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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1949

RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health, Administrative Tuberculosis
Officer, School Medical Officer, etc.*



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Public Health Department,

June, 1950.

*The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Wallasey.*

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Report of the work carried out by the Health, Welfare and School Health Departments for the year 1949.

It will be seen that the Report has been set out in a new way to conform with the sections of the National Health Service Act, 1946, under which Act many of the duties are carried out.

These Departments are classed as Non-Trading Departments, sometimes and disparagingly referred to as "Spending Departments."

There is, of course, little to show in the way of "Cash" returns, but I venture to suggest that a reference to this Report should convince any, but the most sceptical, that the money expended has not been ill-spent.

Amongst the figures given it will be seen that the Infant Mortality Figure of 35.87 is the lowest on record (the figure in 1900 was 132.6). For the first time on record there have been no deaths from Diphtheria.

There were 17,484 attendances at the Authority's Child Welfare Centres, and 22,560 visits paid to homes by the Health Visitors.

The Home Help Service, which must be a tremendous boon to households whose domestic arrangements are disorganised by illness, gave assistance in 410 cases, and it is only owing to financial limitations that this Service has had to be curtailed.

The health of 13,306 school children has been supervised, arrangements made for the treatment of many defects, and many children, handicapped both physically and mentally, have been dealt with.

In addition, Housing defects and nuisances have been dealt with in very large numbers, and a great amount of work has been put in on the supervision and improvements of premises dealing with all kinds of foodstuffs, including milk and ice-cream.

On the Welfare side, the first Hostel for the care of old people needing care and attention has been opened, and preliminary arrangements for a second Hostel were well in hand at the end of the year.

It will also be seen that considerable work has been carried out for other Departments of the Corporation, e.g., Housing.

I should like to express my appreciation to the members of the Health and Welfare Committees for the way they have received any recommendations I made to them, and my sincere thanks to all the members of the staff, both of my own and other Departments, for their loyalty and whole-hearted support.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Assistant Child Welfare Medical Officer
and Assistant School Medical Officer.*

HOWARD WILLIAM HALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., from 14/4/1949.

Tuberculosis Officer (Part time).

R. GRENVILLE MATHERS, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.F.P.S.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.

E. J. A. O'REILLY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O. (Obstetrics).

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer
and Medical Supervisor of Midwives.*

ESME I. GRANT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dental Surgeons :

C. JOINSON LUYA, L.D.S.

W. A. HENDERSON, L.D.S.

E. G. MASON, L.D.S.

F. G. SUTCLIFFE, L.D.S., from 1/5/49.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

1, 2 & 3 WILLIAM BATE, D.P.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

1, 2 & 3 RALPH HENRY FRENCH.

1, 2 & 3 HENRY PARKER.

1, 2 & 3 THOMAS KENNETH WARD.

1, 2 & 3 ARTHUR RIDGWAY.

1 RONALD HUGHES.

1, 2 & 3 ALAN ROBINSON.

1, & 2 JACK QUAYLE CALLISTER.

*Milk, Dairies and Meat Inspector and Inspector under Diseases of Animals
Acts and Orders :*

1 & 2 GEORGE A. OWEN.

Shops Inspector :

1 RALPH LANGFORD BASCOMBE.

1. Holds a Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

2. Holds a Meat Inspector's Certificate.

3. Holds a Smoke Abatement Certificate.

Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse and Inspector of Midwives

Mrs. A. PARKINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.'s. Certificate.

Health Visitors :

Miss RUTH M. QUINTON, Cert. R.S.I., to 28/2/49.

Miss JOSEPHINE SHANNON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss LOUISE VANCE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss E. A. TEGGINS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss ANNIE J. EDGE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss CONSTANCE E. MURRELL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss LOUISA MAY HOWARTH, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert., to 13/11/49.

Miss DOREEN MAYBURY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. EVA E. P. NOLAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. NORA B. IDLE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss ANNIE LEE GLASSEY, S.C.M. and Health Visitor's Certificate, to 31/8/49.

Miss DORIS MAY STRICKLAND, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert., from 1/4/49.

Mrs. ALICE JANE SMITH, S.R.N., S.C.M., from 1/9/49.

Miss IVY DOREEN BELLIS, S.R.N., H.V. Certif., from 27/11/49.

Municipal Midwives :

NURSE J. A. AMER, S.R.N., S.C.M., to 4/8/49.
 NURSE E. DAVENPORT, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 NURSE E. KEELEY, S.C.M.
 NURSE E. E. HINTON, S.C.M.
 NURSE F. E. BOYD, S.C.M.
 NURSE E. HOMER, S.C.M.
 NURSE M. E. CUNNINGHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 NURSE E. WOODS, S.C.M., from 1/8/49.

School Nurses :

(See School Inspection Report in Appendix).

Public Analyst (Part-time Officer) :

T. R. HODGSON, M.A.

Weights and Measures and Food and Drugs Inspectors :

J. A. W. PRICE, Cert. Board of Trade.
 R. BARNES, Cert. Board of Trade, from 1/4/49.

Chief Administrative Assistant

1 FRANK ALDRED.

Clerical Staff :

NORMAN SQUIRE, Senior Clerk.
 GORDON A. LOXHAM.
 HARRY LESTER.
 DAVID G. GREENHALGH.
 Miss G. CAMPBELL.
 Miss G. MASTERS.
 Miss K. M. A. BUNGEROTH.
 Mrs. M. BLAKEMAN.
 Miss N. F. POLLITT, to 6/5/49.
 Mrs. M. SINGLETON (tempy.), from July, 1949.
 Miss B. D. PARRY.
 Miss B. FISHWICK.
 Miss P. WITTER.

PART-TIME SPECIALISTS DISCHARGING DUTIES IN
 CONNECTION WITH SPECIAL CLINICS.

Dr. W. D. HAMILTON, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.O.M.S. (Ophthalmic).
 Mr. H. DAVIES, M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Orthopaedic).
 Dr. MARY C. LYDON, D.P.M., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (1) (Psychiatrist).

MATRONS OF DAY NURSERIES.

Mrs. S. BATTING, Central Park Day Nursery.
 Miss R. SMART, Oakdale Day Nursery.
 Miss A. F. RUSSELL, Eastway Day Nursery.

DOMESTIC HELP ORGANISER.

Miss G. MALCOLM.

SUPERVISOR, OCCUPATION CENTRE FOR MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

Mrs. M. LEACH.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Duly Authorised Officers :

Mrs. M. PARNHAM, Part-time.
 Mr. D. HUGHES, Part-time.
 Mr. J. LIPTROT, Part-time, to 31/10/49.
 Mr. T. BENTLEY, Part-time, from 12/12/49.

WELFARE SERVICE.

Senior Welfare Officer :

Mr. R. P. OLLIVE.

Welfare Officers :

Mrs. M. PARNHAM, Part-time.

Mr. D. HUGHES, Part-time.

Mr. J. LIPTROT, Part-time, to 31/10/49.

Mr. T. BENTLEY, Part-time, from 12/12/49.

Home Teachers for the Blind :

Miss M. MACARA, Cert. College of Teachers of the Blind.

Miss M. BUNTING, Cert. College of Teachers of the Blind.

Clerical Staff :

Mr. F. WALL.

Mrs. H. PERRY.

Miss E. F. RICHARDS.

PART I.

Vital Statistics.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres, as ascertained by Ordnance Survey, January, 1935	...	...	...	...	...	5,961
River and Sea frontage	...	...	...	...	...	Slightly less than eight miles.
Census Population, April, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	97,626
Registrar-General's estimated population at middle of 1949 :	Civilian, 100,720 ; Total, 100,750.					
Ministry of Food estimated population at 25th June, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	103,348
" " " " 24th May, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	102,564
Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	28,075
Empty " " "	...	...	...	...	...	300
Rateable Value, 1939-1940	...	...	...	...	...	£877,164
" " 1st April, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	£895,334
Yield of a Penny Rate for 1949-50	...	...	...	...	(approx.)	£3,555
Product of a 1d. rate for the year 1950-51	...	...	...	...	...	£3,573

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	898	806	1,704
Illegitimate	43	37	80
	<hr/> 941	<hr/> 843	<hr/> 1,784

Birth Rate—17.71 per 1,000 population.			
" " 16.7 " " for England and Wales.			
Still Births, 37. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—20.3			
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Deaths to Dec. 31st	...	668	649 1,317
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	12.08
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population as adjusted by Area comparability Factor of .96	...	...	11.59
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population, England and Wales	...	...	11.7
Uncertified Deaths : One ; Percentage of Deaths : .08			

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth (Headings 29 and 30 of Registrar-General's Short List) :—

Puerperal Sepsis 1. Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	0.54	Total
Other Puerperal causes 1 do.	0.54	
		1.08

Deaths of Infants under ONE year of age ... 64

Death-rate of Infants under ONE year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	35.87
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	34.62
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	75.00
Neo-Natal Rate per 1,000 births	...	19.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis), under 1 year	8	8
1 to 2 years	...	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis Mortality Rate under 1 year, per 1,000 live births	...	4.48

Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Diarrhoea)	0.02
Phthisis Death-rate per 1,000 of population	0.46
Respiratory Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Phthisis)	1.09

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart Disease	422	Intracranial Vascular Lesions	150
Other Circulatory Diseases	44	Congenital Debility	37
Cancer.....	223	Premature Births etc. ...	48
Respiratory Diseases—		Violent Deaths (including suicides)	30
Pneumonia 50	119	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	
Bronchitis 50			
Other 19			
Phthisis	47		

CAUSES OF DEATH.	SEXES.		All Ages	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT						Total Deaths in Institutions in the Borough whether of residents or non-residents
	M.	F.		Under 1	Under 5	Under 15	Under 45	Under 65	Over 65	
All causes { Certified	667	649	1316	64	11	11	100	284	846	168
{ Uncertified ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
3. Scarlet fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping Cough .....	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
5. Diphtheria .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	31	16	47	...	1	...	27	9	10	7
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	5	7	12	...	3	3	2	4	...	7
8. Syphilitic diseases	4	4	8	...	...	...	...	4	4	...
9. Influenza	13	6	19	1	1	...	1	4	12	...
10. Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Acute polio myelitis & polio encephalitis ...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
12. Acute infective encephalitis	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
13. Cancer of buc. cav. oesoph M. & uterus F.	8	11	19	...	...	...	...	11	8	1
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	22	14	36	...	...	...	1	17	18	5
15. Cancer of Breast .....	...	20	20	...	...	...	3	6	11	2
16. Cancer of all other sites	79	69	148	...	...	...	11	56	81	19
17. Diabetes	1	5	6	...	...	...	...	2	4	3
18. Intercranial vascular lesions	61	89	150	...	...	...	4	25	121	11
19. Heart disease	203	219	422	...	1	1	14	70	336	19
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	24	20	44	...	...	...	...	8	36	12
21. Bronchitis	28	22	50	1	...	...	...	17	32	2
22. Pneumonia	31	19	50	8	2	...	4	7	29	8
23. Other respiratory diseases	13	5	18	...	...	...	1	4	13	3
24. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	12	6	18	...	...	...	2	5	11	12
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.)	6	2	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Appendicitis .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
27. Other digestive diseases	8	12	20	2	...	1	1	5	11	7
28. Nephritis	16	14	30	...	...	...	2	6	22	13
29. Puerperal and post abortive sepsis .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
30. Other maternal causes	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
31. Premature birth	11	9	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	11
32. Congenital malformations	10	7	17	15	...	...	2	...	...	4
33. Suicide	10	6	16	...	...	...	7	4	5	1
34. Road traffic accidents	6	2	8	...	1	2	3	2	...	4
35. Other violent causes ...	10	14	24	6	...	...	1	2	15	2
36. All other causes	53	46	99	1	1	4	11	16	66	11
TOTALS	668	649	1317	64	11	11	100	285	846	168

THIS DURING THE YEAR 1949.

11

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.
IN WALLASEY.

MILL LANE HOSPITAL—	
Residents	10
Non-Residents	2

HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL—

Residents	14
Non-Residents	—

VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL—

Residents	100
Non-Residents	6

WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL—

Residents	30
Non-Residents	—

LEASOWE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL—

Residents	1
Non-Residents	5

OTHER PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS—

Residents	—
Non-Residents	—

168

ELSEWHERE.

LIVERPOOL AND OTHER HOSPITALS—

(Excluding Sanatoria)	96
ST. CATHERINE'S HOSPITAL, B'HEAD	220
COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL	17
OTHER MENTAL HOSPITALS	1
SANATORIA outside Wallasey	3

TOTAL..... 337

DEATHS OUTSIDE WALLASEY—

Not in Public Institutions	
INWARD TRANSFERS.....	30

TRANSFERABLE DEATHS—

OUTWARD TRANSFERS 41

INOUESTS.

Residents (all ages)	31	} 38
Non-Residents (all ages)	7	
Legitimate Children—Under 1 year	4	
1 and under 2 years	—	
2 years and over	1	
Illegitimate Children—under 1 year	1	
1 and under 2 years	—	
2 years and under 5 years	—	

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR BELONGING TO WALLASEY.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
4	3	1	2	2	2	3	6	4	4	2	—	1	1	23	6	—	64

DEATHS OF ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS BELONGING TO WALLASEY.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	6
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	7

CAUSES OF ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS UNDER 2 YEARS OF AGE.

Cause of Death	Age
Asphyxia due to overlaying	6 weeks
Right sided cardiac failure. Toxæmia. Gastro-enteritis ...	4 months
Premature birth	12 hours
1a. Infective gastro-enteritis	1 month.
Fractured skull. Conviction of infanticide	5 minutes
Congenital heart disease	2 weeks.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Two Maternal Deaths were registered during the year, the cause of one being septicaemia due to septic infection following abortion, and of the other to shock after confinement post-partum haemorrhage.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1949.

INFANT MORTALITY IN THE WARDS.

Ward		Births	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Births
New Brighton	1	99	4	40.40
Upper Brighton	2	118	3	25.42
North Liscard	3	103	1	9.71
South Liscard	4	112	2	17.86
North Egremont	5	102	2	19.61
South Egremont	6	113	2	17.86
North Seacombe	7	108	3	27.80
South Seacombe	8	118	6	50.85
Somerville	9	135	4	29.63
Poulton	10	102	4	39.23
Marlowe	11	93	2	21.50
St. Hilary	12	83	—	—
Warren	13	79	1	12.66
Wallasey	14	73	1	13.69
Leasowe	15	216	23	106.48
Moreton	16	118	6	50.85
Saughall Massie	17	12	—	—
		1,784	64	35.87

The Infant Mortality rate of 35.87 per 1,000 live births is the lowest that has ever been recorded in Wallasey. The following table shows the Infantile Mortality rates of the Borough as compared with the figures for the whole of England and Wales and the County Boroughs and Great Towns for the census years from 1901 to 1931 and consecutive years up to 1949 :

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births, England and Wales and Great Towns.

Year	Wallasey	England and Wales	County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London). Number of towns shown in brackets	
1901	142.0	151	168	(33)
1911	109.0	130	140	(77)
1921	59.0	83	87	(96)
1931	44.8	66	72	(107)
1932	48.0	64	70	(118)
1933	54.0	63	68	(118)
1934	50.0	59	63	(121)
1935	47.6	57	62	(121)
1936	65.9	59	63	(122)
1937	58.7	58	62	(125)
1938	60.3	53	57	(126)
1939	48.9	51	53	(126)
1940	62.9	57	59	(126)
1941	78.9	60	63	(126)
1942	47.7	51	56	(126)
1943	48.6	49	54	(126)
1944	43.0	45	48	(126)
1945	56.8	46	49	(126)
1946	42.2	43	46	(126)
1947	51.1	41	44	(126)
1948	43.5	34	39	(126)
1949	35.8	32	37	(126)

INFANT MORTALITY, 1949.

Nett Deaths from stated causes in age groups under one year.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 day	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7-13 days	14-20 days	21-27 days	Total under 28 days	28 days to 2 mths.	under								Total deaths under 1 year	Deaths in previous year		
													3 mths.	4 mths.	5 mths.	6 mths.	7 mths.	8 mths.	9 mths.	10 mths.			11 mths.	12 mths.
All Causes— Certified ... Uncertified ...	19	4	2	2	1	—	—	2	3	1	34	7	6	—	4	4	2	5	1	1	—	—	64	78
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	21
Cerebro-spinal menin- gitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tubercular meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	7	5
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Congenital malforma- tions ...	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	14
Atalectasis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Overlying ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
Premature Birth ...	15	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	19	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	19
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Violent Deaths ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	4	—
Other Causes ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	10
	19	4	2	2	1	—	—	2	3	1	34	7	6	—	4	4	2	5	1	1	—	—	64	78

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The number of unemployed persons in the Borough in January, 1949, was 1,747, and in December, 1,730, as compared with 1,790 and 1,722 respectively in January and December, 1948.

The following amounts were expended on Unemployment, etc., Benefit by the Wallasey Employment Exchange :—

Unemployment Benefit	...	...	...	...	£86,926	2	8
Assistance Allowances	...	...	...	...	14,955	0	11

PART II

Occurrence and Control of
Infectious Diseases

PART II.

Occurrence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (Including Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED IN WALLASEY
DURING 1949.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Notifi- cations	Cases notified at ages												Age not known
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	14	—	—	—	1	—	5	3	1	2	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	8	5	1
Scarlet Fever	174	1	6	17	18	21	70	32	6	3	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	5	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	29	1	1	2	1	1	5	1	—	—	2	4	11	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	130	—	—	1	1	—	3	6	22	43	21	22	11	—
Other forms of Tuber- culosis	20	—	—	—	—	1	6	1	2	6	1	3	—	—
Measles	591	27	65	91	80	77	244	5	—	2	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	172	20	20	31	24	24	50	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	1,165	53	93	143	126	125	384	51	34	60	30	37	28	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year there were 150 primary notifications of Tuberculosis as compared with 152 in 1948. 130 were in respect of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 20 of the non-pulmonary type. The sex incidence was as follows :—

				<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Pulmonary	...	...	...	75	55
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	7	13

The classification of the non-Pulmonary cases was as follows :—

Abdomen	...	...	...	8
Bones	...	...	...	4
Neck	...	...	...	3
Other organs	...	...	...	5

The following table shows the number of primary notifications, the number of deaths and the death-rate from Phthisis during the last five years :—

Year	Formal notifications		Number of deaths		Pulmonary death-rate per 1,000 of population
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1945	87	13	47	11	0.53
1946	77	10	55	9	0.57
1947	125	18	47	7	0.48
1948	125	27	53	9	0.53
1949	130	20	47	12	0.46

The number of cases on the Dispensary register at the end of the year was 573—an increase of 71 on the beginning of the year. This increase has partly been the result of having fewer cases taken off the register as “recovered.”

In recent years a tendency has been noted for quiescent cases to break down again after an interim of 3-4 years.

During the year 544 contacts have been examined and 12 cases were found to be tuberculous. Tuberculin testing of all contacts has been carried out, and this is a valuable preventive measure, since the test is repeated every three months on those who are negative on first testing. As a result the time of tuberculous infection is known and any necessary steps can be taken to prevent the development of active disease. A survey of those tuberculin tested has shown that contacts of sputum positive patients become tuberculin positive at a younger age than contacts of sputum negative cases. The percentage of contacts of sputum negative cases who are tuberculin positive in each five year age group has been found to be the same as a group of the general population who have been tested. This preventive measure has also been extended to the staffs of the hospitals in the Borough.

Plans are ready for the use of B.C.G. vaccination, but these have not been implemented since B.C.G. Vaccine is not available at present.

CLINIC WORK.

Number of notified cases of Tuberculosis on Clinic register,					
1st January, 1949	...	...	...	...	502
31st December, 1949	...	...	...	...	573
Transfers from other areas during 1949	...	...	...	...	16
Lost sight of cases returned during 1949	...	...	...	...	4
New cases diagnosed during the year...	...	...	...	...	147

During the year 1,427 home visits were paid by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Other information with regard to Tuberculosis is given on page 39.

DIPHTHERIA.

Fourteen cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, all being admitted to Hospital. The diagnosis was confirmed in all cases, but no case was fatal, this being the first year when there were no deaths from Diphtheria.

Of the fourteen notified cases five had been immunised; in three cases the parents stated that the child had been immunised, but no record of the immunisation could be traced in the Department.

Further comments with regard to Diphtheria will be found under Immunisation in Part III of the Report.

SCARLET FEVER.

174 cases were notified during the year, but 3 cases out of 126 admitted to hospital were re-diagnosed after admission. None was fatal.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

There were three notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia during the year, one of which proved fatal.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Twelve of the Health Visitors are qualified to treat, by douching, the eyes of children suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum. One case was notified during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH.

149 cases were notified, and 23 cases otherwise reported. One was fatal.

Whooping Cough is a very serious disease, particularly in very young children, and it is to be hoped that a satisfactory method of immunisation will soon be forthcoming.

MEASLES.

Measles has again been very prevalent, 591 cases coming to the knowledge of the Department—524 notified and 67 otherwise reported. None was fatal.

GASTRO-ENTERITIS OF INFANTS.

There were seven deaths of children under one year registered as due to this disease, including inward transfers.

This is a condition that should not occur, being due in practically all cases to infection introduced by some article of diet, and it is only by improved hygiene in the home, particularly in the handling and care of food, that this disease can be prevented.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS (Infantile Paralysis).

Five cases were notified and confirmed, one case being a visitor on holiday from Huddersfield. All five patients were admitted to hospital, two proving fatal, including the visitor from Huddersfield. One case is reported to be attending ordinary school, his limbs being perfectly normal. The remaining two patients are still in hospital and are making progress.

DISINFECTION.

Visits to houses <i>re</i> Disinfections	...	...	...	...	151
Rooms disinfected...	...	...	...	...	157
Books from Public, Private, or School Libraries disinfected					132
Articles disinfected	...	...	...	...	2,400
Beds and bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	174

MEASLES

Measles has again been very prevalent, and is now causing the mortality of the Department. It is not only of the epidemic type, but is also of the epidemic type.

SYMPTOMS

GASTRO-ENTERITIS OF INFANTS

This is a disease of the infant, and is characterized by the presence of the following symptoms: (1) Diarrhea, (2) Vomiting, (3) Fever, (4) Stomach pain, (5) Dehydration, (6) Anorexia, (7) Irritability, (8) Lethargy, (9) Convulsions, (10) Death.

ACUTE ANTHERAL TYPHOIDITIS (Infantile Typhoid)

This is a disease of the infant, and is characterized by the presence of the following symptoms: (1) Fever, (2) Stomach pain, (3) Diarrhea, (4) Vomiting, (5) Anorexia, (6) Irritability, (7) Lethargy, (8) Convulsions, (9) Death.

DISTENTION

This is a disease of the infant, and is characterized by the presence of the following symptoms: (1) Fever, (2) Stomach pain, (3) Diarrhea, (4) Vomiting, (5) Anorexia, (6) Irritability, (7) Lethargy, (8) Convulsions, (9) Death.

MEASLES

Measles has again been very prevalent, and is now causing the mortality of the Department. It is not only of the epidemic type, but is also of the epidemic type.

PNEUMONIA

This is a disease of the infant, and is characterized by the presence of the following symptoms: (1) Fever, (2) Stomach pain, (3) Diarrhea, (4) Vomiting, (5) Anorexia, (6) Irritability, (7) Lethargy, (8) Convulsions, (9) Death.

OPHTHALMIA

This is a disease of the infant, and is characterized by the presence of the following symptoms: (1) Fever, (2) Stomach pain, (3) Diarrhea, (4) Vomiting, (5) Anorexia, (6) Irritability, (7) Lethargy, (8) Convulsions, (9) Death.

WHOPPING COUGH

This is a disease of the infant, and is characterized by the presence of the following symptoms: (1) Fever, (2) Stomach pain, (3) Diarrhea, (4) Vomiting, (5) Anorexia, (6) Irritability, (7) Lethargy, (8) Convulsions, (9) Death.

PART III.

Services provided under Part III of The National Health Service Act, 1946.

Section 21—Health Centres.

„ 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children.

„ 23—Midwifery Services.

„ 24—Health Visiting.

„ 25—Home Nursing.

„ 26—Vaccination and Immunisation.

„ 27—Ambulance Service.

„ 28—Prevention of Illness—Care and After-Care.

„ 29—Domestic Help Service.

„ 28 and 51—Mental Health Services.

Services provided under Part III of The National Health Service Act, 1946.

HEALTH CENTRES.

No Health Centres have been constructed or are in course of construction in Wallasey.

Consideration was, however, given by the Council to the erection of a Health Centre on the new Housing Estates at the western end of the Borough, but in view of the fact that the Executive Council did not consider there was any demand for a Health Centre in this area, the Corporation decided not to proceed with the matter.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL.

ANTE-NATAL.

The Clinics, at which a woman doctor is in attendance, are held on the following days:—

NEW STREET—Monday, 1-45 to 3-30 p.m.

„ „ —Thursday, 9-30 to 11-0 a.m.

OAKENHOLT ROAD, MORETON—Every alternate Friday,
1-45 to 3-30 p.m.

Owing to the fact that since the National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation, the majority of expectant mothers are engaging their own doctor for their confinement, the number attending Clinics is not as high as before July, 1948, and this fact has been observed throughout the country. Recently, however, we have noticed an increase in the numbers, as the patients are beginning to realise that at the Clinics they receive advice and attention from doctor and nurses that it is not always possible for the General Practitioner to provide.

Blood tests are performed on every expectant mother who attends the clinic, so that should she prove to be Rhesus Negative, or be in need, at any time, of a blood transfusion, all the data is immediately available for the necessary treatment to be carried out without delay. The patient's own doctor is notified of these and all other obstetrical details at the 26th week of pregnancy. When an abnormality is suspected, the patient is sent for an X-ray to the Victoria Central Hospital or the Wallasey Cottage Hospital, and if further advice is required, she is referred to the Consultative Clinic at "Highfield," at which either Mr. Herd or Mr. Lennon is available.

The Health Visitor gives informal talks and advice to the mothers on "Mothercraft," diet, etc., and the Midwives also attend to see how their patients are progressing, and to consult with the doctor-in-charge.

Great improvements have been made at the New Street Ante-Natal Clinic, as there are now curtained cubicles in which the patients undress, and the Consulting Room has been re-painted in cream, and new linoleum laid, giving a much brighter and more inviting appearance.

I am still of the opinion that if premises for an Ante-Natal Clinic could be found nearer to the centre of the town, a very much higher rate of attendance could be expected.

The following figures summarise the work done at the Ante-natal and at the Post-natal Clinics during the year :—

ANTE-NATAL.

Expectant mothers on books at January 1st	...	...	46
New cases during the year	...	...	301
Names on books at December 31st	...	...	84
Attendances of Expectant Mothers	...	...	1,384
First-visits to homes of Expectant Mothers...	...	...	845
Revisits do. do. do. ...	...	...	303

POST-NATAL.

At their last visit before confinement is expected, patients are invited to return to the Clinic six weeks after the baby is born for a post-natal examination, to ensure that everything is once again normal.

So far the numbers attending do not justify the setting up of a Post-Natal Clinic as such, but I am pleased to report that these numbers are improving.

Forty mothers attended for post-natal examination during the year.

MATERNITY EMERGENCY UNIT.

The Corporation has an arrangement with the Liverpool Maternity Hospital for the use in Wallasey of the Maternity Unit for dealing with difficult domiciliary obstetric emergencies.

It has not been necessary to call upon the services of the Maternity Unit.

MATERNITY OUTFITS.

Maternity outfits may be supplied free of charge on request to the Public Health Department in respect of all domiciliary confinements, whether attended by a Municipal Midwife or a Private Midwife.

The number of domiciliary confinements attended during the year by Municipal Midwives was 559, and by Private Midwives 34. The number of Maternity Outfits issued during the year to those Midwives was 314 and 25 respectively.

CARE OF PREMATURE BABIES.

The Midwives, Health Visitors, Maternity Hospitals and Nursing Homes work in close liaison with each other to ensure that premature infants receive the correct care and attention in the home.

When a premature infant is born, the midwife in attendance informs the Public Health Department, stating if she requires additional equipment. Arrangements are then made for a Health Visitor to visit, and, if necessary, to take over the supervision of

the case. If the midwife is not in need of any help she informs the Superintendent Health Visitor on her last day of visiting, and the Health Visitor then takes over. Very little time is lost between the handing over of the case from the midwife to the Health Visitor, which ensures that constant care and advice is maintained in the home with regard to the mother and baby.

The Maternity Hospital and Nursing Homes in the Borough also notify the Department of premature births, so that the delay between the date of discharge and the date of the Health Visitor's first call is as little as possible.

Home Helps are provided when necessary in cases where premature infants are born at home.

Number of premature infants born at home during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Number of premature infants born in hospitals or Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	73

There were 20 deaths during the year, where the cause was given as prematurity. This figure could be reduced by better Ante-natal care, and improved methods for dealing with premature babies. It is hoped that the extra facilities which are being provided at "Highfield" Maternity Hospital will bring about an improvement in this figure.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

The Clinics at which a doctor attends on each occasion, are held in the afternoon of the following days :—

New Street Centre—Tuesdays.	Field Road—Thursdays.
Wallasey Village—Wednesdays.	Oakenholt Rd., Moreton—Tues.
Trinity Hall, Liscard—Thursdays.	

The undoubted success of these Infant Welfare Centres is demonstrated by the extremely large numbers of mothers and babies who attend them. In nearly all the Centres the numbers are going up rapidly, and it may be found necessary to have more than one session per week at Trinity Hall and Wallasey Village in order to relieve the congestion and improve the service provided.

In spite of the fact that National Dried Milk is the food most commonly chosen to-day, on account of its cheapness, and that it can be obtained *without* attending a Clinic, mothers are becoming more conscious of the wisdom of securing advice from experienced Health Visitors and doctors in the management and feeding of their children, and it also, I think, reflects great credit on the Health Visitors who made the first birth visits that so many of their mothers actually visit the Clinics as soon as they are able.

The standard of nutrition of the babies is undoubtedly high, and the number of dummies used is becoming gratifyingly low. The mothers are being rapidly convinced of the need for a strict routine in the upbringing of their babies, and it is only when young parents are forced, through housing shortage, to reside with their relatives that the advice given cannot always be followed.

There seem to be fewer cases of gastro-enteritis and bronchitis, and practically no cases of rickets or other deficiency diseases, and I think this can safely be attributed to the higher standard of hygiene adopted in the home, and to the almost universal use and understanding of vitamins in the diet of the baby and the toddler.

Toddlers also attend quite regularly, and it is at this stage that defects such as knock-knees, flat feet, squint and psychological disturbances can be detected and dealt with.

Immunisation against Diphtheria is also carried out now at some of the Welfare Centres, and this assures that the babies are protected against this dread disease at the earliest opportunity, namely, from 8 months upwards.

Artificial sunlight is recommended quite frequently for babies who are not thriving as well as they should, and this is carried out at New Street and Moreton Clinics with excellent results.

The Clinics are staffed by Health Visitors, doctors and voluntary helpers, and we are extremely grateful to the latter, who attend so regularly, and are so helpful and enthusiastic in carrying out the duties assigned to them. Their presence is invaluable, as it enables the Health Visitors to spend more time with the mothers, answer their numerous questions, and give informal talks on Parentcraft to the younger and more inexperienced among them.

The doctor sees and examines all newcomers, and those who have specific problems with regard to feeding or management.

We would all welcome better premises for this important branch of preventive medicine, but in spite of the rather poor surroundings, which make for less efficiency, a very valuable contribution is being made to the promotion of a healthier race of children.

The number of attendances during the year was :—

Children under one year of age	New Street 2,278	Moreton 2,694	New Brighton 2,901	Wallasey Village 3,330	Trinity Hall Liscard 3,711	Totals 14,914
Children between one and five yrs.	144	277	501	590	1,058	2,570

SUPPLY OF WELFARE FOODS.

NATIONAL DRIED MILK, FRUIT JUICES, etc.

Particulars of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, and Fruit Juices distributed to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under five years of age during 1948 are as follows :—

NATIONAL DRIED MILK.		1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.
Number of packets given free ..		1,599	1,340	779	708
" " sold at reduced rates		30,785	53,283	55,735	59,604
COD LIVER OIL, FRUIT JUICES, ETC.		1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.
Number of bottles of Cod Liver Oil		16,978	24,989	27,408	25,672
" " Fruit Juices		107,383	107,587	107,734	99,229
" " Vitamin Capsules		2,833	5,791	7,085	7,437
" " Orange Juice (Free)		—	—	2,084	1,834

DRIED MILK (OTHER THAN NATIONAL DRIED MILK).

Sold lb. Packets, 11,181 realising ... £1,305 15s. 3d.

PRIORITY DENTAL SERVICES

for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Pre-School Children.

This work is co-ordinated with the work of the School Dental Service and the statistical table below shows the information required by the Ministry with regard to priority dental services provided for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Pre-school Children, under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

An additional Dental Clinic was opened in October, 1949, in the New Street Health Centre, and consists of a surgery, waiting and recovery rooms and a small laboratory. The rooms are large, the lay-out well planned, and the equipment new and up-to-date. Unhappily, the building itself is old and unattractive, and the surroundings probably the most dismal in Wallasey—two factors which do not help in making a new Service popular.

Great difficulty was experienced in getting the premises ready, and, owing to shortages of labour, material and equipment, it was not possible to open this Clinic until October, 1949.

An additional Dental Officer was appointed and commenced duty on 1st May, 1949—his services are divided equally between the Maternity and Child Welfare Service and the School Dental Service. The Officer appointed had previous experience of this type of work, and Wallasey was fortunate to obtain his services at a time when Dental Surgeons are leaving, not joining, the public services.

From May until October, 1949, this Officer carried out work at the various established Clinics, treating the mothers and young children under five years of age.

The new service commenced with six sessions per month—the Dental Officer being always in his surgery in order to deal with patients when the Medical Officer is holding one of her regular clinics, either at New Street Clinic or at the Moreton Clinic.

As soon as the number of mothers and young children attending justify it, the number of sessions devoted to their treatment will be increased. A new service of this type takes time to get into its stride, and the fact that the Dental Service provided under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, is also available for expectant mothers, complicates matters. There will always be the temptation for a woman to have her dental treatment carried out after the birth of her baby, and under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

There has not yet been time for any expectant or nursing mother to be fitted with dentures by the Maternity Dental Service, but it is considered that after a few women have been treated successfully in this way, the number wishing to be treated will probably increase rapidly, as it is hoped that this work will be done much more quickly than by the private practitioner.

Anaesthetics are given both by the Medical Officer attached to the Maternity and Child Welfare Service, and also by one or other of the Dental Officers.

Dental treatment of pre-school children has been carried out for a number of years by the Dental Officers of the School Dental Service. It is merely a case now of expanding a service already in operation.

To sum up, the Dental Service provided by the Local Authority for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children, has commenced with its own staff and equipment. It is now a question of building up the service and gaining the confidence of the public.

The following table shows the treatment completed in 1949 :—

(a) NUMBERS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE.

	Examined.	Needing treatment	Treated.	Made Dentally fit.
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	57	56	45	32
Children under five	264	260	257	257

(b) FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED.

	Extra- ctions	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Sealings or scaling and gum treat- ment	Silver Nitrate treat- ment	Dress- ings	Radio- graphs	Dentures provided	
		Local	Gen- eral						Com- plete	Partial
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	58	—	26	—	12	—	—	—	—	—
Children under five	289	—	229	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

Provision for an X-ray machine has been made in the Estimates for 1950-51. The apparatus was installed in May, 1950.

Dentures will be provided for those who need them—the Authority's Dental Officers will make use of outside laboratories for this purpose.

NURSERY PROVISION FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE.

There are three Day Nurseries in the Borough for children under five, all of the premises being one-storied, pre-cast buildings previously used as War-time Day Nurseries.

The Nurseries are not open on Sundays.

The average attendance throughout the year has been very good indeed, and the health of the children on the whole has been very satisfactory.

There is no doubt that the children attending the Nurseries benefit very considerably from the good food, regular habits, fresh air and discipline which they receive there.

The Matrons and their staffs are doing very good work, and they take a personal interest in the welfare and security of their little charges.

The Ministry of Health Inspectors who recently visited the Nurseries expressed themselves well satisfied with all they saw, except that they felt there should be a Certificated Nursery Teacher in charge of the children aged 2-5.

Oakdale Road and Central Park Nurseries are Training Schools for Nursery Nurses. The students at each of these Nurseries do a two years' Course of practical and theoretical work, which involves lectures in English, Biology, Art, Health, Hygiene and Child Psychology, and practical experience in all branches of Mothercraft, e.g., cooking, mending, needlework, housework, and the management of the baby and toddler up to 5 years of age. At the end of this Course they take an Examination for the Diploma of the National Nursery Examination Board. Already five of the students have been successful in their examination, and this year there are five more who will take their examination.

During the year arrangements were completed for the cooking of all the meals on the premises of Oakdale and Central Park Nurseries, and this has proved to be an unqualified success both in the quantity and quality of the food, and, financially, as there has actually been a resulting reduction in the costs.

The following table shows the number of places and average number of children attending in December, 1949:—

Nursery	Number on Register 31/12/49	Number of Places	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES			
			<i>Exc. Saturdays</i> 0—2's 2—5's		<i>For month as a whole</i> 0—2's 2—5's	
Eastway	30	30	3	21	2	18
Central Park ...	60	50	14	28	13	25
Oakdale	57	50	6	43	6	37

MOTHER AND BABY HOMES.

There is not a sufficient number of mothers seeking admission to such Homes to justify the Council maintaining a Home for this purpose.

The Corporation has an arrangement with the Wallasey Moral Welfare Association whereby any women dealt with under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are admitted before and after the confinement.

The Corporation also contributes, where necessary, to the maintenance of unmarried mothers and illegitimate children admitted to Homes maintained by the Salvation Army and other voluntary bodies.

MIDWIFERY SERVICES.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

Under the terms of the Midwives Act, 1936, and the Scheme prepared by the Council, and approved by the Ministry of Health, under Section 23 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Council employed directly seven Municipal Midwives during 1949. Each Midwife is allotted a particular district, and resides in that district, though, of course, her activities are not strictly confined to that area.

All except one of the Municipal Midwives have had training in the administration of Gas and Air, and an adequate number of Minnitt Apparatus are housed at the Ambulance Depot. On receipt of a telephone message from the Midwife concerned, a Minnitt Apparatus is delivered at the home of the patient without delay.

Bicycles and bus passes are provided for the use of the midwives, and one has a Corgi Auto-cycle. The Ambulance Service supplies a Sitting Case Car and driver on the request of a midwife.

Dr. E. I. Grant, Woman Assistant Medical Officer of Health, acts as Medical Supervisor of Midwives, and Mrs. A. Parkinson, Superintendent Health Visitor, as lay Supervisor.

Five midwives in private practice notified their intention to practice in the Borough during the year.

In 1949 the seven Municipal Midwives attended 559 cases ; of these, 280 were attended as Maternity Nurses. Midwives in private practice attended 34 cases, of which 16 were attended as Maternity Nurses.

The following is a list of the causes for which medical help was sought :—

CONDITION OF MOTHER.

					Private Midwives.	Municipal Midwives.
P.O.P.	—	1
Stillbirths	—	2
Ante-partum haemorrhage	—	1
Laceration of perineum	—	3
Uterine inertia	—	1
Pyrexia	—	1
Breech...	—	1
Obstetric Shock	—	1
Rise of temperature	—	1
Twins	—	1
Various other causes...	—	2
Miscarriage threatened	—	1

CONDITION OF CHILD.

Cough and temperature	...	...	...	—	1
Discharging eyes	...	...	...	—	4
Marked Pallor	...	...	...	—	1

HEALTH VISITING.

The Health Visitors are responsible for visiting homes and attending clinics in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare, combining their duties with those of School Health Nurses.

This visiting of homes is a most important aspect of their work, and is especially concerned with the expectant mother, and the giving of advice on all matters with regard to the arrangements for the confinement and the maintenance of the mother's good health.

After the confinement, whether it has taken place in hospital or at home, the Health Visitor visits the mother and baby, usually on the 14th day. In this way, the link between the ante-natal and post-natal care is maintained throughout. The mother is informed of the nearest Child Welfare Centre, where a doctor is in attendance, and this helps in maintaining contact with the Health Visitor, who is able to advise in matters concerning the health of the baby. Appreciation of the Health Visitor's home visits is shown by the consistently high attendances at the Child Welfare Centres by mothers and children up to 5 years of age.

Re-visits are paid periodically to the homes of children between 1 and 5 years, the aim being, wherever possible, to encourage the development of healthy children. Emphasis is laid on the importance of vaccination and diphtheria immunisation, and other precautionary measures, where necessary, concerning infection.

Because of her combined duties, the Health Visitor is able to provide a continuous contact between her visits in the homes for children between 1 and 5 years, and her visits to the schools and homes throughout the children's school life.

Many enquiries, etc., visits and reports were made during the year by the Health Visitors, at the request of the Children's Officer.

The following is a summary of work done by the Health Visitors during the year:—

First visits and re-visits to Infants under one year of age...	9,360
Visits and re-visits to children one to five years of age ...	11,610
Total visits and re-visits to children under one and up to five years of age for any purpose whatsoever, including 25 visits and re-visits <i>re</i> Minor Infections	20,995
Visits re-notified Infectious Diseases	417
Visits and re-visits to expectant mothers	1,148

PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS AND GOOD HEALTH

(Min. of Health Circular 2831)

Health Visitors impress on mothers and expectant mothers the importance of cleanliness and freedom from vermin, and concentrate largely on the homes which they know to be the least satisfactory in this respect.

Fine tooth combs are supplied on loan, and Lethane hair oil is available for cases needing treatment.

Posters dealing with vermin, issued by the Central Council for Health Education, are exhibited in various parts of the Borough.

HOME NURSING.

Home Nursing in the Borough has for many years been carried out by the Wallasey District Nursing Association, which possesses a District Nurses' Home in the centre of the town. This Organisation has carried on the work, on behalf of the Corporation, since the 5th July, 1948.

The staff in 1949 consisted of a Superintendent and six District Nurses, but this has since been increased by two nurses. Difficulty has been experienced from time to time in obtaining the services of nurses. Practitioners wishing the services of a nurse for a patient make their requests to the Superintendent of the District Nursing Association (Tel. : Wallasey 5709).

The following is a summary of the work undertaken in 1949 :—

No. of cases attended ...	...	...	1,032
No. of visits paid ...	...	...	23,561

The Wallasey District Nursing Association at their Annual General Meeting in September, 1949, passed a resolution to determine the Agreement made between the Local Authority and the Association, in which they had agreed to provide Home Nursing Services on behalf of the Local Authority. The Local Authority proposes to take over, by Agreement, the existing Organisation, including the Nurses' Home, and to utilise the existing staff. At the end of 1949 the question of taking over the Association was still under consideration, but it was eventually decided that the transfer should take place on the 1st July, 1950.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

VACCINATION.

With the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on 5th July, 1948, the office of Public Vaccinator ceased to exist and vaccinations from that date have been carried out by patients' own doctors.

From the 5th July, 1948, medical officers and general practitioners taking part in the new arrangements are required to furnish to the local Health Authority particulars for record purposes. On the basis of receiving such particulars the Council will pay a fee of 5/- per case to general practitioners.

During 1949 practitioners in the town notified that they had carried out 652 vaccinations and 102 re-vaccinations.

In addition, 68 notifications of vaccination and 16 notifications of re-vaccination were received late from practitioners in respect of the year 1948.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALL-POX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS, 1917.

No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has continued throughout the year at the Clinics.

With the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on the 5th July, 1948, General Practitioners performing immunisations against Diphtheria under the Local Authority's approved arrangement, are able to obtain free supplies of prophylactic on application to the Public Health Department, Town Hall, Wallasey, or the Health Clinic, Oakenholt Road, Moreton. They also receive fees from the Local Authority in respect of the return to the Authority of information in a specified form for record purposes.

During the year 1,208 children received the full course of Immunisation treatment against Diphtheria—621 being immunised by General Practitioners and 587 at the Clinics.

In addition, 427 children who had received the full course five years ago were given a reinforcing dose—59 by General Practitioners and 368 at the Clinics.

The following table shows the number of children immunised each year from 1936:—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMMUNISED—BY AGE GROUPS.

Age	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	Total
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	8	21	56	30	27	37	140	67	86	under
1 year +	6	3	21	5	18	101	357	290	478	835	730	635	865	740	5 yrs. of
2 years +	22	12	17	13	23	111	309	251	78	168	160	78	279	181	age at
3 years +	38	11	24	10	27	115	295	169	58	60	91	47	75	77	31/12/49 :
4 years +	125	65	31	12	30	101	306	144	51	39	50	25	33	38	4,055
5 years +	313	160	206	29	45	136	308	152	82	63	59	32	54	31	
6 years +	221	114	230	10	44	85	243	223	68	45	45	26	43	25	
7 years +	110	65	120	15	20	76	220	118	37	22	23	9	7	10	Total
8 years +	25	13	6	3	2	47	247	120	51	22	21	8	4	3	over
9 years +	13	6	—	—	4	41	238	96	74	43	15	7	7	6	5 yrs.
10 years +	4	—	1	2	3	45	228	115	44	24	16	7	11	4	and under
11 years +	3	1	1	1	4	27	188	107	60	19	13	5	5	3	15 yrs. of
12 years +	3	1	—	—	4	22	203	110	39	12	13	3	4	1	age at
13 years +	4	—	—	4	1	22	237	135	64	12	11	5	3	—	31/12/49 :
14 years +	2	—	—	2	—	9	57	101	20	1	5	1	1	1	7,750
15 years +	—	—	—	3	—	4	21	45	17	7	1	—	—	—	
Over 16 years	—	—	—	1	5	1	12	31	6	12	1	—	1	2	
<i>Total</i>	889	451	657	110	230	951	3,490	2,263	1,257	1,411	1,291	1,028	1,459	1,208	

NOTE.—The figures shown for 1948 have been amended to include cards received from General Practitioners during 1949 but relating to 1948.

DIPHTHERIA.

The following table emphasises the steady decline in the number of notifications of Diphtheria and the number of deaths from this disease in **Wallasey** particularly during the last seven years :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Confirmed Cases</i>	<i>Number Immunised</i>	<i>Total Immunised</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1934	258	—	—	—	25
1935	275	239	181	181	18
1936	259	227	889	1,070	12
1937	241	209	451	1,521	12
1938	255	235	657	2,178	13
1939	187	185	110	2,288	11
1940	143	128	230	2,518	5
1941	220	182	951	3,469	10
1942	312	223	3,490	6,959	12
1943	157	79	2,263	9,222	3
1944	109	59	1,257	10,479	3
1945	120	66	1,411	11,890	1
1946	96	52	1,291	13,181	*1
1947	29	8	1,028	14,209	*1
1948	27	13	†1,459	15,668	†3
1949	14	14	1,208	16,876	—

* Not immunised † 2 not immunised, 1 transfer

‡NOTE :—The figure for immunisation during 1948 has been amended to include cards received from General Practitioners during 1949, but relating to 1948.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Table showing the decline in the totals of deaths from Diphtheria in **ENGLAND AND WALES** and original notifications from 1940 to 1948 :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Diphtheria Deaths</i>	<i>Cases</i>
1940	2,480	46,281
1941	2,641	50,797
1942	1,827	41,404
1943	1,371	34,662
1944	934	29,949
1945	722	25,246
1946	472	18,283
1947	244	10,465
1948	150	8,034
1949	(Not available)	

It is interesting to note that the provisional total of deaths from Diphtheria in **ENGLAND AND WALES** in 1948 was 150, compared with an average of about 2,800 deaths annually in the ten-year period 1931-1940. For the seventh consecutive year since the immunisation campaign was launched, the number of deaths was the lowest ever recorded.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

On the formation of the National Fire Service the responsibility of maintaining an ambulance service for accidents, etc., was transferred from the Watch Committee to the Health Committee.

In April, 1948, however, the vehicles and personnel of the Ambulance Service were placed under the operational control of the Chief Fire Officer, subject to the general direction of the Medical Officer of Health, and from that date the vehicles were housed at the Central Fire Station.

With the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on 5th July, 1948, the Infectious Diseases Ambulance was transferred from the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mill Lane, to the Civil Ambulance Service and housed at the Central Fire Station.

The Ambulance Service has, during the past year, carried out the increasingly heavy duties occasioned by the Nationalisation of the Health Services in a manner which calls for comment.

It is obvious, when past records are produced, that this Service has provided an unparalleled example of public selfishness.

Prior to the National Health Service Act, 1946, coming into operation, the greatest number of cases carried in one month by Ambulances in this Borough was 479—the figure for the month of December, 1949, was 1,593.

This cannot be said to be due to an increase in sickness or accident rates, but is due to the fact that people who previously made their own way to Hospital or Clinic for out-patient treatment are now able, through their doctor or hospital, to travel by Ambulance or Sitting Case car.

It is not claimed that all these cases are taking an unfair advantage of the Service, but cases have been brought to notice where a person, after conveyance to Hospital, stated that she did not wish the Ambulance to wait for her as she was going to do some shopping before going home. Another, where a woman was conveyed to an optician and stated that she did not want the conveyance home as she was to have tea at another address.

The authorised strength of the Wallasey Ambulance Service in 1949 was sixteen Driver/Orderlies, and this has since been increased to eighteen.

The Ambulance staff enjoy the full amenities offered to the Firemen, and the liaison between the two Services is admirable.

At December, 1949, the vehicles consisted of five Ambulances and three Sitting Case Cars. Delivery was taken of a new Daimler 27 h.p. Ambulance in April, 1950, and provision has been made in the Capital Expenditure Programme for 1950-51 for a further Ambulance of this type, together with an additional Sitting Case Car.

During the year the Ambulances were called upon to perform out of district journeys totalling 6,656 out of a total of 91,018 miles.

The number of cases dealt with during 1949 was as follows :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Accidents ...	27	34	25	65	71	145	177	198	84	55	54	50	985
Sudden illness	17	20	20	21	16	43	44	50	25	24	16	22	318
Maternity ...	42	34	56	52	53	47	50	50	63	56	32	50	585
Infectious Diseases ...	11	11	15	14	28	13	13	16	21	20	26	23	211
Mental... ..	1	10	14	11	12	17	18	9	15	15	35	15	172
Public Health Cases ...	45	60	164	90	71	91	86	130	104	124	70	91	1126
Mortuary ...	6	10	7	6	7	7	8	13	6	6	15	7	98
Other Cases ...	1182	1050	998	894	1213	1076	1054	1053	1071	1096	1163	1335	13185
	1331	1229	1299	1153	1471	1439	1450	1519	1389	1396	1411	1593	16680

The mileage of Ambulance vehicles during 1949 was as follows :

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
HF.6770 Ambulance	716	657	1001	738	903	706	884	1220	1391	1308	689	1274	11487
HF.89 ..	260	112	293	170	250	267	266	380	464	226	235	102	3025
HF.9500 ..	1621	1421	1144	1421	1739	1467	889	603	534	584	779	848	13050
AHF.347 ..	135	253	323	412	336	325	517	444	582	264	823	768	5182
AHF.277 ..	710	612	350	384	415	635	719	947	1212	985	1472	1159	9600
EOH.840 Sitting Case Car	1315	1502	1758	—	1116	1733	1980	1866	1166	1828	1851	1851	17966
VJ.8244 ..	1189	467	1505	1447	1457	1352	1205	1223	551	995	1011	1157	13559
HF.5914 ..	1754	1579	613	1644	1554	1336	1810	1220	1461	1207	1618	1669	17149
	7700	6603	6987	6216	7770	7821	8270	7903	7361	7397	8478	8828	91018

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS—CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Details of notification of cases and statistics, etc., relating to Tuberculosis are given on pages 19-20.

As part of the work of prevention, great emphasis has been laid on proper isolation of the cases at home, as described in the report for 1948. During the year 12 cases of infectious tuberculosis were re-housed.

In the field of After-care a voluntary Care Committee acts as the agent for the Local Health Authority. The Resettlement Clinic has continued its work and as a result 65% of those on the Dispensary Register are in employment. The Committee have employed Miss A. L. Glassey as part-time Welfare Officer since 12/9/48, and she has started to develop a home industry service concentrating on the manufacture of shopping bags since this breaks down easily into three processes.

The Remploi factory has been found to be invaluable as a testing place for those cases who are sputum negative and about whom there is doubt regarding the stability of the pulmonary lesion. Patients can start doing 20 hours per week and the number of hours gradually increased. Reports on these people are received at intervals from the Disablement Resettlement Officers of the Ministry of Labour who attend the Resettlement Clinic each week.

Nursing utensils and wheel chairs have been loaned out by the Committee on the recommendation of Mrs. A. Smith, the Health Visitor. Extra nourishment has also been provided for patients, and clothing for their families where necessary.

Plans for the erection of a workshop in which to employ chronic sputum positive cases have been prepared during the year. Following various suggestions from the Ministry of Health, these plans have been altered to allow for extension on the ground floor and also the erection of a second storey. Final approval of these plans are now awaited and it is hoped to start building in July, 1950.

All cases of tuberculosis who have suffered loss of income as a result of taking treatment have been recommended to the National Assistance Board. This Board cannot supply information as to the number of cases to whom assistance has been granted.

During the year 1,427 home visits were paid by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

MENTAL ILLNESS AND DEFECTIVENESS.

Details of work under this Section are given on pages 41-49.

OTHER TYPES OF ILLNESS.

The staff of the Public Health Department has co-operated with Hospital Staffs in dealing with people who require their services.

Many requests were received during the year from Almoners for information with regard to patients.

No requests were received during the year from General Practitioners with regard to after-care of patients.

PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS.

The following Voluntary Organisations operating in the Borough have schemes under which articles of medical equipment are loaned to the public, and arrangements have been made with these Organisations for the continuation of the Service :—

The Wallasey District Nursing Association,
The British Red Cross Society,
St. John Ambulance Brigade.

A certain amount of equipment has also been purchased for special cases, and this is stored, when necessary, at the Public Health Department. A small loan charge, varying with the value of the article, is made.

Should the demand for the provision of nursing equipment and apparatus increase to any material extent, it will be necessary for the Authority to consider the establishment of a Depot or Depots for the storing, distribution, sterilising, etc., of suitable articles of equipment. The Authority would, of course, consult with any Voluntary Organisations concerned to avoid overlapping in this Service, and to enable them to make use of any voluntary effort that might be available.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The demands on the Domestic Help Service continue to increase, and during the year 1949, 444 applications for help were received, of which 419 were accepted. The corresponding figures for 1948 were 410 applications received and 367 accepted. The total number of hours worked by Helpers during 1949 was 57,009½.

The service plays an important part in relieving pressure on hospital accommodation. Many of the cases looked after in their own homes by Domestic Helpers would, if no such service were available have to occupy a hospital bed. Similarly with aged people or couples living alone. The fact that a helper has been available has obviated the necessity of them entering hostels.

A considerable number of the cases dealt with are women returning from maternity hospitals or nursing homes after confinement. The services of helpers are of great value in assisting the mother to regain her normal health.

The services of helpers are also being requested in an increasing number of tuberculosis cases.

That the medical practitioners in the town appreciate the service is evident from the number of cases who are advised by their own doctors to take advantage of the service.

The following table shows the work carried out during 1949 :—

	<i>Maternity.</i>	<i>T.B.</i>	<i>Others.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Applications for help received ...	125	13	306	444
" " investigated	125	13	306	444
" " accepted ...	119	13	287	419
No. of cases to which help sent ...	89	13	308	410
No. of hours worked by Helpers ...	6,732½	2,192	48,085½	57,009½
No. of Helpers on Staff, 31/12/49 ...	Full time 35, Part-time 8.			

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

The Mental Health Service, which opens up a new era in the field of Mental Health, came into being on the 5th July, 1948, as part of the comprehensive Health Service provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Under Part III of this Act, the Local Health Authority is invested with the community care relating to Mental Health and the Duly Authorised Officers with the statutory duties for securing the detention and reception of mentally sick persons and mental defectives requiring hospital care.

The responsibilities placed upon the Local Health Authority in relation to Mental Health are :—

- (a) The ascertainment of mental ill-health and mental deficiency.
- (b) The administrative arrangements for obtaining Detention and Reception Orders, and the escorting of mentally sick persons to Hospitals under the Regional Hospitals Board.
- (c) The community care of the mentally defective.
- (d) The Administrative arrangements for the admission to hospital for treatment for the mentally ill and of mental defectives.
- (e) Prevention, care and after-care work in the community in the field of Mental Health.

Administration.

A Mental Health Sub-Committee is appointed annually, consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and five members of the Health Committee of the Council. The Mental Health Sub-Committee meets monthly. The Medical Officer of Health, under the direction of this Committee, is responsible for the control of this Service.

The Local Health Authority carries out all duties in connection with the Mental Health Service, none being delegated to Voluntary Associations. In the removal of patients to hospital, the Local Authority's Ambulance Service is employed.

Staff.

Administrative Officer—Medical Officer of Health. In addition, three medical officers of the Local Health Authority are approved under Sections 3 and 5 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, for the purpose of giving medical certificates.

Three Duly Authorised Officers—one woman and two men—are employed by the Local Health Authority. These officers also act as Mental Health Social Workers in the prevention, care and after-care section of the work. Two-thirds of the time of the three Duly Authorised Officers is allocated to Mental Health, and one-third to the Welfare Services under the National Assistance Act, 1948. The Duly Authorised Officers are available at all times of the day and night to deal with cases of urgency (they work on a rota system between themselves for after-hours duty). They each have a telephone at home. During the day, unless owing to exceptional circumstances all have been called out, one of the officers is available to give advice and assistance. A member of the Welfare Staff has been "Authorised" to act in the case of emergency.

Offices.

The Mental Health Service Offices are situated in Church Street, about half a mile from the Town Hall. There are all the inconveniences and delays attendant upon a split department which add considerably to the work of the Authorised Officers.

There is a "branch" office at Moreton, recently opened in the old Public Assistance Committee Building, Oakenholt Road. The Authorised Officer for the district attends there on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when the office is open to the public between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. This has already proved a great boon to the residents of Wallasey West, and the office will be kept open for longer periods as time goes on and the need increases.

The New Mental Health Services.

Mental Health is on the threshold of a great change and already the possibilities of the new approach to positive Mental Health are unfolding. Whereas previously the essential preliminary to treatment for mental illness was certification and incarceration, now the aim is preventive, the emphasis being on mental health, not mental illness, and it is hoped that, in the not too far distant future, certification will be the rare exception instead of the general rule as it has been in the past.

The success of the new method of treatment lies in early diagnosis of the symptoms, and although public opinion is being educated to appreciate that mental symptoms are only symptoms of an illness, there is still a reticence and shrinking on the part of relatives of a patient to seek advice in the early onset of the illness.

A review of the year's work, however, is encouraging. In spite of the fact that the Regional Hospitals Board has not yet established a Psychiatric Out-Patients Clinic in Wallasey, many patients have attended the clinics at Birkenhead, Liverpool and Clatterbridge. In some cases the arrangements are made by the General Practitioner, but frequently the Duly Authorised Officer acts on the doctor's behalf, and, if necessary, accompanies the patient to the Clinic. If a period in hospital is advised by the Consultant Psychiatrist, the Authorised Officer then makes the arrangements necessary for the patient's admission to hospital as a Voluntary Patient and accompanies him thereto.

It is encouraging to note that the number of patients electing to go to hospital for voluntary treatment this year exceeds last year's figure by more than 100%.

Where a patient requires removal to hospital for observation for a period, a Justices Order is made, on which order the patient can be detained for a period not exceeding 14 days (Section 21), but under the new provisions (Section 21A) this can be extended by a medical certificate for a further 14 days. This is very helpful as a patient is thus able to have a month's stay in hospital without certification, by which time he has often recovered sufficiently to elect himself to stay as a Voluntary Patient and certification is avoided.

In urgent cases patients are occasionally placed in hospital for observation by the Duly Authorised Officer (Section 20) for a period not exceeding three days. In these cases also, Section 21A can be

invoked and the patient detained on medical evidence, for a further 14 days. Section 20 is only used in extremely urgent cases, the Authorised Officers preferring to act on the Justices Order wherever possible.

If certification is inevitable, the Authorised Officer makes all the necessary arrangements and escorts the patient to the hospital.

An appreciation of the work of the local Magistrates must be recorded here. The Authorised Officers find them only too willing to see a patient at any time, and some of them are very busy people. Their patience and understanding in dealing with the patient does much to reassure the anxious relatives in their distress. Wallasey is very fortunate in its magisterial body.

The bed shortage is still very acute in observation and mental hospitals, both of which are filled to capacity. It is cheering to note, however, that Upton Hospital now has "open-door" wards for men and women admitted as Voluntary patients. This is a step in the right direction towards the ideal—a separate small hospital, on country house lines, for this type of case.

The only solution to the shortage of beds in Mental Hospitals would appear to be the provision of more chronic sick wards (of the old "aged and infirm" type) in general hospitals, where senile cases could be nursed and cared for without certification, thus leaving the Mental Hospital beds available for curable and "short-stay" cases.

Prevention, Care and After-Care.

Only a brief reference can be made here to what will, in future, be the Local Authority's biggest task in the field of Mental Health, which is essentially a Social Service.

Some After-Care work has been done in the past by Voluntary Agencies, but under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1948, the duty is placed on the Local Health Authority. The Authorised Officers are now carrying out the work previously done in this Area by the Psychiatric Social Workers of the National Association for Mental Health.

Owing to pressure of other more urgent work, however, only a limited amount of time can be given to this important part of the work. An increase in staff and the provision of cars for the Authorised Officers are essentials before this work can develop.

Preventive work is done in conjunction with the Psychiatric Out-Patients' Clinics, by ensuring attendance of the patient, and by domiciliary visiting in a friendly capacity to give such help and advice as may be needed. For example, the finding of suitable employment by getting the patient in touch with the Disablement Resettlement Officer of the Ministry of Labour, and advising him of all resources which are available to help his particular need.

After-care work is carried out in the case of patients discharged from Mental Hospitals. The Medical Officer of Health receives notice, from the Mental Hospital, of a patient's discharge, and stating whether or not he (or she) is desirous of taking advantage of the after-care service. In some cases, before a patient is discharged the resident psychiatrist gets in touch with the Authorised Officer and tells him of the patient's particular need. For example, lodgings

and rooms have been found for patients before discharge, ready for them to come out and take up residence. In one case, the Authorised Officer had a patient's home cleared of loads of useless "junk" which the patient had hoarded before entering hospital, and had the house cleaned. As it was considered that isolation had been a contributing factor to the patient's breakdown, the officer found a companion to share the house with the patient, and had her installed on the patient's return home. They are still living amicably together.

In another case of loneliness the officer made many visits for the first month after the patient's discharge from hospital. In addition, he made arrangements for visiting by voluntary agencies, including the patient's appropriate religious organisation. He got into touch with the National Assistance Board regarding the patient's financial allowance, arranged for a Home Help to be supplied, and notified the relatives of the patient's home-coming.

Experience proves that the patient needs, and is grateful for, the friendly help of someone who knows and understands what he has been through, and who can spare him some of the shocks and jolts of rehabilitation, and can act as a prop until he feels able to stand on his own feet again.

STATISTICS.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS.

Number of Wallasey patients in Mental Hospitals on 31st December, 1949, is as follows :—

Certified patients (Section 16 Lunacy Act, 1890)...	...	...	326
Voluntary patients (Section I Mental Treatment Act, 1930) ...	...	...	16
Temporary patients (Section V Mental Treatment Act, 1930) ...	...	...	—
Total			342

There were 150 Admissions to Mental Hospitals during the year as follows :—

Mental Treatment Act, 1930.

Under Section I Voluntary Patients :	Males.	Females.	Total.
Upton Mental Hospital ...	9	11	20
Rainhill Mental Hospital ...	3	4	7
Winwick Mental Hospital ...	1	2	3
Scalebor Park, Burley-in-Wharfedale	—	1	1
Total ...	13	18	31

No cases were admitted under Section V (Temporary patients).

Lunacy Act, 1890.

Under Section 20 (3 day Order) by Duly Authorised Officer to :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Birkenhead Mental Hospital ...	17	7	24
Upton Mental Hospital ...	—	2	2
Smithdown Road Hospital ...	—	1	1
Total ...	17	10	27

Under Section 21 (14 day Order) by Justice of the Peace to :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Birkenhead Mental Hospital ...	8	10	18
Upton Mental Hospital ...	2	6	8
Smithdown Road Hospital ...	—	1	1
Whiston County Hospital ...	—	1	1
	—	—	—
Total ...	10	18	28
	—	—	—

Under Section 16 (Certified Patients) to :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Upton Mental Hospital ...	12	29	41
Birkenhead Mental Hospital ...	7	10	17
Winwick Mental Hospital ...	1	2	3
Smithdown Road Hospital ...	—	1	1
Rainhill Mental Hospital ...	1	1	2
	—	—	—
Total ...	21	43	64
	—	—	—

Domiciliary Visits by Duly Authorised Officers :—

To cases under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts	...	...	431
Preventive, Care and After-Care visits	...	...	160
			—
Total	...	...	591
			—

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-38.

Total number of Mentally Defective Persons on the Local Health Authority's Register (excluding children being dealt with by the Education Authority) on 31st December, 1949 :—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
133	125	258

The above total is made up as follows :—

Defectives in Institutions	...	...	97
Defectives in "Places of Safety"	...	...	7
Defectives under Guardianship	...	...	5
Defectives under supervision in the Community	...	...	149
			—
Total	...	...	258
			—

It will be noted that the number of Defectives under Guardianship is now only FIVE. Under the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948, financial assistance can be obtained in respect of Mental Defectives over sixteen years of age. In nine cases where the Guardianship Orders had been made by the Local Authority primarily for the purpose of affording financial assistance, it was recommended to the Board of Control that these Orders be discharged. This was done after the financial responsibility had been taken over by the National Assistance Board. The Duly Authorised Officers still exercise close supervision in these cases.

Defectives in the Community.

The Duly Authorised Officers make supervisory visits to the homes of Defectives in the Community under Guardianship and supervision, advising and assisting the parents in the care of the Defectives, by encouraging them to send their children to the Occupation Centre where suitable, and informing them of all resources available for assistance under the National Health Service Act and the National Assistance Act, e.g., the provision of invalid chairs in suitable cases, and the financial assistance available for defectives over 16 years of age. Employment has been found for two high grade girls.

The parents have come to regard the Duly Authorised Officer as a friend who understands their problems and difficulties, and they do not hesitate to visit the Offices in between the domiciliary visits if they are in need of help or advice.

Defectives in Institutions.

Co-ordination is maintained between the Hospital Management Committees of the various Institutions and the Local Health Authority. The Duly Authorised Officers visit the homes and supply the following reports, as required :—

- (i) Reports for the information of the Visitors when carrying out their Statutory duties under Section II of the Mental Deficiency Act.
- (ii) Home circumstances report in respect of applications for holiday leave or licence.
- (iii) Progress and Supervision reports with regard to patients on licence from Institutions.

During the year 424 visits were paid by the Authorised Officers to the homes of Defectives.

Particulars of Mental Defectives Ascertained during the year.

(1) Ascertainment.

- (a) Cases reported by Local Education Authorities (Section 57, Education Act, 1944) :—

	M.	F.	Total
(i) Under Section 57 (3)	6	2	8
(ii) Under Section 57 (5)	—	—	—
(b) Other cases reported during 1949 and ascertained to be "subject to be dealt with"	1	2	3

Total cases ascertained to be "subject to be dealt with" during the year...	7	4	11
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- (c) Other cases reported during 1949, who are not at present "subject to be dealt with," but for whom the Local Health Authority may subsequently become liable

Total number of cases reported during the year	7	4	11
---	---	---	----

(2) **Disposal of Cases reported during the year.**

(a) Cases ascertained to be "subject to be dealt with"

	M.	F.	Total
(i) Admitted to Institutions (under order) ...	1	—	1
(ii) Placed under Guardianship (under order) ...	—	—	—
(iii) Taken to "places of safety" ...	—	2	2
(iv) Placed under Statutory Supervision ...	6	2	8
(v) Died or removed from area ...	—	—	—

(b) Cases not at present "subject to be dealt with"

(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision ...	—	—	—
(ii) Found not to be defective ...	—	—	—
(iii) Died or removed from area ...	—	—	—
(iv) Action not yet taken ...	—	—	—

Total ...	7	4	11
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(3) **Number of Mental Defectives under Community Care including Voluntary Supervision or in "Places of Safety" on 1st January, 1949, who have ceased to be under Community Care or in "Places of Safety" during 1949.**

	M.	F.	Total
(a) Admitted to Institutions ...	2	1	3
(b) Ceased to be under care ...	—	1	1
(c) Died or removed from area ...	4	1	5
Total ...	6	3	9

Number of Mental Defectives awaiting vacancies in Institutions at the 31st December, 1949 ...	14
Number of patients on Licence from Institutions at the 31st December, 1949 ...	13
Number of patients under Guardianship (including cases on Licence) at 31st December, 1949 ...	5
Number of patients under Statutory Supervision at 31st December, 1949 ...	71
Number of patients under Voluntary Supervision at 31st December, 1949 ...	70
Number of patients receiving training at Occupation Centre at end of year ...	21

CASES IN INSTITUTIONS.

The following is a list of Institutions in which Wallasey mentally defective persons were accommodated at the end of the year, and the number of such persons in each, admitted "under order."

					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
St. Catherine's Hospital Annexe, Birkenhead	...				5	—
Llys Maldwyn Hospital, Caersws, Mont.	...	...			1	—
Cranage Hall Hospital, Holmes Chapel	...	...			18	28
Etloe House, Leyton	...	...	...	...	—	1
Gillibrand Hall, Chorley	...	...	...	...	—	1
Mary Dendy Home, Sandlebridge	...	...	...		2	1
Monkton Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne	...	...			1	—
Royal Albert Institution, Lancaster	...	...			13	2
Stoke Park Colony, nr. Bristol	...	...	...		2	—
Royal Earlswood Institution, Redhill	...	...			2	1
Hortham Colony, Bristol	...	...	...	...	—	1
Calderstones Institution, Blackburn	...	...			2	—
Brynhyfrydd Hospital, Mont.	...	...	...	...	3	1
Ashton House, Birkenhead	...	...	...	...	—	6
Great Barr Colony, Birmingham	...	...	...		1	—
Moss Side State Institution, Maghull	...	...			—	1
Rampton State Institution, Notts.	...	...			2	1
Newchurch Hospital, Culcheth	...	...	...		—	1
					—	—
Total	...				52	45

As in every other branch of the Hospital Service, there is an acute shortage of beds in Mental Deficiency Institutions. It will be noted that, as last year, there are still 14 Wallasey cases awaiting admission to Institutions. With the promised extensions to Cranage Hall Hospital and Greaves Hall, Southport, it is hoped that the situation may be eased within the next few months. Meanwhile the Authorised Officers keep these waiting cases under close supervision in their homes.

OCCUPATION CENTRE.

The Occupation Centre was opened on 3rd June, 1946, in the premises in Hale Road previously used as the Liscard High School for Boys. The Buildings were approved by the Board of Control and adapted to their present purpose. There is accommodation for approximately 70 children.

Arrangements have been made with the Birkenhead Corporation for Defectives from that area to attend the Centre.

At the end of December, 1949, twenty-one Wallasey and twenty-seven Birkenhead children were on the register. The ages of the children vary from 5 to 18 years. There is no upper age limit, and two or three young people of 18 years attend.

The Centre is open five days per week, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and closed for one month in the summer and approximately four weeks during the remainder of the year.

A mid-day meal is provided, cooked on the premises and, in addition, each child has one-third of a pint of milk morning and afternoon. There is a rest period after dinner.

Training is given in personal habits, cleanliness, and general behaviour. Marching, walking, hand and finger drill and singing to music form part of the curriculum. Action songs and mime are instructive and are thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

The crafts taught include plain sewing, embroidery, knitting, woodwork, rush seating, rug-making, papier mache work, painting, drawing, stool making, raffia work, miniature basket work, etc. During the past year the recreation ground has been levelled and laid out for gardening, and this hobby proves of great interest.

The children also receive instruction in reading, writing, simple spelling and arithmetic.

The Centre has proved a great boon to the parents of defectives attending, relieving them of the care of the child for seven hours a day.

Several parents have acknowledged the improvement in their children's personal habits, speech, and ability to mix with other children, as a result of their attendance at the Centre. The satisfied parent is the one who accepts the defective's limitations and is grateful for such small progress as the child is able to achieve.

*General Provision of
Health Services, etc.*

The Centre is open every day from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed for one month in the summer and for one month in the winter. A full day week is provided, starting on the morning and continuing until the evening at a time of this morning and afternoon. There is a rest period after lunch.

There is a room for parents, children, and visitors. The room is large, well-lit, and comfortable and is used for many of the children's activities. It is a roomy and comfortable room for the children.

The other large room is used for many of the children's activities. It is a roomy and comfortable room for the children. It is a roomy and comfortable room for the children.

The children also receive instruction in reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic.

The Centre has provided a great deal of the parents of children attending, receiving them at the end of the school day.

Several parents have commented on the importance of their children's personal habits, speech and ability to read and write. The children are a result of their attendance at the Centre. The children are a result of their attendance at the Centre.

It is the one who accepts the children's limitations and is grateful for each small improvement that is able to achieve.

The Centre is open every day from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed for one month in the summer and for one month in the winter.

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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

During the year 119 samples of milk and 228 samples of other food and drink were analysed. Five of the milk samples were reported as below standard and were from the same herd. These were taken in course of delivery from the producer to the retailer and were as follows :—

Milk, 2% deficient in fat.

„	4%	„
„	5%	„
„	7%	„
„	3%	„

Other samples taken at the same time were genuine.

Milk from this particular herd of cows appears to be frequently below standard, and enquiries show that at the time the samples were taken the farmer was in some difficulty with feeding stuffs. Further samples showed an improvement.

Four samples of sausage were reported as not genuine ; proceedings were instituted in two cases with the following results :

Sausage 32% deficient in Meat. Fines £10, Costs 10s. 6d.

„ 36% „ Fines £7, Costs £4 14s. 6d.

The deficiencies on the remaining two samples of sausage were not sufficient to justify proceedings. The sellers were cautioned.

Other samples reported as not genuine were :

Dried Peas, 5% pea pickings. Seller cautioned.

„	Mouldy, unfit for human consumption, contained dead mites.	Reported to Ministry of Food.
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Potted Meat, 23% deficient in meat.	Reported to Ministry of Food.
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FERTILISER AND FEEDING STUFFS.

19 samples of fertiliser and 9 samples of feeding stuffs were submitted for analysis. One sample of fertiliser did not bear a Statutory Statement and the seller was cautioned. All the remaining samples were certified genuine.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT.

During the year the following applications were received :

For registration	...	...	...	...	20
For re-registration	...	...	...	...	141

All applications were granted.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF EMPLOYEES.

The number of employees examined during the year, at the request of the various Departments, was 87. The Departments concerned were :—

Town Clerk	...	...	...	...	15
Education	...	...	...	...	14
Borough Treasurer	...	...	...	...	3
Borough Engineer and Surveyor	...	...	...	...	9
Public Health	...	...	...	...	22
Libraries	...	...	...	...	2
Water ...	...	...	...	...	2
Borough Architect	...	...	...	...	11
Housing	...	...	...	...	1
Motor Bus	...	...	...	...	3
Ferries	...	...	...	...	2
Town Planning	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/>
					87
					<hr/>

METEOROLOGICAL.

The Corporation's Observation Station at Harrison Park is recognised by the Air Ministry as a Climatological Station. Observations are taken morning and evening throughout the year, telegraphic reports thereon being forwarded to the Air Ministry daily throughout the year. These reports are intended, not only for the information of the Ministry, but also for distribution by the Ministry to various daily papers, with the result that Wallasey figures in the lists of those Health and Holiday Resorts whose daily weather reports are published in many of the well-known newspapers.

The following table gives a summary of the readings for 1949:—

Months.	Mean 09.00 hrs. Tempera- ture	Rainfall in Inches.			Sunshine.			Number of days of Frost	Number of days of snowfall	Mean Barometer (inches)
		Total	Mean Daily	No. of days with .01 or more	Total (Hours)	Mean Daily	No. of days with sunshine			
January ...	43.0	2.38	.077	19	48.5	1.6	23	9	2	30.10
February ...	42.7	1.01	.036	12	105.6	3.8	26	8	—	30.24
March ...	41.9	2.27	.073	11	131.8	4.3	23	9	2	30.18
April ...	49.4	2.48	.083	16	161.9	5.4	27	—	—	29.97
May ...	52.5	2.60	.084	15	246.8	8.0	29	—	—	29.97
June ...	59.1	0.80	.027	7	267.8	8.9	30	—	—	30.11
July ...	62.4	1.62	.052	10	208.6	6.7	27	—	—	30.12
August ...	61.3	1.75	.057	10	209.4	6.8	30	—	—	30.08
September ...	59.9	0.93	.031	6	138.6	4.6	27	—	—	30.03
October ...	51.9	3.43	.110	20	78.6	2.5	27	—	—	29.91
November ...	45.3	4.15	.138	24	37.2	1.2	19	3	—	29.71
December ...	43.5	4.23	.140	19	31.5	1.0	19	5	1	29.83
Means Totals	51.1	27.65	.076	169	1666.3	4.6	307	34	5	30.02

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATIONS ACT, 1948.

Two applications were received during the year for the registration of premises for the reception of children, bringing the number of premises on the Register to three. Routine inspections were made and advice given in each case.

THE CHILDREN'S ACT, 1948.

For many years the medical staff of the Public Health Department have supervised the Children's Homes and given advice on medical matters whenever necessary.

With the coming into operation of the Children Act, 1948, the work was continued and extended on the lines laid down in Home Office Circular No. 193/49, which provide for consultations between Medical Officers of Health and Children's Officers in connection with medical questions concerning the provision and conduct of Local Authority Children's Homes.

Routine and special examinations, e.g., examination prior to boarding out ; within the first month of boarding out and annual examinations of boarded out children are undertaken by one of the Medical Officer of Health's staff. Routine visits to the Children's Home are made every three months.

Medical advice is given on administrative matters to the Officers in charge of the Institution. The Matron is advised at the three-monthly visit by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health with regard to diet, health and hygiene, hours of rest, prevention and precautions against spread of infectious disease.

General policy and the medical aspects, and the planning of accommodation of new Homes are referred to the Medical Officer of Health.

All facilities of the Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health Services in Wallasey are available to the Home children when required. This includes dental care and treatment.

Very close liaison is maintained between the Public Health Department and the Children's Officer. Health Visitors visit homes and supply reports on the conditions found to the Children's Officer, when she requires this information. The reports are concerned with visits to Foster Mothers, adoptions, and, where necessary, to homes where conditions are thought to be unsatisfactory for the reception of boarded out children. Seventy-four visits were paid during the year.

- (1) **CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF MILK SUPPLIES.**
- (2) **MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.**
- (3) **DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS.**

The following is a report of the work carried out during the year in connection with the above :—

(1) Control and Supervision of Milk Supplies.

On comparing present-day methods of milk production and distribution with those which prevailed in earlier years, and in the more immediate past, it can be justifiably claimed that to-day the community on the whole is afforded a much higher degree of protection against the risks and dangers of milk-borne disease, and milk supplies are, therefore, "safer."

Many factors and reasons, too numerous to discuss in this short reference, have been responsible for the improved position, but mention may be made of the important contributions which have resulted from the initiative and efforts of progressive stockbreeders and through the applied sciences of the Veterinary, Medical and Public Health Services. Still greater and more permanent improvements will, undoubtedly, result from the new Milk Regulations which have been formulated and recently introduced by the Ministries of Health, Agriculture and Food respectively.

The programme of disease control and eradication in dairy cattle, particularly the application of the Tuberculosis (Attested Herds) Schemes, will continue to occupy much time and attention both of Veterinarians and Dairy Farmers, and upon the ultimate success of these Schemes will be reflected not only the health of our Dairy Herds, but through the medium of a pure and germ-free milk supply, the health also of the milk-consuming public, particularly of the children. Meanwhile, at least until complete attestation is a reality, much can, and is being achieved by resort to the daily pasteurisation of milk on a large scale, for the processing of milk in this manner must be accepted as an immediate means of rendering our milk supplies safe.

It is gratifying to note that the main bulk of all milk consumed in the Borough is pasteurised before it is delivered to the consumer, whilst an appreciable volume of the raw milk consumed is of designated standard, i.e., "Certified" or "Tuberculin Tested." Supplies of "Sterilised" milk are also available.

It must not be assumed from the foregoing that all supplies of unprocessed milk must be looked upon with doubt and suspicion—indeed, in many cases the sources of supply, as received direct from the farms, are from Tuberculin Tested herds, and the milk is found consistently, on test, to conform to the approved standards of cleanliness.

Owing to the greatly changed circumstances in the Milk Industry, it has become necessary for routine control methods, as hitherto

carried out by this Department, to be varied, and tables and figures relating to milk sampling have accordingly been set down in a revised form.

As and from the 1st October, 1949, samples of Designated Raw Milks, i.e., "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Certified)," "Tuberculin Tested" and "Accredited" must conform to a prescribed Methylene Blue Test for keeping quality. Samples of Pasteurised Milk, including "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)" must conform to a prescribed Methylene Blue Test for keeping quality and in addition must satisfy the Phosphatase Test, to indicate that the milk has been correctly treated in the pasteurising process. Samples of "Sterilised" milk must satisfy the requirements of the Turbidity Test, whilst the Coliform Test (as and from 1st October, 1949) is no longer applicable to any milk samples obtained for statutory laboratory testing.

In addition to the test referred to, all milk samples may, from time to time, be also submitted for biological testing, i.e., for guinea pig inoculation, in order to ascertain whether any tuberculous infection is present in the supply.

During the year samples of milk were obtained for laboratory examination, and the following tables indicate the number of samples submitted, and the results of the various tests carried out:—

Pasteurised Milk.

No. of samples obtained 114, of which 102 satisfied both the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests,
 3 failed both the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests,
 1 failed the Methylene Blue Test,
 8 failed the Phosphatase Test.

31 of these samples were also submitted for Biological Examination, and in each instance the report was negative.

Tuberculin Tested Milk—Pasteurised.

No. of samples obtained, 15, all of which satisfied both the Methylene Blue and the Phosphatase Test.

5 of these samples were also submitted for Biological Examination, and in each instance the report was negative.

RAW MILK.

Tuberculin Tested Milk—"Certified."

No. of samples obtained, 1 which failed both the Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests.

The sample was also submitted for Biological Examination, and the report was negative.

Tuberculin Tested Milk.

No. of samples obtained, 15, of which 10 satisfied both the Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests,
 2 failed both the Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests,
 1 failed the Methylene Blue Test,
 2 failed the Coliform Test.

12 of these samples were also submitted for Biological Examination, and in each instance the report was negative.

Accredited Milk.

No. of samples obtained, 5, of which 2 satisfied both the Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests.
 2 failed both the Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests.
 1 failed the Methylene Blue Test.

One of these samples was submitted for Biological Examination, and the report was negative.

The samples of Accredited Milk referred to above were obtained and submitted for examination as a result of a special complaint made to the Department. This enquiry was taken up with the Authorities at the production end, and with the National Milk Testing Advisory Service.

The samples of milk taken by the Department during the year were obtained from the following sources:—

Dairies	...	...	...	111	(including 18 samples taken from school supplies awaiting distribution to schools).
Street delivery vehicles	...			9	
Schools	...	...	...	26	
Other points of sampling	...			4	

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936-44. (LICENCES.)

The number of licences granted during the year was as follows:

To bottle and retail Tuberculin Tested Milk...	3
To retail bottled Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	7
To produce Pasteurised Milk	3
To bottle and retail Pasteurised Milk ...	1
To produce Tuberculin Tested Milk	1
To produce Accredited Milk	3

Supplementary Licences.

To retail Pasteurised Milk	2
To retail Tuberculin Tested Milk—Pasteurised	2

NOTE.—The above Order was replaced by the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949, both of which became operative on the 1st October, 1949.

MILK PRODUCTION WITHIN THE BOROUGH.

During the year 23 persons were engaged in the keeping or grazing of cattle within the Borough—these included ten registered Cow Keepers engaged in milk production, one producer being licensed

for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk, three producers being licensed for the production of Accredited Milk—the milk from the remaining producers being non-designated.

Under the new Milk and Dairies Regulations, and in conjunction with the provisions already contained in earlier Schemes, all milk in this country will eventually be either Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised, and whilst Local Authorities retain important powers in this connection, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are responsible for carrying out all of the duties connected with the testing of cattle and with the production of milk at the farms.

During the year 27 visits were made to farms in the Borough.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949. The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

These new Regulations, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1949, are comprehensive and require, in the first instance, the registration by the Local Authority of all Milk Distributors and Dairy premises, and further require that where milk is sold by retail under special designation, licences authorising the use of such designation, must be obtained.

The Local Authority is responsible for dealing with all applications for registration and licences, and has power to refuse registration, or refuse the granting of any particular licence if the provisions contained in the Regulations cannot, or are not, being properly observed.

As referred to in last year's report, the tendency continues for the smaller dairy concerns to dispose of their trading interests as dairymen.

During the year a number of dairymen who hitherto received supplies of milk direct from the farms, and resorted to bottling at their own premises, discontinued to do so, and are now handling supplies of bottled Pasteurised Milk as received from one of the larger dairy undertakings. Changes of this nature in Dairy businesses automatically cause an increase in the number of shops at or from which milk is supplied already bottled.

There are 57 shops in the Borough from which milk is supplied in this manner, and 17 registered Dairies at which bulk supplies of milk are handled. The sale of milk at one Dairy is confined exclusively to Tuberculin Tested supplies, and at three of the Dairies the pasteurisation of milk, under licence, is carried out, including, in one instance, the pasteurisation of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Substantial retail deliveries of milk are also made in the Borough by three of the largest Merseyside Milk Undertakings.

All registered Dairies are equipped with washing and sterilising apparatus, and during the year 247 visits were made to Dairies and other premises in connection with the sale and handling of milk.

Some trouble was experienced during the year, owing to milk roundsmen and drivers placing crates of bottled milks on street pavements and waste land to await further collection. This pro-

cedure was resorted to in order to ease certain difficulties attendant upon the retail distribution of milk. This practice tended to expose the bottled milk to the risk of contamination of a most objectionable type. The Companies concerned co-operated to the full, and there has been no repetition.

MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME.

During the year 2,203,017 one-third pint bottles of milk (91,792 gallons) were supplied under the Milk in Schools Scheme.

The Schools in the Borough are catered for by six milk purveyors, Pasteurised Milk being supplied in each case.

(2) MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Visits made to food shops, including Butchers, Fishmongers and other food premises, resulted in the disposal of the following quantities of food as unfit for human consumption :—

Meat.

	lb.		lb.
Home Killed Beef	... 123	Brought forward	... 270
Imported Beef	... 139	Brawn	... 8½
Imported Lamb	... 5	Sausages	... 16
Cooked Lamb	... 3	Ox Kidney, inc. Suet	... 9
		Bacon	... 8
Carried forward	... 270	Total	... 311½

In addition, 298 lb. of unwholesome Home Killed Beef was diverted back to the Ministry of Food Allocating Depot from Butchers' Shops in the Borough, and arrangements were made by the Wholesale Meat Supply Association for replacement meat to be made available to the Butchers.

Fish, including Shellfish.

	lb.		lb.
Smoked Haddock Fillets	... 28	Brought forward	... 224
Smoked Cod Fillets	... 84	Headless Cod	... 70
Cured Haddock	... 42	Herrings	... 50
Haddock Fillets	... 35	Mussels	... 112
Cod Fillets	... 35	Prawns	... 136
Carried forward	... 189	Total	... 592
	Rabbits ...		100 Carcases.

Fruit and Vegetables, etc. (including Dried Fruit and Dried Vegetables).

	lb.		lb.
Italian Cherries	... 24	Prunes	... 4½
Mushrooms...	... Bskts. 5	Dates	... 1
Figs	... lb. 26	Peas...	... 100
Sultanas	... 27½	Dehydrated Onion...	tins 97

Flour, Confectionery, etc.

	lb.		lb.
Sweets	... 21	Semolina	... 4
Barley	... 23	Cereals	... Pckge. 1
Soya Flour	... 112		

Canned Goods.	Cans.		Cans.
Canned Meat, inc. Bacon & Sausages	169	Canned Fruit, inc. Fruit Juices	176
Canned Fish	189	Preserved Vegetables, Fruit Sauces, Chutneys, etc. ...	363
Canned Shellfish	25		
Canned Milk	955		
Canned Vegetables, inc. Meat & Vegetable Soups	739		

Jams and Sweet Preserves.

Jars	45	Cans	46
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Miscellaneous Foods.

Coffee Essence	4 Bottles.
Gravy Browning	1 „
Fruit Cordials & Syrups	4 „
Fruit Puddings	8 Cans.
Dried Egg	4 Boxes.
Cheese (French & Danish)	167 Cartons.
Pickled Pigs Feet (Danish)	Quantity.
Granulated Sugar	32 lb.
Liquid Egg	28 „
Cooking Fat	195 „
Total number of containers...	2,895

112 lbs. of Cooking Margarine were found unsuitable for the purpose of pastry-making, and were returned from the Bakery to the Wholesale Suppliers in accordance with existing Ministry of Food arrangements.

All foods found to be unfit for human consumption were, according to their suitability, diverted for animal feeding purposes, or for conversion into non-edible by-products. Destruction was resorted to only when, owing to its condition, it was unsuitable for either of these purposes.

Special enquiries and investigations were made in respect of complaints received concerning alleged unwholesomeness and doubts as to the genuineness and safety of the following foods :—

Canned Mutton.	Cooked Meat.
Chicken.	Sausage Meat.
Orange Juice.	Suet.
Meat—alleged Whale Meat.	Soup Powder.
Canned Peas.	Lamb—alleged Goat Meat.
Meat Pies—Meat & Potato Pies.	Tomato Ketchup.
Cake.	Apples.
Fish and Chips.	Tea.
Margarine.	Sherbert Powder.
Meat—alleged Horse Flesh.	Canned Shellfish.
Cooked Lamb Chops.	Malt Cake.
Glass fragments in Marmalade.	Tinned Tomatoes.
Butter.	Mince Pies.
Oranges.	Soya Bean Flour.
Visits made to Food Premises	281

Visits made to Food Premises on reference from other Departments	34
Special visits and inspections made in respect of foodstuffs ...	58
Special visits made in connection with persons engaged in the handling of foodstuffs, and having been in contact with cases of Infectious Disease	24
Total	397
Certificates issued certifying foodstuff to be unfit for human consumption	408

WALLASEY AND ALFRED LAIRAGES.

Landing place for Irish and Isle of Man animals and foreign animals landing wharf.

The number of Irish cattle landed at this wharf during the latter months of the year was the heaviest for some considerable time.

The cargoes comprised mainly fat cattle, and all animals on landing, and during the quarantine period, were subjected to Veterinary examination by Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The cattle were subsequently entrained, alive, to various centres throughout the country, and those which were found to be unfit to travel owing to injury or illness, were slaughtered.

The number of cattle landed during the year was 14,042, of which 215 were slaughtered in emergency circumstances. Post-mortem examination of the carcasses and viscera was carried out by this Department, and the following is a tabulation of the diseased conditions met with, and the condemnations made :—

Meat and offal condemned owing to the presence of disease—

Tuberculosis :

Carcase of bullock and viscera, weight lbs.	910
Sets of Lungs, including Hearts	14
Heads, including Tongues	5
Livers	2
Pillars of diaphragm (thick skirt)	4
Stomachs	1
Mesentery, including intestines	1

Meat and offal condemned owing to the presence of disease other than

Tuberculosis :

Whole Livers	107	Cirrhosis (Distoma), Cystic
Part Livers	54	and Abscess formation.
Sets of Lungs	37	Cystic, Abscess formation and
		Aspiration.
Tongues	1	Actinomycosis.
Hearts	1	Pericarditis.
Pillars of diaphragm (thick skirt)	1	Adhesions and Abscess forma
		tion.
Spleen	1	Tumour.
Muscle and Fat Tissues... lbs.	500	Bruising.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were informed, and carcases were forwarded for diagnostic purposes.

Visits were made to the holding by members of the Veterinary Staff of the Ministry ; Fowl Pest was not confirmed.

Notifications were received during the year, mainly from domestic Poultry Keepers, concerning illness and deaths occurring in their birds. Fowl Pest is frequently suspected by the less experienced domestic poultry keeper. Enquiries and observations made at the premises usually provided sufficient evidence to dispel suspicion. It is wise policy, however, having regard to the virulent nature of the disease, and to the heavy losses which may result following an outbreak, for all poultry keepers to exercise the greatest caution in dealing with illness or deaths which may occur in their stock.

Notices relating to control and restrictions imposed on the sale and handling of Live Poultry by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were, from time to time, circulated in the local press.

No outbreaks of Fowl Pest occurred in the Borough during the year.

MOVEMENT OF SWINE ORDER, 1922.

Pigs moved in accordance with the terms of a Movement Licence must remain on the premises to which they are destined until a period of 28 days has elapsed.

During the year the number of store pigs moved into the Borough under licence from the County Markets at Chester and Preston was 230, a decrease on the previous year of 253. Figure comparisons, in this instance, do not necessarily indicate a decrease in the number of pigs being kept in the Borough, as the apparent reduction in the number of store pigs purchased from the County Markets is likely to have been more than offset during the year by a substantial increase in the number of store pigs "bought in" privately by local pig keepers.

During the year 63 visits were made to pig keepers' premises.

WARBLE FLY (DRESSING OF CATTLE) ORDER, 1938-48.

This Order requires that all persons owning, or having cattle under their charge or control, which are visibly infested with the Warble Fly Maggot, shall, during the "dressing season," i.e., between 15th March and 30th June, dress such animals with an approved derris preparation.

All persons responsible were, in the first instance, communicated with at the commencement of the "dressing season" concerning the provisions and application of the Order.

Visits were made to farms and pastures, and observations were made on store cattle grazing in the Borough and owned by farmers residing in the Chester and Shropshire areas. Visibly infested cattle were "dressed" in accordance with the requirements of the Order.

RABIES (IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS) ORDER, 1938-48.

Owing to a renewed danger of cases of Rabies occurring in this country, the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries requested the Department to pay the strictest attention to matters governing the landing of dogs from ships entering the Wallasey Docks.

The Birkenhead Authorities were consequently communicated with, as the whole of the Wallasey and Birkenhead Dock area is policed by that Authority. Despite this fact, observations were made from time to time by this Department, in conjunction with duties carried out at the Wallasey and Alfred Lairages, on vessels entering the Wallasey Docks.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

The Borough was not geographically situated within any of the "Infected Areas," which were, from time to time, defined by Order of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

SHEEP SCAB ORDER, 1938.

Dipping Regulations.

A Farmer engaged in the grazing of some 400 sheep and lambs on pastures in the Borough, failed to comply with the provisions contained in the Dipping Regulations made under the Sheep Scab Order.

The contravention was reported to the appropriate Committee, and proceedings against the Farmer were authorised.

The grazings were frequently visited during the year, and observations were made on the sheep and lambs. The owner was communicated with on a number of occasions with regard to lame animals.

Worrying by dogs was responsible for appreciable losses in this flock, and police assistance in this regard was sought by the owner.

PROTECTION OF ANIMALS ACTS.

References relating to injured animals and birds and complaints alleging neglect, thereby causing cruelty and unnecessary suffering, were investigated and dealt with during the year.

The R.S.P.C.A. were, in three instances, communicated with. No proceedings were instituted.

IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS ACT, 1922.

A number of cattle which were landed from Ireland at the Port of Holyhead were moved under licence to farm premises in this Borough.

The animals, on arrival at the farm, were detained for the requisite period in accordance with the terms of the Order.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS.

Mussel and Cockle Beds—Wallasey Foreshore.

An Order made by the Liverpool Port Health Authority under the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934, prohibits the taking of mussels and cockles for the purpose of sale for human consumption from these layings.

Visits were made during the year to various points of the foreshore between Fort Perch Rock, New Brighton, and the western extremity at the Meols Boundary.

Isolated instances of shellfish collecting were witnessed, but in such circumstances it is difficult to obtain accurate information concerning the disposal of the shellfish.

During the year a case involving the gathering of mussels on a commercial scale from the Wallasey Layings was referred to the Liverpool Port Health Authority.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This work is carried out under the direction of the Borough Surveyor. There are no ash-pits in the Borough. Particulars as to the quantities of refuse and salvage disposed of in the past year are as under:—

House, &c., Refuse—				T.	C.	Q.
Quantity tipped away	...	...	...	28,634	3	1
Salvage, &c., material	...	...	...	2,830	17	2
				31,465	0	3

Wet refuse collected in added areas and delivered to farms, 52 loads.

FOOD POISONING.

Ten notifications of food poisoning were received during the year.

PART V.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District *and* *Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

Sanitary Circumstances of the District and Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Introductory.

In previous Annual Reports the number of complaints lodged concerning the wide variety of matters to be investigated by the Sanitary Inspectors was discussed at some length. In particular, attention was drawn to the vast increase during the immediate post-war years in the numbers of complaints received from householders concerning nuisances arising from minor items of disrepair in house properties. The reduction of these complaints noted in 1948 has been maintained during 1949, when 6,413 complaints were received, compared with 6,363 during the previous year.

One is prompted to wonder whether the annual number of complaints will settle around this figure—six thousand—at least for the immediate future. If this should prove to be the case, it should be noted by those responsible for future planning that these day-to-day calls on the Health Department's Inspectors are approximately double the number experienced in normal pre-war years. It should be noted also that if complaints are to remain at this level, opportunities for spontaneous visits of an inspectorial, advisory or educational nature are correspondingly reduced. They also render well-nigh impossible the institution of widespread campaigns covering one or more aspects of environmental hygiene, except on rare occasions. There are sound reasons for thinking that a great improvement would result if a small task force of inspectors were free to concentrate its efforts for a period, first on one section of the Sanitary Officers' work—say food hygiene, and then on another—say atmospheric pollution. The maintenance of such a body of inspectors, free to operate without the daily necessity of enquiring into numerous complaints, is clearly not feasible within present-day conceptions of what constitutes an adequate staff, nor will it become possible without a substantial alteration in the scale of preferences operating in many local government bodies.

Nevertheless, despite the strong pressure of solicited calls concerning unrelated matters, a consideration of the work done during the year in the various fields of hygiene and sanitary science, indicates that within these recognised limitations some improvements have been achieved. A total number of 5,513 notices of all kinds have been served, whilst 5,767 have been discharged, their requirements having been complied with; thus some of the outstanding notices carried over from the previous year have been disposed of. Routine inspections of food premises of all kinds have almost doubled, and the comprehensive control of ice cream production, etc. begun in 1947 has been intensified. In particular, sampling of ice cream has been increased by exactly one hundred per cent over that undertaken during 1948. Inspections under the Shops Acts have been increased to the extent of an additional 1,100 visits, and work on atmospheric pollution shows an increase of approximately fifty per cent. It has not been possible, however, to effect an expansion of the inspections necessary to enforce the local authority's powers relating to health

and welfare in factories, nor has any work been undertaken on the routine inspection of boarding houses.

Abatement of Nuisances and Repairs to House Property.

This class of work continues to demand a large proportion of the time of the seven Inspectors employed on district work, as indeed it did in pre-war years. The task of effecting execution of minor items of repair at the present time is, however, more onerous and time-consuming. The Sanitary Inspector is constantly subjected at the one time to pressure from different, often irreconcilable, sources. On the one hand, it is in the national interest that demolitions of houses should be restricted to an absolute minimum; on the other hand, it is opposed to the interest of the house owner that repairs should continue to be executed on unfit properties which will become the subject of demolition procedure as soon as it ceases to conflict with the national (and often local) interest. At the same time, the complaining householder may have a genuine desire that defects should be remedied; or, alternatively, he may oppose the execution of repairs, since the hidden motive behind his complaint is the securing of the tenancy of a Corporation house. In the midst of these opposing interests the Sanitary Inspector seeks to preserve a balance; in so doing seldom does he please all parties. During the year, the policy has been continued of operating the Nuisance Sections of the Public Health Act to the exclusion of the operation of Section 9 of the Housing Act. By this means, 5,852 items have been made the subject of notices, and 6,183 items have been remedied. These figures are classified below. In those properties which have been earmarked for future demolition, the nuisance clauses have been operated to a minimum degree commensurate with the need for maintaining the property dry, weatherproof and free from conditions unfavourable to health. On the assumption that general abolition of unfit houses is to be delayed, this is the only course of action available to the Sanitary Officer. Yet the insecurity inherent in this procedure, and hence, the unsatisfactory position of the Sanitary Officer and his Council, has already been demonstrated by the Salisbury case.

	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out- standing</i>
<i>Dwelling Houses</i>			
Roof Repairs	727	711	158
Gutters and Spout Repairs	489	499	110
External Walls and Chimney Repairs	295	334	78
Installation of Damp Proof Courses	76	89	29
Dampness	95	113	18
Yards : Paving and Repairs	163	163	48
Internal Walls and Ceiling Repairs	570	659	102
Doors : Repairs and Renewal	165	170	38
Windows : Repairs and Renewal	344	387	113
Floors : Repairs and Renewal	343	362	60
Sub-floor Ventilation	55	66	11
Rooms : Cleaning and Redecorating	22	23	—
Passages and Staircases : Cleaning and Redecorating	2	6	—
Staircase Repairs	20	24	—
Handrails : Repairs and Renewal	9	12	1
Fireplaces and Flue : Repairs and Re- newal	279	291	40

	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out- standing</i>
Cooking Stoves : Repairs and Renewal	3	3	—
Wash Boilers : Repairs and Renewal ...	5	4	2
Sinks, Lavatories : Repairs and Renewal	67	83	1
Baths : Repairs and Renewal ...	4	3	1
Waste Pipes : Repairs and Renewal ...	198	194	38
Provision & Improvement of Food Stores	—	—	—
Provision and Improvement of Dust Bins	229	266	22
Burst Water Pipe Repairs ...	180	194	10
Improvement and Reinstatement of Water Supply ...	87	81	21
Cleansing of W.C. Walls, etc. ...	2	3	—
Cleansing of W.C. Pans ...	8	9	—
W.C. Pans : Repairs and Renewal ...	183	199	18
W.C. Cisterns : Repairs and Renewal	245	251	28
W.C. Structures : Repairs and Renewal	157	159	22
W.C. Lighting : Repairs and Renewal	1	2	—
W.C. Ventilation : Repairs and Renewal	1	1	—
W.C. Doors : Repairs and Renewal ...	50	55	5
Provision of Additional W.C.'s. ...	—	—	2
Soil Pipes : Repairs and Renewal ...	36	33	9
Clearing of Drains ...	343	347	3
Drain Repairs ...	94	87	16
Relaying of Drains ...	13	9	4
Emptying of Cesspools ...	—	—	—
Cesspool Repairs ...	—	—	—
Abolition of Cesspools ...	2	2	—
Disinfection of Verminous Premises ...	19	23	2
Provision of Lighting ...	—	—	—
Drainer Boards : Repairs or Renewal ...	70	65	18
Improvement of Ventilation ...	201	202	31
Provision of Paving and Site Concrete ...	—	—	—
Total ...	5,852	6,184	1,059

General Environmental Public Health.

Choked Sewers ...	24	24	—
Cleansing of Stables and Manure Pits ...	10	10	—
Stables, Manure Pits : Repairs and Renewal ...	4	3	1
Piggeries : Cleansing and Whitewashing	1	1	—
Piggeries : Repairs and Reconstruction...	9	9	—
Animal Nuisances ...	19	21	—
Removal of Offensive Accumulations ...	56	46	14
Cleansing of Ditches and Streams ...	15	15	—
Ditches and Stream Pollution ...	—	—	—
Cinemas, Dance Halls, Contraventions ...	13	13	—
Offensive Trades : Contraventions ...	4	4	—
Schools : Urinals—Repairs and Renewal	—	—	—
Schools : W.C.'s.—Repairs and Renewal	—	—	—
Schools : Other nuisances ...	3	2	1
Public Conveniences ...	10	11	—
Total ...	168	159	16

Number of Notices Served.

				<i>Served</i>	<i>Abated</i>
Preliminary	...	...	...	3,868	4,022
Statutory	...	...	...	1,645	1,745
				<hr/> 5,513	<hr/> 5,767

Details of Inspections of Dwellinghouses.

Dwellinghouses visited	...	19,993
Reinspections	... ..	11,209

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 - HYGIENE OF FOOD PREMISES.

In the report for 1948 attention was drawn to the importance of this branch of public health work, and the obstacles impeding comprehensive action in this field. Catering premises exist in greater numbers in a holiday resort than is customary in a town which is not called upon to cater for visitors ; the increased numbers in themselves pose a problem in that the inculcation of a high standard of hygiene depends largely on the frequency with which the premises can be visited and the length of time which the visiting inspector can devote to each visit. Not only is a thorough inspection of premises and processes involved, but the vital task of educating the managerial and subordinate classes of cafe worker into a proper conception of the theory and practice of hygiene is entailed. The manipulative staffs employed are, in almost all cases, made up of casual seasonal workers, who appear on the scene of operations only when the trade is on the verge of its period of busy trade. Hence there are insurmountable obstacles to any campaign which envisages the organisation of full-time or part-time courses in hygiene for food handlers.

The sole alternative presents itself ; the education of the food handler at his place of work. Its success, however, is mitigated by the fact that it does not enable the aggregation of substantial numbers of food handlers for simultaneous talks, and careful avoidance of busy periods of trade is essential if co-operation is to be gained. Hence it is by comparison, uneconomical in the use of trained inspectorial staff.

Efforts on these lines have been intensified during the year, a total of 3,308 visits having been made to food premises of all kinds, by comparison with 1,988 in 1948. Included in these visits have been many of complete initial inspection and recording, in continuance of the survey commenced in the previous year. Up-to-date records have been compiled in respect of 999 food premises, and it is estimated that the survey will be completed during 1950. Whilst this achievement is not to be undervalued, it would be complacent to imagine that the problem is receiving more than superficial treatment. To undertake an initial survey as part of day-to-day routine is an achievement not to be minimised ; yet it is nothing more than essential groundwork for the task which lies ahead. The further work of raising the standard of premises and hygiene can be achieved only by unremitting effort over the whole field ; it is possible that this effort may be attenuated if it is to spring from an unaugmented staff which has to respond to many other varied demands on its services.

Details of the inspections made, and improvements effected are enumerated in succeeding tables. Among these is the significant achievement that during the year 103 geysers have been installed for

the provision of a continuous hot water supply where formerly none existed or in replacement of the traditional "gas ring and kettle." In 21 premises glazed sinks have been provided either to remedy deficiencies or to replace "washing basins" of the enamel bowl type.

Previous reports have commented on the valuable liaison existing with the Ministry of Food, whereby the establishment of new businesses in unsatisfactory premises has been prevented, and by means of which improvements in excess of the statutory minimum have been effected prior to the issue of a food licence. With a relaxation of controls in some food trades during 1949, this valuable aid to sanitary control has weakened; it is to be hoped that with the disappearance of this extra-legal form of control there will emerge new statutory powers of equivalent value.

At the close of the year the Council resolved that application should be made for the approval of byelaws governing the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and the sale of food in the open air. The byelaws for which application was made were in the form of the Model Byelaws Series I of the Ministry of Food.

Following the receipt of Circular M.F.7/49 of the Ministry of Food, in June, relating to meat manufacturing premises, a thorough search of such premises was instituted. As a result, there were discovered 77 premises which had not been formally registered with the local authority under Section 14(b) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. In almost all cases the premises complied with the requirements of Section 13; these premises and those which were brought subsequently to the required standard were made the subject of formal applications and were registered during the year.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES EXISTING WITHIN THE BOROUGH AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1949.

TYPE	New Brighton	Wallasey	Môreton	Liscard	Egremont	Poultton	Seacombe	TOTAL
Bakehouses ...	9	13	8	13	14	6	8	71
Fish Shops ...	11	6	2	4	9	3	5	40
Grocers' Shops ...	19	32	21	29	33	29	30	193
Fried Fish Shops	9	3	7	8	11	5	14	57
Butchers' Shops	9	14	7	16	14	10	16	86
Cafes ...	71	11	12	7	12	4	10	127
Greengrocers' Shops	16	23	10	24	33	15	19	140
Chemists' Shops	6	7	4	8	7	4	6	42
Licensed Premises	19	6	5	9	5	6	13	63
Sweet Shops ...	13	20	14	38	45	14	23	167
Confectioners' Shops	14	17	12	20	19	7	9	98
General Shops ...	2	3	5	6	14	2	16	48
Miscellaneous Premises	2	4	12	3	5	4	9	39
	200	159	119	185	221	109	178	1,171

INSPECTIONS

Visits

Cafes, restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	504
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	276
Fried Fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	238
Other offensive trades	...	...	...	...	...	10
Other food premises	...	...	...	...	...	2,280
Total visits						3,308

IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

*Notices
Served**Notices
Abated**Notices
Out-
standing*

<i>Bakehouses</i> : Cleansed and limewashed	11	13	—
Other contraventions remedied ...	22	28	2
<i>Fried Fish Shops</i> : Cleansed and lime-washed ...	13	10	5
General sanitary conditions improved ...	24	12	1
Other contraventions remedied ...	—	14	—
<i>Cafes, Restaurants</i> : Contraventions remedied ...	28	46	10
<i>Other Food Premises</i> : General sanitary conditions improved ...	49	50	—
Additional W.C's. provided ...	4	4	3
Hot and cold water supply provided ...	100	103	11
Soap, towels, provided ...	13	5	8
Glazed sink provided ...	31	21	10
Sterilising equipment provided ...	1	4	0
Rooms cleansed ...	41	43	—
Rooms re-plastered ...	21	21	2
Clothes cupboards provided ...	13	14	1
Total ...	371	388	53

Applications for Issue of Ministry of Food Licences.

Visits made in connection therewith	...	...	102
Issues of licences approved ...	...	...	56
Issues of licences recommended for refusal	...	...	10

CONTROL OF ICE CREAM PREMISES.

An intensification of the work commenced in 1947 has been carried into effect during the year. As was reported in 1948, all factories, whether employing heat treatment or complete cold-mix methods of manufacture, were organised on the dairy model, with separate rooms for processing and for cleansing and sterilising, respectively, on the lines of the organisation subsequently set out in the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health. This standard has been applied to all premises irrespective of size, and included among the registered manufacturers are a number of small dealers who manufacture solely for their own retail trade. The standard of premises used for ice cream manufacture is therefore unquestionably superior to that of the catering trades generally; co-operation between the trade and the Department on matters of factory layout and equipment since the inception of the 1947 Regulations has been excellent, and it would be no exaggeration to say that there has been a radical transformation within the trade in this respect. There are distinct signs, however, that this marked advance in material factors has not been accompanied by a corresponding improvement in knowledge of the basic principles of hygienic methods of production among those engaged in the trade.

The efforts of the Department during 1949 have been directed towards an expansion of the sampling programme, as a means of assessing what effect the reorganisation within the trade has had on its product. 257 samples, excluding production tests, have been taken as compared with 128 during 1948, and the results of laboratory examination are shown in the following tables.

It is significant that of the manufacturers outside Wallasey, those numbered one to five which gave the most satisfactory results—are large scale operators, three of them with a nation-wide distribution. If the remaining manufacturers external to Wallasey are compared with those within the borough, a comparison is obtained between factories of approximately similar size and productive capacities; this comparison suggests that reasonable standards have been attained within the town's own factories, though there is still ample scope for improvement.

The classifications according to method of manufacture are consistent with a hypothesis that there is no significant difference between ice cream manufactured by heat treatment or complete cold-mix methods. In view, however, of the extremely small sample available of ice cream manufactured by the complete cold-mix method, the comparison is probably not a sound one, and should be subjected to further statistical analysis over a wider field.

ICE CREAM STATISTICS RELATIVE TO THE YEAR 1949.

REGISTRATIONS APPROVED DURING 1949.

Sale and manufacture ...	...	...	...	...	2
Sale only...	...	...	...	...	49
Sale and storage	...	...	...	...	17
Manufacture, sale and storage	...	...	...	...	—
Storage only	...	...	...	...	—
Storage and manufacture	...	...	...	...	2
Total ...					70

REGISTRATIONS REFUSED.

Manufacture and sale	—
Manufacture sale and storage	—
Manufacture	1
Sale	—
Sale and storage	—
Total	1

REGISTRATIONS CANCELLED.

Sale and storage	2
Manufacture	1
Manufacture and Sale	—
Manufacture, sale and storage	1
Total	4

NUMBER OF PREMISES ON REGISTER AT CLOSE OF YEAR.

Storage and manufacture	4
Premises registered for sale of ice cream	164
Premises registered for storage of ice cream... ..	2
Premises registered for sale and storage of ice cream	200
Premises registered for manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream	16
Sale and manufacture	3
Total	389

VISITS OF INSPECTION.

Total Visits	{ 118 Applications for licences. 1,001 Routine visits.
Formal Notices Served... ..	7
	1,126

IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out-standing</i>
Premises cleansed	—	—	—
General Sanitary conditions improved	5	5	—
Sterilising facilities installed	—	—	—
Other contraventions remedied	15	14	1

ICE CREAM SAMPLES. 1949.

Classification of Samples by Location of Manufacture.

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURED IN WALLASEY.

Grade	Methylene Blue (Hours)						No. of Specimens showing B.Coli in 0.1 ml.				Staph Aureus	
							Presumptive		Faecal			
	4½ hrs. or over	3½-4 hrs.	2½-3 hrs.	1½-2 hrs.	½-1 hr.	0.hrs.	Pre- sent	Absent	Pre- sent	Absent	Pre- sent	Absent
1	48	...	...	...	...	...	12	36	2	46	...	48
2	...	8	20	...	...	...	9	19	1	27	...	28
3	...	...	...	10	7	...	8	9	1	16	...	17
4	...	...	...	...	...	12	7	5	...	12	...	12
Total	48	8	20	10	7	12	36	69	4	101	...	105

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURED OUTSIDE WALLASEY.

1	69	...	...	...	...	...	14	55	1	68	...	69
2	...	19	14	...	...	...	8	25	...	33	...	33
3	...	...	...	14	10	...	12	12	...	24	...	24
4	...	...	...	...	...	26	13	13	1	25	...	26
Total	69	19	14	14	10	26	47	105	2	150	...	152

1949 ICE CREAM SAMPLING :

CLASSIFICATION BY METHOD OF MANUFACTURE.

Ice Cream sampled at point of sale, irrespective of source of manufacture or mode of packing.

Manufacture by COMPLETE COLD MIX Method.

GRADE	No. of Specimens within the Grade	Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue (hours)						Coli in 1/10th ml.	
		0-	$\frac{1}{2}$ -	$1\frac{1}{2}$ -	$2\frac{1}{2}$ -	$3\frac{1}{2}$ -	$4\frac{1}{2}$ -	Faecal Type	Non Faecal Type
1	10 (45.5)	—	—	—	—	—	10	0	1 (10.0)
2	5 (22.7)	—	—	—	3	2	—	0	3 (60.0)
3	2 (9.1)	—	—	2	—	—	—	0	2 (100.0)
4	5 (22.7)	5	—	—	—	—	—	0	3 (60)
	22 (100)	5	—	2	3	2	10	0	9 (40.9)

Manufacture by HEAT TREATMENT Method.

GRADE	No. of Specimens within the Grade	Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue (hours)						Coli in 1/10th ml.	
		0-	$\frac{1}{2}$ -	$1\frac{1}{2}$ -	$2\frac{1}{2}$ -	$3\frac{1}{2}$ -	$4\frac{1}{2}$ -	Faecal Type	Non Faecal Type
1	107 (45.5)	—	—	—	—	—	107	3 (2.8)	24 (22.4)
2	56 (23.8)	—	—	—	30	26	—	1 (1.8)	14 (25.0)
3	39 (16.6)	—	17	22	—	—	—	2 (5.0)	18 (46.2)
4	33 (14.1)	33	—	—	—	—	—	1 (3.0)	16 (48.6)
	235 (100)	33	17	22	30	26	107	7 (3.0)	72 (30.6)

NOTE :—Figures in parenthesis denote percentages.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES, 1949.

Results Classified according to Identity of the Manufacturer.

Ice Cream sampled at point of sale within the County Borough District of Wallasey during 1949.

FACTORIES OUTSIDE WALLASEY.

Manu- facturer Code No.	No. of Samples examined.	No. of Samples in Provisional Grades				Grading of Manu- facturer by Ministry of Health recom- mended Standard.	
		Grade 1.	Grade 2.	Grade 3.	Grade 4.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
1	15	14	—	1	*	*	—
2	8	7	—	1	—	*	—
3	3	1	2	—	—	*	—
4	12	10	1	1	—	*	—
5	5	5	—	—	—	*	—
6	4	1	3	—	—	*	—
7	17	5	5	2	5	—	*
8	1	—	—	—	1	—	*
9	4	2	1	1	—	—	*
10	8	—	6	2	—	—	*
11	20	3	7	5	5	—	*
12	17	9	3	2	3	—	*
13	13	5	4	3	1	—	*
14	18	5	1	4	8	—	*
15	2	—	—	—	2	—	*
16	1	—	—	—	1	—	*
17	2	—	—	2	—	} Not classified.	
18	1	1	—	—	—		
19	1	1	—	—	—		
	152	69 (45.4)	33 (21.7)	24 (15.8)	26 (17.1)	6	10

FACTORIES LOCATED IN WALLASEY.

Manu- facturer Code No.	No. of Samples examined.	No. of Samples in Provisional Grades.				Grading of Manu- facturer by Ministry of Health recom- mended Standard.	
		Grade 1.	Grade 2.	Grade 3.	Grade 4.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
1	4	3	1	—	—	*	—
2	12	8	3	1	—	*	—
3	5	3	1	1	—	*	—
4	4	3	1	—	—	*	—
5	12	5	5	2	—	*	—
6	5	3	1	1	—	*	—
7	4	3	—	—	1	—	*
8	3	1	—	1	1	—	*
9	5	1	2	1	1	—	*
10	11	6	2	3	—	—	*
11	5	2	2	—	1	—	*
12	10	4	—	4	2	—	*
13	5	1	2	—	2	—	*
14	6	—	3	1	2	—	*
15	6	2	2	2	—	—	*
16	8	3	3	—	2	—	*
	105	48 (45.7)	28 (26.7)	17 (16.2)	12 (11.4)	6	10

NOTES.—(1) Manufacturers numbered 17, 18 and 19 are not classified owing to the insufficient number of samples taken.

(2) Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages.

ADMINISTRATION OF SHOPS ACTS, 1912—1936.

The full provisions of these Acts are administered including Shops Hours of Closing, Sunday Trading Restrictions, Employment of Young Persons, Sanitary conditions, the maintenance of documents and records, and the exhibition of notices as prescribed by the Acts.

In May, 1949, the General Health Committee considered a report concerning the operation of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936, in the districts scheduled as holiday areas. Arising from this, the Holiday Resorts Sunday Trading Restriction Suspension Order, 1937 (No. 1) was amended, after ascertaining by poll the views of the traders to be affected by the proposed amendment. The new Order made under Section 5 of the Act specified :—

- (1) That the Sundays included in the Order shall be Easter Sunday in any year and seventeen Sundays commencing from and including Whit Sunday.
- (2) That fried fish and chips may be sold at a fried fish and chip shop in the holiday areas on the days mentioned between the hours of 9-0 a.m. and 11-0 p.m. instead of 9-0 a.m. and 8-0 p.m. as formerly.

Later in the year a further amendment was proposed to enable the other shops affected by the Order to remain open for the specified businesses between the hours of 9-0 a.m. and 9-30 p.m. (instead of 8-0 p.m. as formerly). The necessary poll to ascertain the views of traders was not effected during 1949 ; reference will be made to this proposal in the Report for 1950.

During the year, it was found possible to effect 5,577 complete inspections of shops, necessitating the service of 748 notices. Reinspections numbering 1,328 were executed to ensure compliance with notices, and it was ascertained that the following improvements had resulted :—

NOTICES SERVED, ETC.

Number of Notices served	...	...	...	740
Number of contraventions discovered	...	...	...	855
Number of contraventions remedied	...	...	...	889

NATURE OF CONTRAVENTIONS REMEDIED.

Section 1 (2) Provision of Assistants Half-holiday card	...	65
Section 1 (3) Provision of seats for female employees	...	3
Section 4 (3) Provision of Half-day Closing Notice	...	465
Section 10 (1) Provision of Mixed Trades Notices	...	30
Section 10 (1) Suitable and sufficient ventilation	...	5
Section 10 (1) Maintenance of reasonable temperature	...	1
Section 10 (2) Provision of sanitary accommodation	...	11
Section 10 (2) Sanitary accommodation (cleansed and repaired)	...	95
Section 10 (6) Certificates of exemption granted (W.C. accom.)	...	—
Section 10 (3) Provision of suitable and sufficient lighting	...	1
Section 10 (4) Provision of washing facilities	...	29
Section 10 (6) Certificates of exemption granted (washing facilities)	...	1

Section 10 (5) Provision of facilities for meals	...	...	1
Section 7 (1) and 7 (2) Provision of Documents (Young Persons)	...	...	157
General sanitary conditions improved	...	...	9

SHOPS ACT, 1936 (SUNDAY TRADING).

Section 12 (b) Provision of Records of Sunday Employment	3
Section 7 Registrations revoked	1

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT.

Contraventions detected and remedied	—
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

HOURS OF TRADING.

No. of contraventions noted	...	...	...	46
Warnings issued	...	...	...	37
Prosecutions instituted	...	...	...	9
Total Fines and Costs imposed	...	...	£20 2 0	

HOUSING.

Clearance Orders.

No Clearance Orders were made during 1949.

Demolition Orders.

Demolition Orders were made during the year in respect of the following properties:—

- "The Villa," Town Meadows.
- "Woodlands," Stuart Avenue.
- "The Golf House," Lingham Lane.
- "The Brambles," Kingsmead Road.
- "Westmead," Reed's Lane.

Persons displaced, totalling 13 persons were rehoused by the Council and demolitions were effected. In one case demolition was carried out by the Council in default of action by the owner.

Voluntary Demolitions.

(a) An undertaking to close was given by the owner of "Broughton's Stores," Bermuda Road. It was a condition of the undertaking that the premises be restricted to business use and the storage, sale, etc. of food from the premises be prohibited. This action entailed no displacement of persons.

(b) A further undertaking, in anticipation of formal action, was accepted from the owner of Nos. 2 and 4, Smithy Lane. The undertaking provided for demolition of both houses and rehousing of one family comprising 4 persons was entailed.

Housing Survey.

During the year the General Health Committee recommended that a Housing Survey be undertaken in order that information could be rendered available as to the future housing needs of the town, and to facilitate the supply to the Works Committee of information necessary for the preparation of the Development Plan. The recommendation that two additional Sanitary Inspectors and clerical assistance should be engaged for the purpose was not approved by the Council, and the proposal did not proceed.

Certificates under Rent Restrictions Acts.

Applications were made in two instances for the issue of certificates under the 1923 Act. In one case, the certificate was issued, the second application being refused.

**PROGRESS REPORT OF ACTION UNDER
HOUSING ACTS 1930/36.**

Position as at 31st December, 1949.

<i>Clearance Areas.</i>	No. of dwelling houses demolished		Number of persons dis- placed up to 31st March	Number of dwelling houses made fit
	Unfit Houses	Other Houses		
(1) Land coloured " pink " ...	699	—	} 1,570	—
(2) Land coloured " grey " ...	—	—		

**Insanitary houses not included in clearance areas
or improvement areas.**

1. Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of formal procedure under Section 11	277
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of informal notices preliminary to formal procedure under Section 11	73
3. Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished as a result of undertakings (which have not been cancelled) by owners under Section 11 not to use the houses for human habitation	3
4. Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	4
5. Number of persons displaced as a result of action under (1) above	924
under (2) above	77
under (3) above	8
under (4) above	7

OVERCROWDING AND ALLOCATION OF TENANCIES.

The investigation of claims made by applicants for tenancies of Corporation houses is undertaken on behalf of the Housing Department and has made substantial demands on the services of the Sanitary Inspectors during the year. The circumstances of 2,168 families have been investigated, necessitating inspection of their accommodation and enumeration of family particulars.

Of 2,042 investigations relating to alleged overcrowding, in 574 cases (28.1%) the families were found to be statutorily overcrowded and the necessary certificates were supplied to the Housing Manager.

126 applicants claimed rehousing on medical grounds ; of these 73 were on the grounds of tuberculosis, and in 29 cases (39.4%) certificates were issued to the effect that rehousing was imperative on health grounds. Of the 53 medical cases not connected with tuberculosis, 13 families (24.5%) were recommended for rehousing.

	Over- crowded	Not over- crowded	Applications on Medical Grounds			
			Tuberculosis		Other cases	
			Approved	Rejected	Approved	Rejected
Tenants... ..	129	811	20	38	12	40
Sub-Tenants liv- ing in Rooms...	445	657	9	6	1	—
Totals	574	1,468	29	44	13	40

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

The Borough Architect has supplied the following details of the progress made in the provision of new houses :—

	<i>During</i> 1949	<i>Post-war</i> <i>period</i> <i>incl. 1949</i>	<i>In progress</i> 31/12/49
Houses erected by private enterprise	82	555	74
" " " local authority ...	445	1,085	406

These figures include those houses rebuilt following demolition as a result of war damage ; flat conversions are not included.

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The increased work reported during 1948 in this field has been maintained during 1949, but it has not been possible to further extend it. A total of 1,001 visits to factories was made during the year, by comparison with 983 in 1948. A total of 26 Notices was served relating to 54 defects, details of which are here set out in the form required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service :—

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS
AS TO HEALTH.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced	96	155	4	—
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	310	844	22	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises) ...	1	2	—	—
Total ...	407	1,001	26	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	Notices Outstanding
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	10	11	—	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	3	6	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	1	1	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)						
(a) insufficient	4	18	—	1	—	1
(b) unsuitable or defective	30	31	—	3	—	4
(c) not separate for sexes	6	9	—	1	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	54	76	—	6	—	5

Outwork.

Wearing apparel—making, etc.	Number of out-workers in			
	August list required by			
	Section 110 (1) (c)	...	...	11
	Visits made	...	...	26

WATER SUPPLY.**Town Area.***Quantity.*

The actual volume of water supplied during the year ended the 31st December, 1949 by the Corporation undertaking, which supplies the entire County Borough District except Saughall Massie, was 1,372,308,000 gallons, and the total consumption per head per day was 37.0 gallons, of which 29.7 gallons were used in the homes and 0.5 gallons for shipping, and 6.9 for industry and commerce. During the year 0.3 gallons per head of population were used by the Cleansing Department.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination.

During the year samples of water have been collected from all parts of the District and chemical and bacteriological testing carried out by the City Bacteriologist at the Bacteriological Department, Liverpool, and the Water Examination and Chemical Laboratory at Wallasey. In all testings and analyses poisonous metals were reported absent and there has been no case of contamination from Lead. The regular Bacteriological Examinations of Waters from all sections of the plant and system and from all districts of the Supply and Distribution have shown the water to be maintained in a constant condition of purity; a total of 171 samples having been submitted to bacteriological examination and 104 to complete chemical examination.

Average of 10 samples of water taken from various parts of the district during 1949:—

<i>Parts per 100,000</i>					
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	9.125
Chlorides...	...	...	...	...	9.78
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.0003
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.005
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	0.086
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	...	0.12
pH value	...	...	...	...	6.78
Metals—lead, copper, iron	...	...	...	...	Absent
Bacteria at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	Per 10 ml 6.8
B. Coli	...	...	...	...	Absent

The water is clear, bright, pure and wholesome.

In addition to the examinations requested by or conducted on behalf of the Water Department, Sanitary Inspectors submitted 23 samples to the Birkenhead Branch of the Public Health Laboratory Service with similar satisfactory results. In only one of these 23 samples was B. Coli found to be present; a repeat sample suggested this result to be due to sampling error.

Source and Treatment.

The Water Supply to the County Borough of Wallasey (excluding Saughall Massie), is obtained from two sources, as follows: Bulk supplies of soft upland Lake Alwen water from the Birkenhead Corporation, and softened water from the Bore Holes at the Liscard Pumping Station, Seaview Road.

Soft upland water of the highest possible purity is obtained in bulk from the Birkenhead Corporation from their Alwen Reservoir under two agreements. The first agreement dated 28th July, 1925, provided for supplies of water in perpetuity up to a maximum quantity of two million gallons per diem from 1943.

This supply commenced on the 16th August, 1926.

The other agreement with the Birkenhead Corporation, which was completed on the 6th April, 1933, provided for additional supplies of Lake Alwen water, which were commenced on the 7th August, 1935.

Under these combined agreements a supply of 1,028,123,000 gallons was received during the year.

The quantity of water raised from the Bore Holes at the Seaview Road Water Works is regulated in accordance with the requirements of the district, which vary according to the time of the year, between 2,000,000 and 500,000 gallons per day. This water is pumped, after softening, into the Reservoirs at Gorsehill to be mixed with the upland waters from Lake Alwen before being delivered to the district and the homes of the people.

The normal capacities of the Reservoirs are as follows:—

			<i>Gallons</i>
No. 1 Reservoir	...	...	2,000,000
No. 2 Reservoir	...	...	4,250,000
Total Capacity ...			<u>6,250,000</u>

The capacity of No. 2 Reservoir, which was reduced to 1,750,000 gallons owing to damage by enemy action, was restored during 1948.

Under normal conditions continuous supplies of water are maintained of a hardness in the nature of 7 to 8 degrees Clarke. The degree of hardness does, however, vary, the extent of variation depending on the relative proportions of Bore Hole water and Alwen water present in the mains. Average hardness of 300 samples tested during the year was 9.7 parts per 100,000.

As a precautionary measure, the water is chlorinated at Gorsehill, the dosage being 0.1. parts per million, which leaves the water free of any taste or smell of chlorine.

SAUGHALL MASSIE.

Water supply to the extreme western end of the County Borough District is supplied by the West Cheshire Water Board. The district receiving this supply is approximately defined as the district west of the River Arrowe to the Borough boundary. This includes Hoylake Road west of Bermuda Road, and roads off it, Saughall Road, Mill House Lane, Acton Lane, Orchard Grange, etc., Carr Lane and Park Road.

The water supplied is obtained from deep wells at the Board's Pumping Stations at Prenton, Hooton and Mouldsworth, with auxiliary supplies from Birkenhead Corporation as required. All the water is pumped into Heswall Reservoir, and flows thence, by gravitation to the area.

The water from each source has a different total hardness and as these are constantly mixed in varying quantities, it is impossible to assign a fixed hardness figure to the water distributed. For practical purposes it may be stated that the maximum total hardness does not exceed 17 degrees Clarke, and the average will be about 13 degrees.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are undertaken at frequent intervals by the Board's analyst, at the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, S.W.1.

Twenty-six samples were submitted during the year, at fortnightly intervals. The mean result obtained by averaging the 26 samples is as follows :

Colonies per c.c. at 37 deg. C. (agar) in one day	...	—
Colonies per c.c. at 37 deg. C. (agar) in two days	...	0.15
Colonies per c.c. at 22 deg. C. (agar) in three days	...	2.6
Presumptive Coli (a) Absent in 100 ml. in all samples.		
(b) Intermediate Type I present		
in 50 ml.	... ..	Nil
B. Welchii	Absent in 100 ml. in all samples.	

Quarterly chemical examinations are undertaken, and the following figures represent the average of the four samples taken during 1949 :—

Chemical Results in parts per million.

Appearance : Clear and bright.

Colour : Nil. Odour : Slightly chlorinous in two cases.

Reaction pH : 7.1.

Electric conductivity at 20 deg. C. : 566.6.

Total Solids, 180 deg. C. : 378.3.

Chlorine in Chlorides : 66.3.

Nitrogen in Nitrates : 3.3.

Hardness : Permanent, 66.6 ; Temporary, 180 ; Total 246.6.

Metals : Absent.

Free Ammonia : 0.016. Albuminoid Ammonia : 0.00.

Oxygen absorbed, 4 hours, 27 deg. C. : 0.016.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen : 0.00. Albuminoid Nitrogen : 0.00.

Free CO₂ : 21.0.

Turbidity (Silica Scale) : Less than 5.

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate : 175.

Nitrites : Less than 0.006.

In addition to these samples, eleven independent samples were taken by Sanitary Inspectors during the year, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Birkenhead Branch of the Public Health Laboratory Service. *B. Coli* was absent in 100 ml. of all samples submitted.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE : INVESTIGATION AND SURVEILLANCE.

The 1948 reduction in the number of visits rendered necessary was continued during 1949.

80 visits of surveillance were made by Sanitary Inspectors to immigrants who had passed through infected areas during the incubation periods of smallpox, malaria, cholera, typhus fever.

39 enquiries were instituted on the occasion of the notification of sporadic cases of infectious diseases other than those of common incidence.

Acute Polio-myelitis.

Five confirmed cases were investigated during the year, together with two cases in respect of which the original diagnosis was subsequently cancelled. Visits of surveillance were also made in respect of five residents who had been in contact with cases in other areas, including Fleetwood, Finchley, Kensington, and H.M. Forces. The following data relates to the five confirmed cases :—

- (1) Two cases proved fatal ; one case is fully recovered ; two cases are still receiving treatment.
- (2) In two cases the patients (children) were sharing bedroom accommodation with their parents and one other child ; in one case the child was sleeping with its parents ; in the remaining two cases no overcrowding existed.
- (3) One case was a child on holiday with its parents in New Brighton. Contacts within the boarding house were drawn from six different towns ; notifications were sent to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts affected.
- (4) All the cases were children of six years of age or under.
- (5) In only one case was there any evidence in any way suggestive of the existence of a possible abortive case.

Smallpox.

No cases of Smallpox occurred within the district during 1949. Surveillance visits were made in respect of three contacts who were aboard the S.S. Mooltan on the occasion of the April outbreak associated with this vessel.

Anthrax.

One case of malignant pustule came to notice during the year. The patient, an adult woman was the wife of a clerical worker in a shipping company. Onset of the disease occurred twelve days following the arrival at the house of two paying guests who were final year veterinary students. One of the students had been in contact with a case of bovine anthrax within recent weeks, whilst assisting a veterinary surgeon during the university vacation period.

Dysentery.

Five cases of notified dysentery (sonne) were investigated during 1949 :

- (1) In one case, the patient was a twelve weeks old child with a history of persistent diarrhoea over the previous seven weeks, soon after the inception of bottle feeding. The child was stated to have suffered from thrush at about the same time ; the child had been provided with a comforter by its mother ; general cleanliness in the house was only fair. The case was confirmed by laboratory examination of stools, and the child admitted to hospital. Stool specimens from family contacts proved negative.
- (2) The remaining cases arose out of the receipt of one notification relating to a school girl (aged 15 years). Investigation revealed that two other members of the family had experienced attacks of sickness, headaches and moderately severe diarrhoea. It was found that a fourth member of the household had been moved to a hospital outside the district some three weeks previously ; this fourth person was subsequently diagnosed as suffering from dysentery, *Shigella Sonnei* being present in the faeces of the patient.
- (3) In addition to these notified confirmed cases, enquires were instituted in respect of an infant whose diagnosis was subsequently revised. Visits of surveillance were also undertaken in connection with six Wallasey residents who were contacts of an outbreak which occurred in a hospital in an adjoining district.

Food Poisoning.

Ten cases, involved in two incidents were notified or recorded during the year. In both incidents, the illness was symptomatic of staphylococcal food poisoning, but the causative agent was not identified.

Incident No. 1 involved two persons in the same household ; meat pies were suspected to be the vehicle of infection, and a similar pie from the same source revealed presence of a non-typable organism of the *Staphylococcus* group. Staphylococci were recovered from noses, throats and a healed injury on a finger of bakehouse employees, but phage typing was inconclusive, Type 3c(w) predominating in all sites except one, where the organism was non-typable.

Incident No. 2 arose from a single notification of one case which when investigated yielded information that another seven of twenty people at risk (at a birthday party) had been affected. Articles of food for laboratory examination were not recoverable. Statistical examination of food consumed by those at the party suggested the possibility that cream cakes may have been the focus of infection. Laboratory examination of such cakes as were remaining and others from the same source proved negative to food poisoning organisms.

Enteric Fever.

No cases of typhoid or paratyphoid fevers occurred within the Borough during 1949. Wallasey residents were contacts of cases involved in the Salford typhoid outbreak of October/November, and visits of surveillance were made. One Wallasey resident was a contact of cases of typhoid fever occurring on S.S. Mooltan, and one resident was a contact of a case of paratyphoid fever occurring in Worcester. Usual surveillance was exercised in these cases.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The water carriage system of drainage is used in all except small outlying districts of the Borough, chemical closets being found in occasional houses where sewer facilities are not within 100 ft. In such cases, a collection service is undertaken by the Corporation. Septic tanks and cesspools are also in use in a number of houses in this western part of the district, where the separate system of drainage is in operation. Crude sewage from the main town sewers is discharged into the River Mersey and its estuary at suitable points. A small sewage disposal plant is in use at the western end of the County Borough District.

House Drainage.

Visits by Sanitary Inspectors in connection with same	...	770
Drains cleansed from obstruction after service of notice	...	347
Minor repairs effected to existing drains	...	87
Entire reconstruction of existing drains	...	3
Partial reconstruction of existing drains	...	46
Drain Tests : (a) Smoke	...	48
(b) Water	...	13
(c) Colour	...	74
Cesspools emptied after service of notice	...	—
Cesspools repaired	...	—
Cesspools abolished	...	2
Choked sewers referred to Borough Engineer	...	24
Ditches and watercourses inspected	...	23
Ditches and streams cleansed	...	15
Ditches and streams : pollution remedied	...	—

RODENT CONTROL.

Surface Infestations.

361 complaints were received during the year; these were investigated, and routine visits totalling 3,021 were made in connection with treatment and spontaneous inspections of those types of premises prone to rodent infestation. Ministry of Agriculture methods were employed throughout. Results of work undertaken during the year were as follows :—

No. of Destruction Jobs Undertaken During Year	3rd Party	Reservoir	Major	Minor
		—	5	117
No. of Destruction Jobs Charged During Year	Local Authority Property	—	10	112
		—	5	52
No. of Destruction Jobs Charged During Year	Business Premises	—	—	65
		—	—	65

Sewer Maintenance Treatment.

Two sewer maintenance treatments have been completed during the year.

One baiting party comprising two men only was employed, as compared with three parties of three men each in 1944 and two parties of three men each in 1945 and 1946. The treatment of the sewer system, therefore, by Ministry of Agriculture methods, has been continuous since 1944. In that year two initial treatments were executed on the whole of the sewer system. In 1945 and 1946 two maintenance treatments were carried out in each year, the first and second treatments in each case being applied to the entire sewer system.

In view of the gradual reduction of rat population, indicated by the statistics for previous years' treatments, it was decided to repeat the procedure adopted in 1947 and 1948: namely to apply the first treatment to the entire system, and to restrict the second treatment to those series of manholes which were infested, with necessary "overlap" in accordance with accepted standards. The summarised statistics for the year 1949 are as follows:—

			<i>First treatment</i>	<i>Second treatment</i>
(1) No. of manholes in system	...	...	5,232	5,232
(2) No. of manholes baited	...	...	4,753	782
(3) Total No. of prebait takes	...	...	198	142
(4) No. of complete takes in one or both days (included in (3) )	...	...	143	109

The total number of prebait takes during the first treatment expressed as a percentage of the total manholes baited, is 4.2%.

Figures for previous years are as follows:—

1944	...	36.7%
1945	...	26.0%
1946	...	27.3%
1947	...	7.2%
1948	...	4.3%

PUBLIC HEALTH CONTROL OF SWIMMING POOLS.

25 regular visits of inspection were made during the summer months to the three Swimming Pools in the Borough, viz., Guinea Gap Baths, New Brighton Baths, and the Derby Pool.

38 samples of water from the baths were subjected to tests by the Sanitary Inspectors to determine the free chlorine content. These tests serve as a check on the water-treatment plant and its ability to produce and maintain a satisfactory standard of cleanliness in the water of the pools.

The results of the 38 tested samples varied between 0.2 and 0.8 parts per million of residual chlorine.

In addition, 25 samples of water were taken from the swimming baths during the year and submitted to Birkenhead Laboratory for examination. An arithmetical average of the 25 results is as follows :—

Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar 3 days 22°C. aerobically — 29 per ml.

Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C. aerobically — 37 per ml.

Coliform bacilli (non-faecal type) found in 3 samples ; absent in 22 samples.

CAMPING LICENCES.

No. of licences relating to sites issued during 1949	8
No. of licences relating to sites refused during 1949	1
No. of cases of unlicensed camping detected ...	2
Tents and structures removed under notice ...	—
No. of visits to unlicensed land	59
No. of visits to licensed land	70
Inspections of structures	705
Nuisances abated after notice	—

KEEPING OF ANIMALS.

Visits to premises	207
Notices served	20
Stables manure pits cleansed	10
Stables : manure pits repaired or renewed ..	3
Other nuisances abated	21

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No. of observations (1) formal half-hourly ...	80
(2) casual	170
Visits to boiler-houses	78
Interviews in connection with smoke abatement...	43
Smoke nuisance abated	4
Grit emissions abated	2
Major improvements to boiler plant effected ...	3

MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS.

	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Nuisances detected</i>
Schools	47	—	11
Cinemas, dance-halls, etc. ...	82	7	13
Sub-let rooms	526	9	10
Public conveniences	102	—	14
Local Land Charges (Search) ...	1,629	—	—
Measurements of rooms for permitted numbers	305	—	—
Interviews with building contractors	596	—	—
Offensive trades	10	3	4
Canal boats inspected	9	1	1
Other visits	252	—	—

PART VI

Welfare Services, National Assistance Act, 1948

WELFARE SERVICES.

Residential Accommodation.

The National Assistance Act, 1948, places a duty on the Council to provide residential accommodation for persons who by reason of age, infirmity, or other circumstances are in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them. This comprises a wide range of elderly, infirm, disabled or subnormal people who are unable to look after themselves in their own homes, and cannot obtain from relatives, friends or others the care and attention they require.

The year 1949 has been the first full year in which the Act has been in operation, and the first hostel of the type envisaged in the Act, "Lamorna," Hamilton Road, was opened on the 18th October, 1949, when eighteen elderly women were transferred thereto from Eastham House. There is a growing demand for accommodation of this type for old people, and at the end of the year there were 64 persons on the waiting list. As this accommodation is no longer associated with destitution, applications are being received for vacancies from many persons who would not previously have applied. The demand from old people in the community has not eased, as the hostel which was opened was occupied by Wallasey people already living at Eastham House.

Many large houses in the Borough have been inspected to ascertain their suitability for conversion into Hostels, and the Council have bought "Redcliffe," Egremont Promenade, which, when altered and adapted, will provide further accommodation for 18 persons and staff.

The accommodation provided by the Council in "Lamorna" and other hostels to be erected, is a substitute for a normal home, and meets all reasonable needs of the residents, including board, clothing, tobacco, sweets, recreational facilities, books and periodicals, and opportunity for religious worship. The residents have the same right to the services of a family doctor and the same freedom to choose a doctor as if they were living in their own homes. A Chiropodist attends once per month to care for the old people's feet. The Soroptimist Club take an interest in the residents and make personal visits, and have contributed considerably to the comfort of the residents of "Lamorna."

Plans are being drafted for a Hostel to be erected in Moreton with accommodation for various types of persons. For example, the care and attention needed by some old people amounts to little more than relief from domestic duties; others need help in dressing or washing themselves. Others have habits which are anti-social, but who will have to be catered for, and provision will also be made for married couples.

The present accommodation at the disposal of the Council consists of:—

38 beds at St. Catherine's Hospital Annexe, Birkenhead.
(By arrangement with the Liverpool Regional Hospitals Board.)

6 beds at Eastham House. (By arrangement with the Birkenhead Corporation, to be vacated as soon as possible.)

- 6 beds in Epileptic Colonies.
- 2 beds in Homes for Cripples.
- 5 beds in Homes for the Blind.
- 18 beds at "Lamorna," Hamilton Road, Wallasey.
- 1 bed in Salvation Army Hostel, West Kirby.

The Welfare Services provided for Registered Blind Persons are as follows :

- (a) Discovery of Blind Persons for Registration ;
- (b) the visitation of Blind Persons in their Homes or elsewhere ;
- (c) teaching them wherever practicable to read embossed literature ;
- (d) instructing them in simple pastime occupations in their homes or elsewhere and in methods of overcoming the effects of their disabilities ;
- (e) generally assisting in promoting their welfare ;
- (f) advising blind persons of all available social services ;
- (g) paying particular attention to those blind persons who are also suffering from some other form of handicap, the nature of which is such as to increase the disability of blindness.

The Council arranges for the provision of facilities for the employment of suitable blind persons in special workshops for the blind and two Males and two Females are at present employed at the Liverpool Workshops for the Blind.

Home Teachers for the Blind in consultation with the Ministry of Labour and National Service make arrangements in appropriate cases, for blind persons to be placed in employment in open industry.

Teachers make arrangements with registered voluntary organisations to ensure the provision of suitable training under the Education Act, 1944, or under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, for blind persons who are capable of benefiting from such training.

During the past year this Authority has been able to send 2 cases to the special Homes for Rehabilitation and Adjustment of Blindness, organised by the National Institute for the Blind.

This Council also makes a Grant to the National Library for the Blind, so enabling readers of embossed type to obtain free books from the Library. Also Braille periodicals are purchased by the Welfare Committee for the use of blind people residing in the borough.

Other Handicapped Persons.

The Welfare Officers have found employment for three disabled persons and found lodgings for others, as well as encouraging registration under the Disabled Persons Employment Act, 1944.

The guiding principle of the Welfare Services is to ensure that all handicapped persons, whatever their disability, shall have the maximum opportunity of sharing in and contributing to the life of the community, so that their capacities are realised to the full, their self-confidence developed, and their social contacts strengthened.

Gift Food from the Dominions.

During the year 150 cases of Gift Food were received from the Dominions and allocated to various organizations in the Borough for the distribution to the aged and needy.

The following were the numbers of persons chargeable at 31st December, 1949 :

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
St. Catherine's Hospital Annexe ...	8	19	3	30
Eastham House	6	—	—	6
Epileptic Colonies	—	7	—	7
Cripples Homes	2	—	—	2
Homes for the Blind	2	3	—	5
Voluntary Homes for the Aged ...	—	1	—	1
"Lamorna," Hamilton Road, Wallasey	—	18	—	18
Children's Homes	—	—	8	8
Total	18	48	11	77

Some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the admission to Hospital of residents who become so ill that they can no longer be cared for at the hostels. Ageing people become increasingly infirm, and when they reach the stage where they require constant nursing attention, it throws a strain on the resources and staff at the Home, for which there is no adequate solution but transfer to Hospital.

The Birkenhead Hospital Management Committee have requested that the accommodation at present occupied by the Welfare Committee at the St. Catherine's Hospital Annexe, be vacated so that it may be converted to use for the accommodation of Chronic Sick Cases. The demand for both Hospital and Residential Accommodation for old people is becoming more pressing as the proportion of old people to the rest of the community increases, and as it will continue to increase in the next 30 years. The only solution is the provision of more Hostels and Hospitals and staff to run them. The opening of new premises is proceeding as fast as the present economic situation and the limited capital resources which can be devoted to this work allow.

The great majority of old people will, however, continue to prefer to live ordinary lives in their own homes. Many of them cannot do so in reasonable comfort without help and interest from outside.

The Welfare Officers are often requested to visit old people in their own homes, and this has been shown to be of particular value, for it can mitigate the sense of isolation and loneliness often experienced by old people. The Officer can ascertain which service is required and pass information to the appropriate branch of the health or welfare service. The Officers made approximately 150 domiciliary visits during the year. By keeping the aged happy and contented in the community, the demand on Hostel accommodation is lessened.

Temporary Accommodation.

A duty is placed on the Council to provide temporary accommodation for persons in urgent need of it. This provision is not one for dealing with inadequately housed but is primarily intended to cover persons temporarily without accommodation as a result of fire, flooding, or eviction. Several eviction cases have been dealt with under this provision, but as no accommodation specially adapted for the purpose has been provided, the families have had to be split and the children accommodated separately from the parents.

Great difficulty has been experienced in finding accommodation for eviction cases, and especially where there have been children in the family. Owing to the lack of accommodation it has often been necessary to telephone all the Local Authorities and Voluntary Agencies in the North Western Area before vacancies could be found for these children.

Registration of Disabled Persons' and Old Persons' Homes.

The provision of the National Assistance Act, 1948, relating to the Registration of Homes, came into force on November 1st, 1949. This registration is compulsory and four homes in Wallasey applied for registration in 1949. One Home was registered on the 1st December, 1949, one application for registration has been withdrawn, and the registration of the other two has been deferred pending the provision of adequate fire protection facilities.

These Homes have been inspected by the Welfare Staff and the Chief Fire Officer to ascertain that the situation, construction, state of repair, accommodation, management, staffing, and equipment, are suitable to be used for a Home for Disabled and Old Persons.

Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

No persons have been compulsorily removed to Hospital under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act during 1949.

Protection and Care of Property of Persons Admitted to Hospital, etc.

Where a person is admitted to Hospital the Local Authority is required to protect his property and this ordinarily includes ensuring that his house is locked up, notifying the Police of his absence, and after making an inventory taking charge of money and other valuables, and, in some cases, removing and storing furniture.

In the cases of Mental Patients the Court of Protection, Royal Courts of Justice, is notified and the relatives are assisted and guided by the Welfare staff in the application to the Court for an Order dealing with the patients' affairs.

Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

There is a duty placed on the Council to arrange for the burial or cremation of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, where it appears that no other suitable arrangements have been or are being made. Five persons have been buried under arrange-

ments made by the Welfare Section during 1949. The expenses of burial have been recovered from the estate of the deceased persons, or from liable relatives where possible.

Welfare of Handicapped Persons.

DEAF AND DUMB.—A Merseyside Joint Deaf and Dumb Advisory Committee was established during the year, upon which the six Merseyside Local Authorities and various Voluntary Agencies for the Deaf are represented. It is the duty of the Committee to co-ordinate and develop the existing Deaf and Dumb Welfare Services.

BLIND.—The number of Blind Persons on the Council's Register at the 31st December, 1949, was 178. Two Certificated Home Teachers are employed and 5,764 visits were made to blind persons during 1949.

Registration of Blind Persons.

	M.	F.	Total
No. on Register at January 1st	84	102	186
No. added during the year :—			
New Cases	7	8	15
Transfers from other towns	1	2	3
Totals	92	112	204
No. of Removals from Register owing to :—	M.	F.	Total
Leaving Wallasey	3	8	11
Death	7	7	14
Totals	11	15	26
No. on Register at December 31st	81	97	178

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

During the twelve months ending 31st December, 1949, 20 people were examined by Dr. W. Dunlop Hamilton, of whom 15 were found to be blind, while 5 could not be certified. Of the 15 people certified as blind, blindness occurred in the following age groups :

Under 20 years of age—4.

20-30 years of age	—	30-40 years of age	—
40-50 " "	1	50-60 " "	1
60-70 " "	7	Over 70 years of age	2

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Report
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
For the Year 1949.

BENSON & HOLME LTD., PRINTERS, 56 STANLEY STREET, LIVERPOOL

1950

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

DR. R. B. BERRY, M.D., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer.

DR. H. W. HALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 14/4/49.)

Assistant Medical Officers of Health and Assistant School Medical Officers

DR. E. J. O'REILLY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O.

DR. E. I. GRANT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Senior School Dental Surgeon

MR. C. J. LUYA, L.D.S.

Assistant School Dental Surgeons

MR. W. A. HENDERSON, L.D.S.

MR. E. G. MASON, L.D.S.

MR. F. G. SUTCLIFFE, L.D.S. (Appointed 1/5/49.)

Dental Attendants

MISS A. M. BARBER.

MISS B. M. SCOTT.

MRS. E. M. BROWNE.

MISS P. M. BERGIN. (Appointed 23/5/49.)

Superintendent Health Visitor/School Nurse

MRS. A. PARKINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

Health Visitors/School Nurses

MISS L. M. VANCE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

MISS E. A. TEGGINS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

MISS A. J. EDGE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

MISS C. E. MURRELL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

MRS. N. B. IDLE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

MRS. E. E. P. NOLAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

MISS D. MAYBURY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif.

MRS. W. DOVEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif. (Appointed 1/1/49.)

MISS D. M. STRICKLAND, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif. (Appointed 1/4/49.)

MISS M. E. ASPINALL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif. (Appointed 1/2/49.)

MISS M. L. HOWARTH, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Certif. (Resigned 13/11/49.)

MISS R. M. QUINTON, Certif. R.S.I. (Resigned 28/2/49.)

Visiting Specialists

DR. W. D. HAMILTON, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.O.M.S. (Ophthalmic).

MR. H. DAVIES, M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Orthopaedic).

Psychiatrist (Part-time)

DR. MARY C. LYDON, D.P.M., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (I.).

Consultant Psychiatrist

DR. MURIEL B. HALL, M.D., M.B., Ch.B.

Educational Psychologist

MISS M. PROCTER, B.A.

Social Worker

MRS. U. BARRETT-LENNARD (Diploma in Social Science).

Physiotherapists

MISS N. V. CULLOTY, M.C.S.P.

MISS M. M. RAINE, S.R.O.N. (Resigned 28/2/49.)

MISS M. A. BLYTH, M.C.S.P. (Appointed 1/6/49, Resigned 31/12/49.)

Speech Therapist

MISS K. M. LANG, L.C.S.T.

Administrative Staff

MR. S. D. LAWSON. MRS. M. FRANCE. MRS. A. JONES (*nee* REEDER).

III

Town Hall,
WALLASEY,
May, 1950.

To : The Chairman and Members of
the Education Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Report on the work of the School Medical and Dental Services for the year 1949 includes comments by members of the staff who have responsibilities for certain sections of the work.

The most interesting feature is, I think, the fact that though the National Health Service Act has now got into working order there is no diminution on the calls for the work of the School Medical Department. A reference to the figures will show that there has been increased activity in all sections. The only exception being that carried out by the Physiotherapists—this being due to shortage of staff during part of the year.

The figures prove that the School Medical and Dental Services have an important part to play in the Health Services of the Nation, and what is, I think, more important, prove that the ratepayers of the town appreciate and make full use of the services provided by the Local Authority.

I should like to acknowledge the co-operation and assistance of the Director of Education and his staff and the consideration that has been given by the Committee to proposals put forward for the development and improvement of the Services.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,
School Medical Officer.

REPORT OF DEPUTY SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Dr. Hall makes the following observations :—

On taking up my appointment in April, I found the recently re-organised School Health Service getting into its stride, though still in the process of adjusting itself to working in conjunction with the National Health Service.

Routine inspections were in arrears, but by the end of the year these had been cleared up. This will allow a greater number of re-inspections and follow-up work to be undertaken, and also more time for the audiometer survey, which was started on a small scale during the summer.

The work in the three minor ailment clinics continued unabated throughout the year. Treatment under the new conditions still remains a difficult problem. Every opportunity is taken to instruct parents and children in health and in the proper use of the National Health Service. It is hoped that in the future there will be greater opportunities for co-operation with the general practitioners and that this will work both ways.

Specialist Clinics, Orthopædic, Ophthalmic and Child Guidance continued under the Education Authority throughout the year, valuable work being done in each as shown in their individual reports.

It still remains a regrettable fact that school children, in certain cases, have to wait up to nine months before obtaining spectacles prescribed at the Ophthalmic Clinic.

During the year a vision survey started by my predecessor has been continued in the junior schools concentrating on the eight-year old age group in order to bridge the gap between the first and second routine statutory examinations. It is intended to make this survey annually.

By the end of the year the waiting list for tonsil and adenoid operations at the local hospitals had been greatly reduced. A school child now recommended for such an operation is usually done within four to six weeks. Post-operative cases are followed up and given a course of corrective breathing exercises by the School physiotherapists.

The premises which at present house the principal clinic are in a very bad state of repair, but it is hoped that by next year the new clinic in Merton Road will be in use or at least nearing completion.

School Hygiene Inspections.

The figures show a rather disappointing state of affairs. At some medical inspections 40% of the children have had dirty (verminous) heads. It is hoped to see gradual improvement by continued persuasion and education by all members of the School Health Staff working in full co-operation with head teachers.

The routine ascertainment of educationally sub-normal children has continued throughout the year. September saw the opening of Claremount Special School for this type of handicapped child. Regular monthly medical inspections at this Special School have been instituted and more frequent visits by the school nurse. It is

hoped to raise the standard of personal hygiene in these pupils, which is only too often low in this type of child.

The more frequent medical examinations also facilitates the following up of any physical defects found. It is encouraging to find in this school a keen and co-operative spirit amongst the teachers.

A visit was made to the main school kitchen and also to two other canteens. The standard of cleanliness of the food handlers on the regular staff appeared reasonably good. There was an awareness of the importance of personal hygiene. Some of the premises are makeshift, but are shortly to be replaced by up-to-date units.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude for the help given to me by the Health Visitors and School Health Clerical Staff during my first nine months in Wallasey.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Dr. O'Reilly, Assistant Medical Officer, makes the following observations:—

GENERAL.

I examined several thousand children in schools and clinics during the year and my impression is that the rise in the general standard of health is being maintained. Many of the school children examined were born during the latter part of the War and these show the beneficial effects of receiving cod-liver oil and fruit juice during their pre-school years and later by their participation in school meals and milk.

Malnutrition has become quite rare and the few cases encountered were those of children born prior to the year 1939.

Apart from the steady improvement in the physique of school children in Wallasey there is reason to believe that the number of defects usually found is steadily declining.

One still encounters the usual hard core of cases of squint, diseased tonsils, flat feet, and in a lesser degree blepharitis, heart disease, and asthma, but in my opinion even these conditions are less frequent.

As against the general decline in the number of defects I found that nocturnal enuresis had become more common even among children in the higher age range.

As this is a problem chiefly of good training; and only rarely of disease, the increase in this complaint is probably a reflection of the present-day parental attitude that a child should never be thwarted, lest his little "ego" be damaged, and it is fortunate that the ill-effects of this outlook are confined to the functional field.

Audiometric Survey.

The new audiometer was brought into use half-way through the year. It is an instrument like a gramophone, but the place of the horn or loud-speaker is taken by a set of 20 earphones. Each child puts on an earphone, through which he hears a series of numbers called out. These numbers are spoken in a gradually decreasing volume and the child writes down all those he can hear. On examining the results it is possible to assess accurately the degree of hearing.

The chief difficulty in carrying out a survey was to find reasonably quiet rooms as even very faint extraneous noises were sufficient to cause trouble. On one occasion the sound of the waves in the River Mersey was sufficient to interfere seriously with the test. Those children who failed the first test were examined at least once again as many of them, e.g., those of 8 years of age, found difficulty in carrying out the test the first time.

A total of 655 children were examined and of these 177 (27%) failed to reach the standard of normal hearing at their first test. On being tested for the second time all but 32 (4.8% of the total) succeeded in attaining the required standard.

On re-testing the doubtful cases the number of failures was finally reduced to 26 (3.9% of the total), and these were referred for further investigation to the appropriate Hospital Authority.

Elleray Park Open-Air School.

This School was visited each month during term times and every child in attendance was examined. I was continually impressed by the beneficial effects of the pleasant healthy surroundings, the long after dinner rest, and the carefully graduated exercises. In addition, must be mentioned the supply of cod-liver oil and other tonics daily and the regular treatment with the sun-ray lamp under the supervision of the Physiotherapist. Most of the children showed definite improvement in health, the group of delicate children showing the most marked progress as evidenced by the steady rise in their weight graphs.

Many of the orthopaedic cases and most of the asthmatics also made excellent progress and some of the latter actually ceased to have any further attacks.

During the year twenty-two children were admitted, the classification of the defects or diseases being as follows :—

General Debility	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bronchiectasis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Asthma and Mitral	}	...	...	...	...	1
Systolic Bruit						
Bronchial Asthma	...	...	...	...	...	5
Mild Chorea	...	...	...	...	...	1
T.B. Mastoid and T.B. Abscess	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pseudo Hypertrophic Muscular Dystrophy	...	...	...	...	...	1
Debility & T.B. Mesenteric Glands	...	...	...	...	...	1
Extreme Pes Valgus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Osteomyelitis R. Tibia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary T.B. Chest (healing)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rheumatic Endocarditis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coeliac Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mitral Systolic Murmur	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	<u>22</u>

Of the eighteen children who left the school during the year, 2 left the district, 4 left on attaining the age of 16 years, 7 were passed as fit to return to an ordinary school, 2 were admitted to a Residential School for P.D. Children and 3 were withdrawn for other reasons. The number of children on the Roll on the 1st January, 1949, was 93, and on the 31st December, 1949, 97.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Dr. Esme Grant makes the following observations :—

As each year passes the value of the School Health Service becomes more apparent, and it is the exception now, rather than the rule, that any serious defect is found during the course of routine medical inspection at school. If a minor defect is noted the parent, who attends with the child, is almost always willing to take the advice given by the Assistant School Medical Officer, and is readily agreeable to an appointment being made at the appropriate clinic.

In some ways the National Health Service has made things more difficult for the Assistant School Medical Officer, because parents are able to take their children to their own doctor, free of charge, and so the Minor Ailment Clinics are less well attended and the opportunity for discovering defects such as flat feet, knock knees, round shoulders, squint, etc., is lost, except when these are found during the course of the routine medical inspection.

Cleanliness is satisfactory on the whole, and the general appearance of the child, including clothing, is steadily improving since the ending of clothes rationing. It is still necessary to stress the importance of sleep, both to the child and the parent, but there is not quite the same aversion to visiting the school dentist as used to be encountered, with the result that teeth are in a far better condition than they were some years ago.

Tonsils and adenoids and allied conditions seem to be dealt with more speedily now at the Victoria Central Hospital ; there is not so much delay now in securing an appointment with the Consultant, and if an operation is advised, this is carried out within a few weeks as a rule.

Maladjusted and educationally sub-normal pupils are still encountered too frequently, and constitute a considerable problem, as they are usually complicated by unsatisfactory housing and domestic conditions and an inadequate number of places in suitable schools or institutions. Dr. Mary Lydon continues to give us a great deal of valuable help as to the lines on which these cases should be dealt with.

Mr. Horace Davies, Orthopædic Surgeon, makes the following observations :—

The year's work at the Clinics has been mainly routine. The numbers continue to increase and very heavy burdens are placed upon the staff, especially the physiotherapists. The spread of the incorporation of remedial exercises into the normal school physical training continues. This original scheme of which we should be proud is already yielding encouraging results and many parents are appreciative of the great saving of lesson time, especially during the critical year prior to the examination. This scheme must be pushed ahead with persistence and vigour, as it will bring great benefit to our schoolchildren and prevent many of the deformities so often seen in later life.

In my opinion, the most pressing problem now remaining, and one which offers a further opportunity to maintain the lead in local authority care of children is the training, education and welfare of the spastic child. These children present a great problem and prolonged expert attention is necessary. I would strongly recommend a combined effort by the Wirral local authorities to provide a residential school for spastic cases. Within the Wirral Peninsula there are nearly 100 cases of this condition attending the various clinics and lacking education of even fundamental standards. A Residential School for Spastic Children in Wirral would be one of the greatest achievements possible for these physically and mentally handicapped children and would help to develop them into independent useful citizens.

REPORT OF Mr. HORACE DAVIES, Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Number of sessions held at the Authority's Clinics	...	...	...	45
Number of New Cases	...	...	...	423
Number of Re-examinations	...	...	...	925

[illegible]

PHYSIO-THERAPIST'S REPORT

MONTHLY ATTENDANCES, 1949.

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Remedial Exercises ...	922	679	855	359	868	1126	1104	—	959	1123	1309	1063	10,367
Asthma ...	156	130	96	23	95	188	206	—	186	217	246	173	1,716
T. & A. ...	15	1	4	1	1	11	35	—	20	32	21	13	152
U.V.R. ...	337	321	313	225	382	291	139	—	213	441	296	230	3,191
Observation only ...	7	9	8	2	7	8	1	—	6	1	4	1	53
Shoe Alterations only ...	3	2	12	4	15	11	10	—	16	5	8	3	89
													15,568

Total number of cases seen during the year ... 1,477
 Total number of attendances during the year ... 15,568
 New cases during the year ... 536
 Discharges during the year ... 602
 (Cured, left over-age, left district, etc.)

SPEECH THERAPY.

Miss K. M. Lang makes the following observations :

The work in the Speech Clinic has progressed quite well in the year ending December 31st, 1949, but the poor accommodation has proved a severe handicap.

Total number of attendances during 1949	...	...	...	2,460
Total number of patients who attended during 1949	...	...	...	121
Carried over from previous year...	...	...	...	90
New patients admitted	...	...	...	31
Total number of patients discharged	...	...	...	25
Total number discharged cured	...	...	...	22
Total number discharged for other reasons	...	...	...	3
Total number on waiting list	...	...	...	87

Types of defect or disorder.

Dyslalia—simple	...	...	...	...	...	34
Articulatory Defect—multiple	...	...	...	...	...	25
Dysphonia (defect of tone, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cleft Palate	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stammerers	...	...	...	...	...	49
Other defects, e.g., facial paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 121 <hr/>

REPORT ON WORK OF THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

Dr. Mary Lydon makes the following observations on the work of this Clinic:—

There has been a considerable increase in the number of cases referred for investigation and a corresponding increase in the number of successful adjustments during 1949.

There were 92 Sessions held. 40 cases were referred—22 of these in the latter half of the year, as compared with 8 in the corresponding half of 1948.

On the whole, the co-operation of Parents and Teachers with the Clinic Staff is excellent, which appears to indicate a growing appreciation of the results of treatment in cases of maladjustment, while the increase in the number of cases of psycho-somatic and allergic tendency shows an increasing awareness of the important role played by mental and emotional conditions in the physical health or ill-health of children.

With regard to cases of maladjustment involving stealing, it is felt that these in particular call for psychiatric investigation immediately they are brought to the notice of parents, teachers or clinic staff, as delay and consequent chronicity cause the condition to be more difficult to influence by treatment, especially as these cases are so frequently due to emotional causes within the child's own personality which tend to become habit-forming.

Period 1st January to 30th June, 1949.

For the half year between 1st January and June 30th, 1949, there have been 50 Sessions held.

There have been 18 new cases referred—all through the School Health Service.

Of these:—

- 2 have been successfully treated and closed.
- 2 Diagnostic only—no psychological problem.
- 2 Treatment deferred until July. (One is under care of family doctor at present.)
- 1 Diagnostic only—case in abeyance for 6 months.
- 1 Diagnostic only—boy removed from foster-parent to a Children's Home by the Children's Officer.
- 1 Vocational Guidance.
- 1 Psychiatric Treatment given and much social work done at home over period of two months, but as no co-operation could be got from parents the case was closed.
- 1 Psychiatric Treatment—improved and left the district.
- 2 Still having psychiatric treatment, but parents are quite unco-operative and may have to be closed later.
- 5 Are still on treatment and improving.

—
18
—

The remainder of the work in the Psychiatric Department was with ten old cases carried forward from previous half-year (1948).

Of these:—

- 6 Were closed—successfully adjusted.
- 2 Are awaiting residential treatment. (One at a School for maladjusted children, and the other at Maudsley Hospital Child Psychiatric Clinic.)
- 2 Are still on our files for occasional follow-up.

There are still nine current cases on treatment, together with the two old ones mentioned above.

Period 1st July to 31st December, 1949.

For the half-year ending December, 1949, there have been 42 Sessions held.

During this period 22 new cases were referred, all by the School Medical Service, 8 of whom have been successfully treated, adjusted and closed.

Of the remaining 14 cases, 7 were mainly diagnostic and seen once only, viz. :—

- 1 was referred for investigation to the N.S.P.C.C.
- 1 was admitted to a School for E.S.N. Pupils, having been successfully treated for enuresis.
- 1 was referred back to Dr. Hay, Children's Hospital, for further investigation.
- 1 (with an I.Q. of 78, pronounced, instability and lack of moral sense) recommended for residential treatment either in a School for Maladjusted Children, a Boarding School for E.S.N. Pupils, or in an Institution for high grade

Mental Defectives, where he would have the advantage of constant supervision. This boy is still awaiting such a vacancy.

1 was not taken on for treatment because the Mother refused to co-operate.

1 was considered not suitable now for Psychiatric treatment, owing to duration of her problem. Mother was also reported to be unco-operative.

1 was admitted to a day school on our recommendation. No problem other than a stupid, anxious Mother.

Of the remaining 7 cases having current weekly treatment :—

1 has obtained a vacancy in a School for Maladjusted Children and is awaiting formal sanction from the Ministry of Education. He has had 3 months' treatment and is improved in his adaptation, but it is felt that his home setting and environment is not conducive to maintained adjustment.

The remainder of the work during the half-year just ended was with 11 old cases carried forward from the previous half-year. Of these :—

6 were successfully adjusted and closed.

1 was closed through an unco-operative Mother.

1 was taken for treatment by the family doctor.

1 was taken over by the Probation Officer.

1 was re-examined and reported fit for transfer to a more senior home for boys.

1 was sent to Boarding School.

There are 6 new cases awaiting appointments, which will be seen in order during the next few weeks.

PSYCHOLOGIST'S REPORT.

Miss Proctor makes the following observations :—

The number of children examined by the Educational Psychologist during the period 1st January, 1949, to 31st December, 1949, was 35. The reasons for referral may roughly be classified under five headings :—

(1) Aggressive and difficult behaviour	9
(2) Nervousness, e.g., nervous tics	2
(3) Depression	3
(4) Problems associated with a physical symptom, e.g., enuresis	15
5) Behaviour involving dishonesty, e.g., stealing, lying, etc.	6
	<hr/> 35

The distribution of these children among school age-groups was as follows :—

Below 5 years of age	3
Infant School stage	8
Junior School stage	16
Secondary Modern School stage... ..	8
	<hr/> 35

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SCHOOL DENTIST.

Mr. C. J. Luya, Senior Dental Surgeon, makes the following observations:—

A good many changes have taken place since the first report was written in 1920, the greatest of these being during the last few years.

It is possible to form some idea of the effect the National Health Service is likely to have on the School Dental Service now that children are entitled to treatment under that Service. It was thought that many of the older children at the Secondary Schools (ages at these schools run up to eighteen years) might decide to have dental treatment under the National Health Service rather than at the School Clinics. Speaking generally, this does not appear to be so, and the Clinics are as busy as ever in Wallasey. Boys and girls who have had regular treatment over a period of years are evidently not willing to abandon a service to which they are accustomed, and the fact that an appointment to see one of the Dental Officers may be obtained within a day or two is a very important factor. No child of school age in Wallasey need suffer from toothache or any other dental trouble for an indefinite period whilst waiting for an appointment.

Wallasey is in the almost unique position of having a full Dental Staff at a time when the School Dental Service as a whole is showing signs of breaking down. How long this will continue is another matter. The financial rewards of private practice are very high, but what is more to a Dental Officer interested in the Public Services, is that the Regional Hospital Boards are offering salaries for similar work almost double that which can be obtained in the School Dental Service, and the Ministry of Health Salary Scale for Dental Officers who staff full-time Dental Centres is even higher.

There is a Whitley Council discussing this vexed question at the moment. It is hoped they will not be too long coming to a decision.

A new Dental Clinic, staffed by a new Dental Officer, was opened in New Street, Seacombe, in October, 1949. This is a good Clinic, with Surgery, Waiting and Recovery Rooms, and also a small room fitted in such a way that it can be used as a Dental Laboratory. The equipment is first class and the general lay-out very good. Unluckily, the building itself is very old and is in the least attractive part of Wallasey.

This is the first full-time Dental Clinic which has been set up in Wallasey as an independent unit, but another will be opened later in the year at Merton Road, and one of the Dental Officers will be transferred from "Thornville" to this new Centre. The School Dental Service will be deployed then as follows:—

THORNVILLE (Headquarters).—Two Dental Officers.

NEW STREET.—One Dental Officer.

MERTON ROAD.—One Dental Officer.

MORETON.—Part-time Centre. Four Sessions per week.

These alterations are causing, and will cause some difficulties.

It has not been practicable with three Dental Officers working on the same premises to allocate to one particular man a school for

which he was entirely responsible. It has been the practice for a dental examination of a school to be done, and all three officers to attend to the children requiring treatment. This made it possible for the treatment of a large school to be completed in a comparatively short time. It should be explained at this point that each Officer in such a case has his own patients from the school and for whom he is responsible. Each independent Clinic, however, will have to be responsible for a school, or group of schools, and when there is only one Dental Officer working at a large school there is likely to be a big time lag between the first patient from the school and the last.

There is also the question of anaesthetics to be considered. When two or more Dental Officers are working in the same premises, it is always possible to give an anaesthetic on the spot instead of having special sessions to which patients have to be referred with consequent delay.

Casuals, specials or whatever is the name tacked on to the inevitable child who has had toothache for weeks and has at last screwed up his courage to the sticking point, can be dealt with at once and without a delay which may allow the courage to become "unscrewed."

It should be explained here that in Wallasey a child in pain is a child in pain, and however exasperating may have been the parent's refusal of treatment, or how stupidly the child may have behaved on previous occasions, no attempt is made to "punish" him by keeping him waiting, and if possible he is dealt with on the spot. Too often in such cases children are suffering as the result of gross neglect on the part of the parent.

It would seem, on the whole, that the most efficient dental centre is one staffed by not less than two Dental Officers, and some scheme will have to be devised to help a Dental Officer struggling single-handed to cope with a large school.

There has been a large increase in the amount of clerical and administrative work as the School Dental Service has grown with the years—records to be kept, reports to be made out, letters to be written, appointments to be made, telephones to be answered, and so on. This work has been done by the dental attendants, in addition to their main duty of assisting the Dental Officers at the chairside. The system worked reasonably well when there was only a single Dental Centre and not more than two Officers, but the Service has grown to the point where it is no longer efficient to have the Dental Attendants trying to do two different kinds of work. Large Dental Centres have one member of the staff whose work it is to deal with the clerical work of all the Centres and all the Dental Officers. Wallasey has now reached this point, and it is hoped that the Committee will consider appointing someone on the staff of the School Dental Service for this purpose.

Orthodontia is still the greatest worry for School Dental Officers. The demand for this work by parents who have no idea of the difficulties and uncertainties continues to be ever-present. As long as there is so much straightforward dental treatment required, and as long as orthodontia continues to need so much time, it can only be regarded as a luxury service—particularly by a School Dental Service which can just find time for its normal duties.

There was a very marked improvement in the teeth of the six-year-old children during the war years. This improvement has not been maintained, but the average condition is better than it was before 1940. Many mothers give children between the ages of two and four years some kind of sticky cake or bun to worry at, any time during the day that they become restive. This is a very possible cause for the deplorable teeth so often seen in children in the age groups five to seven years.

There is, however, no danger of a return of the conditions of thirty years ago, when a Dental Officer examining in an infant school merely watched a procession of filthy and septic mouths pass before his horrified eyes.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REPORT FOR 1949.

Mr. Clare, Organiser of Physical Training, makes the following observations :—

Practically all Physical Education in the Primary Schools of Wallasey is done out of doors. In itself outdoor work is no bad thing, but on wet and cold days the lack of indoor accommodation often precludes any form of vigorous physical training. With this difficulty of pursuing a progressive scheme, the standard of work achieved is not high. Progress has been made, however, in introducing modern methods of teaching and in incorporating newer and more objective activities with the work.

Accommodation in Secondary Schools has been excluded in the case of two schools by the opening of the gymnasium at the Wallasey Technical Institute. It has been particularly noted that the boys' work has greatly improved as a result of their reaction to the clean, spacious gymnasium and to the shower baths which have been installed.

In all schools particular attention is being paid to footwork, both generally in the performance of physical activities and particularly in the inclusion in each lesson of a simple corrective exercise to mobilise joints and strengthen muscles of the toes, feet and ankles. Instruction in such work has been given during courses held for men teachers. By using plimsolls supplied by the Education Committee to supplement those provided by individual children, performance of physical activities has been improved and made safer. Provided that the regularity of the physical education lessons can be maintained, footwork should begin to show improvement.

The popularity of swimming was very evident during the summer months, and the extension of facilities throughout the winter has shown good results in those schools which have taken advantage of them. Though the winter facilities have not been used to the full, summer facilities are by no means adequate and the needs of schools alone cannot be met until enough covered pools suitable for class instruction can be constructed. During the year 1,711 Certificates for proficiency in swimming were awarded to children in Wallasey schools, among which were 887 Beginners' Certificates.

The playing of organised games will remain restricted until adequate playing fields are provided within easy reach of the schools. At present, children in Seacombe and New Brighton have to travel to Leasowe for their games. The Parks Committee has co-operated in placing all available areas at the disposal of schools, and despite

the closure of Belvidere Recreation Ground for reinstatement, it is hoped that there will be a gradual extension of facilities in future years.

Girls.

Progress of work in girls' schools suffered a setback with the resignation of the Woman Organiser of Physical Education, Miss Gee, and the short time which her successor, Mrs. Binns, spent in Wallasey before she too resigned in December last. Mrs. Binns has asked it to be noted that work is continuing on modern, informal lines, and that footwork and general mobility have benefited, though more stress on general posture and carriage seems desirable. The Education Committee have deferred, for the time being, in response to the appeal of the Minister in Circular 209, the appointment of a successor to Mrs. Binns.

Boys.

Modernisation of work in gymnastics and similar physical activities is proceeding, though many desirable features have had to be omitted through lack of suitable indoor accommodation. Progress has been made chiefly in games, athletics and swimming, and has been considerably aided by the co-operation of the local Athletics, Swimming and Rugby Football Clubs.

Association Football continues to benefit from the work of the F.A. Coaches. At the request of Secondary Modern Schools, facilities have been arranged for them to play Rugby football in addition to their other winter games. The progress of cricket in schools has been limited by the lack of adequate turf wickets or concrete substitutes.

In addition to the Annual Cross-Country Championships, a Youth Olympiad was held, which gave opportunity to demonstrate the success achieved in the teaching of track and field athletics.

This year, events for juniors were included in the Annual Swimming Gala, at which a high standard of performance was reached. In some schools interest and ability in swimming has enabled them successfully to hold their own galas. The main aim in swimming, however, has been to start children swimming rather than to coach them to a high standard of attainment. In this respect the award of Certificates for proficiency in swimming has proved a valuable incentive. Despite progress made, the proportion of children taught to swim is not as high as it should be in a seaside area, and further advance will be made only when adequate covered pools are available.

MINOR AILMENTS AND OTHER CLINICS.

Monday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments.
		Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton ...	Minor Ailments.
		Congregational Church Hall, Liscard Road, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments and S.M.O.'s Clinics.
	(p.m.)	—	—
Tuesday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Ophthalmic Clinic (Mr. Hamilton) and Minor Ailments Clinic (11 a.m. to 12 noon.
		Health Centre, Moreton ...	Minor Ailments and S.M.O.'s Clinic.
		Congregational Church Hall, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments.
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Ophthalmic Clinic (Mr. Hamilton) (Fortnightly.)
		Other Clinics ...	—
Wednesday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments and S.M.O.'s Clinic.
		Health Centre, Moreton	Minor Ailments.
		Congregational Church Hall, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments.
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Immunisation (1st & 3rd Wed. of each month).
		Health Centre, Moreton	—
		Congregational Church Hall, Wallasey ...	—
Thursday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments.
		Health Centre, Moreton	Minor Ailments.
		Congregational Church Hall, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments.
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Orthopaedic Clinic (Mr. Davies).
		Health Centre, Moreton	do. (every 4th Thurs.).
		Congregational Church Hall, Wallasey ...	—

MINOR AILMENTS AND OTHER CLINICS—*contd.*

Friday	(a.m.)...	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments.
		Health Centre, Moreton	Minor Ailments.
		Congregational Church Hall, Wallasey ...	Minor Ailments.
	(p.m.)...	Health Centre, Moreton	Immunisation (fort- nightly).
		Other Clinics ...	—
Saturday	(a.m.)...	School Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey ...	—
		Health Centre, Moreton	Ophthalmic Clinic (Mr. Hamilton). (as required)
		Congregational Church Hall, Wallasey ...	—

DENTAL CLINICS.

Monday	(a.m.)...	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Health Centre, Oakenholt Rd., Moreton.
	(p.m.)...	As above.
Tuesday	(a.m.)...	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St. Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	As above.
Wednesday	(a.m.)...	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	As above.
Thursday	(a.m.)...	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Health Centre, Oakenholt Rd., Moreton.
	(p.m.)...	As above.
Friday	(a.m.)...	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey. Health Centre, Oakenholt Rd., Moreton.
Saturday	(a.m.)...	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey.

PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINICS.

Monday	(a.m.)...	Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Elleray Park Spec. School, Elleray Park Rd., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Health Centre, Oakenholt Rd., Moreton.
Tuesday	(a.m.)...	Congregational Church Hall, Field Rd., Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Grosvenor Assembly Rooms, Grosvenor St., Wallasey. Elleray Park Spec. School, Elleray Park Rd., Wallasey.
Wednesday	(a.m.)...	Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Elleray Park Spec. School, Elleray Park Rd., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Health Centre, Oakenholt Rd., Moreton.
Thursday	(a.m.)...	Congregational Church Hall, Field Rd., Wallasey. Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Grosvenor Assembly Rooms, Grosvenor St., Wallasey. Minor Ailments Clinic, Liscard Crescent, Wallasey.
Friday	(a.m.)...	Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Elleray Park Spec. School, Elleray Park Rd., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey. Health Centre, Oakenholt Rd., Moreton.

SPEECH THERAPY CLINICS.

Monday	(a.m.)...	Vaughan Road School, Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Elleray Park Spec. School, Elleray Park Rd., Wallasey. Maris Stella High School, Rowson St., Wallasey.
Tuesday	(a.m.)...	Nurses' Recreation Room, Mill Lane Hospital, Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Do.
Wednesday	(a.m.)...	Child Welfare Centre, New St., Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Do.
Thursday	(a.m.)...	Nurses' Recreation Room, Mill Lane Hospital, Wallasey.
	(p.m.)...	Do.
Friday	(a.m.)...	Health Centre, Oakenholt Rd., Moreton.
	(p.m.)...	Egerton Grove School, Wallasey.

CHILD GUIDANCE, CLINIC.

Thursday, a.m. & p.m. | Child Guidance Clinic, 50 Church St., Wallasey.

WALLASEY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1949**MAINTAINED****PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

TABLE I.

(A) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1030
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	1611
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	1574
							<hr/> 4215 <hr/>
Other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	*2561
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	45

*(Includes 266 Pupils examined in connection with the issue of employment cards or entertainment licences).

(C) PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding dental diseases and infestation with vermin).

Group	For Defective Vision (Excluding Squint)	For any of the other Conditions Recorded in Table IIA	Total Individual Pupils
(a) Entrants ...	6	312	235
(b) Second Age Group ...	132	289	357
(c) Third Age Group ...	141	217	328
Total (A)-(C)	279	818	920
Other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	279	818	920

TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the General Conditions of Children Inspected during the year in the Age Groups.

Age Groups	(Col. 2) Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
Entrants ...	1030	627	60.9	366	35.5	37	3.6
Second Age Group ...	1611	1115	69.2	448	27.8	48	3.0
Third Age Group ...	1574	1056	67.1	485	30.8	33	2.1
Other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	4215	2798	...	1299	...	118	...

TABLE III.—TREATMENT TABLES.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1949.

Group I. MINOR AILMENTS.

(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

(a)	No. of Defects Treated or under Treatment during the Year.
Skin—	
Ringworm—Scalp—	
(i) X-Ray Treatment ... ..	...
(ii) Other Treatment ... ..	...
Ringworm—Body	11
Scabies	4
Impetigo	79
Other Skin Diseases	393
Eye Disease	342
(External and other, but excluding errors of Refraction, Squint, and cases admitted to Hospital)	
Ear Defects	355
(Excluding Treatment for Serious Diseases of the Ear)	
Miscellaneous (Minor Injuries, Sores, etc.) ...	2703
Total ...	3887

(b)

Total Number of Attendances at Authority's Minor Ailments Clinics	12,444
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TABLE II.

A.

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended
31st December, 1949.

Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
	No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not Re- quiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not Re- quiring Treatment
Skin	61	4	304	4
Eyes—(a) Vision	279	54	59	18
(b) Squint	32	5	14	4
(c) Other	19	4	101	6
Ears—(a) Hearing	27	3	23	2
(b) Otitis Media	4	8	84	26
(c) Other	23	6	90	26
Nose and Throat	164	150	191	37
Speech... ..	14	6	10	1
Cervical Glands	4	17	21	6
Heart and Circulation	28	17	26	9
Lungs	23	35	62	6
Developmental—				
(a) Hernia	19	14	—	5
(b) Other	17	29	3	—
Orthopaedic—				
(a) Posture	12	4	8	10
(b) Flat Foot	140	14	63	4
(c) Other	113	20	112	—
Nervous System—				
(a) Epilepsy	3	1	10	1
(b) Other	2	3	39	8
Psychological—				
(a) Development	—	1	14	2
(b) Stability	8	16	17	1
Other	105	45	673	93

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

(Excluding Eye Disease Treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

	No. of Defects Dealt with
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	821
Other Disease or Defect of the Eyes	25
(Excluding those Recorded in Group I.)	
Operations for Squint	2
	<hr/> 848 <hr/>

No. of Pupils for whom Spectacles were :

(a) Prescribed	425
(b) Obtained	(No information obtainable)

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received Operative Treatment—	Total Treated.
(a) For Adenoids and Chronic Tonsillitis	438
(b) For other Nose and Throat Conditions	10
Received other Forms of Treatment	—
Total	<u>448</u>

TREATMENT FOR SERIOUS DISEASES OF THE EAR.

	Total Treated.
(a) Received Operative or other Treatment as Hospital In-Patients	14
(b) Received Operative or other Treatment as Hospital Out-Patients	—
Total	<u>14</u>

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) No. Treated as In-Patients in Hospitals or Hospital Schools	20
(b) No. Treated Otherwise	1477

**GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND
SPEECH THERAPY.**

No. of Pupils Treated (a) Under Child Guidance Arrangements	50
„ „ „ (b) Under Speech Therapy Arrangements	121

TABLE IV.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) No. of Pupils Inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :	
(a) Periodic Age Groups	7752
(b) Specials	2726
Total of (a) and (b)	<u>10478</u>
(2) Number found to require Treatment	<u>5203</u>
(3) Number actually treated	<u>4490</u>
(4) Attendances made by Pupils for Treatment	<u>8007</u>
(5) Half-days devoted to (a) Inspection	95
(b) Treatment	1546
Total (a) and (b)	<u>1641</u>

(6) Fillings :	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	2564
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	69
				Total	...	2633
(7) Extractions :	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1211
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	5048
				Total	...	6259
(8) Administration of General Anaesthetics for Extraction	...					3397
(9) Other Operations :	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	893
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	—
				Total (a) and (b)	...	893

TABLE V.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.**Infestation.**

- (i) Total Number of Examinations in the Schools by School Nurses or other Authorised Persons ... 12271
- (ii) Total Number of Individual Pupils found to be infested 1362
- (iii) Number of Individual Pupils in Respect of whom Cleansing Notices were issued under Sec. 54 (2), Education Act ... —
- (iv) Number of Individual Pupils in Respect of whom Cleansing Orders were issued under Sec. 54 (3), Education Act ... —

SCHOOL HEALTH NURSES.

The number of home visits paid during the year by the School Health Visitors in connection with Medical Inspection, School Clinics, Immunisation, etc., was 593.

During the year 9 cases were referred to the Health Committee under the provisions of Sec. 57 (3) of the Education Act, 1944.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS, YEAR 1949.

Details	(1) Blind	(2) Partially Blind	(3) Deaf	(4) Partially Deaf	(5) Delicate	(6) Phy- sically Handi- capped	(7) Educa- tionally Sub- Normal	(8) Mal- adjusted	(9) Epilep- tic
(A) Newly placed in Special Schools or Homes ...	—	—	1	1	13	9	50	1	—
(B) Newly ascertained as requiring education at Special Schools or Boarding Homes ...	—	—	2	1	20	9	36	3	—
(C) Attending Day Special Schools ...	—	—	2	—	75	25	50	—	1
(D) Attending Boarding Special Schools ...	3	—	10	2	1	—	5	—	1
(E) Boarded in Homes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
(F) Attending Assisted Schools under approved arrangements ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(G) Requiring places in Special Schools but re- maining unplaced ...	—	—	1	—	8	2	47	2	—
(H) Receiving Home Tuition (including those returned in (G))	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—

IMMUNISATION.

During the year 86 schoolchildren were immunised for the first time, while 427 received a re-inforcing dose.





