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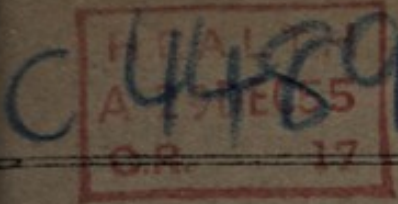
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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

and

## School Medical Officer

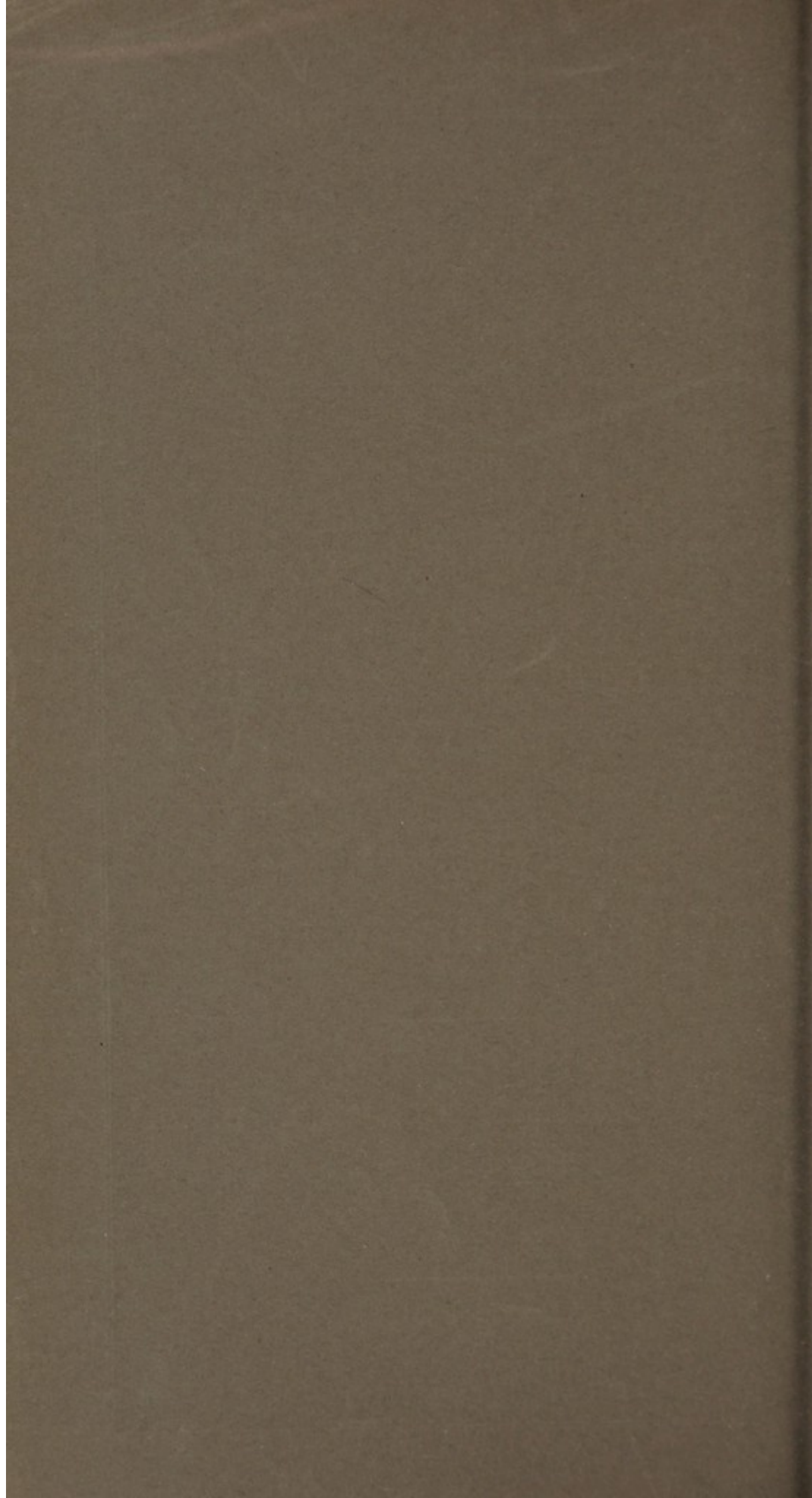
FOR THE YEAR

# 1954

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

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

WINSTANLEY & WATKINS, LTD. PRINTERS, 11 DACRE STREET, BIRKENHEAD  
1955.





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Public Health Department,

October, 1955.

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

*Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*I have pleasure in submitting my Report on the Health, Welfare and School Health Service for the year 1954.*

*The Infantile Mortality rate for the year was 25.12 per 1,000 births, an increase of 0.36 over 1953. The neo-natal rate was 16.94 compared with 17.51 the previous year. The total number of infant deaths was 43, of which 29 occurred by the 28th day.*

*It is satisfactory to report that there were no maternal deaths during the year.*

*The fall in the number of notifications of tuberculosis continued—95 in 1954 compared with 104 in 1953. The number of deaths from tuberculosis were 14 in 1954 and 17 in 1953. The number of cases on the register increased from 799 to 879.*

*Five cases were notified as diphtheria during the year. In two of these the diagnosis was not confirmed and it is very doubtful whether any of the remaining three were actually diphtheria. There were no fatal cases.*

*Two new Child Welfare Clinics have been opened during the year. The new Church Hall in Princess Road replacing Field Road Mission, and the new Clinic in Water Street taking the place of New Street Centre.*

*The introduction of "toddlers" clinics for two-year old children is referred to in the section of the Report dealing with Child Welfare Centres.*

*In July 1954 the distribution of Welfare Foods was transferred to the Department from the Ministry of Food.*

*Although the number of cases attended by the Home Nurses decreased from 1,441 in 1953 to 1,318 in 1954, the number of visits paid by the nurses rose from 33,742 to 42,010.*

*I regret to have to report that Mr. F. Aldred, Chief Administrative Assistant, was compelled to retire in March owing to ill-health. Mr. Aldred had been in the service of the Department for over forty years.*

*I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Health, General Health and Welfare Committees for the support they have always given me, and also of expressing my appreciation of the work carried out by the Staff of the Department.*

*I am,*

*Mr. Mayor, Ladies 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 Deputy School Medical Officer:*

HOWARD W. HALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Tuberculosis Officer:*

JAMES BAXTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (part-time)

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer:*

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

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Assistant School Medical Officer and Medical  
Supervisor of Midwives:*

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

*Dental Surgeons:*

C. J. LUYA, L.D.S.  
W. A. HENDERSON, L.D.S.  
E. G. MASON, L.D.S.  
J. M. ROGERS, L.D.S.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector:*

W. BATE, D.P.A.

*Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:*

A. RIDGWAY

*District Sanitary Inspectors:*

H. PARKER	A. ROBINSON
D. C. CAHILL	J. Q. CALLISTER
R. HUGHES	H. FARRELL (from 1/3/54)

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

G. A. OWEN

*Shops Inspector:*

R. L. BASCOMBE

*Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse and Inspector of Midwives:*

Mrs. A. PARKINSON

*Health Visitors:*

Miss E. A. TEGGINS	Miss M. E. ASPINALL
Miss A. J. EDGE	Miss K. E. HIGGINS
Miss C. E. MURRELL	Miss E. M. MORGAN
Mrs. E. E. P. NOLAN	Miss E. WHITBURN
Mrs. A. J. SMITH	Miss E. M. MURPHY (to 31/8/54)
Miss I. D. BELLIS	Miss M. B. JONES
Mrs. W. DOVEY	Mrs. K. SCHOFIELD
Miss M. E. WALL (from 1/3/54)	Mrs. E. SIMPSON (from 1/11/54)

*Municipal Midwives:*

NURSE E. KEELEY	NURSE M. E. CUNNINGHAM
NURSE E. E. HINTON	NURSE E. WOODS
NURSE F. E. BOYD	NURSE L. KANE
NURSE E. HOMER	



*Public Analyst (Part-time Officer):*  
TENNYSON HARRIS

*Weights and Measures and Food and Drugs Inspectors:*

J. A. W. PRICE, Cert. Board of Trade  
R. BARNES, Cert. Board of Trade (to 30/4/54)  
C. HARWOOD, D.P.A., Cert. Board of Trade (from 1/7/54)

*Chief Administrative Assistant:*

F. ALDRED (to 31/3/54)  
N. SQUIRE (from 1/4/54)

*Clerical Staff:*

N. SQUIRE, Senior Clerk (to 31/3/54)	Miss E. MASTERS
G. A. LOXHAM, D.P.A., Senior Clerk (from 1/4/54)	Mrs. I. HIDDEN
H. LESTER (to 17/4/54)	Miss B. FISHWICK
D. QUINN (from 1/6/54)	Miss P. WITTER
A. C. HINTON (from 1/6/54)	Miss C. BILLOWS (to 9/10/54)
T. P. FEARON	Miss U. HARDMAN
Miss G. BOOTH	Miss G. NASH (from 18/10/54)
Miss M. BLENCOWE	

*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. M. C. LYDON, D.P.M., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (I) (Psychiatrist)

*Matrons of Day Nurseries:*

Mrs. S. BATTING, Central Park Day Nursery (to 31/10/54)  
Miss E. GREENLY (from 1/11/54)  
Miss G. E. MORGAN, Oakdale Day Nursery  
Miss A. F. RUSSELL, Eastway Day Nursery

*Superintendent Home Nurses' Home:*

Miss K. EUSTACE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certif.

*Domestic Help Organiser:*

Mrs. G. M. FALLA

*Supervisor Occupation Centre for Mental Defectives:*

Mrs. M. LEACH

*Duly Authorised Officers—Mental Health Service:*

Mrs. M. PARNHAM  
D. HUGHES  
F. WALL

**WELFARE SERVICES**

*Senior Welfare Officer:*

R. C. OLLIVE

*Welfare Officers:*

Mrs. M. PARNHAM  
D. HUGHES  
F. WALL

*Home Teachers of the Blind:*


Miss M. MACARA (to 30/4/54)  
Miss A. ROGERS (from 19/7/54)  
Miss M. J. BIDDLE (temporary—from 13/2/54)

*Clerical Staff:*

D. QUINN (to 31/5/54)  
K. MERCER (from 31/5/54)  
Mrs. W. DAVIES  
Miss A. W. HESLAM (to 20/3/54)  
Miss M. R. ROBINSON (from 18/3/54)

*Matrons of Hostels for the Aged:*

Miss O. D. GOLDINGAY, "Lamorna"  
Miss E. PARSONS, "Redcliffe"



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## 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, 1951 .. .. .	101,369
Registrar-General's estimated population at middle of 1954	102,400
Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1954 .. .. .	29,711
Empty houses at 31st December, 1954 .. .. .	431
Rateable Value, 1939-1940 .. .. .	£877,164
„ „ 31st December, 1954 .. .. .	£945,310
Yield of a Penny Rate for 1954-5 (approx.) .. .. .	£3,760
Est. „ „ 1955-6 .. .. .	£3,773

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	823	793	1,616
Illegitimate	55	41	96
	<hr/> 878	<hr/> 834	<hr/> 1,712

Birth Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	16.71
„ „ „ 1,000 of estimated population adjusted by Area comparability factor of 1.01 .. .. .	16.88
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales ..	15.2
Still Births, 54. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ..	30.57

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Deaths to December 31st .. .. .	587	586	1,173
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population .. .. .			11.45
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population as adjusted by Area comparability factor of 0.95 .. .. .			10.88
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population, England and Wales .. .. .			11.3
Uncertified Deaths: 4. Percentage of Deaths .. .. .			0.34
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth (Heading 30 of Registrar-General's Short List):—			—
Puerperal Sepsis, nil; Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births ..			—
Other Puerperal causes, nil; do. .. .. .			—
Deaths of Infants under ONE year of age .. .. .			43
Death-rate of Infants under ONE year of age:—			
All infants per 1,000 live births .. .. .			25.12
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. ..			24.75
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..			31.25
Neo-Natal Rate per 1,000 births .. .. .			16.94
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. .. .			1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. .. .			Nil

Table 2

Mean Monthly Rates of Total Deposits for Winter and Summer Periods  
October, 1953—September, 1954

Town	Station	Total Solids	
		Tons per sq. mile per month	
		Winter	Summer
Wallasey .. ..	Oakdale Road .. ..	26.63	21.23
	Poulton Junior School .. ..	21.61	16.19
	Saughall Massie .. ..	6.98	8.90
	Seaview Road .. ..	16.00	11.73
Southport .. ..	Hesketh Park .. ..	8.23	16.08
Manchester .. ..	Philips Park .. ..	31.92	31.66
Liverpool .. ..	Aigburth Vale .. ..	10.65	10.47

Table 3

Estimation of Sulphur Dioxide by the Lead Peroxide Method for  
Winter and Summer Periods, October, 1953—September, 1954.

Rate of Absorption of Sulphur Dioxide expressed as  
 $\text{Mg.SO}_3/\text{day}/100 \text{ Cm}^2$ .

Station	Winter Period	Summer Period	Oct., 1953 Sept., 1954
Oakdale Road Oct., 1953—March, 1954 April 1954—September, 1954	3.40	1.61	2.50
Poulton Junior School Oct., 1953—March, 1954 April, 1954—September, 1954	2.53	1.36	1.95
Saughall Massie Oct., 1953—March, 1954 April, 1954—September, 1954	0.99	0.43	0.71
Seaview Road Oct., 1953—March, 1954 April, 1954—September, 1954	2.71	0.97	1.84
Town Hall, Wallasey Oct., 1953—March, 1954 April, 1954—September, 1954	6.48	2.47	4.48
Bassett Reservoir, Southampton Oct., 1953—March, 1954 April, 1954—September, 1954	0.90	0.34	0.62

## NOTE

- (1) In the above classification the figure for the winter period consists of an average of the recordings for the months of October, 1953, to March, 1954. The figure for the summer period consists of an average of the recordings for the months of April, 1954, to September 1954.
- (2) The Philips Park Station records the greatest degree of pollution of a number of stations in Manchester: it is situated in close proximity to large scale electricity, gas and colliery undertakings in addition to many other works from which atmospheric pollution may arise.



## DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

The work of disinfection in connection with the incidence of infectious illnesses and of disinfestation of verminous premises continues to be carried out by one operator. Particulars of the former class of work are given in Part II of the report.

Whilst about one-third of the infestations encountered have been successfully treated with a solution of D.D.T. in kerosene, D.D.T. powder or benzene hexachloride dust, it was found possible during the year to make greater use of a solution of benzene hexachloride in kerosene. This is not due to any idea that D.D.T. is less efficient than formerly. It is due to a falling off in the incidence of infestations of bed-bugs, for the eradication of which D.D.T. became the standard form of treatment. Thus, a greater proportion of the total complaints of infestations have been of cockroaches or ants, for the extermination of which benzene hexachloride has been found the most effective insecticide available.

### Treatment by Hydrogen Cyanide

During the year supervision was exercised over the disinfestation by commercial operators of furniture from 27 houses in Clearance Area No. 71. In addition, surveillance was exercised over the cyanide fumigation of a flour mill.

### Disinfestation

#### Inspections

(1) No. of complaints investigated .. .. .	281
(2) No. of private houses inspected as a result of (1) ..	165
(3) No. of local authority houses inspected as a result of (1)	82
(4) No. of premises other than dwelling houses inspected as a result of (1) .. .. .	40
(5) No. of premises found to be verminous:	
(a) Bed Bugs .. .. .	35
(b) Fleas .. .. .	24
(c) Cockroaches .. .. .	111
(d) Other Vermin .. .. .	64
	<hr/> 234

#### Notices Served and Abated

	<i>Served</i>	<i>Treated By L.A.</i>	<i>Abated Privately</i>
(6) Total No. of notices to disinfest given verbally ..	39	—	39
(7) Total No. of preliminary notices in writing .. .. .	7	—	7
(8) Total No. of statutory notices	2	—	2
	<hr/> 48	<hr/> —	<hr/> 48



**Treatment by Council's Operative**

(9) No. of treatments on repayment .. .. .	364
(10) No. of treatments without charge .. .. .	5
(11) Total No. of treatments .. .. .	369
(12) No. of premises covered by treatments outlined in (11)	174
(13) No. of treatments with D.D.T. Spray .. .. .	112
(14) No. of treatments with other spray insecticides ..	229
(15) No. of treatments with other methods .. .. .	28
	369
(16) Fees received, £140 14s. 8d.	

**RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT**

During this, the third year of the administration of this Act, 6 samples were submitted to prescribed analysts:—

<i>Type of Filling Material</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
B.S.S. 1425: 1951	
Cotton Felt .. .. .	3
Rag Flock .. .. .	—
Washed Flock .. .. .	3
Coir Fibre .. .. .	—
B.S.S. 1762: 1951	
Woollen Mixture Felt .. .. .	—

All samples complied with the prescribed standards of cleanliness.

All the samples taken during the year were informal and no circumstances arose calling for formal action.

**CONTROL OF CAMPING**

Special attention is directed to the control of camping within the borough and the increased activities in this direction necessitated 162 visits to unlicensed land and 156 visits to licensed camps. Though the camps generally speaking afford only the minimum facilities and though some of them are not ideally situated, they have created no serious sanitary problem, and minor nuisances are readily abated by the licence-holders.

Unauthorised camping on unlicensed land can, however, cause trouble utterly disproportionate to its real importance, so ungainly is the law relating to this matter. Numerous visits are called for—more inspections were needed of the eight instances of unlicensed camping than of the eleven licensed sites. Invariably the offenders ignore all representations made to them until the last step before a court hearing takes place; they then move. In one case this year, caravans persisted on one site until the owner of the land showed real signs of forcibly turning them away.

No. of licences relating to sites issued during 1954 .. ..	11
No. of licences relating to sites refused during 1954 .. ..	Nil
No. of cases of unlicensed camping detected during 1954 .. ..	8
No. of visits to unlicensed land .. .. .	162
No. of visits to licensed land .. .. .	156
Inspection of structures .. .. .	2,380
Nuisances abated after notice .. .. .	Nil

### KEEPING OF ANIMALS AND PET SHOPS

Sixteen pet shops are licensed under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, subject to the standard conditions adopted by the Council and amended in appropriate cases.

The administration of the provisions of this Act is free from complications. There is one aspect of the trade, however, which is outside the scope of the Act—or indeed any Act—which has given cause for concern. This is the sale of uncooked meat intended principally for dogs. Early in 1954, the Ministry of Food made new administrative arrangements for the disposal of diseased meat from slaughterhouses which were designed to ensure that it was sterilised by boiling or steam before being offered for sale. The dangers which may arise from this kind of meat being taken into the home are obviously not fully appreciated by the public at large. Even now, the sale of raw meat from knackers' yards is not fully controlled. Supplies to Wallasey originate in the main from two suppliers situated outside the borough. These firms when asked to do so were fully prepared to boil all supplies before sending them into the borough. The arrangements were not well received by some of the local traders and dog lovers.

Visits to pet shops .. .. .	90
„ other premises .. .. .	117
Notices served .. .. .	2
Stable, manure pits, cleansed .. .. .	2
„ „ repaired or renewed .. .. .	1
Piggeries cleansed or whitewashed .. .. .	—
Piggeries repaired or reconstructed .. .. .	—
Other animal nuisances abated .. .. .	3

### MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS

	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Nuisances detected</i>
Schools .. .. .	123	—	22
Cinemas, dance halls, etc. .. .. .	114	4	11
Sub-let rooms .. .. .	—	—	—
Public conveniences .. .. .	153	—	6
Local Land Charges (search) .. .. .	1,692	—	—
Measurements of rooms for permitted numbers .. .. .	68		
Interviews with building contractors .. .. .	378		
Offensive trades .. .. .	—		
Canal boats inspected .. .. .	—		
Other Visits .. .. .	1,505		



### 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	..	..	..	34,070	2	0
Salvage, &c., material	..	..	..	2,731	4	0
				<hr/> 36,801	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 0

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





## PART VI.

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### *Welfare Services*

*National Assistance Act, 1948*

## WELFARE SERVICES, 1954

## Residential Accommodation

The two Hostels, "Lamorna" and "Redcliffe" have again had a full and busy year. Vacancies which have occurred have been filled promptly and the waiting list for females particularly is as long as ever. Building work has commenced on the new hostel at Moreton.

Below are the statistics relating to accommodation provided by, or on behalf of, the Council during 1954.

	No. <i>resident</i> on 1.1.54	Admissions <i>during</i> year	Deaths <i>discharges</i>	No. <i>resident</i> on 31.12.54
"Lamorna", 2 Hamilton Road	18	4	4	18
"Redcliffe", 8 Trafalgar Avenue	18	6	6	18
St. Catherine's Annexe ..	33	101	99	35
Eastham House .. .. .	1	1	1	1
David Lewis Epileptic Colony	4	—	—	4
Home for Epileptics, Maghull	2	1	—	3
Turner Memorial Home of Rest for Cripples .. .. .	3	—	1	2
"Maryland", Formby .. ..	1	—	—	1
"Peacehaven", Southport ..	1	—	—	1
"Boxhurst", Dorking, Surrey ..	1	—	—	1
Salvation Army Home, West Kirby .. .. .	—	1	—	1
Harlow Grange, Home for Cripples, Harrogate .. ..	—	1	—	1
St. Cecilia's Home for the Sick, Bromley .. .. .	—	1	—	1
Old People's Hostel, Liverpool	—	1	—	1
Belmont Road Reception Centre, Liverpool .. ..	—	2	2	—
Greenfield House, Billinge ..	—	4	4	—
Bannow, St. Leonards (Blind)	1	—	—	1
Westcliff House, Westgate-on- Sea, (Blind) .. .. .	—	1	—	1
Laburnum House, Upton-on- Severn (Blind) .. .. .	—	1	1	—
Oldbury Grange, Bridgnorth (Blind) .. .. .	—	2	2	—
America Lodge, Torquay (Blind) .. .. .	—	1	1	—
Leeds House, New Brighton (Blind) .. .. .	—	1	1	—
4 Tower Street .. .. .	10	2	—	12
8 Tower Street .. .. .	10	1	—	11
Totals .. .. .	103	132	122	113

## Temporary Accommodation

Apart from three children born to the families resident in the four flats in Tower Street, there has been no change during the year. These



## PART II.

---

### *Occurrences and Control of Infectious Diseases*

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Including Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED  
WALLASEY DURING 1954.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE		Cases notified at ages										
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65
Small-pox .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .. ..	14	1	—	2	2	1	2	—	1	3	—	1
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—
Erysipelas .. ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	4
Scarlet Fever .. ..	104	—	7	9	8	9	60	9	—	1	—	1
Paratyphoid .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	5	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	10	—	—	—	3	2	4	—	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis(Non-P'l'tc.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	17	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	86	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	8	24	14	24
Other forms of Tuber- culosis .. ..	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	2	1
Measles .. ..	321	10	26	53	40	45	144	2	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough ..	183	25	17	29	35	17	53	3	—	1	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post Infectious Encephalitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Infective Encephalitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS .. ..</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>37</b>

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—INVESTIGATIONS AND VISITS OF SURVEILLANCE

During 1954, health visitors made 740 enquiry visits to infectious cases and contacts. Sanitary inspectors made 192 enquiries, 242 visits of surveillance, and submitted 339 specimens to the laboratory in connection with the occurrences of cases of food poisoning, acute poliomyelitis, dysentery and meningococcal infections.

### Diphtheria

Five cases of diphtheria were notified during the year. The diagnosis was not confirmed in two of these cases. From the following details of the remaining three cases, there would appear to be some doubt as to whether any of them were actually diphtheria:—

#### Case No. 1

Male. Aged 25 years. (Married.)  
Electrician at Atomic Plant, Capenhurst.  
Not immunised.  
Admitted Mill Lane Isolation Hospital 15.3.1954.  
Discharged 24.4.1954.  
Nasal swab +  
Throat swab —  
Had been complaining of pain in chest and headache for about one week before admission to hospital.

#### Case No. 2

Male. Aged 7 years. Scholar.  
Immunised at one year and reinforcing dose at 5 + years.  
Admitted Mill Lane Isolation Hospital 7.7.1954.  
Discharged 8.9.1954.  
Reported slight facial paralysis 14.7.1954.  
Swabs negative on admission (B. Hoffmann).  
One positive throat swab (few) reported 20.8.1954.

#### Case No. 3

Female. Aged 23 years. Nurse, West London General Hospital.  
Last day on duty approximately one month before admission to Mill Lane Isolation Hospital on 23.7.1954.  
Immunised—date not known.  
Discharged from hospital 18.9.1954.  
Pyelitis 12 days before admission.  
Six throat swabs negative.  
Five nasal swabs (3rd position—few organisms KLB—others negative).

There were no deaths from diphtheria during 1954.

The following table shows the number of notifications, confirmed cases and immunisations each year since 1934:—

Year	Notifications	Confirmed Cases	Number Immunised	Total Immunised	Deaths
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	—
1950	11	6	1,301	18,177	—
1951	6	5	1,328	19,505	—
1952	7	3	1,321	20,826	—
1953	14	10	1,120	21,946	*1
1954	5	3	1,483	23,429	—

\*Not immunised.

†2 not immunised and 1 inward transfer.

The fall in the incidence of diphtheria continues as is shown by the following table of corrected notifications and deaths for England and Wales since 1944:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Corrected Notifications</i>
1944	934	23,199
1945	722	18,596
1946	472	11,986
1947	244	5,609
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	375
1953	23	267
1954	9	176

### Scarlet Fever

During the year 104 cases were notified and 2 otherwise reported. The diagnosis was altered in respect of 1 out of 61 cases admitted to hospital. No case was fatal.

Arising from these cases it was necessary to exclude from their places of employment four workers at two dairies, a chocolate factory and a grocer's shop.

### Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 7 notifications of puerperal pyrexia during the year, none of which proved fatal.

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Thirteen of the health visitors are qualified to treat the eyes of children suffering from ophthalmia neonatorum. One case was notified during the year.

### Whooping Cough

183 cases were notified, and 11 cases otherwise reported. There were no deaths.

## Tuberculosis

During the year there were 95 primary notifications of Tuberculosis as compared with 104 in 1953, 86 were in respect of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 9 of the non-pulmonary type. The sex incidence was as follows:—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>
Pulmonary .. ..	53	27	6
Non-Pulmonary ..	1	5	3

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

Bones .. ..	4	Genito urinary tract	1
Miliary .. ..	1	Rt. ilium and sacro-	
Glands of neck ..	2	iliac joint.. ..	1

The following table shows the number of primary notifications, the number of deaths and the death-rate from Phthisis during the last ten 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
1950	112	11	42	1	0.41
1951	93	12	33	4	0.32
1952	110	11	18	3	0.17
1953	88	16	11	6	0.11
1954	86	9	13	1	0.12

Number of notified cases of Tuberculosis on Clinic Register:—

1st January, 1954 .. ..	799
31st December, 1954 .. ..	879
Transfers from other areas .. ..	33
Lost sight of cases returned .. ..	Nil
New cases diagnosed during the year .. ..	95

During the year 1,667 home visits were paid by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

## Measles

There was a decrease in the number of cases of measles coming to the knowledge of the Department—(321 notified and 14 otherwise reported). One case was fatal.

## Sonne Dysentery

Fourteen cases of sonne dysentery were recognised during the year—many less than has been the experience of recent years. In common with previous experience, the illness was mild and of short duration. Eliminating the causative organism is, however, a different matter. In most cases, the patients continued to excrete the organisms for periods up to three months after they had recovered from an illness



lasting only a few days. In those cases which come to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health, surveillance can be exercised and medical practitioners informed as to the state of infectivity of their patients. In many cases, the doctors are also glad to receive advice as to methods of treatment. One cannot escape the conclusion, however, that among the general population there must be many missed cases which never come to the notice of the family doctor or the Medical Officer of Health. It is not surprising therefore that efforts to trace the source of outbreaks of dysentery usually prove unsuccessful. Most of the 14 cases recognised during the year were not notified by doctors, but were discovered by the sanitary inspectors investigating associated notified cases. As in previous years, the rate of spread of the disease among family contacts was high. None of the cases occurred in a closed community, e.g., a school, a hospital, and the cases in different families did not appear to be associated in any way. Exclusions from work were necessary in two cases: a nurse and a greengrocer.

### Food Poisoning

Thirteen cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, compared with six last year. Nine of the cases were infections of *salmonella typhi murium*, and in one case the causative organism was *salmonella oranienberg*. This latter infection involved a seaman, the source of infection being abroad. In the remaining three cases—members of one family—the agent causing the illness was not identified.

Ten of the cases were due to three "family outbreaks", the remaining three being single dissociated cases. One "outbreak" is thought to have been started by a young woman who regularly bought meat pies for lunch at work outside Wallasey. She regularly heated the pies by placing them in front of an electric fire. She is thought to have infected other members of the family by preparing meat pies which were baked at home and reheated twice before they were finally consumed. No data of epidemiological significance was traced in connection with other cases. In two cases, infection is believed to have started outside the borough; in another, the patient was infected in Barbados. One case was fatal, the patient—a child aged nine months—died within four days of the onset of the illness. The child was at the weaning stage and according to the information given by its parents, powdered milk and a packetted baby cereal were the only articles of diet other than the breast feed.

### Epidemic Nausea and Vomiting

One outbreak of what became considered to be epidemic winter vomiting occurred during the year. Some 23 children in a junior school were reported one morning to have been affected with what was then thought to be food poisoning. Epidemiological enquiry revealed that the clinical pattern was not one normally associated with food infections. Varying symptoms were described, including nausea, a feeling of being hot and cold alternately and giddiness. None of the children suffered from diarrhoea, but at least eight of them were known to have vomited at school. The initial symptoms were acute and led to children being sent home from school. Recovery was equally rapid, and when children were visited in their homes some two to three hours later, they had to all intents and purposes recovered. Two days later the headmaster reported



that some of the children were reporting poor vision and inability to read. All the children who complained of these secondary symptoms were examined; some had not experienced the symptoms described but were obviously reluctant to be left out of the affair, but about eight cases were met where eye symptoms had occurred. All the children read well and it became apparent that the complaint was not so much one of poor vision as of pains behind the eyeballs. These secondary symptoms quickly passed off.

### **Meningococcal Meningitis**

One confirmed case of meningococcal meningitis was notified during the year. The notification was made at the time of the death of the child—a boy aged  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years. The child had been ill for some three weeks prior to admission to hospital, and death took place on the day of admission. Eight cases originally notified as suspected meningococcal meningitis were not confirmed as such. Among the amended diagnoses were such conditions as meningo-encephalitis, pneumonia, pyelitis, hysteria and pyogenic meningitis.

### **Acute Poliomyelitis**

Ten cases of acute poliomyelitis were confirmed during the year. Five other reported cases turned out not to be poliomyelitis. Of these, two proved to be rheumatism and two cases of pyelitis.

Of the ten confirmed cases, seven were classified as paralytic, one of which—a woman aged forty-four—died. In the other cases the paralysis was limited in extent and in no case did complete incapacitation result.



## PART III.

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### *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.

### CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

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

MERTON ROAD—Monday, 1.45 to 3.30 p.m.

OAKENHOLT ROAD, MORETON—Every alternate  
Friday, 1.45 to 3.30 p.m.

As forecast in the 1953 Annual Report the Municipal midwives have commenced their own clinics for mothers who wish to engage them for their confinements. These seem to be progressing favourably and the numbers who attend these clinics are increasing. Relaxation exercises are to be started as soon as all the necessary equipment is obtained. Most of the patients who are attending a midwife's clinic also attend their own doctor and so they are not asked to go to the medical officers' clinic, unless they need a blood test for the Rhesus factor—this very important test is still often neglected by the general practitioner obstetrician, and it is the midwife's duty to see that this omission is remedied.

Whether this method of conducting the ante-natal treatment of the expectant mother is better than it was before the days of the National Health Service still remains to be seen; it does, of course, explain the very rapid drop in the numbers of those who attend the assistant medical officers clinic.

The following tables show the number of attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics; (a) Doctors' and (b) Midwives' during 1954:—

#### Ante-Natal Clinics (a) Doctors'

Expectant mothers on books at January 1st	..	..	..	71
New cases during the year .. .. .	..	..	..	110
Names on books at December 31st	..	..	..	20
Attendances of Expectant Mothers	..	..	..	470
First-visits to homes of Expectant Mothers	..	..	..	696
Revisits do. do. .. .. .	..	..	..	535

**(b) Midwives' Clinics**

	Sessions held	Expectant Mothers attending	No. of attendances
Water Street .. .. .	47	143	597
Merton Road .. .. .	20	81	217
Oakenholt Road .. .. .	45	141	451
	<hr/> 112	<hr/> 365	<hr/> 1,265

**Post Natal**

Thirty-one 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 are 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 498. No confinements were attended by private domiciliary midwives. The number of Maternity Outfits issued during the year by those Midwives was 493.

**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.

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 .. .. .	34
Number of premature infants born in hospitals or Nursing Homes .. .. .	160

There were seventeen deaths during the year, where the cause was given as prematurity.

The Public Health Department has scales which can be had on loan for weighing premature babies in the homes. No charge is made. Seventy-five parents took advantage of this service during the year. The scales were loaned to one family nine times, in order to enable the weight of a sick baby to be checked.



## HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL

I am indebted to Dr. H. G. Farquhar, Paediatrician, at Highfield Maternity Hospital, for the following information:—

<b>Total Births</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,073
<b>Total Live Births</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,042
<b>Still Births—Premature</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Full term	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
No weight	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
							— 31
<b>Deaths—Premature</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Full term	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
							— 9
<b>Premature Births—Living</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	73
Still born	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Died	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
							— 91

**Premature Still Births:** apparent cause of still birth:

Anencephaly	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Macerated (1pr. twins, 1 hydrocephalus)	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
A.P.H. (1 breech)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Toxaemia of pregnancy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebral haemorrhage breech delivery	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Atalectasis only	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Not examined	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
							— 16

**Full Term Still Births:** apparent cause of death:

Macerated (1 Rh. antibodies present)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Intrapartum death	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
(Cerebral haemorrhage—2)							
(Prolonged delivery)							
(Inhaled meconium 9 lbs. 8 ozs.)							
(Inhaled meconium 6 lbs. 0 ozs.)							
(Cord round neck inhaled meconium)							
(Inhaled meconium 6 lbs. 12 ozs.)							
Caesarean previous trial labours 8 lbs. 1 oz.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Unduly rapid delivery 7 lbs. 8 ozs.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
							— 11

**Still Birth no weight recorded:**

Anencephaly	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Macerated	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Spina Bifida	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
A.P.H.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
							— 4

**Premature Deaths:**

Cerebral haemorrhage (5 lbs. 6 ozs.) Forceps delivery	1
Inhalational pneumonia. Admitted from district (3 lbs. 4 ozs.)	1
Mongolian defective. C.D.H. Common atrio-ventricular canal. Duodenal atresia (5 lbs. 3 ozs.)	1



C.D.H. Transposition of great vessels (4 lbs. 11 ozs.)	1
Multiple gross deformities of limbs and spine (3 lbs. 15 ozs.) .. .. .	1
Twin, atalectasis (2 lbs. 10 ozs.) .. .. .	1
	— 6

### Full Term Deaths:

Congenital heart disease. Patent ductus arteriosus, died within four hours of admission .. .. .	1
Congenital absence of left diaphragm. Stomach, intestine, pancreas and liver in left chest .. .. .	1
Cerebral haemorrhage. Adrenal haemorrhage. Rapid spontaneous delivery .. .. .	1
	— 3

The following table shows the treatment completed in 1954:—

### Analysis of Premature Babies

	No.	Still born	Died	Alive
Under 2 lbs.	5	5	0	0
2 lbs. 1 oz.—2 lbs. 8 oz.	3	2	0	1
2 lbs. 9 oz.—3 lbs. 0 oz.	6	1	1	4
3 lbs. 1 oz.—3 lbs. 8 oz.	7	1	1	5
3 lbs. 9 oz.—4 lbs. 0 oz.	7	2	1	4
4 lbs. 1 oz.—4 lbs. 8 oz.	12	1	0	11
4 lbs. 9 oz.—5 lbs. 0 oz.	16	0	1	15
5 lbs. 1 oz.—5 lbs. 8 oz.	35	0	2	33
	—	—	—	—
	91	12	6	73
	—	—	—	—

### Congenital abnormalities born during year:

1. Congenital hearts (a) Patent ductus arteriosus.  
(b) Transposition of the great vessels (2).  
(c) Common atrio-ventricular canal in Mongol.
2. Congenital defects of the hands. Absent fingers.
3. Multiple gross deformities of long bones and skull.
4. Congenital absence of left diaphragm, intestines, liver, pancreas, stomach in thorax.
5. Hydrocephalus.
6. Anencephaly (5).
7. Meningocele.
8. Facial naevus.
9. Hare lip, cleft palate.
10. Hypospadias.
11. Congenital vaginal cyst.

### Post natal complications:

1. Unilateral haematocoele.
2. Hydrocoele and balanitis.
3. Facial palsy following forceps.
4. Double cephalhaematoma.
5. Cephalhaematoma.
6. Fracture of left humerus.

7. Rhesus reactions with replacement transfusion—3.
8. Pneumonia—1; Friedlander's pneumonia—1; Inhalation pneumonia—1.
9. Acute pulmonary oedema.

### CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

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

Water Street Clinic—Tuesdays.  
Wallasey Village—Wednesdays.  
Trinity Hall, Liscard—Thursdays.

Church Hall, Princess Road—  
Thursdays.  
Oakenholt Road, Moreton—  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The Child Welfare Clinics still flourish in Wallasey and the National Health Service has produced no significant change in this useful social service. Mothers seem to welcome the advice given by health visitors and the assistant medical officers because I think they realise that their own doctors are too busy with sickness to take a real interest in the feeding problems which arise in healthy babies, and they know, too, that our knowledge of the care and feeding of infants is based on a vast experience of such matters. It is pleasant, anyway, to bask in the gratitude of these mothers when our suggested management is followed, and crowned with success. Infant feeding is a speciality which cannot be treated lightly—it is not enough to say "Take baby off the breast and put him on "National Dried"—each baby must be regarded as an individual and his needs studied. A mother is given exact details of feeding—the food must first be chosen, then the amount, strength, and times of feeding decided upon, and also careful advice is given to the mother herself in order that she shall not have unpleasant sequelae from taking baby off the breast too quickly.

This year has seen the opening of two new Child Welfare clinics—one at Princess Road, in the new Church Hall which has replaced the dingy one at Field Road—this is very much more pleasant and there is plenty of room for all our activities; and the one at the new Water Street clinic which has replaced the one at New Street; this also is much more satisfactory though some of the rooms are rather small.

Another innovation is the Toddlers' Clinic which is now held at Moreton, once a month. To this clinic, toddlers of two years of age are invited by letter; as far as possible, the child comes in the month in which it has attained the age of two. Only about 50 per cent of those invited, turn up, but those that do seem quite pleased with the medical examination that the children receive. It is rather a noisy and exhausting clinic because if the child has not been a regular attender at the clinic in his earlier days he is inclined to resent the attention he receives! He does not like being undressed, still less does he like the scales, and he views with tears and apprehension the doctor's stethoscope, so taking it all round it can be quite a stormy interview. We propose soon to tackle the three year olds and I think this may prove more satisfactory as they are likely to be a little more amenable and less frightened.



The use of ultra-violet light is still very popular, and many mothers have reason to be grateful for this treatment as it seems to strengthen the resistance of the thin, malnourished child and give him an appetite which before treatment was described as bird-like or even non-existent.

Immunisation against diphtheria is carried out at some of the baby clinics, from the age of eight months, and others attend at Merton Road Clinic or Moreton Clinic on specified days.

We offer our thanks again to all those voluntary helpers who give up so much of their time, and attend so regularly at the various clinics.

The number of attendances during the year was:

	*New Street	Moreton	†Field Road	Wallasey Village	Trinity Hall Liscard	Totals
Children under one year of age	1,942	3,537	2,310	2,385	2,961	13,135
Children between one and five years	796	1,849	772	1,253	1,284	5,954

\*Water Street Clinic from 2nd November, 1954.

†Princess Road from 27th May, 1954.

### TODDLERS' CLINIC

Number of Sessions held	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Number of children called up	..	..	..	..	..	..	300
Number who attended	..	..	..	..	..	..	150

### DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 10/54, the responsibility for the distribution of welfare foods (National Dried Milk, cod liver oil, orange juice and vitamin tablets) was transferred from the Ministry of Food to local health authorities as part of their duties under the National Health Service Act.

This Department took over the distribution on 28th June, 1954.

Tenancy of a lock-up shop in Liscard Village was obtained, and two female clerks who had been employed by the Ministry of Food were taken on the staff of the Public Health Department.

In addition to this central depot, the foods are distributed from the Health Clinics at Oakenholt Road, Moreton, and Water Street, and also at the Child Welfare sessions held at Wallasey Parish Hall and Princess Road Church Hall.



The following table shows the amounts of welfare foods which have been distributed during the years 1950 to 1954 inclusive:—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
NATIONAL DRIED MILK					
Number of packets given free ..	917	1,214	547	375	484
"          "      sold at reduced rates ..	69,543	65,233	58,075	60,749	55,528
COD LIVER OIL, FRUIT JUICES, ETC.					
Number of bottles of:					
Cod Liver Oil .. .. .	22,946	23,188	20,762	16,992	14,905
Fruit Juices .. .. .	94,056	92,901	94,270	77,927	69,111
Vitamin Capsules .. ..	6,611	6,021	5,862	5,949	5,085
Orange Juice (Free) .. ..	1,313	1,216	830	740	769

#### DRIED MILK (OTHER THAN NATIONAL DRIED MILK)

Sold lb. Packets, 10,291, realising .. .. £1,335 3 11

#### PRIORITY DENTAL SERVICES

In the Annual Report for 1953, a very full report on the dental treatment of the priority classes was written by the Dental Officer who carried out the greater part of the work.

Unfortunately, shortly afterwards, this officer resigned to take up another appointment, and it has not been possible to replace him by another whole-time dental surgeon, so that the service had had to be carried on with the remaining staff.

The most striking feature at the moment is the shocking number of very young children seen with carious teeth, and the complacent way that parents will bring children, who are little more than babies, to be anaesthetised and have teeth extracted. There seems to be little doubt that errors in diet at a very early age are the cause of these conditions. Conservative treatment for very young children is on the whole neither practicable nor satisfactory, and unless something can be done to educate parents, there seems to be every possibility that the number of young children with carious teeth will go on increasing.

The following table shows the treatment completed in 1954:—

PERSONS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE

						Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Children Under 5
Examined .. .. .						50	35	435
Attendances .. .. .						204	104	308
Needing Treatment .. .. .						50	35	292
Treated .. .. .						50	35	259
Made Dentally Fit .. .. .						15	31	258
Sessions	Inspection .. .. .	}				41 definite sessions	—	4
	Treatment .. .. .							
Total .. .. .						41	—	4
No. of Fillings	Permanent Teeth Filled .. .. .	}				53 Fillings 51 Teeth	34 Fillings 33 Teeth	4 Nil
	Temporary Teeth .. .. .					—	—	19
	Total .. .. .					53	34	19
Extractions	Permanent Teeth .. .. .				89	70	—	
	Temporary Teeth .. .. .				—	—	311	
	Total .. .. .				89	70	311	
Administrations of General Anaesthetics .. .. .						15	16	246
Other Operations	Permanent Teeth .. .. .				92	125	—	
	Temporary Teeth .. .. .				—	—	3	
	Total .. .. .				92	125	3	

DAY NURSERIES

Although the numbers of children attending the Day Nurseries in Wallasey fluctuate according to season, prevalence of infectious disease, and the state of employment of women there is still a great demand for them, and there is no doubt that the mother who has to leave her child, for one reason or another, prefers to leave it at one of the nurseries, knowing full well that it will get every care and attention during her absence at work.

The matrons of the three nurseries are most conscientious in the execution of their duties—it is not just a job for them, but a definite responsibility in which they act in *loco parentis*, and they inspire their staff with the same idea, so that each nurse feels herself to be a temporary mother; although these nursery nurses are young they are all inordinately fond of their little charges and take an immense pride in their progress, both physical and mental. Each nursery tries to be a happy home, and I do not think the children miss much in life because



their mothers have to go to work. There is very little "fretting", and the newcomers soon settle down happily to enjoy the companionship of the other children, and participate freely in all that goes on. They have free play, which means that they can choose their own occupation—whether it be painting, modelling in clay, washing and ironing doll's clothes, making pastry and baking cakes, hammering nails into pieces of wood at the joiner's bench, water play, sand play, or climbing up and down the commando net, which is easily the most popular pastime for these active little people, who are rarely still. They also have organised games, singing, dancing, listening to stories, and dressing up.

During the cold weather there are always quite a few absentees from colds and coughs, but on the whole the attendance is fairly regular and infectious diseases are not common. Each child is medically examined about once in three months, and immunisations against diphtheria are carried out on all those not already done. The assistant medical officer visits the nurseries every week in turn and satisfies herself that the children are getting good wholesome meals and are progressing satisfactorily in every way. The daily administration of cod liver oil and orange juice presents no difficulties, both being taken as part of the normal daily routine. A tonic is provided for those children who return after illness and for those who are not gaining weight satisfactorily.

We are still training six students for the National Nursery Examination, and there is quite a long waiting list of girls who wish to take up the career of nursery nursing. Our students always do well, and most have secured good posts after qualifying.

It is to be hoped that the increase in the prices to be charged to the mothers will not deprive many children of the opportunity of spending a very happy and profitable pre-school period in our nurseries.

The following table shows the number of places and average number of children attending in December, 1954:—

Nursery	Number on Register 31/12/54	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	5	21	4	21
Central Park ..	58	50	14	28	14	27
Oakdale ..	55	50	12	37	11	36

### 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

The arrangements for this Service were similar to previous years, the Council continuing to employ directly seven Municipal Midwives.

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

One midwife in private practice notified her intention to practise in the Borough during the year.

In 1954 the seven Municipal Midwives attended 498 cases; of these, 252 were attended as Maternity Nurses, the Midwife in private practice attended no cases.

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

					<i>Private Midwife</i>	<i>Municipal Midwives</i>
<b>Condition of Mother</b>						
Uterine Inertia, Emergency labour	..			—		1
Laceration of perineum	..	..	..	—		3
Ante partum haemorrhage	..	..	..	—		2
Inflammation leg	..	..	..	—		1
<b>Condition of Child</b>						
Asphyxia pallida	..	..	..	..	—	1
Sticky eye..	..	..	..	..	—	1

**NUMBER OF DELIVERIES ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES IN THE AREA DURING THE YEAR**

DOMICILIARY CASES							Cases in Institutions
Doctor not booked		Doctor booked		Totals			
Doctor present at time of delivery of child (2)	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child (3)	Doctor present at time of delivery of child (either the booked Doctor or another) (3)	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child (4)				
(1)				(6)	(7)		
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority .. ..	13	21	212	252	498	—	
(b) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations:—							
(i) Under arrangements with the Local Health Authority in pursuance of Section 23 of the National Health Service Act, 1946 .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
(ii) Otherwise (including Hospitals not transferred to the Minister under the National Health Service Act) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
(c) Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees or Boards of Governors under the National Health Service Act .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1,060	
(d) Midwives in Private Practice (including Midwives employed in Nursing Homes) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	13	21	212	252	498	1,060	

## MATERNITY HOMES

There are no private maternity homes registered in the Borough.

## HEALTH VISITING

As will be seen from the following table the number of effective visits paid by health visitors for various purposes during 1954 was 32,553. This increase of 1,578 over the previous year, is mainly due to the fact that a second tuberculosis visitor was appointed, and commenced duty in March 1954.

In addition to the effective visits, 4,343 visits were made to houses at which no response was obtained, compared with 4,354 such visits in 1953.

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

Total visits to children under 1 year .. .. .	10,672
Total visits to children between 1 and 5 years .. .. .	16,413
Total visits to Premature Births .. .. .	271*
Total visits re Stillbirths .. .. .	45
Total visits re Neo-Natal Deaths .. .. .	23
Total visits re Infant Deaths .. .. .	9
Total visits to Infectious Diseases and contacts .. .. .	740
Total visits to Ophthalmia cases .. .. .	7
Total visits to Day Nurseries .. .. .	25
Total visits re Immunisation .. .. .	65
Total visits for Children's Officer .. .. .	5
Total visits re Adoptions .. .. .	6
Total visits for Hospital Almoners .. .. .	34
Total visits re Ministry of Health Enquiry into Virus Infection during pregnancy (concluded 1954) .. .. .	6
Total visits to Expectant Mothers .. .. .	1,231
Total visits to Post-Natal cases .. .. .	298
Total visits re Tuberculosis .. .. .	2,096
Total visits to Diabetics, per General Practitioners .. .. .	15
Total visits re Care of Old People .. .. .	82
Total visits re convalescent adults .. .. .	3
Miscellaneous visits .. .. .	778
	<hr/>
	32,553
Ineffectual visits (no response, etc.) .. .. .	4,343
	<hr/>
	36,896
	<hr/>

\*Included under "Visits to children under 1 year"

## NURSING HOMES

There were four Nursing Homes on the Register at the end of 1953, and one additional Nursing Home was registered during 1954.

35 deaths occurred in the Homes during the year.

19 visits were paid to the Nursing Homes by the Superintendent Health Visitor.



## HOME NURSING

During 1954 the establishment of Home Nurses was increased by two, and now stands at the Superintendent and fourteen nurses. Owing to difficulty in filling vacancies with full time personnel, the number is made up of twelve full time nurses, plus four part-time.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the Home Nursing Service during 1954:—

No. of cases attended	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,318
No. of cases completed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,182
No. of visits paid	..	..	..	..	..	..	42,010

There is no night service in the borough. When the staffing position permits, a nurse is on call until 10 p.m. every day, including Sundays. An urgent emergency is dealt with when required. There are very few true emergency cases where the services of a nurse are required immediately.

Refresher courses are available for district nurses organised by the Queen's Institute and arrangements can be made by the Local Authority for suitable nurses to attend.

State Registered Nurses, when available for training, are sent to the Block Training Home, Princes Road, Liverpool, for six months, to be trained under the Queen's Institute of District Nursing curriculum.

TABLE SHOWING TOTAL COMPLETED CASES NURSED, AVERAGE DURATION OF TREATMENT, AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF VISITS FOR VARIOUS TYPES OF DISEASE DURING 1954.

Disease	Completed cases	Percentage of total	Average duration of treatment (weeks)	Average number of visits
Infectious, etc. . . . .	3	0.26	1.3	5.3
Tuberculosis (all forms) . . . .	80	6.77	10.4	43.0
Cancer and other neoplasms . . .	94	7.95	7.9	39.9
Diabetes . . . . .	23	1.95	36.1	75.0
Mental and nervous . . . . .	16	1.36	8.4	47.1
Ear, eye, nose, throat and other sense organs . . . . .	13	1.10	3.7	17.2
Cerebral haemorrhage, cerebral thrombosis, hemiplegia, etc. . .	93	7.87	6.0	32.4
Heart and arteries . . . . .	93	7.87	5.9	27.4
Veins and circulatory . . . . .	23	1.95	10.6	49.8
Respiratory . . . . .	177	14.97	2.5	16.1
Digestive (including intestinal) . .	178	15.06	3.0	9.8
Genito-urinary system . . . . .	45	3.81	10.2	20.2
Pregnancy . . . . .	20	1.70	1.3	9.1
Skin (including septic conditions) .	56	4.74	5.1	27.8
Bones and joints and muscular conditions (including rheumatism)	28	2.37	18.5	103.1
Injury . . . . .	47	3.98	7.1	44.9
Blood . . . . .	4	0.38	0.4	3.0
Glands . . . . .	6	0.51	1.4	9.5
Diagnostic (preparation for X-Ray, etc.) . . . . .	109	9.22	1.2	2.0
Senility . . . . .	60	5.00	6.8	41.3
Other or ill-defined . . . . .	14	1.18	5.5	26.9
Total . . . . .	1,182	100.00	5.5	27.1

## Reason for termination of treatment during 1954

Disease	Recovered, Relieved or Convalescent		Admitted to Hospital or Nursing Home		Died		Specific Treatment completed or discontinued		Other Causes*		Total	
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
Infectious, etc. . .	2	66.7	—	—	1	33.3	—	—	—	—	3	100.0
T.B. (all forms) . .	39	48.8	17	21.2	5	6.2	16	20.0	3	3.8	80	100.0
Cancer and other neoplasms . .	21	22.4	13	13.8	51	54.3	—	—	9	9.5	94	100.0
Diabetes . .	4	17.4	3	13.0	—	—	—	—	16	69.6	23	100.0
Mental and nervous . .	5	31.3	2	12.5	6	37.5	—	—	3	18.7	16	100.0
Ear, eye, nose, throat and othersenseorgans	9	69.2	1	7.7	—	—	1	7.7	2	15.4	13	100.0
Cerebral haemorrhage, cerebral thrombosis, hemiplegia, etc. . .	27	29.0	19	20.4	38	40.9	—	—	9	9.7	93	100.0
Heart and arteries . .	25	26.9	22	23.6	34	36.5	1	1.1	11	11.9	93	100.0
Veins and circulatory . .	9	39.1	5	21.8	3	13.1	2	8.7	4	17.3	23	100.0
Respiratory . .	140	79.1	18	10.2	9	5.1	1	0.5	9	5.1	177	100.0
Digestive (including intestinal) . .	123	69.1	24	13.5	6	3.4	17	9.5	8	4.5	178	100.0
Genito-urinary system	31	68.9	7	15.6	5	11.1	—	—	2	4.4	45	100.0
Pregnancy . .	19	95.0	1	5.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	100.0
Skin (including septic conditions) . .	43	76.8	6	10.6	3	5.4	2	3.6	2	3.6	56	100.0
Bones and joints and muscular conditions (including rheumatism)	8	28.6	6	21.4	5	17.9	2	7.1	7	25.0	28	100.0
Injury . .	26	55.3	14	29.8	4	8.5	—	—	3	6.4	47	100.0
Blood . .	—	—	3	75.0	—	—	1	25.0	—	—	4	100.0
Glands . .	4	66.6	1	16.7	—	—	—	—	1	16.7	6	100.0
Diagnostic (preparation for X-ray, etc.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	109	100.0	—	—	109	100.0
Senility . .	12	20.0	18	30.0	27	45.0	—	—	3	5.0	60	100.0
Other or ill-defined . .	8	57.1	5	35.7	1	7.2	—	—	—	—	14	100.0
Total . .	555	46.9	185	15.7	198	16.7	152	12.9	92	7.8	1,182	100.0

\* "Other causes" include cases where relatives are able to manage, treatment not required, etc.



## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### VACCINATION

The number of vaccinations performed in Wallasey during 1954 has shown an increase compared with the previous year.

During 1954 practitioners in the town notified that they had carried out 953 vaccinations and 190 re-vaccinations. Of the 953 vaccinations 851 were of children under one year of age.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the year 1,483 children received the full course of Immunisation treatment against Diphtheria, 928 being immunised by General Practitioners and 555 at the Council's Clinics.

In addition, 1,075 children who had received the full course five years ago were given a reinforcing dose—247 by General Practitioners and 828 at the Clinics.

The following table shows the number of children immunised each year from 1937:—





## AMBULANCE SERVICE

The day-to-day administration of the Ambulance Service is carried out by the Chief Fire Officer, subject to the overall control of the Medical Officer of Health.

Ambulance vehicles are housed in the Central Fire Station premises, and in order to provide adequately for the conveyance where necessary of residents of the outlying western districts of the borough, an ambulance is stationed at Moreton between the hours of 0915 and 1745 each day.

Since the National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation, the Ambulance Service has had to meet an increasing demand by the public.

The following figures show the trend of this increase from 1947 to 1954:—

### TOTAL CASES CARRIED:

1947— 3,854	1951—24,891
1948— 9,115	1952—24,416
1949—16,680	1953—25,540
1950—21,385	1954—25,225

The mileage for 1954 amounted to 136,411 miles, with an average of 5.407 miles per case compared with 137,837 miles and an average of 5.396 miles per case in 1953. On page 44 is a table showing the different types of case carried in each month of the year.

The present personnel and vehicular strength of the Ambulance Service is eighteen men, six ambulances, one sitting case vehicle and two sitting case cars.

## PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT

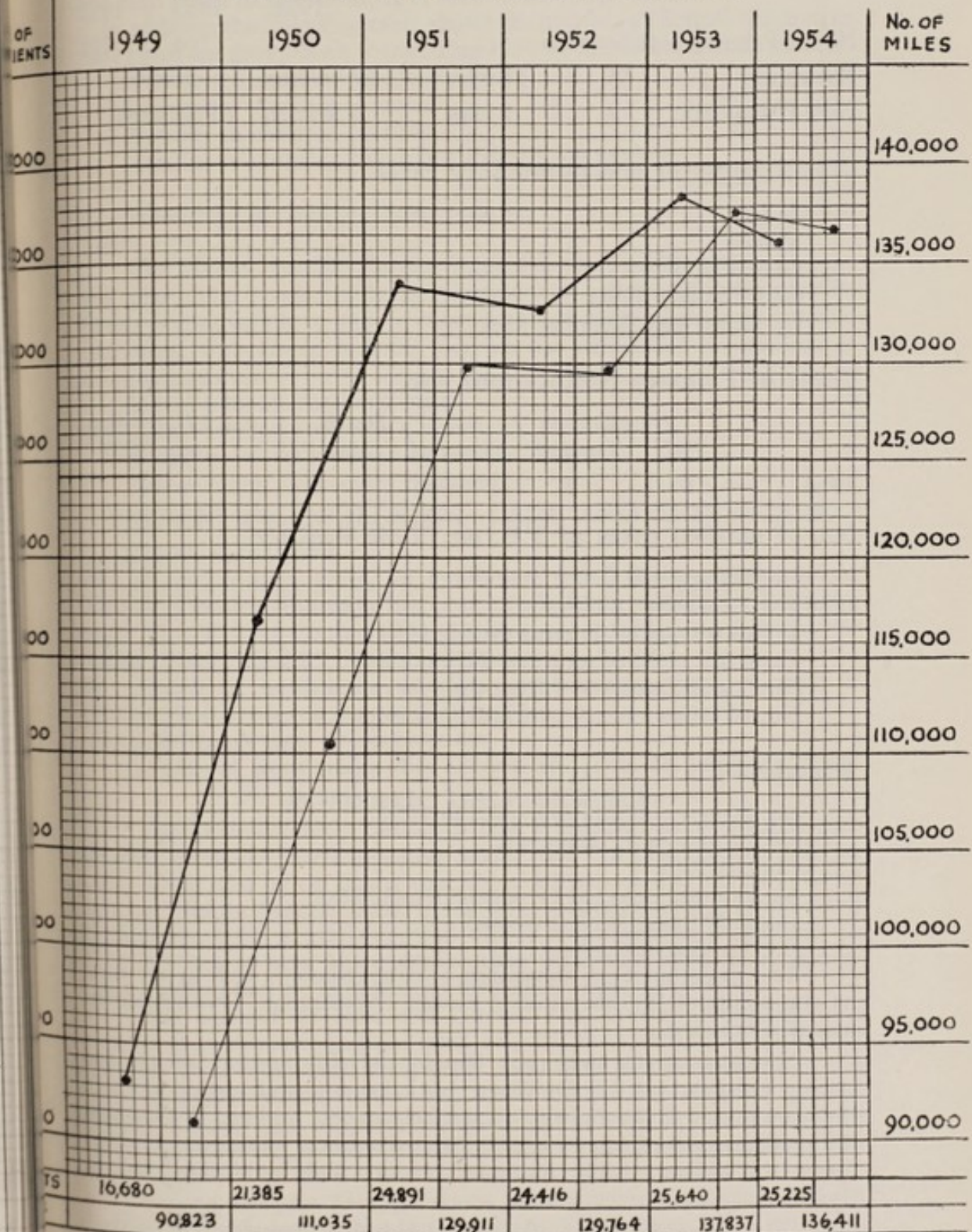
The demand for loan of articles of nursing equipment has shown a steady increase since the service commenced. In order to simplify administration the stock of equipment is now stored at one central depot, with the exception of a small number of articles which are kept at the Mary Elkin Home for emergencies. During 1954 a total of 614 articles were hired out, compared with 502 in 1953.



NUMBER OF CASES CONVEYED—1954

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Maternity ..	71	69	76	63	80	55	79	52	60	68	79	61	813
Mortuary ..	8	26	22	18	19	8	15	10	10	19	8	13	176
Sudden Illness ..	26	24	18	27	35	31	43	53	23	24	25	34	363
Works and Street Accidents ..	70	88	54	93	76	117	97	168	94	68	57	83	1,065
Mental ..	27	29	23	21	28	33	33	15	29	25	29	27	319
Infectious Diseases ..	12	7	13	14	6	5	24	21	5	10	4	4	125
Malicious False Alarm and False Alarm ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	5
Other Cases ..	2,123	2,171	2,065	1,750	1,965	1,648	1,848	1,599	1,672	1,771	1,861	1,886	22,359
Totals ..	2,338	2,414	2,272	1,986	2,209	1,897	2,139	1,918	1,893	1,987	2,063	2,109	25,225
Mileage ..	11,337	10,820	12,052	10,271	11,738	10,166	12,078	11,147	11,333	11,375	12,080	12,014	136,411

# **AMBULANCE SERVICE** **PATIENTS CARRIED AND MILEAGE COVERED**





**TUBERCULOSIS—PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER CARE**

			1954	1953	1952
No. of Primary Notifications	..	..	95	104	121
Pulmonary	86	= 53 men	27 women	6 children	
Non-Pulmonary	9	= 1 man	5 women	3 children	

**Classification of non-pulmonary cases**

Bones ..	..	..	..	..	4
Miliary ..	..	..	..	..	1
Glands of neck ..	..	..	..	..	2
Gen. Urinary Tract ..	..	..	..	..	1
Rt. Ileum and Sacroiliac joint ..	..	..	..	..	1

**Table of Primary Notifications, etc.**

	<i>Notifications</i>		<i>Deaths</i>		<i>Death Rate</i>
	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	<i>per 1,000</i>
1954 ..	86	9	13	1	0.12

**No. of notified cases of T.B. on Clinic Register**

1st January, 1954 ..	..	..	..	..	799
31st December, 1954 ..	..	..	..	..	879
Transfer from other areas during 1954 ..	..	..	..	..	33
Cases lost sight of returned during 1954 ..	..	..	..	..	nil
New cases diagnosed during the year ..	..	..	..	..	95
No. of cases visited by Health Visitors ..	..	..	..	..	1,667

**Prevention**

No. of new contacts examined in 1954 ..	..	..	..	504
No. of new cases diagnosed ..	..	..	..	95
Contact Rate ..	..	..	..	6.26
No. of cases detected by contact examination ..	..	..	..	3
Home Nursing Service treated ..	..	..	..	91
B.C.G. Vaccinations ..	..	..	..	209

The importance of prevention of tuberculosis is well in the front of the minds of Wallasey Public Health Department. This year it has taken action by:

(i) Starting the Mantoux Testing of children in Schools and giving non-reactors B.C.G. When this scheme is well under way it is hoped that it will become also a great help in case finding. The contacts of positive reactors can be examined at the Chest Clinic and in many cases the source of the Mantoux positive child's infection will be found.

(ii) The appointment of a second Health Visitor for Tuberculosis duties alone. This Visitor was appointed on 1st March, 1954, and the number of cases visited has risen to 1,667 (last year it was 954).

The number of new cases diagnosed was 95 and the number of contacts examined 504. This gives a Contact Rate of 6.26 (last year 5.6). Obviously there has been an improvement in contact examination because of increased Health Visiting.



The examination of contacts of tuberculosis cases has continued, with the results as shown in the following table. B.C.G. vaccination has been given to 209 children at Mill Lane Chest Clinic.

In addition the following table shows the number of School children in the 13 plus age group dealt with during 1954 by this Departments officers.

Number of children Mantoux tested	..	..	..	432
Number of children negative	..	..	..	333
Number of children positive	..	..	..	92
Number of children tested but absent from reading				7
				<hr/> 432
Percentage of children found positive	..	..	..	21.6

#### Care

The Home Nursing Service treated a total of 91 cases at home this year. The results of home treatment of tuberculosis in suitable homes is comparable to and, in many cases, an improvement on hospital treatment. The Home Nursing Service has continued to function as efficiently as ever.

No. of patients receiving milk	..	..	..	6
No. of families receiving Clothes, etc.	..	..	..	8
Housing defects reported by Health Visitors	..	..	..	8
No. of tuberculosis cases rehoused.	..	..	..	13

### PREVENTION OF ILLNESS—CARE AND AFTER-CARE

#### (a) Health Education

As in previous years, an exhibition stand dealing with various aspects of health education has been displayed at the Public Libraries and Child Welfare Centres. The distribution of leaflets, and the publication "Better Health" has also continued.

Details of notification of cases and statistics, etc., relating to Tuberculosis are given on pages 21 and 46.

#### Mental Illness and Defectiveness

Details of work under this Section are given on pages 48 *et seq.*

### DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The Domestic Help Service is now recognised as an integral part of the domiciliary arrangements under the National Health Service Act. There can be no doubt that the existence of the service relieves the demand for hospital beds. Many cases can be treated at home when a domestic help is available, and also a large number of patients in hospital can be sent home earlier than otherwise when it is known that a helper can be allocated to look after them.

The number of aged and chronic sick persons requiring help continues to increase. In these cases help has to be sent for an indefinite period, quite often until the patient dies. This fact is reflected in the following table which shows that, while the number of hours worked by the helpers has increased by more than 5,000 as compared with 1953, the number of cases to which help was sent dropped from 455 in 1953 to 417 in 1954.

During the year 83 applications were received in respect of help following confinement, but no less than 18 of these were cancelled when the applicants were informed of the cost of the service.

An increase of six in the establishment of domestic helps was authorised by the Health Committee during the year. The formation of a service of night helps was also discussed, but it was felt that, except in cases of real emergency, this service was not necessary at present.



<b>Statistics for 1954</b>	<i>Maternity</i>	<i>T.B.</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
Applications received	83	6	396	485
„ accepted	80	6	362	448
No. of cases to which help sent	63	5	349	417
No. of hours worked	3,775	589 $\frac{1}{4}$	53,273 $\frac{1}{2}$	57,637 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cancelled owing to cost	18	1	13	32
Cases paying full fee	..	..	..	156
No. of O.A.P. and widows on pension	..	..	..	221
No. of chronic sick cases	..	..	..	93
Aged and Infirm cases	..	..	..	147
No. of helpers 31/12/54	..	..	..	40

### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local 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

The Local Health Authority carries out all duties in connection with the Mental Health Service, none being delegated to Voluntary Associations.

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.

#### General Observations

Records for this year show that there has been a considerable increase in the number of patients voluntarily submitting themselves for treatment as out-patients, and for admission to mental hospitals, 102 having been admitted compared with 73 in 1953.

An indication of the rapid spreading of a more enlightened attitude towards Mental Health matters is shown by the ever increasing numbers



of patients' relatives and friends who are seeking advice and guidance from the Mental Health Officers.

There has been an increase in the admission to hospital of certified patients, 79 being admitted compared with 58 last year. The total number of Wallasey cases in Mental Hospitals has increased to 401.

In spite of the acute shortage of hospital accommodation, the movement of patients during the year has been very active. The congestion in the observation wards has not diminished, but it is hoped that this may be relieved in the near future.

Elderly people who have become too confused and disturbed to be cared for any longer in their own homes, particularly those who live alone, are a constant source of anxiety; the hospital accommodation for this type of case being hopelessly inadequate. It is hoped that the promised relief of this situation will not be long delayed.

### **Prevention, Care and After-care**

Owing to lack of staff it has been impossible to carry out a great deal of work in this branch of the Service. The Authorised Officers do what they can, in the limited time left over from their urgent and statutory duties.

Close co-operation is maintained with the General Practitioners and the Out-patients Clinics, and arrangements are made for patients' attendance. Visits are made to homes to give advice and support to patients and relatives, and where admission to Hospital is advised, arrangements for this are made, and if necessary, the patient accompanied thereto.

After care work is undertaken in respect of Ex-Service personnel, discharged on psychiatric grounds, in cases notified to the Local Authority by the Ministry of Health; and the Officers also carry out the work previously done by the Psychiatric Social Workers of the National Association for Mental Health.

The Officers work in conjunction with the Medical Superintendents of the Mental Hospitals in the following-up of patients discharged from hospital, but owing to the demand of other duties, the time devoted to this very important branch of the work is quite inadequate; unless more staff is provided it is impossible for work in this field to progress.

### **Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts**

Number of Wallasey patients in Mental Hospitals on 31st December, 1954 was as follows:—

Certified patients (Section 16, Lunacy Act, 1890)	.. ..	351
Voluntary patients (Section I, Mental Treatment Act, 1930)	.. ..	50
Temporary patients (Section V, Mental Treatment Act, 1930)	.. ..	—
Total	.. ..	401

There were 292 Admissions to Mental Hospitals during the year as follows:—

### Mental Treatment Act, 1930

Under Section I (Voluntary Patients)				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deva Hospital	..	..	..	48	46	94
Rainhill Mental Hospital	..	..	..	4	2	6
Winwick Mental Hospital	..	..	..	—	—	—
Birkenhead Mental Hospital	..	..	..	—	—	—
Sefton General Hospital	..	..	..	—	1	1
Cheadle Royal Hospital	..	..	..	—	1	1
Total				52	50	102
Under Section V (Temporary Patients)				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deva Hospital	..	..	..	1	—	1

### Lunacy Act, 1890

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

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Birkenhead Mental Hospital	25	21	46
Deva Hospital	—	—	—
Sefton General Hospital	2	3	5
Whiston Hospital	4	1	5
Ormskirk County Hospital	—	—	—
Total	31	25	56

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

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Birkenhead Mental Hospital	15	29	44
Deva Hospital	2	7	9
Whiston Mental Hospital	—	1	1
Total	17	37	54

Under Section 16 (Certified Patients) to:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deva Hospital	24	38	62
Birkenhead Mental Hospital	7	5	12
Winwick Mental Hospital	—	1	1
Sefton General Hospital	—	1	1
Rainhill Mental Hospital	—	2	2
Cheadle Royal Hospital	—	1	1
Total	31	48	79

Domiciliary Visits by Duly Authorised Officers:—

To cases under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts	..	..	943
Prevention, Care and After-Care visits	..	..	218
Total	..	..	1,161



## 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, 1954:—

<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
150	125	275

The above total is made up as follows:—

Defectives in Institutions .. .. .	109
Defectives in "Places of Safety" .. .. .	6
Defectives under Guardianship .. .. .	2
Defectives under supervision in the Community ..	158
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>275</b>

### 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 three high grade defectives.

Four defectives were admitted to Hospital for short periods during the year, thus enabling the parents to take a much needed rest. It is hoped that these facilities may be extended next year to provide more parents with a period of relief from the constant care of their defective children.

During the year 490 visits were paid by Authorised Officers to the homes of defectives.

### 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 reports in respect of applications for holiday leave or licence.
- (iii) Progress and Supervision reports with regard to patients on licence from Institutions.

## Particulars of Mental Defectives Ascertained during the year.

### (1) Ascertainment

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

	M.	F.	Total
(i) Under Section 57 (3) .. .. .	2	7	9
(ii) Under Section 57 (5) .. .. .	2	4	6
Reported from other sources .. .. .	1	1	2
Reported, but not regarded as "subject to be dealt with" .. .. .	1	—	1
Total cases ascertained to be "subject to be dealt with" during the year. . . . .	6	12	18
	—	—	—

### (2) Disposal of Cases reported during the year

Cases ascertained to be "subject to be dealt with":—

	M.	F.	Total
Placed under Statutory Supervision .. .. .	5	10	15
Admitted to Institutions .. .. .	—	2	2
Action unnecessary .. .. .	1	—	1
Total .. .. .	6	12	18
	—	—	—

### (3) Number of Mental Defectives under Community Care including Voluntary Supervision or in "Places of Safety" on 1st January, 1954, who have ceased to be under Community Care or in "Places of Safety" during 1954.

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

At 31st December, 1954:—

Number of Mental Defectives awaiting vacancies in Institutions	17
Number of patients on Licence from Institutions .. .. .	8
Number of patients under Guardianship (including cases on Licence) .. .. .	2
Number of patients under Statutory Supervision .. .. .	96
Number of patients under Voluntary Supervision .. .. .	62
Number of patients receiving training at Occupation Centre ..	24

### Occupation Centre

The Occupation Centre has accommodation for approximately 70 children.

Under an arrangement made with the Birkenhead Corporation Defectives from that area attend the Centre.

At the end of December, 1954, twenty-four Wallasey children and thirty children from other areas were on the register.

The ages of the children vary from 5 upwards. There is no upper age limit, and two or three young people of 18 to 20 years attend.



The Centre is open five days per week, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is 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.

Special transport by bus is provided and the parents appreciate this service.

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. At Christmas an entertainment for parents was provided, most of the children taking part.

During the summer an outing to Southport was greatly enjoyed.

The crafts taught include plain sewing, embroidery, knitting, weaving, woodwork, rush seating, rug-making, papier-mache work, painting, drawing, stool-making, raffia work, miniature basket work, etc. Some new equipment has been added during the year.

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

#### **NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATIONS ACT, 1948**

No applications for registration of premises were received. There were two premises on the Register at the end of 1954.

Routine inspections were made and advice given.

#### **THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948**

Children are medically examined as soon as possible after admission to the Children's Homes, and also before discharge, and the medical staff of the Public Health Department give advice whenever necessary.

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## PART IV.

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### *General Provision of Health Services, etc.*

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938

During the year 115 samples of milk and 283 samples of other food and drink were analysed. Two samples of milk reported as below standard were as follows.

Milk 4% deficient in fat	}	Guernsey Milk. Reported to Milk Marketing Board. Further samples genuine.
Milk 7% deficient in fat		

Average composition of 115 samples of milk:—

Fat .. .. .	3.62%
Solids-not-fat .. ..	8.79%

Other samples reported as not genuine were:—

Processed Cheese containing excess water.	No standard. No action could be taken.
Pork Sausage containing 100 parts per million Sulphur Dioxide.	Sample genuine but not labelled as containing preservative. Vendor cautioned.
Beef Sausage containing 80 parts per million Sulphur Dioxide.	Sample genuine but not labelled as containing preservative. Vendor cautioned.
Orange Crush containing foreign yeast.	Reported to Food Inspector.
Pork Sausage 5% deficient in meat.	Vendor cautioned.
Pork Sausage 4% deficient in meat.	Vendor cautioned.
Tiger Nuts incorrectly labelled as Hazel Nuts.	Old stock, the packers were cautioned.

## FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT

Eleven samples of Feeding Stuffs and nine samples of Fertilisers were submitted to the analyst, all complied with the requirements of the Act.

## PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT

During the year the following applications were received:

For registration .. .. .	9
For re-registration .. .. .	159
Not re-registering .. .. .	8
Change of address .. .. .	1



## (1) CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF MILK SUPPLIES

In earlier Reports reference has, from time to time, been made to the control and supervision of milk supplies and to the importance of this work from a public health point of view.

Progress, it would appear, has been slow and prolonged in the cause of safe and clean milk and it has not yet proved possible to provide a milk supply of the national standards demanded to the whole of the country. The war years were, of course, mainly responsible for this delay, but it can now be claimed that this work is steadily progressing and results are being achieved which, though perhaps unspectacular, are of the greatest significance in the efforts which are being directed against the elimination of the related diseases of man and animal.

In the fields of milk production and distribution, therefore, the safety and quality of the supply are matters which continue to receive the closest attention of those engaged in the safeguarding of human and animal health. The Veterinarian is responsible for the latter and work is going forward in the schemes which aim at the eradication, area by area, of the scourge of bovine tuberculosis. This will result in great and far reaching benefits, not the least of which will be a milk supply free from the danger of tuberculosis.

During the interim period the commercial pasteurisation of milk will continue to ensure the maximum degree of protection to the consumer against the risk of transmissible milk borne disease.

It is gratifying to record that the Ministry of Food has intimated its intention of defining a number of additional "specified areas" in which the retail sale of milk is restricted to "Tuberculin Tested", "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" supplies. The whole of the Borough is included in one of the areas to be so specified.

Statutory responsibilities are placed on health authorities in connection with processing, pasteurisation and distribution, and samples of all milk produced and sold under special designation are regularly obtained by this department and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, where each sample is subjected to the prescribed statutory testing.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the department during the year:—

### **Pasteurised Milk**

No. of samples obtained 107,  
of which

99 satisfied both the Methylene Blue  
and Phosphatase Tests.

4 failed the Methylene Blue Test.

4 failed the Phosphatase Test.

### Tuberculin Tested Milk—Pasteurised

No. of samples obtained 38,  
of which

36 satisfied both the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests.

1 failed the Phosphatase Test.

1 failed both the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests.

38

At a dairy in the Borough, the existing "holder" type of pasteurising equipment which had proved to be inefficient was dispensed with during the year and a more modern High Temperature Short Time plant was installed.

On completion of this installation some technical difficulties were experienced in maintaining the correct pasteurisation of milk.

102 special samples were obtained by this department and submitted for Phosphatase testing before the granting of the requisite licence could be approved.

## Sterilised Milk

3 samples of Sterilised Milk were submitted to the Turbidity Test, and the reports received indicated that the samples were satisfactory.

## RAW MILK

During the year communications were received from outside authorities in connection with milk produced in their areas and in which the presence of tubercle bacilli had been revealed on biological testing. Mixed milk from two farms and the milk from three other separate farms was involved.

It was ascertained in each instance that the supplies which were destined daily to a dairy in this Borough, were being subjected thereto to efficient pasteurisation.

Veterinary investigation at the farms involved was carried out by officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

### Tuberculin Tested Milk

Eleven samples were obtained and the Methylene Blue Test was satisfied in each case.

In addition, one of the samples was submitted for Biological testing and the report received was negative.

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

Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	193
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Street delivery vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Outside dairy premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Total number of samples submitted for Laboratory testing .. .. .	261
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### The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

### The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

### The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

There are five dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, four of which are equipped with pasteurising apparatus. One dairy handles supplies of tuberculin tested milk only.

There are 132 registered milk distributors licensed to retail bottled supplies of designated milk. The number of licenses granted during the year was as follows:—

To use special designation "Pasteurised" .. .. .	124
To use special designation "Sterilised" .. .. .	113
To use special designation "Tuberculin Tested" .. .. .	39
Pasteuriser's licences .. .. .	4

370 visits were made to Dairies and other premises engaged in the handling and storage of milk.

### Milk in Schools Scheme

During the year 2,560,189 one-third bottles of milk (106,674 gallons) were supplied under the Milk in Schools Scheme, an increase of 164,480 one-third pint bottles of milk (6,853 gallons) over the quantity supplied during the previous year.

The Schools in the Borough are catered for by seven milk purveyors. Both "Pasteurised" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk Pasteurised" are supplied to the schools.

Ten special visits were made to schools in connection with complaints arising from milk supplies.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a dairy undertaking for failing to ensure that a bottle used for containing milk supplied to a school was in a state of thorough cleanliness. The company concerned entered a plea of "guilty". The Magistrates imposed a fine of £5 and ordered the payment of an advocates fee of £2 2s. 0d.

## (2) MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Visits made to food shops, including Butchers, Fishmongers, and other shops engaged in the sale and handling of foodstuffs, resulted in the following quantities of food being disposed of as unfit for human consumption:—

Meat		Fish	
	lbs.		stone
Beef .. .. .	344½	Cod fillets .. .. .	14
Imported lambs' liver .. .. .	100	Wrapped kippers .. .. .	7
Bury puddings .. .. .	52	Plain kippers .. .. .	2
Pigs' liver .. .. .	39	Small plaice .. .. .	1
Bacon .. .. .	34		
Sausages .. .. .	15		
Tongue .. .. .	11¼		
Jellied Veal .. .. .	9		
Pigs' hearts .. .. .	5½		
Corned beef .. .. .	4		
Total .. .. .	614½	Total .. .. .	24

Rabbit carcasses	..	..	13lbs.	Fowl	..	..	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Pork pies	..	..	48				

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

			lbs.				lbs.
Prunes	..	..	174	Sultanas	..	..	28
Apricots	..	..	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	Dates	..	..	1 box

**Canned Goods**

			cans				cans
Canned Fruit..	..	..	694	Canned Fish	..	..	79
Canned Vegetables	..	..	330	Canned Soups	..	..	24
Canned Milk..	..	..	260	Canned Shellfish	..	..	10
Canned Meat..	..	..	178	Bottled fruit and vegetables			
Fruit juices, including							10 jars
tomato juice	..	..	165	Chutney, pickles, salad			
				cream, etc.	..	..	8 jars

**Jams and Sweet Preserves**

Jars	..	..	..	17	Cans	..	..	13
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**Provisions**

Cheese	..	..	cartons	89
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**Miscellaneous**

Items of foodstuff	..	39
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During the year 18 containers representing a total weight of 234 lbs. of Imported Cooked Boneless Ham were dealt with by the department as unfit for sale.

6,168 tins of processed peas were condemned. This condemnation was necessitated due to a fault in canning and processing at a local cannery.

1,303 cans and packages involving 56 varieties of foodstuffs and 200 cans, including carrots, beans, strawberries, peas and soups, and 4 x 28 lb. boxes of dried fruit, were also condemned. These items necessitated condemnation owing to deterioration following prolonged storage at two retail shops.

70 lbs. of imported hind quarter of beef, including steak piece, affected with bone taint, was diverted back to the M.O.F. Allocating depot.

36 consumer complaints and 52 retailer complaints were received in connection with alleged unwholesomeness or doubt as to the wholesomeness and safety of certain foodstuffs.

In a number of these cases, correspondence was entered into between this department and the manufacturers or persons responsible for supplying the food.

Legal proceedings were authorised in two cases. In one instance oatmeal was supplied to a purchaser in a contaminated condition. The Company concerned entered a plea of "guilty" to selling oatmeal not of the substance demanded by the purchaser and a fine of £5 was imposed with £1 1s. 0d. costs.



The second case involved the sale by retail of contaminated lentils. In this case also the Company involved entered a plea of "guilty" and they were fined £5 and ordered to pay £2 2s. 0d. costs.

Number of requests received to visit food and other premises in connection with supplies of food .. 197

Number of visits made to food premises .. .. 405

Special visits and inspections made in respect of foodstuffs 102

Visits to factories, hotels, canteens, etc. .. .. 17

Visits made to food premises on request or on reference from other Departments .. .. 6

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530

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Certificates issued certifying foodstuff to be unfit for human consumption .. .. 561

Food found to be unfit for human consumption was disposed of for processing and inclusion in animal feeding stuffs or for industrial refining purposes. Foodstuff unsuitable for inclusion in either of these categories was disposed of under supervision by burial at the Corporation Controlled Tip.

### WALLASEY AND ALFRED LAIRAGES

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

In June the restrictions which had been in force for some fourteen years on the sale and marketing of meat and livestock came to an end. This had an immediate effect on the shipment of livestock from Irish and Northern Ireland ports and on the seasonal landings of Irish cattle, sheep and pigs into the Birkenhead and Wallasey lairages.

This is reflected in the increased number of cattle alone which passed through the Wallasey and Alfred lairages during the latter half of the year when 96,596 store and fat cattle, compared with 7,379 in the previous year, were housed and entrained to various destinations throughout the country from this wharf.

Of this number 277 animals were, owing to their unfitness to travel, detained by the Veterinary Inspectors and subsequently slaughtered.

Post-mortem examination of all carcasses, viscera and offal 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

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Carcases of beef, together with all offal and viscera	3	2,000
Sets of lungs, including hearts .. ..	17	374
Part carcasses, including middle pieces, sirloins, chest walls, and all offal and viscera .. ..	—	290
Heads, including tongues .. ..	4	172
Mesentery fats .. ..	11	110
Whole livers .. ..	3	60
Stomach .. ..	1	35
Thick skirt .. ..	5	20

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C/F. 3061

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
	<i>C. F.</i>	
Shoulder musculature—(skin T.B.) .. ..	—	10
Thin skirt .. .. .	2	4
Spleen .. .. .	1	2
Total .. ..		3,077

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

	<i>Condition found</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Carcases of beef, together with all viscera and offal .. ..	Moribund specimens	2	1,300
Carcase of beef, together with all viscera and offal .. ..	Septic pneumonia	1	750
*Carcases of pork, together with all viscera and offal .. ..	Swine fever	8	552
*Carcases of pork, together with all viscera and offal .. ..	Moribund specimens	2	180
Whole livers (Oxen) .. ..	Distoma, cirrhosis, abscess formation, cav. angioma, necrosis and cystic	104	2,080
Part livers .. .. .	Distoma, cirrhosis and necrosis	29	116
Sets of lungs, including hearts	Abscess, adhesions, pneumonic, oedema, pericarditis and cystic	14	308
Sets of lungs, excluding hearts	Cystic, adhesions, abscess formation, pleurisy and aspirated blood	12	192
Hindquarter and brisket ..	Bruising and oedema	—	190
Musculature .. .. .	Bruising	—	70
Head, including tongue ..	Abscess	1	43
Udders .. .. .	Indurated	2	24
Parts of peritoneal fat and tissues .. .. .	Adhesions	—	15
Kidney suet .. .. .	Bruising	—	12
Thin skirt .. .. .	Adhesions	3	6
Heart .. .. .	Pericarditis	1	6
Brisket .. .. .	Oedema	—	4
Kidney .. .. .	Abscess	1	2
Spleen .. .. .	Imperfect bleeding	1	2
Quantity of beef offal, comprising heads, tongues, lungs, hearts, spleens, tails, skirts, mesentery fats and stomachs	Contamination—blow flies		295
Total .. ..			6,147

Total weight of meat and offal condemned .. .. 9,224

\*Slaughtered at pig-keepers' premises.

163 visits were made during the year to the Slaughter House at this landing wharf.



### **EMERGENCY SLAUGHTER—PIGS**

Seven pigs were slaughtered in emergency circumstances at pig keepers' premises.

Certificates were issued certifying their fitness for human consumption and the carcasses were conveyed to the Tranmere Abattoir, Birkenhead.

### **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933—1954**

Three applications were received during the year for Slaughter-mans' Licences as required under the provisions of this Act.

In one instance, the requisite licence was granted. In the remaining two cases, enquiries revealed that licences were not required.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS**

#### **Mussel and Cockle Beds—Wallasey Foreshore**

No large scale collecting of shellfish was observed in the area during the year and the new Order, which has the effect of modifying the prohibition relating to the taking of shellfish, continues in operation.

Tidal action, it would appear, has been responsible for the virtual disappearance of the larger mussel beds which hitherto formed the main source of shellfish supply in this area.

### **(3) DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS NOTIFIABLE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS SWINE FEVER ORDER, 1938**

During the year five cases of suspected swine fever were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries at pig keepers' premises situated within the Borough.

The existence of disease was confirmed in three instances. These outbreaks involved 225 pigs. Of this number 14 animals died from the disease. The dressed carcasses of 8 pigs slaughtered on infected premises were found on post-mortem inspection to be affected with the disease and were condemned, together with all viscera and offal; 9 pigs remained immune from attack and the remaining 194 pigs were moved under licence from the infected premises for immediate slaughter. Of these 2 of the dressed carcasses were condemned by an outside authority on account of swine fever.

### **ANTHRAX ORDER OF 1938**

One case of suspected anthrax was reported, the animal involved being a pig.

Material was obtained for laboratory examination by one of the Ministry's Veterinary Inspectors and a negative report was subsequently received. The "stand-still" restrictions which had been imposed on the premises were withdrawn.

### **FOWL PEST**

During the year the department in co-operation with the Police assisted the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the Fowl Pest publicity campaign.

No cases of suspected fowl pest were reported during the year.

## REGULATION OF MOVEMENT OF SWINE ORDER, 1950

During the year, the number of store pigs brought into the Borough under licence was as follows:—

<i>Chester</i>	<i>Oswestry</i>	<i>Mold</i>	<i>Wrexham</i>	<i>Llangefni</i>
<i>Market</i>	<i>Market</i>	<i>Market</i>	<i>Market</i>	<i>Anglesey</i>
225	73	65	61	21

A total of 445 pigs.

During the year 82 visits were made to pig-keepers' premises.

## WARBLE FLY (DRESSING OF CATTLE) ORDER, 1948

This Order provides for the compulsory dressing, during a prescribed period in each year, of all cattle visibly infested with the maggot of the warble fly.

Responsibility for dressing is placed on the owner or person in charge.

The presence of the warble fly maggot in cattle is not a condition which is notifiable under the Diseases of Animals Act, consequently difficulties are encountered in its enforcement.

Communications were forwarded to stock owners setting out the requirements of the Order and grazing lands within the Borough were, from time to time, visited.

## FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

The County Borough was not geographically included in any of the infected areas which were, from time to time, declared by Order of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

## SHEEP SCAB ORDER, 1938

### Dipping Regulations

All sheep and lambs being grazed on land situated within the Borough were gathered and dipped in compliance with the provisions contained in the Dipping Regulations made under the Sheep Scab Order.

## PROTECTION OF ANIMALS ACTS

A complaint was received concerning the alleged lame and diseased condition of donkeys at a local Menagerie. This matter was referred to and dealt with by the R.S.P.C.A.

Summer visits were made to grazing lands in the Borough in order to ascertain the condition of sheep and lambs. Winter visits were also made to ascertain that the animals had sufficient and suitable food.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Two enquiries were received during the year relating to the importation of Parrots and Parakeets, the landing of which into this country is restricted under the terms of the Psittacosis Order of 1953.

Complaint was received relating to an unburied carcase of sheep on the Wallasey marshes.



Orders made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were, from time to time, publicised by press notices, in accordance with the requirements contained in the Animals (Miscellaneous Provisions) Order of 1927.

The co-operation of certain shop-keepers was obtained in publicising the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries window card relating to the control of the colorado beetle.

### **THEATRICAL EMPLOYERS' REGISTRATION ACT, 1925**

On 1st February, 1954 the duties under this Act were transferred from the Watch Committee to the General Health Committee.

No applications for registration were received during the year.

### **DOMESTIC SERVANTS REGISTRIES**

On the same date the General Health Committee took over the duties under the Bye-laws as to Registries for Female Domestic Servants. There are no such establishments registered at present.

### **METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RAINFALL AND SUNSHINE 1950-1954**

YEAR	RAINFALL		SUNSHINE	
	Total in inches	Number of days	Total in hours	Number of days
1950	34.92	196	1454.1	288
1951	31.93	192	1435.5	302
1952	27.68	167	1363.1	305
1953	23.29	153	1516.6	296
1954	37.16	215	1291.1	295

# 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 1954:—

Months	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 ..	2.62	0.12	14	42.3	1.36	19	5	30.0
February ..	3.07	0.14	18	49.9	1.78	18	9	29.7
March ..	2.00	0.06	13	110.7	3.57	25	2	29.9
April ..	0.64	0.02	7	215.4	7.18	28	—	30.2
May ..	2.36	0.08	15	159.6	5.15	28	—	29.9
June ..	3.12	0.10	14	144.6	4.82	27	—	29.8
July ..	2.86	0.09	22	126.4	4.08	28	—	29.7
August ..	4.08	0.13	19	125.8	4.06	30	—	29.7
September ..	2.43	0.08	23	163.4	5.44	30	—	29.7
October ..	4.98	0.16	23	68.4	2.21	25	—	29.8
November ..	5.84	0.19	25	52.6	1.75	18	—	29.7
December ..	3.16	0.10	22	32.0	1.03	19	2	29.7
Means/Totals	37.16	0.12	215	1291.1	3.54	295	18	29.8



## PART V.

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*Sanitary Cicumstances of the District*  
*and*  
*Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector*

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT AND REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

### Introductory

No new campaign of any major importance in the field of environmental hygiene has been conducted during the year. At the close of the year, however, following the passing of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, a start was made which it is hoped eventually will lead to a full resumption of the repair and demolition provisions of the Housing Acts. This is one of the most important aspects of environmental health and is of added importance because of the enforced postponement of work since 1939. No more was achieved by the end of the year than the first approach to conducting a superficial survey of houses likely to be considered by the Council for inclusion in its demolition programme; even so its effect on other aspects of the Sanitary Inspectors' work can be seen in the following pages. Shifts of emphasis of effort in the different aspects of the work are the accepted feature of most public health organisations. It is a sign, however, that staff establishments are far from liberal when a relatively modest increase of work in such an important field as housing produces a significant reduction in the amount of work that can be undertaken in connection with such important matters as the prevention of atmospheric pollution and the inspection of food preparing premises. This kind of thing produces a disappointment that is more keenly felt if one has always considered that more work could be done in those spheres where the effort has now to be reduced.

Another relatively new task which has been increasing recently is that which is carried out on behalf of the North Wales, West Cheshire and South West Lancashire Research on Pathogenesis. During 1954 it involved most detailed enquiries into 374 cases of death from cancer and other associated diseases. It will be agreed by all, I think, that this is work of commanding importance and is one which the officers themselves would be most reluctant to have to discontinue. The work involved is now approaching the equivalent of one Inspector. This and the continued inability to fill the vacancy which has existed since the 30th April, 1953, have probably made the greatest single contribution to the inability to carry out as much work as one would wish.

In the pages of the following report will be found a summary of the work undertaken in the different aspects of environmental health; some of it is in the form required by various departments of central government and may thus not prove immediately attractive to the general reader.

### Abatement of Nuisances and Housing Repairs

As has been mentioned in previous reports, the securing of house repairs in previous post-war years was limited to action by way of notices under the Public Health Act. In 1954, however, the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 became law, which led to the inspectors having to make a number of complete housing inspections. In these circumstances it was considered that notices under section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 should be served in appropriate cases and details



of these are given in another section of the report. Nuisance abatement notices still remain the chief means of disposing of complaints by householders about isolated housing defects and this aspect of the work continued to demand a great amount of the inspectors' time. 3,340 complaints were received—a slight reduction on the previous year, necessitating 15,830 visits and the service of 2,321 preliminary and 1,154 statutory notices. The defects which were the subject of those notices and the types of nuisances abated are analysed below:—

	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out- standing</i>
<b>Dwelling Houses</b>			
Roof Repairs .. .. .	729	535	305
Gutters and Spout Repairs .. .. .	684	578	186
External Walls and Chimney Repairs .. .. .	303	240	125
Installation of Damp Proof Courses .. .. .	317	240	135
Dampness .. .. .	223	183	71
Yards: Paving and Repairs .. .. .	97	77	32
Internal Walls and Ceiling Repairs .. .. .	497	383	190
Doors: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	149	115	48
Windows: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	181	162	85
Floors: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	196	159	99
Sub-floor Ventilation .. .. .	2	4	2
Rooms: Cleaning and Redecorating .. .. .	12	6	9
Passages and Staircases: Cleaning and Redecorating .. .. .	—	1	—
Staircase Repairs .. .. .	8	5	3
Handrails: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	2	3	—
Fireplaces and Flues: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	166	131	68
Cooking Stoves: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	3	2	1
Wash Boilers: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	—	—	—
Sinks, Lavatories: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	22	24	10
Baths: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	2	1	1
Waste Pipes: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	147	129	37
Provision and Improvement of Food Stores .. .. .	1	—	1
Burst Water Pipe Repairs .. .. .	212	195	39
Improvement and Reinstatement of Water Supply .. .. .	19	31	—
Cleansing of W.C. Walls .. .. .	4	3	1
Cleansing of W.C. Pans .. .. .	6	7	1
W.C. Pans: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	130	133	19
W.C. Cisterns: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	196	173	46
W.C. Structures: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	118	90	44
W.C. Lighting: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	1	1	—
W.C. Ventilation Improvement .. .. .	1	—	1
W.C. Doors: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	42	40	7
Provision of Additional W.C.s .. .. .	3	3	1
Soil Pipes: Repairs and Renewal .. .. .	42	38	6
Disinfestation of Verminous Premises .. .. .	8	8	—
Drainer Boards: Repairs or Renewal .. .. .	32	24	17
Improvement of Ventilation .. .. .	323	283	105
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,878</b>	<b>4,005</b>	<b>1,695</b>

	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out- standing</i>
<b>General Environmental Public Health</b>			
Removal of Offensive Accumulations ..	20	16	8
Cleansing of Ditches and Streams ..	1	1	—
Cinemas, Dance Halls: Contraventions ..	11	11	2
Schools: W.C.s—Repairs and Renewal ..	8	8	—
Schools: Other Nuisances .. .. .	13	13	—
Total	53	49	10

	<i>Served</i>	<i>Abated</i>	<i>Out- standing</i>
<b>Number of Notices Served</b>			
Preliminary .. .. .	2,879	2,560	781
Statutory .. .. .	1,158	1,091	272
Total	4,037	3,561	1,053

#### **Legal Proceedings**

No. of Nuisance Orders applied for .. .. .	9
No. of Nuisance Orders obtained .. .. .	9
Total amount of fines and costs .. .. .	£23 5 6
No. of prosecutions for non-compliance with Nuisance Order .. .. .	7
Total amount of fines and costs .. .. .	£57 7 0

In 27 other cases abatement notices were complied with only after the cases had been passed to the Town Clerk who had threatened legal proceedings or had actually applied for a summons to be taken out against the offenders.

#### **Action in Default**

One notice served under section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936 was abated by the Corporation.

### **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938—HYGIENE OF FOOD PREMISES**

In the annual report for 1953 regret was expressed that it had not been found possible to expand the operations in this sphere. Hence it is all the more disappointing to report that during 1954 the number of visits made by the sanitary inspectors to food premises was nearly a thousand less than in the previous year. Even so, 3,191 visits were made and a great amount of good came out of them. The visits and inspections are opportunities for education and propaganda and many faults were detected and remedied. In New Brighton, where the bulk of the food-handling personnel is casually employed for the summer season, the orthodox educational practice of grouping staffs together for talks on food hygiene is impracticable. It is all the more important that frequent visits should be made to the premises when they are in use and practical advice and object lessons can be given by direct reference to the conditions and practices prevailing on the spot. There are 1,315 food premises in the borough; arithmetically, less than three visits a year were made to these premises. In my opinion no noticeable improvement in the general standard of hygiene is likely to materialise, unless the frequency of inspectorial visits can be materially improved. The experience of 1954 is that the standard of hygiene of previous years



has been maintained, but appreciably improved only at a small number of premises. The standard is not high enough. In many cases, one can fairly say that hygiene is pursued only as far as it has to be. The voluntary urge to be beyond the slightest criticism is as yet imperfectly developed. The shopping public could do much to hasten the development if it were so minded. It is true that generally speaking the minimum statutory requirements are complied with and gross abuses are infrequent. But there are few premises where the standards of hygiene are so good as to be startling; seldom does one feel that here is an establishment which one could speak of with undiminished pride, that one could exhibit as a showpiece. There are places where the most has been made of premises which are basically incapable of being made into model premises. During the year, photographs were taken of some of them for inclusion in a national collection compiled by the Food Hygiene Division of the Ministry of Food.

During 1954 conditions under which articles of food were sold from kiosks and vehicles at New Brighton gave cause for concern. It is quite evident that conditions have deteriorated since 1948, when a special effort was made to improve this class of trade. It became necessary during 1954 to report to the General Health Committee the conditions prevailing at a particular group of food kiosks. Following representations to the Publicity and Entertainments Committee, the trader was interviewed by that Committee and received a cautionary letter from the General Health Committee. Many of the difficulties of the sale of food to holiday-makers would be lessened if the Corporation themselves provided well-designed and fully-equipped kiosks or mobile vehicles. If this were done, not only would the appearance of the promenade be improved, but the public health would be more adequately safeguarded; it is possible too that the trading sites would command higher rentals.

Early in the year, a talk was given to a well-attended meeting of the Wallasey Grocers and Provision Dealers. At that talk, the members were invited to call upon the services of the Chief Sanitary Inspector who would be prepared to give instructional talks at any time to any group of shop assistants. Arising out of this, two lectures incorporating the film "Another Case of Poisoning" were held. The two lectures were attended respectively by sixteen and fourteen shop assistants. The officers of the Association were keen, co-operative and did all they could to assist in the arrangements. For a county borough with over 100,000 inhabitants who are served by nearly 200 grocers shops, the response can only be described as poor. It is significant that a less number of assistants attended the lectures than there were grocers at the inaugurating talk. This is a common experience in this kind of work elsewhere than in Wallasey. The officers of the Grocers' Association can receive some consolation from the knowledge that they tried and that previous appeals to other associations concerned with food-handling produced even poorer results.

Other lectures were given to personnel of the Emergency Feeding branch of the Civil Defence Welfare Section, two courses, each of two lectures, being arranged.

Attention continued to be given to the importance of effective dishwashing, and renewed field trials and bacteriological tests were made of detergents and sterilants marketed for this purpose.

Legal proceedings for the presence of foreign bodies in articles of food are frequently reported in the technical journals and in post-war years appear to have become much more frequent. During 1954 incidents of this kind in Wallasey have been relatively infrequent, only two having been brought to the notice of the Department; one related to hairs in a sweet, the other to a piece of wood in a stick of seaside rock. Having regard to the circumstances associated with the particular cases, warning letters were sent to the manufacturers.

### Registered Food Premises

The Minister of Health has requested that a classification of registered premises be included in this report. The required information is as follows:—

	<i>No. of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>
<b>List of Registered Food Premises, 1954</b>		
Section 14 (a) Food and Drugs Act, 1938..	469	654
Section 14 (b) Food and Drugs Act, 1938	134	403
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .. ..	603	1,057
	<hr/>	<hr/>

(N.B.—A classification of the types of premises registered under section 14 (a) is given in the part of the report dealing with ice cream.)

### Summary of Types of Food Premises Registered under section 14 (b) Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Bakehouses, Meat Pies .. .. .	44
Meat Pies and Cooked Meats .. .. .	18
Butchers, Sausages .. .. .	42
Sausages and Cooked Meats .. .. .	21
Grocers, Potted Meats .. .. .	2
Boiled Hams .. .. .	3
Cooked Meat Factories .. .. .	2
Other Premises, Meat Pies .. .. .	2

Two applications for registration under section 14 (b) were granted and one application was refused. Two registrations under section 14 (b) were cancelled on the grounds of redundancy.



Type	New Brighton	Moreton	Liscard	Egre- mont	Poulton	Sea- combe	Tota
Butchers' Shops .. ..	9	11	22	16	17	15	90
Chemists' Shops .. ..	6	8	11	9	8	6	48
Confectioners' Shops .. ..	13	17	26	23	16	7	102
Fish Shops .. ..	5	7	9	7	9	7	44
Fried Fish Shops .. ..	10	8	8	12	7	14	59
Greengrocers' Shops .. ..	14	14	38	27	26	15	134
Grocers' Shops .. ..	21	22	47	37	35	30	192
Sweet Shops .. ..	26	20	43	42	34	25	190
General Shops .. ..	8	15	13	13	8	16	73
Cafes .. ..	72	15	8	13	8	14	130
Licensed Premises .. ..	25	10	18	10	13	20	96
Takehouses .. ..	7	9	15	12	11	6	60
Food Manufacturing Premises ..	2	3	3	1	2	2	13
School Canteens and Dining Centres .. ..	9	7	10	3	6	4	39
Nursery and Nursery School Kitchens .. ..	2	3	1	2	—	1	9
Miscellaneous Premises ..	31	—	3	—	1	1	36
Totals ..	260	169	275	227	201	183	1,315

<i>Inspections</i>							<i>Visits</i>
Cafes, restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	439
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	186
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	129
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Other Food premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,268
School Meals Service	..	..	..	..	..	..	169
							<hr/>
						Total Visits	.. .. 3,191

	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out- standing</i>
<b>Improvements Effected</b>			
Bakehouses: Cleansed and limewashed ..	15	10	5
Other contraventions remedied ..	16	11	10
Fried Fish Shops: Cleansed and limewashed	3	3	1
General Sanitary Conditions improved ..	—	—	—
Other contraventions remedied ..	2	3	2
Cafes, Restaurants: Contraventions remedied	74	72	9
Other Food Premises: General Sanitary			
Conditions improved .. ..	53	58	7
Additional W.C.s provided .. ..	7	3	5
Hot and cold water supply provided ..	19	28	9
Soap, towels provided .. ..	4	4	4
Glazed sink provided .. ..	15	12	3
Sterilising equipment provided .. ..	—	—	—
Rooms cleansed .. ..	41	46	21
Rooms re-plastered .. ..	26	25	8
Clothes cupboards provided .. ..	2	2	1
	<hr/> 277 <hr/>	<hr/> 277 <hr/>	<hr/> 85 <hr/>

### CONTROL OF ICE CREAM PREMISES

In this branch of the food trade one can report real progress, as far as can be measured by the methylene blue test which is the basis of the Ministry of Health's provisional standard for the hygienic quality of ice cream. During the year, 146 samples were submitted to the test, all of which were satisfactory, 143 being placed in Grade I and three samples in Grade II. It is a point of technical interest that one of these samples (manufactured in Wallasey) showed the presence of *staphylococcus aureus* (coagulase negative). Repeat samples did not explain the origin of the contamination.

The record of samples during the last three years is quite remarkable; 625 samples of ice cream sold in Wallasey have been taken, and all of them have complied with the Ministry's standard. The full significance of these figures is realised when they are compared with those for 1948, when the sampling programme began and when the effect of the Regulations of 1947 to improve the manufacture of ice cream was beginning to take shape. In that year, 35 per cent of the samples of heat-treated ice cream and 25 per cent of the cold mix ice cream were either Grade III or Grade IV, the "unsatisfactory" grades. This improvement does not necessarily reflect an improvement in the premises which existed in 1948, when there were 21 ice cream makers' premises registered in the borough: many of them have gone out of business, there now being only 11 premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream. This trend was accelerated during the year now under review, no less than 7 registrations being cancelled, the premises having ceased to be used.

The improvements in the hygienic quality of the ice cream on sale and the reduced number of manufacturers' premises has lightened the burden of supervision by sanitary inspectors. The number of inspections of this class of premises during the year was reduced to



654—compared with 1,295 in 1948, when the effort in this field was at its peak. It is as well that these swings do occur, otherwise new tasks could not be undertaken in other spheres of work.

Though the manufacture of ice cream by the small trader is on the decline, there is no decline in the number of shopkeepers selling ice cream, there now being 462 premises registered for the sale of this commodity. 19 new applications were received during the year, and all except 1 were granted. The refusal was in respect of an application to sell ice cream at a greengrocer's shop.

## ICE CREAM STATISTICS RELATIVE TO THE YEAR 1954

### Registrations Approved during 1954

Sale only .. .. .	—
Sale and Storage .. .. .	18
Total .. .. .	18

Registrations Refused .. .. .	1
Registrations Cancelled (manufacture only) .. .. .	7

### Number of Premises on Register at close of Year

Storage and manufacture .. .. .	4
Sale only .. .. .	175
Storage only .. .. .	3
Storage and sale .. .. .	280
Manufacture, storage and sale .. .. .	5
Manufacture and sale .. .. .	2
Total .. .. .	469

### Visits of Inspection

Visits <i>re</i> applications for registration .. .. .	20
Routine visits .. .. .	634
Total .. .. .	654

### Improvements Effectuated

	<i>Outstanding from Previous Year</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out- standing</i>
Premises cleansed .. .. .	—	1	1	—
General Sanitary conditions improved .. .. .	—	4	4	—
Sterilising facilities installed .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other Contraventions remedied .. .. .	1	7	7	1

## 1954 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	25 (100.0)	—	—	—	—	—	25	2 (8.0)	15 (60.0)
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	25 (100.0)	—	—	—	—	—	25	2 (8.0)	15 (60.0)

**Manufacture by Heat Treatment Method**

Grade	No. of Specimens within the Grade	Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue (hours)						Coli in 1/10th ml.		Staph. Aureus	
		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	Pre- sent	Ab- sent
1	118 (97.52)	—	—	—	—	—	118	2 (1.7)	45 (38.1)	—	118 (100.0)
2	3 (2.48)	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2 (66.6)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.6)
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	121 (100.0)	—	—	—	—	3	118	2 (1.65)	47 (38.8)	1 (0.826)	120 (99.174)

Note: Figures in parenthesis denote percentages



## ICE CREAM SAMPLING, 1954

*Classification of Samples by Location of Manufacturer*

## 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	70	—	—	—	—	—	36	34	3	67	—	70
2	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	1
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	70	2	—	—	—	—	37	35	3	69	1	71

## Ice Cream Manufactured outside Wallasey

1	73	—	—	—	—	—	24	49	1	72	—	73
2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	73	1	—	—	—	—	25	49	1	73	—	74

*Result classified according to identity of Manufacturer*Ice Cream sampled at point of sale within the  
County Borough District of Wallasey during 1954.

## Factories outside Wallasey—Table I.

Manu- facturer Code No.	No. of Samples examined	No. of Samples in Provisional Grades				Grading of Manu- facturer by Ministry of Health recom- mended Standards	
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
1	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
2	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
3	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
4	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
5	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
6	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
7	1	1	—	—	—	Not Classified	
8	6	6	—	—	—		
9	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
10	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
11	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
12	6	5	1	—	—	*	—
13	7	7	—	—	—	*	—
	74	73 (98.65)	1 (1.35)	—	—	12 1 (Not	Classified)

Factories located in Wallasey—Table II.

Manu- facturer Code No.	No. of Samples examined	No. of Samples in Provisional Grades				Grading of Manu- facturer by Ministry of Health recom- mended Standards	
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
1	13	13	—	—	—	*	—
2	6	6	—	—	—	*	—
3	12	11	1	—	—	*	—
4	4	4	—	—	—	*	—
5	12	12	—	—	—	*	—
6	1	1	—	—	—	Not Cl	assified
7	12	12	—	—	—	*	—
8	2	2	—	—	—	Not Cl	assified
9	10	9	1	—	—	*	—
	72	70 (97.22)	2 (2.78)	—	—	7 2 (Not	— Classified)

NOTES.—1. The manufacturers numbered 7 in Table I and Nos. 6 and 8 in Table II above are not classified owing to the insufficient number of samples taken.

2. Figures in parenthesis denote percentages.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF SHOPS ACT, 1950

The sanitary inspectors are responsible for administering all the provisions of this Act. To avoid multiple visits, each of the sanitary inspectors is responsible for the food shops within his district; these he is obliged to visit with reference to matters within the purview of the Food and Drugs Act. Other shops are dealt with by one shops' inspector. These inspectors make routine checks on the provision of the Act relating to health and welfare of shop employees, records, notices and hours of employment. 5,714 visits associated with those requirements were made during the year, necessitating the serving of 370 notices. Routine patrolling by inspectors to check the observance of evening closing hours and the requirements as to Sunday trading has been discontinued for the last eight years. In the immediate post-war years, trading conditions were such that there was little point in continuing nightly observations and sanitary inspectors—whose sole vocational interest is in matters of public health—are personally not reluctant to discontinue work of this nature. Recently, however, there are signs that there are some traders—usually the proprietors of mixed shops—who have reverted to the practice, which was more common in pre-war days, of selling articles outside the permitted hours. Observations were carried out following complaints by a traders' association which led to eight prosecutions. Seven of the shopkeepers were fined two pounds and one twenty shillings. In addition to these, two warning letters were sent regarding the sale of fruit during the weekly half-holiday.

#### Notices served, etc.

Number of notices served	..	..	..	..	..	370
Number of contraventions discovered	..	..	..	..	..	459
Number of contraventions remedied	..	..	..	..	..	445



**Nature of Contraventions remedied**

Section	17 (2)	Provision of Assistant's half-holiday Card	..	5
"	37 (1)	Provision of seats for female employees	..	1
"	1 (3)	Provision of half-day closing notice	..	233
"	13 (1)	Provision of Mixed Trade notices	..	11
"	38 (1) (a)	Suitable and sufficient ventilation	..	1
"	(b)	Maintenance of reasonable temperature	..	3
"	38 (2)	Provision of Sanitary Accommodation	..	7
"	38 (3)	Sanitary Accommodation cleansed and repaired	..	70
"	38 (4)	Provision of suitable and sufficient lighting	..	4
"	38 (4)	Provision of washing facilities	..	7
"	38 (5)	Provision of facilities for meals	..	—
"	32 (1) {	Provision of Documents (Young Persons)	..	84
"	32 (2) {			
		Other documents provided	..	13
		General sanitary conditions improved	..	5

**Sunday Trading**

Section	22 (3)	Provision of Records of Sunday Employment	..	—
"	50	Mixed Trade Notices	..	—
"	53	Registrations Revoked	..	—

**Hours of Employment**

Contraventions detected and remedied	..	..	..	..	1
--------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

**Hours of Closing and Sunday trading**

Number of contraventions noted	..	..	..	..	10
"	warnings issued	..	..	..	2
"	prosecutions instituted	..	..	..	8

**HOUSING****Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954**

This Act came into force on the 30th August, 1954. Its immediate effect, which occupied the last few months of the year, was to absorb a considerable amount of the time of the sanitary inspectors on the commencement of a preliminary survey of substandard houses with a view to advising the Council as to the programme of slum clearance which they are required to submit to the Minister in August, 1955. The survey was not completed by the end of the year, though by the end of the period now under review, it had led to 1,566 separate visits being made to houses or blocks of houses. In addition to the work associated with the superficial housing survey, the Act imposed on the Corporation duties connected with the issue and revocation of certificates of disrepair on application by tenants. Details as to these are tabulated below. Though the number of applications is small, the work is appreciable, since in fairness to landlord and tenant, the issue or revocation of a certificate demands a detailed inspection of everything in the house. It is too early yet to say whether this part of the Act will fulfil its basic intention of arresting the decay of the existing houses. One's earliest impression, however, is that the Act provides insufficient incentive to landlords, many of whom are hesitant to apply the machinery of the Act to their properties. This appears to be particu-

larly so as respects the houses which are in the greatest need of repair and which were in the minds of the sponsors of the Act. It is inherent to the form of the Act that its provisions will be most attractive in the case of the house which requires the least amount of money spending on it. It may thus prove to be that the good houses are to be made better, whilst the poor houses remain unaffected by the Act.

The detailed housing inspections called for by the machinery for the issue of certificates of disrepair led to a resumption of the serving of notices under section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936. This decision was reached in consequence of the statutory duty imposed on the local authority by the principal Act. Details of these notices are tabulated hereunder.

### Certificates of Disrepair

No. of certificates of disrepair issued	..	..	..	..	44
No. of certificates of disrepair refused	..	..	..	..	6
No. of certificates of disrepair revoked	..	..	..	..	5

### Section 9 Notices to render houses fit for habitation

No. of section 9 notices issued	..	..	..	..	27
Cost of works	..	..	..	..	£2,014
No. of section 9 notices complied with	..	..	..	..	5
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	4
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	3
External walls, etc. repaired	..	..	..	..	12
Damp proof courses inserted	..	..	..	..	2
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	4
Yard paving repaired	..	..	..	..	2
External walls and ceilings repaired	..	..	..	..	4
Doors repaired	..	..	..	..	7
Windows repaired	..	..	..	..	12
Floors repaired	..	..	..	..	4
Staircases repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Fireplaces repaired	..	..	..	..	6
Waste pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	1
W.C. basins renewed	..	..	..	..	2
W.C. cisterns renewed	..	..	..	..	2
W.C. structures repaired	..	..	..	..	2
W.C. doors repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Food stores provided	..	..	..	..	2
Lighting improved	..	..	..	..	1
Miscellaneous repairs	..	..	..	..	12

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### Clearance and Demolition of Unfit Houses

The allocation by the Council of a percentage of new housing accommodation for the tenants of houses subject to demolition was continued during the year. Though it had been hoped that the percentage would be gradually increased as time went by, no increased allocation was made during the year and thus the number of new houses available for slum clearance displacements remained at 8 per cent of the total new lettings of Corporation houses. Because of the need for the Council to rehouse families from derequisitioned houses, the total number of



houses to be shared by the five groups in the points scheme—and hence the share allocated for slum clearance purposes—was reduced. Nevertheless, there was a fair measure of activity during the year.

### **Demolition Orders**

Six houses—all in Moreton—were made the subject of demolition orders and demolished during the year, resulting in a displacement of 13 persons:

23a Borrowdale Road  
 "Selkirk", Pinetree Grove  
 14 Macdonald Road  
 17 Eleanor Road  
 "Woodcot", Leasowe Common  
 "Franklyn Lodge", Sandbrook Lane

In the latter part of the year demolition orders were also made in respect of two other occupied houses, but neither of them had reached the stage of demolition at the end of the year:

25 Sandbrook Lane  
 "Hart's Court Bungalow", Reeds Lane

### **Clearance Orders**

Demolition of thirty-three houses in Birchall Avenue was completed during the year in accordance with Clearance Order No. 71 confirmed by the Minister. 95 persons were displaced and rehoused by the Council.

A Clearance Order (No. 74) was made by the Council in respect of two occupied houses—11-13 Lomond Grove. Following a public inquiry the Minister confirmed the Order.

### **Compulsory Purchase Orders**

A Compulsory Purchase Order was made by the Council and confirmed by the Minister in regard to two derelict and five occupied houses in Ashville Road.

### **Closing Orders**

A Closing Order was made under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 in regard to the house portion of the premises No. 89 Borough Road and the three occupants were rehoused by the Council.

# Progress Report of Action under Housing Acts, 1930-1949

*Position as at 31st December, 1954*

	No. of dwelling houses demolished		Number of persons displaced
	Unfit	Other	
(1) Land coloured "pink" .. ..	756	—	1,715

## *Unfit Houses not included in Clearance Areas*

	Number of houses	Number of persons displaced
(1) Housing Act, 1936—		
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal procedure under Sec. 11 .. ..	295	972
(b) Houses demolished as a result of informal notices preliminary to formal procedure under Sec. 11 .. ..	81	105
(c) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Sec. 11	3	8
(d) Parts of buildings closed (Sec. 12) ..	10	10
(e) Houses made fit—		
(i) as a result of formal notices under Sections 9 to 12 .. ..	191	—
(ii) as a result of informal notices preliminary to formal procedure under Sections 9 to 12 .. ..	851	—
(2) Housing Act, 1949—		
(f) Closing Orders made under Section 13 (1)	—	—
(g) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2) .. ..	—	—
(h) Demolition Orders quashed under Section 2 .. ..	—	—

## Overcrowding and Allocation of Tenancies

In previous reports it has been described how between 1948 and 1952 the allocation of Council houses was conducted according to a points scheme which by and large evaluated the need for rehousing by reference to the degree of overcrowding, and by this means a very great part of the available houses was allocated to overcrowded families. It has been described also how the Council attempted to broaden the basis of assessing housing need by the adoption in 1952 of a group-plus-points scheme which resulted in the applications being subdivided into five groups to each of which was allocated a percentage of the total lettings in any one year. When this scheme was first introduced in 1952, the percentages allocated to the various groups were respectively:—

Overcrowded .. ..	45%
Subtenants .. ..	30%
Health .. ..	12%
Badly housed .. ..	8%
Emergency .. ..	5%



It was one of the attractions of the scheme at the time of its adoption that varying circumstances could be met by adjustment of the group allocations, without there being any necessity to re-write the points scheme as a whole. As events have turned out, it has not been seen fit to use the flexibility of the scheme by varying the percentages, which remained unchanged at the end of the year now being reviewed.

Thus, for nearly three years, the Overcrowded Group has continued to receive nearly one-half of all lettings. When it is remembered that for four years prior to that, nearly all the houses were allocated to overcrowded families, one might imagine serious cases of overcrowding to be relatively rare. Nothing would be farther from the truth. Despite all that has been done there are times when one encounters so many cases amid the routine work of a few days that one wonders whether indeed the situation has improved at all. It is possibly a sign that we are not keeping ahead in the race that in nearly three years of the operation of the present scheme, the qualifying date for inclusion in the Overcrowded Group has advanced only by one year. At the end of the year, applicants were only recognised to be overcrowded for the purposes of the points scheme if the overcrowding had been in existence (or come about due to natural increase) since December, 1950. Thus no couple married for less than four years could gain admission to the Overcrowded Group. Numerous cases have come to notice of the birth of three children within that space of time; in a few cases, even four children have been born. It invariably happens in such instances that the families are living in rooms; quite a number are in houses owned by the Corporation. It is quite apparent that many more houses are needed before "saturation point" is reached, if indeed, such a point exists.

Discouraging though this aspect of the housing problem may be, it does not stand alone. It is becoming more and more evident that the number of old people who are living in accommodation entirely unsuited to their ages and physical condition is appreciable. A proper assessment of the size of the problem cannot be made without conducting a detailed survey. It is apparent, however, that here is a class which alone could absorb the whole new housing allocation of the Corporation for some time to come; it is a problem of wide social significance, which if the facts were known, might merit the drafting of a housing programme complete in itself. At the present time, the Wallasey scheme makes no distinct allocation of a proportion of houses for the aged and from time to time cases have been submitted for consideration for rehousing in the Health Group of the scheme. Pitiable though some of the individual cases have been proved to be, it has rarely been possible to effect rehousing in this group, it having become obvious that this class of case is so widespread as to be capable of taking up all the houses assigned to this group.

The Health Group deals with a class of case where housing need is most acute, and in my experience those who are fortunate enough to be recommended for rehousing within this group represent some of the most deserving cases on the waiting list. When the Council first allocated 12 per cent of houses to this group of applicants, it was intended to improve the arrangements which had previously existed. In practice, this has not worked out and it has been impossible to relax the extremely rigid standard which is applied when adjudicating this kind of case. Some of the claims which are made for rehousing on medical grounds



are concerned with everyday conditions which cannot be associated with environmental conditions and which certainly do not merit the allocation of a house having regard to the fact that no more than 25 or 30 houses are available for this class of applicant in the course of a year. On the other hand, many necessitous cases must needs be refused. If approval were given in all cases where "the family would derive special benefit from rehousing", as is conceived in the points scheme, a queue would rapidly be formed by applicants waiting for houses allocated to this group. This aspect of the scheme would then lose its value, since the kind of case which receives approval requires a house very quickly if it is to do any good at all. For this reason, an effort is made to restrict the number of recommendations to the number of houses which are likely to be available within the allocation period. Unfortunately, this may have the effect of giving the impression that the needs of this group were being fully met by the allocation of 12%, which has remained unaltered since 1952. Thus, it deserves to be made more widely known that the number of houses made available for rehousing on health grounds dictates the number of certificates of approval which are issued by the Medical Officer of Health. That the group-plus-points scheme has not permitted any relaxation of the rigorous standard of judging the medical cases is shown by the fact that in the last three years approval has been given in 120 cases, compared with 104 in the three years prior to the introduction of the revised scheme. During 1954, the figure fell to 25, the lowest since the war; the obligation of the Council to rehouse families from derequisitioned houses was the principal cause of this.

It is perhaps not surprising in this atmosphere that the allocation of houses for rehousing families displaced from unfit houses demolished under the Housing Act has remained at the low figure of 8%. By the end of the year there were signs that the Government were keen that local authorities should resume in full measure the work of slum clearance, and as is recounted elsewhere, a superficial survey has begun in Wallasey to meet the request of the Minister. How the Council propose to deal with the problem of allocating the larger proportion of houses which any serious slum clearance programme will entail will be described in the report relating to 1955.

### Housing Applications, 1954

*Analysis of 494 families investigated as a result of references from Housing Department.*

	Overcrowded		Notover- crowded	Applications on Medical Grounds			
	Housing Act, 1936	Points Scheme		Tuberculosis		Other Cases	
				Approved	Rejected	Approved	Rejected
Ten- ants	13	32	122	3	10	4	28
Sub- Ten'ts living in r'ms	53	106	54	10	39	8	78
Totals	66	138	176	13	49	12	106



### Provision of New Houses

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

	During 1954	Post-War Period incl. 1954	In Progress 31/12/54
Houses erected by private enterprise .. .. .	132	982	131
Units of Accommodation erected by Local Authority .. .. .	165	2,469	319
Tenant Ownership Houses erected by Local Authority .. .. .	33	132	—

The above figures include houses rebuilt following demolition as a result of enemy action, but exclude flat conversions.

### INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

310 factories remained on the register at the close of the year—5 more than in 1953. It was not possible, however, to devote as much time to factory inspections, only 603 visits being made, compared with 925 in 1953. One cannot feel satisfied that two visits a year is a satisfactory standard of factory inspection, but it was the most which could be done, having regard to the continued shortage of one inspector and the increased work of other kinds.

An abstract of inspections under the Factories Act, 1937, in the form required by the Minister of Labour and National Service is set out below. In addition to the written notices shown in the table to have been served on occupiers, additional improvements were also effected in 19 factories by verbal agreement.

#### *Administration of the Factories Act, 1937*

#### *Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.*

Premises	No. on Register	Number of	
		Inspections	Written Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced .. .. .	30	67	Nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	254	505	9
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) .. .. .	26	31	Nil
Totals .. .. .	310	603	9

*Cases in which defects were found*

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	7	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—				
(a) Insufficient ..	2	3	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	29	25	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. .. .	—	—	1	—
Totals ..	31	35	1	1

*Outwork*

Wearing apparel-making, etc.	Number of outworkers in Aug. list required by section 10 (i) (c)	2
	Visits made .. .. .	2

**WATER SUPPLY****Town Area Supply***Quantity*

The total consumption of water in the town area represented 36.35 gallons per head per day, of which 27.9 was for domestic purposes, 0.55 gallons for shipping and 7.85 gallons for industry and commerce, and by Cleansing Department 0.05 gallons.

*Source and Treatment*

The source of supply, which was described at length in the report for 1950, continues to comprise a bulk supply from the Birkenhead Corporation's Lake Alwen reservoir and a similar supply from the Corporation's borehole at Liscard. The Lake Alwen water is treated by flocculation, filtration and precautionary sterilisation by chloramine. The borehole water is softened and chlorinated.

*Chemical and Bacteriological Examination*

Routine sampling of the supply both at the Seaview Road Pumping Station and at numerous points of distribution in the borough was carried out by the staff of the Water Department and by sanitary inspectors. 200 samples were subjected to bacteriological examination and 81 to full chemical analysis by the Water Department. Average



results of chemical examinations carried out by the Water Department were as follows:—

	<i>Parts per million</i>	
	<i>General District Supply</i>	<i>District Supply Moreton, Poulton and Seacombe</i>
Total hardness .. .. .	98.0	30.0
Total solids .. .. .	312.0	75.0
Free Ammonia .. .. .	0.01	0.02
Albuminoid Ammonia .. .. .	0.07	0.09
Nitrogen as Nitrates .. .. .	1.0	0.1
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C. ..	1.2	2.0
pH value .. .. .	6.7	7.0
Chlorides .. .. .	90.0	9.0

Of the 200 bacteriological examinations conducted by the Water Department, 179 gave negative results.

Results of 27 samples taken by sanitary inspectors of untreated water at the borehole in Seaview Road and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service are as follows:—

*Details of Bacteriological Samples*

TOWN AREA SUPPLY

(i) Borehole at Seaview Road

No. of Organisms	No. of samples		
	2 days at 37°C.	Pres. Coli.	Faecal Coli.
0	2	27	27
1–	8	—	—
5–	6	—	—
10–	11	—	—
50–60	—	—	—
	27	27	27

A summary of the results of 40 samples taken by sanitary inspectors from taps of premises within the town area is given in the following table:—

## (ii) Random Distribution Points

No. of Organisms	No. of samples		
	2 days at 37°C.	Pres. Coli.	Faecal Coli.
0	2	39	40
1-	21	1	—
5-	8	—	—
10-	9	—	—
50-	—	—	—
60-	—	—	—
	40	40	40

Two samples of the town supply taken by sanitary inspectors were submitted for full chemical examination. The average of the samples gives the following result:—

Analytical results expressed in parts per million:—

Total solid matter in solution	.. .. .	236.6
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes	.. .. .	0.745
4 hours	.. .. .	1.35
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	0.01
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	0.035
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	None
Nitric nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	0.4
Combined chlorine	.. .. .	75.0
Total hardness	.. .. .	78.5
Iron	.. .. .	None
pH value 7.2		

In each case the water was found to be free from pollution and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

### Saughall Massie Supply

289 dwellinghouses in the extreme western end of the borough receive their water supply from the West Cheshire Water Board. This water is obtained from deep wells at the Board's pumping stations with auxiliary supplies from Birkenhead as and when required. All water is subject to treatment by either simple chlorination or chloramination. On the basis of consumption throughout the entire area supplied by the Board, the total consumption per head per day is 58 gallons, of which 24 gallons were for industry and commerce.

During the year 26 samples of water from the pumping station were submitted by the Board to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, S.W.1., for bacteriological examination and gave the following results:—



No. of Colonies (on Agar)	No. of samples		
	3 days at 20°C.	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.
—0	19	25	24
1—4	5	1	1
5—9	—	—	1
10—49	1	—	—
50—150	—	—	—
151—200	1	—	—
	26	26	26

In all samples, B.Coli and B.Welchii were absent from 100 mls.

An average of the quarterly chemical examination of the water is as follows (results in parts per million):—

Appearance	.. .. .	Bright with few mineral particles.
Colour	.. .. .	Nil
Turbidity	.. .. .	Less than 3
Odour	.. .. .	Nil
pH reaction	.. .. .	7.225
Electric conductivity	.. .. .	590
Chlorine present as Chloride	.. .. .	75.5
Hardness: Non-carbonate	.. .. .	77.5
Carbonate	.. .. .	176.25
Total	.. .. .	253.75
Nitrate Nitrogen	.. .. .	3.15
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.. .. .	0.003
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.. .. .	0.000
Free Carbon Dioxide	.. .. .	15.0
Total Solids	.. .. .	386.25
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	.. .. .	176.25
Nitrite Nitrogen	.. .. .	Less than 0.01
Oxygen absorbed	.. .. .	0.0625
Residual Chlorine	.. .. .	0.05
Iron	.. .. .	0.01
Zinc	.. .. .	0.3
Other Metals	.. .. .	Absent

During the year 36 samples of water were taken by sanitary inspectors and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Birkenhead, for bacteriological examination. Two samples taken in December were found to be not up to the usual standard and repeat samples were taken. The results of the latter were still below standard and the Engineer to the West Cheshire Water Board was informed. The results of check samples taken by the West Cheshire Water Board on the 20th January, 1955 were found to be highly satisfactory.

*Details of Bacteriological Samples***West Cheshire Water Board***Samples taken by Sanitary Inspectors  
at selected distribution points*

No. of Organisms	No. of samples		
	2 days at 37°C.	Pres. Coli	Faecal Coli
0	1	26	34
1—4	20	7	2
5—9	8	—	—
10—15	2	1	—
16—30	4	2	—
31—60	1	—	—
	36	36	36

One sample of water supplied by the West Cheshire Water Board was taken by a sanitary inspector and submitted for full chemical examination. The result was as follows:

Analytical results expressed in parts per million:—

Analytical results expressed in parts per million:—

Total solid matter in solution	..	..	..	..	386.4
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes	..	..	..	..	None
4 hours	..	..	..	..	None
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N...	..	..	..	..	0.01
Albuminoid nitrogen as N. ..	..	..	..	..	None
Nitrous nitrogen as N. ..	..	..	..	..	None
Nitric nitrogen as N. ..	..	..	..	..	3.2
Combined chlorine ..	..	..	..	..	74
Total hardness ..	..	..	..	..	261
Iron ..	..	..	..	..	None

pH value 7.4

**SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE**

The sewerage system has been described in previous annual reports. Due to economies in the programme of capital expenditure, no large scale sewerage works have been undertaken by the Borough Engineer during the year. The main work in this category which his department has undertaken has been the provision of sewers to new housing estates, i.e. the construction of 160 yards of nine inch and 20 yards of six inch sewers in Overgreen Grove and 45 yards of nine inch and 50 yards of six inch sewers in Greenheath Way.

**House Drainage**

Visits by sanitary inspectors in connection with same..	..	558
Drains cleansed from obstruction after service of notice ..	..	237
Minor repairs effected to existing drains ..	..	56
Entire reconstruction of existing drains ..	..	1
Partial reconstruction of existing drains ..	..	8
Drain Tests: (a) Smoke ..	..	47
(b) Water ..	..	4



(c) Colour .. .. .	23
Cesspools emptied after service of notice .. .. .	—
Cesspools repaired .. .. .	—
Cesspools abolished .. .. .	—
Choked sewers referred to Borough Engineer .. .. .	11
Ditches and watercourses inspected .. .. .	7
Ditches and streams cleansed .. .. .	—
Ditches and streams—pollution remedied .. .. .	1

## RODENT CONTROL

### Sewer Maintenance Treatment

The execution of two sewer rodent treatments was again repeated during the year. The remarkable success of this work has been evident since 1944, when the prebait takes were recorded in 35 per cent of the manholes in the sewer system. By 1951 the number of baits consumed by rats fell to 0.73 per cent, and during 1954 no complete and only four partial takes were recorded during the first treatment. This treatment was preceded by a test bait of 10 per cent of the sewer system, which led to 128 manholes being included in the first treatment, compared with 4,749 which required treatment in the year 1947. In the second treatment carried out in the autumn, eight complete and twenty-three partial takes were recorded. There seems to be cause for speculation as to whether the recognised forms of treatment (as advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries) are capable of eradicating a residual infestation which is so low as that now to be observed in the Wallasey sewers. The use of Warfarin in sewers—not at present permitted—would seem the most obvious next step to be tried. It is hoped that a restricted experimental treatment might be undertaken next year.

Alongside the routine sewer treatments, smoke tests were executed on drains and sewers which might possibly be associated with surface infestations. In one case the tests indicated the necessity for the system of simultaneous disinfection of premises and sewers known in official language as “vertical block control.”

### Surface Infestations

During the year 367 complaints of surface infestation were received compared with 347 in 1953. Details of the inspections and treatments carried out are given below in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. “Major” infestations of rats have only been encountered on two occasions during the year. 310 separate treatments were carried out at 279 premises by rodent operatives of the Public Health Department. 250 of these premises were treated once in the year, while reinfestation involving two treatments occurred in 27 premises; three treatments were required at two premises. Warfarin has come to be accepted as the basic rat poison. During the year it was used in all except two of the 310 treatments by council rodent operatives. Reinspections have been carried out on the first, third, seventh, eleventh and fourteenth days, a system which was discussed in the annual report for 1952. Intermittent treatment was carried on throughout the year at one large factory. One rodent operative attended a one day refresher course.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling-houses	Agri-cultural	All other (incl. Business & Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District ..	180	29,110	55	3,750	33,095
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority as a result of (a) notification or (b) survey under Damage by Pests Act (c) otherwise, i.e. when visited primarily for some other purpose .. ..	(a) 13	260	3	66	342
	(b) 19	696	4	83	802
	(c) 499	8,587	Nil	10,973	20,059
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats .. .. .	Major 2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
	Minor 8	23	2	20	53
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice .. ..	10	194	1	57	262
V. Number of infested properties (under III & IV) treated by the Local Authority .. ..	20	191	3	65	279
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:					
(1) Treatment .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Structural Works (i.e., Proofing).. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
VIII. Legal Proceedings ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
IX. Numbers of "block" control schemes carried out .. ..	—	—	—	—	—

## NOTES

Note 1. A property means a property separately entered in the Valuation Roll for the area.

Note 2. Council houses are included under Dwelling Houses. Premises used by Local Authority for purposes of trade are included under Business or Industrial Premises. Sewers are not included.

Only properties devoted to agricultural or horticultural production are included under Agricultural Properties. Combined dwelling and business premises where occupied by the same person are included under Business Premises, otherwise they are entered separately.

Note 3. II, III, IV and V in each case relate to the number of properties inspected as defined in Note 1 and not to the number of inspections, infestations or treatment at each property.



## PUBLIC HEALTH CONTROL OF SWIMMING BATHS

During the year, 54 visits were paid to the Corporation's three swimming pools by district sanitary inspectors, who made a total of 40 tests of the available chlorine content of the water and took 50 samples of water for bacteriological examination.

At Guinea Gap first-class plunge, 9 tests were made; the average residual chlorine was 0.555 parts per million at the inlet, and 0.455 parts per million at the outlet. Corresponding averages of 12 tests at the second-class plunge were 0.64 parts per million and 0.53 parts per million.

The presence of residual chlorine in the New Brighton and Derby Pools has not been so consistently maintained. At the former 12 chlorine tests were made, chlorination not taking place during 3 tests and no residual chlorine being recorded. The following averages are based on the remaining 9 tests: inlet (east side) 0.7, inlet (west side) 0.5, outlet 0.19.

At Derby Pool, seven tests were taken with inlet, centre and outlet averages of 0.6, 0.05 and 0.00 parts per million respectively. The low residual chlorine in the body of the pool is possibly due to intermittent use of the filters and chlorinating plant on those days when bad weather results in few bathers using the pool. This state was observed on three occasions during the year.

An analysis is given below of the bacteriological examination of samples of water from the three baths:—

### Derby Pool

No. of Organisms	No. of samples		
	2 days at 37°C.	Pres. Coli	Faecal Coli
—0	1	8	8
1—4	2	—	—
5—9	1	—	—
10—24	2	—	—
25—49	1	—	—
50—80	1	—	—
	8	8	8

### New Brighton Pool

No. of Organisms	No. of samples		
	2 days at 37°C.	Pres. Coli	Faecal Coli
—0	2	13	14
1—4	4	1	—
5—9	2	—	—
10—24	6	—	—
25—50	—	—	—
	14	14	14

## Guinea Gap Baths

No. of Organisms	No. of samples		
	2 days at 37°C.	Pres. Coli	Faecal Coli
—0	3	24	26
1—4	13	4	2
5—9	5	—	—
10—24	6	—	—
25—49	1	—	—
50—60	—	—	—
	28	28	28

**Chemical Examination—Specimen Analysis**  
**Guinea Gap Swimming Bath (2nd Class)**

Analytical results expressed in parts per million:—

Total solid matter in solution	.. .. .	22,880.0
Oxygen required to oxidise in .. 15 minutes	.. .. .	0.46
.. 4 hours	.. .. .	1.04
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	0.30
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	0.02
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	None
Nitric nitrogen as N.	.. .. .	Traces
Combined chlorine	.. .. .	11,700.0
Free Chlorine	.. .. .	0.34
pH value	.. .. .	7.4

The sample was clear, bright and colourless.

In my opinion the water is quite satisfactory for swimming bath use.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Activity in this field has followed the traditional pattern which is common to most towns similar to Wallasey; the Council maintains four stations for the measurement of deposits and sulphur in the atmosphere; the sanitary inspectors carry out routine observations of chimneys of non-residential properties, visit boiler houses, advise stokers where necessary and take whatever formal action is needed on the occasion of a statutory smoke nuisance being created. Except in the case of specific complaints relating to offending chimneys, which receive special attention, smoke observations are only conducted whenever other work allows time to be devoted to them. It is regrettable that important public health work such as this—which is truly deserving of being the subject of an organised campaign—can only be carried out in the spare time left over when other work has been done. In these circumstances there is a great risk that spontaneous work of smoke prevention is reduced to a minimum as work in other spheres increases. It is dissatisfying to note that in the last three years, the number of smoke observations which the inspectors have been able to carry out



has fallen from 352 in 1952 to 243 this year. The problem of industrial smoke in Wallasey is, of course, not of the same degree as that experienced in the large industrial towns. Nevertheless—and this is a good sign—the residents are not inclined to overlook any opportunity to complain about alleged excesses of smoke emission from industrial chimneys. In the town area, the complaints usually relate to chimneys serving laundries, a nearby hospital or small factories. Frequently, the amount of smoke may be less than the law allows—two minutes of *black* smoke in any period of half-an-hour—and the problem, as in many residential towns, is principally one of small industries inappropriately sited. Hitherto, the only satisfactory cure has been regarded as one to be found by the town planners. At the north end of the town, complaints have continued to be received about smoke pollution from river boats, usually dredgers. Some slight improvement has been achieved by the arrangement whereby the Medical Officer of Health to the Liverpool Port Health Authority is notified by telephone of the offences as they are observed.

In a residential town such as Wallasey it is quite obvious that apart from pollution from industry and the river, the bulk of atmospheric pollution is derived from the chimneys of the houses of the ratepayers themselves. It is quite remarkable how frequently it is alleged that smoke and soot covering relatively large areas of residential property is due entirely to the one small (but prominent) factory chimney in the neighbourhood. It is equally surprising that attempts to explain the extent of the contribution made by domestic chimneys to the total pollution are often dubiously received. In recent years, many householders have taken a step in the right direction by installing grates capable of burning coke or other solid smokeless fuels. Casual observations in the district would suggest that the grates were purchased for their "all-night burning" properties rather than out of a desire for smoke abatement. It is now becoming generally recognised that a new approach is needed to the task of obtaining clean air and that the domestic firegrate cannot be left out of any future proposals. It is also generally accepted that a policy of smoke prevention would be a better substitute for that of smoke abatement, which is the underlying feature of existing legislation. By the close of the year, there were signs that there is an awakening of interest in this subject in high places, and there was talk of general legislation relating to it. It is almost certain that the major feature of any future legislation will be the power to enable a local authority to create what have come to be called "smokeless zones", without having to follow the expensive procedure associated with local Acts. If the Act comes into being in the course of the next year, as well it might, from the viewpoint of public health it is to be hoped that the residents at large are ready to see the improvements which can result from the creation of smoke-free areas and are prepared to grasp those improvements at the cost of the liberty to burn bituminous coal in any kind of grate.

Occasionally, there comes a reminder that all atmospheric pollution is not derived from fuel-burning appliances. One such incident occurred in Wallasey during the year, when a ship laden with yellow chrome ore was unloaded at the Bidston Dock berth, with startling effects over a very wide area. This and subsequent events involved the sanitary

inspectors in long and detailed inquiries. Since the incident, no further ship carrying this type of ore visited the dock and thus the nuisance has not recurred.

No. of formal (half-hourly) smoke observations	..	..	58
No. of casual smoke observations	..	..	185
No. of visits to boiler-houses	..	..	64
No. of interviews	..	..	18
No. of nuisances abated	..	..	1

Table 1

Mean Monthly Rates of Deposit for Winter and Summer Periods  
October, 1953—September, 1954

Station	Rainfall		Total Dissolved Matter		Total Undissolved Matter		Total Solids	
	M.M.		Tons per sq. mile per month					
	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer
Oakdale Road Oct., 1953— March, 1954	58		11.67		14.96		26.63	
April, 1954— Sept., 1954		74		10.35		10.88		21.23
Poulton Junior School Oct., 1953— March, 1954	52		9.84		11.77		21.61	
April, 1954— Sept., 1954		69		7.26		8.93		16.19
Saughall Massie Oct., 1953— March, 1954	51		4.81		2.17		6.98	
April, 1954— Sept., 1954		70		6.45		2.50		8.95
Seaview Road Oct., 1953— March, 1954	53		8.96		7.04		16.00	
April, 1954— Sept., 1954		70		6.63		5.10		11.73



Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis), under 1 year ..	1
do. do. do. 1 to 2 years ..	Nil
Diarrhoea and Enteritis Mortality Rate under 1 year, per 1,000 live births .. .. .	0.58
Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Diarrhoea) .. .. .	.009
Phthisis Death-rate per 1,000 of population .. .. .	0.10
Respiratory Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Phthisis) .. .. .	1.05

### PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

Heart Disease .. .. .	415	Pththisis .. .. .	11
Other Circulatory Diseases .. .. .	33	Intracranial Vascular Lesions .. .. .	158
Cancer .. .. .	198	Congenital Malformations .. .. .	15
Respiratory Diseases—		Violent Deaths (including suicides) .. .. .	47
Pneumonia .. .. .	38		
Bronchitis .. .. .	55		
Other .. .. .	15		

### MATERNAL MORTALITY

No maternal deaths occurred in the Borough during the year.

## SUMMARY OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1954

CAUSES OF DEATH	SEXES		All Ages	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT								Total Deaths in both sexes
	M.	F.		0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	
All causes—Certified	584	585	1169	43	8	2	5	42	245	359	465	1
—Uncertified	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	
Tuberculosis—respiratory ..	9	2	11	—	—	—	—	2	5	4	—	
Tuberculosis—other ..	—	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	
Syphilitic disease ..	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal infection ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute polio-myelitis ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Measles ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	4	—	4	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
Malignant neoplasm—stomach ..	18	12	30	—	—	—	—	1	10	10	9	
Malignant neoplasm—lung, bronchus ..	35	7	42	—	—	—	—	3	19	14	6	
Malignant neoplasm—breast ..	—	14	14	—	—	—	—	—	8	3	3	
Malignant neoplasm—uterus ..	—	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	52	53	105	—	—	—	—	2	35	44	24	
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ..	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Diabetes ..	3	6	9	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	3	
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	66	92	158	—	—	—	—	3	23	55	77	
Coronary disease—angina ..	114	67	181	—	—	—	—	1	53	74	53	
Hypertension with heart disease ..	20	16	36	—	—	—	—	1	9	11	15	
Other heart disease ..	82	116	198	—	—	—	1	6	16	45	130	
Other circulatory disease ..	14	19	33	—	—	—	1	1	5	11	15	
Influenza ..	1	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	
Pneumonia ..	18	20	38	3	—	—	—	1	4	14	16	
Bronchitis ..	36	19	55	—	—	—	—	2	16	20	17	
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	9	6	15	1	—	—	—	3	3	3	5	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	14	5	19	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	7	
Gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea ..	2	4	6	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	
Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	4	5	9	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	4	
Hyperplasia of prostate ..	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	4	
Pregnancy, childbirth abortion ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital malformations ..	10	5	15	12	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	43	75	118	16	2	1	—	6	14	27	52	
Motor vehicle accidents ..	2	1	3	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	
All other accidents ..	15	20	35	5	3	—	1	3	2	3	18	
Suicide ..	3	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	
Homicide and operations of war ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
ALL CAUSES ..	587	586	1173	43	8	2	5	42	246	361	466	



DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN WALLASEY				DEATHS OUTSIDE WALLASEY			
LANE HOSPITAL—				In Public Institutions	..	..	322
Residents	..	..	6	Elsewhere	..	..	26
Non-Residents	..	..	4				
FIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL—							348
Residents	..	..	14				
Non-Residents	..	..	—				
DRIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL—				TRANSFERABLE DEATHS			
Residents	..	..	127	In Wallasey of Non-Residents			
Non-Residents	..	..	13	(i.e.) Outward Transfers	..	..	58
WALLASEY WOMEN'S HOSPITAL—				INQUESTS			
Residents	..	..	4	Residents (all ages)	..	..	36
Non-Residents	..	..	1	Non-Residents all ages)	..	11	47
TWO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL—				Legitimate Children—under 1 year..			4
Residents	..	..	—	1 and under 2 years	..	..	1
Non-Residents	..	..	4	2 years and under 5 years	..	..	2
				Illegitimate Children under 1 year	..	..	—
				1 and under 2 years	..	..	—
				2 years and under 5 years	..	..	—
			173				

## CAUSES OF ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS UNDER 2 YEARS OF AGE

	Cause of Death							Age
ins.	1 (a)	Broncho pneumonia						
	(b)	Microcephaly						
	(c)	Cerebral agenesis	..	..	..	..	..	18 months
do.	1 (a)	Toxaemia						
	(b)	Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	1 month
do.	1 (a)	Multiple congenital abnormalities			..	..	..	2 days
do.	1 (a)	Spina bifida						
		meningomyelocele	..	..	..	..	..	24 days

# INFANT MORTALITY 1954

## 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.	3 mths.	4 mths.	5 mths.	6 mths.	under 7 mths.	8 mths.	9 mths.	10 mths.	11 mths.	12 mths.	Total deaths under 1 year	Deaths in previous year
All Causes— Certified Uncertified	12	3	4	3	2	1	1	3	—	—	29	6	3	2	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	43	41
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tube'losis—lungs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tube'lar meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	9	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	13	12
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Overlying ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Premature Birth ...	8	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	17
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Inattention at Birth	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Causes	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	9	2
	12	3	4	3	2	1	1	3	—	—	29	6	3	2	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	43	41



**TABLE SHOWING** (a) **Infant Deaths and Death Rates.**  
 (b) **Neo-natal deaths and Death Rates.**  
 (c) **Deaths and Death Rates (infants 4 weeks to 12 months).**

Year	Infants		Neo-natal			4 weeks—12 months		
	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births	% of Total Infant Deaths	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births	% of Total Infant Deaths
1944	77	43.0	34	19.0	44.16	43	24.0	55.84
1945	97	56.8	38	22.3	39.18	59	34.57	60.82
1946	87	42.2	51	24.7	58.62	36	17.48	41.38
1947	111	51.1	57	26.9	51.35	54	25.09	48.65
1948	78	43.5	38	20.67	48.72	40	22.35	51.28
1949	64	35.8	34	19.0	53.13	30	16.82	46.87
1950	49	28.7	28	16.41	57.14	21	12.31	42.86
1951	55	32.4	35	20.62	63.63	20	11.19	36.37
1952	56	33.3	43	25.62	76.78	13	7.75	23.22
1953	41	24.7	29	17.51	70.74	12	7.25	29.26
1954	43	25.1	29	16.94	67.44	14	8.12	32.56

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 1954.

**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)
1950	28.7	30	34 (126)
1951	32.4	29	34 (126)
1952	33.3	27	31 (160)
1953	24.7	27	31 (160)
1954	25.1	25	25 (160)

**ILLEGITIMACY.**

During the year there were 96 illegitimate births recorded by the Registrar-General as belonging to the Borough, compared with 78 in 1953. This gives an illegitimate birth-rate of 56.07 per thousand total live births, as compared with 47.10 in 1953.

The infant mortality rate amongst illegitimate children was 31.25 per thousand illegitimate births.



The following table shows the comparison between the death rates of illegitimate children and others registered in the Borough during the past twenty years.

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Illegitimate Births		Total deaths under one year of age	Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	Deaths of illegitimates under 1 year of age	Illegitimate infant mortality per 1,000 illegitimate births
		Legitimate	Illegitimate	to 1,000 pop.	to 1,000 births				
1935	96,600	1,218	62	0.64	48.43	61	47.6	3	48.4
1936	95,860	1,267	52	0.54	39.41	87	65.9	6	115.3
1937	94,910	1,220	58	0.61	45.37	75	58.7	4	71.4
1938	94,220	1,235	57	0.60	44.11	78	60.3	4	87.7
1939	93,990	1,239	54	0.57	43.58	63	48.9	2	37.7
1940	91,240	1,205	62	0.67	48.93	79	62.9	2	100.0
1941	72,060	1,037	54	0.74	49.41	80	78.9	6	92.6
1942	68,580	1,104	91	1.32	76.15	57	47.7	6	65.9
1943	74,310	1,454	107	1.44	68.53	76	48.6	5	46.3
1944	83,100	1,657	133	1.60	74.30	77	43.0	13	97.7
1945	87,890	1,523	183	2.08	107.26	97	56.8	14	76.5
1946	96,320	1,934	125	1.29	60.70	87	42.2	10	48.0
1947	98,780	2,044	108	1.09	50.18	111	51.11	9	83.33
1948	99,500	1,686	104	1.04	58.19	78	43.57	5	48.00
1949	100,750	1,704	80	0.79	44.84	64	35.87	6	75.00
1950	102,510	1,604	102	0.99	59.78	49	28.72	7	68.62
1951	101,100	1,624	73	0.72	43.01	55	32.41	3	41.09
1952	101,700	1,600	78	0.76	46.47	56	33.37	2	25.62
1953	102,100	1,578	78	0.75	47.10	41	24.76	2	25.64
1954	102,400	1,616	96	0.93	56.07	43	25.12	3	31.25

### ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

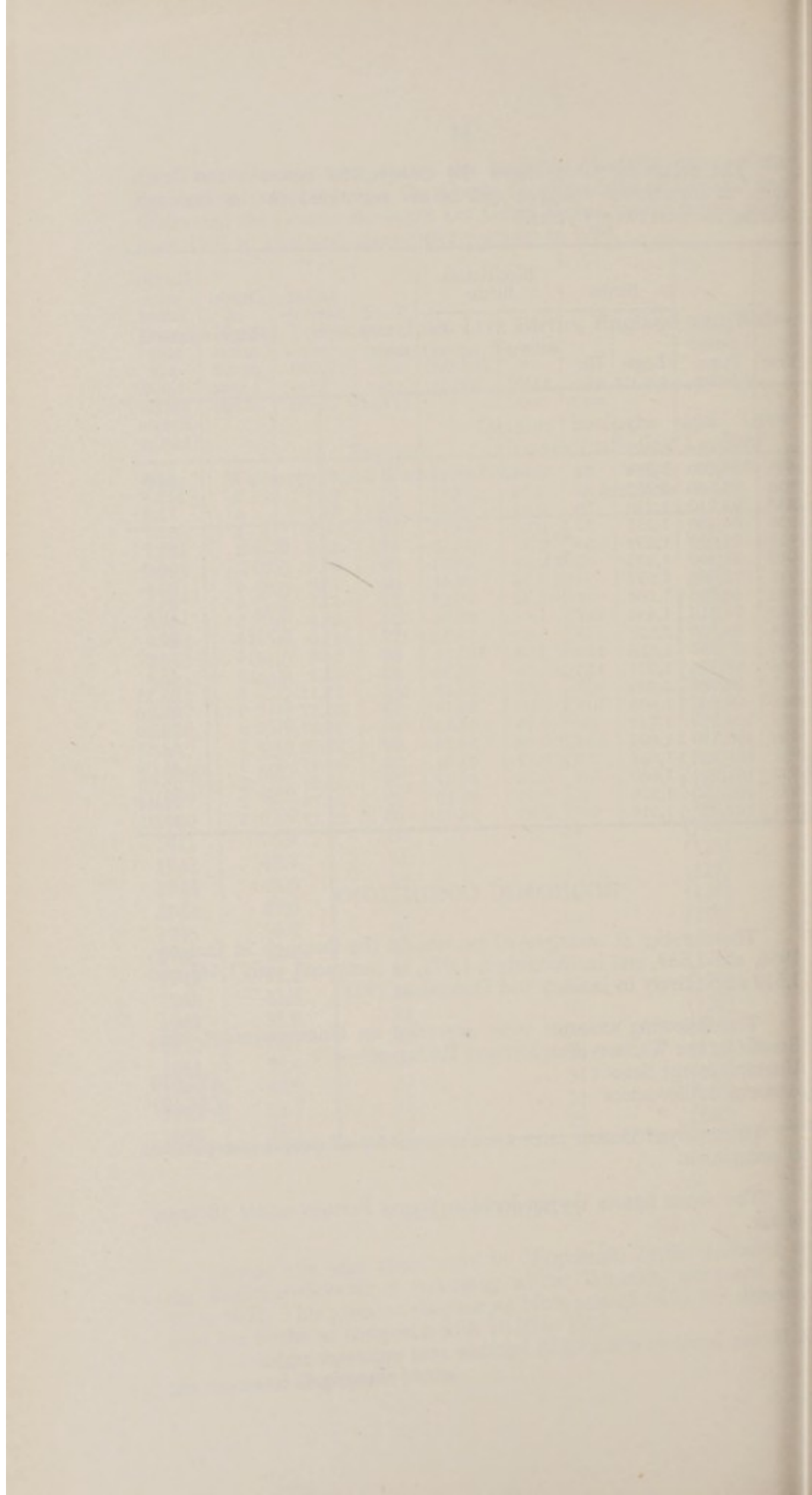
The number of unemployed persons in the Borough in January, 1954, was 1,539, and in December, 1,073, as compared with 1,447 and 1,519 respectively in January and December, 1953.

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

Unemployment Benefit	..	..	..	..	..	£72,674
Assistance Allowances	..	..	..	..	..	£34,121

Unemployed Benefit rates are the same for all people irrespective of occupation.

The above figures do not include Young Persons under 18 years of age.





four families have been resident for 20 months, 20 months, 15 months and 12 months respectively, by the end of 1954; obviously the flats are not functioning as originally intended and as suggested by the designation "Temporary Accommodation". However, in-so-far as they are sheltering four families they are proving most useful.

Owing to difficulties over purchasing the chief rent, etc., the scheme to buy three houses in Parry Street to use as additional accommodation of this type was not proceeded with.

Efforts are being made to secure further premises which can be converted to provide this type of accommodation.

In March the Welfare Committee was empowered, in certain circumstances, to exercise functions under the Housing Acts. This power was used once during the year.

### **15 Percy Road**

The Old Vicarage, 15 Percy Road, was purchased during the year and renovated. At the end of the year this house was almost ready for occupation. This has not been included under the heading "Temporary Accommodation" as it is intended that a very large family, who cannot otherwise be accommodated by the Council, should make this house their permanent residence.

### **Registration of Disabled Persons' and Old Persons' Homes**

No Homes under this heading have been registered during the year. There are seven such Homes in Wallasey, which are visited by Welfare Officers to ensure that the necessary standard is maintained.

### **Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention**

During the year it was necessary to remove one elderly woman to Part III Accommodation at St. Catherine's Hospital Annexe under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. She is blind (although not on the Blind Register) and was living in insanitary conditions in one room. She was incapable of looking after herself and harboured delusions of persecution.

In one other case, action under Section 47 was considered. An elderly man, a diabetic and partially paralysed was living in insanitary conditions, but he agreed eventually to enter Clegg House and it was not necessary to apply for a Court Order.

### **Burial or Cremation of the Dead**

Several burials of persons who had no relatives able to undertake the task were carried out during the year. In addition the remains of a still-born female child recovered from the River Mersey were interred.

### **Welfare of Handicapped Persons (other than Blind and Partially Sighted)**

Considerable progress was made during the year toward implementing the Schemes for providing Welfare Services for Handicapped Persons. After the Schemes had been approved by the Minister of Health in July, a booklet was printed setting out details, and various other preliminary arrangements were made. Shortly before the end of



the year a Welfare Visitor for Handicapped Persons was appointed to take up her duty on the 1st February, 1955.

The Welfare Committee have representatives on the Merseyside Joint Deaf and Dumb and Deafened Advisory Committee, the North Regional Association for the Deaf and the Merseyside Joint Committee for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped.

The Hard of Hearing Club continue to occupy premises in Hale Road, Wallasey, which are provided by the Corporation.

### **Protection of Property of Persons admitted to Hospital, etc.**

One of the duties of the Welfare Committee is the protection of the property of persons who have been admitted to hospital, or Part III Accommodation. Furniture and effects of such persons are stored at 42/44 Church Street.

Applications are made to the Court of Protection for the appointment of Receivers of Estates and assistance is given to relatives in this matter.

### **Recovery of Expenses from Persons liable to maintain Dependents**

It has not been necessary to apply to the Petty Sessional Court for any recovery of expenses during the year.

### **Entertainments, Outings, etc.**

The residents in the Corporation Hostels enjoyed a coach outing to Rhyl and Colwyn Bay, a River Cruise and a tour of the Wirral during the year. On several occasions groups of amateur entertainers performed at both Hostels to the enjoyment of the residents. In addition, gifts of flowers, food and reading matter have been received from organisations and individuals, particularly at the time of the Harvest Festival.

### **Community Welfare**

The difficult problem of old people who have grown too feeble to care properly for themselves is as acute as ever. Some cases are admitted to Part III Accommodation, either voluntarily or, in exceptional circumstances, by means of a Court Order; but this leaves two distinct types of case untouched.

There are the cases which cannot be admitted to Part III Accommodation at St. Catherine's Annexe because they are unable to fulfil the medical conditions necessary. For admission to this accommodation the applicant should be able to wash and dress without assistance, should be able to walk and climb stairs and should not be incontinent. Obviously people unable to fulfil these conditions are not fit to be left alone or even left in the care of another old person. Yet all too frequently the situation occurs. The Chronic Sick Wards of the hospitals which should deal with this type of case, are invariably full and have long waiting lists.

In the other type of case there are numbers of old people who do not want, or need, residential accommodation, preferring to live in their own homes.

Unfortunately, however, many of them cannot live in anything like reasonable comfort without considerable outside assistance. These



assistance needed includes regular visits to the old people in their homes, doing their shopping and helping them with domestic work.

A group or groups of small one or two roomed flatlets with kitchenettes, provision for communal feeding, and resident warden, would appear to be the best if not the only way of solving this problem—the old persons would lead independent lives—have their own furniture and belongings about them and have enough supervision to ensure that help would be available when required.

The Wallasey Voluntary Old People's Welfare and the Women's Voluntary Services do excellent work of this nature but the problem is by no means solved. In many cases relatives could give more assistance than they do and there is much scope for individuals to act as good neighbours.

It is incidentally a matter for regret that the W.V.S. have not been able to proceed with their proposed "Meals on Wheels" service. A service such as this would be of great benefit to the old people of the community.

## BLIND WELFARE

### Registration of Blind Persons

During the twelve months ending 31st December, 1954, 34 people were examined by Mr. W. Dunlop Hamilton. Of these 25 were found to be blind, while 2 could not be certified. The remaining 7 were placed on the Observation Register for the Partially Sighted.

Of the 25 people certified blind, blindness occurred in the following age groups:—

21-30 years of age .. .. .	3
31-39       "       ..   ..   ..	1
40-49       "       ..   ..   ..	1
50-59       "       ..   ..   ..	3
60-69       "       ..   ..   ..	2
70 years and over .. .. .	16
Total .. .. .	25

### Statement re Incidence of Blindness in Registered New Cases

	<i>Cause of Disability</i>			
	<i>Cataract</i>	<i>Glaucoma</i>	<i>Retrolental Fibroplasia</i>	<i>Others</i>
(i) Number of cases registered during the year for whom the following is recommended				
(a) No treatment .. .. .	5	2	—	18
	(1Cataract + Glaucoma)			
(b) Treatment (Medical, surgical or optical) .. .. .	—	—	—	—

- (ii) Number of cases registered during the year at (a) (b) above, which on follow up action have received treatment .. .. — — — —

*Ophthalmia neonatorum*

- (i) Total number of cases notified during year .. .. Nil  
 (ii) Number of cases in which:—  
     (a) Vision lost  
     (b) Vision impaired  
     (c) Treatment continuing at end of year .. .. Nil

	M.	F.	Total
No. on Register at 1st January, 1954.. ..	100	100	200
No. added during year:—			
New cases .. .. .	12	13	25
Transfers from other towns .. ..	2	2	4
	<hr/> 114	<hr/> 115	<hr/> 229

Less No. of removals from Register owing to:—

Leaving Wallasey .. .. .	2	3	5
Deaths .. .. .	14	6	20
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 25

No. on Register at December 31st, 1954 ..	98	106	204
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From January 1st to February 11th, 1 Certified Home Teacher was employed.

From 11th February, 1955 to April 30th, 1 Certified Home Teacher and 1 Student Home Teacher were employed.

From 30th April, 1955 to 18th July, 1 Student Home Teacher was employed.

From 19th July to 31st December, 1954, 1 Certificated Home Teacher and 1 Student Home Teacher were employed.

During the year, 3,142 visits were made to Blind Persons. In addition to these visits, the Home Teachers attended 43 Social Functions given by Organisations on behalf of the Blind.

48 Classes teaching Occupational Therapy were held at the Welfare Office, 42 Church Street, Wallasey, for Blind Persons during the year 1954. The following crafts have been taught: Seagrass and rush stool seating, rug making, basket making, rush and cane seating and string bag making. Leather-work and weaving has also been introduced during this year. All goods made at these classes have been purchased, and further orders continue to be received. The attendances at these classes have increased a great deal, and negotiations are proceeding for these classes to be held weekly at a hall in the vicinity, where larger numbers may be accommodated.

Handicrafts have also been taught to Registered Blind people in their homes.



### **Training and Employment**

During the year one registered blind man has been admitted to St. Dunstan's Training Centre for a nine-months course, and another to an Agricultural Training College in Lancashire.

Two men and one woman were given courses in Social Rehabilitation at the Royal National Institute Centres.

One woman took a course of Industrial Rehabilitation and will take the entrance examination for a further course for Shorthand-typing.

### **Wireless Sets**

The British Wireless for the Blind Fund generously allocated 8 new Bush Model Wireless Sets to the blind in Wallasey during 1954.

### **Free Travel Vouchers**

Through the courtesy of the Wallasey Motor Bus and Ferries Committee, Registered Blind Persons still continue to receive Travel Vouchers enabling them to travel free on the Wallasey buses and Ferries.

### **Welfare Services for the Partially Sighted National Assistance Act, 1948**

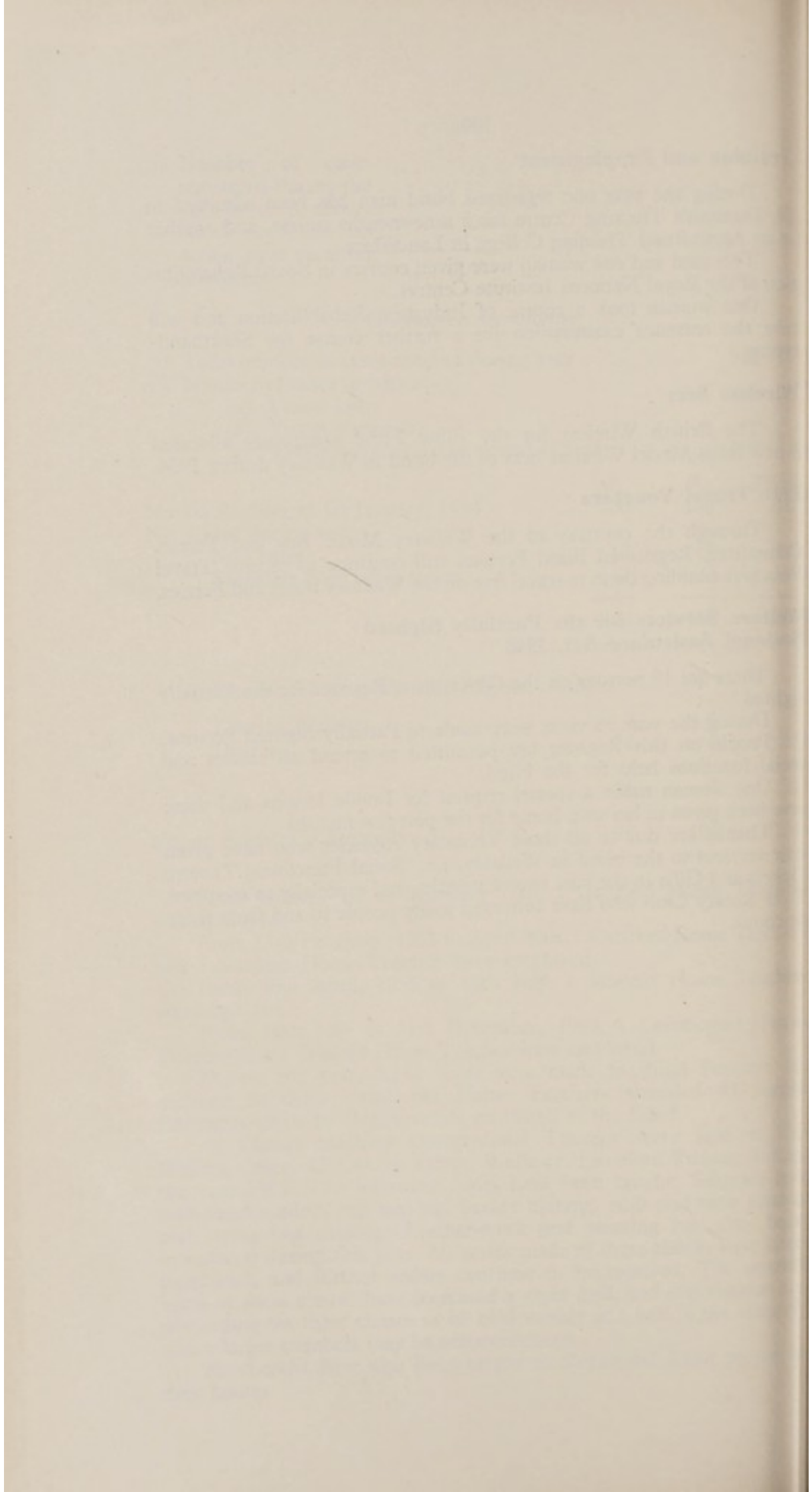
There are 19 persons on the Observation Register for the Partially sighted.

During the year 58 visits were made to Partially Sighted Persons.

People on this Register are permitted to attend all classes and Social functions held for the blind.

One woman made a special request for Braille lessons and these have been given in her own home for the past few months.

Thanks are due to all those Voluntary Agencies who have given their services to the blind in Wallasey, i.e., Social Functions, Theatre Tickets and Gifts in the past twelve months, and especially to members of the Rotary Club who have conveyed many people to and from these functions.





Town Hall,

Wallasey,

*June*, 1955

*To The Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This year, as last, each of the Medical Officers on the staff and the Principal Dental Officer have contributed to the report and other members of the School Health Service and of the staff of the Education Department, who are responsible for particular activities, have commented on the work for which he or she is responsible. There is no occasion for me, therefore, to add to the volumn of the report.

I should like to express my appreciation of the services of all who contributed to the work of the department during the year, and to acknowledge the co-operation from the Director of Education and his staff and the support of the members of the Education Committee.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY.

Principal School Medical Officer.

### Wallasey School Health Service Annual Report, 1954

Dr. Hall, Deputy Principal School Medical Officer, makes the following observations:—

During the year the general standard of health of Wallasey school children has remained good.

At routine medical inspections each child was classified in one of three groups—"A" good, "B" satisfactory and "C" poor. As will be seen by reference to the table later in this Report the percentages vary very little from year to year, but it is pleasing to find the number in the "C" group is small. The routine medical inspections were confined to the usual age groups, and children entering grammar schools from private schools were examined during their first year. This later group, though small, often reveals unsuspected defects.

The majority of the 'special' examinations and re-inspections were carried out in the three School Clinics. Included in the 'special' examinations are a number of children who, on attaining the age of thirteen, take up employment such as delivery of newspapers, groceries, etc., out of school hours. I regret to report that I find that a few of these children leave home before 7.0 a.m. without nourishment of any kind.

The ascertainment of handicapped children of two years upwards has continued throughout the year. I should like to thank paediatricians and general practitioners who report such cases to the School Health Service.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Lydon in the middle of 1953 at the Child Guidance Clinic. We are grateful to Dr. Pinkerton of St. Catherine's Hospital, Birkenhead, for his advice and help with maladjusted children.

Upper respiratory catarrh is a very prevalent condition amongst the school population, particularly in the infant and junior departments. Often I have difficulty in convincing parents that immediate removal of the child's tonsils and adenoids is not a universal cure. I find that a series of courses of artificial sunlight lasting three to four months greatly benefits the health of many of these children. Some parents are so impressed with the results of the treatment that they turn up each autumn for more.

Throughout the year the School Orthopaedic Clinic has dealt with the usual foot and postural defects. I was pleased to see a large well equipped gymnasium with shower bath facilities at the new St. George's Secondary Modern School. This augurs well for the future good health and physical development of the pupils. There is also a pleasant quiet medical inspection room at this School.



During the summer a start was made in B.C.G. (Anti-Tuberculosis) Vaccination of thirteen-year-old children in one large Girls' Secondary Modern School. The response was very satisfactory, about eighty per cent of the parents gave their consent.

In the autumn term a further seven schools were visited and B.C.G. inoculations carried out on those children found suitable for the vaccine. They were the children who gave a negative reaction to the preliminary tuberculin test.

This work is being linked up with the periodic visits to Wallasey schools of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board's Mobile Mass Miniature Radiography Unit. This will greatly facilitate the essential follow up of the children receiving B.C.G. Vaccine and it will also serve as a check on the positive tuberculin reactors. A table giving the figures of this work appears later in the report.

The state of cleanliness is fairly satisfactory in all schools, but there is still room for improvement. In the Special Schools and Secondary Modern Schools the tooth brush could be used a little more regularly by some pupils.

Finally I should like to thank Headteachers for their kind co-operation throughout the year, both at School Medical Inspections and at B.C.G. sessions, which I am sure is an additional irksome upheaval to normal school routine.

### **Annual Report 1954**

Dr. O'Reilly, School Medical Officer, submits the following observations:—

The improvement in the physical health and well-being of the children of the Borough, which we have been noticing during the last few years, was more obvious still in 1954. It has sprung partly from advances in medical science, both preventive and curative, and the widespread use of protective foods in childhood. The propagation of knowledge, of hygiene and public health is also a contributing factor. Also some of the commonest and most distressing diseases of childhood have recently lost much of their virulence. A further cause of the increase of good health is, of course, the general rise in the standard of living. We see it here in the very large proportion of the children who are so well dressed, clean and well nourished. It is now rare to see any who lack these essentials, and very many display little luxuries. Quite often pupils in the junior schools are to be seen wearing wrist watches and gold rings, and many of the little girls wear ear-rings.

While it is pleasant to know that most families have now not

only enough, but something over, one cannot avoid the suspicion that many of the children may be getting their share of the extras too easily, and that they are given everything for which they ask. This would mean that discipline was disappearing from the home, and the result would be a generation of maladjusts, with more industrial unrest, more unhappy marriages, and existentialism becoming the national philosophy.

However, it is more likely that the sound influence of the schools and the traditional good sense and restraint, which are so characteristic of the nation, will counteract less admirable tendencies. And, actually, it is reassuring to see that the number of cases of maladjustment among the school children has become smaller than in recent years.

### **School Health Service, 1954**

Dr. Esme Grant, School Medical Officer, makes the following remarks:—

The pattern of the School Health Service remains unchanged, and the nutrition of the children in Wallasey schools is maintained, on the whole, at a satisfactory level.

At the new Secondary Modern, and also the Secondary Technical schools, I have been most impressed at the improvement in the girls' appearance. Nearly all wear attractive school uniform with a definite colour scheme, and there is no doubt that the adoption of such uniform has created an obvious pride in the "old school tie", and produced a grammar school, or even a public school atmosphere. This has a psychological value, perhaps not fully realised by those who quibble at the expense involved. Once a girl, or boy, has become sartorially conscious, other personal points of appearance become noticed and attended to. I allude, of course, to hair, teeth, nails, posture and feet, and thus we can look forward, with increasing confidence, to well-brushed clean heads; teeth that are cleaned at least once daily and receive periodical dental inspection; nails that have been cut and cleaned; a better posture, for nice clothes do not hang well from round shoulders and protuberant abdomens; and well-shod feet to complete the *tout ensemble*. Attention to these hygienic and sartorial details contribute in no small measure to a better state of mental and physical health, so that we should, in the near future, attain a still higher standard of physique in our school leavers.

In the Senior girls one is apt to find some deterioration of vision, due, no doubt, to the increased amount of book work, writing and reading which becomes necessary when the General Certificate of Education looms on the horizon. With the parent's consent, an appointment is made at once for these girls to see the School Eye Specialist who usually has to prescribe glasses for reading and close work. Fortunately,



## PHYSIOTHERAPY REPORT, 1954

	Thursday Attend'cs.	Discharges	New Cases	U.V.R.	T. & A.	Asthma	Rem. Exercises
January ..	105	42	79	535	43	69	510
February ..	125	51	83	583	62	69	836
March ..	94	52	93	713	152	134	740
April ..	120	33	111	545	65	112	320
May ..	104	57	75	691	83	83	723
June ..	112	48	68	675	91	95	741
July ..	66	56	60	174	124	61	473
August ..	46	25	18	—	—	—	—
September ..	65	32	70	534	65	52	531
October ..	95	36	75	586	121	98	532
November ..	103	40	52	531	72	84	510
December ..	97	31	44	414	42	57	144
TOTALS	1,132	503	828	6,011	920	914	6,080

On Reg. Dec. 31st:      Total Physiotherapy Cases ..      1,474  
                                  Total Attendances ..      13,876  
                                  Discharges ..      503  
                                  New Cases ..      828  
                                  Total number of cases treated during 1954 ..      1,977

Miss V. Clayton, Speech Therapist, makes the following comments:

Total number of Attendances	.. .. .	1,082
Number of Patients who have received treatment		
during the year	.. .. .	82
Number of Patients admitted	.. .. .	31

#### Classifications of New Admissions

Simple Dyslalia (one sound only affected)	.. .. .	5
Multiple Dyslalia (infinite variety of sounds affected)	.. .. .	12
Dyslalia associated with deafness	.. .. .	1
Stammer	.. .. .	10
Stammer and Dyslalia	.. .. .	3
		<hr/>
		31

#### Number of Patients discharged as under:

Cured	.. .. .	6
Placed on Supervision list	.. .. .	8
Discharged from Supervision list	.. .. .	11
Left district	.. .. .	6
Left school	.. .. .	3
Non co-operative	.. .. .	6
		<hr/>
		40

#### Children interviewed:

No treatment required	.. .. .	39
Placed on Supervision list	.. .. .	52
Placed on Waiting list	.. .. .	61
		<hr/>
		152

The above figures are those recorded for the period September to December, plus those covering the months January to April, which my predecessor, Miss E. M. Weir, kindly left for me. Owing to the four months interval, the totals are, in consequence, lower than those of the previous year, but the monthly averages of attendance have been maintained.

Over 150 new cases have been referred this year and some time has been spent in interviewing them at their respective schools. In this way, the varying speech defects have been diagnosed, and the cases placed on the waiting list according to the age of the child and the degree of the severity of the difficulties.

In order to keep the waiting list in a more manageable condition, many of the younger children have been placed under supervision and



will be called to the Clinic at regular intervals. It is frequently found that as the child matures, so does his speech, and this natural improvement is, of course, far better than subjecting a young patient to unnecessary attention. Close contact with the parents of these children is maintained, for very often mishandling of these cases leads to greater difficulties, especially if there is a tendency to stammer.

The more serious cases have been placed on the waiting list and it is hoped that this next year will see the numbers greatly decreased, for I am afraid that already there will be a considerable delay before treatment can commence for many children.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Wallasey School Health Service with whom I have been in contact. Their help and consideration has been invaluable in assisting me to enjoy this, my first appointment, and I am indeed grateful.

#### Elleray Park Open-Air C. School

During the year 18 children were admitted, the classification of their defects or diseases being as follows:—

Asthma	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Rheumatic Endocarditis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pseudo Hypertrophic Musc. Dystrophy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Valvular Disease of the Heart	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Coeliac Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis, Debility	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Debility, Catarrh	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Paralysis after Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Disease of R. Femur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pes Plano-Valgus (Congenital)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebral Palsy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Talipes Equino Varus	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Congenital Atrophy, R. Leg	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Post Operative Conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
							<hr/> 18 <hr/>

Of the twenty-five pupils who left during the year, sixteen were considered fit to return to an ordinary school, five left on reaching the age of sixteen years, one left the district, two were admitted to Secondary Grammar schools, and one was admitted to Claremont Special School for E.S.N. pupils.

The number of pupils on the roll at 31st December was 100, including two pupils temporarily in hospital.

## SUMMARY OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE SCHOOL HEALTH NURSES DURING THE YEAR 1954

### Infestation with Vermin

Cleanliness Surveys	..	..	..	..	..	95
Re-visits	..	..	..	..	..	406
No. of Examinations	..	..	..	..	..	26,069
No. of Individual Children found unclean	..	..	..	..	..	725
No. of Sessions re Cleansing at Clinics	..	..	..	..	..	26

### Home Visits

Cleanliness	..	..	..	..	..	301
Medical Treatment	..	..	..	..	..	434
Hospital Reference	..	..	..	..	..	24
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	400

### Other

Special Visits to Schools	..	..	..	..	..	290
Visits to Nursery Class	..	..	..	..	..	8
Visits to Special Schools	..	..	..	..	..	13
Sessions at Minor Ailments Clinics	..	..	..	..	..	711
Sessions at Ophthalmic Clinics	..	..	..	..	..	67
Sessions on Weighing and Measuring (Med. Inspection)	..	..	..	..	..	63
Sessions on Vision Testing of 8 year old Pupils	..	..	..	..	..	49
Sessions for Medical Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	292
Sessions for Medical Re-Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	24
Sessions spent on Surveys	..	..	..	..	..	268
Total Visits	..	..	..	1,470	..	
Total Sessions	..	..	..	1,500	..	

### B.C.G. VACCINATIONS, 1954

Schools visited	Number of Individual children Tuberculin tested	Number of children who received B.C.G.
Somerville Secondary Modern (Girls)	74	59
Oldershaw High	41	33
Oldershaw Grammar	47	36
Secondary Technical (Boys)	53	40
Secondary Technical (Girls)	45	35
New Brighton Secondary Modern	52	39
Gorsedale Secondary Modern (Boys)	68	54
Moreton Secondary Modern	52	37
	432	333

### Diphtheria Immunisation

During the year 126 children of school age were immunised for the first time, while 976 received a re-inforcing dose.



# **WALLASEY CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC** **Educational Psychologist's Report for 1954**

During 1954, 34 children (24 boys and 10 girls) have been interviewed at the Child Guidance Clinic for behaviour disorders. Their difficulties were classified as follows:—

Delinquent tendencies .. .. .	4
Habit disorders .. .. .	9
Tension habits .. .. .	2
Behaviour disorders—aggressive, sexual .. .. .	12
Emotional instability .. .. .	5
Truancy .. .. .	2
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>34</b>

An analysis of the children according to Intelligence Quotient and type of school attended is given below:—

Type of School	70+	80+	90+	100+	110+	120+	130+	Total
Infants .. .. .	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	5
Junior .. .. .	—	6	6	4	—	1	1	18
Sec. Grammar .. .. .	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Sec. Modern .. .. .	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	5
Sec. Technical .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
P.H. .. .. .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Private .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>34</b>

In the continuing absence of a visiting psychiatrist, cases have had to be referred to Dr. Pinkerton at St. Catherine's Hospital, Birkenhead. Only 11 appointments were able to be made during the year, so that seven children have been seen once by the psychiatrist, two have been seen on two occasions, and five have been referred but not yet seen.

This has meant that more supportive treatment has had to be given by the Educational Psychologist at Church Street, whilst the Social Worker has maintained regular contact with the homes. The outcome of the 34 children referred to during the year is:—

Case closed: adjusted or much improved .. .. .	12
Advice only .. .. .	5
Test only for Regional Hospital Board cases .. .. .	3

Transferred to E.S.N. School .. .. .	1
Transferred to Children's Home .. .. .	1
Transferred to Convalescent Home .. .. .	1
Left District .. .. .	1
Case closed due to lack of home co-operation ..	1
Current cases .. .. .	9
	<hr/>
	34
	<hr/>

The Educational Psychologist's sessions at the Child Guidance Clinic are divided into individual testing interviews, subsequent individual interviews with children and parental interviews:—

Individual test sessions .. .. .	45
Individual interviews .. .. .	125
Parent interviews .. .. .	109
	<hr/>
	279
	<hr/>

In addition, schools have been visited about these cases. It is not possible to analyse how many of the 258 such visits during 1954 specifically in connection with Child Guidance work, but it is estimated that the proportion was between a quarter and a third.

The overall work of the Social Worker during 1954, a somewhat higher proportion of which was concerned with Child Guidance cases, is indicated by the following figures:—

Home visits .. .. .	807
Clinic interviews .. .. .	221
School inquiries .. .. .	238
	<hr/>
Total .. .. .	1,266
	<hr/>

### School Meals Service, 1954

Miss Dean, Organiser of School Meals, makes the following observations:—

The year 1954 will be remembered in the Wallasey School Meals Service as the year which saw the closing down of its first central kitchen at Riverside School. This kitchen was opened in June, 1945, and had a capacity of 500-600 meals.

To compensate for this loss in output the central kitchens at Somerville Secondary Modern School and St. Hilda's R. C. School were brought into use, and these kitchens, as well as serving the school of which they form a part, also dispatch meals to neighbouring schools.



A new kitchen with dining room attached has been built at Oldershaw High School to replace the old one which had become completely inadequate for the present needs of the school. This improved accommodation has enabled the family or table service system to be put into operation, so that the girls now serve themselves from dishes on the table as their brothers in the boys' canteen have been doing for some time.

During the year Birket County Primary School and St. George's Secondary Modern School have been opened. At present they are only provided with sculleries but space is available for kitchens to be built at a later date.

In April came the termination of the system whereby all school meals equipment was supplied through the Ministry of Works. Thus Local Authorities are no longer confined to the standard equipment previously supplied to them, but now have every opportunity for the exercise of initiative in the selection and purchase of all equipment and furniture for the School Meals Service.

### **Report on Physical Education, 1954**

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

Judging by the enthusiasm shown by school children in the very full range of inter-school sporting events, and by their use of playing fields and swimming baths out of school hours, one of the main aims of physical education—that of inculcating a desire for healthy outdoor exercise—is being achieved. Outdoor facilities are increasing and are being well used, though distance between schools, playing fields and swimming baths is still a problem. Apart from the cost of transport, the loss of school time in travelling and the consequent curtailment of playing time naturally deters schools, particularly in the New Brighton and Moreton areas, from making full use of facilities available.

The opening of two new secondary modern schools during the year with fully-equipped gymnasia has meant that only four of our secondary schools are now without access to a gymnasium and thus prevented from developing a full range of gymnastic work. In the primary schools, however, facilities for physical activity indoors are less satisfactory. Many schools, even some of those recently opened, are obliged to use halls as ordinary classrooms, and all physical training must take place out of doors. Although this in itself is no bad thing, it is severely restricted by weather and ground surface conditions. On the many occasions when children cannot go out for physical training or games lessons, they must remain in classrooms to do a very limited form of physical activity or to continue with academic work. Many headteachers are willing to adjust the school timetable

to take advantage in return of any favourable conditions, but the essence of any progressive scheme of Physical Education, especially of any corrective training, is regularity of application. Under present conditions this is difficult if not impossible, and the highest standards of performance cannot be achieved. Much of the work now recommended by the Ministry of Education for inclusion in the programme must await the provision of indoor accommodation and of large apparatus for climbing and heaving activities. Despite difficulties, teachers are keen to work on modern lines and their interest was illustrated in the summer term when 109 teachers from junior schools attended a series of demonstrations and lectures on this work.

Progress was again most marked in swimming, notably in the winning, for the third successive year, of the Cheshire Schools' Championship, and the successful inauguration of further inter-school life-saving competitions. As a result of the general rise in the standard of swimming, tests for the award of Swimming Proficiency Certificates have been completely revised, and a new form of certificate designed. Children who now gain the Advanced Certificate or the Diploma are very competent swimmers indeed. During the summer season over 3,000 children attend the Guinea Gap baths each week during school hours for class swimming instruction. Of this number about 200 are brought in by special transport from Moreton schools. The provision of a swimming bath in the Moreton area would greatly extend the scope of this valuable instruction, and in addition would provide a counter-attraction to more hazardous bathing at Moreton shore.

In sum, progress in Physical Education has been steady during the year, particularly in its more recreative aspects, but improvement in corrective physical training in primary schools awaits the release and further provision of indoor facilities.



## WALLASEY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1954****MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY  
SCHOOLS**

TABLE I.

**(A) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS**

Entrants .. .. .	1,700
Second Age Group .. .. .	1,684
Third Age Group .. .. .	953
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>4,337</b>
Other Periodic Inspections .. .. .	—

**(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS**

Number of Special Inspections .. .. .	2,420
Number of Re-inspections .. .. .	303
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>2,723</b>

**(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 ..	33	344	242
(b) Second Age Group ..	102	222	208
(c) Third Age Group ..	58	66	105
<b>Total (A-C) ..</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>555</b>

TABLE II(A)  
Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year 1954.

Disease or Defect	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
	No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not Requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not Requiring Treatment
Skin .. .. .	91	34	114	7
Eyes—(a) Vision .. .. .	193	215	46	6
(b) Squint .. .. .	39	68	1	—
(c) Other .. .. .	28	19	94	3
Ears—(a) Hearing .. .. .	27	26	24	2
(b) Otitis Media .. .. .	11	23	12	1
(c) Other .. .. .	42	10	147	4
Nose and Throat .. .. .	90	275	175	11
Speech .. .. .	15	22	11	3
Cervical Glands .. .. .	2	55	4	—
Heart and Circulation .. .. .	13	29	9	—
Lungs .. .. .	27	120	49	5
Developmental—				
(a) Hernia .. .. .	10	27	—	—
(b) Other .. .. .	24	82	8	3
Orthopaedic—				
(a) Posture .. .. .	7	32	4	—
(b) Flat Feet .. .. .	70	34	30	—
(c) Other .. .. .	70	56	100	6
Nervous System—				
(a) Epilepsy .. .. .	2	4	5	1
(b) Other .. .. .	20	29	32	1
Psychological—				
(a) Development .. .. .	28	11	23	3
(b) Stability .. .. .	8	25	27	3
Other .. .. .	8	17	883	21

TABLE II(B)  
Classification of the General Condition of Children inspected during the year in Age Groups.

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Co. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants .. .. .	1,700	1,312	77.17	362	21.3	26	1.53
Second Age Group .. .. .	1,684	1,266	75.17	406	24.11	12	00.72
Third Age Group .. .. .	953	730	76.6	219	23.00	4	00.4
Other Periodic Inspections .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4,337	3,308	% of Col. 2 76.27	987	% of Col. 2 22.76	42	% of Col. 2 00.97



**MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS OR INTENDING****TEACHERS.**—Min. of Education Circ. 249.

Total No. examined .. 64

Teachers				Intending Teachers			
Male .. ..	..	..	3	Male .. ..	..	..	23
Female .. ..	..	..	2	Female .. ..	..	..	36
Total .. ..	..	..	5	Total .. ..	..	..	59

TABLE III.

**INFESTATION WITH VERMIN**

(1) Total Number of Examinations in the Schools by School Nurses or other Authorised Persons .. .. .	26,069
(2) Total Number of Individual Pupils found to be infested .. .. .	725
(3) Number of Individual Pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Notices were issued under Sec. 54 (2) Education Act, 1944 .. .. .	2
(4) Number of Individual Pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Orders were issued under Sec. 54 (3) Education Act, 1944 .. .. .	—

TABLE IV.

Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools).

**GROUP 1.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN**

(Excluding Uncleanliness (see Table III).

	No. of Cases Treated or under Treatment during the Year.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Ringworm (i) Scalp .. .. .	—	—
(ii) Body .. .. .	1	—
Scabies .. .. .	5	—
Impetigo .. .. .	108	—
Other Skin Diseases .. .. .	87	1
	201	1

TABLE IV (*contd.*)**GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT**

	No. of Cases Dealt with	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and Other, excluding Errors of Refraction and Squint .. .. .	360	not known
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ..	1,332	2
Total .. .. .	1,692	2
Number of Pupils for whom Spectacles were:—		
(a) Prescribed .. .. .	638	No information available
(b) Obtained .. .. .	No information available	do.

**GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.**

	No. of Cases Treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Received Operative Treatment:—		
(a) For Diseases of the Ear .. .. .	—	7
(b) For Adenoids and Chronic Tonsillitis .. .. .	—	288
(c) For other Nose and Throat Conditions .. .. .	—	26
Received other Forms of Treatment ..	261*	9
Total .. .. .	261*	330

\*At Authority's Minor Ailments Clinic.

**GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS**

(a) Number Treated as In-Patients in Hospitals .. .. .	27	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
(b) Number Treated Otherwise, e.g. in Clinics or Out-Patient Departments	629	No information available



## MINOR AILMENTS AND OTHER CLINICS

Monday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments
		Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton .. ..	Minor Ailments
		Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments and S.M.O.'s Clinic
	(p.m.)	—	—
Tuesday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Ophthalmic Clinic (Mr. Hamilton) and Minor Ailments (11.0 a.m. to noon)
		Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton .. ..	Minor Ailments and S.M.O.'s Clinic
		Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey	Ophthalmic Clinic (Mr. Hamilton) as required)
			Minor Ailments
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Ophthalmic Clinic (Mr. Hamilton) (Fortnightly)
		Other Clinics .. ..	—
Wednesday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments and S.M.O.'s Clinic
		Health Centre, Moreton	Minor Ailments
		Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Immunisation (1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month
		Health Centre, Moreton	—
		Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey .. ..	—

Thursday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments
		Health Centre, Moreton	Minor Ailments
		Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Orthopaedic Specialist's Clinic (Mr. Davies), (Except every 4th Thursday)
		Health Centre, Moreton	do. (every 4th Thursday)
		Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey .. ..	—
Friday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments
		Health Centre, Moreton	Minor Ailments
		Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey .. ..	Minor Ailments
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey .. ..	—
		Health Centre, Moreton	Immunisation (Fortnightly)
		Health, Centre, Water Street, Wallasey .. ..	—
Saturday	(a.m.)	—	—

### SCHOOL DENTAL CLINICS

Monday	(a.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton
	(p.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47, Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton
Tuesday	(a.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey
	(p.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey



Wednesday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey
	(p.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey
Thursday	(a.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton
	(p.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton
Friday	(a.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey
	(p.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey
Saturday	(a.m.)	School Dental Clinic, 47 Liscard Village, Wallasey School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey

### CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

*\*(Psychiatric Department)*

50 Church Street, Wallasey.

*\*(Discontinued on resignation of Psychiatrist on 31/7/53. Post still vacant.)*

### SPEECH THERAPY CLINICS

Monday	(a.m.)	Vaughan Road J. M. School, Wallasey
		School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey
Tuesday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey
Wednesday	(a.m.)	Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey
	(p.m.)	Elleray Park School, Wallasey

Thursday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey
Friday	(a.m.)	Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey
	(p.m.)	Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton

### PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINICS

Monday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey (U.V.L.) Child Welfare Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton (Remedial Exercises)
	(p.m.)	Elleray Park Special School, Elleray Park Road, Wallasey (Individual Treatment) Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton (U.V.L.)
Tuesday	(a.m.)	Elleray Park Special School, Elleray Park Road, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises) Congregational Church Hall, Princes Road, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises)
	(p.m.)	Grosvenor Assembly Rooms, Grosvenor St., Wallasey (Remedial Exercises) Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton (Individual Treatment)
Wednesday	(a.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Rd., Wallasey (U.V.L.) Elleray Park Special School, Elleray Park Road, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises)
	(p.m.)	Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises) School Clinic, Merton Rd., Wallasey (U.V.L.)
Thursday	(a.m.)	Elleray Park Special School, Elleray Park Road, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises) School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises)
	(p.m.)	School Clinic, Merton Road, Wallasey (Orthopaedic Specialist's Clinic) Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton (Orthopaedic Specialist's Clinic once per per month) Health Centre, Oakenholt Road, Moreton (U.V.L.)



ay	(a.m.)	Elleray Park Special School, Elleray Park Road, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises) School Clinic, Merton Rd., Wallasey (U.V.L.)
	(p.m.)	Grosvenor Assembly Rooms, Grosvenor St., Wallasey (Remedial Exercises) Health Centre, Water Street, Wallasey (Remedial Exercises)

## HANDICAPPED PUPILS YEAR 1954

ails	Blind	Partially Blind	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Delicate	Phy- sically Handi- capped	Educa- tionally Sub- Normal	Mal- adjusted	Epilep- tic	Total
during the Special Schools	1	—	1	3	7	10	18	3	1	44
ed during s requiring at Special r Boarding	—	—	1	3	11	10	18	3	1	47
g Special										
Is .. ..	—	1	4	1	57	42	112	—	—	217
(Pupils ..	2	2	8	3	—	1	5	—	1	22
n Homes..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Indepen- pools under ents made thority ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	4
al .. ..	2	3	12	4	57	43	118	3	1	243
icated un- rangements c Sec. 56 of ation Act,										
al.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8
places in ools ..	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	5
Home .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8

Number of children reported during the year:—

(a)	Under Sec. 57(3)	..	..	9
(b)	" "	57(4)	..	—
(c)	" "	57(5)	..	6

of the Education Act, 1944,

