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URMSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Medical Officer of Health

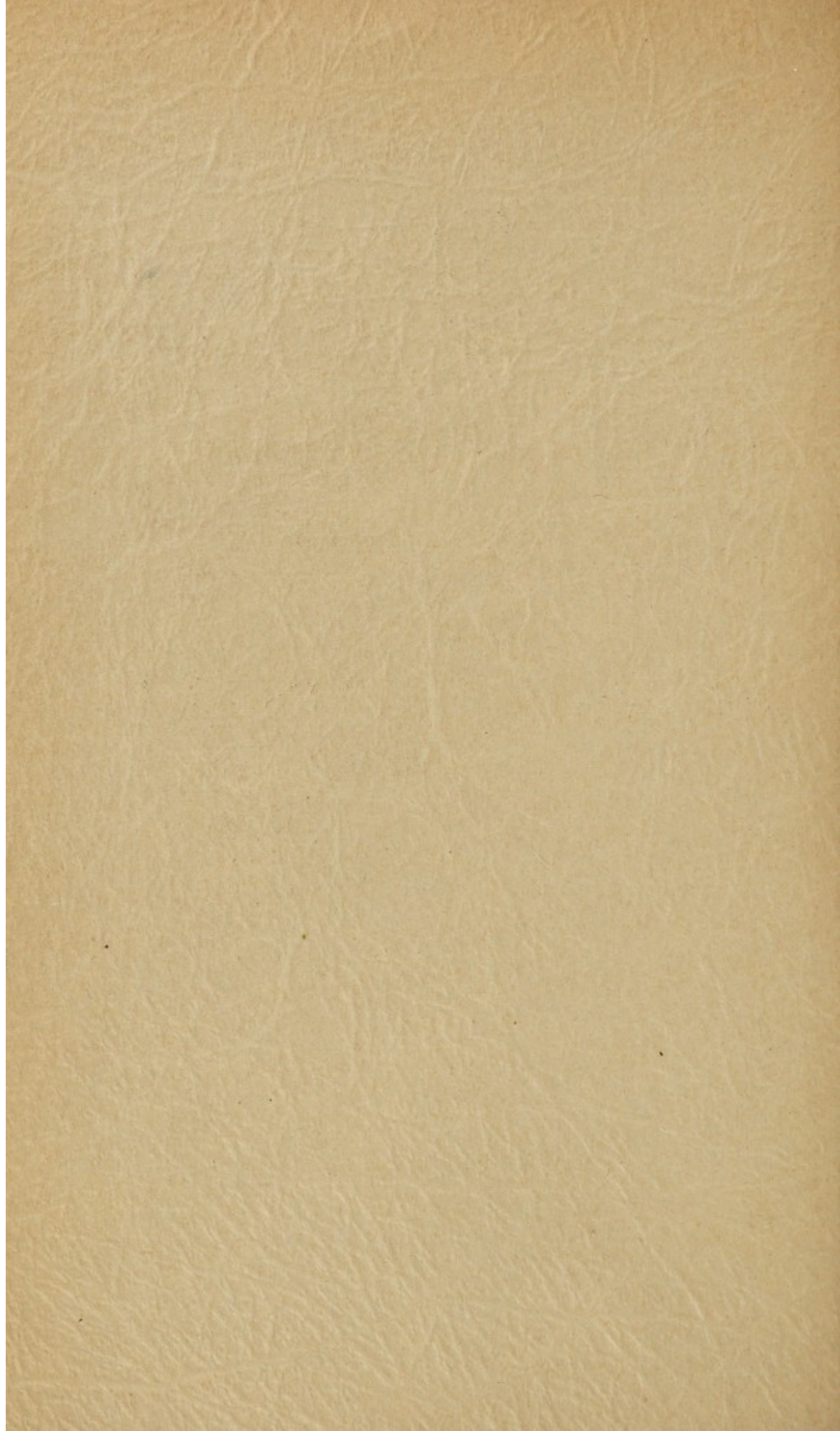
*for the Year*

1954

*and of the*

Chief Sanitary Inspector







URMSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# Urmston Urban District Council

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## **Chairman of the Council 1954-55 :**

Councillor C. H. SOFE, J.P.

## **HEALTH COMMITTEE 1954-55**

**Chairman :** Councillor Mrs. A. M. WILKINSON

**Vice-Chairman :** Councillor J. F. RAVENSCROFT

Councillor L. P. Brookes

„ H. Howsdon

„ F. W. Land

„ Mrs. R. V. Royle-Higginson, J.P.

„ C. H. Sofe, J.P.

„ E. T. Wilkinson

„ W. Wroe, J.P.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF**

### **Medical Officer of Health :**

E. H. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(Resigned 4th October, 1954)

W. SHARPE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(Commenced 5th October, 1954)

### **Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :**

\*W. WOOD, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

### **Sanitary Inspectors :**

\*F. G. V. RUMSEY, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

\*W. S. ASTALL, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.  
(Resigned 22nd September, 1954)

\*W. F. MALING, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

\*J. PENNINGTON, C.S.I.B.  
(Commenced 22nd November, 1954)

\*Certified Meat and Food Inspectors.

### **Chief Clerk :**

G. W. BLAKE, A.C.I.S.

### **Clerks :**

E. MARGERISON

T. L. COOKE, C.S.I.B.,  
(National Service from 1st November, 1954)

(Mrs.) D. M. KIRBY



## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954

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To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urmston Urban District Council.

I have much pleasure in presenting the annual report on the health of the district for the year 1954 in accordance with the requirements of the Minister of Health.

For most of the year under review, Dr. E. H. Walker was responsible for the administration of the health services, and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my personal thanks for the valuable assistance I received from him in assuming my appointment. Dr. Walker, who, up to his retirement in October, 1954, had been your Medical Officer of Health for six years, left his hallmark of efficiency, conscientiousness and attention to detail, on the Health Services of the district, which of course sets an extremely high standard for his successor. I only hope that I may be able to maintain the service at the high level of efficiency which I received it.

The vital statistics for the year are, on the whole, satisfactory, with exception of a rise in the infant mortality rate. According to the report of the General Registrar, the estimated population for mid 1954 was 39,450, and increase of 217 on the census figure of 1951.

The birth rate for 1954 was exactly the same as for the previous year, 15.9 per 1,000 of the population. The average rate for England and Wales was 15.2 per 1,000 population.

The general death rate for the year was 10.3 per 1,000 of the population, representing a total of 408 deaths. This compares favourably with the national rate for England and Wales at 11.3 per 1,000 population.

Maternal mortality rate.—For the third successive year there was no death during pregnancy or childbirth, which reflects the greatest credit on all concerned with the care of expectant mothers, and their safe delivery both at home and in hospital.



The number of children under one year who died in 1954 was 22, giving a rate per 1,000 live births of 35. This is the highest infant mortality rate for some years and considerably higher than the national average which is 25.5 per 1,000 live births. Of the 22 children who died, 16 succumbed during the first month of life, the chief cause of death being prematurity. It is obvious that greater efforts must be made by the preventive health services to reduce this wastage of life during the neo-natal period.

The notified cases of infectious disease were considerably less than in 1953, there being a total of 408 as against 760 for the previous year. The only disease to reach epidemic proportions was measles, the incidence of which rose steeply towards the end of the year. Fortunately, the disease was mild in character and gave rise to few complications and no deaths.

There were 60 cases of dysentery notified, most of which were associated with an outbreak of the disease in a day nursery in the district.

No case of diphtheria has been reported in the district since 1947, which is a striking testimony to the effectiveness of immunisation against the disease. It is still extremely important that children should be protected against diphtheria, since this lethal disease is only being held at bay because of the high percentage of the population who are immune. The marked decrease in incidence of diphtheria has, of course, resulted in the production of a community much more susceptible to the disease than previously. There is now very little chance of a natural immunity being acquired, due to repeated small doses of the infectious organism as was so when the disease was prevalent, so that the necessity for immunisation cannot be too strongly stressed, if a major catastrophe to our child population is to be avoided.

Immunisation is free and may be carried out by the family practitioner, or at the welfare centre of the Local Health Authority. There is therefore no excuse for parents omitting to have this very necessary simple procedure carried out in infancy.



The number of children being presented for vaccination against Smallpox is dangerously low, less than one-third of the infants born in the district are receiving this protection. It cannot be too often repeated that vaccination should be carried out on all infants within three months of birth. This affords a measure of protection for many years and ensures that, should subsequent vaccination be necessary in later life because of contact with the disease, going abroad, or entering one of the services, there is less likelihood of a severe reaction taking place.

As for diphtheria immunisation, vaccination against Smallpox is free, and may be carried out by the family practitioner or at a child welfare centre.

The major environmental problem in the area is, of course, that of atmospheric pollution, and it is encouraging to note that the public conscience has at last been awakened to this health danger, and that legislation to assist local authorities in their efforts to produce cleaner air can be expected soon.

I should like to express my appreciation to the staff of the health department for their work throughout the year, and for the help they have given me during my initiation period. Finally, I wish to thank the members of the Health Committee for their support and for helping to make my introduction to the work in the district so very pleasant.

I have the honour to be  
Your Obedient Servant,

W. SHARPE,  
Medical Officer of Health.

**SECTION A.**  
**GEOGRAPHICAL AND SOCIAL**  
**CONDITIONS OF THE AREA**

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The urban district comprises the three townships of Urmston, Flixton and Davyhulme in the County Palatine of Lancaster. In shape the district is an irregular triangle formed into an isthmus by the natural boundaries of the River Mersey along the south and the Manchester Ship Canal on the west and north taking the extreme points. The district measures approximately 3.28 miles from north to south and 3.37 miles from east to west, and covers an area of 4,799 acres of land. In contour there is little variation, the average level being 65 feet above the Ordnance datum.

The population at the 1931 Census was 9,284 persons and at the 1951 Census, 39,237. The estimated population mid 1954, as computed by the Registrar General, was 39,450. The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 12,766, rateable value £344,103 and the sum represented by a penny rate £1,395.

The district is predominately residential in character and has developed rapidly in recent years. The most northerly part of Davyhulme comprises more than half of Trafford Park and except for a few isolated manufactories the industries of the district are all concentrated in this area in which are situated some eighty factories and employing between them about 16,000 workpeople. The industries in Trafford Park include storage and distribution of petroleum, rubber proofing, oil refining, timber importing, road transport, electrical and mechanical engineering, manufacture of asbestos, steel, wire, chemicals, furniture, textile machinery, soap and detergents, food products, also cold stores, warehouses, and electricity generating station.



## VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births

Births registered were 608 legitimate, 19 illegitimate, total 627, representing a birth rate of 15.9 per thousand of the estimated population, compared with 15.2 for England and Wales.

### Still Births

The number registered was 19 which is equal to a rate of 29 per 1,000 total births.

The total number of live births and still-births for the past five years is shown in the following table :—

Year	Live Births		Stillbirths	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births
1954 .....	627	15.9	19	29
1953 .....	621	15.9	11	17
1952 .....	532	13.7	13	24
1951 .....	603	15.6	14	23
1950 .....	623	16.0	15	24

### General Death Rate

The total number of deaths during the year was 408 representing a crude death rate of 10.3 per thousand of the estimated population, compared with 11.3 for England and Wales.

A detailed analysis of the causes of death is shown in the table on page 8.

The following table gives particulars of deaths during the past five years :—

Year	Number of Deaths	Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population
1954 .....	408	10.3
1953 .....	363	9.3
1952 .....	407	10.5
1951 .....	445	11.5
1950 .....	401	10.3

### Infant Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 22, which represents a rate of 35 per 1,000 live births, an increase compared with 1953. The mortality rate for England and Wales in 1954 was 26 per thousand live births. Infant mortality during the past five years is shown in the following table :—

Year	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
1954 .....	22	35
1953 .....	19	14
1952 .....	11	21
1951 .....	7	10
1950 .....	13	21

### Neo-Natal Mortality

There were 16 deaths of infants under the age of one month, which represents a rate of 26 per 1,000 live births, compared with 18 for England and Wales. During the past five years, neo-natal deaths were as follows :—

Year	Number of Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 Live Births
1954 .....	16	26
1953 .....	8	13
1952 .....	8	15
1951 .....	4	7
1950 .....	5	8

### Maternal Mortality

For the third year in succession there were no deaths reported due to "maternal causes". Whilst avoiding premature conclusions this decline can be largely attributed to the ante-natal and post-natal care of mothers in Urmston. The following table gives particulars of maternal deaths for the past five years :—

Year	Number of Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 total Births
1954 .....	Nil	—
1953 .....	Nil	—
1952 .....	Nil	—
1951 .....	1	1.62
1950 .....	1	1.57



# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1954

	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	4	1
2. Tuberculosis, Other ... ..	1	—
3. Syphilitic Disease ... ..	1	—
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5. Whooping Cough... ..	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection ... ..	2	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8. Measles ... ..	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..	8	9
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus...	12	4
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..	—	7
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... ..	—	4
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	17	12
15. Leukaemia, Aleukeamia ... ..	1	2
16. Diabetes ... ..	1	—
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	22	42
18. Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	39	20
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	7	5
20. Other Heart Disease ... ..	27	40
21. Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	7	7
22. Influenza ... ..	—	—
23. Pneumonia ... ..	8	3
24. Bronchitis ... ..	14	12
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	—	—
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	1	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ..	1	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	2	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	1	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ... ..	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations ... ..	—	4
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined diseases ...	20	21
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	6	—
34. All other accidents ... ..	1	2
35. Suicide ... ..	2	3
36. Homicide and Operations of War ... ..	—	—
	206	202

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service, Manchester, carried out 518 examinations during 1954 made up as follows :—

Throat Swabs .....	11
Nasal Swabs .....	3
Faeces .....	348
Milk :—	
Tubercle Bacilli .....	17
Methylene Blue Reduction Test .....	61
Phosphatase Test .....	53
Turbidity .....	5
Ice-Cream .....	18
<i>Drinking Water</i> (Bacteriological) .....	2

#### National Assistance Act, 1948

Under the provisions of this Act no official action was necessary for compulsory removal to hospital or other institution.

#### Local Legislation

The Urmston Urban District Council Act, 1935.

The Urmston Urban District Council Act, 1949.

The following adoptive Acts of Parliament are in force in the district :—

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts III and IV).

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (Part II (other than Section 31) and Part IV).

Public Health Act, 1925 (Parts II and VI).

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Byelaws made by the Council relating to the following are in force :—

Cemetery ; Houses Let in Lodgings ; Transport of Food ; New Buildings ; Pleasure Fairs ; Sterilisation of Animal Feeding Meat ; Hairdressers and Barbers ; Handling, Wrapping and Sale of Food.



## **SECTION C.**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

#### **Water Supply**

This is supplied by the Manchester Corporation, the quality is excellent and the quantity sufficient. With the exception of three houses which are supplied from wells, water is supplied from the public mains to all dwellinghouses.

Two bacteriological examinations and two chemical analyses were carried out during the year and the results were satisfactory in each case.

#### **Drainage and Sewerage**

Extensive clearing work to two blocked surface water sewers, one in Richmond Road Trafford Park and the other in Irlam Road Flixton, was carried out during the year. Bent Lanes Brook was cleared from the Ship Canal to a point 200 yards west of Laburnum Road Davyhulme and a considerable amount of clearing work was done in the old Eea Brook thus relieving a large area of flooding. A scheme for dealing with the defective surface water drainage in the Bent Terrace and Lostock Road area of Davyhulme has been prepared and approved by the Council.

The new pumping station at Church Road, Flixton was completed and brought into operation during the year. Work on the new pumping station at Carrington Road, Flixton was commenced and was still in progress at the end of the year. The serious collapse of two main sewers, one over the Flixton Golf Course and the other in Woodsend Road, Flixton, were satisfactorily repaired.

The sewage from Davyhulme is received and treated at the sewage disposal works of the Manchester Corporation at Davyhulme. Sewage from Urmston and Flixton is received at the Council's sewage works at Flixton where it is treated prior to discharge into the Manchester Ship Canal.

The Council examined the cost of extending the Flixton sewage works and compared it with the cost of laying new sewers, constructing pumping stations and the treatment of the effluent by Manchester Corporation if the sewage of Flixton and Urmston was received at the Corporation's sewage works at Davyhulme. After careful consideration it was decided to approve the scheme for extending Flixton sewage works, this being the more economical proposition, and it is hoped to submit the scheme to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in the near future.

### **SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT END OF 1954**

No. of Middens .....	1
„ „ Closets attached to middens .....	1
„ „ Pail Closets .....	11
„ „ Dry Ashpits (excluding middens)...	Nil
„ „ Moveable Ashbins for Refuse .....	13,446
„ „ Trough Closets .....	21
„ „ Waste-water Closets .....	38
„ „ Fresh-water Closets ..	13,122

During the year one waste water closet was converted to a fresh water closet.

### **Public Cleansing**

Refuse collection, refuse disposal and street gully emptying are carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and street sweeping is under the control of the Surveyor. The whole of the house and trade refuse is collected by modern mechanical vehicles and removed to a tip in the Urmston Meadows, where it is disposed of exclusively by controlled tipping. Street gully emptying is carried out by a specially designed motor vehicle of 750 gallons capacity.



## **Smoke Abatement**

Every effort has been made to reduce the amount of smoke and other gaseous pollutants discharged into the atmosphere. Advice and help have been given to industrial undertakings but in some instances it became necessary to resort to statutory action.

Following upon the presentation to Parliament of the report of the "Beaver Committee" on Atmospheric Pollution, amending legislation on this subject is awaited with interest. Meanwhile, the Standing Conference of Local Authorities concerned with industrial emissions in the Carrington and Partington area of the adjoining Bucklow Rural District is persevering with its investigations and is examining closely the data collated from instrument readings at widely distributed stations.

## **Swimming Baths and Pools**

The Council owns a modern indoor baths consisting of a swimming pool, slipper baths, showers and dressing halls for both sexes, committee room, offices and cafe balcony. The capacity of the swimming pool is 180,000 gallons and it accommodates comfortably about 180 bathers at any one time. Five samples of water from the pool were submitted for bacteriological examination and four samples submitted for chemical analysis. The results in each case showed the water to be quite safe for bathing purposes.

## **Schools**

There are sixteen maintained and two private schools in the district, most of which are provided with modern type sanitary conveniences on the water carriage system. Nine inspections were carried out during the year.

## **Factories**

Details of the action taken under this heading are to be found in the table on page 14.

## **Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

This Act is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined and provides for the registration of premises where such filling materials are used and for the licensing of premises used for manufacturing or storage of rag flock. Powers are given to local authorities for inspection of premises and sampling of materials. At the end of the year the number of registered premises was three.

There are no premises licensed for the manufacture or storage of rag flock



**FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948**  
**Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health**

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power	33	17	Nil	Nil
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power	127	108	4	Nil
<b>Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-workers' premises)	28	9	Nil	Nil
<b>Totals</b> .....	188	134	4	Nil

**Defects Found**

Particulars	Number of Defects				Occupiers prosecuted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (Sec 1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding. (Sec. 2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature. (Sec. 3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation. (Sec. 4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors. (Sec. 6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (Insufficient). (Sec. 7.)	—	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences Unsuitable or Defective).	6	12	—	6	—
Sanitary Conveniences (Not separate for sexes).	—	2	—	—	—
Other offences.	—	—	—	—	—
	6	15	Nil	6	Nil

## SECTION D. HOUSING

### Number of new houses erected during the year :—

	Houses	Flats
(i) By the Council .....	60	—
(ii) By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	233	Nil

### (1) Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	254
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	725
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) (above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	30
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	111
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ... ..	8
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	246

### (2) Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Statutory Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action ... ..	105
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### (3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	1
(b) By the Council in default of owners ...	2



(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	51
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	50
(b) By the Council in default of owners ...	1
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings “not to occupy” were accepted by the Council ... ..	1
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936. ... ..	Nil

**(4) Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding**

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	No figures available
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	Nil
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	Nil

**(5) Housing Acts 1949-54—Improvement Grants, Etc.:—**

Number of Schemes submitted	
(a) By private individuals to Council .....	8
(b) By the Council to the Ministry .....	Nil
(c) Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected .....	9
(d) Number of Schemes finally approved .....	5
(e) Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided .....	12

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Milk Supply

The number of distributors registered at the 31st December, 1954, under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, was 45, operating from :—

(a) Dairies in the District .....	6
(b) Shops in the District (other than dairies) ...	26
(c) Premises outside the District .....	13

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, the number of licenses issued (including supplementary licences) was as follows :—

“Tuberculin Tested” Milk .....	25
“Accredited” Milk .....	Nil

Eighty-four licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, as follows :—

“Pasteurised” Milk .....	35
“Sterilised” Milk .....	49

#### Meat and Other Foods

All premises engaged in the production, storage and retailing of food are inspected regularly and the general standard of cleanliness is excellent. With regard to the post-mortem inspection of animals slaughtered in the district, the table below gives particulars of the carcasses inspected and condemned :—



## Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .....	Nil	1	13	239	Nil
Number Inspected.....	—	1	13	239	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned.	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	—	1	—	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis. ....	—	100%	—	2.09%	—
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>					
Whole carcasses con- demned. ....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. ....	—	1	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis. ....	—	100%	—	—	—

Byelaws are in operation under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and the sale of food in the open air.

Under Section 115 of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, any person who offers or exposes for sale in the Urban District any meat food product, fish, fruit or vegetables, must be registered by the Urban District Council being the local authority for the purpose of the Act within the Urban District. At 31st December, 1954, there were 14 registrations in force.

All persons engaged in the manufacture and sale of ice-cream are required to be registered under the provisions of the Urmston Urban District Council Act, 1935. At 31st December, 1954, there were 86 registrations in force.

The Lancashire County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority responsible for the sampling duties under the "adulteration" provisions of the Act of 1938. The following particulars regarding samples obtained in the district during 1954 have been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health :—

A total of 207 samples was obtained, of these 153 were of milk (this total includes four Channel Islands Milks) and the 54 others comprised :—

5 Custard Powder	1 Jam	1 Barley
1 Cream, canned	1 Beef Sausages	1 Icing Sugar
5 Fish, canned	1 Fruit, bottled	1 Tea
1 Marmalade	3 Aspirin Tablets	1 College Pudding
4 Epsom Salts	1 Cheese	1 Camphorated Oil B.P.
1 Pork Sausages	2 Cheese Spread	1 Mixed Spice (ground)
1 Apples	1 Ginger wine (non-alcoholic)	1 Sponge Cake and Sponge Mixture (sweetened)
1 Oranges	1 Potted meat	1 Semolina
3 Cocoa	1 White pepper	1 Fine Tapioca
1 Rice	2 Cooking Fat	
1 Butter	1 Vegetable Fat	
1 Margarine	1 Bacon	
1 Syrup	2 Liquid Paraffin	
1 Curry Powder		

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following :—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
1 Informal Milk	Deficient 3.3% fat and low in solids not-fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Apples	Containing lead three parts per million and arsenic (as As) 1.2 parts per million. Recommended maximum limits lead two parts per million Arsenic (as As) one part per million.	Importers, Port Health Authority and Ministry of Food notified.
1 Oranges	Juice from oranges containing 12 parts per million thiourea.	Importers, Port Health Authority and Ministry of Food notified.
1 Beef Sausages	Meat content only 46%.	Manufacturers interviewed.



1 Formal Milk	Freezing point indicated presence of 1.3% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 Potted Meat	Containing 5.7% starch and 72% moisture. Potted meat should contain no starch and not more than 70% moisture.	Vendor interviewed.
1 Informal Milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.8% of extraneous water.	Same vendor. Vendor interviewed. Further samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.1% of extraneous water.	
1 Informal Milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 7.8% of extraneous water.	Formal sample obtained.
1 Camphorated Oil B.P.	Camphor 18.4% minimum B.P. limit 19%	Vendor communicated with.
1 Informal Milk	Deficient 6.6% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Informal Milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 7.8% of extraneous water.	Formal sample obtained
1 Informal Milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.8% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.

## **SECTION F.**

### **PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

The general health of the district throughout the year has been very satisfactory there having been no serious epidemic disease. The only infectious condition to reach epidemic proportions was measles when the incidence rose in December and continued throughout the winter. The disease, however, was not of a serious nature and did not give rise to serious complications. The only other infectious disease to show an increase over the previous year was dysentery, sixty cases being notified against ten in 1953. The majority of these cases, however, were associated with an outbreak which occurred in one of the day nurseries in the district.

Notified cases of infectious disease are visited promptly and isolation is arranged either at the patient's home or by removal to an infectious disease hospital. School contacts are excluded for the necessary incubation period, and inquiries are made in relation to attendance at day nurseries and whether any food handlers are involved. On termination of infection, the room and its contents are thoroughly disinfected by formaldehyde gas and in cases of pulmonary tuberculosis the bedding is subject to steam disinfection.

The table on page 22 gives the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases during the year.



# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1954

Disease	Total cases at all ages	0	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 and over	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever .....	40	1	2	7	25	4	1	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	155	13	39	43	59	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	45	5	9	11	17	3	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia .....	25	—	2	—	3	—	1	8	7	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	49	—	—	—	—	—	18	31	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... (Paralytic)	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	60	—	—	35	7	6	3	7	2	—	—
Erysipelas .....	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Respiratory .....	18	—	—	—	1	—	5	6	4	2	—
Tuberculosis—Meninges and C.N.S.	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Other...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS	408	21	54	97	112	15	29	58	16	6	Nii

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the  
**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
for the  
**YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954**

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District Council of Urmston

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Again I submit for your consideration a report on the work of the Sanitary Section of the Public Health Department. The facts and figures included in the following pages cover a twelve monthly period ending the 31st December, 1954, and whilst not exhaustive serve to indicate the scope and extent of activities of the department during the year.

The inspection of houses and preparation of plans for the first post war clearance area were commenced late in the winter, but the completion of the project was unavoidably delayed by staffing difficulties.

Atmospheric pollution has again loomed large, and anxiety was felt by all sections of the community as to the ultimate results of this evil, particularly as the district is now constantly subjected to aerial pollutants of objectionable character from outside areas.

The shortage of man-power for refuse collection and disposal work appears to be assuming chronic proportions and during the year only a long series of improvisations prevented a major breakdown in service taking place.

I should like to record my appreciation for the help I have received from the Medical Officer of Health and Departmental staff generally and for the support of the Chairman and members of the Health Committee.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**WILLIAM WOOD,**

Chief Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.



## COMPLAINTS

The time taken by sanitary inspectors in dealing with matters under this head is considerable, but to value the work is impossible, for to do this one must be able to calculate the sum of human misery caused by the petty irritations and annoyances of everyday life.

Total number of complaints investigated.....	641
Total number of complaints confirmed .....	548
Total number of visits (including re-visits) ...	1,248

Nature of Complaint	Number Received	Con- firmed
Accumulations .....	17	13
Animals so-kept .....	13	5
Atmospheric Pollution .....	5	2
Dirty premises .....	7	4
Flooding .....	32	32
Housing Defects.....	193	169
Obstructed drains .....	95	87
Overcrowding .....	1	—
Rats and Mice.....	105	88
Other vermin .....	90	84
Miscellaneous .....	83	64
	641	548

## ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES, ETC.

The following notices were served during the year :—

Informal	Statutory
276	176
LEGAL PROCEEDING	... None

## INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

The Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations provide that Sanitary Inspectors shall inspect their districts systematically and at intervals as occasion requires, and keep themselves informed of the sanitary circumstances therein. The following table shows the number of visits and inspections made by these officers during the year :—

Accumulations .....	92
Animals kept as to be a nuisance, etc. ....	30
Council House Applications .....	24
Council House Inspections .....	17
Drainage Work (New Buildings) .....	476
Drainage Work (existing Buildings) .....	505
Dwellings—re complaints .....	1,014
"    re overcrowding .....	4
"    re Infectious Disease .....	170
"    re Dirty or Verminous .....	50
"    re Housing Acts .....	293
Dairies .....	34
Hawkers .....	2
Factories (Mechanical, non-Mechanical), Out- Workers', Work Places .....	125
Food premises .....	221
Slaughterhouse .....	41
Ice-Cream Premises .....	27
Interviews with Owners, Contractors, etc. ....	167
Market, Food Stalls, Fairs, etc. ....	43
Mortuary .....	12
Offensive Trades .....	43
Petroleum .....	61
Public Houses and Cinemas .....	14
Public Cleansing—Refuse Tip .....	130
"    "    Other Visits .....	524
Public Conveniences .....	53
Rodent Control .....	38
Rag Flock .....	19
Shops .....	51
Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution ...	94
Swimming Bath .....	12
Schools .....	9
Miscellaneous .....	343
TOTAL.....	4,738



## HOUSING ACTS, 1936-54

The enactment of the Housing Act, 1954, late in the year caused considerable additional work for the members of the inspectorial staff, and apprehension and dismay amongst both owners and tenants. It would appear that very few owners, having studied Part II of the Act, felt secure in seeking the statutory increase in rent, and in the circumstances the number of applications from tenants for certificates of disrepair was limited. Up to the end of the year nine such applications had been successful.

Close liaison was maintained with the Council's Surveyor in respect to the application and consideration of Improvement Grants provided for by the Act of 1949.

The inspection of houses and buildings included in the first post war Clearance Area was put in hand during the year, but unfortunately the "representation stage" has been delayed owing to staffing difficulties.

One dwelling was demolished following an unofficial undertaking and 30 other houses were dealt with, eleven of which were reconditioned under the provisions of Section 9 of the Act, including two rendered fit by the Council acting in default.

Under Section II a total of six Demolition Orders were made in respect of six separate dwellings, but no actual demolitions were carried out in pursuance of the same.

Such overcrowding and congested living accommodation found during the year was dealt with informally, usually by or with the assistance of Officers of the Housing Department.

The following table gives details of house repair during the past year.

## HOUSING DEFECTS (Detailed Analysis)

Description	Out-standing 1953	Recorded	Remedied	Out-standing 1954
Ceiling Plaster	46	69	49	66
Dampness .....	40	118	112	46
Eavesgutters				
R.W.P.'s etc....	107	272	212	167
Fireplaces,				
Grates etc. ....	14	47	21	40
Floors .....	25	52	42	35
Roofs .....	82	164	176	70
Sinks, Lavatory				
basins etc. ....	9	28	15	22
Walls,				
(pointing etc.)	98	191	68	221
Wall Plaster ...	83	105	67	121
W.C. Soil Pipes				
etc. ....	14	36	24	26
Windows, Sash-				
Cords etc. ....	144	259	134	269
Woodwork .....	44	82	42	84
Yards, Paths ...	35	46	33	48
Miscellaneous ...	104	302	174	232
	845	1,771	1,169	1,447



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Food and Drugs Act

The Council resolved at the earliest opportunity to seek a direction under Section 64 of the above Act, in order that the powers and functions of a Food and Drugs Authority shall henceforth be vested in the Council.

Details of the work of food sampling are included in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

### Food Preparation (Commercial)

A private company of country-wide reputation has premises in the area and conducts an extensive business in the many and varied aspects of large scale food preparation, including meat and vegetable canning, the manufacture of puddings, soups, etc. Large quantities of the company's products are exported and are the subject of official certificates by the Medical Officer of Health.

At the beginning of the year the firm erected a building and installed modern plant for the dry rendering and crushing of bones, and after the Council were satisfied that the stringent conditions imposed had been complied with, this section of the business was registered as an offensive trade.

The following shows the meat dealt with by the Department at this factory during the year :—

Type	Quantity			
Beef—				
Hindquarters .....	5,793			
Forequarters .....	1,588			
Buttocks .....	14			
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Cuts .....	19	9	2	12
Crops .....	11	1	3	12
Boneless .....	18	6	3	2
Kidneys .....	1	1	3	7

### Bye-Laws

The Council has adopted bye-laws in respect to the handling, wrapping and sale of food. These bye-laws were based on the Ministry of Food model, but were extended to embrace other matters previously dealt with by private Act provisions.

Bye-laws under Section 92 of the Urmston Urban District Council Act, 1935, are also in operation, these seek to secure sanitary and cleanly conditions in the transport of foodstuffs.

### **Food Hawkers**

Under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, 14 hawkers of foodstuffs and six hawkers' storage premises, are registered with the Council, supervision of persons and inspection of premises are regularly carried out.

### **Slaughterhouses**

During the year an old established licensed slaughterhouse was modernised by the owner working to a specification prepared by the Department. Following completion a limited licence was granted by the Council, and slaughtering has since been regularly carried on.

### **Factory Canteens**

Besides the usual routine inspections carried out during the period, an effort has been made to introduce Clean Food Publicity into the kitchens and dining rooms. Factory Managements have been most co-operative.

### **Inspection of Meat and Other Foods**

Generally there has been a marked improvement in the quantity of foodstuffs retailed in the area, and the average shopper has a far wider field of choice than was the case in past years. No official seizures were necessary and the table below gives details of foodstuffs the subject of voluntary surrender



Nature	Quantities			
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Butchers' meat ... ..		14	3	3
Custard Powder ... ..				7
Compound Lard ... ..				5½
Cheese ... ..			3	16
Coconut ... ..				14
Dried Fruit ... ..		1	1	12
Dried Milk ... ..				21
Dried Parsley ... ..				1
Oatmeal ... ..				5
Poultry ... ..				27½
Pepper Compound ... ..				4
Sausage Meat ... ..				19
Salt ... ..				2
Semolina ... ..			1	—
Sugar ... ..				11
		18	1	8
Chicken spread ... ..				1 jar
Egg Pulp ... ..				3 tins
Fruit ... ..				256 tins
Fish ... ..				10 tins
Gelatine ... ..				2 pkts.
Jam ... ..				1 jar
Marmalade Pudding ... ..				2 tins
Mayonaise ... ..				10 jars
Mincemeat ... ..				6 jars
Milk and Cream ... ..				28 tins
Meat products ... ..				110 tins
Pickles ... ..				1 jar
Soup ... ..				3 tins
Sandwich spread ... ..				2 jars
Salad cream ... ..				23 jars
Tomato juice ... ..				2 tins
Vegetables ... ..				174 tins

## Food Premises

There are 339 food premises in the area comprising the following —

General Grocers and Provision Dealers .....	95
Green Grocers and Fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.) .....	30
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.) .....	1
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.) .....	31
Bakers and/or Confectioners .....	27
Fried fish shops .....	14
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc. ....	27
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments...	86
Others .....	28

The number of food premises registered are as under :—

Type of Business	Legislation under which registration effected	Number at 31. 12. 54
Manufacturer or dealer in ice-cream .....	Urmston U.D.C. Act 1935 Section 89 .....	65
Fish Fryer .....	Urmston U.D.C. Act 1935 Section 87 .....	14
Manufacturer of Sausages and cooked meats	Urmston U.D.C. Act 1935 Section 87 .....	20
Food Hawkers .....	Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act 1938 Section 115	6

## Special Examination of Food Stocks.

Approximately 2½ tons of frozen egg pulp was inspected and sampled and bacteriological reports proved the consignment to be unfit for human consumption. The Ministry of Food from whom the egg pulp was purchased took over the whole of the stock from the owner.



# FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938, SECTION 13.

## Food Premises

Provisions of Section 13	Out-standing 1953	Recorded	Remedied	Out-standing 1954
(a) Sanitary convenience etc. communicating directly with room .....	2	—	2	—
(b) Water cistern, drain vent or inlet of drain .....	1	1	2	—
(c) Defective structure	30	5	13	22
(d) Painting, cleansing of walls, ceilings etc. ....	62	7	26	43
(e) Room used as sleeping place or no intervening ventilated space .....	—	—	—	—
(f) Insufficient ventilation .....	7	1	2	6
(g) Accumulation of refuse .....	8	3	10	1
(h) Cleanliness of personnel room and apparatus .....	14	9	18	5
(i) Washing facilities ...	3	1	2	2
Hot water .....	4	—	2	2
	131	27	77	81

## Milk Control

Routine sampling of milk was again satisfactorily carried out with the following results.

BIOLOGICAL (T.B.)			METHYLENE BLUE			PHOSPHATASE			TURBIDITY		
No.	Pos.	Neg.	No.	Sat.	Unsat.	No.	Sat.	Unsat.	No.	Sat.	Unsat.
17	—	17	61	58 1—no result	2	53	53	—	5	5	—

## Ice-Cream

The quality of ice-cream manufactured in the district is high and premises provided for production are excellent. The small percentage of samples taken in the year falling short of the desirable standard were obtained from retailers whose supplies originated outside the area.

Number of samples	Methylene Blue Provisional Grade			
	1	2	3	4
18	15	2	1	—

## FACTORY ACTS, 1937-1948

Generally the conditions prevailing in factory premises in the Urban District are good, and little difficulty is experienced in obtaining such modifications and improvements in sanitary arrangements found necessary. With a prospering industry factory managements are only too anxious to provide the highest practicable standard for their employees.

Regular inspections were made in connection with out-workers premises and conditions were satisfactory. No cases of infectious disease occurred in any dwelling-house where homework was carried on.

The following table shows the types of industry operating (mid 1954) in the area and the number of persons employed in these undertakings.



## FACTORIES

CLASSIFICATION	Number	Number of Persons Employed
Abrasive and Refractory Materials ...	1	1,674
Bakehouses .....	14	45
Boot Repairs .....	5	11
Brickworks .....	1	46
British Railways.....	1	54
Building Products .....	6	1,858
Candle Works.....	1	45
Carpet Fitter .....	1	2
Chemical Works, etc. ....	7	708
Clothing Manufacture, etc. ....	3	21
Corn Millers .....	1	16
Electrical Engineering, Repairs, Radio Repairs, etc. ....	9	509
Electricity Generation .....	1	390
Engineering (Heavy and Light) .....	11	2,751
Export Packing .....	1	48
Food Manufacture, Packing, Storage etc. ....	8	1,061
Funeral Director .....	1	4
Furniture Upholsterers .....	3	7
Gut Scraping .....	1	45
Laundries, Dry Cleaners .....	5	129
Motor Vehicle Repairs and Body Building .....	18	248
Paints and Varnishes.....	2	98
Paper .....	1	41
Petroleum, Oil, Grease Manufacture, Storage, etc. ....	11	1,571
Printers .....	2	19
Rubber .....	2	71
Sewage Works .....	2	108
Soaps and Detergents .....	1	618
Steel Drum Manufacture, Cleaning, etc. ....	1	50
Steel Works and Allied Trades .....	6	3,445
Stone and Concrete .....	4	271
Telephone Equipment .....	1	9
Timber Importers, Furniture Makers, Joiners .....	10	712
Transport, Haulage, etc. ....	2	46
Warehousing and Storage .....	4	154
Waste Sorting (Refuse Tip) .....	1	3
	149	16,888

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

The following trades are registered by the Department :—

Bone Boiler and Fat Melter .....	1
Soap Boilers .....	2
Gut Scraper .....	1

These establishments were carried on with a minimum of objection and the conditions imposed by the Council have been readily complied with by the factory owners.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Whereas there was no evidence indicating a serious increase in smoke emissions during the year, the concentration of industry in the Trafford Park area makes it imperative that the zone is under constant supervision. What did, however, cause considerable anxiety to both the Department and residents generally was the alarming increase in gaseous chemical pollutants arising chiefly from specialised undertakings either within, or immediately outside the Urmston boundary.

These gases are largely sulphur or of sulphurous origin and although it is conjectural whether they are injurious to animal life, they most certainly have a pronounced effect on vegetation, and were so pungent on occasions as to render living conditions intolerable.

Observations, inspections and visits made during the year in connection with atmospheric pollution numbered 94.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During the year 170 visits were made by sanitary inspectors in connection with infectious disease.

## DISINFESTATION

### General

It is pleasing to record the marked decline in verminous premises seriously infested, the infestations treated were without exception of a minor type, and all were adequately dealt with by the application of a contact insecticide.

The number of premises dealt with was 84.



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

### Rodent Control

The number of major rodent infestations still keeps well within manageable proportions and minor infestations are comparable with last year but are in no way alarming.

Every effort was made during the twelve months under review to visit and inspect every factory in the Trafford Park area on at least one occasion in addition to the visits required following notification of infestations.

Particular attention was paid to all private tipping sites, building sites, streams and watercourses, and small holdings housing pigs and poultry, where regular inspections and treatments have kept infestations at a low level.

As in past years the sewers, Council refuse tip and sewage disposal works have been systematically treated with good results.

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business & industrial)	
Number of properties inspected .....	7	55	3	98	163
Number of infestations					
RATS.—Major .....	1	1	—	4	6
Minor .....	1	10	3	32	46
MICE.—Major .....	—	—	—	—	—
Minor .....	3	15	—	25	43
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority .....	5	26	3	61	95
Poisons used—Zinc Phosphide .....4 lb. 11 oz.					
Arsenic .....2 lb.					
Warfarin 0.1%.....15 lb.					
Bait used — Sausage Rusk .....3½ cwt.					
Bread Mash .....1 qr. 14 lb.					
Medium Oatmeal .....1 cwt. 0 qr. 11½ lb.					
Castor Sugar .....14 lb.					
Pinhead Oatmeal .....1 cwt.					
Technical White Oil .....132 fl. oz.					

## MORTUARY

The Flixton Mortuary maintained by the Department was in use 19 times during the year, and I am obliged to the County Police for the following details :—

Causes of Death	Number
Natural causes .....	17
Suicide .....	2

## STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT

Under the provisions of the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928, the Council approved the issue of 76 licences covering 1,060,293 gallons of petrol or petrol derivatives, together with five licences for 7,712 tons of calcium carbide. Licence fees totalled £92.

Further extensive developments in this field are contemplated in Trafford Park, and it is likely that, in the future, the storage capacity for the lighter oils in this area will be at least doubled.

## SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Council is the Shops Act Authority, and each Sanitary Inspector is appointed an enforcement officer. Shops in the area are of a high standard and facilities provided for persons employed are sufficient. The following is a list of Orders at present in force :—

Urmston (Fish, Fruit and Vegetables) Shops  
Weekly Half-Holiday Order, 1939.  
Urmston Shops Partial Exemption Order, 1938.  
The County of Lancaster Weekly (Half-Holiday)  
Closing Order, 1937.  
Urban District of Urmston Closing Order No. 1.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

An additional public convenience was opened during the year in Trafford Park, and it is hoped that this will in some measure satisfy a minority need in this district.

Conveniences maintained by the Department are as under :—

Situation	Males		Females
Station Road	2 W.C.'s	6 Urinals	3 W.C.'s
Davyhulme Circle	2    "	3    "	3    "
Moorside Road	1    "	1    "	2    "
Church Road	2    "	2    "	3    "
Mosley Road	2    "	3    "	2    "
(Trafford Park)			1 Lavatory Basin



## MARINE STORE DEALERS

Section 86 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, has been adopted by the Council and the following Dealers are registered :—

Marine Store Dealers .....	3
Dealer in old metal .....	1

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Three premises are registered under the above Act and samples taken were as follows :—

Type	Number Taken	Result
Algerian Fibre .....	1	Satisfactory.
New Cotton felt .....	4	Satisfactory 3. Unsatisfactory 1.
Rag Flock .....	2	Satisfactory.
Coir Fibre .....	1	Satisfactory.
Washed Wool Flock...	1	Satisfactory.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Labour Situation

The service has again been "strangled" by the lack of adequate manpower. It was hoped that with the approach of something like normal conditions recruitment would improve and a collection period instituted not far short of that desirable. That happy state of affairs seemed as far away as ever and it would appear that a long period of chronic labour shortage with all the inadequacies this inevitably brings in its train, has to be faced by the Cleansing Service—at least in this area.

### Transport

Building development and the consequent increase in population resulted in further expansion of existing collection rounds, which additional work the transport operated by the department was only just capable of absorbing. Some re-organisation will be imperative in the near future. Parallel with this re-organisation it will be necessary to consider the question of the replacement of the two Dennis Vehicles purchased in the immediate post war years.

During the year the gully emptier purchased in 1937 came to the end of its useful life, and the Committee agreed to enter into a contract for the purchase of a replacement. This vehicle will be in service early in the new year.

Transport under the control of the Department is as follows :—

One S.D. Gully Emptier, 750 gal.....	1937*
One Dennis Gully Emptier, 1,000 gal. ....	1954-55
Two Dennis 10 cubic yards Sideloaders .....	1946
One Dennis 10 cubic yards Sideloader .....	1948
One S.D. 24 cubic yards Rearloader .....	1949
One Dennis 10 cubic yards Sideloader .....	1951
One Austin Luton type Van .....	1953

\*withdrawn from service

### Collection Period (House Refuse)

In spite of every effort it was found impossible to improve on the 8 to 10 day cycle of collection.

### Trade Refuse

With the completion of available tips in the Trafford Park area more and more industrial undertakings are requiring facilities for the disposal of trade wastes. The department did everything possible to assist within the resources available, but the type and quantity of refuse from some plants create difficulties of a long and short term nature.



## General

The number of bins in use in the district is 13,446. In addition there are 11 pail closets, one privy midden and 8,213 street gullies. The latter were cleansed regularly during the year.

The total weight of domestic refuse collected was 12,205 tons, and the weight of refuse of all types disposed of at the Meadow Road Tip was 16,126 tons.

## Dustbin Replacement Scheme

The replacement of household dustbins as a rate-borne service has continued throughout the year, a total of some 3,997 having been provided since the inception of the scheme in October, 1950. Bins were largely of  $3\frac{1}{4}$  cubic feet capacity and of B.S.S. specification or its equivalent. The cost of this service in terms of a penny rate was 1.056 and represented the supply of 1,030 bins.

## Cleansing Costs

The following table shows the comparative cost of this service for the year 1953-1954:—

### REFUSE COLLECTION 1953—54

Item	Particulars	Collection	Disposal	Total
1	Revenue account gross Expenditure	£	£	£
	(i) Labour .....	8,657	1,362	10,019
	(ii) Transport .....	5,878	47	5,925
	(iii) Plant, equipment and buildings...	1,520	653	2,173
	(iv) Other items .....	461	76	537
	(v) Total gross expenditure .....	16,516	2,138	18,654
2	Gross Income.....	872	3,779	4,651
3	Net cost .....	15,644	Cr.1,641	14,003
4	Capital Expenditure met from Revenue (included above) .....		250	250
	Unit Costs	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only .....	15 2	1 9	16 11
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only .....	10 4	1	10 5
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton.....	27 5	Cr. 2 1	25 4
8	Net cost per 1,000 population .....	£ 400.7	£ Cr. 42.0	£ 358.7 1,117.5
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises. ....	1,248.4	Cr.130.9	

## SALVAGE

As from the 1st April, 1954, by resolution of the Council, the collection of kitchen and other waste foodstuffs was abandoned.

Early in the war years the Health Committee of Urmston Council sponsored and organised a collection of waste foods from households and factories in the area with an idea of supplementing the then meagre rations of feeding stuffs allowed to local farmers and an intensive and extensive scheme of collection was inaugurated.

The Council acted long before a general direction was issued to local authorities, in fact were one of the first to operate such a collection in the North, and the work was only abandoned when doubts were cast on the arrangements from a health and amenity angle.

Taking into consideration the loss of income from the sale of kitchen waste there was a slight rise in the salvage yield. This was accounted for by a hardening in the price paid for waste paper together with a tendency for collections to increase.

Total income for the period ending 31st December, 1954, amounted to £4,145 19s. 5d.



# SALVAGE RESULTS 1940—55

Year Ending	WASTE PAPER		KITCHEN WASTE		TEXTILES		METALS		BOTTLES, JARS, CULLET, ETC.		MISCELLANEOUS		TOTALS	
	Weight Tons	Value £	Weight Tons	Value £	Weight Tons	Value £	Weight Tons	Value £	Weight Tons	Value £	Weight Tons	Value £	Weight Tons	Value £
31st March														
1940	59	194	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59	194
1941	357	1469	87	128	14	72	62	223	49	121	—	34	580	2047
1942	450	2024	317	478	20	169	54	184	33	88	—	54	889	2997
1943	481	3066	411	633	34	441	215	399	31	85	—	114	1195	4738
1944	424	2790	352	551	27	372	100	241	27	78	—	121	948	4153
1945	352	2285	306	494	29	454	86	224	22	68	—	112	812	3637
1946	312	2116	263	425	33	341	49	137	18	51	—	58	683	3128
1947	345	2268	286	472	23	261	48	143	32	167	—	61	741	3372
1948	362	2409	326	527	18	209	31	99	16	75	—	27	757	3346
1949	430	2885	324	522	21	241	37	135	22	107	—	30	838	3920
1950	471	2876	366	934	19	229	10	69	7	37	—	32	878	4177
1951	437	3193	305	838	14	228	27	119	3	15	—	23	789	4416
1952	495	8005	252	745	16	538	25	197	—	—	—	22	791	9507
1953	480	4052	215	718	21	397	42	258	—	—	—	18	760	5443
1954	458	3130	208	800	20	354	22	163	—	—	—	11	709	4458
1955	486	3480	—	—	23	426	34	240	—	—	—	14	545	4160
Totals	6399	£46242	4018	£8265	332	£4732	842	£2831	260	£892	123	£731	11974	£63693
Add Salvage Collection Allowances 1949-50.....														£1294
														£64987



