

[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, West Lancashire R.D.C.

Contributors

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Public Health Department.



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF THE

West Lancashire Rural District

DURING THE YEAR

1944

BY

HERBERT E. MARSDEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Of Gray's Inn, Barrister-at-Law,
Justice of the Peace for the County of Lancaster.*

Medical Officer of Health.

ORMSKIRK :

T. HUTTON, "THE ADVERTISER" OFFICE, CHURCH STREET. ORMSKIRK

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LIBRARY

West Lancashire Rural
District Council,
52, Derby Street,
ORMSKIRK.

25th September 1945.

Dear Sir,

Annual Report 1944.

On reading through my Annual Report I notice a mistake in the figures "Deaths from Cancer" and attach hereto a memo giving details of the correction.

Please make the amendment to the copy of the report forwarded to you.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H.E. Marsden

Medical Officer of Health.

COPY.

ANNUAL REPORT 1944.

ERRATA.

Deaths from Cancer

On page 35, delete Uterus 2 males, and for
Stomach 5 males substitute 7 males.

Uterus	-	total	4
Stomach	-	"	12

H.E. MARSDEN

Medical Officer of Health.



Public Health Department.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. H. S. MORETON (Chairman).
MR. P. C. BALMER, (Vice-Chairman).
All Members of the Council.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health—

H. E. MARSDEN, J.P., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

Sanitary Inspectors and Meat Inspectors—

T. G. H. HUNTER, A.R.S.I.
J. AINSWORTH, M.S.I.A.
N. T. FENNAH, M.S.I.A.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health—

MRS. D. FAWCETT.

All are whole-time officials.

[TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE.]

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1944. Since the termination of hostilities in Europe it is now possible to publish population figures and these are accordingly included in the report, as are also some of the customary tables based on these statistics.

The regulation as to economy in paper are still in force and the report is necessarily brief.

Yours obediently,

(Signed) H. E. MARSDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1945.

Section A.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA FOR 1944.

Area of the District (Acres)	67,560
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to Rate Books	11,705
Rateable Value	£246,388
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£997
Births	765
Deaths	416
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 births	42

BIRTHS.

The number of births recorded during the year was 765, which is an increase of 38 on the number for 1943. Of the total births 373 were males and 392 were females. There were 34 illegitimate births--17 males and 17 females.

DEATHS.

The total deaths registered for the Rural District during 1944 numbered 416. The figure for 1943 was 449.

Maternal Mortality.—The maternal mortality rate per 1000 live births was 1.3 against 1.37 in 1943. The figures for England and Wales were :—

Abortion with Sepsis	...	...	0.31
Abortion without Sepsis	...	...	0.09
Puerperal Infections	...	...	0.28
Other	...	...	1.25

Infantile Mortality Rate.—There were 32 deaths of infants under one year, which gives an infantile mortality rate of 42 per 1000 births. This figure is 1 more than the figure for 1943 and 2 less than the five years average. The rate for England and Wales was 46 per 1000 births.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL
DISTRICT, 1944.

CIVILIANS.					Males.	Females.
Causes of Death.						
Typhoid Fever, Etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	5
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	3
Syphilitic Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	2
Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	2
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Acute Inf. encephalitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Cancer	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	31
Diabetes	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	28
Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	77	47
Other circulatory diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2
Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	7
Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	5
Other respiratory diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Appendicitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Other digestive diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	6
Nephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	11
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Other maternal causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1
Premature birth	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4
Congenital causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	7
Suicide	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—
Other violent causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	5
All other causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	26
Deaths of infants under 1 year :—						
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	17
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	14
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	3
Live Births :—						
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	373	392
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	356	375
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	17
Stillbirths :—						
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	10
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	9
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN TOWNSHIPS.

The following table shows the population, number of births and deaths, and the rates per 1,000 in each township in the Rural District for the year 1944 :—

TOWNSHIPS.	Estimated Population middle of 1944.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.	
		No. of Births.	Rate per 1,000.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000
Aintree	2271	53	23.4	16	7.0
Altcar	673	8	11.9	5	7.4
Aughton	3223	39	12.1	48	13.0
Bickerstaffe	1355	32	23.6	21	15.5
Bispham	233	6	25.3	4	17.1
Downholland	595	2	3.4	4	6.6
Ford	1077	22	20.4	16	14.8
Halsall	2079	22	10.5	22	10.6
Hesketh Bank	1701	37	21.7	17	10.0
Ince Blundell	467	16	34.2	6	12.8
Lydiate	1509	37	24.4	18	11.8
Maghull	8254	199	24.1	95	11.1
Melling	1337	37	27.6	16	11.1
Netherton	3179	64	20.1	24	7.5
North Meols	2443	43	17.6	26	10.6
Rufford	933	10	10.7	16	17.1
Scarisbrick	2751	57	20.7	29	10.5
Sefton	425	8	18.8	6	14.1
Simonswood	335	4	11.2	—	—
Tarleton	2630	63	23.5	20	7.4
Thornton	1540	6	3.8	13	8.4
Whole District	39010	765	10.9	416	10.6

Table showing Birth Rates, Death Rates, Epidemic Death Rates and Infantile Mortality Rates for the West Lancashire Rural District since 1910, compared with England and Wales.

	BIRTH RATES.		DEATH RATES.		EPIDEMIC DEATH RATES.		INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.	
	England and Wales.	West Lancashire.	England and Wales.	West Lancashire.	England and Wales.	West Lancashire.	England and Wales.	West Lancashire.
1910	24.8	22.09	13.4	10.99	.99	.52	106	77
1911	24.4	20.76	14.6	13.51	—	1.48	130	104
1912	23.8	21.73	13.3	10.52	—	.63	95	67
1913	23.9	20.11	13.4	12.56	—	.88	109	94
1914	23.3	19.81	13.6	13.03	—	.87	105	127
1915	21.9	18.95	14.8	12.66	—	.64	110	65
1916	19.6	18.72	14.0	11.85	—	.52	91	64
1917	17.8	18.49	14.4	11.4	.61	.26	97	75
1918	17.7	15.3	17.6	17.7	.77	.67	97	80
1919	18.5	17.8	13.8	16.8	.34	.31	89	86
1920	25.4	21.6	12.4	10.9	—	.79	80	50
1921	22.4	18.2	12.1	10.4	—	.18	83	66
1922	20.6	17.4	12.9	11.3	.47	.23	77	64
1923	19.7	15.0	11.6	11.7	.35	.09	69	58
1924	18.8	16.4	12.2	11.9	.31	.13	75	58
1925	18.3	14.5	12.2	11.5	.39	.23	75	58
1926	17.8	13.9	11.6	10.5	.29	.31	70	70
1927	16.7	13.4	12.3	11.3	.27	.04	69	49
1928	16.7	12.8	11.7	11.4	.26	.13	64	44
1929	16.3	13.6	13.4	12.0	.41	.25	74	59
1930	16.3	13.5	11.4	10.8	.27	.17	60	49
1931	15.8	13.7	12.3	11.6	.38	.04	66	74
1932	15.3	12.28	12.0	9.6	.23	.22	65	59
1933	14.4	12.0	12.3	11.9	.18	.11	64	88
1934	14.8	13.3	11.8	10.6	.06	.14	59	66
1935	14.7	14.5	11.7	13.8	.02	.13	57	67
1936	14.8	14.9	12.1	10.5	.45	.15	59	45
1937	14.9	15.2	12.4	12.0	.02	.06	58	58
1938	15.1	16.0	11.6	10.7	.15	.11	53	48
1939	15.0	15.9	12.1	10.9	.10	.15	50	73
1940	14.6	16.4	14.3	11.6	—	.12	55	44
1941	14.2	14.5	12.9	10.9	.16	.19	59	57
1942	15.8	16.9	11.6	9.8	.08	.04	49	43
1943	16.5	17.9	12.1	11.0	.08	.02	49	41
1944	17.6	19.7	11.6	10.6	.06	.05	46	42

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PATHOLOGICAL REPORTS.

Specimens are sent for examination to the Bacteriological Department of the University of Liverpool, to Messrs. Evans, Lescher and Webb's Biological Institute at Runcorn, to the Pathological Dept., of the Southport Infirmary, and to the Bootle Infectious Diseases Hospital. Emergency examinations are carried out by the staff of a local Military Hospital, through the courtesy of the Officer commanding.

Two hundred and forty-eight nose and throat swabs were taken and examined for *Bacillus Diphtheriæ*, which was found to be present in twenty-seven swabs.

Of six swabs examined for *Hæmolytic Streptococci* three proved negative and of six swabs examined for Vincent's Angina, only two were positive.

Seven specimens of blood were tested for the presence of the typhoid group of organisms, all were found to be negative.

Two specimens of sputum were examined for Tuberculosis, and one was found to be positive.

In addition to the above one swab was taken from a Skelmersdale patient in the Infectious Diseases Hospital; this proved to be negative.

One sample of dried egg food poisoning was found to be positive.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

DR. T. B. CALLAND, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

MR. A. C. ROODHOUSE, J.P.

And Councillors BALMER, MORETON, ASPINALL, SUMNER, ALCOCK,
S. H. HUDSON, SEIFFERT, KING, DAVENHILL, J.P., KUHL,
BARRON, C.C., SKAFTE and HEYES.

STAFF.

Medical Superintendent:

HERBERT E. MARSDEN, J.P., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

Acting Deputy Medical Superintendent :

JOHN YOUNG, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Matron :

Miss A. FAIRHURST, S.R.N.

One Sister, two Assistant Nurses, three Probationers, Cook, Housemaid, Ward Maid, Porter and Gardener.

Admissions from all Districts.

Admissions	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1244	
Scarlet Fever	81	29	94	46	82	32	33	15	10	35	47	—
Diphtheria (including carriers)	15	28	4	36	51	65	27	81	39	12	30	—
Measles	1	1	—	1	1	—	3	1	2	—	11	—
Whooping Cough	3	1	6	1	1	—	—	3	3	3	—	—
Enteric Fever	4	2	—	6	—	—	3	10	—	—	1	—
Others	9	8	4	31	43	14	11	15	11	26	17	—
Total	113	69	108	121	178	110	77	125	65	76	116	—

AMBULANCE.

The Local Authority provides ambulance facilities for infectious cases only. The Ormskirk General Hospital and also the County Hospital at Ormskirk each provide ambulances for accidents and general hospital cases. Ambulances belonging to the Merseyside Hospitals Council also operate in the area.

The shortage of drivers and necessary curtailment of some of the ambulance services reported upon last year continued during the first half of 1944, and gave rise to some difficulties, and not a little criticism. It is gratifying to be able to report that during the autumn the necessary staff was obtained and the difficulties overcome, and that the ambulance services of the district can now be said to be satisfactory.

The arrangement with the Bootle General Hospital whose ambulances, driven by Fire Brigade drivers, provided services in the southern part of the Rural District, has been terminated in view of the drivers being absorbed by the National Fire Service.

The parishes formerly served by Bootle now derive their ambulance facilities from the Urban District of Litherland and the Non-County Borough of Crosby.

The northern parishes are catered for by voluntary ambulance organisations in the townships of North Meols and Tarleton.

SUMMARY OF ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, etc., FROM THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR, 1944.

AUGHTON INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.**Admissions.**

Scarlet Fever	39
Observation (Scarlet Fever)	3
Diphtheria (including Carriers)	19
Tonsillitis, etc.	11
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1
Erysipelas	1
Others	4
	<hr/>
	78
	<hr/>

These admissions were from the following townships :—

Aintree	One case of scarlet fever and one case of observation scarlet fever, one case of diphtheria, and one case of tonsilitis.
Aughton	Four cases of scarlet fever and one case of observation scarlet fever, four cases of diphtheria and one case of observation diphtheria, three cases of tonsilitis, one case of spinal meningitis, and one case of measles.
Ford	One case of diphtheria.
Halsall	One case of tonsilitis.
Hesketh Bank	Four cases of scarlet fever, and one case of Vincent's angina.
Ince Blundell	One case of tonsilitis.
Lydiate	Two cases of scarlet fever, and one case of diphtheria.
Maghull	Eleven cases of scarlet fever, three cases of diphtheria, two cases of observation diphtheria, two cases of tonsilitis, and one case of Vincent's angina.
Melling	One case of dysentery.
Downholland	One case of diphtheria.
Netherton	Two cases of scarlet fever, one case of diphtheria, and two cases of tonsilitis.
North Meols	Four cases of scarlet fever and one case of diphtheria.
Rufford	Four cases of scarlet fever.
Scarisbrick	Five cases of scarlet fever, one case of observation diphtheria, and one case of tonsilitis.
Sefton	One case of scarlet fever.
Tarleton	One case of scarlet fever, and one case of observation scarlet fever.
Thornton	One case of diphtheria, one case of observation diphtheria, and one case of erysipelas.

Discharges.

Scarlet Fever	39
Observation Scarlet Fever	3
Diphtheria (including carriers)	18
Tonsilitis, etc.	11
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1
Erysipelas	1
Others	4
Total	77

One case of dysentery died in hospital.

ADMISSIONS FROM OTHER DISTRICTS.

Skelmersdale U.D. Council	One case of scarlet fever.
Ormskirk U.D. Council	One case of meningitis.
Crosby	One case of measles, twelve cases of scarlet fever, one case of diphtheria, and one case of Vincent's angina.

ADMISSIONS FROM OTHER DISTRICTS.—Continued.

Huyton	Two cases of measles.
Seaforth	Three cases of scarlet fever.
Formby	One case of measles.
Ince Blundell	One case of tonsilitis.
Evacuees	Nine cases of measles, two cases of tonsilitis, one case of theumatism, and two cases of scarlet fever.

The outside work done in connection with the hospital was as follows :—

For West Lancashire Rural District.

Journeys with ambulance for patient	.....	125
Journeys with ambulance for bedding	.....	189
Houses attended for disinfection	.....	136
No. of times disinfectant was used	.....	91
Rooms sprayed	.....	179
Schools sprayed	.....	1
Articles stoved	.....	3,150
Disinfestation—Houses and Huts	.....	8
Blankets	.....	560

For Skelmersdale Urban District.

Journeys with ambulance for patients	.....	3
Journeys with ambulance for bedding	.....	10
Houses attended for disinfection	.....	9
No. of times disinfectant was used	.....	8
Rooms sprayed	.....	9
Articles stoved	.....	62

For Ormskirk Urban District.

Journeys for patient and bedding	.....	56
Journeys for the return of bedding	.....	56

For Crosby and District.

Journeys for patient and bedding	...	17
Journeys for the return of bedding	...	17

**PARTICULARS OF WORK DONE BY THE VARIOUS NURSING ASSOCIATIONS OPERATING IN THE
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT—1st JANUARY, 1944, to 31st DECEMBER, 1944.**

ASSOCIATION	CASES NURSED					VISITS			TOTAL	
	Midwifery	Maternity	Medical	Surgical	T. B.	General Nursing	Ante-Natal	T. B.	Cases	Visits
Eccleston and District (including the Parish of Bispham)	—	2	3	4	—	102	14	—	9	116
Formby District (including the Parishes of Altcar & Downholland)	2	4	7	9	—	279	6	—	22	279
Great Crosby & District (including the Parish of Ince Blundell)	2	4	3	5	—	158	30	—	14	188
Kirkby, Lydiate & Melling (Parishes Lydiate, Melling and Simonswood)	17	5	30	7	—	1088	157	—	59	1245
Rainford & District (including the Parish of Bickerstaffe)	10	4	15	4	—	558	—	—	33	588
Scarisbrick District	—	—	27	74	—	2285	—	81 (Casual)	101	2366
Sefton and District (including Aintree, Netherton, Sefton, Lunt, Thornton and part of Ford)	558	283	340	—	—	3134	514	—	4829	5027
Tarleton and District (including Tarleton, Rufford, and Hesketh Bank)	49	12	74	294	1	7634	701	17	430	8352
Aughton District	—	—	115	26	—	2501	—	—	141	2501

The above figures refer only to the work actually performed in the West Lancashire Rural District Parishes during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1944.

**MIDWIVES RESIDENT IN THE DISTRICT AT 31st DECEMBER,
1944.**

Mrs. J. Dawson, "Franklyn," Southport Road, Scarisbrick.....	C.M.B.
Mrs. E. Bibby, 160, Northway, Maghull	C.M.B.
Miss M. A. Bond, New Street, Halsall	C.M.B.
Mrs. J. E. MacKellar, Finger Post Cottage, Liverpool Road, Aughton	C.M.B.
Miss Ruth Freeman, District Nurse, "Burnside," Gorse Lane, Tarleton	C.M.B.
Miss A. Vidler, 94 Park-lane, Netherton	C.M.B.
Miss G. Johnson, District Nurse, "Burnside," Gorse Lane, Tarleton	C.M.B.
Miss E. K. Kernick, 94, Park Lane, Netherton, Liverpool 10	C.M.B.
Miss A. N. Irwin, 137, Liverpool Road South, Maghull	C.M.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.—NURSING HOMES.

Mrs. A. L. M. Blogg, "Holmleigh," 215, Liverpool Rd. N., Maghull	... One maternity case.
The Misses Mary A. Wharton and E. B. Jones, 32, Gainsborough Avenue, Maghull	Two maternity or medical cases.
Mrs. E. M. Storey-Bates, "Northgate," Strathnaver, Town Green Lane, Aughton	Five maternity and four medical cases.

VACCINATION OFFICERS.

Name.	District.
N. Bottomley, 5, Liverpool Road, Skelmersdale.	Bickerstaffe, Bispham, Scarisbrick, Aughton, Simonswood.
N. C. Lyon, 74, Wigan Road, Ormskirk.	Altcar, Aughton, Downholland, Hal- sall, Lydiate, Maghull, Melling.
J. Webster, 22, Derby Street, Ormskirk.	Hesketh Bank, North Meols, Rufford Tarleton.
H. D. Plevin, 43, Crosby Road, Waterloo.	Ince Blundell, Thornton, Sefton, including Lunt, Ford, Netherton, Aintree.

PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

Name.	District.
Dr. H. W. F. Croft (on Military Service)	
Dr. Conway Ashton (acting P.V.) The Gables, Croston.	Bispham, Hesketh Bank, Rufford, Tarleton, North Meols.
Dr. R. G. R. Burrows, Sefton View, Maghull.	Downholland, Lydiate, Maghull, Melling, Simonswood.
Dr. W. P. O'Regan, Mansion House, Ormskirk.	Aughton, Bickerstaffe, Halsall, Scarisbrick.
Dr. A. B. Sykes "Ashurst," Formby.	Altcar.
Dr. W. F. Jones, 255, County Road, Walton, Liverpool.	Aintree.
Dr. J. F. Webb, Newlyn, Crosby Road N., Seaforth.	Ince Blundell, Thornton.
Dr. H. G. St. M. Rees, 2, Litherland Park, Litherland.	Sefton, including Lunt, Ford, Netherton, Aintree.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.—WATER SUPPLY.

The following table summarises the water supplies in the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1944.

SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIES for the YEAR ENDED DEC. 31st, 1944.

	SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC MAIN.								OTHER SUPPLIES		TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES AND PERCENTAGES		
	Upholland Urban District Council.	Wigan Rural District Council	Liverpool Corporation	Ormskirk Urban District Council	St. Helens Corporation	Preston Corporation	Southport and Dist. Water Board	TOTALS	Increase or Decrease	Wells, etc.	Increase or Decrease	Total number of Houses	Percentages.
Aintree	—	—	724	—	—	—	—	724	—	—	—	724	100·0
Altcar	—	—	—	—	—	—	179	179	—	25	—	204	87·7
Aughton	—	—	—	—	2	—	951	953	—	6	—	959	99·3
Bickerstaffe	6	—	—	—	—	—	344	350	—	8	—	358	98·0
Bispham	—	57	—	1	—	—	—	58	1	8	1	66	87·9
Downholland	—	—	—	—	—	—	163	163	1	11	1	174	93·6
Ford	—	—	309	—	—	—	—	309	—	—	—	309	100·0
Halsall	—	—	—	—	—	—	587	587	—	19	—	606	96·8
Hesketh Bank	—	—	—	—	—	526	—	526	—	3	—	529	99·4
Ince Blundell	—	—	123	—	—	—	—	123	—	1	—	124	99·0
Lydiate	—	—	—	—	—	—	421	421	—	28	—	449	93·7
Maghull	—	—	—	—	4	—	2553	2557	—	14	—	2571	99·4
Melling	—	—	1	—	351	—	—	352	—	6	—	358	98·3
Netherton.....	—	—	922	—	—	—	—	922	—	—	—	922	100·0
North Meols	—	—	—	—	—	5	708	713	—	18	—	731	97·5
Rufford	—	—	—	294	—	—	—	294	—	6	—	300	98·0
Scarisbrick	—	—	—	6	—	—	770	776	4	25	—	801	96·8
Sefton	—	—	117	—	—	—	—	117	—	6	—	123	95·1
Simonswood	—	—	—	—	64	—	—	64	—	4	—	68	94·1
Tarleton	—	—	—	2	—	791	—	793	5	3	—	796	99·6
Thornton	—	—	391	—	—	—	—	391	—	—	—	391	100·0
Totals	6	57	2587	303	421	1322	6676	11372	11	191	2	11563	98·3%

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The following conversions have been effected during the year :—

Privies to waterclosets	5
Pails to waterclosets	—
Privies to pails	32
Fixed receptacles to metal bins	34

SUMMARY OF CONVERSIONS FOR THE YEARS 1934--1944.

Year	Privies to Water Closets	Pails to Water closets	Privies to Pails	Ashpits to to Bins
1934 ...	6	9	20	43
1935 ...	7	18	15	74
1936 ...	22	6	8	27
1937 ...	95	10	7	182
1938 ...	47	7	15	74
1939 ...	29	—	12	41
1940 ...	10	2	13	4
1941 ...	1	—	—	1
1942 ...	5	26	18	19
1943 ...	10	1	4	9
1944 ...	5	—	32	34

SANITARY CONVENIENCES, 1944.

	CLOSET	ACCOMMODATION.		REFUSE	ACCOMMODATION.	
	W.C.'s	Pails	Privies	Dry Ashpits	Privy Ashpits	Bins
AINTREE	716	1	7	2	6	715
ALTCAR	113	19	69	1	67	112
AUGHTON	861	5	91	9	90	857
BICKERSTAFFE	90	75	193	14	193	165
BISPHAM	2	13	51	1	51	7
DOWNHOLLAND	27	15	130	14	130	26
FORD	289	6	14	—	14	395
HALSALL	267	51	272	29	258	265
HESKETH BANK	228	136	163	2	161	349
INCE BLUNDELL	64	1	56	25	51	36
LYDIATE	307	28	108	20	108	315
MAGHULL	2505	14	52	11	52	2153
MELLING	209	25	114	—	106	305
NETHERTON	913	—	9	—	9	913
NORTH MEOLS	292	254	170	1	167	557
RUFFORD	159	59	79	1	79	238
SCARISBRICK	398	60	334	6	334	506
SEFTON	69	1	51	6	48	57
SIMONSWOOD	22	1	45	3	45	18
TARLETON	362	145	289	6	288	519
THORNTON	371	1	19	—	18	372
Totals	8264	920	2316	165	2275	9240

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS

FOR THE

WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

YEAR 1944.

Number of Nuisances found	232
Number of Nuisances abated	216
Nuisances abated without service of notice	112
Preliminary notices served	65
Preliminary notices complied with	62
Statutory notices served	—
Statutory notices complied with	—
Dairies, etc., registered	123
New Registrations	—
Dairies limewashing required	27
Dairies transferred	—
Dairies abolished	4
Factories with mechanical power	58
Factories with mechanical power—new registrations	—
Factories without mechanical power	119
Factories limewashing required	11
Schools visited	31
Scavenging :—	
Number of receptacles emptied	247,890
Total number of Inspections	1,748
Samples obtained for analysis	58
Water supplies (P.H.A., 1936, Sec. 138)	9
Conversions :—	
Privy to Water Closet	5
Pail to Water Closet	—
Privy to Pail	32
Fixed Receptacles to metal bins	34
Slaughterhouses.....	9

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MATTERS DEALT WITH BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING 1944.

	Nuisances found	Nuisances abated	Inspections	Samples obtained	Water supplies, P.H.A. 1936, Section 137.	Water supplies, P.H.A. 1936, Section 138.	Slaughterhouses	Inspections	Dairies, etc.	Inspections	Factories.	Inspections	Scavenging, No. of receptacles emptied	Preliminary Notices served	Complied with	Statutory Notices served	Complied with	Schools visited	Carcasses examined	Weight of meat condemned	Total number of inspections
Aintree	7	7	14	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	8	6	20,762	6	6	—	—	1	—	—	25
Altcar	3	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	3	424	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	20
Aughton	5	5	10	—	—	—	1	10	10	10	24	20	23,666	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	40
Bickerstaffe	14	14	28	1	—	—	—	11	11	11	7	7	4,354	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	46
Bispham	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	3	7	3	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	26
Downholland	6	6	9	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	35
Ford	4	4	12	—	—	—	1	2	4	1	1	2	7,792	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Halsall	31	26	63	2	—	—	—	11	29	8	8	17	13,984	9	9	—	—	1	—	56 lbs	161
Hesketh Bank	22	22	42	—	—	—	—	8	20	7	7	16	16,035	5	5	—	—	1	—	15 lbs (Tins)	152
Ince Blundell	3	3	6	—	—	—	—	2	4	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	15
Lydiate	3	2	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	9,093	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	13
Maghull	15	15	36	—	—	—	2	5	4	4	18	14	61,933	8	8	—	—	5	—	—	60
Melling	4	—	7	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	8	9	9,088	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	22
Netherton	4	3	8	—	—	—	—	4	4	4	5	10	21,299	4	3	—	—	2	—	92 tons 8 cwt 2 lbs 220 lbs 160 tins	206
North Meols	48	43	85	10	—	—	—	18	34	12	22	22	14,239	13	12	—	—	2	—	6 cwt 16 lbs	221
Rufford	15	15	44	14	—	—	—	5	22	10	20	20	5,365	4	4	—	—	2	—	—	124
Scarisbrick	31	31	71	11	4	—	—	12	29	17	26	26	15,789	10	11	—	—	3	—	—	242
Sefton	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	16	1	1	2	2,298	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	20
Simonswood	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Tarleton	16	16	34	9	5	—	3	14	36	27	46	46	12,463	3	3	—	—	3	—	—	216
Thornton	1	1	2	4	—	—	1	4	3	1	3	3	9,406	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
TOTAL	232	216	486	58	9	—	9	123	247	177	240	240	247,990	65	63	—	—	31	—	92 tons 16 cwt. 85 lbs	1,673

CANAL BOATS.

No canal boats were inspected during the year.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The sanitary conditions of the elementary schools is generally satisfactory. In the more modern of the schools it is excellent. The additional vicarious uses which the schools have endured during war-time do not appear to have caused any detriment, despite the fact that schools have been used as rest centres, medical rest centres, A.R.P. instruction centres, and even as Wardens' posts.

The same cannot be said, however, of the recreational facilities. Playgrounds in many schools are worn out and in some cases even dangerous. Some of the older schools have inadequate cloakroom accommodation and lack provision for the drying of clothes. Painting in many schools is long overdue. A portion of the playground at Lydiate C.E. School has been concreted during the year, and cinderling has been done at Ince Blundell.

The milk in school scheme works satisfactorily and fourteen of the Head Teachers report favourably on the benefit the children have received. At Halsall and Scarisbrick R.C. schools the supply is at present in bulk and is a nuisance in that time and work are necessarily entailed in its distribution.

School dinners have proved a boon during war years. The only complaint is from Banks, where there is a long carry from the kitchen at Burscough. The dinners arrive considerably cooled, and there are no facilities at the school for re-heating. Many requests from parents of children attending Tarleton C.E. School have been received for the service of school dinners.

A new cloakroom for infants has been provided at Maghull R.C. School.

Three schools—Holmeswood Wesleyan, Aughton Christ Church, and Haskayne C.E., still have open fires. Heating is unsatisfactory in cold weather, and at Aughton the fires smoke so badly that at times it is necessary to turn the children out into the playground.

Closet conversions are required at Melling C.E., Ince Blundell R.C., and Haskayne C.E. schools.

Aintree Council School has been extended so as to provide two new cloakrooms, and a Staff Room, which is also available for medical inspections. The Maycrete huts are floored with concrete, from which clouds of dust arise. It is hoped that more efficient type of floor may be laid as soon as possible.

The health of the school children throughout the war has been remarkably good. They appear to be well-nourished, well clothed, healthy, and of a good standard of height and weight. The milk-in-schools scheme, school dinners, and the well-designed Government rationing scheme are to be commended in this connection. Overcrowding of classrooms, and of the homes, due to evacuees, does not appear to have had any adverse effect on child health. Some criticism may, however, be levelled against double summer time. There is no doubt that many children do not get enough sleep. Parents and children are alike unwilling to retire to bed in broad daylight, and as a result the scholars arrive sleepy-eyed at school next morning, and are unable to make much effort during the early part of the day. Contagious disease incidence has been small amongst school children, and the arrangements made for prevention, control and treatment of scabies have been used but little. A few cases of skin disease in the early war period were attributable to evacuation into this reception area. There has been a marked increase in juvenile delinquency. This must be due to some extent to lack of parental control, parents being away on service or engaged in war work at home, or to impressionable influences such as the cinema. On the whole, it is safe to say that the school child of today is, in this area, as bright and as well nourished as he was before the war.

SCHOOL CLINICS.**LITHERLAND CLINIC, LINACRE ROAD.**

Monday	.....	10—12 a.m.	Dental.
		10—12 a.m.	Ante-natal Clinic alternate Mondays. Dr. Mayeur and Dr. Barker attend alternate sessions.
		2—4 p.m.	Dental.
		2—4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Barker and two nurses.
Tuesday	.....	10—12 a.m.	Minor Ailments.
		2—4 p.m.	Dental.
Wednesday	.....	10—12 a.m.	"
		2—4 p.m.	"
Thursday	.....	10—12 a.m.	Ophthalmic.
		10—12 a.m.	Orthopaedic. Nurse every Thursday. Surgeon attends second Thursday of each month only.
		2—4 p.m.	Dental.

MAGHULL CLINIC, PARISH INSTITUTE.

Monday	.....	10—12 a.m.	Minor Ailments. Nurse only for dressings.
Thursday	.....	2—4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Barker attends alternate weeks.
Friday	.....	10—12 a.m.	Minor Ailments.

ORMSKIRK CLINIC, GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Monday	.....	a.m.	Minor Ailments.
		2—4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre.
Tuesday		p.m.	Orthopaedic. Nurse every Tuesday. Surgeon attends second Tuesday in each month only.
Wednesday	.....	p.m.	Minor Ailments, Nurse only for dressings.
Friday	.....	a.m. and p.m.	Dental.

LATHOM AND BURSCOUGH, OLD COUNCIL OFFICES, LATHOM.

Thursday	2—4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Medical Officer attends alternate weeks.
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BANKS CLINIC, GRAVEL FARM, GRAVEL LANE.

Wednesday	a.m.	Minor Ailments. (Alternate weeks only.)
		1—3 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre (Alternate weeks only.)
Friday	.....	a.m. and p.m.	Dental.

The following is a list of schools in the district :—

District No.	SCHOOL.	School No.	No- of children normally resident in the District attending the school.
6	Hesketh-with-Becconsall C.E.....	28	87 infants and juniors
6	North Meols, Banks Primitive Methodist	24	mixed 46 infants,, 117 mixed
6	North Meols, St. Stephen's	25	105 infants and mixed
6	Tarleton, Mere Brow C.E.	26	60 infants and mixed
6	Tarleton C.E.	27	34 infants, 64 juniors
6	Tarleton Council		30 infants, 73 juniors 90 seniors
19	Halsall Central School	30	201 infants, juniors and seniors
19	Haskayne C.E.	31	13 infants and juniors
19	Bickerstaffe C.E.	13	107 infants and juniors
19	Maghull C.E.	16	444 infants and juniors
19	Maghull Senior School		276 seniors
19	Maghull St. George's R.C.	17	27 infants, 24 juniors and 17 seniors
19	Maghull Dover Road Infants.....		249 infants, and juniors
19	Melling (Aughton) R.C.	14	17 infants, 22 mixed
19	Melling (C.E.)	15	38 infants, 75 mixed
19	Scarisbrick St. Mark's C.E.	32	24 infants, 17 juniors
19	Scarisbrick St. Mary's R.C.	33	127 infants and mixed
19	Scarisbrick Council	34	43 infants and juniors
19	Aughton Christ Church	20	39 infants, 48 mixed
19	Aughton Parochial	21	75 infants and juniors
19	Lydiat R.C.	19	34 infants, 39 mixed
19	Lydiat C.E.	18	52 infants, 29 mixed
19	Rufford C.E.	22	12 infants, 39 mixed
19	Rufford Holmeswood Methodist	23	50 infants and mixed
19	Bispham Free Grammar	24	57 infants and mixed
20	Ince Blundell R.C.		37 infants and mixed
20	Netherton R.C.		59 infants and mixed
20	Netherton Temporary Council		202 infants and juniors
20	Sefton Council		20 infants and mixed
20	Aintree Temporary Council		189 infants and juniors

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

It was not found necessary to close any of the schools during the year owing to the presence of infectious disease.

Section D.

HOUSING.

STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	—
(i.) By the local authority	12
(ii.) By other local authorities	—
(iii.) By other bodies or persons	—
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i.) By the local authority (included under (a) (i.) above)	—
(ii.) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii.) above)	—

Total number of dwelling-houses in the Rural District at 31st December, 1944 11,764

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	330
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,090
(2) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	71
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	285
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	15
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	56

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE :—

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 210

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR —

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	19
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	15
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	4
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	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	—
D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND PURVEYORS OF MILK.

The Milk and Dairies Order of 1936 made provisions for securing the cleanliness of dairies, etc., and for protecting milk against infection and contamination.

During 1944 twenty-seven requests for limewashing of cowsheds had to be made. The work was carried out in all cases.

TABLE 1.

Number of Registered Dairies at end of 1943.	New Application for Registration	Registration Refused.	Dairies Removed from Register.	Number of Registered Dairies at end of 1944.
125	—	—	4	121

The total number of registrations is made up as follows :—

95 cowkeepers, 8 retail purveyors resident in the district, and 18 retail purveyors of milk non-resident.

TABLE 2.

YEAR	DESIGNATED MILK PRODUCERS.					SAMPLES TAKEN				Dealers Delivering Designated Milk under Supplementary Licence.	REGISTRATIONS (Milk & Dairies Consolidation Act)			Total Number of Registrations.
	Certified	Grade A. T.T.	Grade A.	Grade A Pasturised	Pasteurised	Under sale of Food and Drugs Act.	By Local Authority	Inspections	Approximate number of Cows.		Cow-keepers	Resident Purveyors	Non-resident Purveyors	
1926	—	—	2	—	—	25	—	176	—	—	62	5	8	75
1927	—	—	2	—	—	22	—	174	—	—	64	6	7	77
1928	—	—	2	—	—	16	—	181	—	—	68	5	9	82
1929	—	—	1	—	—	28	—	215	—	—	72	6	9	87
1930	—	—	1	—	—	43	—	197	—	—	72	7	10	89
1931	—	—	1	—	—	42	—	219	830	—	72	7	11	90
1932	—	—	2	—	—	22	5	263	1070	1	90	13	14	117
1933	—	—	3	—	—	34	3	273	1158	2	93	14	12	119
1934	—	—	3	—	—	52	11	277	1266	2	106	16	13	135
1935	—	1	6	—	—	52	35	330	1400	2	113	14	16	143
	Accredited		Tuberculin Tested		Pasteurised									
1936	11		1		2	52	68	340	1400	2	110	15	16	141
1937	13		2		—	48	54	327	1400	2	114	14	17	145
1938	14		2		—	57	56	372	1400	2	115	14	14	143
1939	15		2		—	59	40	358	1400	1	111	10	17	138
1940	14		2		—	18	15	318	1350	—	108	10	17	135
1941	14		2		—	39	30	254	1600	—	109	9	17	135
1942	15		1		—	20	20	257	1500	—	105	8	18	131
1943	15		1		—	21	39	268	1400	—	98	9	18	125
1944	12		2		—	30	35	247	1350	1	95	8	18	121

Milk Sampling.—Thirty-five samples of milk were taken by the Inspectors during the year.

Twenty-four of these samples were for Tuberculosis, 23 of which proved to be negative and 1 positive.

Eleven samples were submitted for Methylene blue reduction and bacterial count, six proved satisfactory, and five unsatisfactory.

All the examinations were carried out by the Pathological Department of the Liverpool University.

Thirty samples were taken in the district under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1928.

The total number of dairy inspections made during the year was 247 and the approximate number of cows 1350.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

As from July, 1940, this Act has been administered by the County Sanitary Inspectors. The work was previously carried out by the County Police.

The accompanying figures have been supplied by the County Council.

SAMPLES TAKEN.	NUMBER.	PROSECUTIONS.
Milk	15	
Other articles of food	15	Nil.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are fifteen bakehouses in the district, distributed as follows:—Aughton 4, Bickerstaffe 1, Hesketh Bank 1, Maghull 4, North Meols 1, Scarisbrick 1, Tarleton 3. The premises are kept in a good condition.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Private slaughtering has been abolished for the duration of the War.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Up to July 275 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspector, from then the Council appointed a whole-time Rats Operative to make the survey of the area and deal with any infestations met with. Up to the 31st December, 1944, he made 3289 visits to premises; in only 66 premises were infestations of a minor character found. This survey so far proves our contention that the district, aside from farms, is not rat infested.

FACTORIES.

The total number of Factories with and without mechanical power is 177. 240 inspections were made, and 15 defects were found and remedied during 1944.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Inspections.	Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories with mechanical power	52	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	188	—	—
Totals	240	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars of Nuisances under Public Health Acts.	No. of defects.	
	Found.	Abated
Want of cleanliness	15	15

MEAT INSPECTION.

Most of this work is done at the Cold Stores in Netherton. Much of the damaged meat is due to enemy action. The meat is examined and reconditioned if found suitable, if not it is condemned and disposed of by the Ministry of Food. 92 tons, 8 cwt. 2 lbs. of meat were condemned—practically the whole of it at the Cold Stores, the number of carcasses, etc., also examined at these stores were 2,381 sheep, 42,657 lambs, 7,511 cases and cartons (chiefly loins of pork), 200 pigs, 133 bags of offal and two cases of fish.

160 tins of assorted foodstuffs, 56 lbs. of butter and 4 lbs. of bacon were also condemned.

180 visits were made to the Cold Stores.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The Soap Works situated in Park Lane, Netherton, is under good management and the conditions are satisfactory.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTION DISEASE STATISTICS.

[illegible]

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.												HOSPITAL.			
	Total cases at all ages.	Years.											Total Deaths.	Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District.	
		Under 1 year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65				65 and over.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	75	—	1	3	16	27	20	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	33	—
Diphtheria	12	—	—	—	1	3	3	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	12	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	180	3	14	26	52	62	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	58	8	13	6	10	15	2	2	8	1	10	6	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	39	1	—	3	1	5	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	14	Not known	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	44	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	20	10	7	4	12	34	5	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	28	—	3	3	—	5	2	2	3	7	2	1	6	19	2	—
Totals	450	12	32	21	38	80	118	33	14	42	24	24	12	36	103	9

The following table shows the number, monthly distribution, and nature of cases of infectious disease coming under the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during 1944:—

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS	Removed to Hospital
Smallpox	7	5	12	5	2	5	8	5	5	9	8	4	75	40
Scarlet Fever	2	3	1	3	1			1			1		12	12
Diphtheria														
Enteric fever					1								1	
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia			2	1		2		1	1		1		8	4
Erysipelas							1	1					2	1
Cerebro-spinal-fever			1										1	
Poliomyelitis	5	3	4	1	6	7	5	2	1		4	1	39	3
Pneumonia			5	2	2	3		5	37	51	53	22	180	1
Measles														
Malaria	4	5	11	3	9	5	6	4	1	2	4	4	58	
Whooping Cough			1						1				2	1
Dysentery														
Encephalitis Lethargica														
Anthrax			1	1			3	4	1				10	
Chickenpox														
Ophthalmia Neonatorum														
Monthly Totals	18	16	38	16	21	22	23	23	47	62	71	31	388	58

Table showing the number of cases of infectious disease occurring during the year in each township in the Rural District and the number of deaths.

1944.	TOWNSHIP.	Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Enteric Fever		Whooping Cough		Erysipelas		Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia		Cerebro-spinal Fever		Diarrhoea		Measles		Tuberculosis		TOTALS	
		C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D
	Aintree	1	3	6		3				7										16		4	1	37	5
	Altcar																								
	Aughton	7	3	7		3				3		1								6		2	1	2	4
	Bickerstaffe	1	1	1						2										1		8		35	1
	Bispham									1												2		7	1
	Downholland	4	1	1		1																		1	
	Ford					1																		6	
	Halsall	1	1	3		1				6										25		6	2	32	2
	Hesketh Bank	2	1	7								3								21		6		37	1
	Ince Blundell		2																	13		1		27	2
	Lydiate	1	2	1		1				4		1								2				2	2
	Maghull	5	4	16		2				12	1									1				11	
	Melling	2		1						13		1								44		19	6	98	11
	Netherton		2	5						1		1								2		3	2	21	3
	North Meols	2	1	7										1						16		8	2	32	4
	Rufford	1		7						2										2				13	1
	Scarisbrick		1	6																		3	1	11	1
	Sefton	5		1						1										3		1	1	14	2
	Simonswood																							5	
	Tarleton	7	1	3						4												2		6	
	Thornton			3		1				1		2								12		3	1	26	2
				3						1										14		3	1	24	1
	W.L.R.D.C.	39	21	75		12				58	1	8		1		2	1			180		72	18	447	43

DIPHTHERIA.

Central Clinics are held at certain of the schools in the Rural District where children from the neighbouring schools attend for immunisation treatment, together with pre-school children from the surrounding districts. In addition, a weekly clinic is held at the Council Offices and a monthly Clinic at the Maghull Parish Institute. Treatment is also offered to all convalescents at the Infectious Diseases Hospital who are recovering from complaints other than Diphtheria.

Diphtheria incidence was similar to that in the previous year, 12 cases having been notified. Four carriers were discovered. Immunisation would appear to account for the low incidence of the disease. Six of the cases were adults.

The increased proportion of adult diphtheria cases now seen in hospital is particularly noticeable. The disease is usually of severe or moderately severe character; the mild diphtheria is rarely seen.

The following tables illustrate the incidence and fatality of the disease during the year and also the work done with respect to immunisation.

DIPHTHERIA IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT, 1934-1944.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Cases	13	22	5	33	34	37	20	40	25	12	12
Deaths	1	—	—	1	2	5	1	3	—	2	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

It is gratifying to be able to report that during the war years the health of the population has been particularly good, exceeding all expectations. The anticipated increase in infectious disease, consequent on movements of population, did not materialise; and this, despite the fact that the area is in close contact with the Port of Liverpool, where so much troop movement has taken place.

Abnormal living conditions, due to the black-out and the mixing of different types of population in war-time factories and other occupations, which ran counter to the accepted rules of hygiene and public health, were alike unproductive of infection, except in the case of tuberculosis. Here the 1939 figures for new pulmonary cases had more than doubled by 1941, and remained so up to the time of writing. Non-pulmonary tuberculosis declined rapidly until 1944, where there was again an increase.

Contrary to experience in other localities, the average yearly notifications of scarlet fever during the five years 1940-44 was almost exactly half the 1939 figure.

Measles was epidemic in 1940, when 560 cases were notified; the 1943-44 average was less than one-third of this figure. There were only 3 deaths from measles during the six years.

Cerebro-spinal fever figures rose slightly in 1941-2, due in the main to importation by Allied troops encamped in the area. Very severe cases of maniacal type were met with, and the value of the sulphonamide group of drugs was clearly demonstrated. Fortunately none of the cases treated in the Infectious Diseases Hospital succumbed.

Diphtheria incidence fell remarkably after 1941. The case rate of 0.3 per 1,000 population in West Lancashire compares very favourably with that of 0.58 for the whole country. In this connection the figures for active immunisation against diphtheria are worthy of comment. 46.3 per cent. of the children under school age, and 60.26 per cent. of school children, had been immunised by the middle of 1945.

**PARTICULARS OF WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA
SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SCHEME IN NOVEMBER 1932,
TO 31st DECEMBER 1944.**

SCHOOL.	YEAR.	Number of acceptances.		Total on Register.	Percentage of children actually in school 31/12/44, who have completed course.	Received complete diphtheria course.	Diphtheria course not completed.	Schick tested during 1932-43 and 1944.	Number negative.	Absent when results were read.	REMARKS.
Aintree Council	.. 1940-43 1944	138 10	176 189	56.61	127 10	10	1	1	1	2	absent for 2nd injection, 2 refused 2nd injection
Anghon Christ Church	.. 1932-43 1944	206 4	94 87	58.61	201 4	6	46	41	1	4	Positive. 1 left before completion. 1 not allowed to complete course. 2 absent for 2nd injection.
Aughton Parochial	.. 1932-43 1944	126 3	53 75	60.00	118 3	8	28	27	—	1	Positive. 2 absent for and 1 refusal for 2nd injection 1 Child given further dosage after period of 5 years
Bickerstaffe C.E.	.. 1932-43 1944	251 2	113 107	95.03	240 2	11	49	46	1	2	Positive.
Bispham Free Grammar	1932-43 1944	97 3	64 57	82.45	90 3	7	34	34	—	—	
Haskayne C.E.	.. 1932-43 1944	55 —	19 13	61.53	51 —	3	25	25	—	—	
Halsall C.E.	.. 1932-43 1944	301 13	206 201	70.34	277 13	24	87	85	—	—	2 Positive. 2 absent for, and 1 refused 2nd injection
Hesketh Bank C.E.	.. 1932-43 1944	114 11	79 87	64.13	109 —	5	32	32	—	—	1 absent for 2nd injection.
Ince Blundell R.C.	.. 1932-43 1944	86 —	36 37	90.69	78 —	8	39	39	—	—	1 treated previously.
Lydiat R.C.	.. 1932-43 1944	112 —	79 73	71.57	102 —	10	51	48	—	—	3 Positive. 1 treated previously by us
Lydiat C.E.	.. 1932-43 1944	108 1	89 81	77.14	104 1	4	36	34	2	—	
Maghull C.E.	1932-43 1944	635 8	443 444	72.19	607 8	28	208	189	9	10	Positive. 3 absent for 2nd injection.
Maghull Central	1932-43 1944	72 6	243 276	69.92	66 5	6	4	4	—	—	1 absent for 2nd dose. 10 treated previously by us. 7 treated previously by us. 1 absent for 2nd injection. 1 treated in hospital
Maghull R.C.	1932-43 1944	160 2	67 68	63.23	141 2	19	21	20	1	3	absent for 2nd injection. 1 treated previously by us

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA—Continued.

Maghull Temp. Council	1932-43 1944	94 1	405 249	93 67-87	1 1	— —	— —	— —	1 absent for 2nd dose 4 treated previously by us
Melling C.E.	1932-43 1944	189 2	104 113	— 63-12	177 2	12 —	50 —	49 —	2 absent for 2nd injection. 2 treated previously by us
Melling R.C.	1932-43 1943	83 2	57 39	— 76-92	80 —	3 2	40 —	39 —	2 absent for 2nd injection. 1 treated previously
Netherton R.C.	1932-43 1944	141 6	60 59	— 67-79	131 5	10 1	56 —	44 —	6 Positive, 1 absent for 2nd injection. 1 treated previously
Netherton Council	1940-43 1944	103 10	174 202	— 68-31	91 9	7 1	5 —	5 —	5 not treated as they were Schick negative. 2 absent for and 1 left before 2nd inject on. 3 treated previously
Rufford C.E.	1932-43 1944	88 1	56 51	— 60-71	83 1	4 —	36 —	35 —	1 Positive. 1 had no injections 2 treated previously
Rufford Methodist	1932-43 1944	62 —	46 50	— 64-00	57 —	3 —	22 —	20 —	4 treated previously by us. 1 absent for 2nd injection
Banks St. Stephens	1932-43 1944	90 6	115 105	— 76-00	84 6	5 —	17 —	4 —	3 treated previously by us
Banks Primitive Methodist	1932-43 1944	111 6	153 163	— 53-98	92 6	19 —	— —	— —	3 treated previously by us
Scarisbrick Council	1932-43 1944	50 1	39 43	— 65-11	49 1	1 —	5 —	4 —	1 treated previously by us
Scarisbrick C.E.	1932-43 1944	95 7	37 41	— 60-97	87 6	8 1	19 —	19 —	4 absent for 2nd injection. 1 absent for 2nd injection
Scarisbrick R.C.	1932-43 1944	167 10	130 127	— 60-63	152 10	15 —	51 —	50 —	1 Positive. 7 absent for 2nd injection. 4 treated previously
Sefton Council	1932-43 1944	118 —	60 20	— 75-00	105 —	8 —	40 —	39 —	5 treated previously by us
Tarleton Mere Brow	1932-43 1944	97 1	56 60	— 63-30	83 1	13 —	30 —	30 —	2 had no injections. 3 treated previously. 1 absent for 2nd injection.
Tarleton C.E.	1932-43 1944	142 8	92 98	— 72-45	135 8	7 —	30 —	30 —	1 treated after preliminary test, 3 absent for 2nd injection
Tarleton Council	1932-43 1944	210 4	201 193	— 61-14	188 4	21 —	60 —	57 —	2 treated previously by us
TOTALS	1932-43	4301	2884	3999	286	1122	1060	27	1 immunised after preliminary test. 2 Positive. [2 treated previously
									11 immunised after preliminary test, 5 had no injection, 35 positive. 40 absent for 2nd injection. 2 left before and 5 refused 2nd injection. 36 treated previously by us
									28 treated previously by us. 6 absent for 2nd injection. 1 treated in hospital. 1 given further dose after 5 years.

Children attending Schools elsewhere.

Scarlet Fever Patients in Hospital

Adults.

1932-43	..	..	..	1760	100	89	7
1944	..	..	..	293	2	3	—
TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS COMPLETELY IMMUNISED AGAINST DIPHTHERIA							
							6,375.

DIPHTHERIA.

Number of persons, in age groups, completely immunised, or found to be Schick Negative:—

Age	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	
Under 1 year	—	—	3	2	3	1	1	2	14	41	30	22	
1 Year	—	4	6	12	18	13	7	10	88	221	203	181	Total under 5 years at end of 1944 1191
2 "	2	6	3	10	22	21	14	24	101	173	71	47	
3 "	8	4	14	11	15	18	10	33	97	137	55	17	
4 "	12	13	11	6	38	30	21	24	102	144	63	26	
5 "	63	83	43	72	103	75	36	127	189	225	139	87	
6 "	78	41	22	60	63	71	32	81	157	124	90	51	Total 5-9 years at end of 1944. 2289
7 "	67	41	14	40	46	46	16	57	111	66	51	9	
8 "	76	28	21	36	41	40	12	38	68	57	52	14	
9 "	80	30	18	15	33	29	16	28	69	50	31	7	
10 "	59	27	22	22	17	30	12	35	63	38	29	9	
11 "	75	19	22	15	22	18	11	11	45	29	36	3	
12 "	58	23	9	19	16	26	5	5	39	31	28	3	Total 10-14 years at end of 1944. 1872
13 "	44	28	11	10	5	7	3	13	36	12	14	5	
14 "	8	3	3	4	2	1	—	12	—	1	—	2	
15 years and over	1	—	1	5	1	2	2	7	2	3	—	—	
													Total over 15 years at end of 1944. 1680
TOTAL	631	353	223	339	445	428	198	507	1181	1352	892	483	7032

* Nov., 1932 to Dec., 1933.

SCARLET FEVER.

Scarlet Fever incidence was normal during 1944, 75 cases being notified.

All cases were of mild type and it was necessary to remove 42 of them to hospital. The general policy is to remove to hospital such cases of Scarlet Fever as are living under overcrowded conditions or in such circumstances that they may become conveyors of infection through inefficient isolation.

The following table shows the incidence and mortality from scarlet fever during the past ten years :—

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Cases	21	79	50	128	103	38	50	12	66	75
Deaths	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

MEASLES.

The sub-joined table indicates the incidence and fatality of this disease during the last ten years.

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Cases	36	67	115	125	37	560	292	251	178	180
Deaths	1	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	—

Measles is now a notifiable infectious disease and this fact accounts for the apparent increase in the number of cases occurring since 1940.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

These remarks also apply to Whooping Cough. 58 cases of whooping cough were notified, as against 50 in 1943, and 62 in 1942.

CANCER.

Deaths from Cancer, showing parts of the body affected, 1944 :—

Organs affected.	M.	F.	Total
Breast	—	6	6
Uterus	2	4	6
Ovary	—	2	2
Stomach, etc.	5	5	10
Mouth, etc.	2	1	3
Larynx	—	—	—
Thyroid	—	—	—
Bowel	4	3	7
Pancreas	2	—	2
Liver (Primary) ..	4	3	7

Kidney	2	1	3
Lung	1	2	3
Prostate	1	1	2
Skin	—	—	—
Bone	—	—	—
Other	5	3	8
	28	31	59

Age Incidence.

Age below	5	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	90 up
1941	—	1	3	6	9	23	13	9	—	—
1942	—	—	—	1	2	12	23	13	7	1
1943	1	—	1	4	8	9	27	12	5	—
1944	—	—	5	6	9	16	17	6	—	—

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

No deaths were registered during 1944 as being due to puerperal disease; t' ere was one death recorded from other maternal causes.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Summary of notifications under the Public Health (Tuberculosis Regulations, 1930, received during 1944 :—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	4	2	—	—	2	1
5—10	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	7	—	—	1	1	1	—
25—35	7	7	1	1	—	1	—	—
35—45	8	4	—	3	2	—	—	2
45—55	4	2	2	1	3	2	—	—
55—65	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS	26	22	10	12	7	5	3	3
	48		22		12		6	

NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM 1. BY MEDICAL OFFICERS
OF HOSPITALS.

	Public Assistance Hospital.	Sanatoria and Pulmonary Hospitals.	General Hospitals.
Pulmonary			
Male	—	13	2
Female	—	11	—
Non-Pulmonary			
Male	—	6	1
Female	—	6	—

The following table is an analysis of the occupations of the 70 new cases of tuberculosis notified during 1944.

Occupation.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Housewife	—	6	—	6
Transport Manager	1	—	—	—
School Child	3	1	2	4
Boilermaker	1	—	—	—
Sister of Religion	—	—	—	1
Soldier	2	—	—	—
Salesman	1	—	—	—
Ship's Plater	1	—	—	—
Infant	—	—	3	1
Building Contractor	—	—	1	—
Farmer	—	—	1	—
Nurse	—	2	—	—
Farm Worker	1	—	—	—
Labourer	3	—	2	—
Storekeeper	1	—	—	—
Motor Mechanic	—	—	1	—
Accountant	2	—	—	—
Poultry Farmer	—	1	—	—
Printer	—	—	1	—
Clerk	—	—	—	1
Machinist	—	—	—	1
Miner	1	—	—	—
Electrician	1	—	—	—
Factory Supervisor	1	—	—	—
Market Gardener	1	—	—	—
Occupation Unknown	6	7	1	1
	26	17	12	15

In thirty-two houses inspected during the year by reason of tuberculosis inmates, ten cases were found not to be sleeping in separate bedrooms, and in each of these ten cases they were not even sleeping in separate beds.

PNEUMONIA.

Thirty-nine cases of pneumonia were notified during 1944, a decrease of ten on the figure for 1943. Deaths from pneumonia numbered 14. There are no facilities locally for the typing of pneumococci and for the provision of appropriate type sera, such work being of necessity performed in one of the large towns adjacent to the District.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA (Epidemic Encephalitis).

No new notifications were received during 1944, and no deaths occurred due to the disease.



