

Contributors

Walton-le-Dale (England). Urban District Council.

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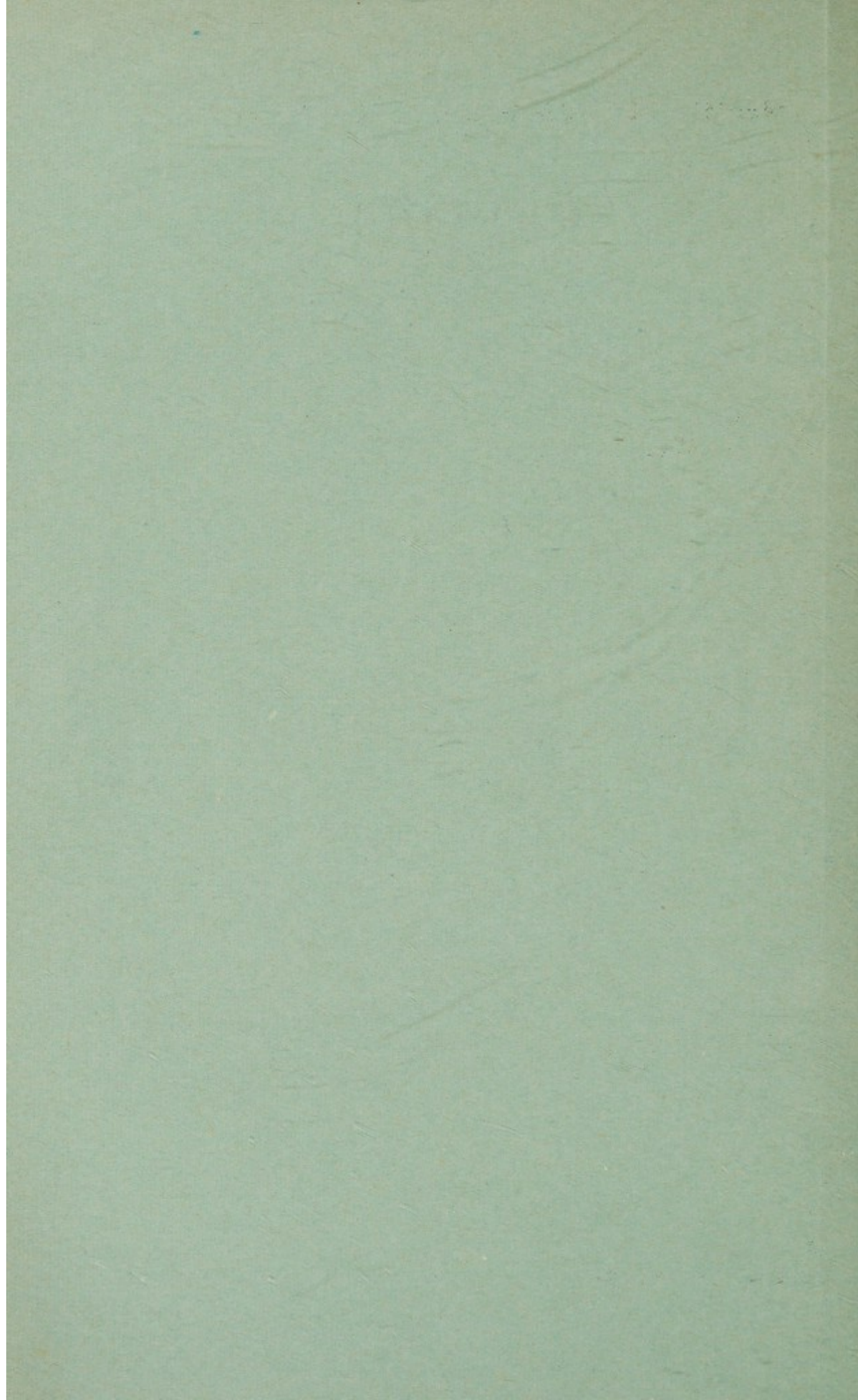
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REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
ON THE
SANITARY
AND
HOUSING CONDITIONS
OF THE
WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT
For the Year 1938.



1939:
PRINTED BY FRANK COUPE, WALTON-LE-DALE



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(4) On December 31st the Isolation Hospital was closed, and after that date patients were removed to the Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital at Fulwood.

(5) The midwifery service has been taken over by the Lancashire County Council, and two whole-time salaried midwives live in the area.

(6) Chicken pox was removed from the list of notifiable infectious diseases.

Amongst the most important improvements at present required to better the health and general well-being of the community, I suggest:—

- (a) The provision of an adequate, suitably-equipped playing field for the children of Bamber Bridge.
- (b) The paving and draining of many short roads, which in wet weather are covered with standing pools of water and in dry weather are dusty and a nuisance especially in a wind.
- (c) The elimination of the railway level crossing in the centre of Bamber Bridge, for physiological as well as physical reasons, for it is a constant source of annoyance and irritation to passing motorists.
- (d) The provision of better facilities for bathing and swimming in the river Ribble—possibly in co-operation with neighbouring authorities.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. G. JOHNSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1939.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WALTON-LE-DALE.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	4761
Population, Census 1931	...	...	...	...	12718
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population					
1938	...	...	...	...	13530
Number of inhabited houses (Census, 1931)	...				3314
Inhabited houses, end of 1938 (according to Rate Books)	...	...	...	...	4061
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£58986
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£230

Social Conditions—The chief industries are cotton, farming as milk producers and distributors, market-gardening, and three small foundries. There are also four corn mills in the district.

None of these trades are directly detrimental to health.

Vital Statistics.

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Live Births—Legitimate	220	108	112
Illegitimate	8	4	4
Total	<u>228</u>	<u>112</u>	<u>116</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 resident estimated population... 16'8

Still Births ... total 18 ... m. 9 ... f. 9

Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births ... 73

Deaths ... total 168 m. 78 ... f. 90

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... * 12'9

	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 Total (live and still) Births
Deaths from Puerperal causes:		
Puerperal sepsis	nil	nil
Other puerperal causes	1	4'06
Total	1	4'06

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age per 1000 births...35

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 31

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...125

Deaths from Cancer, all ages	...	...	...	25
„ Measles, all ages	...	...	...	1
„ Whooping Cough, all ages	...	...	...	nil
„ Diarrhœa, under 2 years of age	...	...	...	nil

				Per 1000 of Population		Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1000 Live births.		
				Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total Live and Still Births	
Population ... 13,530										
Mean of 5 years										
1933—1937 ...				13'2	12'4	0'49	1'65	6'79	6'47	62
1937				14'5	13'9	0'37	1'64	5'12	4'87	51
1938				16'8	*12'4	0'22	1'84	4'38	4'06	35
Increase or decrease in 1938 on five years' average—1933-1937				+3'6	nil	—0'27	+0'19	—2'41	—2'41	—27
Previous Year ...				+2'3	—1'5	—0'15	+0'20	—0'74	—0'81	—16

* 1938 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor 1·06)=13·1 per 1,000.

Births and Birth Rate.—The births registered as belonging to Walton-le-Dale in 1938, totalled 228; 33 more than in 1937. There were 112 males and 116 females. The birth-rate was 16·8 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 14·5, 14·0, 13·2, 13·1, for the years 1937, 1936, 1935, and 1934 respectively. This is the highest birth rate since 1923 (see table on page 8).

The birth-rate in 1938 for England and Wales was 15·1 per 1000.

Deaths and Death Rate.—The nett deaths actually belonging to this district registered in 1938 numbered 168 (males 78, females 90). The deaths actually occurring in the district numbered 134; of these 3 were outward transfers, *i.e.*, deaths of people passing through or only temporarily in the district; and there were 43 inward transfers, *i.e.*, Walton-le-Dale residents who died outside the area. For the years 1937, 1936, 1935, 1934, 1933, 1932, and 1931, the corrected respective numbers of deaths were 186, 166, 146, 162, 159, 144, and 140.

The 1938 death-rate was 12·9 per 1000; this is a reduction of 1·0 per 1000 on the figure for 1937.

The Registrar-General supplies a factor which enables one to make a more accurate picture of the death-rate of the district compared with all other districts; this is known as the comparability factor. The figure for Walton-le-Dale is 1·06, and gives an adjusted death-rate of 13·1 per 1000 for 1938, compared with 14·7 for 1937.

The death-rate for England and Wales was 11·6 per 1000 in 1938, and 12·4 in 1937.

The following table supplied by the Registrar-General, analyses the causes of death, distinguishing the sexes. The figures for 1937 are given for comparison :—

CAUSES OF DEATH	Males		Females	
	1938	1937	1938	1937
All Causes	78	80	90	106
Influenza	1	8	3	3
Measles ... ..	...	...	1	...
Cerebro spinal fever	1	1	...	...
Enceph. lethargica	1	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	2	1	3
Other tuberculous diseases ... ..	...	1	2	...
General paralysis	1	...	...	1
Cancer, malignant disease	10	10	15	12
Diabetes	2	2	...	3
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	6	5	4	6
Heart disease	19	26	29	23
Other circulatory diseases	3	2	6	6
Bronchitis	2	3	4	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	5	4	1	10
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	...	1	...	1
Diarrhœa (under two years of age) ... ..	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis	2	...	...	2
Other digestive diseases	3	5	4	5
Other liver diseases	2	...	...	2
Acute and chronic nephritis	2	4	5	3
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	...	...	1	1
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	3	2	3	6
Senility	1	...	2	5
Suicide	3	...	2	...
Other violence	2	1	1	3
Other defined diseases	7	3	6	7
Total deaths of infants under 1 year	4	3	4	7
Legitimate	3	3	4	6
Illegitimate	1	...	...	1
Total live births	112	107	116	88
Legitimate	108	105	112	85
Illegitimate	4	2	4	3
Total Stillbirths	9	6	9	4
Legitimate	9	6	8	4
Illegitimate ... ..	...	...	1	...
Population 1938—13,530 ... 1937—13,360				

This table compares four decades, it also gives the figures for 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938.

Period	Per 1000 of the population			Enteric Fever		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Diarrhoea	Rate of Infant Deaths under one year
	Birth rate	Death rate	Phthisis Death rate	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Deaths	
Ten years—											
1891 to 1900	30'8	18'9	1'25	133	27	46	16	211	15	122	188
1901 to 1910	26'3	14'7	'95	116	21	98	15	391	16	58	128
1911 to 1920	18'7	13'7	'91	54	5	166	16	565	11	46	107
1921 to 1930	16'0	12'0	'72	7	0	66	5	310	0	11	64
Year 1931	14'7	13'5	'78	0	0	2	0	31	0	0	42
" 1932	12'5	11'0	'30	2	2	0	0	32	0	0	55
" 1933	11'2	12'2	'30	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	61
" 1934	13'1	12'4	'45	0	0	2	2	33	0	2	98
" 1935	13'2	11'0	'37	0	0	8	1	26	0	0	63
" 1936	14'0	12'5	'97	0	0	3	0	22	0	0	37
" 1937	14'5	13'9	'37	1	0	9	0	53	0	1	51
" 1938	16'8	13'1	'22	0	0	14	0	86	0	0	35

Year	Per 1,000 of estimated population					Maternal mortality rate		Rate of deaths under one year per 1000 live births
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from the principal epidemic diseases	Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system	Death-rate from cancer	Per 1000 live births	Per 1000 total (live & still) births	
1911	22.1	11.8	1.61	0.89	—	—	—	135
1912	21.7	13.2	0.40	1.05	—	—	—	85
1913	22.0	13.6	1.45	0.89	—	—	—	147
1914	18.4	13.5	0.48	0.72	—	—	—	114
1915	19.1	15.5	2.51	0.58	—	—	—	143
1916	15.7	12.0	0.51	0.94	—	—	—	110
1917	14.4	15.2	0.64	0.82	—	—	—	91
1918	14.0	16.6	0.09	1.41	—	—	—	77
1919	15.4	12.7	0.68	0.85	—	—	—	85
1920	24.7	12.9	0.66	0.99	—	—	—	63
1921	20.5	11.1	—	0.24	—	—	—	70
1922	16.4	12.6	—	0.88	—	—	—	78
1923	17.3	11.4	—	0.48	1.53	9.30	—	60
1924	16.3	13.8	—	0.98	1.22	10.00	—	70
1925	16.7	11.0	—	1.06	0.57	nil	—	39
1926	15.7	9.6	—	0.81	1.22	15.54	—	46
1927	15.2	13.2	—	0.56	2.00	nil	—	57
1928	13.5	11.8	—	0.80	1.60	5.91	—	88
1929	13.8	12.6	—	0.39	1.50	11.49	10.98	63
1930	14.7	13.0	—	1.02	1.72	nil	nil	69
1931	14.7	13.5	—	0.78	1.79	10.58	9.70	42
1932	12.5	11.0	—	0.30	1.54	6.13	5.68	55
1933	11.2	12.2	—	0.30	1.23	nil	nil	61
1934	13.1	12.4	—	0.46	2.14	11.62	11.11	98
1935	13.2	11.0	—	0.37	1.74	1.72	1.63	63
1936	14.0	12.5	—	0.97	1.50	nil	nil	37
1937	14.5	13.9	—	0.37	1.64	5.12	4.87	51
1938	16.8	12.4	—	0.22	1.85	4.37	4.06	35

Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis).

Only three deaths were registered as due to this disease. This is equal to a death rate of 0.22 per 1,000, as compared with 0.37 for 1937. This seems to be the lowest figure ever recorded in this district for Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia.

Six deaths were caused by Bronchitis (six also in 1937) but there were only six deaths due to Pneumonia compared with fourteen in 1937. There is some hope that the death rate from Acute Pneumonia may be lowered by new methods of treatment with highly complicated chemical medicines.

Cancer.

There were twenty-five deaths caused by cancer of various kinds, this is three more than in 1937. This equals a death rate of 1.85 per 1,000, a rate which has only been higher in this area on two occasions, in 1927 and 1934. See table on page 9.

Other Causes of Death.

The chief causes of death other than those already mentioned are for 1938 and 1937 respectively (1937 figures in brackets):— Heart Disease 48 (49), Cerebral Hæmorrhage 10 (11), other diseases of the heart and blood vessels 9 (8), other diseases of the digestive organs 7 (10).

There were only four deaths from Influenza in 1938 (11 in 1937), but there were five cases of suicide compared with none in 1937.

Infantile Mortality.

Death of Infants under the age of one year, numbered 8; 3 males and 5 females; a death rate per 1,000 live births of 35 (51), this figure is a record for the district, the previous lowest rate was 37 in 1936.

The figure for England and Wales for the year 1938 was 53 (58).

Of the eight babies who died under one year of age, only two lived longer than 3 days. One died of Bronchitis at 9 months and the other from peritonitis following intussusception, a form of acute stoppage of the bowels, aged 7 months. Four children did not survive the first day, one died aged 2 days and one aged 3 days. In each case some congenital defect or deformity was given as the cause.

It is thus becoming clear that the infant mortality rate cannot under present conditions continue to fall much further unless there can be devised some effective method for improving the anti-natal lives of babies. A beginning has been made by the establishment in April, 1938, of an anti-natal clinic in Bamber Bridge, under the auspices of the Lancashire County Council for expectant mothers. It is possible, as animal research seems to indicate, that certain factors in diet, qualitative rather than quantitative, may influence the growth of the anti-natal child and prevent some congenital defects.

The following Table analyses the causes of Infant Deaths at stated age periods:—

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4 weeks— 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Premature births ...	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Atelectasis ...	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Marasmus ...	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Peritonitis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Ananæphalis monitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Congenital Laryngeal Stridor Hæmatemesis ...	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
TOTAL ...	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	8

Maternal Mortality.

During 1938 there was one death caused by "Puerperal Sepsis," this is the same as in 1937. Matters relating to maternal deaths are administered and investigated by the County Council.

General Provision of Health Services of the Area. Public Health Staff.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—George G. Johnstone, M.A., M.D., B.CHIR., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—Nicholas Baron, C. R. San. I. Whole time Officer, acts as Cleansing Superintendent. Fully qualified Meat Inspector.

PUBLIC VACCINATOR—Dr. S. Sharples holds the appointment of Public Vaccinator for the Urban District.

CERTIFIED FACTORY SURGEON—Dr. Charles J. Trimble, D.P.H.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL FACILITIES—The Laboratory at the Preston Royal Infirmary is used. In 1938 the following examinations were carried out: swabs from throat and/or nose 69, sputum 2, urine 1, and fæces 4.

AMBULANCE SERVICES—(a) For infectious diseases the motor ambulance of the Authority having failed during the year it was considered to be satisfactory to modify and adopt the new motor fire tender for the purpose of conveying patients from their homes to the hospital during the few months before the Infectious Disease Hospital was closed at the end of the year. This adoption worked satisfactorily. (b) For other purposes a motor ambulance of the Preston Royal Infirmary is available.

NURSING IN THE HOME—This is done through the local Nursing Association, and is not undertaken by the Urban Council.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE—The Lancashire County Council has provided two full time salaried midwives for this area. They have telephones and motor cars.

Particulars of these midwives are given below:—

Mrs. S. E. Hodgkinson, S.C.M.,	
307, Station Road, Bamber Bridge.	Telephone 85360.
Miss A. Spencer, S.C.M.,	
Knotville, Walton-le-Dale.	Telephone 4783.

In April, 1938, the Lancashire County Council opened the new clinic at Bamber Bridge. The ceremonial opening was performed by my predecessor, Dr. C. J. Trimble, who, from personal knowledge, reviewed the improvements in the public health amenities of this district during the past forty years—a review always interesting and often illustrated by light, almost fantastic, though true pictures of conditions prevalent in his own life as a doctor in this district.

This clinic, primarily intended for the examination and treatment of elementary school children is also available for use as an anti-natal clinic and as an infant welfare centre.

The anti-natal clinic which is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday in each month is attended by Mr. W. Simpson, M.D., obstetrical specialist, attached to the Preston Royal Infirmary. The clinic is well appreciated and the number of expectant mothers has grown quickly. The county health visitor for this area is in attendance, and is assisted by the local midwives.

Abnormal cases or other cases when desirable are admitted to the maternity hospital at either the Preston Royal Infirmary or Sharoe Green.

Attention is directed to the figures shewing the usefulness of the anti-natal clinic. The numbers of women taking advantage of the clinic rose from 20 in 1937 to 99 in 1938, and the number of attendances rose similarly from 38 to 294.

Expectant or nursing mothers may have free dental attention from the county dental surgeon at the clinic, and arrangements have been made for the provision of artificial dentures on special terms, when recommended.

Under the Education Act, 1921, the Lancashire County Council have continued to provide nourishment for necessitous children. In this area mid-day meals are not provided, but milk instead is supplied in sealed bottles each containing one-third of a pint, and in this way 18,299 pints were given to 91 children at an average cost of 1.70 pence per pint. During 1938 the milk was given in the raw state, but arrangements have recently been made for all free milk to be pasteurised.

Anti-natal Clinic.

This clinic was held during the first four months of the year in the Maternity Department of the Preston Royal Infirmary, and was open for nine sessions. In May, after the opening of the new clinic in Bamber Bridge, this work was transferred and during the rest of the year 14 sessions were held. The clinic is open from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays in each month. There were therefore 23 sessions in all during the year, and these were attended by 99 individual expectant mothers who paid all told 294 visits.

The Child Welfare Centre.

This centre which had hitherto been held at the Conservative Club, Cranborne Street, Bamber Bridge, was similarly transferred to the School Clinic after its opening in April. The clinic is held every Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; a medical officer attends on alternate Thursdays. Here are particulars of attendances:—

No. of times the Centre was open during the year 49

No. of individual children attending:—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	230
From 1 to 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	135
Over 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	128

No. of Attendances by Children:—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	2052
From 1 to 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	567
Over 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	598

Hospital Accommodation.

During 1938 the local Infectious Diseases Hospital in Brindle Road was used, as in previous years, and every case of diphtheria and almost every case of scarlet fever was removed to it for isolation. At the end of the year this hospital was closed in accordance with arrangements made with the Preston, Fulwood, and Longridge Joint Hospital Board for the local infectious cases to be nursed in their institute at Fulwood. This is a more modern and better equipped hospital than the local one, and has a larger permanent staff.

The Smallpox Hospital at Elswick, belonging to the Fylde, Preston, and Garstang Joint Hospital Board is available by arrangement for use if required for cases in the Walton-le-Dale Urban District.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES.—Three hospitals are readily accessible to residents, and these are: (1) Preston Royal Infirmary; (2) St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street; and (3) Sharoe Green Public Assistance Hospital. There are Maternity Hospitals at the Royal Infirmary and at Sharoe Green.

Local cases of tuberculosis requiring hospital treatment are sent to one of the many hospitals administered by the Lancashire County Council, and in a similar way cases of mental disease are cared for in one of the hospitals administered by the Lancashire Mental Hospital Board.

The local Venereal Diseases Clinic is at the Preston Royal Infirmary.

The school children of the district can attend the local clinic administered by the Education Committee of the Lancashire County Council, and arrangements have been made for treatment by specialists in cases of defective eyes, ears, noses, throats, and some skin diseases. Arrangements have now been made for X-ray diagnosis in suspected injuries to bones, and orthopædic cases are seen at the neighbouring Leyland School Clinic, and, if hospital treatment is considered necessary they can be admitted to the Biddulph Grange Orthopædic Hospital belonging to the Lancashire County Council, or to the Orthopædic Hospitals at Heswall or Windermere.

There is neither private nursing nor maternity home in this area.

New Legislation in 1938.

A list of the principal new items of Public Health Legislation which have been introduced since 1937, is given below. The Lancashire Rivers Pollution and General Powers Bill will entail a considerable amount of more work in this department, and further assistance of an inspectoral nature will be desirable.

The Factories Act, 1937.

The Rivers Pollutions and General Powers Act, 1938.

The Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1938.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

Agricultural Act, 1937.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is satisfactory and adequate. It comes from Thirlmere by the pipe line belonging to the Manchester Corporation. The quality is good.

One complaint was received from a householder; a sample of water from the house was taken and sent for analysis. The report indicated that there was no adulteration but that the colour was due to the water standing in the pipes. After flushing the pipes no further complaint was received.

Dwelling-houses supplied direct from the mains numbered 4,054. Only 7 houses rely on wells and springs, these dwellings being situate remote from the mains.

The quantity of water consumed during the year was as follows:—

	1938	1937
	million gallons	
Thirlmere Water via Hoghton meter ...	185,813	158,597
Water consumed on line by meter en route to reservoir	1,392	1,225
Total Thirlmere water delivered in district	184,421	157,372
Total consumed by meter outside the district	1,930	1,930
Total for distribution in the district	182,491	156,175
Less estimated consumption at Flatts Mill Fire ..	2,369	—
	180,122	156,175
Consumed by meter in the district for business purposes	37,566	31,727
Total supply for domestic purposes for the year ..	144,925	124,448
Total supply per day for domestic purposes	390,564	340,953

Accepting the population in the district as 13,530, and those living outside the district supplied on rateable value as 32, the total population supplied with water is 13,562.

The consumption of water per head per day is 28 gallons, or three gallons per head more than last year, and five gallons per head more than the year 1934.

Water is charged for according to rateable value and by meter :—

On Rateable Value				Supplied by Meter			
Houses	...	...	3913	Farms	...	...	82
Farms	...	...	12	Schools	...	...	11
Clubs	...	...	2	Public Houses	...	...	26
Other properties such as				Slaughter Houses	...	...	2
Workshops, Churches,				Mills and Workshops	...	...	42
Drill Hall, Hospitals, &c.	16			Clubs, including Recreation			
				Rooms and Dance Halls	...	...	14
				Market Gardeners	...	...	33
				Fried Fish & Chip Potato Shops	...	...	18
				Residences	...	...	16
				Railways	...	...	7
				Shops, &c.	...	...	20
	3943				271		

Total premises supplied with water, 4,214.

Water mains have been extended as follows :—

SPUN IRON—			
Mayfield Avenue	...	68-yds.	3-in. main.
Laburnum Avenue	...	20-yds.	„
Rosewood Avenue	...	41-yds.	„
Lindley Street	...	25-yds.	„

TOTAL ...154-yds.

ASBESTOS—			
Mercer Rd. & Avenue	...	130-yds.	3-in. main.
Avenue adjacent...	...	258-yds.	„
Mercer Road	...	50-yds.	„

438-yds.

TOTAL MAIN EXTENSIONS ... 592-yds.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The area is generally well sewered except the more inaccessible and outlying districts.

During 1938 a new 9-inch diameter sewer was laid in Green Drive, Preston Junction. The length of the sewer is 525-yards.

In the spring of 1938 an enquiry was held by the Minister of Health with regard to the proposal to borrow £70,600 for the reconstruction of the sewage works, and the improvement of the sewers from parts of the area. There was no opposition from the public. Permission to borrow this amount has been granted, and the tenders for the work are now under discussion.

Rivers and Streams.

The two large rivers, the Ribble and the Darwen, are under the control of the Lancashire Rivers Board.

Closet Accomodation.

The position of Walton-le-Dale in regard to closet accomodation is good and yearly continues to improve.

A tabular statement is inserted, this information is compiled by the Sanitary Inspector, and I venture to say that a comparison of the figures associated with the years 1910 and 1918, with 1938 will prove illuminating:—

	1910	1918	1938
No. of Privy Closets	621	255	26
No. of Pail Closets	1093	973	168
No. of Waste Water Closets	345	327	264
No. of Fresh Water Closets	694	1267	3853
No. of Houses with dry Ash-pits	1499	994	51
No. of Houses with Ashpails	1058	1632	3933

Public Cleansing.

This service is dealt with fully in the report of the Sanitary Inspector, which is appended to this report: and other details are given on the County Summary Form also printed as an appendix.

Sanitary Inspection.

The amount of sanitary work accomplished during the year is detailed in Mr. Baron's report. The township is under the constant supervision of the Sanitary Inspector and myself. Although during the past year, the time usually spent on such supervision has been somewhat curtailed by the extra duties placed on this department in connection with Air Raid Precautions work, and the sanitary work carried out has, on many occasions, been completed with difficulty and inconvenience.

Private Streets and Back Passages.

During the year the following streets were made up under the Private Street Works Acts, 1892:—

John Street, Bamber Bridge.
 James Street do.
 Carr Street do.
 St. Gerrard's Road, Lostock Hall.
 Approach road to Windsor Road, Walton-le-Dale;

and the Council have arranged to deal with the following streets during 1939 :—

Sergeant Street, Bamber Bridge.
 Woodlands Avenue do.
 Clayton Street do.
 Tyne Street do.
 Co-operative Street do.
 Part of St. Cuthbert's Road, Lostock Hall.
 Moss Street, Lostock Hall.
 Back Passage between North Ribble Street and
 Bridge Terrace, Victoria Road, Walton-le-Dale.

The good work already done in the making-up of these insanitary, undrained, and unpaved private streets and back passages should be continued until no unpaved street or back passage remains in the district.

Playing Fields.

There are playing fields available for the inhabitants of Higher Walton, Walton-le-Dale, and Lostock Hall ; but so far no facilities have been provided in Bamber Bridge itself—by far the largest village in the whole area.

The swimming pool at Walton-le-Dale is inadequately equipped for the needs of the district.

Housing.

During the year under report, 76 new houses have been erected: all by private enterprise. Seventy-three are of the one-storey type and three of the bungalow type. All are brick built, have bath and w.c.'s, and have council water laid on ; one is drained to a septic tank the others to the public sewer.

A report was submitted to the Council on one clearance area, embracing 8 houses, and displacing 29 persons. A statement in regard to the clearance schemes in general, covering 117 houses, is given in the Inspector's report.

The following table shows the number of houses in each Ward, together with those built in 1938 :—

Ward	Year 1937	Houses built and complet'd 1938	Less houses de-molished	Total 1938	Houses in course of erection
St. Leonard's	1395	43	—	1438	—
Lostock Hall West including Brownedge ...	944	12	7	949	16
Bamber Bridge East ...	931	—	—	931	14
All Saints'	722	21	—	743	9
Total	3992	76	7	4061	39

HOUSING—(a) Statistics.		1937	1938
Number of new houses erected during the year :—			
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	... 124	76	
(i) By the local authority	... 20	none	
(ii) By other local authorities	... none	none	
(iii) By other bodies or persons	... 104	76	
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :			
(i) By the local authority (included under (a) (i) above)	... 20	none	
(ii) By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above)	0	none	
1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—			
1—(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... 26	32	
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	... 202	146	
2—(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	... 13	11	
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	... 176	85	
3—Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	13	11	
4—Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... 9	12	
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :			
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers			
...	11	6	
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
1—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... 17	8	
2—Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... 14	7	
4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—			
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	20	15	
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	... 20	15	
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	... 136½	100	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2	1	
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	9	6	
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	... 53	46	

Housing Conditions.

The prevailing type of dwellings are detached and semi-detached houses, bungalows, and cottages built in rows. Overcrowding is now limited to 15 houses. Many premises have been greatly improved by reconditioning and general repairs. There is a shortage of cottages at reasonable rents.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

Milk and Milk Production.—Sixty-two dairy farms exist, accommodating approximately 1,072 cows. In addition there are 20 dairymen. Inspections of the dairy farms in 1938 numbered 99. Three new shippens were built, four new dairies provided, and general improvements were effected at two farms. The majority are in good condition but a few require reconditioning.

Milk Examination.—Sixteen samples of milk were taken and submitted to bacteriological examination: 13 proved "negative" and 3 "positive"; *i.e.*, over 18% were tubercular.

Milk and Dairies.—During the year 1938 the County Public Health Department received four notifications, mostly from County Boroughs, that tubercle bacilli had been found in milk produced in the Walton-le-Dale Urban District. In accordance with Part IV. of the Agriculture Act, 1937, the information was passed on to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who arranged for veterinary inspections to be carried out at the farms concerned. As the result of the investigations, one animal giving tuberculous milk was reported for slaughter under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938.

Milk in Schools Scheme.—The children attending eleven schools in the Walton-le-Dale Urban District received daily supplies of milk under the above scheme during the 12 months ending 31st December, 1938. Constant supervision of School milk supplies is exercised by the County Council and a careful watch is maintained, through the medium of milk samples, to ensure the supplies being free from tubercle bacilli. During the year eight samples were obtained from the two milk supplies concerned, and two were reported "positive" to the biological test for tubercle bacilli, and were dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.—The number of cases of tuberculosis in cattle reported during the year 1938, was four; of these one was notified by the County Public Health Department, two by veterinary surgeons, and one by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, which was found during routine inspection. All the animals were slaughtered.

Meat and other Foods.—All animals slaughtered for human food are inspected. 1,008 pounds of meat unfit for human consumption were surrendered and destroyed. The two slaughterhouses in the district are in every way well conducted. Vans carrying and distributing food stuffs are constantly under observation.

The statement below shows the number of "killings" during the year:—

	No. of killings	No. of carcasses inspected
Cattle	364	22
Calves	4	1
Sheep and Lambs ...	1924	110
Pigs	160	92

The administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, remains in the hands of the County Medical Officer of Health. Inspectors drawn from the County Constabulary collect and submit samples of food for analysis. It will be seen from the table given below the various foods examined and the results of these tests. Some 75 samples were taken and of these 39 were of milk; all were reported as "genuine" with the exception of four milks, poor in quality.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Acts.—Samples purchased in the Township of Walton-le-Dale during the year ended 31st December, 1938.

Article purchased	number
Milk... ..	39
Coffee	1
Jam	1
Butter	1
Lard	1
Sardines	1
Table Jelly ...	1
Tinned Fruit ...	3
Pearl Barley ...	1
Cheese Lancs. ...	2
Olive Oil	1
Vinegar	2
Self Raising Flour...	1
Castor Oil	1
Oatmeal	1
Rice... ..	2
Condensed milk ...	1
Ground Almonds ...	1
Flour	1
Sugar	2
Sauce	1
Lemon Cheese ...	1
Pepper	1
Pickles	1
Margarine	3
Tea	1
Sago	2
Total	<u>75</u>

Number of Prosecutions—nil.

Of the samples of milk submitted to the County Analyst, four were found to be of poor quality. In each case further samples have been obtained which have been found to be genuine.

Factories and Workshops and Bakehouses.

There are 54 factories and workshops on the Register; 35 inspections of these premises were made. Bakehouses number 24, are kept in a satisfactory condition.

Schools.

Of the eleven schools in this district most of them are satisfactory in matters of buildings, light, ventilation, etc., but there are some exceptions. The most unsatisfactory in almost every respect is St. Aidan's, in School Lane, Bamber Bridge. This school should be replaced by a new building and playground as soon as practicable. Several of the school playgrounds are distinctly unsatisfactory, and are sources of danger to the children's health.

During 1938 there has been no change in the organisation of the schools either individually or collectively.

General Inspections, Abatement of Nuisances, etc.

These matters are fully dealt with in Mr. Baron's report.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The epidemic of scarlet fever continued to increase during the first few months of the year, and it was with difficulty that accommodation could be found in the Isolation Hospital. During the early summer the epidemic abated though batches of cases continued to arise until the autumn. During 1938 there were 86 cases of scarlet fever. Fortunately the disease was of a fairly mild type.

There were during 1938, fourteen cases of diphtheria—a number larger than has occurred in recent years. All cases were removed to the local hospital. There were no deaths from either of these diseases.

During the past few years the number of cases of diphtheria has been rising and it was thought the time had come to take action to protect the children and the community in general, both individually and collectively by offering the advantages of inoculation. Towards the end of the year advice was given in schools and in the clinic, urging parents to allow their children to be inoculated. Inoculating began early in this present year and so far about half the children in the schools have been protected.

School Closures for Infectious Diseases.

When the schools re-assembled after the Christmas Holidays, it became evident that the magnitude of the epidemic of scarlet fever had increased in certain of them and in consultation my predecessor and I, as Assistant School Medical Officer decided to recommend the closure and disinfection of the following schools. In addition to these steps the children in certain rooms which appeared to be infected were excluded for some days as contact cases.

School	Disease Prevalent	Period of Closure
St. Aidan's C.E. School (Mixed Dept.)	Scarlet Fever....	Jan. 17th—28th
do. (Infants)	do.	Jan. 14th—28th
Higher Walton R.C. (Infants' Dept.)	do.	Jan. 21st—Feb. 4th
do. and in addition	.... Measles	....Apr.26th—May 6th

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	1
5—10	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
10—15	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15—20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—35	4	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
35—45	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
45—55	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	7	4	3	4	2	1	...	2
Totals ...	11		7		3		2	

The following table contrasts the tuberculosis notifications and deaths, with the nine preceding years :—

NEW CASES				MORTALITY FIGURES					
	Pulmonary		non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		non-Pulmonary		
1938	...	11	...	7	1938	...	3	...	2
1937	...	3	...	8	1937	...	5	...	1
1936	...	11	...	5	1936	...	13	...	4
1935	...	7	...	9	1935	...	5	...	1
1934	...	7	...	9	1934	...	6	...	1
1933	...	1	...	6	1933	...	4	...	2
1932	...	6	...	3	1932	...	3	...	3
1931	...	9	...	5	1931	...	10	...	2
1930	...	13	...	13	1930	...	13	...	3
1929	...	9	...	9	1929	...	5	...	0
1928	...	16	...	10	1928	...	10	...	1

Treatment of Tuberculosis.

The Lancashire County Council is responsible for the scheme for the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis amongst the inhabitants of the Urban District of Walton-le-Dale, cases are usually referred by the general practitioners to the consultant tuberculosis officers at the clinic and dispensary at 12, Walton's Parade, Preston, where facilities exist for specialised modern methods of investigation, diagnosis and treatment. Patients may be sent to an appropriate pulmonary hospital, sanatorium or other special hospital administered by the County Council, or may be supervised at home, or given other treatment considered more suitable according to the nature and circumstances of the case.

At the beginning of 1937 there were registered in this district 58 cases of tuberculosis and at the beginning of 1938 this number had decreased to 47. These were classified as:—

Year	Pulmonary		non-Pulmonary		Total
1937	...	24	...	34	58
1938	...	23	...	24	47

During the year 10 pulmonary and 7 non-pulmonary cases were added to the register; 9 pulmonary and 14 non-pulmonary cases were removed therefrom. Five cases died from tuberculosis, 6 cases removed to some other district, 9 cases were reported as cured and in three cases the diagnosis of tuberculosis was not confirmed after further investigation.

Attached to this statement will be found:—

- (a) Report by the Sanitary Inspector.
- (b) Summary issued by the Medical Officer of Health
County of Lancaster.
- (c) Factories and Workshops Report.

G. G. JOHNSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,

Bamber Bridge,

August, 1939.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1938

*To the Chairman and Members of the Walton-le-Dale
Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

The following statement constitutes my report on the sanitary work accomplished during the past year, 1938.

A great part of my time was occupied, both before and during the crisis, on Air Raid Precautions work and the progress made in sanitary work was only accomplished with difficulty and inconvenience.

Closets have been converted to w.c.'s as follows:—

Pails to w.c.'s	7
Waste water closets to w.c.'s...	7

The closet accommodation in the district at the end of the year was:—

Fresh water closets ...3588	Pail closets ... 168
Waste water closets... 264	Privy closets ... 26

The Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

The refuse is collected from six separate villages, and disposed of on two tips, one situated at Higher Walton, and one at Lostock Hall.

The controlled method of tipping has been adopted by the Council.

The whole of the refuse collection work, including the drag work, is carried out by two motor vehicles.

The majority of the 26 remaining privy closets are situated at outlying farm houses, and are scavenged by the farmers, the contents being used as till for the land.

The following table shows the amount of work done by the motor cleansing vehicles:—

VEHICLES EMPLOYED	No. of Days	Approximate weight of refuse collected and tipped	Total miles travelled	Privies cleansed	Dry ashpits cleansed
		Tons.			
Two Dodge Motors	530½	4708	14,232	11	109

The following refuse receptacles were in use at the end of the year:—

Houses with ashpails	3933
Houses with dry ashpits	51

During the past year 200,583 ashpails and 8,840 closet pails were cleansed.

The following table shows the cost of the collection and disposal of house refuse for the financial year ending 31st March, 1939, and for the purpose of comparison, the twelve previous years:—

Year ending	Gross Expenditure		Gross Income		Nett Expenditure		Population	No. of Houses scavenged	Nett cost per 1000 population	Nett cost per 1000 houses	Cost per house per week
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.					
31 MARCH, 1939...	1537	8 10	9 9 2	1527	19 8	d.	13530	4061	113	£ 382	d. 1·81
" 1938...	1374	5 10	2 19 6	1371	6 4		13360	3985	102	344	1·58
" 1937...	1257	19 8	6 0 8	1251	19 0		13270	3875	94	324	1·49
" 1936...	1152	2 9	3 3 6	1148	19 3		13160	3783	87	303	1·38
" 1935...	1105	4 9	4 17 0	1100	7 9		13037	3590	84	306	1·41
" 1934...	1088	13 8	13 13 10	1074	19 10		12970	3456	82	311	1·44
" 1933...	1060	11 7	9 6 8	1051	4 11		12980	3362	81	312	—
" 1932...	1043	6 6	12 5 6	1031	1 0		12810	3331	80	309	—
" 1931...	973	15 4	12 7 2	961	8 2		12600	3279	76	294	—
" 1930...	1226	3 3	11 12 3	1214	11 2		12600	3256	96	375	—
" 1929...	1105	9 5	23 12 3	1081	17 3		12440	3183	87	340	—
" 1928...	1006	0 0	29 13 8	976	6 4		12440	3112	79	314	—
" 1927...	1098	6 11	25 17 9	1072	9 2		12220	3036	88	354	—

The analysis of the cost of the collection and disposal of house refuse, and the collection and disposal of closet pail excreta is as follows :—

	No. of days.	Cost per day	Total cost
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2½-tons Dodge petrol wagons ...	530½	1 7 7½	732 12 1
Men's Wages ... ..	...	...	686 13 11
Tip rents ... ..	...	...	27 5 0
Loan charges on Hennel Lane Tip ...	...	...	32 13 10
Drain pipes for tips ... ..	...	...	6 0 0
Drag Repairs, &c. ... ..	...	...	3 0 0
Contributions under Health and Unemployment Insurance ...	...	...	16 11 0
Holidays ... ..	...	...	28 11 3
Petty cash ... ..	...	...	0 1 0
Schedule "A" Tax ... ..	...	...	4 0 9
<hr/>			
Total gross cost			£1 537 8 10
Less amount of credit (for sale of scrap iron and other metals)			£9 9 2
Nett cost of refuse collection and disposal...			<u>£1 527 19 8</u>

Housing.

During the past year a report has been submitted to the Council on one clearance area, covering nine houses, and displacing 29 persons.

The following is a summary on Housing :—

	No. of Areas	No. of Houses	No. of persons displaced	No. of per- sons to be displaced	No. of Houses demolished	No. to be demolished
No. of clearance areas now dealt with	11	52	130	45	35	17
No. of individual unfit houses demolished ... ..	....	13	40	....	13	....
No. of undertakings accepted from owners not to permit an unfit house to be used for human habitation ... ..	....	6	19	11	....	....
No. of houses scheduled for demolition the owners of which have now reconstructed and reconditioned the houses	....	22	....	....	....	....
No. of houses put out of use for human habitation the altera- tion of which is in progress	....	3	....	....	....	....
Totals ...	11	96	189	56	48	17

Number of houses on list remaining
to be dealt with... .. 21

Total ...117

The original list of houses for clearance and demolition submitted to the Minister of Health numbered 49 houses; this number as will be seen from the above figures has been very much exceeded, and further additions to the list may be made.

OVERCROWDING.

The following is a summary with reference to over-crowding.

At the end of the year 1937 there were 20 overcrowded houses
During the year 1938.... .. 6 overcrowded houses
— were dealt with
leaving 14 overcrowded houses
1 house became over-
— crowded during year
Remaining on the Register 15 overcrowded houses

Of the 15 overcrowded houses :

2	are overcrowded by	3 persons.
2	„	1½ persons.
6	„	1 person.
5	„	½ a person.

Total....15

Dairies, Farms, and Milk Production.

There are 62 dairy farms and two cheese farms, making a total of 64 milk-producing farms in the district; all have been inspected. A total of 35 farms have now had electric light fitted in the shippens and dairies, and all who can have been advised to adopt this desirable improvement in the method of lighting at night.

Twelve farms are milking by machinery.

Many farmers in the district are proceeding with alterations to their shippens and dairies, and are providing sterilizing accommodation and appliances, in order to qualify for the production of Accredited Milk.

The following farms have qualified, and are now producing milk under the Accredited Scheme :—

- 1—Olive Farm, Hoghton Lane.
- 2—Upper Farm, near Penwortham Mill.
- 3—Lime Kiln Farm, Lostock Hall.
- 4—Lower Jannock Farm, Hoghton Lane.
- 5—Holland House Farm, Bamber Bridge.
- 6—Rock Cottage Farm, Gregson Lane.
- 7—Carver Fold Farm, Higher Walton.
- 8—Hoghton Lane Farm, Hoghton Lane.
- 9—Knowsley Farm, off Gregson Lane.
- 10—Lemon House Farm, Bamber Bridge.
- 11—Withy Trees Farm, Bamber Bridge.

During the past year the following work has been carried out :—

New shippens built	...	3
Shippens reconstructed	...	2
New dairies built	...	4

Sixteen samples of milk were taken, eight of these were taken from the schools, and all were submitted to the Pathologist, Preston Royal Infirmary, for examination.

Two of the samples taken from the schools and one sample taken in course of delivery were found to be contaminated by tubercle bacilli, and were dealt with by the County Council.

Milk (Special Designations) Order.

Eleven Producer's Licences to sell Accredited milk have been issued by the County Council, and two Dealer's Licences to sell Accredited milk have been granted by the Council to the following :—

M. A. Livesey, 5, Aspden Street, Bamber Bridge.

T. Metcalfe, Holland House Farm, Bamber Bridge.

Two licences have been issued by the Council to the Preston Industrial Co-operative Society, to sell Pasteurised milk within the district.

Meat and Food Production.

There are two slaughter houses in the district, these are licensed annually and are in every way well conducted.

The following is the amount of meat which was found to be unfit for human consumption and was surrendered and destroyed :—

Tuberculous	...	...	920 lb.
Other Diseases	...	...	88 lb.
Total	...	...	<u>1008 lb.</u>

Bakehouses.

There are 24 bakehouses in the district; all are above ground level and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

Fried Fish and Chip Potato Shops.

The appliances used in the majority of these establishments are modern, and the businesses are conducted in a satisfactory manner. There are 18 in the district.

The following is a brief summary of the sanitary inspection work carried out during the past year :—

No. of inspections of Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	32
„ re-inspections of Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	146
„ inspections of Infected Houses	...	...	...	48
„ „ Schools	...	...	...	20
„ „ Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milkshops	...	...	...	99
„ „ Slaughter Houses and Shops	...	...	...	61
„ „ Drains	...	...	...	49
„ „ Factories	...	...	...	8
„ „ Workshops and Bakehouses	...	...	...	27
„ other inspections	...	...	...	144
„ re-inspections	...	...	...	127
„ for overcrowding	...	...	...	48
Total	...	...	...	<u>809</u>

The carcasses of 82 pigs were inspected.

No. of samples of milk taken and submitted to the Pathologist for examination for tuberculosis	8
„ samples of milk taken and submitted for the full examination	8
„ samples of ice cream	5
„ samples of water	1

No. of Dwellinghouses disinfected	126
„ parcels of bedding disinfected	903
„ „ destroyed	127
„ Schools disinfected	2
„ Books disinfected	19
„ Complaints received	52
„ Drains tested	18

Summary of notices served and work done in compliance with notices :—

Defective roofs, rain-water conductors made good ...	6
„ limewashing	4
„ drains	19
„ water closets	15
Miscellaneous defects made good	13
Pails converted to w.c.'s	7
Waste water and trough closets converted to w.c.'s	7
Ashbins provided	2
Ashpits abolished	1
Premises drained or re-drained to the sewer ...	6
Closet buildings made good	3
Insufficient closet accommodation	1
Notice of Clearance Order	8
Overcrowding notices served	1

Notices served for alterations carried out at Shippens and Dairies :—

Dairies provided	4
Shippens lighting increased	2
Shippens ventilation increased	2
Shippens floors made good	2
Shippens walls rendered with cement	2
New Shippens built	3

Total ... 108

Notices Served			Complied with	Outstanding	Total
Formal	...	...	22	4	26
Informal	...	...	86	32	118
Total	...	...	108	36	144

NICHOLAS BARON,

Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

*Council Offices,
Bamber Bridge,
August, 1939.*

URBAN DISTRICT OF WALTON-LE-DALE.

SUMMARY of the particulars required by the Ministry of Health Circular 1728, dated 25th October, 1938, to be included in the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1938.

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA. (See pages 6 and 7 of Report)

2.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance facilities :

- (a) For infectious cases—One Motor Fire Tender adapted ; provided by Walton-le-Dale Urban District Council.
- (b) For non-infectious and accident cases—2 Motor ambulances ; Order of St. John and B.R.C.S., and the Preston Royal Infirmary.
- (c) Maternity patients—None. Arrangements for an ambulance for maternity emergencies is desirable.

Clinics and Treatment Centres :

Is there in your district :

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre (Consultation and treatment)—Yes. Address of centre—Brindle Road, Bamber Bridge.

Give day and time open—Thursday, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Hospitals in the district—

Public. Walton-le-Dale Infectious Disease Hospital, Brindle Road, Bamber Bridge.

Voluntary. Lostock Hall Convalescent Hospital (Preston Royal Infirmary).

Health Education :

Any action taken by the local authority during the year in regard to the publication of information or dissemination of knowledge relating to health or disease and the importance of early treatment—Public Health Service leaflets distributed and posters displayed. Printed instructions on infectious disease distributed.

Give a brief description of special efforts made locally in connection with National Health Campaign to secure a wider use of health services.—Posters and leaflets as above.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply—Source—Supply taken from Thirlmere Scheme, Manchester Corporation.

Nature of supply.—Lake.

Is the supply of district satisfactory ? In quality, Yes. In quantity, Yes.

Constant or intermittent—Constant.

Approximate No. of dwelling-houses with piped supplies (public and private)—Direct from mains, 4054. By stand pipe, nil.

Possibilities of contamination.—Negligible.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination.—Sample taken on account of discolouration.

Any liability to plumbo-solvent action?—No.

If piped supply, has the water been examined during the year?—

Bacteriological examinations.—None.

Chemical analysis.—One, satisfactory, safe. Some brown vegetable deposit from the pipes.

Approximate number of dwellinghouses supplied from wells, springs, streams, etc.—seven.

Have these waters been examined during the year? No.

Any insufficiency and where—None.

Nature of extensions during the year—592 yards 3-inch main.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Sewage disposal works, method of treatment—Precipitation and Filtration.

Any extension or improvement during the year with regard to works or sewerage system?—

Sewer extended by 655 yards of 9-inch sewer.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system—Outlying portions of the District.

Action taken—Drain testing, flushing, etc. where necessary.

Rivers and Streams—

Supervised by Ribble Pollution Authority.

Closet accommodation at end of 1938 :—

Privy Middens:—No. of Middens—24. No. of closets attached to these middens—26. Does this system still exist in populous and closely built centres? No. No. of pail closets—168. No. of dry ashpits (*excluding middens*)—51. No. of movable ashbins—3933. No. of houses on water carriage system—3852. No. of fresh water closets—3588. No. of waste water closets—264.

Conversions—		During year 1938.	During 5 years 1933—1937.
No. of privy closets	{ To fresh w.c.'s	....	2
	{ To waste w.c.'s	....	....
	{ To pails, etc.	....	2
No. of pail closets	{ To fresh w.c.'s	7	61
	{ To waste w.c.'s	....	....
No. of waste w.c.'s to fresh w.c.'s ...		7	29
No. of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles ....		....	186

Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing privy middens and pail closets? Yes.

Does the Council contribute towards the cost of conversion? Yes.

If so, how much? One-half the cost.

Public Cleansing—

- (a) The method of collecting dry house refuse.—Two 50-cwt. motor vehicles.
- (b) The method of collecting refuse from earth closets and privies—Pail closets by box drag fitted on to motor. Privy ashpits by motor.
- (c) The method of disposing of dry house refuse.—By controlled tips.
- (d) The method of disposing of refuse from earth closets and privies—Delivered to farmers and market gardeners.

State whether public cleansing is carried out by sanitary authority, contract, or occupiers of houses? Sanitary Authority.

Any extension or improvement during the year in the arrangements,
The collection of house refuse from 76 additional new houses.
Are motor vehicles used? Yes, two.

If privy middens exist, are they emptied by day or night? A few remain, day scavenging.

Does the Sanitary Inspector supervise the scavenging?—Yes.

Sanitary Inspections during 1938—

No. of premises visited—809.

Defects or nuisances—No. discovered 144; No. abated 108.

No. of notices served—Informal 118; Statutory 26.

Legal proceedings—None.

Shops Acts—No action taken.

Smoke abatement.—Visits and advice given.

No. of factory and works chimneys in the district. Seven.

No. of observations.—One. No legal proceedings.

Particulars of any co-operative action with industry. Advice given when necessary.

Eradication of bed bugs.—Particulars of action taken during 1938.—

No. of houses found to be infested—

Council Houses, 1. Other Houses, 7.

No. of houses disinfested.—Council Houses, 1. Other Houses, 7.

Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs.—
Spray with Kleerol or Zaldecide insecticide fluid.

State name of fumigant and/or insecticide used, and efficiency thereof.—Fumex. Apparently effective.

Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to council houses.—By examination and history.

Is work of disinfection carried out by local authority or by a contractor?—Local Authority.

Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or reinfestation after cleansing.—Instructions given to tenants of infested houses.

Schools. (a) Sanitary Condition—St. Aidan's School generally unsatisfactory. Several playgrounds are in a very poor condition.

(b) Water Supply—Council water laid on. Satisfactory? yes.

Workshops and Workplaces—No. on Register—21. What is their condition?—Satisfactory.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1938. Extension of water mains, 592 yds. of 3 in. main. Sewer extension by 655 yds. of 9 in. sewer. The following streets have been made up under the Private Street Works Act—Carr Street, James Street, John Street, St. Gerard's Avenue, part of Windsor Road. Demolition of unfit houses. Conversion of closets to w.c.'s.

Chief Sanitary requirements of district. 1.—New sewage works and extension of sewers. 2.—Playing field for Bamber Bridge. 3.—Proper draining and construction of back passages and side streets. 4.—Further closet conversions. 5.—Additional houses for tenants displaced from clearance areas.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

See Body of Report—page 19.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

General observations as to housing conditions, including the standard of houses, the prevalent types, age and approximate numbers and general soundness of the several types—any information as to prevailing forms of defects and of prevailing bad conditions resulting from overcrowding—

The prevailing types of houses are cottages built in rows, detached and semi-detached houses and bungalows. 150 over 100 years, 1450 between 60 and 100 years, 1000 between 30 and 60 years, 1461 have been built within the past 30 years. In parts of the district the houses have been greatly improved by reconditioning and general repairs; and many more require reconditioning. There is little overcrowding.

Approximate number of back-to-back houses in the district.—10

Sufficiency of supply of Houses. Extent of shortage, if any, There is a shortage of cottages at reasonable rents, to provide accommodation for tenants of overcrowded houses, and to provide accommodation for newly-married couples.

Particulars of any housing scheme in hand or contemplated.—
Fourteen houses in course of erection for slum clearance.

Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding. Causes—how far it is due to inability to pay the rents of available houses, &c. Chiefly inability to pay the rents of available houses.

No. of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply.—3.

Action taken during the year regarding :—

Clearance Areas.—No. of areas represented—2, comprising 17 houses. No. of Areas cleared—0. No. of new houses built to rehouse displaced tenants—None (14 in course of erection).

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—Action taken with regard to—

The administration of The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926—All Milk Producers and Distributors are registered. Every dairy farm has been inspected; many improvements have been effected, and more are in progress.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938—

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1938 in respect of : Distribution 2.

No. of licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" milk :—

Pasteurising Plants—None. Retail Distributors—2.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected ?—

Yes.—How often ?—Approximately twice a year.

What is their condition ?—The majority good, a few require re-conditioning.

Has any owner undertaken (voluntarily) structural alterations or improvements to farm buildings : New Shippens built, 3. Shippens reconstructed, 2. New dairies built, 4.

Any information as to the cost of the work, actual or estimated.—None.

Farms.—No. of dairy farms—62. Approximate number of cows in the district—1072.

Cowkeepers.—No. of cowkeepers (including the dairy farms)—64. No. of inspections during the year—99.

Dairymen or purveyors of milk (other than cowkeepers).—No. of dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers).—20.

Action taken by local authority as to Tuberculous milk. No. of samples submitted for biological test.—16. Result—positive, 3. negative, 13.

Bacteriological examinations.—Standard adopted—Not more than 200,000 bacteria per c.c. No. B. Coli in 0.1 c.c.

No. of samples, 8. No. satisfactory, 6. No. unsatisfactory, 2.

Sediment test.—No. of samples, None.

Meat, &c.—Observations on—

1—Action taken with regard to meat and other food, including inspection of slaughterhouses, meat shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared—Regular and general supervision.

No. of legal proceedings and result.—None.

2—Inspection of Meat ;

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED :

	Cattle excludes Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
	graded				
Number killed (if known)	364	nil	4	1924	160
Number inspected	22	"	1	110	82
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	nil	"	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	"	"	"	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	nil	"	"	"	nil
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	"	"	"	"
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	nil	"	"	"	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	"	"	"	"	nil

(2) Has a public slaughterhouse been provided?—No.

Private slaughterhouses :—No. registered—None. No. licensed 2 annually.

Are they conducted satisfactorily? Yes.

Food poisoning? Action taken (if any).—None.

Bakehouses :—Number—24. Condition—Generally satisfactory.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations of food :—Five informal samples of ice cream taken. One sample unsatisfactory.

Laboratory to which specimen was sent—Preston Royal Infirmary.

Nutrition. Advice given in local clinic to mothers attending clinic.

6.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation provided or available—

For smallpox—Fylde, Preston and Garstang Joint Hospital Board. Where situate—Elswick, near Kirkham. Is the hospital used by "agreement" or "arrangement"—Agreement. Are any retaining fees paid? yes, £60 per annum. Or, if a joint hospital, is the district a constituent authority? Joint Hospital, yes.

For other infectious diseases—Infectious Hospital, Brindle Road, Bamber Bridge. No. of beds—20, Owned by the Walton-le-Dale Urban District Council.

Cost of hospital for infectious disease.—Year ended 31st March, 1939, Cost per patient £7 2s. 5½d.

[This Hospital has now been closed].

Infectious diseases generally. Review briefly the prevalence of notifiable diseases during the year 1938—A prolonged epidemic of scarlet fever throughout the district, during the first half of the year.

Give brief particulars of the clinical type and spread of such diseases as diphtheria and cerebro-spinal fever.—Fourteen cases of diphtheria. None serious, no deaths.

Notes on the supply and prompt use of—Diphtheria anti-toxin—always an ample supply, early use when cases are discovered in time :—Are supplies readily available? Yes, kept at Infectious Hospital.

Are any other vaccines or sera supplied free to medical practitioners? Scarletinal Antitoxin.

If any of the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in your district, state for what period.—Measles, no. Whooping cough, no. Diarrhoea, no. Chicken-pox, no longer notifiable. Any others, no.

Discovery and action taken in regard to (a) Contacts, observation and exclusion from school, etc. (b) Return cases, none. (c) Carrier cases, none.

Extent to which school intimations of disease are utilised?—Close co-operation between School Medical Officer, M.O.H., School Attendance Officer, and Teachers.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations.—At which laboratory are specimens examined?—Preston Royal Infirmary.

No. of specimens examined in 1938 :—

Diphtheria, 68. Enteric fever, 2. Miscellaneous, sputum 2 (suspected tuberculosis).

No of times School Closure adopted during 1938, for—Scarlet fever 2.
Measles 1.

Disinfection :—

No. of houses disinfected during 1938, 126. Method used :—Formalin and Sulphur.

Are houses disinfected after (a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis—Yes, always. (b) Measles—Where required.

Apparatus used for clothing, bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise)—Steam. No. of articles disinfected—903.

Where is apparatus situated ?—Infectious Hospital, Brindle Rd., Bamber Bridge.

If apparatus at hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., of patients *not* removed to the hospital ?—Yes.

What arrangements exist for the disinfestation of verminous, &c., persons ?—None.

The prevalence of any animal or insect pests such as rats, bugs, fleas, mosquitoes, etc., should be referred to and particulars given of the measures taken for their suppression.—Houses are disinfected for bugs or fleas by the Council free of charge.

Rat biscuits and Insecticide powders are on sale at cost price.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.—Any action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade.—No action taken.

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for the year 1908

as far as the Medical Department is concerned

and the work of the Medical Department

in the year 1908

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