of Treatment provided:—

	Extractions	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Scalings or Scaling and Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Dressings	Radiographs	Dentures provided	
		Local	General						Com- plete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	21	10	1	45	20	—	3	2	1	5
Children under 5...	38	23	9	205	7	128	7	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	59	33	10	250	27	128	10	2	1	5

Day Nurseries—There are two Day Nurseries in the town, one being in Talbot Street with accommodation for 60 children, and one in Bedford Park with accommodation for 40 children. The former was opened on the 10th February by The Worshipful The Mayor, Alderman Mrs. E. Smith, J.P., and was built to replace the King Street Day Nursery which was established during the war in requisitioned Church premises. The total cost was within the region of £16,200.

The need for the Day Nursery Service is shown by the fact that 50% of the mothers are the sole support of their families and that 30% are the main support of their families; the remaining 20% relates to families whose children are in need of day nursery accommodation either because the general health of the children is not satisfactory or where there are bad housing conditions. It should also be pointed out that approximately two-thirds of the parents whose children are attending the Day Nurseries live in rooms which are often overcrowded.

It has been decided that the following fees should be charged:—

	Full Day	Half Day
(a) Minimum Fee ...	1/6	1/-
(b) Maximum Fee ...	6/3	3/3

These fees, however, may be reduced in cases of financial hardship and in this regard it is interesting to note that at the end of the year, the average daily payment made by the mothers was 2/7d. for each child attending the Day Nurseries.

The Nursery Nurses' Training Scheme which had been suspended since 1952, was resumed in September, and authority was given by the Health Committee in conjunction with the Education Committee to the appointment of four nursery students to undertake the practical and theoretical training in connection with the Nursing Nurses' Examination Board Course.

The following table shows the attendances at the Day Nurseries during 1955:—

	King Street to 9/2/55 Southport from 10/2/55	Bedford Park	Totals
(1) Number of places provided	60	40	100
(2) Mondays to Fridays:—			
(a) Total attendances	13774	9171	22945
(b) Number of days open	254	254	254
(c) Average daily attendance	53	34	87
(3) Mondays to Saturdays:—			
(a) Total attendances	14906	9554	24460
(b) Number of days open	303	304	303/304
(c) Average daily attendance	47	29	76

Care of Premature Infants—The decision as to whether a premature infant can be nursed satisfactorily in its own home lies with the doctor in attendance and if he considers that removal of the infant to one of the Maternity Hospitals is advisable, this step is carried out, the infant being removed in a warmed cot which is available for the purpose. Special cots are also supplied on loan to mothers who are nursing their infants at home.

A close liaison is maintained between the Matrons of the lying-in hospitals and the Superintendent Health Visitor in respect of premature births and before such an infant is discharged from the maternity hospital, the necessary information is passed on to the Superintendent Health Visitor who, with her staff, accepts responsibility for the care of the child after discharge under the general direction of the family doctor.

Frequent visits are made by the District Health Visitor until the infant reaches normal weight and after this stage the usual routine visits are made as in other cases.

The table overleaf shows the number of premature infants born during the year.

Unmarried Mothers—Unmarried mothers who seek the help of the Department are referred to the Obstetric Specialist at the ante-natal clinic at 44 Hoghton Street and arrangements are then made for the confinement to take place either in the girl's own home or in a Maternity Hospital. She is also advised to continue to attend either the ante-natal clinic at 44 Hoghton Street or the appropriate hospital ante-natal clinic.

At the same time, the mother is seen by the Moral Welfare Worker so that if necessary, appropriate arrangements can be made for residential ante- and post-natal care. In such cases the Health Authority will accept responsibility for the maintenance of the mother in a voluntary home usually for 6 weeks during the ante-natal period and up to 13 weeks during the post-natal period. The amount paid by the Health Committee to the voluntary home is the total cost of the maintenance less any payment which the mother is able to make towards her keep.

The Moral Welfare Worker co-operates with the Superintendent Health Visitor so that the Health Visiting Staff can keep in touch with the girl both before and after the baby is born. During the year, the Moral Welfare Worker dealt with 60 mothers and the Health Committee paid the maintenance costs in voluntary homes for 12 mothers during the ante- and post-natal period.

Prevention of the Break-up of Families—Consideration has been given during the year by a Sub-Committee, with representatives from the Health, Estates, Welfare, Children's and Finance Committees, to the provision of accommodation which could be used to prevent the splitting up of the family, such as sometimes occurs when a family is evicted.

The Sub-Committee is also available to consider other serious individual family problems, when it seems probable that the best solution can only be found by concerted action by a number of Committees.

PREMATURE INFANTS BORN DURING 1955

(Premature infants are babies whose weight at birth is 5½ lbs. or less)

Born at:—	HOME				NURSING HOME				HOSPITAL				Grand Totals	
	3 lbs. 4 ozs. or less	Over 3 lbs. 4 ozs. and under 4 lbs. 6 ozs.	Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. and under 5 lbs. 8 ozs.	Totals	3 lbs. 4 ozs. or less	Over 3 lbs. 4 ozs. and under 4 lbs. 6 ozs.	Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. and under 5 lbs. 8 ozs.	Totals	3 lbs. 4 ozs. or less	Over 3 lbs. 4 ozs. and under 4 lbs. 6 ozs.	Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. and under 5 lbs. 8 ozs.	Totals		
Weight at Birth:—														
1. Number notified (After adjustments for transfers) ...	—	—	1	5	6	—	1	—	1	10	15	39	80	87
2. Number in (1) above who:—														
(a) Died within 24 hours ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	9	9
(b) Died 2nd to 7th day ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	5	5
(c) Died 8th to 28th day ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Survived 28 days ...	—	—	1	5	6	—	1	—	1	2	13	39	66	73
TOTALS ...	—	—	1	5	6	—	1	—	1	10	15	39	80	87
3. Percentage who survived 28 days ...	—	—	100%	100%	100%	—	100%	—	100%	20%	87%	100%	82%	84%

Welfare Foods—(1) GENERAL. In 1954 the duty of distributing welfare foods was transferred to Local Health Authorities under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

(2) DISTRIBUTION. Welfare Foods were distributed to beneficiaries from the new Centre at the Health Department and the six Welfare Centres in the town.

The following figures show the amounts of welfare foods issued during 1955:—

ISSUED FROM	National Dried Milk	Orange Juice	Cod Liver Oil	Vitamin 'A' & 'D' Tablets
	Tins	Bottles	Bottles	Packets
HEALTH DEPARTMENT:—				
(a) Counter Issues	12,572	24,827	3,880	1,926
(b) Issues to National Health Service Institutions	93	216	—	—
(c) Issues to Day Nurseries	—	276	156	—
Total Issues from Health Department... ..	12,665	25,319	4,036	1,926
WELFARE CENTRES:—				
(a) Ainsdale	1,024	3,594	732	225
(b) Liverpool Road	1,451	5,246	1,090	346
(c) Crossens	1,313	3,877	628	188
(d) Poulton Road	1,597	4,515	969	298
(e) Hampton Road	1,432	3,390	660	272
(f) Derby Road	306	1,556	287	105
Total Issues from Welfare Centres	7,123	22,178	4,366	1,434
GRAND TOTALS	19,788	47,497	8,402	3,360

Domiciliary Midwifery—The staff consists of a non-medical supervisor and two district midwives. The supervisor acts as relief when either of the domiciliary midwives is on annual leave or ill.

The general medical supervision of the domiciliary midwifery staff is undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health while the non-medical supervisor deals with all day-to-day administration including control of work, allocation of duties, etc. All the staff are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia and they possess the apparatus.

As a general rule, the domiciliary midwives visit their cases once every two weeks from the date of the booking to the date of the confinement. Visits are often made weekly during the last month. This applies both to mothers who have not booked a doctor and also to those mothers who have engaged the services of their own doctor or a general practitioner obstetrician and who have requested the help of the domiciliary midwife to act as a maternity nurse. The number of visits in each individual case is, of course, varied to suit the needs of the particular patient concerned.

The following statement shows the work done by the department's midwives during the year:—

				Doctor required to be present	Doctor not required to be present	Total
1. Number of deliveries attended:—						
(a) Doctor not booked ... ..	...	...	...	1	21	22
(b) Doctor booked ... ..	...	...	...	4	57	61
				<hr/> 5	<hr/> 78	<hr/> 83 *
2. Number of patients in (1) above who received:—						
(a) gas and air analgesia ... ..	...	...	...	4	75	79
(b) pethidine ... ..	...	...	...	4	71	75
3. Number of patients in (1) above for whom medical aid was summoned:—						
(a) Where the medical practitioner had arranged to provide the mother with maternity medical services under the National Health Service Act ...	...	...	...	—	9	
(b) Others ... ..	...	...	...	—	4	
					<hr/> 13	
			TOTAL			
4. Number of visits made by midwives during the year:—						
(a) ante-natal visits ... ..	...	...	...	1070		
(b) nursing visits ... ..	...	...	...	1499		
			TOTAL	<hr/> 2569		
5. Number of attendances made by midwives to ante-natal clinics held at 44 Hoghton Street ... ..	...	...	...		52	

*106 cases were actually booked on the district, but 23 of these had to be transferred to Hospital for the following reasons:—

Miscarriage ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Malpresentation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Complication of labour ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	5
Subsequently booked for hospital ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ante-partum haemorrhage ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Recommended by Doctor ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cancellation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1

Midwives in Private Practice—During the year, ten private midwives notified their intention to practise on the district. Only five of these, however, were actually engaged in midwifery work and the following statement shows the work done in 1954. Two of the five midwives mentioned above are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia.

				Doctor required to be present	Doctor not required to be present	Total
1. Number of deliveries attended:—						
(a) Doctor not booked	...	...	...	—	1	1
(b) Doctor booked	...	...	...	4	—	4
				<hr/> 4	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 5
2. Number of patients in (1) above who received:—						
(a) gas and air analgesia	...	...	...	3	2	5
(b) pethidine	...	...	...	1	—	1
3. Number of patients in (1) above for whom medical aid was summoned:—						
(a) Where the medical practitioner had arranged to provide the mother with maternity medical services under the National Health Service Act	...	...	...	—	None	
(b) Others	...	...	...	—	None	
					<hr/> None	
TOTAL	...	...	...		<hr/>None	
4. Number of visits of inspection made by non-medical Supervisor to midwives in their own homes	...	...	...		18	

Maternity Nursing Homes—The following table shows the number of maternity cases dealt with by private Nursing Homes during the year:—

				Doctor required to be present	Doctor not required to be present	Total
1. Number of deliveries	...	...	...	19	3	22
2. Number of patients in (1) above who received gas and air analgesia	...	...	...	6	2	8
3. Number of patients in (1) above for whom medical aid was summoned	...	...	...	13		
4. Number of practising midwives employed at 31st December, 1955	...	...	...	3		
5. Number of midwives in (4) above who are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia	...	...	...	2		

Maternity Hospitals—The two Maternity Hospitals in the town are administered by the Southport and District Hospital Management Committee and the following table shows the number of patients during 1955. These figures are for residents and non-residents.

	Christiana Hartley Maternity Hospital	St. Katharine's Maternity Hospital	Total
(1) Number of Patients	477	477	954*
(2) Number of Patients in (1) above who received gas and air analgesia	373	445	818
(3) Number of Patients in (1) above for whom medical aid was summoned	209	13	222
(4) Number of practising Midwives on the staff at end of year	8	6	14
(5) Number of Midwives in (4) above who are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia	7	6	13

(*Includes 797 Southport residents and 157 non-residents)

Distribution of Maternity Cases—The following table shows the percentage of maternity cases dealt with during 1955 by the various services, and similar figures are also shown for the previous year. These figures are for mothers who were resident within the area of the Southport County Borough:—

	1954		1955	
	No. of Cases	%	No. of Cases	%
District				
Municipal Midwives	84	9.53	83	9.15
Private Midwives	4	0.47	5	0.55
TOTALS (a)... ..	88	10.00	88	9.70
Institutions				
Christiana Hartley Maternity Hospital	356	40.40	368	40.57
St. Katharine's Maternity Hospital	408	46.31	429	47.30
Nursing Homes	29	3.29	22	2.43
TOTALS (b)... ..	793	90.00	819	90.30
GRAND TOTALS (a) and (b) ...	881	100.00	907	100.00

HEALTH VISITING

The Health Visiting Service provides general care for nursing and expectant mothers and young children and in addition, is available for the purpose of giving advice to persons of all ages in the town who are suffering from illness. The Health Visitors also assist families by providing them with information concerning the other health services which are available.

The present staff consists of a Superintendent Health Visitor, who also supervises the school nursing work, 1 School Nurse, 1 Tuberculosis Health Visitor, 1 Health Visitor for Elderly People and 12 Health Visitors/School Nurses, making a total of 16. The appropriate allocation of salaries to Local Health Authority work is $9\frac{1}{2}$ Nurses, leaving $6\frac{1}{2}$ Nurses chargeable to the School Health Service.

Each of the 12 Health Visitors is responsible for a district and based on the estimated figures for the year 1955, the average case load of the 0 to 14 years age group is 1,166.

Other work which falls to the lot of the Health Visitor is that of dealing with the non-medical after-care of patients discharged from hospital, the arranging of home help and similar duties.

The following table shows the work done by the Health Visitors during 1955:—

					First Visits	Re- Visits	Total Visits
EXPECTANT MOTHERS	...	...	...	...	563	669	1232
<hr/>							
CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR:—							
Routine	...	...	...	...	901	6597	7498
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	10	24	34
Stillbirth	...	...	...	...	11	—	11
Illness	...	...	...	...	—	20	20
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	7	180	187
					929	6821	7750
<hr/>							
CHILDREN 1 TO 2 YEARS:—							
Routine	...	...	...	...	2	5397	5399
Illness	...	...	...	...	—	6	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	—	46	46
					2	5449	5451
<hr/>							
CHILDREN 2 TO 5 YEARS:—							
Routine	...	...	...	...	26	7969	7995
Illness	...	...	...	...	—	20	20
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	—	99	99
					26	8088	8114
<hr/>							

				First visits	Re- visits	Total visits
OTHER CASES:—						
Infectious Disease	...	.	...	128	43	171
Other Illness	...	...	...	28	17	45
Old People	...	...	...	254	1121	1375
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	385	141	526
				795	1322	2117

Summary

EXPECTANT MOTHERS	...	...	...	563	669	1232
CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR	...	...	...	929	6821	7750
CHILDREN AGED 1 TO 2 YEARS	...	...	...	2	5449	5451
CHILDREN AGED 2 TO 5 YEARS	...	...	...	26	8088	8114
OTHER CASES	...	...	...	795	1322	2117
TOTALS	...	...	...	2315	22349	24664

In addition, the Health Visitors made the following attendances at Clinics and Centres:—

780 attendances at Welfare Centres.

48 attendances at the Post-Natal Clinic which is held at 44 Hoghton Street.

21 attendances at the Geriatric Out-Patients' Clinic which is held at the Promenade Hospital.

85 attendances at the Paediatric Clinic, and

47 attendances at the V.D. Clinic, both of which are held at the Southport Infirmary.

981 Total number of clinic attendances made by Health Visitors.

HOME NURSING

The Southport and Birkdale District Nursing Society continued to provide the Home Nursing Service on behalf of the Health Authority under the arrangements which were agreed when the National Health Service came into operation in July, 1948. This service is noteworthy for the friendly spirit of co-operation which exists between the Voluntary Society and the Health Authority and there is no doubt that the District Nurses are making a very valuable contribution to the town's Health Services.

The local Health Authority is responsible for the reimbursement of all expenditure incurred by the Society in providing the service. The general direction is controlled by a Joint Sub-Committee, five members being appointed by the Society, and five members by the local Health Authority. The Joint Sub-Committee meets at intervals to receive reports of the work done and to approve the refund of expenditure to the Society. The advice of the Medical Officer of Health is always available to the Matron and there is close co-operation, particularly in regard to the appointment of nursing staff; monthly reports of the work done and staff available are sent to the Medical Officer of Health by the Matron.

The Nursing Staff at the end of the year consisted of 1 Superintendent, 1 Assistant Superintendent and 14 District Nurses; 5 Nurses, including the Superintendent and her Assistant were resident in the District Nurses' Home, while the remaining 11 were non-resident. Four motor cars are available, one being allocated to the Superintendent and her Assistant, the other three being used by the District Nurses. The remaining Nurses use bicycles and public transport.

Requests for nursing assistance are made direct to the Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service at the Nurses' Home or to the Superintendent Health Visitor at the Health Department. No arrangements exist to provide a night service but urgent calls out of ordinary working hours are attended to.

The home nursing of sick children is undertaken by the Nurse for the particular district and no one Nurse is required to specialise in children's work.

There is an increasing trend on the part of general medical practitioners to require District Nurses to make visits for the purpose of giving injections, chiefly of antibiotics.

The following statement shows the work done during 1955:—

	Classification of Cases						TOTALS
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
No. of Cases on Register at commencement of period	297	75	—	2	—	—	374
Add No. of New Cases during period ...	1556	317	6	19	6	—	1904
TOTALS ...	1853	392	6	21	6	—	2278
Deduct No. of cases discontinued during period	1536	317	6	15	5	—	1879
No. of Cases on Register at end of period ...	317	75	—	6	1	—	399
Total No. of Visits made	40467	5994	68	970	31	—	47530

Classification of Cases:—

1. Medical. 2. Surgical. 3. Infectious Diseases. 4. Tuberculosis. 5. Maternal Complications.
6. Others.

	No. of Cases	No. of Visits
(a) Number of new patients included above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year	943	6677
(b) Number of children included above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year	48	458
(c) Number of patients included above who have had more than 24 visits during the year	252	14045

The following table records the visits made during the last six years:—

Year			Total number of patients visited			Total number of visits
1950	...	...	1955	...	...	40890
1951	...	...	2162	...	...	41208
1952	...	...	2189	...	...	43585
1953	...	...	2256	...	...	49287
1954	...	...	2227	...	...	50798
1955	...	...	2278	...	...	47530

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

When a baby has attained the age of 8 months, a letter is sent to the mother strongly advising her to arrange for the immunisation of her child. In addition, the Health Visitors are required to visit all mothers whose babies have not been immunised and to make every effort to ensure that the infant is protected against this disease. Posters and leaflets are displayed at Welfare Centres and all children admitted to the Day Nurseries must be immunised. Special attempts are also made to immunise all children admitted to the Homes administered by the Children's Committee.

Follow-up letters are sent at the appropriate times, stressing the need for "re-inforcing" injections to maintain immunity throughout school life. Particulars are obtained from the schools each year showing the names of children not immunised and the School Nurses visit the mothers of such children with a view to persuading them to accept immunisation.

In addition to the work done by the General Medical Practitioners, regular immunisation sessions are held at the Health Department and children are also protected in this way at the Welfare Centres.

The following table shows the number of children who received a full course of primary immunisation or a re-inforcing injection during the year:—

						Primary Immunisations	Re-Inforcing Injections
CHILDREN AGED:—							
(a)	Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	525	None
(b)	1 to 4 years	...	...	...	...	205	82
(c)	5 to 14 years...	...	...	...	...	38	389
TOTALS						768	471
DONE BY:—							
(a)	General Practitioners	...	...	...	...	364	249
(b)	Health Department's Staff...	...	...	...	...	404	222
TOTALS						768	471

The percentage of children immunised at the end of 1955 is shewn below, together with similar figures for the previous year:—

	1954			1955		
	Age Groups			Age Groups		
	0—4	5—14	Total 0—14	0—4	5—14	Total 0—14
Total number of children who had completed full course of primary immunisation at any time up to the 31st December	2610	8459	11069	2618	8358	10976
Estimated child population (Mid-Year)	4300	9600	13900	4300	9700	14000
Percentage of children immunised	60·70	88·12	79·63	60·88	86·16	78·40

Immunity Index

(i.e., Number of children protected at the end of the year)

Age Group	1954	1955
Under 1 year	7·50	8·35
1—4 years	75·18	73·81
5—14 years	46·43	46·28
Under 15 years... ..	50·84	50·77

SMALL POX VACCINATION

Smallpox vaccination was continued by the General Medical Practitioners as in the previous year on the same lines as for the diphtheria immunisation scheme.

During the year an amended scheme was also approved to enable vaccination to be carried out at Welfare Centres and also at the Health Department.

During the course of their normal visits, the Health Visitors are required to stress the importance of smallpox vaccination when the baby has attained the age of 3 months. Similar advice is also given at the appropriate times to mothers attending the Welfare Centres; information leaflets are distributed at the Centres and also during the course of home visits.

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated and re-vaccinated in 1955 and the previous year:—

	1954						1955					
	Age Groups						Age Groups					
	Under 1 yr.	1—2	2—4	5—14	15 and over	Total	Under 1 yr.	1—2	2—4	5—14	15 and over	Total
Number of persons (a) Vaccinated ...	109	97	23	27	54	310	151	118	29	19	51	368
(b) Re-vaccinated	—	—	8	21	237	266	—	1	6	23	236	266

WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Until 1954 whooping cough immunisation had been carried out at the Welfare Centres and the Health Department, but only at the specific request of the parents of the child.

Extended arrangements in co-operation with the General Medical Practitioners were made during 1954 when 839 children were immunised against whooping cough, a figure which proved that this provision had been welcomed by parents and doctors. A further 755 children have been immunised during the year under review.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service continues to be operated by the Fire Brigade under the direct control of the Fire and Ambulance Service Committee, although matters of policy are referred to the Health Committee and monthly informative reports in respect of the Ambulance Service are submitted to that Committee.

The Chief Fire Officer is also the Chief Ambulance Officer. The Fire Brigade establishment is augmented by 16 men in consequence of the Ambulance Service commitments, but all personnel of the Brigade take part in both fire and ambulance duties.

The Service operates a fleet of 5 ambulances and 2 sitting case cars, and a summary of the work done, with comparative figures from 1950, is set out below.

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Total No. of Cases ...	14,404	18,863	23,499	26,275	28,651	29,303
Other Work... ..	608	652	612	654	715	710
GRAND TOTAL...	15,012	19,515	24,111	26,929	29,366	30,013
*Mileage	95,816	111,073	122,395	123,554	128,818	120,171
*Analysis of Mileage:						
(a) Inside the Boro.	53,848	62,321	71,374	77,040	77,544	78,015
(b) Outside the Boro.	41,968	48,752	51,021	46,514	51,274	42,156
	95,816	111,073	122,395	123,554	128,818	120,171

There has been a steadily increasing demand on the Service since 1949, but some success has been achieved in reducing the mileage in relation to the number of patients by the installation of radio control, and the establishment of a close liaison between the control room attendants at the Fire Station and the Almoner's Departments at the Infirmary and Promenade Hospital.

Requests for ambulance transport from hospitals are usually directed through the Almoner's office and written certification is required in respect of all out-patient journeys, although for the sake of convenience weekly certification sheets are accepted.

Requests for ambulance transport from doctors are accepted by telephone and written certification is not normally required, although the right is reserved to request written certification in unusual cases. These are usually referred by the Chief Ambulance Officer to the Medical Officer of Health for investigation. In respect of emergency cases, however, calls are accepted without question from any source.

Some 100 cases are transported each week day and by far the largest number of these are out patients travelling to and from the Promenade Hospital and General Infirmary for treatment. The volume of these cases depends on the incidence of clinics and the attendance of specialists. There are certain busy days and certain busy times on those days. To be able to operate a fixed time schedule a considerable number of vehicles and men would be required: the personnel would be very much occupied at the busy times but at others the service would be overstaffed. For example there are heavy commitments at approximately 9 a.m. each morning taking patients to treatment centres, at lunch time taking them home, immediately after lunch for the afternoon patients and again at tea time.

To use the men and vehicles to the best advantage a priority system is operated, namely, emergency cases first, admissions to hospital second, discharges from hospital third, out patients to hospital fourth and out patients to their homes last. Persons in the last two categories may experience some delay. There are many factors outside the control of the watchroom staff which influence the availability of ambulances, e.g. emergency calls, vehicle breakdowns, etc.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS—CARE AND AFTER-CARE

General—The general work done in regard to prevention of illness, care and after-care, is shown in the sections of this report dealing with the Health Visiting, Mental Health and Tuberculosis Services.

Sick-Room Equipment—As in the previous year, this Service continued to be dealt with by the Southport and Birkdale District Nursing Society. A small charge is made for the hire of the equipment, but in cases of hardship the fee may be reduced or cancelled.

During 1955 sick-room equipment was supplied to 244 patients as compared with 276 in the previous year.

Diphtheria Immunisation—The publicity scheme in regard to diphtheria immunisation was continued throughout 1955 as in previous years. The arrangements are:—

- (a) Leaflets and posters are distributed to Welfare Centres and School Clinics.
- (b) When a baby has attained the age of 8 months a letter is sent to the mother strongly advising her to arrange for the immunisation of her child. In addition, the Health Visitors are required to visit all mothers whose babies have not been immunised and make every effort to ensure that the infant is protected against the disease.
- (c) In regard to children who have already been immunised, further letters are sent to the parents at the appropriate times stressing the importance of "re-inforcing" injections being given to maintain the state of immunity throughout the years the child is attending school.
- (d) Particulars of schoolchildren who have not been immunised are also obtained at the time of the routine medical inspections and these cases are followed-up by the staff of the department.

Sick Room Helpers' Scheme—The object of this service is to provide assistance to households where one of the family is ill and the responsibility of caring for the patient is causing anxiety and distress to the other members of the home. In particular, this service is intended to give help in the following circumstances:—

- (a) Where a patient is living alone and there is no help, or where nursing care is only available at odd times, e.g. from neighbours.
- (b) Where the responsibility for the nursing of the patient falls entirely on one other member of the household.

In such cases the patient may be seriously ill, and yet for one reason or another early admission to hospital may not be possible. The nursing of the patient may then be a considerable strain on the other member or members of the household, and any relief which can be given, even if only of a temporary nature, may be of considerable help.

The Sick Room Helper takes her instructions from the doctor or district nurse attending the case, and she carries out the normal nursing care which ordinarily would be done by relatives or friends if they were available.

The full cost for the service is 2/6 per hour, but this fee may be reduced or cancelled in cases of financial hardship.

During 1955, sickroom help was provided for 32 patients, as compared with 34 in the previous year.

Welfare Centres—Posters, leaflets and other publicity material relating to general health and hygiene measures were supplied to all the Welfare Centres during the year.

The "Mothers' Club" at Hampton Road Welfare Centre held evening meetings during the winter months and in addition to social activities, various classes were organised dealing with subjects which are of special interest to mothers who have young children in their families, e.g., cooking, sewing and dressmaking, etc.

The Mothers' Choir visited a number of the local hospitals at Christmas to sing carols.

This Club forms a useful link with the normal medical and nursing work which is done at the Centre.

Co-operation with Hospitals—Throughout the year, the Almoners of the local Hospitals continued to refer the names of patients to the Health Department where the services of a district nurse or home help seemed to be required. A total of 174 patients was dealt with in this manner and the necessary help was arranged as compared with 151 patients in the previous year.

The members of the Health Visiting staff attended certain hospital clinics and these arrangements have formed an invaluable link between the hospital service and the home visiting which is done by the Health Visitors. The hospital clinics concerned are as follows:—

1. Post-natal clinic held at 44 Hoghton Street.
2. Geriatric clinic held at the Promenade Hospital.
3. Paediatric clinic held at the Southport Infirmary.
4. V.D. Clinic held at the Southport Infirmary.
5. Tuberculosis (Patients) clinic held at the Southport Infirmary.

The Medical Officer of Health continued to be in consultant charge of the infectious disease beds at the New Hall Hospital; the Deputy Medical Officer of Health and one of the two Lady Assistant Medical Officers helped with the fever hospital work. The other Assistant Medical Officer attended the Paediatrician's Clinic at the Southport Infirmary at weekly intervals and the exchange of information has been very helpful.

By arrangement with the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, the Senior Hospital Medical Officer at the New Hall Sanatorium continued to give three-elevenths of his time to preventive medical work in connection with tuberculosis.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health are members of the Medical Advisory Board to the local Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Officer of Health also acts as Honorary Secretary to the Medical Advisory Board.

Convalescent Homes—In July, 1954, the Council agreed that the Section 28 Scheme should be extended to enable convalescent care to be provided. This service is only provided on the recommendation of the patient's General Practitioner and it is not intended for those patients who can be provided with convalescent care under the local Hospital Management Committee's scheme.

During the year, three patients were sent to Convalescent Homes, the details being as follows:—

No.	Male or Female	Period of Care	Reason
1	Male	3 weeks	Post operative—gastrectomy
2	Female	3 weeks	Cholecystitis
3	Female	4 weeks	Debility

HOME HELP SERVICE

The services of a Home Help can be provided in the following circumstances:—

- (a) When a person is ill.
- (b) For expectant and nursing mothers.
- (c) For elderly persons who are infirm or ill.
- (d) To households where there is a mental defective in the family and
- (e) In any case when it is considered that the services of the Home Help would relieve anxiety and distress.

The maximum charge for the service is 3/- per hour, but on application being made this fee may be reduced or cancelled in cases of financial hardship. All the helps are part-time; the amount of time each can devote to the work has varied according to their domestic circumstances, as many of them are married women with families.

The following statement shows the work done by the Service during 1955:—

	Classification of Cases					Total
	Maternity	Sickness	Old Age	Infectious Disease	Mental Illness	
No. of Cases on register at beginning of year	—	23	126	—	—	149
No. of New Cases during year	33	86	143	1	2	265
	33	109	269	1	2	414
No. of Cases discontinued during year...	30	75	110	—	1	216
	3	34	159	1	1	198
No. of Cases on register at end of year ...	3	34	159	1	1	198
Number of Applications received	35	90	151	1	1	278
No. of Cases assisted ...	33	86	144	1	1	265
	2	4	7	—	—	13*
No. of Cases not assisted	2	4	7	—	—	13*

(*In 13 Cases the request for help was withdrawn by the applicants).

Number of Helps employed at beginning of year (All Part-Time)	29
Number Appointed during year	26
	55
Number leaving during year	17
	38
Number of Helps employed at end of year	38
Number of Visits to homes by Organiser	667
Number of Persons interviewed at Office	864

In addition to the above staff, a full-time Home Help was appointed in October with responsibilities for "on call duty" as and when required.

The following statement shows how the work has increased during the last six years:

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. of households provided with Home Helps	249	246	272	304	352	414
No. of hours worked by Home Helps	17822	20864	20392	22923	35700	41700

It will be seen that the number of households helped has increased by 66% from 249 in 1950 to 414 in 1955 and that the number of hours worked has increased by 134% from 17,822 to 41,700 in the same period. It should also be noticed that the average amount of help supplied to each household has also increased during this period from 71 hours per household in 1950 to 101 hours per household in 1955.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Sub-Committee—Ten members of the Council serve as a Mental Health Sub-Committee and two of these members are doctors; in addition, a medical practitioner has also been co-opted onto this Sub-Committee to provide a link between the general medical service of the town and the Health Authority's service.

Duties of the local Health Authority: The duties of the local Health Authority in regard to mental health are:—

- (a) The initial care and removal to hospital of persons who are suffering from mental illness and who are dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.
- (b) The ascertainment and, where necessary, removal to institutions of mental defectives and the supervision, guardianship and training of those mental defectives who remain in the community and
- (c) The care and after-care of all types of patient, including arrangements for the prevention of mental illness.

Mental Illness—Although difficulties were experienced from time to time during the year in obtaining hospital accommodation for patients suffering from mental illness, the general arrangements were adequate. The Duly Authorised Officers have to maintain a twenty-four hour service as a request for help may be received at any time of the day or night. It will also be realised that when the initial enquiries are made by the Duly Authorised Officers much tact and patience is required and for this reason, one case may occupy their time for many hours before it is brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

When patients have been discharged from hospital, notification is sent to the Health Department so that the necessary arrangements can be made for "follow-up" visits. This is an important feature of the work of the Duly Authorised Officers as they can make sure that the patient is aware of the help which can be given. Through his or her contact with the Health Department's staff, the patient also realises that friendly advice and assistance are easily available, should they be required.

The work in regard to mental illness also includes the preparation of case notes for the hospital on the admission of a patient and home reports before discharge are also required.

Mental Deficiency—Dr. Knowles has been able to devote some of her time to mental health work and is responsible for the day-to-day administration of that part which concerns mentally defective persons. Her appointment has already done much to improve this section of the department which, for some time, suffered from lack of medical staff.

The shortage of institutional accommodation is still a grave problem throughout the country. Only the most urgent and difficult cases can therefore be admitted to Mental Deficiency Hospitals and delays occur causing hardship for parents and relatives. The Health Authority's responsibility for the ascertainment, supervision, guardianship and training of defectives is thus increased. Most Authorities now take the view that wherever possible mentally retarded persons should be kept at home rather than be cared for in hospitals. There is no doubt that in sheltered employment many such persons are able to do good work as is evident by the articles produced in the occupational therapy classes.

Occupational Training Sessions were held on four full days each week with mid-day meals provided. Regular medical and dental inspections of those attending for training were carried out.

Close co-operation is also maintained between the Health Authority staff and the Disablement and Re-Settlement Officers in order to rehabilitate those who can be trained to be self-supporting in the future.

The Mental Health Visitors' supervisory work in connection with mental defectives on the district was continued as in the previous year and periodical progress reports were also prepared for those defectives who were on licence from institutions.

In August, 1954, the Council agreed that the Section 28 Scheme should be extended to enable short-term care to be provided for mental defectives. This service is intended to help parents and relatives when they are in urgent need of relief from caring for a mentally defective person and temporary accommodation in a hospital or institution is not available. During the year 1955, two defectives were dealt with in this way and the details are as follows:—

No.	Male or Female	Period of Care	Reason
1	Male	8 wks. } 11 wks. }	Owing to illness of mother and at request of own Doctor.
2	Female	16 wks.	Owing to illness of relatives who were caring for this case. Placed under statutory guardianship in November.

The following statistics show the cases dealt with during 1955:—

(A) MENTAL ILLNESS (Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 to 1930)						Male	Female	Total
(1) Number of Admissions to Hospital:—								
	for observation—Sec. 20 Lunacy Act, 1890	...	...	...	...	59	74	133
	for observation—Sec. 21(1)	do.	...	...	...	—	—	—
	as urgent patients—Sec. 11	do.	...	...	...	—	—	—
	as certified patients—Sec. 16	do.	...	...	...	1	1	2
	as certified private patients—Sec. 4, 5 & 6	do.	...	...	...	—	—	—
	as voluntary patients—Sec. 1 Mental Treatment Act, 1930	...	...	...	...	26	24	50
	as temporary patient—Sec. 5	do.	...	...	...	1	2	3
	TOTALS	...	...	...	...	87	101	188
(2) Number of admissions to mental hospitals from observation wards at County Hospital, Ormskirk						23	26	49
(3) Number of certifications for continued detention of patients already in County Hospital, Ormskirk						1	9	10
(4) Number of cases referred to the department for investigation during the year						124	181	305
(5) Action taken in regard to cases mentioned in (4) above:—								
	admitted to hospital for observation	...	...	...	...	59	74	133
	(of these, 60 were subsequently certified)	...	...	...	...
	admitted to hospital as voluntary patients	...	...	...	...	26	24	50
	referred to Psychiatric Out-Patients' Clinic	...	...	...	...	12	11	23
	referred to Welfare Service	...	...	...	...	8	10	18
	admitted to hospital as senile dementia cases	...	...	...	...	8	15	23
	no further action indicated after investigation	...	...	...	...	24	34	58
	TOTALS	...	...	...	...	137	168	305
(6) Total number of visits made by Duly Authorised Officers:—								
	(a) After-Care Visits	...	...	...	...	71	90	161
	(b) All Other Visits	...	...	...	...	196	264	460
	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS...	...	...	...	...	267	354	621
(7) Total number of discharges and deaths from mental hospitals notified during 1955:—								
	(a) Discharges	...	...	...	...	61	92	153
	(b) Deaths	...	...	...	...	10	22	32

(B) MENTAL DEFICIENCY (Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938)		Under age 16		Aged 16 and over	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
(1) PARTICULARS OF CASES REPORTED DURING 1955:—					
(a) Cases at 31st December, 1955, ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with"		4	1	5	2
Number in which action taken on reports by:—					
(1) Local Education Authorities on children					
(i) While at school or liable to attend school... ..		1	—	—	—
(ii) On leaving special schools... ..		—	—	—	—
(iii) On leaving ordinary schools		2	1	—	—
(2) Police or by Courts		—	—	3	1
(3) Other sources		1	—	2	1
(b) Cases reported who were found to be defectives but were not, at 31st December, 1955, regarded as "subject to be dealt with" on any ground		—	—	2	4
(c) Cases reported who were not regarded as defectives or in which action was incomplete at 31st December, 1955, and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)		—	1	1	—
TOTAL ...		4	2	8	6
(2) DISPOSAL OF CASES REPORTED DURING 1955:—					
(a) Of the cases ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" (i.e., at (1)(a)), number:—					
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision		3	1	1	—
(ii) Placed under Guardianship		—	—	—	1
(iii) Taken to "Places of Safety"		—	—	2	1
(iv) Admitted to Hospitals... ..		1	—	2	—
(b) Of the cases not ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" (i.e., at (1)(b)), number:—					
(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision		—	—	2	4
(ii) Action unnecessary		—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...		4	1	7	6
(3) NUMBER OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES FOR WHOM CARE WAS ARRANGED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY UNDER CIRCULAR 5/52 DURING 1955, AND ADMITTED TO:—					
(a) National Health Service Hospitals		—	—	1	—
(b) Elsewhere		—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...		—	—	1	—
(4) TOTAL CASES ON AUTHORITY'S REGISTER AT 31/12/55:—					
(i) Under Statutory Supervision		9	3	10	18
(ii) Under Guardianship		—	—	—	1
(iii) In "Places of Safety"		4	—	1	—
(iv) In Hospitals		5	2	61	40
(v) Under Voluntary Supervision		—	—	11	9
TOTAL ...		18	5	83	68
(5) NUMBER OF DEFECTIVES UNDER GUARDIANSHIP ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1955, WHO WERE DEALT WITH UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 8 OR 9, MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACT, 1913 (included in (4)(ii)):		—	—	—	—
(6) CLASSIFICATION OF DEFECTIVES IN THE COMMUNITY ON 31/12/55 (according to need at that date):—					
(a) Cases included in (4)(i)–(iii) in need of hospital care and reported accordingly to the hospital authority		—	—	—	—
(1) In urgent need of hospital care:—					
(i) "cot and chair" cases		—	—	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases		—	—	1	1
(iii) medium grade cases		—	1	—	—
(iv) high grade cases		—	—	—	—
TOTAL urgent cases ...		—	1	1	1

	Under age 16		Aged 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
(2) Not in urgent need of hospital care:—				
(i) "cot and chair" cases	—	—	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases	—	—	—	—
(iii) medium grade cases	—	—	—	—
(iv) high grade cases	—	—	—	—
TOTAL non-urgent cases ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	1	1	1
(b) Of the cases included in items (4)(i), (ii) and (v), number considered suitable for:—				
(i) occupation centre	7	3	6	10
(ii) industrial centre	—	—	—	—
(iii) home training	—	—	1	4
TOTAL	7	3	7	14
(c) Of the cases included in (6)(b), number receiving training on 31/12/55:—				
(i) In occupation centre	7	3	6	10
(ii) In industrial centre	—	—	—	—
(iii) At home	—	—	1	4
TOTAL	7	3	7	14

(7) NUMBER OF HOME VISITS MADE BY MENTAL HEALTH VISITORS DURING 1955 TO CASES UNDER STATUTORY SUPERVISION, GUARDIANSHIP OR ON LICENCE FROM INSTITUTIONS 77

Training of Mental Defectives

Summary of work for 1955:—

(1) Number on register:—	
Number of cases on register at beginning of period	20
Number of new cases added	19
	<hr/> 39
Number of cases taken off register	4
Number of cases on register at end of period	<hr/> 35
(2) Training at Homes of Mental Defectives:—	
(a) Number of visits made to mental defectives in their own homes	58
(b) Kinds of training provided:—	
Physical work, speech, sense and number training, money and time values, eurhythmics, painting, modelling, basketry, music, embroidery, knitting and sewing.	
(3) At the Centre:—	
(a) Number of sessions held	252
(b) Total number of attendances made by mental defectives during the period	4461
(c) Number of defectives attending Centre at end of the period ...	35
(d) Kinds of training provided:—	
Physical and rhythmic training, handwork, sense training, singing, games, dramatization, dancing and stories.	

Water—The water supply is maintained by the Southampton and District Water Board, which is a combination of the local authorities of the County Borough of Southampton, the Urban District of Fareham, and the Water District of Gosport. The Board supplies water within the area of these three authorities and also in part of the County Urban District.

There are two pumping stations owned by the Water Board, and these are situated at or near the mouth of the river. The water from South Hill does not come into Southampton.

The wells and boreholes are all over 300 feet deep. Owing to the depth of the wells and the nature of the strata, the possibility of contamination is remote. The water has no chemical or bacteriological action, and although somewhat hard is completely pure, both chemically and bacteriologically. The water from the Hamble River pumping station reported in July, 1924, shows a marked difference from the others, being a much better supply.

After a series of 4 years work was recommenced in February, 1924, on the Water Board's scheme for obtaining a new supply from Southampton. At this time there was a second deep borehole was completed at Mill Lane, Southampton, and a third borehole was sunk at Hamble Hill. Examination of the water during the pumping tests of these two boreholes indicates that the new supply will be fully equal to the high standard of the existing supply.

Part III

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Public Baths

Sanitary Inspection

Factories

Rodent Control

Summary of Visits

Rag Flock

Smoke Abatement

Housing

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water—The water supply is maintained by the Southport and District Water Board, which is a combination of the local authorities of the County Borough of Southport, the Urban District of Formby, and the West Lancashire Rural District. The Board supplies water within the area of these three authorities and also in part of the Ormskirk Urban District.

There are five pumping stations owned by the Water Board, and these are situated six to ten miles south-east of the town. The water from Scarth Hill does not come into Southport.

The wells and boreholes are all over 200 feet deep. Owing to the depth of the wells and the nature of the strata the possibilities of contamination are remote. The water has no plumbo-solvent action, and although somewhat hard is exceptionally pure, both chemically and bacteriologically. The water from the Blundell House pumping station (opened in July, 1934) shows a marked difference from the others, being a much softer supply.

After a delay of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years work was recommenced in February, 1954, on the Water Board's scheme for obtaining a new supply from Scarisbrick. Also in that year a second deep borehole was completed at Mill Brow, Scarisbrick, and a trial borehole was sunk at Primrose Hill. Examination of samples of water taken during the pumping tests of these new boreholes indicate that the bacterial purity of the new supplies will be fully equal to the high standard of the existing sources.

Samples of the water are taken regularly.

Chemical Analysis, 10th October, 1955

								Parts per Million
Total solid matter in solution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	404
Oxygen absorbed	}	in 15 minutes	...	...	...	...	...	0.12
from Permanganate		in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	...	0.24
Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.1
Nitrogen as Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Combined Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Carbonate Hardness (as Calcium Carbonate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	230
Total Hardness (as Calcium Carbonate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	324

(p.H. value: 7.4)

Bacteriological Examination, 19th July, 1955

Number of Bacteria on agar at 37° C. for 48 hours	...	...	=	0 per 1 c.c.
B. Coli in water examined	...	...	=	0 per 100 c.c.
Total coliform organisms in water examined	...	...	=	0 per 100 c.c.

Class 1: Highly satisfactory.

Thanks are due to Mr. N. B. Bennett, A.M.INST.C.E., M.INST.W.E., the Water Board Engineer and Manager, for providing the following statement of analyses made of the water obtained from the various pumping stations.

**Analyses of Samples of Water taken from the Pumping Stations,
24th November, 1955**

	Halsall Lane P.S.	Springfield P.S. (Filtered)	Bickerstaffe P.S. (Filtered)	Blundell House P.S. (Filtered)
Chemical Results in parts per million				
Appearance	Clear and Bright	Clear and Bright	Clear and Bright	Bright
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Slight chlorinous	Nil	Nil
Reaction pH	6.9	7.3	7.2	6.9
Free Carbon Dioxide	35	19	29	26
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.	475	650	760	370
Total Solids dried at 180°C.	315	430	560	240
Chlorine in Chlorides	25	35	24	26
Nitrogen in Nitrates	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nitrites	Absent	Absent	Absent	less than 0.01
Metals	Iron 0.03	Absent	Absent	Iron 0.08
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	0.023	0.038	0.033
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.00	0.05	0.50	0.10
Hardness: Permanent	65	70	115	30
Temporary	195	270	315	145
Total	260	340	430	175
(Total Hardness: Degrees Clarks Scale)	18.2	23.8	30.1	12.3
Bacteriological Results				
Number of Colonies developing:—				
On Agar per c.c. in 3 days at 20° C.	3	0	0	0
1 day at 37° C.	0	0	0	0
2 days at 37° C.	0	0	0	0
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction				
Present in	—	—	—	—
Absent from	100 c.c.	100 c.c.	100 c.c.	100 c.c.
Bact-coli (Type 1)				
Present in	—	—	—	—
Absent from	100 c.c.	100 c.c.	100 c.c.	100 c.c.
Clostridium Welchii Reaction				
Present in	—	—	—	—
Absent from	100 c.c.	100 c.c.	100 c.c.	100 c.c.

Report

The samples were reported as being clear and bright in appearance and free from metals, excepting negligible traces of iron and maganese. The waters vary from hard to very hard in character but contain no excess of saline or mineral constituents in solution. The results are indicative of a wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Houses supplied from other sources than the Town's supply:—Eight houses continue to be supplied from seven shallow wells adjacent to the premises.

Public Baths—The Victoria Baths near the Pier have ample bathing accommodation, which in addition to three sea-water swimming baths, comprises 45 Slipper Baths, two "Zotofoam" and "Pine Bubble" Baths, and a suite of Turkish and Russian Baths. The number of attendances during the twelve months ending 31st March, 1955, was 219,152.

The large Open-Air Bathing Lake in Princes Park is available for mixed bathing, and has a water surface area of over 55,000 square feet. The Bathing Lake was visited by 344,441 persons during the year, of which approximately 60% were bathers.

The sea water supplied to these baths is so treated by filtration and chlorination that the bath water proves to be of exceptional purity. The bacteriological findings in regard to samples from these baths taken on 6th June, 1955, are as follows:—

Summary of Findings							Bathing Lake	Victoria Baths
Organisms at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 per c.c.	1 per c.c.
Organisms at Room Temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 per c.c.	3 per c.c.
Coliform Bacilli	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil in 100 c.c.	Nil in 100 c.c.
Streptococci	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil in 10 c.c.	Nil in 10 c.c.
Cl. Welchii	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil

With regard to the smaller Baths at Canning Road and Compton Road these continued to be freely used.

The Canning Road Baths had an attendance of 5,929 during the year ending 31st March, 1955, and the Compton Road Baths an attendance of 5,508.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Drainage—Complaints received regarding choked and defective drainage systems of houses numbered 1,713 and the necessary cleansing, repairs and alterations were supervised.

Household Refuse—The work of collection and disposal of refuse is the responsibility of the Borough Engineer's Department.

Pest Control—Vermin (other than rodents). The department has continued throughout the year to assist and advise on the control of insect pests. The measures employed included spraying with insecticides, and the use of powder insecticides.

Shops—The administration of the Shops Act is carried out by the Weights and Measures Department. Defects under Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950, have been referred to the Sanitary Department, and have been dealt with. The number of inspections made during the year totalled 137.

Schools—The regular inspections of the sanitary arrangements at the schools have continued, and the standard of cleanliness has been well maintained.

Hostel—One common lodging house exists in the Borough, and has been visited on thirty-seven occasions. The conditions under which this house is conducted have on the whole been satisfactory.

FACTORIES

Statistical information, prepared in the manner required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service is shown as follows:—

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948 (Part I).

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

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written notices (4)	Owners prose- cuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	280	81	5	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	760	638	34	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority* (excluding out-workers' premises)	16	11	5	—
TOTAL	1056	730	44	—

* *i.e.* Electrical Stations (Section 103(1)), Institutions, (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	5	5	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient	5	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	17	14	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	17	17	—	—	—
TOTAL	44	38	—	—	—

OUTWORK

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in Aug. list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel:— Making, etc. ...	15	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	15	—	—	—	—	—

RODENT CONTROL

The Rodent Control Service started in March, 1944, as a result of the Infestation Order, 1943, continued to operate throughout the year.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, became operative on the 31st March, 1950, and repealed the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919. The principal differences under this Act are that the Local Authority is now charged with the responsibility of carrying out such inspections and surveys as may be necessary to ascertain that land within their district is kept free of rats; the Local Authority is also responsible for the supervision of all land which includes agricultural holdings previously supervised by the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

The one Rodent Operator is able to cover the work only by means of motor transport. The staff of Sanitary Inspectors also survey the areas in their own districts. The services of the Operator are available on application being made by occupiers of premises which are infested and a duty is laid upon them to notify the Local Authority, in writing, if rats or mice are found on land in substantial numbers. The occupier of premises or land is still responsible for the work of disinfestation of his property.

The use of the new poisons, namely, Warfarin and Tomarin, has assisted considerably in the elimination of mouse infestation. After considerable experience of these materials it would appear that Warfarin and Tomarin are very suitable poisons for the elimination of rodents.

The sewers in this area are not subject to rodent infestation; this is thought to be due to the surcharging of the sewers which takes place from time to time; on no occasion when manholes have been baited in connection with surface infestations, has a "take" been recorded.

The definition of land in the Act includes land covered with water and any building or part of a building.

It should be remembered that apart from the vast amount of destruction caused by rats and mice, these rodents may also be carriers of disease germs which can be transmitted to man by the contamination of food. It is important, therefore, to take all steps which are possible to assist the department in this work.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				(5) AGRI- CULTURAL
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling- Houses (including Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Columns (1), (2) and (3)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) ...	236	25,535	4,387	30,158	44
II. Number of Properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	41	152	91	284	4
(b) Survey under the Act...	195	513	1007	1715	39
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ...	7	7	3	17	1
III. Total inspections carried out — including re-inspections (to be completed only if figures are readily available) ...	785	836	1189	2810	166
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major) ...	—	—	—	—	—
(Minor)...	28	44	29	101	8
(b) Mice (Major) ...	—	—	1	1	—
(Minor)...	89	65	68	222	—
V. Number of infested properties (in Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. (figures should NOT exceed those given at Sec. IV) ...	104	54	88	246	—
VI. Total treatments carried out — including retreatments (to be completed only if figures are readily available) ...	114	57	99	270	—
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e.; Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act... ..	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ...	7	—	—	7	—

NOTE: The above Table has been compiled in the form requested by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and covers the twelve months ended 31st March, 1956.

Summary of Visits—During the year the total number of visits made by the Inspectors was classified as follows:—

Nuisances							
COMPLAINTS—NUMBER INVESTIGATED:—							
(1) Housing Defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	442
(2) Choked and Defective Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	1713
(3) Emission of Smoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
(4) Accumulation of Offensive Matter	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
(5) Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	586
TOTAL							2,860
INSPECTIONS:—							
Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1159
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Houses let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Common Yards, Back Roads and Passages	...	...	...	...	...	...	171
Horse-Manure Middensteads	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Pigstyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Rag Flock and Upholstery Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Places of Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Public Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	306
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Abattoir	...	...	...	...	...	...	810
Food Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Ashes Receptacles (Ashpits and Dustbins)	...	...	...	...	...	...	213
Conversions (Earth Closets and Bristol Ejects to W.C.'s)	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Testing Drains:—							
By Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	409
By Smoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
By Breaking Down	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
By Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
By Coloured Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Insufficient Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories Acts, 1937/48:—							
Factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	...	649
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	137
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Fishmongers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	307
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	463
Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	927
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	238
Public Houses, Beer Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Food Preparing and Storing Places	...	...	...	...	...	...	1543
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	700
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	467
Pet Animals Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	2674
Samples of Rag Flock, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Samples procured for Bacteriological Examination:—							
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	335
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Other Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Samples of milk procured for Biological Examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Samples obtained under the Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-1950:—							
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	212
Other Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	123
Samples of Water (chemical analysis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Samples of Swimming Bath water (Bacteriological examination)	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Inspections of Dwelling Houses and other premises for vermin infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Visits to work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	2930
Visits re Housing Survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	1080
Miscellaneous Visits (Interviews, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2843
TOTAL							20,260

Nuisances—The number of schedules of cases recorded for abatement was 2,852.

In all cases the usual verbal request for the abatement of nuisances found was made, but in 1,091 instances it was necessary to serve written notices as follows:—

Preliminary	...	...	...	1014
Statutory	...	...	...	77
TOTAL				1091

The number of preliminary and statutory notices complied with during the year was 936.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951—The purpose of the Act is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles which are stuffed or lined.

Fifteen premises were registered under the Act and five licences were granted for the storage of rag flock.

Four samples of rag flock and other filling materials were submitted for analysis during the year and all were reported to be satisfactory.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

As a result of the application made in 1954 to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for his approval to the adoption of the Model Byelaws with regard to the emission of smoke from industrial chimneys, the Minister's approval was obtained and the byelaws have been in operation since the 1st of August, 1954. The improvement with regard to the emission of smoke from industrial chimneys referred to in the Report for 1954 has continued. Several steam raising plants have been converted for the use of smokeless fuels.

Eighty-five observations were made during the year. No legal proceedings were instituted.

Most of the atmospheric pollution in this area is derived from domestic fires, not from industrial furnaces. It is hoped that by education and persuasion many more dwelling house fires will be converted to use smokeless fuels. Eight samples of soot gauge deposits were submitted for examination.

HOUSING

General—The number of inhabited houses totalled 25,535.

The following table shows the number of houses built during the period 1946 to 1955.

Year... ..	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Number of houses built... ..	310	163	156	126	102	67	113	235	155	186

Fitness for Habitation—The standard of fitness of houses in the Borough continued to be generally fairly satisfactory. Owing to the increased cost of materials and labour, it has been found that far more interviews with owners and revisits to properties than was formerly the case, have had to be made to see that notices were complied with and this has thrown greater work on to the Inspectors of the department.

There is no doubt that thorough maintenance of the lower-rented properties is not being carried out and owners are relying on frequent patching and the remedying of small items of disrepair.

Overcrowding—The number of complaints regarding alleged overcrowding received during the year was 39, of which 15 were subsequently confirmed. In all instances where overcrowding was found to occur the matter was referred to the Housing Department requesting that assistance be granted in these cases.

Food Standards
Distribution of Milk
Food Inspection
Public Abattoir
Food Hygiene
Shellfish Industry
Ice Cream

Ice Cream

FOOD STANDARDS

Three hundred and thirty-five samples of food were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis.

The results showed that 288 were genuine and 47 were adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity; the latter included 10 formal and 37 informal samples.

All the samples certified as not genuine were followed up, and appropriate action was taken.

List of samples found to be adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity

Reference Number and if formal or informal sample	Nature of sample and report of analysis	Particulars
2029 Informal ...	PORK SAUSAGE— Contained an excess of fat. Fat 43% ; lean meat 20%.	Formal Sample (No. 2056) taken.
2030 Informal ...	SUGAR CONFECTIONERY— Contained an excess of copper. Copper 560 parts per million.	Formal Sample (No. 2055) taken.
2055 Formal ...	SUGAR CONFECTIONERY— Contained an excess of copper. Copper 1,200 parts per mill.	The matter was referred to the Town Clerk but the Department was not advised to institute legal proceedings.
2056 Formal ...	PORK SAUSAGE— Deficient of meat to the extent of $7\frac{1}{2}\%$. Contained an excess of fat. Fat $33\frac{1}{2}\%$. Total meat 60% and lean meat $26\frac{1}{2}\%$.	Further Sample to be taken.
2057 Formal ...	PORK SAUSAGE— Contained a slight excess of fat. Fat $33\frac{1}{2}\%$. Lean meat $30\frac{1}{2}\%$.	Further sample to be taken.
2096 Informal ...	MILK— Deprived of 16% of its original milk fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2099 Informal ...	MILK— Deprived of 8% of its original milk fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2101 Informal ...	MILK— Slightly deficient of fat and slightly watered.	Formal Samples (Nos. 2107 and 2108) taken, which were found to be unsatisfactory.
2102 Informal ...	MILK— Deprived of 8% of its original milk fat, and contained 4% of added water.	
2107 Formal ...	MILK— Deprived of 13% of its original milk fat.	Further formal samples to be taken. This matter was referred to the Chief Milk Production Officer of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee for his attention.
2108 Formal ...	MILK— Contained 2% of added water.	
2110 Informal ...	CHEESE SPREAD, WITH HAM— Sample contained 21 milligrams of metallic mercury in the form of fine droplets.	Remainder of stock surrendered and destroyed.

Reference Number and if formal or informal sample	Nature of sample and report of analysis	Particulars
2115 Informal ...	LICORICE CIGARETTES— Coloured tip of wrapping paper contained metallic cop- per equivalent to 1,000 parts per million of the sample.	See No. 2134. Formal sample taken.
2118 Informal ...	MILK— Freezing point indicated 0.5 per cent. extraneous water.	Formal sample taken and found to be genuine.
2119 Informal ...	MILK— Freezing point indicated 0.5 per cent. extraneous water.	Formal sample taken and found to be genuine.
2125 Informal ...	FLAVOURING ESSENCE— Contained 18.7 per cent. acetic acid.	Old stock which had hydrolysed or decomposed, and the remainder of the stock was surrendered and des- troyed.
2127 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 20% fat.	Formal Samples (Nos. 2135 to 2138) taken.
2134 Formal ...	LICORICE CIGARETTES— Metallic copper on the paper tips of the sweet cigarettes, equivalent to 1,100 parts of copper per million parts of the sample.	See remarks re No. 2055.
2135 Formal ...	MILK— Deficient of fat: 26%.	Same vendor. As a result of these unsatisfactory samples, formal "ap- peal to cow" samples, numbered 2139 to 2142 inclusive, taken which were found to be poor in fat and these were notified to the Chief Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Subsequently the producer disposed of his stock of cattle.
2136 Formal ...	MILK— Deficient of fat: 13.3%.	
2137 Formal ...	MILK— Deficient of fat: 28.3%.	
2138 Formal ...	MILK— Deficient of fat: 18.3%.	
2145 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 1.6% fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2146 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 20% fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2147 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 1.6% fat.	Formal Samples taken and found to be genuine.
2151 Informal ...	MILK— Freezing point indicated 1.1% extraneous water.	Same vendor. Formal samples taken and found to be genuine.
2152 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 18.3% fat.	
2155 Informal ...	ICE CREAM— Deficient of 0.7% milk solids other than fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2166 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 15% fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2175 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 8.3% fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.

Reference Number and if formal or informal sample	Nature of sample and report of analysis	Particulars
2176 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 3·3% fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2178 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 16·6% fat.	Formal Sample to be taken.
2192 Informal ...	ORANGE DRINK— No name and address of packers on carton. Genuine.	Packers advised to have name and address printed on carton.
2205 Informal ...	JAM (CANNED)— Contained 284 parts per million tin. Recommended maximum limit 250 parts per million.	Sample from very old stock. Six tins voluntarily surrendered.
2208 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient of 1·6% fat.	Vendor notified. Follow up samples to be taken.
2217 Informal ...	MILK— Freezing point indicated 0·5% extraneous water.	Formal follow up samples to be taken from the producer.
2223 Informal ...	MILK (Condensed; Full Cream; Unsweetened)— Contained a deposit of calcium citrate weighing 1·6 gram. Otherwise genuine.	No action advised.
2224 Informal ...	MINT SAUCE (Bottled)— Genuine. List of ingredients in wrong order.	Manufacturers advised of labelling error.
2250 Informal ...	MARGARINE (Part Packet)— The sample gave indications of oxidative rancidity on the surface and at the cut end.	Remainder of stock surrendered for destruction.
2269 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient 3·3% fat.	Vendor notified.
2276 Informal ...	COD LIVER OIL COMPOUND— Contained some polymerised oil in neck of bottle.	Remainder of stock returned to Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
2289 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient 5% fat.	Vendor notified.
2292 Informal ...	PORK SAUSAGES— Meat content only 59·5%.	Vendor communicated with.
2293 Informal ...	PORK SAUSAGES— Contained 38 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor communicated with.

Reference Number and if formal or informal sample	Nature of sample and report of analysis	Particulars
2312 Informal ...	FLOUR CONFECTIONERY: Milk Chocolate Teacakes— Four of the five chocolate teacakes and their wrappers showed the presence of insect excreta and cocoon webbing probably from moth grubs. No grubs in sample when received.	No further stock available.
2348 Informal ...	MILK— Deficient 8.3% fat.	Vendor notified.
2371 Informal ...	MILK (Part Bottle)— Sample contained 0.128 gram. of mineral oil.	Vendor notified.

Food and Drugs Acts—Records, 1936-1955

Year	Number of samples taken			ANALYTICAL RESULTS OF SAMPLES						Ratio (%) of samples adulterated	Number of Prosecutions
				Number genuine			Number adulterated*				
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1936 ...	212	112	324	198	100	298	14	12	26	8.02	3
1937 ...	201	151	352	185	139	324	16	12	28	7.95	1
1938 ...	213	169	382	198	131	329	15	38	53	13.87	1
1939 ...	203	158	361	183	131	314	20	27	47	13.01	2
1940 ...	181	182	363	156	161	317	25	21	46	12.67	9
1941 ...	161	212	373	146	197	343	15	15	30	8.04	11
1942 ...	168	199	367	161	184	345	7	15	22	5.99	2
1943 ...	172	191	363	157	156	313	15	35	50	13.77	9
1944 ...	178	203	381	163	178	341	15	25	40	10.49	6
1945 ...	75	305	380	68	275	343	7	30	37	9.73	1
1946 ...	50	291	341	48	269	317	2	22	24	7.03	1
1947 ...	50	280	330	48	262	310	2	18	20	6.06	—
1948 ...	44	291	335	42	275	317	2	16	18	5.37	1
1949 ...	48	334	382	35	312	347	13	22	35	9.16	10
1950 ...	92	227	319	86	216	302	6	11	17	5.32	3
1951 ...	131	237	368	123	221	344	8	16	24	6.52	—
1952 ...	103	386	489	88	362	450	15	24	39	7.97	8
1953 ...	26	377	403	21	358	379	5	19	24	5.95	—
1954 ...	27	474	501	14	427	441	13	47	60	11.97	4
1955 ...	12	323	335	2	286	288	10	37	47	14.02	—

*Certified by the Public Analyst as being adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity.

**Table showing particulars of the number of samples taken for
Bacteriological Examination—Year 1955**

Nature of Samples and Specimens	Number of Specimens procured for submission to bacteriologist for bacteriological examination				
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total for the year
FOOD AND DRINK—					
Ice Cream... ..	0	42	19	7	68
Milk	97	85	51	102	335
Other Foods	44	10	18	26	98
*Water	1	1	2	0	4
TOTALS	142	138	90	135	505
MISCELLANEOUS—					
†Water	0	0	14	0	14
‡Containers, etc. ...	5	0	0	0	5
TOTALS	5	0	14	0	19
GRAND TOTALS ...	147	138	104	135	524

* Intended for human consumption.

† Swimming Baths.

‡ Four glass bottles and one cloth examined for sterility.

Laboratory Facilities—Specimens for pathological examination are sent to the laboratory of the Southport Infirmary and samples of food and drugs requiring chemical analysis are analysed by the Public Analyst for Southport. The bacteriological examinations of milk, food and water supplies are done by the Public Health Laboratory Service of Liverpool.

DISTRIBUTION OF MILK

There are 164 distributors of milk on the register of the Local Authority of whom 160 have their premises inside the Borough. The premises are inspected regularly and samples were frequently submitted for bacteriological examination, of which 211 were Pasteurised, 7 Sterilised, 64 Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised), 30 Undesignated, 9 Tuberculin Tested and 14 Tuberculin Tested Certified. Of these samples, 19 Undesignated samples, 1 T.T. and 5 T.T. Certified failed the Methylene Blue Test; 6 Pasteurised samples and 1 T.T. (Pasteurised) failed the Phosphatase Test and the remainder proved to be satisfactory. In all instances where the Pasteurised Milk failed the Phosphatase Test, the milk was examined by means of guinea pig inoculation for Tubercle Bacilli. In addition, 53 samples of raw milk were submitted for biological examination and in two instances Tubercle Bacilli were found. All the milk from the herds was pasteurised until declared free of tuberculous cows, by the Veterinary Surgeon. In two instances the guinea pig died too soon for a diagnosis to be made.

In all instances where unsatisfactory samples were obtained, the premises were thoroughly examined and the equipment tested with a view to finding the source of the failure. In every case where unsatisfactory milk samples were obtained from producers outside the Borough, the information was submitted to the appropriate authority.

The number of samples taken for chemical analysis was 212, of which 28 were reported by the Public Analyst to be adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity. Details of the 28 are given on pages 58 to 61. There is no doubt that many samples of milk giving rise to irregularity are due to the poor quality of milk supplied by the animals. In all instances where this is encountered, the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is informed with a view to the quality of the milk being improved.

Sale of Milk under Designation

Classification of Licences issued	Number of Licences issued during the year	
	1954	1955
(1) Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949		
<i>"Tuberculin Tested"</i>		
Dealers' Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Tuberculin Tested"</i> in relation to milk sold from the holder's premises	37	35
Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Tuberculin Tested"</i> in relation to milk sold by retail from the holder's premises outside the Borough	2	2
(2) Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949		
<i>"Pasteurised"</i>		
Dealers' (Pasteurisers') Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Pasteurised"</i> in relation to milk treated by the pasteurising process at the holder's premises	10	9
Dealers' Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Pasteurised"</i> in relation to milk sold from the holder's premises ...	83	95
Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Pasteurised"</i> in relation to milk sold by retail from the holder's premises outside the Borough	3	3
<i>"T.T. Pasteurised"</i>		
Dealers' Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)"</i> in relation to milk sold from the holder's premises	51	57
Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)"</i> in relation to milk sold by retail from the holder's premises outside the Borough	2	2
<i>"Sterilised"</i>		
Dealers' Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Sterilised"</i> in relation to milk sold from the holder's premises ...	94	99
Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the special designation <i>"Sterilised"</i> in relation to milk sold by retail from the holder's premises outside the Borough	3	3
TOTALS	285	305

FOOD INSPECTION

Details of the food inspected and rejected as unfit for human consumption are set out below:—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

PARTICULARS	PUBLIC ABATTOIR					
	Cattle (excl'n'g Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number of animals killed ...	2791	385	212	10273	3005	—
Number of carcases inspected ...	2791	385	212	10273	3005	—
RESULTS						
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci:—						
Number of whole carcases condemned ...	1	1	3	14	14	—
Number of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	745	180	—	720	162	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	26·72	47·01	1·41	7·14	5·85	—
Tuberculosis only:—						
Number of whole carcases condemned ...	4	3	1	—	—	—
Number of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	221	126	—	—	103	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	8·06	33·50	0·47	—	3·42	—
Cysticercosis:—						
Number of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Number of carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Summary of meat and other articles of food which were found to be diseased or unwholesome

	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef ...	171	2	13
Veal ...	1	3	23
Mutton ...	14	0	23
Pork ...	25	3	25
Fish ...	8	1	20
Poultry, Game, Rabbits ...	7	1	19
Fruit and Vegetables ...	17	3	6

Tinned Goods:—

					Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Milk	...	...	...	...	4	3	27
Meat	...	...	...	...	29	0	14
Fish...	...	...	...	...	2	3	25
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	7	0	21
Fruit	...	...	...	...	17	0	2
Cereals	...	...	...	...	0	2	27
Jam	...	...	...	...	0	1	24
Egg ...	...	...	...	...	9	3	17
Cake, etc.	...	...	...	...	99	0	19
Potatoes and Turnips	...	...	...	...	2	0	0
Cheese	...	...	...	...	1	2	12
Butter	...	...	...	...	1	2	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
					429	1	11
TOTAL					21 tons	9 cwts.	39 lbs.

Whenever possible, meat was sent for salvage and converted into technical/industrial substances. The remaining diseased or unsound food was destroyed.

Apart from one instance, when it was necessary to obtain a Magistrate's Order, the whole of the food listed was voluntarily surrendered, and no further legal action was required to safeguard public health.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR

The Abattoir is catering for the County Borough of Southport and for parts of the rural area adjoining. The total throughput during the year was 2,791 cattle (excluding cows), 385 cows, 212 calves, 10,273 sheep and lambs, and 3,005 pigs.

The Abattoir consists of one large slaughtering hall containing a two-way stunning pen which communicates with the dressing room. It is possible by means of the stunning pen to slaughter up to a maximum of 50 cattle per day, but this total has not been required since decontrol of livestock. By means of overhead runways, the carcasses can be cooled to a temperature of 45°F. in the cooling hall and this facility has been widely used. In addition, there are abundant facilities for the slaughtering of sheep and lambs and the pig slaughtering hall is quite adequate for the needs of the area served. Each slaughtering room is provided with hot water and steam sterilisation points.

At certain periods of the year there is insufficient lairage accommodation and it is hoped that additional lairage facilities will be provided in the future. All the existing lairs are being provided with constant water supply and hay racks in compliance with the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (No. 2) Regulations, 1954.

The area is well served by accommodation for the slaughtering of livestock and the facilities provided are of as high a standard as it is possible to provide in connection with old buildings.

FOOD HYGIENE

There is no doubt that the standard of food preparing premises continues to improve and, though there is still room for improvement in certain sections, the good co-operation which exists between the sanitary department and the representatives of the various trades ensures that improvements will be effected where necessary without resorting to legal action. In addition, the continued good response of the employees of the food industry in attending the food hygiene lectures organised jointly by the Health Committee and the St. John Ambulance Association has assisted in the improvement in the hygienic methods of the food handlers in the area and in the promotion of closer relations between members of the food trades and the staff of the Department.

The catering industry experienced great difficulty in recruiting suitable staff during the height of the season and this difficulty is increasing year by year. It is practically impossible to arrange for the seasonal workers to receive the same educational training as the regular members of the staff and this section of the industry often includes persons who most need such education. Since the inauguration of the food hygiene lectures in the Autumn of 1950, 737 persons have attended, 468 persons have sat for the examination; 306 have been successful and have received the certificate signed jointly by the Medical Officer of Health and the Chairman of the Local Division of the St. John Ambulance Association. It is interesting to note that one particular food preparing firm makes it a condition of employment that the staff attend the elementary course of lectures in food hygiene; this is a welcome sign, showing that the industry itself is appreciating the value of these courses.

The Health Committee in conjunction with the St. John Ambulance Association, is the first body which has struck a badge for students who have obtained the elementary certificate of the Association, the badge indicates the unity of the arms of the two bodies in the promotion of higher standards in food hygiene and is decorated by the Southport Coat of Arms. The Advanced Course for Food Hygiene organised by the Education Authority and the Health Department, consisting of 26 lectures, has been well attended. This course has stimulated a great deal of interest amongst the supervisory staff who have attended. It is hoped to assist such persons in performing their duties more efficiently.

The Southport Food Hygiene Association, a voluntary body composed of members who have attended the Food Hygiene Courses, has continued to grow and now has a membership of 52. The Association meets monthly for lectures and arranges visits to modern factories and food preparing premises throughout the adjoining area. There is no doubt that this Association is of real value to the town and again has assisted in promoting closer relations between the food trades and the Sanitary Inspectors.

Many requests are made from proprietors of cafes and food premises for advice on reconstruction and types of equipment to be installed and it is not anticipated that the Food Hygiene Regulations, when they become operative, will create a great deal of difficulty, as the Inspectors engaged on this type of work are regarded more as "Advisory Officers" than as officials merely enforcing the legislation in relation to the food industry.

Frequent bacteriological examination of food stuffs has been made and improvements in sterilisation and handling methods have resulted from such examinations.

(A) Summary of Food Hygiene Inspections

INSPECTIONS							Number
Hotels, Restaurants and Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	1543
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	238
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	463
Confectioners' and Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	927
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Fishmongers', Greengrocers' and Poulterers'	...	...	...	...	...	...	307
Public Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	384
TOTAL							4038

(B) Summary of Improvements Effectuated

	Number
Major reconstructions of cafe, kitchens and bakehouses ...	17
Minor structural improvements, cleansing and repairs ...	108
Improved food storage facilities	17
Equipment renewed, repaired and cleansed	39
Improved washing-up facilities and procedure	16
Improved sanitary accommodation for staff including personal washing facilities	21
Improved sanitary accommodation for patrons	3
Improved refuse storage facilities	14
Vermin eliminated	19
TOTAL	254

THE SHELLFISH INDUSTRY

During the year two wholesale shellfish premises have been registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

By means of frequent bacteriological sampling of the shellfish, an improvement in the bacteriological standard has been obtained, but a considerable amount of work has still to be carried out before all the shellfish premises in the Borough can be regarded as satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

It is gratifying to be able to record that there has been a steady improvement in the bacteriological quality of ice cream on sale in the Borough. There is no doubt that the Department's activities in this particular field have had a marked effect during the year, when reviewed in the light of the results in past years.

The comparable figures are:—

Year	Percentage of Samples found to be unsatisfactory
1949	52.20
1950	26.95
1951	19.78
1952	22.90
1953	29.50
1954	9.17
1955	8.82

In all instances where unsatisfactory samples are obtained from local manufacturers energetic steps are taken, including sampling of the product at various stages of production and investigation into the methods of cleansing and sterilisation. Where unsatisfactory samples are obtained from manufacturers outside the Borough, the appropriate authority is informed.

The number of premises used in connection with the manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream is set out below:—

PARTICULARS	Number
For the purpose of manufacture and sale	9
For the purpose of sale	228
TOTAL	237

Sixty-eight samples of ice cream were procured and submitted for bacteriological examination.

The Ministry of Health Provisional Grading of Ice Cream is divided into four grades as follows:—

GRADE I the ice cream, after incubation, does not decolourise Methylene Blue in 4 hours.

GRADE II the ice cream, after incubation, decolourises Methylene Blue in 2 hours to 4 hours.

GRADE III the ice cream, after incubation, decolourises Methylene Blue in $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to 2 hours.

GRADE IV the ice cream, after incubation, decolourises Methylene Blue immediately.

Grades I and II are regarded as satisfactory; Grades III and IV as unsatisfactory.

The following table shows the gradings of the samples examined:—

YEAR	RESULTS OF SAMPLES TAKEN						GRAND TOTAL
	NUMBER SATISFACTORY			NUMBER UNSATISFACTORY			
	Grade I	Grade II	Total	Grade III	Grade IV	Total	
1949 ...	10	11	21	9	14	23	44
1950 ...	42	42	84	12	19	31	115
1951 ...	70	39	109	17	26	43	152
1952 ...	67	71	138	26	15	41	179
1953 ...	65	21	86	22	14	36	122
1954 ...	83	16	99	9	1	10	109
1955 ...	49	13	62	5	1	6	68
TOTALS	386	213	599	100	90	190	789

Overall Results: Satisfactory, 91.18%; Unsatisfactory, 8.82%.

Tuberculosis
Venereal Disease
Statistical Tables

Venereal Disease

Statistical Tables

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality—The number of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the notice of the department during the year was 76. Of these 66 were found to be suffering from pulmonary disease and 10 from non-pulmonary disease. The following table shows the age and sex of these patients together with information regarding the number of persons who died of tuberculosis during the year.

Age Periods (in years)	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 25	5	7	—	1	—	—	—	—
25 to 45	14	11	2	1	—	2	—	—
45 to 65	16	2	1	2	7	—	—	—
65 to 75	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
75 and over	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	40	26	4	6	10	3	—	—

Treatment Clinic—The 75 new cases came to the notice of the Department in the following ways:—

(a) By primary notifications...	45
(b) By transfer from other areas	23
(c) From Death Returns	7
(d) Lost sight of cases returned	1
TOTAL	76

All the cases for whom primary notifications were received and all patients transferred from other areas were seen at the Treatment Clinic which is held at the Southport Infirmary. The total number of cases on the Clinic Register at the end of 1955 was 456 and 58 of these patients were found to have sputum containing tubercle bacilli. During the year, 52 Treatment Clinics were held and 665 visits were made by patients; the total number of X-ray examinations of patients was 727.

It should be mentioned that the Southport and District Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the organisation and administration of the Tuberculosis Treatment Clinics.

Contact Clinic—The Health Authority is responsible for the Contact Clinic and this is also held at the Southport Infirmary by arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee.

During the year, 48 clinics were held and 882 attendances were made by contacts of patients; the total number of X-ray examinations of contacts was 805. Four contacts were found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis in 1955.

B.C.G. Vaccination—It became possible in April, 1951, to introduce vaccination against tuberculosis using a special vaccine prepared abroad and named after the French scientists, Calmette and Guérin. It can be used at present within certain limitations imposed by the Ministry of Health and under controlled conditions.

This form of inoculation is the same in principle as for instance small-pox vaccination—namely to produce in the human body an artificially acquired resistance to the disease by injecting its casual organism in a form which does not cause active development of the disease itself. It is not yet certain to what degree B.C.G. vaccination gives protection against tuberculosis and only experience will show how far it is effective in this country. Most authorities now consider that the risk of contracting tuberculosis, particularly in childhood, is less in the vaccinated than in the unvaccinated person. Abroad, particularly in the Scandinavian countries, B.C.G. vaccination is being widely used with reported success in combating tuberculosis. At home, it is now offered to those at special risk, particularly child contacts of a known tuberculous person. Not all such children require to be protected in this way since some have already developed resistance to tuberculosis when first examined. It is possible to differentiate between those with little or no resistance and those with acquired immunity, by means of a skin test called the Mantoux Test. It is advisable that those persons reacting negatively to the Mantoux Test and who are in contact with known cases of tuberculosis, should be vaccinated with B.C.G. vaccine. Certain other groups of individuals at special risk as regards tuberculosis, e.g., medical students and nurses are offered this form of protection through the hospital services, but it is not yet available generally for members of the public.

(1) The total number of persons vaccinated during the year 1955 is shown below:—

(a) At B.C.G. Clinics	48
(b) Babies seen by the Consultant Paediatrician	10
TOTAL	58

(c) Total number vaccinated since scheme commenced in April, 1951 306

(2) Number of B.C.G. Clinics	8
Number of attendances made by contacts	49
Number of Mantoux and patch tests	111
Number of sessions by Tuberculosis Visitor at B.C.G. Clinic	12

Housing—The Points Scheme which is used for the purpose of selecting tenants for Corporation houses, makes special provision for tuberculous patients. Additional points are awarded when either the applicant or his wife, or any of their children are known to be suffering from infectious tuberculosis and this concession is of benefit to those cases where improved housing accommodation is desirable for the patient and his family.

During 1955, one case was referred to the Housing Department with a recommendation that alternative accommodation would be helpful.

Domiciliary Visiting—A Health Visitor is employed by the Health Authority for the purpose of visiting cases in their own homes to give help and advice to patients and their families. The following table shows the number of visits made during the year:—

To Patients:—	First Visits ...	...	...	...	...	42
	Re-Visits ...	...	...	...	...	1006
To Contacts:—	First Visits ...	...	...	...	...	126
	Re-Visits ...	...	...	...	...	1378
						<hr/>
	Total Number of Visits ...					2552

In addition, the Health Visitor also attends at the Tuberculosis Treatment and Contact Clinics and this arrangement is very satisfactory as it provides a useful link between the Hospital Service and the Health Authority's Service.

During 1955, the Tuberculosis Health Visitor made 88 attendances at the Tuberculosis Treatment and Contact Clinics.

Mass Miniature Radiography Unit—The following statement shows the numbers of persons who attended for miniature X-ray examinations when the No. 2 Mass Radiography Unit of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board was in Southport from the 17th October to the 28th December.

	Male	Female	Total
(1) Total number of persons examined	5000	6651	11651
(2) Age Groups of persons examined:—			
Under 14 years	1502	1820	3322
15 years to 24 years	824	1911	2735
25 years to 34 years	747	814	1561
35 years to 44 years	707	711	1418
45 years to 59 years	839	955	1794
60 years and over	381	440	821
TOTALS	5000	6651	11651
(3) Classifications:—			
Tuberculosis:—			
Tuberculosis—presumed healed	38	40	78
Suspect Tuberculosis	2	1	3
Occasional supervision	17	10	27
Close supervision	1	2	3
Requiring immediate treatment	3	3	6
Tuberculosis, already known to Chest Clinic	—	1	1
Bronchiectasis	8	3	11
Pneumoconiosis	2	—	2
Carcinoma of lungs and bronchus	2	—	2
Cardiac abnormalities	6	10	16
No abnormality	4921	6581	11502
	5000	6651	11651

Of the total numbers examined, 11,502 or 98·1% showed no radiological evidence of disease of the chest at the time of examination.

It is hoped that the next visit will be made in the autumn of 1956.

Open-Air Chalets—In some cases the Tuberculosis Officer may advise the patient that separate sleeping accommodation is desirable, particularly when there are young children in the family, but on occasions the home circumstances may be such that this cannot be arranged.

To meet this special need the Health Authority loan open-air chalets to suitable patients on the advice of the Tuberculosis Officer, thereby enabling treatment to be continued in a more satisfactory manner.

These chalets are equipped with Calor gas lighting and three are being used.

Care Committee—The Southport Voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee continued as in previous years, to provide patients and their families with financial and other assistance. This Committee forms an essential part of the general scheme for tuberculosis patients and all the medical and nursing staff who are engaged in the service are members of this voluntary organisation. During the year the Care Committee provided financial and other assistance to patients and their families to the value of £427.

Number of Patients on Register—The following statement shows the numbers of patients on the register during the last five years:—

NUMBER OF PATIENTS ON THE REGISTER during the last five years

	1951			1952			1953			1954			1955		
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total
1. No. of patients on register at beginning of year ...	292	92	384	326	89	415	367	96	463	388	84	472	388	65	453
2. No. of patients added during the year:—															
(a) primary notifications of new cases ...	46	4	50	51	12	63	51	5	56	49	7	56	41	4	45
(b) transfers from other areas ...	16	3	19	18	1	19	11	3	14	12	1	13	19	4	23
(c) lost sight of cases returned...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	2	1	—	1
TOTALS (1) ...	356	99	455	395	102	497	431	104	535	451	92	543	449	73	522
3. No. of patients deleted during the year:—															
(a) died (from all causes) ...	22	1	23	12	6	18	14	5	19	10	—	10	12	—	12
(b) transferred to other areas ...	6	—	6	9	—	9	15	—	15	18	3	21	21	1	22
(c) recovered ...	1	4	5	5	—	5	6	15	21	20	15	35	7	8	15
(d) lost sight of or refused further assistance ...	1	5	6	2	—	2	8	—	8	15	9	24	13	3	16
TOTALS (2) ...	30	10	40	28	6	34	43	20	63	63	27	90	53	12	65
4. No. of patients on register at the end of year (i.e., totals (1), less totals (2))	326	89	415	367	96	463	388	84	472	388	65	453	396	61	457
5. Summary of new patients found during the year:—															
(a) Primary notifications of new cases ...	46	4	50	51	12	63	51	5	56	49	7	56	41	4	45
(b) Transfers from other areas ...	16	3	19	18	1	19	11	3	14	12	1	13	19	4	23
(c) Patients found from death returns (figures not included in items (1) to (4) above)	2	—	2	2	—	2	5	1	6	5	1	6	5	2	7
(d) Lost sight of cases returned	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	2	1	—	1
TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW PATIENTS ...	66	7	73	71	13	84	67	9	76	68	9	77	66	10	76

VENEREAL DISEASES

At the end of the year 1955, 91 new cases were under treatment at the clinic, as compared with 57 cases at the end of 1954.

These new cases were classified as follow:—

	Male	Female	Total
(1) Syphilis	4	4	8
(2) Gonorrhoea	4	—	4
(3) Non-Venereal Infections ...	56	21	77
	64	25	89
(4) Cases transferred from other clinics			
Syphilis	—	1	1
Gonorrhoea	—	1	1
TOTALS ...	64	27	91

The following statement shows the numbers of cases of syphilis and gonorrhoea during the last fifteen years:—

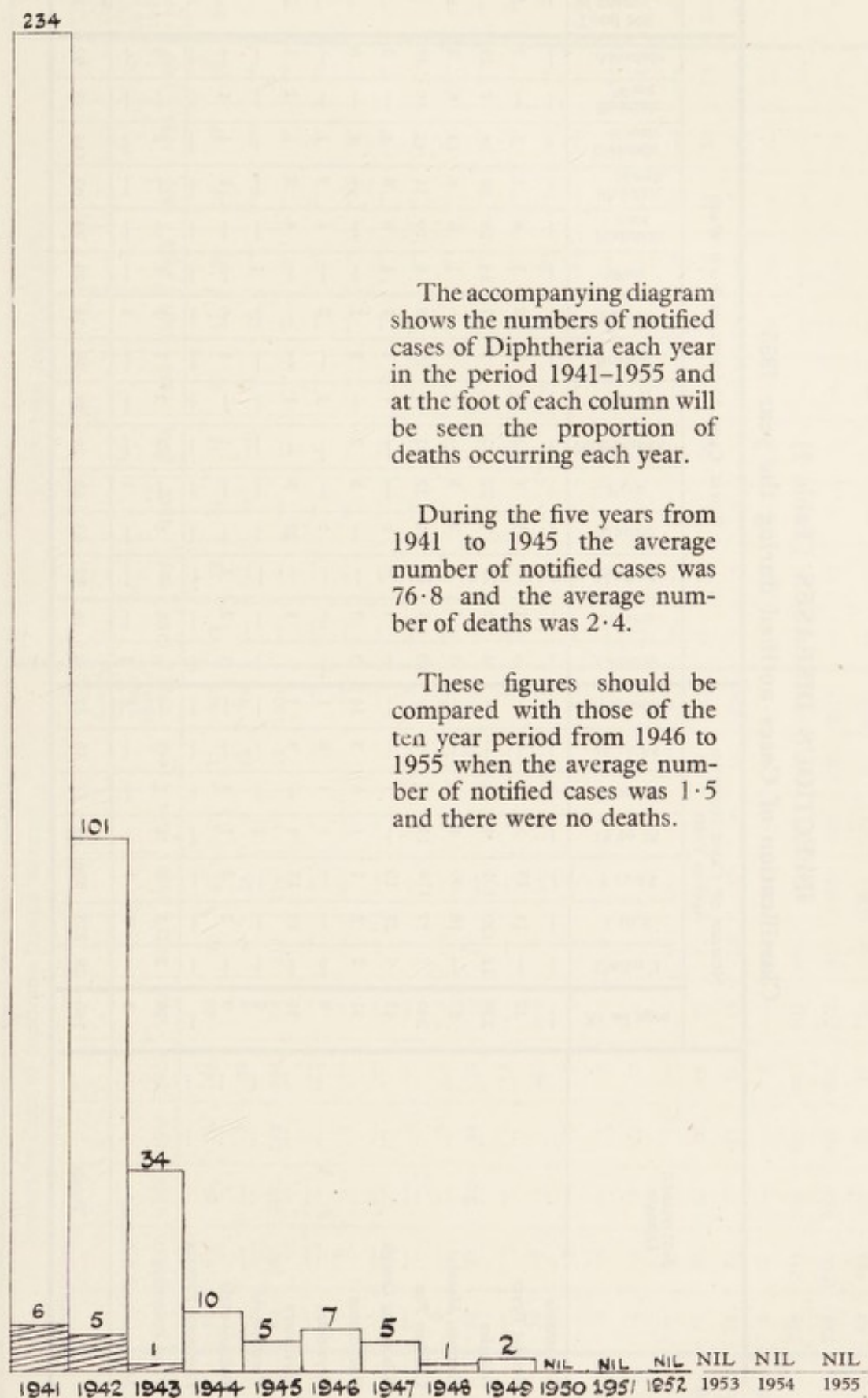
YEAR	SYPHILIS					GONORRHOEA		
	Number of new cases during the year			Number of cases on register at end of year	Total number of attendances during year	Number of new cases during the year	Number of cases on register at end of year	Total No. of attendances during year
	Congenital	Others	Total					
1941 ...	7	26	33	145	1891	77	121	6826
1942 ...	10	34	44	150	2972	81	99	5529
1943 ...	8	45	53	160	3185	81	86	5183
1944 ...	12	38	50	182	3063	85	96	3730
1945 ...	6	39	45	156	2991	90	114	3751
1946 ...	8	30	38	169	2740	130	111	4343
1947 ...	3	32	35	147	2751	76	116	3362
1948 ...	6	29	35	151	2321	77	102	2395
1949 ...	3	26	29	163	1892	37	106	1420
1950 ...	—	16	16	155	1795	15	72	639
1951 ...	5	11	16	92	1496	15	21	206
1952 ...	6	9	15	84	1535	9	7	107
1953 ...	2	10	12	62	1184	8	2	84
1954 ...	1	6	7	57	1412	3	2	18
1955 ...	1	7	8	56	1625	4	5	46

An important feature of the prevention and treatment of venereal disease is the work which is done to ensure that patients attend for treatment at regular periods. So far as the female patients are concerned, this follow-up work is done by one of the Health Visitors; this Health Visitor is also present at the V.D. Clinic when patients are being seen by the Consultant and the arrangement is of great value in maintaining a close liaison between the district and the clinic work.

As there is no suitable person on the staff of the Health Department to deal with the follow-up of male patients, an arrangement has been made with the Southport and District Hospital Management Committee for the male nurse at the V.D. Clinic to undertake these duties during his off-duty time on a repayment basis; due to his efforts the number of male defaulters has been reduced to a minimum. During the year the Health Visitor made 76 follow-up visits and also attended 50 V.D. Clinics. At the commencement of the year there were 9 male defaulters on the register and 72 other names were added during the course of the year; the male nurse dealt successfully with 78 of these, leaving 3 patients as defaulters at the end of the year. During the course of the year, 76 home visits were made by the male nurse.

DIPHTHERIA

Number of notified cases and number of deaths
during years 1941 to 1955 inclusive



The accompanying diagram shows the numbers of notified cases of Diphtheria each year in the period 1941-1955 and at the foot of each column will be seen the proportion of deaths occurring each year.

During the five years from 1941 to 1945 the average number of notified cases was 76.8 and the average number of deaths was 2.4.

These figures should be compared with those of the ten year period from 1946 to 1955 when the average number of notified cases was 1.5 and there were no deaths.

- Notified Cases
 - Deaths

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Table 1)
Classification of Cases notified during the year 1955

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED Ages in Years								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD																
	At all ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 upwards	Central	Craven	Heslith	Marine	Park	Scarisbrick	South	Sussex	Talbot	West	Birkdale East	Birkdale North	Birkdale South	Birkdale West	Ainsdale	Total No. of cases removed to Hospital	
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever ...	32	—	13	15	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	4	1	5	—	2	14
Measles ...	238	12	120	101	4	1	—	—	4	2	23	7	27	12	14	2	7	14	29	29	38	7	23	7	
German Measles ...	57	—	16	30	6	5	—	—	3	1	4	2	3	—	3	3	—	—	1	8	8	13	6	2	—
Chicken Pox ...	286	7	77	174	15	12	1	—	10	5	20	24	22	11	7	19	18	8	19	11	45	19	48	9	
Whooping Cough ...	43	5	27	10	—	1	—	—	—	1	4	2	—	—	7	1	2	1	8	8	4	—	5	1	
Pneumonia ...	31	2	3	1	1	5	5	14	3	3	—	—	3	2	—	9	1	—	—	—	4	—	6	1	
Erysipelas ...	9	—	—	—	1	1	6	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	3	1	—	—	3	
Dysentery ...	35	—	13	15	3	—	3	1	—	1	—	20	3	—	1	—	—	—	4	2	1	2	1	29	
Paratyphoid ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Poliomyelitis ...	9	—	2	3	1	3	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	5	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Poisoning ...	16	2	3	6	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	5	9	
Meningococcal Infection ...	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Totals ...	760	28	275	356	35	31	18	17	22	16	52	63	62	29	38	38	34	29	73	63	114	35	92	80	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Table 2)
Number of Notified Cases and number of Deaths for the years 1946 to 1955 inclusive

	NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED										Total Cases for 10 years 1946 to 1955	DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE										Total Deaths during 10 years 1946 to 1955	Case Mortality for 10 years 1946—1955
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955		1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955		
Pneumonia ...	78	93	82	70	46	69	51	32	15	31	567	27	23	31	31	40	51	38	22	27	58	348	61.38%
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	1	23	4	—	26	2	16	72	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1.39%
Scarlet Fever ...	62	167	210	125	167	94	213	176	55	32	1301	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	7	5	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	33.33%
Para-Typhoid Fever ...	2	—	—	6	2	1	—	—	—	1	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas... ..	32	25	33	34	24	15	17	22	10	9	221	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery... ..	36	4	3	6	282	155	9	18	154	35	702	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	0.43%
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	2	—	2	2	2	1	5	1	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection...	4	4	—	1	3	4	4	—	1	3	24	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3	12.50%
Polionyelitis ...	4	8	3	1	2	2	1	7	2	9	39	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	15.38%
Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	56	62	51	58	68	77	71	67	68	65	643	31	39	27	26	15	22	12	13	16	13	214	33.28%
Other Forms of T'bercul's	16	22	17	13	16	13	13	9	9	10	138	3	5	3	5	5	5	6	5	—	—	37	26.81%
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox ...	598	234	506	543	345	295	992	225	1395	286	5419	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	228	1000	788	896	595	1272	345	1202	457	238	7021	—	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	7	0.10%
German Measles ...	83	462	161	55	45	76	330	1505	60	57	2834	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	76	500	457	277	352	192	179	206	452	43	2734	—	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	6	0.22%
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Part VI

OTHER INFORMATION

Blindness

Cerebral Palsy

Epilepsy

List of Centres and Clinics

Medical Examinations

Nursing Homes

Nurses' Agencies

Persons requiring Care and Attention

Riding Establishments

Special Surveys

Civil Defence Ambulance Service

Work done on behalf of Children's Committee

OTHER INFORMATION

Blindness, Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy—I am indebted to Mr. J. Sinnott, the Senior Welfare Officer, for the following details:—

Blindness—There are 181 persons on the Blind Register and 46 others are classified as partially sighted. Many of these persons attend the Handicraft Classes and take part in other social activities at the Blind Social Centre, Gallie House, Hoghton Street, Southport.

Cerebral Palsy—No cases of this condition are provided for by the Welfare Services Committee.

Epilepsy—The following are the numbers of persons accommodated on account of epilepsy under arrangements made by the Welfare Committee:—

			Female	Male
David Lewis Colony, Alderly Edge	...	...	1	—
Maghull Homes, Maghull	...	...	2	4
Langho Colony, Manchester	...	...	3	1

Centres and Clinics—The following list shows the Centres and Clinics which were in operation during 1955:—

ADDRESS	DAY	TIME
CHILD WELFARE CENTRES:—		
1. Methodist Church, Ainsdale	Mondays	2 to 4 p.m.
2. North Road, Crossens	Wednesdays	2 to 4 p.m.
3. Methodist School, Liverpool Road	Tuesdays	2 to 4 p.m.
4. Poulton Road, High Park	Tuesdays	2 to 4 p.m.
do. do.	Wednesdays	2 to 4 p.m.
5. Hampton Road	Thursdays	2 to 4 p.m.
6. Methodist School, Derby Road	Fridays	2 to 4 p.m.
ANTE-NATAL CLINICS:—		
44 Hoghton Street	Thursdays	2 to 4 p.m.
POST-NATAL CLINICS:—		
44 Hoghton Street	Mondays	2.30 to 3.15 p.m.
TUBERCULOSIS CONTACT CLINIC:—		
Southport Infirmary	Mondays	2 to 5 p.m.

The establishments administered by the Department were visited by members of the Health Committee on the 28th and 30th June.

Medical Examinations—The following table shows the work done by the medical staff of the department during 1955 in regard to the medical examination of employees for the purpose of the Superannuation and Sickness Pay Schemes.

Department	NUMBER OF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS			
	Super- annuation Scheme	Sickness Pay Scheme	Re- Examina- tions	Total
(a) CORPORATION DEPARTMENTS:—				
Borough Architect	5	—	—	5
Borough Engineer	2	53	11	66
Borough Treasurer	12	—	1	13
Children's	—	—	—	—
Education	50	22	1	73
Fire Service	1	1	1	3
Health	13	16	—	29
Libraries	3	—	—	3
Lighting	—	7	—	7
Publicity	3	11	—	14
Parks and Cemeteries	2	14	1	17
Town Clerk's	6	1	—	7
Transport	—	21	5	26
Water Board	3	11	—	14
Welfare Services	2	11	—	13
Estates and Baths	2	—	1	3
Police	1	4	—	5
Weights and Measures	1	—	—	1
(b) OTHER DEPARTMENTS:—				
Electricity	9	—	—	9
District Nursing Association	2	—	—	2
TOTALS	117	172	21	310

Nursing Homes—At the end of the year there were 19 nursing homes on the Council's register, the total number of beds provided being as follows:—

Maternity Cases	...	...	...	...	...	12 beds
Medical, Surgical and General Cases	...	...	...	...	...	233 beds
TOTAL						245 beds

During the year the Supervisor of Nursing Homes made 46 visits of inspection and all her reports were satisfactory.

Nurses' Agencies—Any person who wishes to carry on an Agency for the supply of nurses must be licensed in accordance with the requirements of the Nurses Act of 1943, and the Nurses Agencies Regulations of 1945. No additional agencies were licensed during 1955, and inspection reports showed that the two existing establishments were being conducted in a satisfactory manner.

Persons in need of Care and Attention—Two patients were dealt with during 1955 under the powers contained in Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

One was the case of a woman aged 75, living alone in insanitary conditions, who had twice fallen and who had sustained a right leg fracture and scalds. After much persuasion she eventually agreed to go into hospital but discharged herself immediately after treatment. A Court Order was obtained for her re-admission to hospital for a period of 3 weeks but she died one week after admission.

The other case was that of a woman aged 71 who was living in insanitary conditions and who was unfit to give herself the care and attention she required; a Court Order was obtained for her removal into hospital in January. After two renewals of the Order, it was allowed to lapse as the patient agreed to stay in hospital voluntarily.

Riding Establishment Act, 1939—The purpose of this Act is to prevent the ill-treatment of horses used in riding establishments and Mr. H. R. Hewetson is the registered Veterinary Surgeon appointed by the Health Authority to carry out the necessary inspections.

During the twelve months period to the 30th September, 1955, Mr. Hewetson made twenty-nine visits to eight riding establishments and carried out two hundred and ten inspections.

Mr. Hewetson's report stated that the general standard of care, stabling and use of the animals continued to be satisfactory.

Special Surveys—During the year, the Department provided information for the following special surveys:—

- (a) the Medical Research Council's investigation on poliomyelitis.
- (b) the Ministry of Health's investigation into virus infections during pregnancy which was completed in February; and
- (c) the British Empire Cancer Campaign's investigation in regard to deaths from malignant growths in the North Wales, West Cheshire and South West Lancashire Areas.

Civil Defence Ambulance and Casualty Collecting Section—The number of persons enrolled as at the 31st December, 1955, was 101 women and 36 men.

The number of members fully trained and effective was 36. To this number should be added a further 18 who have completed their Basic General Training but have not quite completed their Section Training.

Of the present members who regularly attend the Monday evening sessions, 26 have First Aid Certificates, 13 have Vouchers, i.e., Second Year Certificates, and 13 members have First Aid Medallions denoting success in the Third Year Examinations of the St. John Ambulance Association.

During the year Section Training was mainly revisionary with many opportunities for practical work.

Two all-day exercises were well received, and the Section also participated in a local demonstration of the Corps which was staged as a recruiting campaign. The Section has also assisted in the several "House-to-House" canvassing campaigns for more recruits.

Social events were well attended, and on two occasions, films on Civil Defence and allied subjects were screened.

In September, Mr. W. J. Grace attended the Home Office, Ambulance and Casualty Collecting Section's Instructors' Course at Falfield, and was successful in obtaining the Section Instructor's Certificate.

1956 will see training operating on an entirely new syllabus as submitted by the Home Office School.

Work done on behalf of Children's Committee—During the year, 191 examinations were carried out on behalf of the Children's Committee, the details being as follows:

Examination of children who are boarded-out in foster homes	95
Examination of children admitted to Institutions	19
Examination of children discharged from Institutions	3
Admission to Children's Homes, Eversley House and 53	
Scarisbrick New Road	19
Discharge from Children's Homes ... ditto	20
Routine Medical Inspection of Children in Care	35

Dr. Davison, one of the lady Assistant Medical Officers, continued to be responsible for the medical care of all the children in the Homes administered by the Children's Committee.

Part VII

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

(The Forty-seventh Annual Report of the
Principal School Medical Officer)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Mayor (Councillor A. E. TOWNEND, J.P.)
Alderman W. TATTERSALL, J.P. (*Chairman*)
Councillor G. B. WOOLFENDEN (*Vice-Chairman*)
Alderman T. BALL, J.P.
Alderman W. BERWICK
Alderman P. CARTER
Alderman W. PAULDEN
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Councillor Mrs. B. POGSON
Councillor R. WOOD
Councillor Mrs. R. G. WOOD
Mr. S. W. EXWORTHY
Mr. A. LOVERIDGE
Mr. J. E. MARSHALL
The Rev. A. DIXON
The Rev. FLETCHER FLEET
The Very Rev. Dean J. FRANCIS

Representatives on Joint Health and Education Sub-Committee

Alderman W. TATTERSALL, J.P.	Councillor G. B. WOOLFENDEN
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Councillor Mrs. R. G. WOOD	

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The average number of children on the Education Authority Schools' Register during 1955 was 9,460. Of these 6,083 were in Primary Schools and 3,377 were in the Secondary Modern, Technical and Grammar Schools.

Routine Medical Inspections—The arrangements for Routine Medical Inspections ensure that all children are examined by the School Medical Officer at least three times during their school life:—

1. Every pupil admitted for the first time to a maintained school is inspected as soon as possible after admission.
2. Every pupil attending a maintained primary school is inspected during the last year of his attendance at that school.
3. Every pupil attending a maintained secondary school is inspected during the last full year of his attendance at that school.

Every school except one small Primary School was visited during the year. 3,110 children were listed for inspection, out of which 131 were absent. The number of children inspected in the age groups is given below with the figures for 1954 for comparison:—

PRIMARY SCHOOLS						1954	1955
Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	1,064	1,123
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	973	1,016
SECONDARY, MODERN, TECHNICAL AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS						—	—
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	649	840

In addition to the inspection by a School Medical Officer, every child is examined by the School Nurse. On this occasion the children are also weighed and measured and their eye-sight is tested. If any abnormality is found or suspected by the school nurses, these children are later examined by a School Medical Officer. This year 9,064 children were seen by the school nurses and of these 1,539 were brought forward for further examination.

The Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board visited all the senior schools and offered X-ray examination to all pupils. A similar arrangement was made for the non-maintained schools. Nearly all the children were examined and the reports were satisfactory.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

Following a pilot scheme last year, the routine then worked out has been followed and has been found to work successfully. There was a good response to the scheme—73·7% of the parents concerned giving consent for testing and vaccination if necessary. From a total of 695 children tested, 430 were found to be negative reactors and 427 of these were vaccinated. A table giving more detailed figures will be found at the end of the Report with the other statistical tables.

Case Finding by Jelly Testing

In 1956 it is proposed to test 5 year old children to find out how many of this group have already been exposed to tuberculous infection. The test is a very simple one and the time of testing will be linked up with the routine medical inspection of the new entrants in the infant schools. In the event of any child reacting positively to the test, arrangements will be made for the child, parents and home contacts to be given an X-ray examination.

Routine Medical Inspections

The scheme for Medical Inspection remains unchanged. The parents are notified of the date and place of the inspection and invited to attend. It is gratifying to find that so many parents make an effort to come to the school and discuss their problems with the School Medical Officer.

Percentage Attendance of Parents at Examination:—

	1954	1955
PRIMARY SCHOOLS	%	%
Entrants	81.02	82.62
Leavers	48.62	46.76
SECONDARY MODERN, TECHNICAL AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS		
Leavers	4.62	6.07

Findings at Routine Medical Inspections

Nutrition—This year's figures show a further fall in the number of children described as poorly nourished.

The table below gives the figures of 1955 with those of the past three years for comparison:—

Year	Children examined during the year	A Good %	B Fair %	C Poor %
1952	2,862	49.08	48.58	2.34
1953	2,455	45.91	49.13	4.96
1954	2,686	50.38	46.38	3.24
1955	2,979	54.65	43.27	2.08

School Meals—The number of meals supplied to children during 1955 was approximately 1,055,400, of these 73,600 being free. These figures mean that 60% of the children who attend school are having dinner in school.

Cleanliness, Clothing and Footwear—A cleanliness inspection of all children is carried out in all schools each term and as early in the term as is possible. Each child is examined for pediculosis—cleanliness of body, clothing and condition of footwear. Only 46 children were excluded during the year because of these conditions.

Vaccination against Smallpox—The number of children vaccinated is very low, i.e., 32.63%, but this shows a slight increase on last year's figures.

Diphtheria Immunisation—A high percentage (93.75) of school children have been immunised against diphtheria but not all of these children have had reinforcing doses and so are not fully protected against the disease.

Defects found at Routine Medical Inspections—Detailed lists of all defects are to be found in the statistical tables at the end of this report.

Below are the numbers of defects found to require treatment:—

	Entrants	Primary Leavers	Secondary, Modern, Technical and Grammar School Leavers	Totals
Number of Children examined	1,123	1,016	840	2,979
Number of Children requiring treatment	238	187	91	516
Percentage requiring treatment	21.19	18.40	10.83	17.32

Handicapped Pupils—When Hawkshead Street Children's Hospital became a hospital school a very happy arrangement was made with the Hospital Authorities. It was agreed that about 15 places should be allocated to local children who would not be resident in hospital but attend as day pupils. Many of these children are severely crippled and previously had had lessons at home but had been deprived of the company of other children in school activities. The Matron of the hospital and the Teachers have been most helpful and co-operative and the children obviously enjoy themselves.

10 children were attending the school at the end of the year and 1 child was having home tuition, as she was not fit to attend the hospital school.

During the year the Education Department has arranged to send a teacher into the local hospitals to give lessons to children who were having long spells of treatment. This was applied to 5 children during the year.

Residential accommodation has been found for two other handicapped children.

Educationally Sub-Normal Children—Although the Authority's "Opportunity" classes continue to do good work, there remains a small group of children for whom adequate arrangements cannot be made in the absence of a Day Special School, and in view of the existing difficulty of getting residential school places.

Maladjusted Children—The Consultant Psychiatrists at the Child Guidance Clinics in Liverpool have given much help with these children. Because of the distance it is impossible for treatment to be given at the play centres there, and it is unfortunate that there is as yet no local arrangement for providing such treatment which could then be given in the very early stages of maladjustment.

Arrangements for Treatment—All the clinics are held at the Central Clinic at 2 Church Street, and the weekly time-table is as follows:—

DAY	TIME	CLINIC	
Monday ...	9.15 a.m. to 12 noon ...	Dressings Clinic	2 Nurses 1 Doctor 1 Nurse
	10 a.m.	*Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic ...	
	2 p.m. to 4 p.m. ...	Doctors' Minor Ailment Clinic ...	2 Doctors 3 Nurses
	2 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. ...	Dressings Clinic	
Tuesday ...	9.15 a.m. to 12 noon ...	Dressings Clinic	1 Nurse 1 Doctor 1 Nurse
	9 a.m.	*Eye Clinic	
	2 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. ...	Dressings Clinic	1 Nurse 1 Doctor 1 Nurse
	2 p.m.	*Eye Clinic	
Wednesday	9.15 a.m. to 12 noon ...	Dressings Clinic	2 Nurses
	2 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. ...	Dressings Clinic	1 Nurse
Thursday	9.15 a.m. to 12 noon ...	Dressings Clinic	2 Nurses
	2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. ...	Skin Clinic	1 Doctor 4 Nurses
	2 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. ...	Dressings Clinic	
Friday ...	9.15 a.m. to 12 noon ...	Dressings Clinic	2 Nurses
	2 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. ...	Dressings Clinic	1 Nurse 1 Nurse
	2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	Immunisation	
Saturday ...	9 a.m. to 12 noon ...	Dressings Clinic	2 Nurses

* By Appointment only.

Ultra Violet Light Clinics are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 44 Houghton Street between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, by appointment only.

School Dental Clinics are held daily at 2 Church Street.

Nurses' Treatment Clinic—The Clinic is open each day from 9.15 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and an attempt is made to spread the work over the day and to reduce waiting time in the clinic and also time lost from school. Children absent from school and children from junior schools attend for treatment in the morning, while those from senior schools come in the afternoon; grammar school, high school and technical school students attend after school hours.

There can be little doubt as to the usefulness of the Clinics when the list of attendances is studied.

KIND OF CLINIC	ATTENDANCES	
	1954	1955
Nurses' Treatment	6978	6960
Minor Ailment	2125	2141
Skin	1215	893
Ear, Nose and Throat	990	935
Ophthalmic	1393	1458
Orthopaedic (a) Doctors	227	138
(b) Physiotherapist	3435	3314
Doctor's Cases: Sunlight	79	45
Artificial Sunlight	2244	2439
Dental	8498	8463
Immunisation (complete Course 39 in 1955) 39 in 1954)	150	140
Immunisation (re-inforcing dose)	211	177
TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDANCES	27545	27103

Minor Ailment Clinic—This clinic is held weekly and children are seen by the School Medical Officers. Cases requiring further treatment or investigation may be referred to the family doctor or to the hospital consultants with the general practitioner's knowledge and consent. The clinic is also used for supervision and observation of children with defects found at Routine Medical Inspection.

The numbers attending remain fairly steady; this year 2,141. Of these, 144 were referred to Southport Infirmary, 4 to the Royal Southern Hospital, 1 to Liverpool Royal Infirmary and 1 to Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

Skin Clinic—Dr. Bardsley attends once weekly. During the year, 893 children attended. A wide variety of skin diseases, usually in the early stages, are treated at the clinic.

Eye Clinic—This is a valuable and much appreciated clinic. Mr. Rankine attends twice weekly and this service is greatly liked by parents. They know that the school nurses test the vision of each child over the age of 8 years and that advice may be obtained on any abnormality, however slight. Parents realise also that the school nurses know which children ought to wear spectacles in school and that they can ask for the co-operation of the school teachers if they feel that this treatment is not being carried out.

76 specialist clinics were held during the year, 241 new cases were examined and 662 were seen for supervision and revision of their spectacles. 32 cases were referred for further treatment at the Southport Infirmary. Most of these were cases of squint.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic—Mr. Tracy Forster continues to hold a clinic each week for school children. Cases are referred to him from the Minor Ailment Clinic, Routine Medical Inspection, and also from General Practitioners.

Ear cases especially are seen in the very early stages and the effectiveness of modern therapy and the follow-up system for these children is reflected in the small number of cases of gross otorrhoea in the present school population.

In most cases nursing treatment is given by the school nurses, but if an operation is required, children are admitted to the Ear, Nose and Throat Ward at the Promenade Hospital.

In 1955, 400 new cases were examined and 99 attended for observation of progress from previous years. 237 cases were admitted to Hospital for the removal of tonsils and/or adenoids.

Cases suspected to have any loss of hearing are referred to Mr. Denmark at the Liverpool School for the Partially Deaf, Birkdale, or to Professor Ewing in Manchester, for audiometric examination.

Artificial Sunlight—Children were referred from the Chest and Paediatric Clinic of the Southport Infirmary, the School Minor Ailments Clinic and from Routine Medical Inspections.

General Medical Practitioners also occasionally refer children to the Department for artificial sunlight.

104 school children were treated; these 104 children made a total of 2,439 attendances.

Tuberculosis—6 new cases were notified in 1955, as under:—

Pulmonary	6
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

There is a good liaison between the School Health Service and the Hospital Service, so that there is an adequate exchange of information regarding contacts of this disease.

Speech Therapy—Treatment for defective speech is given at the North West School of Speech and Drama by arrangement with the Local Authority and 78 sessions were held during the year.

47 children attended classes; the reasons for the defects in speech were:—

Cleft Palate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dyslalia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stammering	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Slow and Abnormal Speech Development	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Lisp	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Total attendances at the school were 784.

This service is greatly appreciated by the parents, as a speech defect is an obvious one and a great handicap in later life.

Orthopaedic Cases—The physiotherapist continues to deal with the treatment of minor orthopaedic defects. Cases were also referred to the Promenade Hospital for opinion and advice.

Child Guidance—Children requiring treatment are usually referred to the Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic or the Psychiatric Clinic at Alder Hey Hospital. These children are brought to the notice of the School Medical Officers, either by the school teachers or parents at the Minor Ailments Clinic, or at Routine Medical Inspection. Some cases are also referred by the Probation Officer and by the Children's Officer. The number of cases referred in 1955 was 20.

Infectious Diseases—There were again no cases of diphtheria. Notifications were as follows, with figures for 1954 for comparison:—

	1954	1955
Measles	250	69
Rubella	21	20
Scarlet Fever	41	18
Chicken Pox	890	134
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	167	12
Tuberculosis	5	6

Miscellaneous School Medical Work

Special Medical Examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Examination for Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
National Survey Examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Examinations of children going away with the school	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Examinations for admission to school	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	894

Home Visits by School Nurses

Follow-up R.M.I.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
On Account of Illness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	355
To Infectious Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
To Infectious Contacts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Re-Immunisation of Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55

PRINCIPAL DENTAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1955

The authorised professional establishment of one Principal School Dental Officer and two School Dental Officers has been maintained throughout the year.

All the schools have been visited during the year for Dental Inspection, and in addition, three of the schools have been revisited. The period between inspection and re-inspection of all the schools has thus been reduced to eleven months.

This reduction has not been achieved at the expense of the well-tried principle of selection and treatment of children whose teeth require more constant supervision. These cases are, in addition to the routine school dental inspection and treatment, inspected and treated at frequent intervals by appointment, particularly during the holiday periods.

The steady rise shown since 1952 in the ratio of teeth saved, compared with the extraction of unsavable teeth in the permanent dentition, has shown an impressive increase during 1955.

Ratio of Teeth saved compared with Teeth extracted

Year	Temp. teeth Filled	Temp. teeth Extracted (Unsaveable)	Ratio	Perm. teeth Filled	Perm. teeth Extracted (Unsaveable)	Ratio
1952 ...	1526	2027	.75	2507	361	6.94
1953 ...	2043	2111	1.0	3059	378	8.0
1954 ...	2988	2208	1.3	3619	299	12.0
1955 ...	3231	1502	2.1	3659	142	25.7

With the appointment in May, on a sessional basis, of Mr. Pogrel, specialist in orthodontics, the department is in a position to accept children whose dentitions are extremely malformed. During the year, 21 cases have been accepted and treatment commenced.

Since 1952 the treatment of orthodontic cases of simple and moderate malformation has been undertaken by the staff, and during 1955, 47 appliances have been made, and 26 patients have had their malformations satisfactorily corrected.

The general condition of the children's teeth in the Southport area is good, as judged by the ratios given in the above table. With the present incidence of dental caries, particularly in younger children, conservative work will continue to take up most of the Dental Officer's day. Every opportunity is taken to give instruction in Oral Hygiene, and to stress the importance of cleansing and of fibrous foods, both individually to parents and children at the chairside, and collectively in small groups during school inspection.

STATISTICAL TABLES

TABLE I

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PRIMARY,
SECONDARY AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

Year ended 31st December, 1955

A—Routine Medical Inspections

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	1123
Primary Leavers	1016
Secondary Modern, Technical and Grammar Leavers...	840
TOTAL	2979

B—Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	1539
Number of Re-Inspections	3215
TOTAL	4754

C—Children found to Require Treatment

Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

	For defective Vision (excluding squint)	For all other conditions recorded in Table IIc	Total
Prescribed Groups:—			
Entrants	1	237	238
Primary Leavers	19	168	187
Secondary and Grammar Leavers	12	79	91
Total (Prescribed Groups)	32	484	516
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—
TOTALS	32	484	516

TABLE II

A—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1955

DEFECT OR DISEASE	Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
	Number of Defects		Number of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
SKIN:—				
Ringworm: Scalp	—	—	—	—
do. Body	—	—	2	—
Scabies	—	—	1	—
Impetigo	—	—	45	—
Other Diseases (non-T.B.)	62	2	255	5

(continued overleaf)

DEFECT OR DISEASE	Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
	Number of Defects		Number of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
EYE:—				
Blepharitis	9	1	8	—
Conjunctivitis	—	—	6	—
Keratitis	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint)...	1	—	34	3
Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	32	2	30	—
Squint	10	—	8	1
EAR:—				
Defective Hearing	9	3	6	3
Otitis Media	19	9	24	—
Other Ear Diseases	9	2	31	5
NOSE AND THROAT:—				
Chronic Tonsillitis only	51	108	25	16
Adenoids only	3	1	1	—
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	34	15	29	5
Other Conditions	24	8	94	20
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-T.B.)	12	13	6	9
Defective Speech	6	16	14	5
HEART AND CIRCULATION:—				
HEART DISEASE:—				
Organic	5	7	4	7
Functional	1	1	—	—
Anaemia	—	—	—	—
LUNGS:—				
Bronchitis	2	1	1	—
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	23	14	20	7
TUBERCULOSIS:—				
Pulmonary:—Definite	—	—	1	—
Suspected	4	—	20	1
Non-Pulmonary:—Glands	—	1	—	—
Bones and Joints	—	—	—	—
Skin	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM:—				
Epilepsy	—	—	1	1
Chorea	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions	4	4	4	2
ORTHOPAEDIC:—				
Posture	42	52	18	4
Flat Foot	69	75	50	20
Other Forms	34	38	142	12
DEVELOPMENTAL:—				
Hernia	1	1	—	1
Other	10	13	8	2
PSYCHOLOGICAL:—				
Development	5	1	22	31
Stability	2	—	3	4
Other Diseases and Defects (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)	33	12	253	63
TOTALS	516	400	1166	227

**B—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected
during the year in the Routine Age Groups**

AGE GROUPS	Number of Pupils Inspected	A Good		B Fair		C Poor	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	1123	610	54.30	501	44.60	12	1.10
Primary Leavers	1016	575	56.60	423	41.63	18	1.77
Secondary, Modern, Technical and Grammar Leavers ...	840	443	52.74	365	43.45	32	3.81
Other Routine Inspections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2979	1628	54.65	1289	43.27	62	2.08

**TABLE III
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN**

(i)	Total Number of Examinations in the schools by the School Nurses ...	18103
(ii)	Total Number of Individual Pupils Examined	7675
(iii)	Total Number of Individual Pupils found to be infested	81
(iv)	Number of Individual Pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	—
(v)	Number of Individual Pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)	—
(vi)	Number of Cases in which legal proceedings were taken under the Education Act, 1944	—

**TABLE IV—CLEANLINESS INSPECTIONS
CONDITION OF CHILDREN IN DECEMBER, 1955**

SCHOOL	Dept.	Boys			Girls		
		Clean	Nits	Vermin	Clean	Nits	Vermin
		%	%	%	%	%	%
1	Mixed	100.	—	—	94.64	5.36	—
2	Infants	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
3	Mixed	100.	—	—	97.62	2.38	—
4	"	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
5	"	98.93	1.07	—	99.04	.96	—
6	"	99.17	.83	—	93.28	5.88	.84
7	Infants	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
8	Boys	100.	—	—	—	—	—
9	Mixed	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
10	Infants	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
11	Mixed	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
12	Infants	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
13	Mixed	91.67	6.66	1.67	100.	—	—
14	Infants	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
15	Mixed	96.67	3.33	—	97.82	2.18	—
16	Infants	98.62	1.38	—	99.03	.97	—
17	Mixed	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
18	"	100.	—	—	99.44	.56	—
19	Infants	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
20	Girls	—	—	—	99.14	.43	.43
21	Boys	100.	—	—	—	—	—
22	Mixed	99.42	.58	—	100.	—	—
23	Infants	100.	—	—	98.75	1.25	—
24	Senior	97.06	2.94	—	93.37	6.63	—
25	Junior	99.01	.99	—	96.59	3.41	—
26	Mixed	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
27	"	100.	—	—	100.	—	—
28	"	100.	—	—	99.16	.84	—
29	"	95.75	4.25	—	95.65	4.35	—
30	"	100.	—	—	100.	—	—

Clean—98.96%; Nits—.99%; Vermin—.05%

Summary of Cleanliness Examinations—December, 1955

	Boys		Girls		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Nits	31	·76	46	1·25	77	·99
Verminous	1	·02	3	·08	4	·05
Clean	4036	99·22	3639	98·67	7675	98·96

TABLE V

SUMMARY OF IMMUNISATION RETURNS—1955

SCHOOL	Dept.	Number on Roll	Number Immunised	Number Unimmunised	% Immunised
All Saints C.E.	Mixed	159	145	14	91·19
" " " " " " " "	Infants	100	94	6	94·00
Ainsdale C.E.	Mixed	253	230	23	90·91
" " R.C.	"	81	76	5	93·83
Birkdale Mod. Sec.	"	370	356	14	96·22
Birkdale Council	Infants	205	186	19	90·73
" " " " " " " "	Mixed	227	208	19	91·63
Christ Church Mod. Sec.	Boys	233	225	8	96·56
Churchtown Council	Mixed	540	514	26	95·19
" " " " " " " "	Infants	177	167	10	94·35
Crossens C.E.	Mixed	334	303	31	90·72
" " Nursery	"	40	36	4	90·00
Dean Cooke R.C.	"	140	123	17	87·86
Emmanuel C.E.	Infants	202	184	18	91·08
Farnborough Road Council	Mixed	602	576	26	95·68
" " " " " " " "	Infants	435	404	31	92·87
Holy Trinity C.E.	Mixed	366	339	27	92·62
Linaker Street Council	"	409	373	36	91·20
" " " " " " " "	Infants	250	226	24	90·40
Meols Cop (Boys) Mod. Sec.	—	334	311	23	93·11
" " (Girls) " " " " " "	—	425	399	26	93·88
Norwood Road Council	Mixed	346	326	20	94·22
" " " " " " " "	Infants	204	194	10	95·10
Our " Lady " Lourdes Mod. Sec. }	Mixed	334	314	20	94·01
" " R.C.	Junior	202	191	11	94·55
St. Marie's R.C.	Mixed	147	138	9	93·88
St. Philip's C.E.	"	275	254	21	92·36
S.S. Simon and Jude's C.E.	"	190	179	11	94·21
St. Teresa's R.C.	"	187	184	3	98·40
Stanley Mod. Sec.	"	370	353	17	95·41
High School for Girls	—	525	502	23	95·61
King George V	Boys	581	553	28	95·18
Technical College	Mixed	210	198	12	94·29
School of Art	"	15	15	—	100·00
TOTALS ... ..	...	9468	8876	592	93·75

TABLE VI

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
(INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

NOTES:—

- (a) Treatment provided by the Authority includes all defects treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority's own staff, however brought to the Authority's notice, i.e., whether by periodic inspection, special inspection, or otherwise, during the year in question or previously.
- (b) Treatment provided otherwise than by the Authority includes all treatment known by the Authority to have been so provided, including treatment undertaken in school clinics by the Regional Hospital Board.

Group I—Diseases of the skin (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III)

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	—	—
(ii) Body	2	—
Scabies	1	—
Impetigo	43	—
Other Skin Disease	307	—
	353	—

Group 2—Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint

	Number of Cases dealt with	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding Errors of Refraction and Squint	182	—
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	*785	—
TOTAL	967	—
Number of Pupils for whom Spectacles were:—		
(a) Prescribed	*256	—
(b) Obtained	*295	—
	551	—

*Including cases dealt with under arrangements with the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services

Group 3—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat

	Number of Cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Received Operative Treatment:—		
(a) For Diseases of the Ear	2	—
(b) For Adenoids and Chronic Tonsillitis	237	—
(c) For other Nose and Throat Conditions	53	—
Received other forms of Treatment	309	—
TOTAL	601	—

TABLE VI (*continued*)*Group 4—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects*

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Group 5—Child Guidance Treatment

	Number of Cases treated	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of Pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	—	20

Group 6—Speech Therapy

	Number of Cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Number of Pupils treated by Speech Therapists	—	47

Group 7—Other Treatment given

	Number of Cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Miscellaneous Minor Ailments	969	—

TABLE VII
HANDICAPPED PUPILS

CATEGORY	NUMBER ASCERTAINED			TYPE OF EDUCATION PROVIDED			Requiring Special School Accommodation but unplaced at end of year		Totals
	No. remaining on register on the 31st Dec., 1954	During year 1955	Total on register at end of 1955	Ordinary School (requiring observation)	Special Schools		Day Class	Special School	
					Day (Class)	Residential			
Blind	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Partially Sighted	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Deaf	12	—	12	2	—	10	—	—	12
Partially Deaf	8	3	11	4	—	7	—	—	11
Delicate	41	2	43	9	1	—	—	33	43
Diabetic	2	1	3	2	—	1	—	—	3
Educationally Sub-Normal	52	35	87	2	32	9	33	11	87
Epileptic	6	1	7	6	—	1	—	—	7
Maladjusted	10	6	16	6	—	3	—	7	16
Physically Handicapped ...	54	24	78	54	10	3	11	—	78
Defective Speech	19	27	46	46	—	—	—	—	46
TOTALS	206	99	305	131	44	35	44	51	305

TABLE VIII

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955, BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY TO THE LOCAL MENTAL DEFICIENCY AUTHORITY, UNDER SECTION 57, SUB-SECTIONS (3) AND (5) OF THE EDUCATION ACT, 1944

Total Number of Children notified:—

Section 57, Sub-Section (3)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Section 57, Sub-Section (5)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944, is as follows:—

SUB-SECTION (3)—If, after considering the advice given with respect to any child by a medical officer in consequence of any such medical examination as aforesaid and any reports or information which the local education authority are able to obtain from teachers or other persons with respect to the ability and aptitude of the child, the authority decide that the child is suffering from a disability of mind of such a nature or to such an extent as to make him incapable of receiving education at school, it shall be the duty of the authority to issue to the local authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, a report that the child has been found incapable of receiving education at school. Provided that, before issuing such a report with respect to any child, the local education authority shall give to the parent of the child not less than 14 days' notice in writing of their intention to do so, and if within that period the parent refers to the Minister the question whether such a report should be issued, the report shall not be issued except by direction of the Minister.

SUB-SECTION (5)—If the local education authority are satisfied that any child in attendance at a school maintained by them or at any special school not so maintained is suffering from a disability of mind of such a nature or to such an extent that he will, in their opinion, require supervision after leaving school, the authority shall before the child ceases to be of compulsory school age issue to the local authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, and to the parent of the child, a report that by reason of a disability of mind the child may require supervision after leaving school.

TABLE IX

PRIMARY SCHOOLS, SECONDARY MODERN, TECHNICAL AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS (Age last birthday)

Heights and Weights—Tables are also given which show the weights and heights of children in 1955 compared with those in 1938.

Age last Birthday						1938		1955	
						Height ft. ins.	Weight st. lbs.	Height ft. ins.	Weight st. lbs.
Age 5 years									
Boys	...	...	...	...	...	3 6	3 0	3 7	3 2
Girls	...	...	...	...	...	3 6	2 13	3 7	3 0
Age 10 years									
Boys	...	...	...	...	...	4 5	4 10	4 7	5 6
Girls	...	...	...	...	...	4 7	5 0	4 6	5 3
Age 14 years									
Boys	...	...	...	...	...	5 2	7 6	5 2	7 8
Girls	...	...	...	...	...	5 4	7 12	5 2	7 11
Age 15 years									
Boys	...	...	...	...	...	5 6	8 7	5 6	8 8
Girls	...	...	...	...	...	5 3	8 2	5 3	8 3

TABLE X

B.C.C. VACCINATION OF SCHOOLCHILDREN

Year Ended 31st December, 1955

					L.E.A.'s Schools	Private Schools	Totals
(1) Number of consent forms issued to parents	...				822	172	994
(2) (a) Number of parental consents received	...				605	128	733 (73·7%)
(b) Number of definite refusals	...	...			128	28	156 (15·7%)
(c) Number of parents who did not reply	...				89	16	105 (10·6%)
TOTALS	...				822	172	994 (100 %)
(3) Number of children tested and found to be:—							
(a) Positive reactors...	...	...			196	51	247 (35·5%)
(b) Negative reactors	...	...			356	74	430 (61·9%)
(c) Number not read	...	...			15	3	18 (2·6%)
Total number of children tested	...	...			567	128	695 (100 %)
(4) Number of negative reactors vaccinated	...	...			353	74	427

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

Report for the Year 1955

1. Number of children listed for inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	9446
2. Total Number of Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
3. Half-days devoted to (a) Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
(b) Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	1353
TOTALS (3)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1431
4. Number of Children examined at (a) Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	9199
(b) Special Inspections at Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	1368
TOTALS (4)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10567
5. Number of Children found to require treatment at (a) Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	5879
(b) Special Inspections at Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	1126
TOTALS (5)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7005
6. Number of Children actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	3092
7. Number of attendances made at Clinic by Children mentioned in (6) above:—							
NEW (a) Routine	...	...	...	...	...	...	1948
(b) Special	...	...	...	...	...	...	1144
RE-VISITS (a) Routine	...	...	...	...	...	...	1991
(b) Special	...	...	...	...	...	...	2391
Number of Children examined and treatment deferred	...	...	...	...	...	...	989
Total visits made by Children to Clinic during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	8463
Kinds of treatment provided for Children mentioned in (6) above:—							
8. Number of teeth filled:—(a) Permanent Teeth...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3659
(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	3231
TOTALS (8)	...	...	...	...	...	...	6890
9. Number of fillings:—(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	4264
(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	3568
TOTALS (9)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7832
10. Extractions:—(a) Ordinary:—							
(1) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	142
(2) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1502
(b) For regulation purposes:—							
(1) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
(2) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	580
TOTALS (10)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2385
11. Miscellaneous:—(a) Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
(b) Scalings	265
(c) Root Treatments	3
(d) Oral Affections	51
(e) Miscellaneous	356
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