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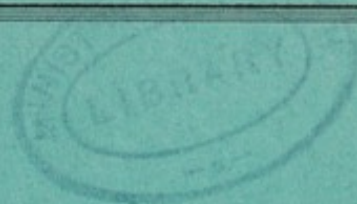
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WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year ending 31st December, 1948

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1949 :

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
BAMBER BRIDGE.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year ending 31st December, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report upon the health of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1948. It will be my final report to you as your Medical Officer of Health.

In it will be found those statistics supplied by the Registrar General and the Public Health Department of the County Council relating to Deaths, Mortality and Births and the other sectionalised Mortality Rates.

It is difficult in a report of this nature, which is based upon a standardised form, to present a picture of the work of the Department, for much of its most useful work cannot be reduced to figures. It is only by constant supervision, by advice and counsel, by education, and by example that the health of a district can be maintained. Improvement is a long term process and only constant endeavour can facilitate it.

The health of the district remained satisfactory in the year under review. The epidemic of Measles of a mild type, but highly infectious, which appeared in 1947, continued in the early months of 1948. Poliomyelitis, which affected three persons in 1947, affected a similar number in 1948. Scarlet Fever was slightly more prevalent in scattered cases. Diphtheria was absent. The Death Rate showed a slight increase—the Birth Rate a slight decrease, and the maternal death rate was nil.

The supervision and control of the purity of milk was continued, and ice-cream was kept under continued observation. Constant sampling visits to farms and dairies were continued.

The event of the year was the coming into force in July of the National Health Service Act. Along with it must be associated the National Assistance Act and the Children's Act. These three Acts produced a marked change in the form of Local Government by transferring many of the activities of Local Sanitary Authorities to County Councils and County Boroughs whilst the Hospitals were vested in Regional Boards and the Medical Practitioner service in Executive Councils. Three spheres of control were thus created with little provision for liaison, or even co-operation, between the three ruling bodies. Experience in working will doubtless adjust these defects in administration.

Those activities of the Local Sanitary Authority transferred to the County Councils included the Ambulance Service, Child Welfare, Immunisation, Nursery Services, etc. The central control of such functions would have proved somewhat unwieldy in a large county like Lancashire. A Divisional form of day to day administration was established by the division of the county into 17 Medical Divisions. To the Divisional Committees the County Districts appointed representatives, and thus the administration preserved something of its former local benefits. Walton-le-Dale is one of the constituent authorities of Health Division No. 4.

The environmental services were not disturbed by these changes. These services included control of infectious disease, disinfection, investigation and isolation where necessary.

Physical Characteristics of the Area

The district is quadrangular in shape with an average width East to West of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and a length North to South of $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles. There is a gentle slope from South East to South West. In the South East the height above sea level is 80 feet, falling in the North West to 23 feet above the same level.

About two miles of the northern boundary is formed by the River Ribble. This part of the river is tidal in almost all of its length.

The River Darwen flowing through a valley in the northern part of the district, joins the Ribble at the North Western Boundary of the area.

Geologically the district lies on Triassic sandstone upon which are placed a Lower Clay layer, a layer of Drift Sand and an Upper Boulder Clay layer. The base of rock forms an inclined plane which dips downwards towards the sea. Outcrops of this rock are found in beds of the Ribble and Darwen. In the Boulder Clay layers stones are found of varying sizes, which are mainly of Lakeland origin. In the Drift Sand layer deposits of gravel are found. The layers of the Glacial Drift fill the valleys, but the hill tops are usually free of Drift.

The thickness of the various layers varies in different parts of the district ; towards the western side the three layers approximate 100 feet in thickness, but in most parts of the district the Upper Boulder Clay is 10 feet, the Drift Sand 9 feet, and the Lower Boulder Clay 2 feet upwards.

The island formed between the two rivers contains large alluvial deposits which provides a rich soil for market gardening.

Statistics and Social Conditions

Area in Acres—4,761.

Population (Census, 1931)—12,718.

Registrar General's estimate of resident population (Mid 1948)—14,730.

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)—3,314.

Number of inhabited houses (Rate Books 1948)—4,342.

Rateable Value—£64,449.

Sum represented by Penny Rate—£260.

Vital Statistics.						Male	Female	Total
<i>Live Births—</i>								
Legitimate...	...	...	...	...	...	119	124	243
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
Total ...						126	129	255
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population						17.3		
<i>Still Births—</i>								
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total ...						2	3	5
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births						19		
Deaths of Infants under one years of age.						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total ...						5	7	12
Death Rate of Infants under one year :—								
All infants per 1,000 live births ...						47		
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births						49		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births						Nil		
						Males	Female	Total
Deaths ...	...	...	...	...	...	83	104	187
Death Rate per 1,000 of population from all causes						...	...	12.6
Death Rate per 1,000 of population from cancer						...	...	1.9
Death Rate per 1,000 of population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis						...	...	0.2
Maternal Mortality Rate						...	...	Nil
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis						...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)						...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)						...	...	1

Comparative Table.

	Per 1000 of Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Infantile Mortality Rate
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Death Rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total Live and Still Births	
Of 5 years, 1943-1947 ...	18.4	12.4	0.36	1.88	2.55	2.48	46
Year 1947 ...	21.5	11.2	0.42	1.56	Nil	Nil	42
Year 1948 ...	17.3	12.6	0.20	1.90	Nil	Nil	47
England and Wales ...	19.9	10.8	0.51	1.91	NA	1.02	34
Increase or decrease in 1948							
On 5 years average 1943-1947...	—1.1	+0.2	—0.16	+0.02	—2.55	—2.48	+1
Previous Year ...	—4.2	+1.4	—0.22	+0.34	Nil	Nil	+5

The Birth Rate showed a decrease on 1947 and the Death Rate an increase. The Infantile Mortality Rate increased slightly but annual variations in this rate may be expected.

A Table analysing the causes of death in 1948 is given below.

Analysis of Causes of Death.						1948		
						Male	Female	Total
Diseases of the Heart ...	...	...	...	...	...	32	24	56
Cancer (all sites) ...	...	...	...	...	...	11	17	28
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	...	...	...	...	...	7	14	21
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	7	13
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
Nephritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Diabetes ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Circulation...	...	...	...	...	...	4	14	18
Syphilitic Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Appendicitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
Premature Births ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
Congenital Malformations, etc. ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Road Accident ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Other Violent causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
All other causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	6	11
						83	104	187

A Table is given below showing some comparative figures over the last fifty years. Five decades are given, also years 1941 to 1948.

Tables of Five Decades.

Period	Per 1000 Population			Enteric Fever		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Deaths from Diarrhoea	Infantile Mortality Rate	
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Phthisis Death Rate	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	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	291	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
1941	...	14.9	11.9	0.42	0	0	4	0	10	0	0	42
1942	...	17.9	11.9	0.43	0	0	4	0	11	0	1	60
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
1945	...	16.8	13.2	0.22	0	0	1	0	45	0	1	49
1946	...	18.3	11.8	0.29	0	0	0	0	22	0	2	59
1947	...	21.5	11.2	0.42	0	0	1	0	24	0	0	42
1948	...	17.3	12.6	0.20	0	0	0	0	35	0	1	47

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The Death Rate from this disease is rather less than half of the previous year. It is the lowest rate recorded in this district.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia showed a marked reduction in deaths.

Cancer. The number of deaths from this group of diseases showed an increase on the previous year.

Other Causes of Death. Diseases of the Heart again caused the largest number of deaths and Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesions followed closely on.

Poliomyelitis again caused one death.

Infantile Mortality. Twelve deaths occurred as opposed to 13 in the previous year with the exception of one death from enteritis, all the deaths were of the congenital type which are so difficult to prevent.

1948

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 year
Prematurity ...	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Congenital Heart Disease ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Spina Bifida ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cranial Haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diaphragmatic Hernia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Duodenal Atresia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	8	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	12

Maternal Mortality. There were no fatalities connected with pregnancy in 1948.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health	...	G. G. Wray, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Other Appointments	...	M.O.H., Leyland U.D.C., Fulwood U.D.C., Longridge U.D.C., M.O.H. Preston R.D.C., Divisional Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	...	Nicholas Baron, Cs.R.San.I., A.M.Ints.P.C.
Other Appointments	...	Cleansing Superintendent.
Additional Sanitary Inspector		G. N. Corbishley, Cs.R.San.I.
Public Vaccinator	...	Dr. Howard, Penwortham.
Certifying Factory Surgeon	...	Dr. Logan, Lostock Hall.

Bacteriological and Pathological Facilities.

The Laboratory of the Preston Royal Infirmary was used as in previous years. It gave satisfactory service.

In 1948 the following examinations were made :—

Swabs for Diphtheria—9.

Ambulance Service.

Up to the 5th of July, 1948, the ambulance arrangements were as in previous years but after that date the ambulance service became the responsibility of the County Council. However the Service continued to be run by the Urban District to the end of the year, acting as agent for the County Council, but without charge to the patient.

The number of calls increased markedly and the altered hours of duty required additional ambulance drivers and attendants.

The number of patients carried in 1948 was :—

Maternity Cases	...	...	...	...	...	35
Cases of Illness	...	...	...	...	...	774
Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	26
Others	...	...	...	...	...	26
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	861 (1947—306)
						<hr/>

Nursing in the Home.

These duties were carried out by the Nurses employed by the Walton le Dale Nursing Association up to July 5th. The Association afterwards acted as agents for the County Council.

County Council Services in the Area.

Midwifery Services.

Two midwives employed wholtime by the County Council reside in the Area. Their names, addresses, and telephone numbers are :—

Mrs. Dobbie,
Chorley Road,
Bamber Bridge.
Tel. 85280.

Miss A. Spencer,
" Knotville,"
Walton-le-Dale.
Tel. 4783.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

Meetings were held fortnightly at the school clinic in Brindle Road, Bamber Bridge. Clinical examination, advice, and treatment were given to expectant mothers by a specialist from the Maternity Section of Preston Royal Infirmary, Mr. Wiseman, under the County Council Scheme.

In cases of disproportion, of unsuitable home conditions, or for other causes, the mothers were admitted to the Preston Royal Infirmary or to Sharoe Green Maternity Hospital.

Dental treatment was given at the Clinic by the County Council Dentist.

The number of mothers who attended this Antenatal Clinic during 1948 was :—

Number of mothers in attendance	...	...	...	126
Number of attendance	...	...	...	341

After parturition, mothers were advised to attend for advice or treatment where necessary. Seventeen mothers attended on 18 occasions for such advice or treatment.

The Child Welfare Centre.

This met each Thursday afternoon with an Assistant County Medical Officer and a County Health Visitor in attendance each session. Each infant received a full examination and a history of its state and progress was made in each case. Parents were advised upon Infant care and management. Simple treatment was given where necessary, more serious defects being referred to general or specialized hospitals. During the year the number of babies in attendance and their attendances were :—

						Children	Attendances
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	137	2174
1 to 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	57	329
2 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	81	266
						<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	275	2769
						<hr/>	<hr/>

The School Clinic was available for inspections, the treatment of Minor Ailments, Dental treatment, and Ophthalmic treatment.

Minor Ailments. Sessions for the treatment of conditions of the skin, ear, nose, throat, eye injuries and for inspections were held twice weekly (Monday and Thursday). School children and children under school age received treatment at the Clinic, and parents attended with them for advice.

219 children of school age attended on 761 occasions.

12 children under school age attended on 17 occasions.

Ophthalmic Clinic held fortnightly for the treatment of Defective Vision and Squint. Dr. Mary Hughes, of the Preston Royal Infirmary Staff, was the visiting Ophthalmic Surgeon.

In 1948, 171 children of school age attended on 263 occasions, 13 children under 5 years attended on 20 occasions.

Dental Clinic. Children of all ages up to leaving school attended for inspection or treatment. It has already been noted that expectant or nursing mothers also received treatment.

The number of children who attended for treatment was 612 and they attended on 1,048 occasions. The treatment provided was conservative, teeth were extracted. 1,358 children in all were inspected for dental conditions at the Clinic. 26 children under 5 years of age attended for treatment on 33 occasions.

Orthopaedic Clinic at Leyland.

Children from this area were referred to above clinic. It met monthly for the inspection, treatment, and reference to hospital where necessary, of these cases. Paralysis and deformity—An Orthopaedic Nurse was in attendance weekly to give exercises, adjust apparatus and to apply splints or apparatus.

Special Defects.

Children suffering from Blindness were referred to Henshaw's Blind School, Manchester. Partially sighted children were referred to the Partially Sighted School, Fulwood, for residential education.

Deaf and Dumb Children were admitted to the Royal Cross School, Preston, for specialized education where such was required.

Mentally Defective Children, after certification, were placed in the care of the Lancashire Asylums Board.

Tuberculosis. The dispensary for patients for this area is in Waltons Parade, Preston, with a Tuberculosis Medical Officer and a Tuberculosis Nurse in attendance. Examination, treatment, X-Ray and light treatment, and X-Ray for diagnosis are given at the dispensary.

Venereal Diseases. Patients attended the Preston Royal Infirmary Venereal Disease Clinic under the County Scheme.

Infectious Diseases were admitted to Preston, Fulwood, and Longridge Joint Hospital. The number of cases admitted in 1948 was 29 ; 5 were admitted to Preston Royal Infirmary.

Small-pox. There were no cases. They would be admitted to Elswick Small-pox Hospital.

General Diseases.

Three hospitals in Preston were available :—

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

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

The Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The number of cases notified was 371 an increase of 125 upon 1947. The increase was mainly due to more cases of Measles and Whooping Cough, all of a mild type but highly contagious. Scarlet Fever also showed an increase without ever assuming epidemic character. The cases were sporadic, scattered and mild.

Three cases of Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis occurred with one death and in addition there were two cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever without fatality.

There were no fatalities from Measles, Whooping Cough or Scarlet Fever.

The table below gives the Analysis of cases.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases Notified													Total Deaths	Hospital	
	Total Cases at all Ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	Over 65 years		Total cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the district.
Scarlet Fever ...	35	...	1	1	6	3	14	8	...	2	1	...	...	...	29	...
Measles ...	278	7	15	46	31	61	112	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	48	3	5	8	10	7	14	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia ...	3	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	1
, Polio-encephalitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Total ...	371	10	24	56	48	71	141	12	2	3	1	2	1	...	34	1

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

After July the responsibility for Immunisation was transferred to the County Council and Administered through the Medical Divisions. The transfer of the record cards has rendered it difficult to provide a record comparable with that of former years. So far as can be ascertained the numbers of children immunised were :—

Children aged 0-4 years	...	...	...	...	167
Children aged 5-14 years	...	...	...	...	73
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	240
					—
Children receiving reinforcing doses	...	...	...	...	155

Tuberculosis.

On the register at the end of the year there were 35 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 25 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculoses which compared with 32 and 26 respectively in 1947.

There were 8 notifications in 1948 (7 P., 1 N.P.) and 4 deaths (all Pulmonary) occurred.

Three persons were removed from the register as “ recovered,” “ diagnosis not confirmed,” or “ left the district.”

The table below gives an analysis of the notifications and of the deaths.

Age Periods Years				New Cases				Deaths			
				Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
35	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
55 Upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	...	2	5	...	1	1	3	...	...
				7		1		4		...	

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk and Milk Production.

In 1948 there were 64 dairy farms in the district with 1150 cows. The number of cowkeepers (including dairy farms) was 64 and the number of milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers) was 14. Four of these farmers are producing "Tuberculin Tested" Milk and seventeen are producing "Accredited" Milk. During the year 197 samples of milk were taken.

183 samples were of raw milk. 105 of these were satisfactory and 78 unsatisfactory.

14 samples of Pasteurised Milk were satisfactory.

All the samples were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. 188 were found to be free and 9 contained the Bacillus.

All positive samples were referred to the Ministry of Agriculture for investigation and the results are given below under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

The farms are well kept and 130 visits were made to them during the year. Many improvements were made.

Of the 183 samples of raw milk examined 95 were of milk produced in the district, of which 65 were satisfactory and 30 unsatisfactory ; of the 88 samples of milk produced outside the district 40 were satisfactory and 48 unsatisfactory.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

The nine samples of milk which were found to contain the Tubercle Bacillus were reported immediately to the County Medical Officer of Health, and by him to the Ministry of Agriculture. After investigation and frequent sampling, three cows were found to be infected with the Bacillus and were slaughtered under the Order. Four cows were found to have been removed prior to the investigations. The rest of the herds were found to be free of the Bacillus after frequent sampling.

Milk in the Schools Scheme.

All the schools in the district received daily supplies of milk. Practically all of this milk was heat treated. All the samples tested were free from Tubercle Bacillus and satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

No cows, or sheep were slaughtered in this district in 1948.

Condemnation of Food Unfit for Human Consumption.

The total amount of food found to be unfit for human consumption during the year was 14 cwts. 2 qrs. 14 lbs. This amount included 81 tins of food, and the rest composed of meat and other foods. Further details will be found in Mr. Baron's report appended.

It was not necessary to take any legal proceedings during the year.

Food and Pure Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.**Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

Samples were taken by the Sampling Officers of the Public Health Department of the County Council which is the Authority responsible for the administration of these Acts. Given below are the particulars of the sampling and the results :—

A total of 87 samples was obtained, 39 being milk and the 48 others comprising :—

2 Honey	4 Margarine
3 Parrish's Chemical Food	2 Cooking Fat
1 Barley Flour, Vanilla flavoured	2 Epsom Salts
2 Condensed Milk, full cream, sweetened	2 Liquid Paraffin
1 Tea	2 Cocoa
5 Soup, canned	1 Blancmange Powder
2 Semolina	2 Zinc Ointment
1 Vegetable Suet	1 Curry Powder
3 Custard Powder	1 Boracic Crystals
1 Sulphur Ointment	2 Mincemeat
4 Cider	3 Baking Powder
1 Boracic Powder	

In addition, two " appeal-to-cow " samples of milk were obtained.

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

Sample	Result	Action Taken
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 3 per cent. fat	Vendor notified
1 Formal milk	Deficient 18.3 per cent. fat. Low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor cautioned as the " appeal-to-cow " samples were of borderline fat content and low in solids-not-fat.
1 Formal milk	Deficient 6.6 per cent fat	Vendor notified
1 Parrish's Chemical Food	Deficient 0.35 per cent. ferrous phosphate	Age of stock queried and stock withdrawn from sale
1 Vegetable Suet	Very rancid odour and taste. Old stock	Stock withdrawn from sale

WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Water Engineer for the 12 months ending 31st December, 1948.

Supply of Water.

From Manchester and Preston Corporation.

Supply of Water. From Manchester and Preston Corporation.

Area Supplied. The Statutory Area of compulsory supply covers the area of Walton-le-Dale. In addition supplies in bulk are furnished to Chorley Rural District Council (Parishes of Hoghton, Brindle and Cuerden).

The estimated population supplied :—

Walton-le-Dale	...	...	...	...	14,730
Gregson Lane	...	...	...	...	32
					<hr/>
					14,762
					<hr/>

The remaining out of the District Consumers are all by meter.

	Quantity Supplied.				Gallons
Taken from Thirlmere at both Meter Houses	226,853,000
Consumed by meter on pipe line enroute to Reservoirs	1,474,000
					<hr/>
Total Thirlmere delivered in District	225,379,000
Taken by meter from Preston Corporation	14,368,000
					<hr/>
Total water delivered in District	239,747,000
Consumed by meter outside District	3,971,000
					<hr/>
					235,776,000
Water retained in Reservoirs 31st Dec. 1948	771,000
					<hr/>
Total quantity of water delivered in District	235,005,000
Total quantity consumed by meter in District	97,397,000
					<hr/>
Total Quantity in District for all purposes	137,608,000
Total quantity in District per day	375,981
Total quantity per head per day	25.5
Total quantity per head including trade	43.7

Distribution.

During the year the following mains have been laid :—

Brindle Road North.	477 lin. yds. of 4 in. Spun Iron Pipe.
Hennel Lane.	110 lin. yds. of 4 in. Spun Iron Pipe.
Gregson Lane.	127 lin. yds. of 3 in. Spun Iron Pipe.
Woodlands Avenue.	35 lin. yds. of 3 in. Spun Iron Pipe.
Greenwood Street.	72 lin. yds. of 3 in. Spun Iron Pipe.

Total number of connections to new houses and other property : 62.

Waste Detections.

The usual night inspections of street mains and services were made.

1,261 inspections of houses and other property were made.

1,115 taps were rewashed free of cost.

180 cisterns were rewashed free of cost.

147 burst services were dealt with.

11 burst mains not exceeding 4 in. dia. being repaired.

The usual flushing out of water mains was carried out during the year.

Quality of the Water.

During the year two samples were taken—one Bacteriological and one Chemical. In both cases the supply being given as satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The area is well sewered except on the outskirts of the district. The sewerage works are overloaded and the design is not in accord with modern practice. No complaints were received during the year on account of this overloading. The Council have under consideration plans for alterations and extensions of the works.

Closet Accommodation.

During the year twenty three closets were converted to W.C.s eleven of these were Pails and twelve were Waste Water Closets. A table analysing the position has been prepared by Mr. Baron, Chief Sanitary Inspector and is given below :—

It will be noted the great change that has taken place in the district over the past years.

	1910	1918	1939	1948
No. of privy closets	621	255	26	5
No. of pail closets	1093	973	165	145
No. of waste water closets	345	327	264	228
No. of freshwater closets	694	1267	3670	3938
No. of houses with dry ashpits	1499	994	51	49
No. of houses with ash pails	1058	1632	4012	4230

Public Cleansing.

The service continued to work satisfactorily through the year. Motor vehicles were used entirely. The details of the amount of work undertaken and the further relevant details will be found in Mr. Baron's report which is appended.

Sanitary Inspections.

The details of the inspections, defects found and remedied and other matters of interest will be found in Mr. Baron's Report appended.

Private Streets and Back Passages.

The following three streets were made up under the Private Streets Works Acts and taken over by the Council during the year :—

Greenwood Street
Avondale Drive
Woodlands Avenue

and arrangements have been made to curb, channel, drain and make up the following three Private Streets during 1949 :—

Moon Street
Highfield Avenue
Prospect Avenue

Schools.

There are eleven schools in the district. Most of them are old, but with the exception of two are satisfactory for light and ventilation. The school playgrounds are very restricted in area in most cases.

Thirteen visits of inspection were made to the schools.

The Teachers' Training College housed some 350 students.

Playing Fields.

There are playing fields in Higher Walton, Lostock Hall and Walton-le-Dale. Arrangements for the provision of a playing field at Bamber Bridge were made and this was opened in 1948.

Housing and Housing Conditions.

The number of new houses erected in the district in 1948 was 68 all by the Local Authority.

The number of unsatisfied applicants for houses is still large.

162 inspections were made of houses in the year, and 355 visits were made for this purpose. 36 houses were found to be unfit, 32 informal notices were served and 4 statutory notices. All the notices were complied with and the defects remedied.

It will be necessary when Clearance Areas can be arranged to schedule many houses in this district. Government consent to this procedure is being withheld.

Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses.

Inspections, recommendations and general supervision were continued throughout the year.

Canteens were visited.

A comprehensive survey was made of all the principal works and factories in the district, defects noted and recommendations made for improvements.

Many visits were made to one mill in connection with an Ambulance and Treatment unit.

New Legislation.

The National Health Service Act

The National Assistance Act

The Children's Act

all came into force.

Reports Appended.

- (1) Report by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Report Included.

- (1) Report by the Water Engineer.

I should like to take this opportunity to testify to the loyalty, good work and co-operation always shown to me by the members of my staff. The other officials have always been co-operative and helpful.

To the members of the Council for their unfailing courtesy and encouragement my grateful thanks are freely extended.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

G. G. WRAY.

September, 1948.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

for the Year 1948.

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

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Parker and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the Sanitary Work of the Health Department for the year 1948 :—

I am indebted to my assistant Mr. G. N. Corbishley for his energetic and willing co-operation at all times in carrying out the multifarious duties assigned to the Health Department.

During the year further efforts have been made to improve the environmental conditions under which people live, and a contribution in this direction has been the conversion of Pail and Waste Water Closets to W.C.s. In the period under review 11 Pail and 12 Waste Water Closets have been converted to W.C.s.

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

Fresh Water Closets— 3938.	Pail Closets— 145.
Waste Water Closets— 228.	Privy Closets— 4.

Sanitary Inspector's Visits.

Number of inspections of dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	162
Number of re-inspections of dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	355
Number of inspections of other houses (verminous)	...	...	...	...	28
Number of inspections of schools	...	...	...	...	13
Number of cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	130
Number of inspections of food premises	...	...	...	...	100
Number of inspections of food	...	...	...	...	18
Number of inspections of factories	...	...	...	...	58
Number of inspections of drainage work	...	...	...	...	666
Number of general inspections	...	...	...	...	122
Number of other inspections	...	...	...	...	145
Number of salvage inspections	...	...	...	...	62
Number of drains tested	...	...	...	...	75
Number of visits in connection with infectious disease	...	...	...	...	13
Number of visits in connection with closet conversions	...	...	...	...	203
Number of inspections of ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	67
Number of inspections of smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	8
Number of complaints received and dealt with	...	...	...	...	332
Total					2557

FOOD

The following is a Summary of Foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption during the year :

Tins.	Description.	T	cwts.	qrs.	lbs	ozs.
58	Evaporated Milk			2		11½
6	Peas				5	15
2	Apples				13	2
1	Beef				5	8
1	Jam				1	8
1	Meat Hash				1	0
1	Meat Cereal... ..					12
1	Tomatoes				1	12
1	Apple Purce				1	11
1	Beans					15½
2	Pea Soup				2	0
3	Carrots				18	12
1	Pickles					12
1	Red Cabbage					10
1	Paste... ..					1¼
81				3	27	2¼
Other Foods—						
	Rabbits			2	3	0
	Fish		4	3	0	0
	Bacon				3	8
	Luncheon Tongue... ..				1	2
	Prunes			1	2	0
8	Sack of Flour		8	0	0	0
	Total		14	2	8	12¼
T.	C.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.		
—	13	2	9	10	of Meat and other food.	
—	—	3	27	2¼	of Tins of Food.	

Milk.

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

Number of Dairy Farms	64
Approximate number of Cows	1150
Number of Cowkeepers	64
Number of Accredited Farms	17
Number of Farms producing T.T. Milk	4
Number of Dairymen other than Farmers	14
Number of Farms Inspected	130

Analysis of Samples of Milk.

The total number of samples of milk taken in the district was 197, 183 of these samples were of raw milk and 14 were of pasteurised milk.

Bacteriological Examination.

183 were taken for bacteriological examination.

95 were taken from the producers in the district and of these

65 were satisfactory and

30 were unsatisfactory.

88 were taken at the Milk Marketing Board from Producers outside the district. Of these,

40 were satisfactory and

48 were unsatisfactory.

Tuberculosis Examination.

153 samples of Milk were examined for Tuberculosis.

95 of the samples were taken from Producers in the district and of these

5 were found to be Tubercular.

88 were taken from Producers outside the district and of these

4 were found to be Tubercular.

14 samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken for the full examination ; all were found to be satisfactory.

Disinfections.

Number of dwelling houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	57
Number of parcels of bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	575
Number of beds disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	62
Number of books disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	196
Number of beds destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	99
Number of schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	1

Summary of notices served and work completed in compliance with the notices :—

Defective gutters made good	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective roofs and rainwater conductors made good	...	...	...	...	...	28
Defective drains made good	...	...	...	...	...	149
Defective W.C.s made good	...	...	...	...	...	19
Defective pail closets converted to W.C.s	...	...	...	...	...	11
Defective waste water closets converted to W.C.s	...	...	...	...	...	12
Additional W.C.s provided...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Premises redrained to sewer	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective closet buildings made good	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective plasterwork made good	...	...	...	...	...	24
Defective sinks made good	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective floors made good	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous defects made good	...	...	...	...	...	17
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	—
Dust bins provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	...	...	285

Notices Served			Complied with	Outstanding	Total
Formal	...	...	17	17	34
Informal	...	...	198	10	208
Total ...			215	27	242

Licensed Premises.

During the year 4 public houses were inspected with reference to the sanitary accommodation for the customers and staff. After negotiations with the owners the sanitary accommodation at all four public houses was reconstructed and modernized and where it was necessary the living accommodation for the Licensee was reconditioned.

Shops Act, 1934.

In November of this year the Lancashire County Council asked all District Councils to undertake the inspection of Shops in their district and this work is now being carried out by the Health department.

There are 217 shops in the district.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

Staff. There is one fully trained Rodent Operator employed part-time on this work.

The work of surveying and treatment of premises has increased during the year.

Over 150 visits have been paid to dwellings and business premises and poisoning campaigns have been carried out on 30 premises.

Council Premises. The Refuse Tip at Hennel Lane has been treated on 6 occasions and the Sewage Works twice. 10 per cent. of all sewer manholes in the district have been treated for Rat Infestation and over 100 baits laid.

The sewers are free from any infestation and accordingly an exemption certificate has been granted by the Ministry of Agriculture for twelve months.

Divisional Control. During the year four meetings have been attended of the Rodent Control Workable Area Committee No. 9. Report on the progress made and difficulties met with were discussed. Recommendation and adjustments in rodent control have been issued from time to time by the Infestation Division Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Poisons and Baits. The baits used were Sausage Rusk, stale bread mash and sugar meal.

The poisons included were Zinc Phosphide, Arsenic and Red Squill.

Over 100 lbs. of bait and 2 lbs. of poison were used on Rodent Control.

The success of the poisoning treatments can be judged by the estimated kill of over 500 rats.

The Collection and Disposal of House Refuse and Salvage.

The refuse and salvage is collected from six separate villages and dealt with at Hennel Lane Tip.

One large wood cabin has been erected at the tip which accommodates one hand baling press and one weighing machine.

Paper and rags are baled and stored until there is sufficient quantity for disposal, usually about 5 tons.

Other salvage of value is also stored in the cabin until there is a sufficient amount ready for disposal.

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

The whole of house refuse and salvage collection, including the drag work is carried out by three motor vehicles.

House Refuse—Collection and Disposal and Salvage Work.

The following table shows the amount of work done by the motor vehicles.

Year	Vehicle Employed	No. of days	Approximate Weight of Refuse Collected	Total Miles Travelled	Average Miles per Gallon
1948 ...	Three Dodge Motors	868	5055	24329	9.1

The Analysis of the Cost of Collection and Disposal of House Refuse, and the Collection and disposal of Salvage, showing the credit for salvage for the year 1948.

	Cost per Day	Total Cost
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Dodge Petrol Wagons	2 0 2	1746 15 0
Wages and Salaries (including Bonus, Superannuation and Insurance)	—	3130 18 2
Loan Charges	—	23 18 0
Materials and Miscellaneous Accounts	—	161 15 2
Establishment	—	291 6 6
Gross Total Cost	—	£5354 12 10
Less Sale of Salvage Materials	2211 15 7	
Less other Credits... ..	23 3 0	2234 18 7
Net Cost	—	£3119 14 3

Summary of Analysis.

Year Ending	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Nett Expenditure	Population	No. of Houses Scavenged	Nett Cost Per 1,000 Houses	Nett Cost Per House Per Week
31st March, 1949	£ s. d. 5354 12 10	£ s. d. 2234 18 7	£ s. d. 3119 14 3	14170	4342	£720	d. 3.3

Comparative Cost of House Refuse Collection for the Years 1922, 1942, and 1948

Year	No. of Houses Scavenged	Gross cost of collection and disposal	Amount received for salvage and other credits	Nett cost of collection and disposal	Wages of house refuse collectors and motor drivers	
					Collectors	Drivers
1922	2823	£2205	nil	£2205	£2 per week	£2/16 per week
1942	4126	£3044	£1158	£1885	£3/6/9 per wk.	£4 per week
1948	4342	£5354	£2234	£3119	£5/4/0 per wk.	£5/13/4 per wk.

Collection and Sales of Salvage.

The following table shows the tonnage and materials sold, and the amounts received for Salvage during the year 1948 :—

	Bales	T.	C.	qrts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper—Newspaper, Magazines, Mixed Paper ...	2568	185	10	0	0	1260	10	5
Textiles—Rags, Cloth, Carpets, Sacking and String ...	158	12	7	3	4	159	13	11
Ferrous Metals—Cast Light and Heavy Iron ...	—	12	4	3	0	42	16	6
Non-Ferrous Metals—								
Copper, Brass, Aluminium, Lead ...	—	1	11	0	24	77	14	8
Kitchen Waste ...	—	296	3	2	0	639	6	6
Bones ...	—		13	1	0	3	16	1
Bottles and Jars ...	—	1	10	0	0	15	16	0
Miscellaneous Sales ...	—					12	1	6
Total ...	2726	510	0	2	0	£2211	15	7

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 materials :—

Year	T.	C.	qrts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
1940 ...	129	3	3	18	426	18	4
1941 ...	194	7	3	0	828	10	8
1942 ...	280	5	1	5	1148	5	1
1943 ...	376	4	1	16	1424	18	0
1944 ...	463	6	2	0	1576	17	8
1945 ...	491	9	1	11	1607	19	9
1946 ...	335	1	2	24	1360	0	7
1947 ...	398	19	1	15	1685	19	1
1948 ...	510	0	2	0	2211	15	7
Total ...	3178	18	3	5	£12271	4	9

In addition to the multifarious duties of my office which have all received attention, many matters outside my statutory duties which have a bearing on the future well being of the people of the district have received attention.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

NICHOLAS BARON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

Council Offices,
Bamber Bridge.

Factories Act, 1937.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c Line No. (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c Line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	21	—	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	102	58	4	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	6	3	—	—	3
Total		129	61	4	—	

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c Line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred			
				To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	—	—	None	None	None	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	None	None	None	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	None	None	None	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	None	None	None	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	8	—	—	None	None	None	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient	9	4	4	None	None	None	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	—	—	None	None	None	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	None	None	None	11
Other offences against the Act (not in- cluding offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	None	None	None	12
Total	60	4	4	None	None	None	60

