

[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Walton-le-Dale U.D.C.

Contributors

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Medical Officer of Health
ON THE
SANITARY
AND
HOUSING CONDITIONS
OF THE
WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT
For the Year 1944




1945:
PRINTED BY FRANK COUPE & Co., LTD., WALTON-LE-DALE



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

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report upon the health of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1944. It was my desire, in the previous reports of the war years, to endeavour to preserve, so far as was permitted, a continuous record of the state of the public health in this district.

The embargo placed upon certain details of population, water supply and other matters by the Minister of Health at the beginning of the war has not yet been fully removed, but to those who were acquainted with the district, the previous reports gave sufficient details to enable them to preserve a true picture of the district even in war-time, and the present report further extends that picture.

There were no staff changes during the year, and with the reduction of the work which it was necessary to devote to the war effort, it was possible to undertake more of the work routine in the days of peace. Thus it was possible to continue and even to extend the efforts made in the past few years to improve the quality of milk produced and retailed in the district. The frequent sampling of such milks, the visits to farms, and the advice and warnings given to the producers on their methods of production, all served to ensure a more satisfactory quality of milk. With so many authorities dabbling in the same problem, the poor liaison between them, and the truly cautious and time-wasting methods of reporting between the various authorities, it has proved a problem still unsolved to produce anything like a completely satisfactory quality of milk. Correct pasteurisation renders a milk reasonably safe to drink, but it can never be regarded as more than an incomplete remedy for a fault committed at the source of production. Healthier herds—tubercle free, better shippings, cleaner handling and methods of milking, better water supplies, better dairies and methods of storage, and, most important of all, more frequent, more efficient and more complete supervision of the whole business of milk production, are all matters of paramount importance in the production of a good and wholesome supply of milk. So far as it was possible to do so, the time devoted to this problem was

almost doubled when compared with the previous year, and the number of samples of milk taken was almost twice those taken in 1943. The bacteriological quality of the milk produced in this district showed further improvement, and the Tubercle Bacillus was absent from the samples taken. This was satisfactory, but some of the milk coming into the district, produced in other districts, showed much less satisfactory results bacteriologically and on test for Tuberculosis.

Throughout the year the Council continued to take a keen interest in a pure milk supply. In this connection the Council visited the Creamery of the Milk Marketing Board at Bamber Bridge and made a thorough inspection of the methods of reception, heat treatment, utensil sterilisation, and dispatch of the milk. The laboratory attached to the plant was also inspected.

The concern of the Council with regard to the presence of the Tubercle Bacillus in milk coming into the district was expressed by a strong protest to the Ministry of Health. The reply was non-committal.

The health of the district in this the fifth year of the war remained satisfactory. There were none of those outbursts of disease which had marked previous wars. Even the monotony of the diet imposed upon the population by the Ministry of Food and the anxieties of the people about the fate and well-being of the men and women in the Forces were insufficient to produce any increase in the Psychoses usually associated with war, especially in the later periods. Infectious Diseases never assumed uncontrollable proportions, nor were they increased in numbers over the average yearly total for the district. They remained mild in character, the post-illness morbidity was slight, and the mortality almost nil.

The Birth Rate remained high, the Death Rate low, and the Infantile Mortality Rate reached a new low level.

During the year, in order to assist the war effort, a campaign was initiated to enlist volunteer Blood Donors. The Chairman of the Council and other members of the Council took leading parts in the effort, which included an Ambulance Parade, cinema talks, talks in the mills, and posters all over the district. Well over 200 volunteers were obtained.

The Ambulance Service run by the Council for the transportation of cases of sickness and accident of the civil population was continued throughout the year. Staffing proved difficult, but the service was maintained.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area in Acres	4,761
Population Census, 1931	12,718
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (mid-1944)	13,120
Number of inhabited houses, Census 1931	3,314
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books, December, 1944	4,126
Rateable Value	£62,591
Sum represented by a penny rate	£252

Social Conditions.—The chief industries of the district were cotton manufacture, engineering, market gardening, the manufacture of animal feeding stuffs, and dairy farming. No morbidity nor mortality could be attributed to these industries.

Vital Statistics.

	M	F	Total
Live Births: Legitimate ...	112	114	226
Illegitimate ..	12	3	15
Total ...	124	117	241
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	18·36		
	M	F	Total
Still Births: Legitimate ...	6	5	11
Illegitimate ...	...	...	...
Total ...	6	5	11
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	44		

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	—	1	1
Total	5	4	9

Death rate of infants under one year per 1,000 live births ...	37
Death rate of legitimate infants under one year per 1,000 legitimate live births	35
Death rate of illegitimate infants under one year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	66

DEATHS males 75 females 78 ... Total 153

Death rate per 1,000 population from all causes	11·66
Death rate per 1,000 population from Cancer ...	1·84
Death rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0·31
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea, under 2 years	1

Comparative Table.

	Per 1,000 of Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Infantile Mortality Rate
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death-Rate	Death-Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Death-Rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total Live and Still-Births	
Mean 5 years, 1939 to 1943	16·0	13·3	0·41	1·78	3·57	3·47	54
1944	18·36	11·66	0·31	1·84	nil	nil	37
County of Lancaster, 1943	17·32	13·26	0·41	1·77	2·74	2·64	54
England and Wales, 1944	17·6	11·6	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1·93	46

(N.A.—Not available.)

The Birth Rate retained the higher level of the previous two years, the Death Rate showed a reduction, and the Infantile Mortality Rate a very appreciable reduction. There were slight reductions in the Death Rates from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and from Cancer. The absence of maternal deaths, in spite of the higher Birth Rate, should be noted.

A table analysing the causes of death in the area of the Urban District during 1944 is given below. The sexes are shown separately.

Analysis of Causes of Deaths.

Causes of Death.	1944		
	M.	F.	Total
Diseases of the Heart	18	28	46
Cancer	11	13	24
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	9	6	15
Bronchitis	6	5	11
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	...	6	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	1	4
Ulcers and other Digestive Diseases	3	3	6
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	1	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	...	1
Influenza ... ..	...	1	1
Measles ... ..	...	1	1
Acute Infantile Encephalitis	1	...	1
Diabetes ... ..	...	1	1
Diseases of Circulation ... ..	...	1	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	...	1
Nephritis ... ..	...	1	1
Premature Births	3	1	4
Congenital Malformations, &c.	1	...	1
Suicide, Accident, and Violence	7	2	9
All other causes	8	7	15
TOTAL	75	78	153

A table is given below showing some comparative figures over the last fifty years. Five decades are given, also 1943 and 1944.

Table of Five Decades.

Period	Per 1,000 Population			Enteric Fever		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Diarrhoea		Infantile Mortality Rate
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Phthisis Death Rate	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Deaths	Deaths	
Ten Years												
1891-1900	30.8	18.9	1.25	133	27	46	16	211	15	122	188	
1901-1910	26.3	14.7	0.95	116	21	98	15	391	16	58	128	
1911-1920	18.7	13.7	0.91	54	5	166	16	565	11	46	107	
1921-1930	16.0	12.0	0.72	7	0	66	5	310	0	11	64	
1931-1940	14.0	12.7	0.44	5	2	47	3	414	0	5	56	
1943	17.5	14.5	0.59	0	0	8	1	30	0	0	47	
1944	18.36	11.66	0.31	0	0	8	0	30	0	1	37	

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—In 1944, the deaths from this disease showed a reduction on those of the last two years. The number of deaths was five, as compared with eight in 1943 and six in 1942. It is to be hoped that the reduction in the strain of war work and an improvement in food will in future reduce these figures to the pre-war level, or even better.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia.—The deaths from Bronchitis showed a reduction, whilst the deaths from Pneumonia were at the same level as in the previous year.

Cancer.—With 24 deaths as compared with 26 and 27 in the two previous years, this disease was slightly less fatal, but the number of deaths conformed to average number for the last few years.

Other Causes of Death.—Diseases of the Heart continued to cause the largest number of deaths, and Haemorrhages of the Brain showed a slight reduction in mortality.

Infantile Mortality.—Nine deaths occurred in infants under 1 year of age. There were 10 in 1943, and 14 in 1942, so that a slight reduction has occurred. In the table below the causes of deaths, and the age at which deaths occurred, are given. Prematurity will always be responsible for some deaths, but the deaths from Pneumonia and Gastro-Enteritis would appear to offer further opportunity for the reduction in the Infantile Mortality Rate in this district. The rate for 1944—37 per 1,000 births—is less than the country generally.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4 weeks to 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
1944	Prematurity	2	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	5
	Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	3
	Gastro-Enteritis ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
	TOTAL	2	1	2	...	2	1	...	1	9

Maternal Mortality.—There were no deaths recorded from causes attributed to parturition.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health.—G. G. Wray, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.—Nicholas Baron, C.R.San.I., also acts as Cleansing Superintendent.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.—Thomas Lawson, A.R.S.I.

Public Vaccinator.—Dr. Howard, Penwortham.

Certifying Factor y Surgeon.—Mr. A. Toulmin, F.R.C.S.E.

Bacteriological and Pathological Facilities.—The Laboratory of the Preston Royal Infirmary continued to be used as in previous years. It gave good service, particularly in the diagnosis of disease. In 1944 the following examinations were made:—

Swabs for Diphtheria, 17.

Ambulance Services.—Cases of Infectious Disease were removed in the Ambulance of the Infectious Diseases Joint Hospital Board.

Accidents, cases of illnesses, maternity cases and emergency cases generally were removed to hospital in ambulances owned and run by the Urban District Council for this purpose. Originally A.R.P. drivers provided the staff for this service, assisted by staff employed by the Council, but with the reduction in the number of whole-time A.R.P. drivers the Council employed more staff to provide the full twenty-four hours' service. The whole organisation was under the Medical Officer of Health. During 1944, 317 patients were carried. They consisted of 32 Accident cases, 88 Maternity cases, and 197 cases of illness removed to or from hospital.

Nursing in the Home.—These duties were covered by the Nursing Staff employed by the Walton-le-Dale Nursing Association, which worked in close co-operation with the Lancashire County Nursing Association.

County Council Services in the Area.

Midwifery Service.—Two midwives employed whole time by Lancashire County Council resided in this area. Their names, addresses and telephone numbers were:—

Mrs. S. E. Hodgkinson, S.C.M., Telephone 85360.
307, Station Road, Bamber Bridge.

Miss A. Spencer, S.C.M., Telephone 4783.
Knotville, Walton-le-Dale.

Antenatal Clinic.—Meetings were held fortnightly at the School Clinic in Brindle Road, where clinical examinations, advice and any treatment necessary were given to expectant mothers by Mr. Andison, the Obstetrical Specialist from Preston Royal Infirmary. Where abnormality, disproportion or difficult home conditions existed, such cases were referred to Preston Royal Infirmary or to Sharoe Green Maternity Hospital. Any dental attention necessary was given at the Clinic by the County Council Dentist.

The number of women who attended the Clinic in 1944 and the number of attendances were:—178 and 717 respectively.

After parturition, the number of mothers who attended for post-natal examinations, advice or treatment were:—32, and they made 35 attendances.

The Child Welfare Centre.—This met each Thursday afternoon, and a County Medical Officer and a County Health Visitor were in attendance at each session. Each baby received examination, simple treatment where necessary, or was referred to hospital. The mothers received advice and instruction.

571 children attended and made 4,186 attendances.

The School Clinic met on two days per week, Monday and Thursday. There, children of school age attended for advice, for treatment, or for inspection. An Assistant County Medical Officer and a School Nurse were in attendance. Children under school age also received attention.

218 school children made 546 attendances, and 30 children under school age made 47 attendances.

Dental Clinic.—Children of school age and under school age, nursing and expectant mothers were treated in 1945. 594 school children attended on 592 occasions. 30 expectant mothers were treated, and one child under school age. In addition, 678 children attended for inspection.

Ophthalmic Clinic.—This is held monthly for the treatment of defective vision and squint.

In 1945, 117 school children attended and made 199 attendances.

In addition, 6 children under school age made 19 attendances.

Orthopædic Clinic (Paralyses or Deformities) attend at Leyland Orthopædic Clinic monthly, and may be referred for hospital treatment to Biddulph Orthopædic Hospital, Heswall, or Windermere Hospitals.

Children suffering from Blindness or who are Deaf and Dumb may be referred to Fulwood Blind School or the Royal Cross School at Preston.

Mentally Deficient children are referred to the charge of the Lancashire Asylums Board.

Venereal Diseases are treated at Preston Royal Infirmary.

Tuberculosis.—The Tuberculosis Dispensary for this area is situated at Walton's Parade, Preston, where patients are referred for consultation, treatment, light treatment, or for X-rays. Specialised treatment in Sanatorium or Hospital is given in the institutions administered by the Lancashire County Tuberculosis Service.

Hospital Accommodation.

Infectious Diseases were admitted to Preston, Fulwood and Longridge Joint Hospital at Fulwood. The number of cases admitted to the hospital in 1944 was 35.

Small Pox cases are admitted to Elswick Small Pox Hospital. There were none in 1944.

General Diseases.—Three hospitals were available:—

- (1) Preston Royal Infirmary.
- (2) St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street, Preston.
- (3) Sharoe Green Municipal Hospital.

All three hospitals were extensively used by patients from this district.

The Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

The year 1945 produced a large increase in the number of notifications of Infectious Diseases. The number was more than double that of the year before, and this increase was caused by an epidemic of Measles and one of Whooping Cough. Both these diseases were introduced into this district by evacuees from Southern England who were billeted in this and surrounding districts. Both diseases were mild in morbidity, not followed by unpleasant after-effects, but were very infectious. The number of cases notified of both diseases was but a proportion of the actual number of cases. The mildness of the diseases prevented recognition on the part of the parents, and did not necessitate skilled medical attention.

Apart from these two diseases, of which control is always difficult, the other infectious diseases showed figures about average for the district. Scarlet Fever occurred in isolated cases throughout the year, and the few cases of Diphtheria were in the older ages.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in 1944.

Notifiable Diseases.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.												Total Deaths.	HOSPITAL.		
	Total cases at all ages	YEARS.												Total cases removed to hospital.	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district	
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65				65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...	30	...	...	...	3	7	18	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	...
Diphtheria ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	8	...
Measles ...	174	4	14	22	19	29	79	6	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	60	4	5	7	10	16	15	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	280	8	20	29	32	52	114	14	3	5	1	1	1	2	36	1

School Closure for Infectious Diseases.—It was not necessary to close any of the schools for Infectious Disease in 1944.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.—The scheme of protection against Diphtheria continued throughout 1944. During the year 171 children under 5 years of age, and 72 children of school age—total 243—were immunised. The estimated populations for these respective age groups were 960 and 2,047. At the end of the year it was estimated that of these groups 77.8% of the under 5 group, and 79.09% of the 5 to 15 group, were immunised. That was a satisfactory proportion of the most susceptible part of the population protected. These percentages are higher than those in Lancashire as a whole and in England and Wales generally. The result was that Diphtheria, which in former years was prevalent in the district, affected few persons in 1944. Of the 8 cases which did occur, only one was immunised, and five of the cases were in persons over the age of fifteen, so the younger ages—the ages of susceptibility—practically escaped the disease.

Other Diseases Suspected to be Infectious.—There were several reports from the Medical Practitioners of outbreaks of Gastro-Enteritis in adults, as well as in children. Several of these outbreaks were investigated. In all cases examination of the water and food supplies proved them to be free of all organisms of the Enteric, Dysenteric and Food Poisoning Groups. The cause was probably war-time food of insufficient quality.

Tuberculosis.—On the register at the end of 1943 there were 29 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 29 Non-Pulmonary cases. During 1944 there were notified 17 cases of Respiratory Tubercle (11M., 6F.), and 1 case of Non-Respiratory disease. This number was a considerable reduction on the number notified in 1943 (27). Five persons, all suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, died. There were no deaths in the non-Pulmonary group.

With removals to and from other districts and recoveries, the number remaining on the register at the end of the year was 56, consisting of 28 Pulmonary (M.18, F.10) and 28 Non-Pulmonary cases (M.13, F.15).

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1944:—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	4	2	...	...	1	1	...	...
35	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
55	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
TOTALS	11	6	...	1	4	1	0	0
	17		1		5		0	

The Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk and Milk Production.—In 1944 there were 67 dairy farms in the district, with approximately 1,122 cows. Nineteen of these farms were licensed to produce "Accredited Milk." The number of cowkeepers was 67, and the number of dairymen or milk purveyors was 24.

It has already been mentioned in the earlier part of this report that increased attention was devoted to the taking of samples. In all, 137 samples of milk were taken for examination. Of these,

115 were submitted to Bacteriological tests, 51 were satisfactory, and 64 were unsatisfactory. 54 of these samples of milk were produced in the district, of which 30 were satisfactory and 24 unsatisfactory. 61 samples of milk produced outside the district gave a return of 21 satisfactory and 40 unsatisfactory.

118 samples of milk were submitted to tests for Tuberculosis (3 of these were school milks), and 6 of these were positive, 112 negative. All the milk samples produced in Walton-le-Dale were negative for Tuberculosis. There were 6 positives in the 64 samples of milk taken which were produced outside the district.

In addition, 19 samples of heat-treated milk were tested for pasteurisation. All of these were satisfactorily heat-treated.

Two complaints of the bad keeping qualities of milk were investigated. In both cases washings of the milk kits were examined bacteriologically. One was satisfactory; the other was grossly contaminated. Appropriate steps were taken to remedy this.

The Milk in Schools Scheme.

All the schools in the area received daily supplies of milk. The majority of this milk was heat treated. Three samples examined for T.B. were negative.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

As there were no cases of Tuberculosis in cattle discovered in this district in 1944, there were no cows slaughtered for that disease. All the samples of milk produced outside the district where the Tubercle Bacillus was found were reported to the County Medical Officer of Health, and by him to the Ministry of Agriculture. ~~As the result of the investigations made.~~

As the result of the investigations made by the Ministry of Agriculture, cows suffering from Tuberculosis were slaughtered under the Order, and the herds were afterwards declared to be free of Tuberculosis.

Meat and Other Foods.

No sheep or cattle were slaughtered in the district in 1944.

Condemnation of Food Unfit for Human Consumption.

During 1944, 173 tins of food weighing 135lbs., and 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. of meat and other foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption. It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings during the year for unsound food.

Food and Pure Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Food and Drug Act, 1938.

The County Council, through its Public Health Department, administered these Acts.

New Legislation in 1944.

None of note.

Water Supply.

7 samples of water were examined during the year 1944 for bacteriological purity from various parts of the district. The examinations were carried out at the Preston Corporation Water Laboratory at Longridge. All the samples were satisfactory.

I am indebted to Mr. Whittle for the following report upon the Water Supply of the district, and upon the repairs and extensions which were carried out during the year.

Water Supply Year Ending December 31st, 1944.

	Gallons.
Taken from Thirlmere at both Meter Houses	187,347,000
Consumed by meter on pipe line en route to Reservoir	1,492,000
	<hr/>
Total Thirlmere delivered in District	185,855,000
Taken by meter from Preston Corporation	20,310,000
	<hr/>
Total water delivered into District	206,165,000
Consumed by meter outside District	4,046,000
	<hr/>
	202,119,000
Water retained in Reservoirs, December 31st	594,000
	<hr/>
Total water delivered in District for all purposes	201,525,000
Consumed by meter in District	78,093,000
	<hr/>
Consumed in District for all purposes	123,432,000
Giving a daily supply for domestic and all purposes	338,170
Estimated population at 13,120, we have 25.5 gallons per head per day.	

During the year the following Waste Inspections have been carried out:—Houses and other premises visited, 1,541; W.C. cisterns re-washed, 73; taps re-washed, 435; burst services located, 91; burst mains, 7

No main extensions during the year.

During the year the following connections were made to the Council's water mains:—

Thos. Moss & Son's Canteen, Ward Street, Lostock Hall.
 Pearson's Cottage, South Todd Lane, Lostock Hall.
 Top o' th' Meadows Farm, Manybrooks, Higher Walton.
 " Westwood Nurseries," Brindle.

The vast majority of houses in the Urban District have a piped supply of water. The water comes from the Manchester Corporation mains from Thirlmere, or from the Preston Corporation supply. Both supplies have been found to be wholesome on test.

The number of houses on a piped water supply was 3,936. The number of houses receiving a supply from other sources was 190.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The area is on the whole well sewered, but the outskirts are not quite so well served. The sewage works, overloaded and of antique design, did not give rise to any complaints during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

Shortage of labour and of material limited the number of conversions in 1944. There were 11 conversions to fresh water W.C.s, 1 from a privy, 6 from pails, and 4 from waste water closets.

Mr. Baron, Chief Sanitary Inspector, has compiled the table below.

	1910	1918	1941	1943	1944
No. of Privy Closets	621	255	24	24	24
No. of Pail Closets	1093	973	157	156	150
No. of Waste Water Closets	345	327	257	253	249
No. of Fresh Water Closets	694	1267	3671	3676	3687
No. of Houses with dry Ash-pits	1499	994	51	51	51
No. of Houses with Ashpails	1058	1632	4012	4012	4012

Public Cleansing.

This service, under Mr. Baron, is dealt with in his report appended.

Sanitary Inspections.

The number of inspections, defects found, defects remedied, and other matters will be found in Mr. Baron's report appended. Supervision was constant throughout the year.

Private Streets and Back Passages.

No new work carried out in 1944.

Schools.

There were eleven in the district. Many are old, but with one exception they were satisfactory for light and ventilation. The playgrounds are inadequate in practically every case.

Playing Fields.

There were playing fields in Higher Walton, Lostock Hall and Walton-le-Dale. Bamber Bridge had insufficient playing field accommodation.

Bathing facilities are inadequate.

Housing.

No new houses were erected in 1944.

Housing Conditions.

The district contains detached houses, semi-detached houses, bungalows, and cottages in rows. Overcrowding occurred in many parts of the district, but it did not cause any excessive morbidity, nor could any mortality be attributed to it.

The unsatisfied demand for houses was in the neighbourhood of 200.

Two small areas of defective houses were under survey for demolition and replacement when conditions allow.

Many houses required repair which could not be carried out by reason of the shortage of labour and materials.

Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses.

Supervision was exercised over the sanitary conveniences and general hygiene. The canteens and food kitchens were visited and inspected.

Attached to this report will be found:—

(a) Report by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Yours obedient servant,

G. G. WRAY.

September, 1945.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1944

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

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following brief report on the sanitary work of the Health Department for the year 1944.

I am indebted to my assistant, Mr. T. Lawson, for his energetic and willing co-operation at all times in carrying out the multifarious and additional duties assigned to the Health Department including voluntary A.R.P. and ambulance work.

The following is a brief summary of the Sanitary Inspection work carried out during the year

No. of Inspections of Dwelling Houses	16
No. of Reinspections of Dwelling Houses	68
No. of Inspections of Infected Houses	16
No. of Inspections of Schools	6
No. of Inspections of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops	106
No. of Food Stores inspected	38
No. of Inspections of Food	36
No. of Inspections of Factories and Workshops	10
No. of Inspections of Drains	390
No. of General Inspections	141
No. of Other Inspections	105
No. of Rodent Inspections	61
No. of Reinspections	159
No. of Inspections of Salvage	145
No. of Drains Tested	46
	<hr/>
Total ...	1343

Food.

The following is a summary of the Foodstuffs condemned in the district during the year 1944.

No. of Tins	Description	Weight				
		Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lb.	ozs.
98	Milk ....	...	...	2	8	5
18	Carrots ....	...	...	...	27	...
1	Stewed Steak ....	...	...	...	1	...
3	Pilchards ....	...	...	...	2	6
1	Minced Beef Loaf ....	...	...	...	1	...
11	Sardines....	...	...	...	7	3½
26	Chopped Ham ....	...	...	...	19	8
8	Boned Chicken....	...	...	...	6	...
1	Irish Stew ....	...	...	...	1	...
6	Salmon ....	...	...	...	6	...
10 boxes	Kippers ....	...	1	2	14	...
...	Margarine ....	...	...	1	5	4
...	Raw Ham ....	...	...	...	22	8
...	Bacon ....	...	...	1	9	...
...	Butter ....	...	...	2	15	8
...	Hindquarter of Beef ....	...	1	3	11	...
...	Pork ....	...	...	3	7	...
...	Lard ....	...	...	...	26	...
Total No. of Tins 173	Total Weight ....	...	7	...	21	10½

Housing.

Full reports on two Clearance Areas covering 15 houses were prepared, but no action can be taken at the present time owing to the acute shortage of houses in the district.

Milk.

Summary of information with reference to Farms and Dairies, and the results of the examination of samples of milk:—

No. of Dairy Farms	67
Approximate No. of Cows	1122
No. of Cowkeepers	67
No. of Accredited Farms	18
No. of Dairy men other than Farmers	24
No. of Farm Inspections	106

Analysis of Samples of Milk.

The total number of samples of milk taken in the district was 137.

Bacteriological Examination.

115 were taken for Bacteriological examination.

54 were taken from producers in the district, and of these
30 were satisfactory, and
24 were unsatisfactory.

61 were taken from producers outside the district, and of these
21 were satisfactory, and
40 were unsatisfactory.

19 samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken, all satisfactory.

Tuberculosis Examination.

118 samples of milk were examined for Tuberculosis.

54 of the samples taken were from producers in the district, all
of which were found to be free from the Tubercle bacilli.

64 samples were taken from producers outside the district, and
of these

6 were found to be Tubercular.

Two samples of milk churn washings were taken.

One was found to be satisfactory, and one unsatisfactory.

Water.

7 samples of domestic water were taken for Bacteriological examination. All were found to be satisfactory.

Disinfections.

No. of Dwelling Houses disinfected	78
No. of parcels of Bedding Disinfected	431
No. of Beds Disinfected	83
No. of Beds Destroyed	10
No. of Books Disinfected	6

Notices.

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

One new Shippon and Middenstead constructed.

One Dairy enlarged and converted for the production of Accredited Milk.

Summary of Notices served and work done in compliance with the Notices:—

Defective Roofs and Rain-water conductors made good	17
Defective Drains made good	132
Defective W.C.s made good	15
Defective Privy Closets converted to W.C.s	1
Defective Pail Closets converted to W.C.s	8
Defective Waste Water Closets converted to W.C.s	3
Additional W.C.s provided	3
Premises re drained to Sewer	13
Defective Closet Buildings made good	8
Ashpits abolished	1
Ashpails provided	33
Miscellaneous defects made good	50

Total number of defects remedied 284

Total Notices Served	Complied with	Outstanding	Total
Formal ...	12	0	12
Informal ...	192	11	203
Total ...	204	11	215

Rats and Mice Destruction.

Staff.

At the commencement of the year the Council had in their employ one man and two women Rodent Operators. One woman resigned in February, and the other resigned in August, and the Council decided not to fill the vacancies.

Sewers.

During the past year all the sewers in the district have been prebaited. Only four manholes, all of which were adjacent to fresh-water courses, were found to be infested. These were poison baited, and later post-baited, and found to be clear of rats.

The total number of manholes baited was 335, and the total number of baits laid was 1,500.

Premises.

59 premises were dealt with during the year. In every case where rat infestation had taken place, the source of infestation was

found to be fresh-water courses. In several instances where rats had been reported no trace of rats could be found.

All the premises found to be infested were post-baited, and found to be clear, but after a period 14 of these premises became reinfested from the same water courses, and had to be treated again.

Several farms and market gardens reported to be infested were notified to the War Agricultural Committee.

Food Stores.

All the food stores in the district were kept under observation, and if any trace of infestation was found it was dealt with immediately.

Bait.

The bait used was sausage rusk and stale bread mash.

Poison.

The poisons used were Zinc Phosphide and Arsenic.

Results.

20ozs. of poison bait was taken from the sewers, and 179ozs. of poison bait was taken from the premises, or a total of 199ozs.

The approximate total number of rats destroyed was 498. Of these only 90 were found.

Immunisation. Records of Immunisation:—

Insulin. The supply of Insulin to necessitous cases, and the

Civil Mortuary.

Supervision of the cleansing of the Civil Mortuary, have also received attention.

House Refuse Collection and Disposal, and Salvage Work.

The following table shows the amount of work done by the Motor Refuse Vehicles:—

Year	Vehicles employed	No. of days	Approximate weight of Refuse collected	Total miles travelled	Average miles per gallon
1944	Three Dodge Motors	818	4998 tons	22373	9

Analysis of the cost of the Collection and Disposal of House Refuse and the Collection and Disposal of Salvage, showing the credit for Salvage for the year 1944:—

	Cost per day			Total Cost		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dodge Petrol Wagons ...	1	14	7	1349	7	6
Men's Wages and Insurance (including bonus—10% of Salvage Material) ...				1911	15	11
Loan Charges				28	3	3
Petty Cash				0	19	6
Miscellaneous Accounts ...				64	1	9
Invoice Accounts				47	17	11
Total Cost				3402	5	10
<i>Less sale of Salvage Mat.</i>	1576	17	8			
<i>Less other credit</i>	9	14	0	1586	11	8
Nett Cost				1815	14	2

Collection and Sales of Salvage.

The following table shows the tonnage and materials sold, and the amounts received for Salvage during the year 1944:—

	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lb.	£	s.	d.
Paper—Newspapers, Magazines, mixed paper cardboard cartons ...	1960	bales					
Textiles — Rags, Cloth, Carpets, Sacking ...	145	...	...	...	938	12	11
Ferrous Metals—Cast Iron	12	5	3	19	133	4	1
Loose tins	4	11	1	...	15	19	4
Kitchen Waste	50	18	3	...	50	18	9
Bones	249	0	2	...	373	10	8
Miscellaneous Sales	1	10	1	...	7	3	7
Bottles ... ..	...	...	...	...	49	17	4
	151	doz.	...	...	7	11	0
Total ...	463	6	2	...	1576	17	8

The Council commenced the collection of Salvage in May, 1940.

The following table shows the tonnage sold and the amounts received each year by the sales of Salvaged Material:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lb.	£	s.	d.
1940	129	3	3	18	426	18	4
1941	194	7	3	—	828	10	8
1942	280	5	1	5	1148	5	1
1943	376	4	1	16	1424	18	0
1944	463	6	2	—	1576	17	8
Total ...	1443	7	3	11	5405	9	9

In addition to Health Department work the following is a brief summary of A.R.P. and other work carried out:—

A.R.P.

A.R.P. Meetings attended	6
A.R.P. Exercises attended	1
A.R.P. Quiz attended	2

A.R.P. Personnel Meetings attended	4
A.R.P. Lectures given	3
Air Raid Buildings, Equipment and Appliance inspections ...	53
Inspection of Rest Centres	8
Inspection of proposed Temporary Dwellings for Evacuees ...	7

Rodent.

Rodent Meetings attended	5
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Blood Donors.

Blood Donors Meetings attended	5
Blood Donors Parades attended	2
Blood Donors Appeal at Cinemas	2
Blood Donors Appeal at Works	3

Many other matters not connected with the Statutory Duties of my Office, but which would have a bearing on the future well-being of the people of the district, also received attention.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

NICHOLAS BARON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

Council Offices,
Bamber Bridge.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors
held on the 15th day of January 1891
the following resolutions were adopted
to wit: That the sum of \$1000.00
be appropriated for the purchase of
the property of the late John A. Smith
situated on the corner of Main and
Broad streets in the city of New York
for the purpose of erecting a building
for the use of the Board of Directors
of the City of New York.

Resolved that the sum of \$1000.00
be appropriated for the purchase of
the property of the late John A. Smith
situated on the corner of Main and
Broad streets in the city of New York
for the purpose of erecting a building
for the use of the Board of Directors
of the City of New York.

