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**Contributors**

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ANNUAL REPORT  
ON THE  
HEALTH  
OF THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN  
FOR THE YEAR 1947



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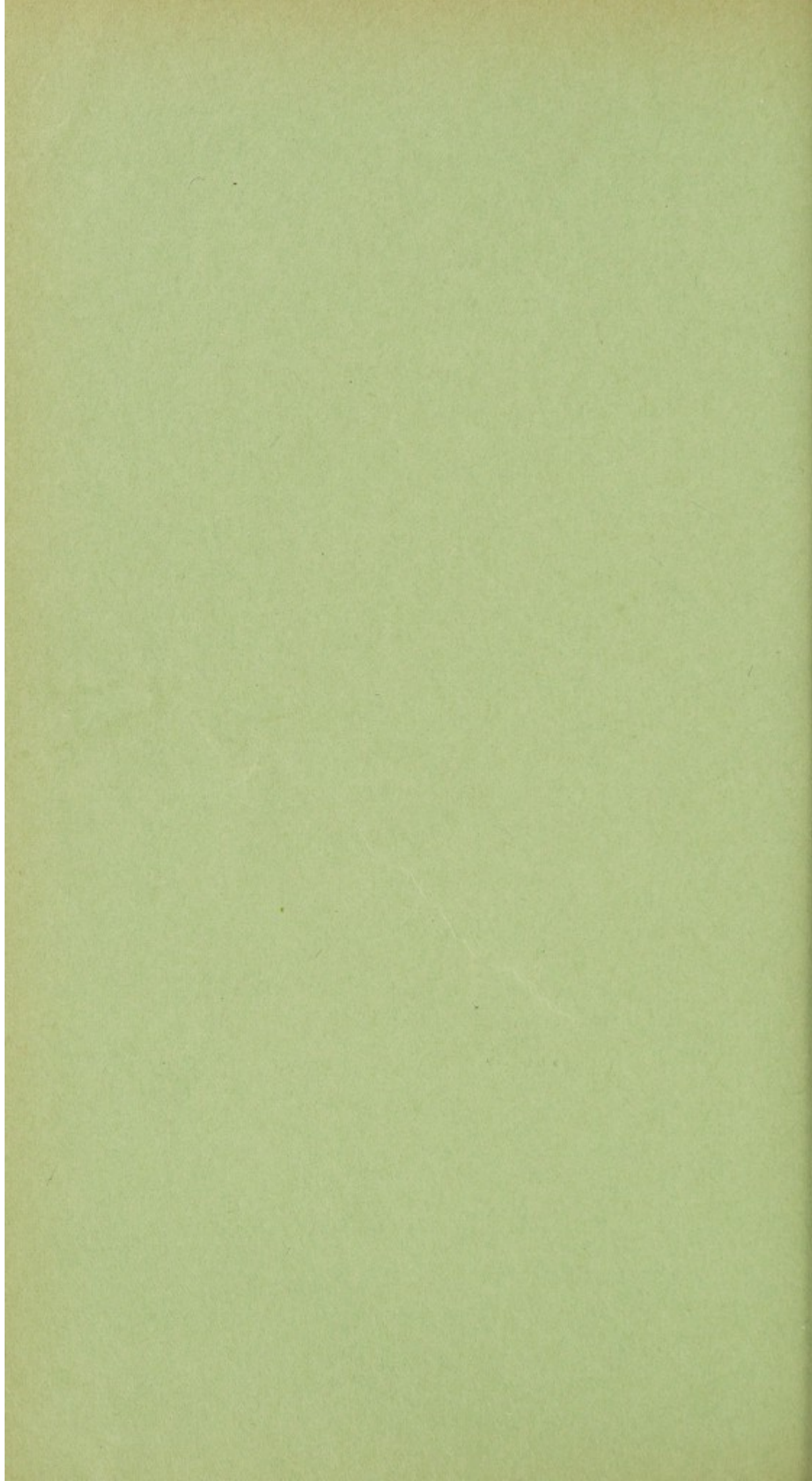
J. S. G. BURNETT, M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
CHIEF TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER,  
SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,  
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF CORPORATION  
HOSPITALS, &c.

LIVERPOOL :

MEEK, THOMAS & Co., LTD., PRINTERS,  
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## STAFF, 1947.

Medical Officer of Health	....	J. S. G. BURNETT, M.D., D.P.H., (from 1st November, 1947)
		H. WHITEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H., (Vict.) M.B., B.S. (Lond.) (retired 31st October, 1947)
Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Clinical Tuberculosis Officer		H. RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers	....	I. M. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. E. M. WILSON, M.B., Ch.B. (from 1st July, 1947)
*Clinical V.D. Officer	....	H. BARDSLEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
*Orthopædic Surgeon	....	Miss M. F. JOHNSTONE, M.B., Ch.B.
*Consultant Obstetric Surgeons		C. H. WALSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.C.O.G. T. N. HART, M.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.O.G.
*Public Vaccinators and District Medical Officers		E. D. PORTMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D. N. MACKINNON, M.B., Ch.B.
*Public Analyst	....	S. ERNEST MELLING, F.I.C.
*Vaccination Officers....	....	C. LATCHFORD, S. TURNER, J. D. BAXENDALE.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	....	J. ASHTON ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>b</i> ).
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector		V. JONES ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>b</i> )
Sanitary Inspectors	....	T. MCKNIGHT ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>b</i> ) W. HIGGINS ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>b</i> ) (until 31st Oct.) R. C. WOODS ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>b</i> ) P. STRAFFORD ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>b</i> ) J. GIBSON ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>b</i> ) (until 30th April) S. BURNS ( <i>a</i> ) (until 31st August) F. L. THOMAS ( <i>a</i> ) (from 1st Sept.) J. L. MCFALL ( <i>a</i> ) (until 31st Aug.)

## STAFF, 1947—Contd.

Matron of Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital and Pemberton Tuberculosis Hosp.	L. ROTHWELL, S.R.N., R.F.N.
Health Visitors	M. L. GOLD ( <i>a</i> ) ( <i>c</i> ) (until 30th June) M. E. WHEAT ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) ( <i>e</i> ) C. W. CAMPBELL ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) ( <i>e</i> ) (until 31st Oct.) E. HANSON ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) ( <i>e</i> ) E. M. WRIGHT ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) ( <i>e</i> ) A. G. FORSHAW ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) ( <i>e</i> ) E. THOMPSON ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) ( <i>e</i> ) (until 31st Oct.) N. CUNLIFFE ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) ( <i>e</i> ) (from 14th July)
Tuberculosis Nurse	E. CODY ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )

Supervisor of Midwives : E. M. READING (*c*) (*d*).

## Midwives :

E. B. BROOKS ( <i>c</i> )	C. MORRIS ( <i>c</i> )
M. FORREST ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	A. O'HARE ( <i>c</i> )
E. HIGHTON ( <i>c</i> )	(until 31st May, 1947)
L. JACKSON ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	C. RYDER ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )
M. L. LYNCH ( <i>c</i> )	E. WILLIAMS ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )
M. MCGOUGH ( <i>c</i> )	M. WOODWARD ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )
M. MAGEE ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	E. KERNICK ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )
H. E. MAXWELL ( <i>c</i> )	(from 17th Sept., 1947)

Chief Clerk : A. N. BYERS.

## \* Part-time Officers.

- (*a*) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
- (*b*) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Meat and Other Food Inspection.
- (*c*) Certificate, Central Midwives Board.
- (*d*) General Trained.
- (*e*) The Royal Sanitary Institute Health Visitors Certificate.

Health Department,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Library Street,  
WIGAN.

December, 1948.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Wigan County  
Borough Council.*

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The work of the department as set out in the accompanying pages was carried out for most of the year under review under the supervision of Dr. H. Whitehead who retired from active service after 26 years service with the Corporation as its Medical Officer of Health. His departure from office coincides with the end of an epoch that, starting about the time of the first world war, gave promise of many good things and which as the harvest was about to be gathered was rudely interrupted by the second world war and finally closed by the National Health Service Act, 1946.

During 1947 the new schemes required of local health authorities under that Act were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health and these schemes as finally approved by the Minister during 1948 are included in an appendix to this report.

Your attention is drawn specially to the figures of infant mortality and maternal mortality for 1947 relative to the county borough and in particular to the fact that according to death certification the main causation of infant mortality was prematurity in the neonatal period and infection in the later months of life. The Council is well aware of the evils of overcrowding in homes and is pressing ahead with the provision of new houses. There is in addition however a completely inadequate provision of hospital maternity accommodation and of hospital beds for sick children and provision for these two purposes is an urgent necessity of the highest priority. The three demands referred to when met should go some way towards the

elimination of preventable fatality and should cause a lowering in two mortality rates that give no cause for complacency.

The beneficent effect of widespread immunisation against diphtheria, resulting in a great reduction in the incidence of the disease, is reflected in the local position where the number of cases has diminished considerably. It is nevertheless true to state that even the few cases and even the one death represent preventable loss and suffering and that only by persistent immunisation will the disease be kept at bay.

A wave of scarlet fever started in the town in the autumn and has continued into 1948 and like other areas of the country Wigan was involved in the epidemic of anterior poliomyelitis, the disease reaching its peak locally in September.

J. S. G. BURNETT,

Medical Officer of Health.



## 1.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The County Borough of Wigan covers an area of 5,082 acres, and had a population at the 1931 census of 85,357. The Registrar General's estimated population on 1st July, 1947, is 84,150, on which figure statistics in this report are based. A considerable portion of the Borough is used for agricultural purposes. These areas are sparsely populated. The average number of persons per acre varies in the fourteen wards within the Borough from 5 to 105, the average being 16.8. The Borough of Wigan forms a considerable part of the valley of the River Douglas. The river is the boundary on the North side, continues its course to the centre and finally becomes the boundary on the West side. The levels on which the river enters and leaves are respectively 150 and 69 feet. Water is taken from the river for feeding the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, which traverses the town. The maximum elevations are at the extreme North 254 feet and at the South-West 260 feet. The lowest level is at the North-western boundary, which is 69 feet.

Geologically, the whole of the Borough rests on the lower coal measures, or Gannister beds, which are here very superficial, and, in fact, outcrop in several parts of the district. The sub-soil is mainly clay which in places has a depth of nearly twenty feet ; but there is an important layer of sand covering a large part of the centre of the town, and extending northwards in the direction of Standish. In other parts sand is found in "pockets." Much of the western portion, beyond the Park, lies on a fairly extensive gravel bed.

The population is essentially an industrial one, the principal industries being coal, iron, cotton, and the manufacture of clothing.

The local authority possess only one Public Bathing establishment, which is situated in Millgate, Wigan. The accommodation is insufficient for a town with a population of approximately 80,000, especially when it is realised that the great majority of dwelling houses are not provided with a private bath, and when it is remembered that a very large number of the population is engaged in the coal mining industry.

### BATHS.

The following list shows the number of Bathers during the past five years :—

					Total Number of bathers.
1943	....	....	....	....	142,816
1944	....	....	....	....	160,586
1945	....	....	....	....	149,132
1946	....	....	....	....	154,437
1947	....	....	....	....	149,323

The Baths Superintendent, Mr. J. H. Cockrell, has kindly supplied me with the following figures and report :—

SUMMARY OF BATHERS AND PARTICULARS OF THE BOROUGH  
BATHING ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
MARCH 31ST, 1948.

Number of Plunge Baths	....	....	....	2
Number of Private Baths	....	....	....	16
<i>Bathers:</i>				
Male Plunge Baths	....	....	....	51,883*
Male Private Baths	....	....	....	20,841
Female Plunge Baths...	....	....	....	30,223 <sup>x</sup>
Female Private Baths...	....	....	....	18,126
Mixed Bathing : Adults and Juniors	....	....	....	8,363
Contracts, Free Passes, Season Tickets, etc.	....	....	....	13,107
Total	....	....	....	142,543

\* This number includes 9,143 boys who are charged 2d. and are admitted after 4-0 p.m. on any day except Thursday and Saturday during the summer season.

<sup>x</sup> This number includes 23,998 girls who are charged 2d. and are admitted after 4-0 p.m. on any day except Thursday and Saturday during the summer season.

The above figures show a decrease as compared with the previous year, due to the epidemic of infantile paralysis and the ban placed on juvenile bathing.

Due to the shortage of paper, tickets have been issued to meet a dual purpose for boys and girls and it is impossible to segregate the numbers.

Tests are taken three times a day by the Baths Superintendent to determine the residual Chlorine and Alkali content of the water.

It is compulsory for patrons using the swimming bath to pre-cleanse in the shower bath before entering the pool.

Plans for a new and up-to-date Bathing Establishment, including remedial baths, have been incorporated in the new town planning scheme, but due to the urgency of the housing programme the scheme has been shelved indefinitely.

## SOCIAL WELFARE.

The Director of Social Welfare has kindly supplied me with the following information :—

### *Borough of Wigan.*

Year ended.	Average No. of families receiving relief.	Annual amount paid in relief. £
31st March, 1943	514	30,404
31st March, 1944	511	32,950
31st March, 1945	580	42,783
31st March, 1946	624	45,191
31st March, 1947	691	45,444

The Institutions provided are the Social Welfare Home, Frog Lane, Wigan, for able bodied and old and infirm persons. For many years chronic sick and some hospital cases have been admitted, and a number of children both well and sick. There are 239 beds. Billinge Hospital : 386 beds, mental, chronic sick and infirm (hospital cases) and 28 beds reserved for maternity cases.

## NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

Mr. A. Clarke, the Clerk to the National Health Insurance Committee for the Borough, has kindly supplied me with the following information, with respect to treatment under the National Health Insurance Scheme :—

	1943 1st Jan.	1944 1st Jan.	1945 1st Jan.	1946 1st Jan.	1947 1st Jan.
Number of insured persons in Wigan, according to counts of Insurance Committee's Register ...	41643	41164	40888	41865	44074
Number of prescriptions issued by doctors... ..	230657	228698	232134	252140	258675
Total cost of prescriptions issued ... ..	£ 9929 12 8	£ 10284 15 7	£ 11613 18 11	£ 13293 15 0	£ 16854 17 8
Average cost per prescription issued ... ..	10.33d.	10.79d.	12.01d.	12.65d.	15.63d.

## 2.—VITAL STATISTICS, 1946-1947.

	1946.	1947.
Population estimated July 1st	82,830	84,150
Births : Males 978	1,670	1,886
Females 908		
Total		
Annual Rate of Births per 1,000 on Registrar General's estimated population	20.16	22.41
Ditto, for England and Wales	19.10	20.5
Ditto, 126 County Boroughs and great towns	22.20	23.3
Illegitimate births number 67, or 0.79 per 1,000 of population, a percentage of	3.66	3.55
Deaths : Males 618	957	1,125
Females 507		
Total		
Corrected death rate, on Registrar General's estimated population	11.55	13.37
Ditto, in England and Wales	11.50	12.0
Death Rate in 126 County Boroughs and great towns	12.70	13.0
Excess of Registered births over deaths	513	761
Maternal Death Rate...	3.44	3.59
Tuberculosis Death Rates :—		
Pulmonary	0.76	0.79
Other than Pulmonary	0.03	
Total	0.47	
Total deaths from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	10	23
Annual rate of mortality from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	0.12	0.27
Total deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years	6	14
Death rate (per 1,000 births) from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	3.59	7.42
Infantile rate (deaths per 1,000 births)	52	67
Ditto, for England and Wales	43	41
Ditto, for 126 County Boroughs and great towns...	46	47
Deaths of Infants under 1 day old (number)	23	19
Ditto 1 year (legitimate)	82	121
Ditto 1 year (illegitimate)	5	6

**Births.**—The number of births registered during 1947 is 1,886 (males 978, females 908), the rate per 1,000 of the population being 22.41. The birth rate compared with 1946 is 2.25 higher. The illegitimate births number 67 or 3.55 per cent.

**Stillbirths.**—The following shows the number of stillbirths registered during the year 1947 :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ....	36	24	60
Illegitimate ....	2	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38	25	63
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**The Mortality Rate.**—The deaths for 1947 number 1,125 (males 618, females 507), being an excess of 111 males over females. The recorded rate per 1,000 of the population per annum is 13.37; in 1946, 11.55. The increase in the number of deaths as compared with 1946 was 168, and the rate 1.82 per 1,000.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.	
<b>Births</b> —(Legitimate) ....	1,819	946	873	} Birth rate per 1,000 population, 22.41.
(Illegitimate) ....	67	32	35	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	1,886	978	908	

	Total.	M.	F.	
<b>Deaths</b> ....	1,125	618	507	} Death rate per 1,000 population, 13.37.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth .... } from sepsis .... 3  
 .... } from other causes 4

Mortality of women in, or associated with child-birth, per 1,000 births (live and still) :—

Puerperal Sepsis ....	1.539
Other Puerperal causes ....	2.052
	<hr/>
Total Puerperal mortality ....	3.59
Non Puerperal causes ....	—
Total Maternal mortality ....	3.59

Infant-Mortality rate under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate 60    Illegitimate 89    Total 67.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ....	5
„ Whooping Cough (all ages) ....	2
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)....	14

## INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

The number of inquests held during 1947 was 41, and the following verdicts have been recorded :—

1. Natural Causes	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
2. Accidents--Burnt	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
,, Scalded	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
,, Colliery	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
,, Drowned	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
,, Falls	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
,, Railway	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
,, Falls Downstairs	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
,, Knocked Down	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
,, Others	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
3. Suicides—Hanging	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
,, Cut Throat	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
,, Gas	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
,, Railway	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
,, Poison	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
,, Others	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
4. Others	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
5. Murder	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
							—
							41
							—

There was no uncertified death in 1947, against two in 1946, and one in 1945.

## DEATHS GROUPED ACCORDING TO

Causes of Deaths.		Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District						
		All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	6	64	—	—	—	43	20	1
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	7	3	—	2	—	—	—	1
Syphilitic Disease ... ..	8	5	—	—	—	—	3	2
Influenza ... ..	9	27	—	—	1	1	14	11
Measles ... ..	10	5	1	4	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	11	3	—	1	1	1	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis ... ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	13M	6	—	1	—	—	3	2
Cancer of Uterus ... ..	13F	6	—	—	—	—	4	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	14	31	—	—	—	3	16	12
Cancer of Breast ... ..	15	14	—	—	—	—	8	6
Cancer of all other sites ... ..	16	74	—	—	—	10	31	33
Diabetes ... ..	17	9	—	—	—	1	3	5
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	18	120	—	—	—	1	30	89
Heart Disease ... ..	19	269	—	—	1	18	71	179
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	20	19	—	—	—	1	1	17
Bronchitis ... ..	21	97	8	1	—	2	28	58
Pneumonia ... ..	22	70	33	6	—	2	11	18
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	23	12	2	—	—	—	5	5
Ulceration of Stomach or Duodenum ...	24	9	—	—	—	2	6	1
Diarrhoea (under two years) ... ..	25	14	14	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ... ..	26	3	—	—	2	—	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	27	24	5	—	—	3	6	10
Nephritis ... ..	28	22	—	—	1	3	8	10
Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis ...	29	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
Other Maternal Causes ... ..	30	4	—	—	—	4	—	—
Premature Birth ... ..	31	29	29	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease ... ..	32	28	27	1	—	—	—	—
Suicide ... ..	33	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	34	7	—	—	1	2	—	4
Other Violent Causes ... ..	35	25	2	2	4	5	5	7
All Other Causes ... ..	36	117	5	1	3	12	13	83
Totals ... ..		1125	127	22	15	117	287	557

## CAUSATION, AGE AND WARD RESIDENCE.

Deaths at all Ages.

St. George Ward.	Lindsay Ward.	St. Catharine Ward.	St. Patrick Ward.	St. Thomas Ward.	Poolstock Ward.	Victoria Ward.	St. Andrew Ward.	Swinley Ward.	All Saints Ward.	West Pem-berton Ward.	North Pem-berton Ward.	Central Pem-berton Ward.	South Pem-berton Ward.	Total Deaths.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
—	5	4	3	1	5	5	14	5	1	2	5	12	2	64
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3
—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	5
—	3	2	4	1	1	1	6	4	—	1	3	1	—	27
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	5
—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	6
—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	6
2	—	1	4	—	1	—	9	4	2	3	1	2	2	31
1	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	1	1	—	5	—	1	14
3	5	4	10	1	6	1	15	9	4	2	4	6	4	74
1	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	9
5	8	7	12	—	8	2	17	23	3	6	10	14	5	120
6	18	18	20	14	4	15	62	36	4	10	16	34	12	269
—	3	—	1	1	1	2	5	2	1	—	1	1	1	19
5	8	4	8	3	3	7	17	8	2	4	5	14	9	97
2	4	6	6	3	5	7	9	3	—	1	7	14	3	70
1	1	—	1	—	3	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	1	12
1	2	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	9
1	—	—	1	1	1	2	3	—	—	1	1	3	—	14
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
3	3	1	1	3	—	1	4	2	1	—	3	2	—	24
—	4	2	1	1	1	—	4	3	1	—	2	2	1	22
—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
—	1	2	3	—	2	4	3	1	1	—	4	6	2	29
1	1	4	3	4	—	1	3	5	—	3	—	2	1	28
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	7
—	2	—	1	—	2	2	6	5	1	—	—	4	2	25
7	7	5	8	5	4	7	26	13	2	2	9	15	7	117
40	77	62	95	40	53	64	220	135	27	36	80	139	57	1125



The death-rate for each quarter is as follows :—

1947.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
All Causes	19.88	10.78	10.38	12.25
Zymotics	0.24	0.28	0.28	0.28

The Zymotic-rate, 0.27 is 0.15 higher than in 1946.

### DEATH RATES 1947.

Disease.	No. of Deaths.	Rate.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	0.01
Scarlet Fever	1	0.01
Whooping Cough	2	0.02
Diphtheria	1	0.01
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	64	0.76
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	3	0.04
Syphilitic Disease	5	0.06
Influenza	27	0.32
Measles	5	0.06
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	3	0.04
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—
M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	6	0.07
F. Cancer of Uterus	6	0.07
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	31	0.37
Cancer of Breast	14	0.17
Cancer of all other sites	74	0.88
Diabetes	9	0.11
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	120	1.43
Heart Disease	269	3.20
Other Circulatory Diseases	19	0.22
Bronchitis	97	1.15
Pneumonia	70	0.83
Other Respiratory Diseases	12	0.14
Ulceration of Stomach or Duodenum	9	0.11
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	14	0.17
Appendicitis	3	0.04
Other Digestive Diseases	24	0.28
Nephritis	22	0.26
Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	3	0.04
Other Maternal Causes	4	0.05
Premature Births	29	0.34
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	28	0.33
Suicide	1	0.01
Road Traffic Accidents	7	0.08
Other Violent Causes	25	0.30
All Other Causes	117	1.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>13.37</b>

### DEATH-RATES FOR WIGAN DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
13.38	12.97	15.81	18.72	12.95	14.30	12.92	11.42	11.55	13.37

AVERAGE FOR TEN YEARS, 13.24.

### NUMBER OF DEATHS IN DIFFERENT WARDS IN WIGAN, 1947.

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Estimated Population</i>	<i>Death Totals</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>
St. George ... ..	1	2751	40	14.54
Lindsay ... ..	2	5124	77	13.07
St. Catharine ... ..	3	5767	62	10.71
St. Patrick ... ..	4	6797	95	14.97
St. Thomas ... ..	5	2698	40	14.82
Poolstock ... ..	6	4022	53	13.17
Victoria ... ..	7	3033	64	21.10
St. Andrew ... ..	8	17191	220	12.78
Swinley ... ..	9	10956	135	12.32
All Saints ... ..	10	2097	27	12.87
West Pemberton ... ..	11	2953	36	12.13
North Pemberton ... ..	12	5970	80	13.31
Central Pemberton ... ..	13	9818	139	14.16
South Pemberton ... ..	14	4973	57	11.47
Totals ... ..	...	84150	1125	*13.37

\*Death Rate is based on the Registrar General's estimated Population of 84,150.

### ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Mortality from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, namely: Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, and Diarrhœa, gives us a rate of 0.27 per 1,000 of the population, against 0.12 in 1946.

The deaths numbered 23 as against 10 in 1946.

The Zymotic-rate, 0.27, is made up as follows :—

	Death-rates per 1,000.	
	1946.	1947.
Small-pox	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	Nil.	0.01
Measles	Nil.	0.06
Whooping Cough	0.036	0.02
Diarrhœa	0.072	0.17
Enteric Fever	Nil.	Nil.
Diphtheria	0.012	0.01

#### DEATHS AND DEATH RATES FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

	Deaths.	Death-rate.
1943	17	0.22
1944	15	0.19
1945	8	0.10
1946	10	0.12
1947	23	0.27

#### COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS SINCE YEAR 1876.

Year.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality.
1876	48.9	28.5	4.92	186
1886	38.7	22.1	3.1	174
1896	35.9	23.09	4.09	186
1906	32.6	17.61	2.61	160
1916	23.28	15.42	1.04	113
1926	20.03	13.13	0.30	103
1936	17.23	12.78	0.42	82
1946	20.16	11.55	0.12	52
1947	22.41	13.37	0.27	67

**REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES  
OF DEATH, 1947.**

CAUSES.	Sex.	All Ages.	0+	1+	5+	15+	45+	65+
ALL CAUSES ... ..	M. F.	618 507	73 54	15 7	10 5	56 61	175 113	289 268
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	M. F.	— 1	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	M. F.	1 —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	M. F.	2 —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —
5. Diphtheria ... ..	M. F.	1 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M. F.	38 26	— —	— —	— —	22 21	16 4	— 1
7. Tuberculosis Other Forms ...	M. F.	2 1	— —	1 1	— —	— —	— —	1 —
8. Syphilitic Disease ... ..	M. F.	4 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 1	2 —
9. Influenza ... ..	M. F.	19 8	— —	— —	— 1	— 1	11 3	8 3
10. Measles ... ..	M. F.	2 3	— 1	2 2	— —	— —	— —	— —
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis ... ..	M. F.	3 —	— —	1 —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
13. M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Os. F. Cancer of Uterus ... ..	M. F.	6 6	— —	1 —	— —	— —	3 4	2 2
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	M. F.	24 7	— —	— —	— —	2 1	14 2	8 4
15. Cancer of Breast ... ..	F.	14	—	—	—	—	8	6
16. Cancer of all other sites ... ..	M. F.	45 29	— —	— —	— —	5 5	18 13	22 11
17. Diabetes ... ..	M. F.	2 7	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— 3	1 4
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	M. F.	62 58	— —	— —	— —	1 —	16 14	45 44

**REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES  
OF DEATH, 1947—Contd.**

CAUSES.	Sex.	All Ages.	0+	1+	5+	15+	45+	65+
ALL CAUSES ... ..	M. F.	618 507	73 54	15 7	10 5	56 61	175 112	289 268
19. Heart Disease ... ..	M. F.	138 131	— —	— —	1 5	6 12	39 32	92 87
20. Other Circulatory Diseases ...	M. F.	7 12	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— 1	7 10
21. Bronchitis ... ..	M. F.	57 40	6 2	1 —	— —	1 1	22 6	27 31
22. Pneumonia ... ..	M. F.	47 23	21 12	5 1	— —	1 1	8 3	12 6
23. Other Respiratory Diseases ...	M. F.	8 4	1 1	— —	— —	— —	5 —	2 3
24. Ulceration of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	M. F.	9 —	— —	— —	— —	2 —	6 —	1 —
25. Diarrhœa (under two years) ...	M. F.	8 6	8 6	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
26. Appendicitis ... ..	M. F.	2 1	— —	— —	1 1	— —	— —	1 —
27. Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	M. F.	10 14	2 3	— —	— —	2 1	2 4	4 6
28. Nephritis ... ..	M. F.	13 9	— —	— —	— 1	1 2	4 4	8 2
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	F.	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes ... ..	F.	4	—	—	—	4	—	—
31. Premature Birth ... ..	M. F.	14 15	14 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury and Infantile Diseases ...	M. F.	19 9	18 9	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —
33. Suicide ... ..	M. F.	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —
34. Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	M. F.	5 2	— —	— —	1 —	1 1	— —	3 1
35. Other Violent Causes ... ..	M. F.	16 9	— 2	— 2	4 —	5 —	3 2	4 3
36. All Other Causes ... ..	M. F.	54 63	2 3	1 —	1 2	5 7	6 7	39 44

### 3.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

**Professional Nursing in the Home.**—The Wigan Branch of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses commenced activities in February, 1929. To commence with, the Staff consisted of two Nurses. The Staff now consists of a Superintendent and seven Nurses and serves the whole of Wigan for district nursing purposes. No midwifery is undertaken.

**Midwives.**—There were 26 midwives practising in the district on 1st January, 1947, of whom 13 are Municipal Midwives, 7 independent, and 6 employed in Maternity Homes.

**Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—The following Clinics and Treatment Centres are provided by the Corporation :—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4-30. Class for expectant mothers on Friday afternoon. The Dentist attends on Tuesday afternoons for examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and infants. |
|  | Ante-Natal Clinic, 2 to 4-30 p.m. each Tuesday and Wednesday and Special Consultant's Clinic third Friday in each month at 2 o'clock.   |
| 2. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Billinge Road, Pemberton.                   | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Friday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m.  |
|  | Ante-Natal Clinic, each Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. A Consultant attends each alternate Monday.  |
| 3. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Jackson's Square, Scholes.                  | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Monday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m.  |
| 4. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes.            | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m.  |

5. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, St. Andrew's Mission Room, Woodhouse Lane. Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m.
6. School Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan. For minor ailments. A dentist is in attendance three mornings in each week for inspection and treatment of school children.
7. Speech Clinic, Y.W.C.A. Building, Library Street, Wigan. For treatment of speech defects. Open all day on Monday and Friday and on alternate Thursdays.
8. Orthopædic Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan. For treatment of crippling defects. Open each Monday morning. Surgeon attends twice monthly. Cases from Ince, Hindley, and Standish also attend.
9. Tuberculosis Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings and Friday evenings as required. A dentist is in attendance on Wednesday mornings for the inspection and treatment of tuberculous persons.
10. Nursery, Ellesmere Road, Pemberton, Wigan. For the reception of children of mothers who are working. The nursery has accommodation for 52 children during the day time and 17 during the night.
11. Radium treatment of Cancer. The Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre. A Special Clinic is held on the second and fourth Thursday in each month at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary for inspection and advice only. Treatment is carried out at Manchester.
12. Artificial Light Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary. For treatment of suitable cases, by arrangement.
13. Venereal Disease Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. Open Tuesdays and Fridays, 4 to 6 for males only, and from 2 to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays for females and children. "Irrigations" by arrangement. "In-patient" treatment is also available.

**Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local Authority.**—The following hospitals are provided by the Local Authority :—

Pemberton Hospital.	For treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, 28 beds, four of which are reserved for the Lancashire County Council.
Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital.	For Infectious Diseases (other than smallpox and venereal diseases), 76 beds.
Billinge Hospital, Billinge.	386 beds for mental, chronic sick and infirm (hospital cases) and 28 beds reserved for maternity cases.
Social Welfare Home, Frog Lane, Wigan.	For able bodied and old and infirm persons and for many years chronic sick and some hospital cases have been admitted, and a number of children both well and sick. There are 239 beds.

The following hospitals and institutions are subsidised by the Local Authority, either by way of (a) an annual grant, or (b) payment for beds reserved for cases sent by this Authority.

Sankey Small Pox Hospital, near Warrington.	For treatment of smallpox. Payment of £230 per annum.
Leasowe Hospital.	Four beds reserved for treatment of surgical tuberculosis.

**Other Hospitals Available for the District :—**

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.	General Hospital. 180 beds. Complete with massage, electrical, orthopædic, artificial sunlight, and X-ray departments and pathological laboratory. A certain number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis are treated there, for which payment is made by this Authority. Cases requiring treatment under the Corporation's scheme for dealing with puerperal pyrexia are also treated there.
The Christopher Private Patients Home.	30 beds for surgical, medical and maternity.



**Ambulance Facilities :—**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (a) For Infectious Cases.                   | The Public Health Department own two motor ambulances, and a motor van used for disinfection purposes.   |
| (b) For Non-infectious Cases and Accidents. | The Police Department possess two ambulances and one vehicle used as a prison van or ambulance. The town's ambulance service is under the control of the Cleansing Department, and consists of one ambulance, and one ex-C.D. ambulance used as a stand-by. Two ambulances, and one saloon car used for transporting mental cases, are owned by the Social Welfare Department. |

**MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.**

On 1st January, 1947, there were two maternity homes registered.

No action with respect to registration of maternity and nursing homes has been necessary during the year.

#### 4.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

##### WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough is supplied with water for domestic and trade purposes from the Arley, Worthington and Pemberton Reservoirs, which have a total capacity of 278,000,000 gallons. Approximately 154,000,000 gallons of water is pumped each year from Nicholson's Pit, Winstanley, and a further supply is obtained from the Bispham Shaft, Billinge. The Corporation also own reservoirs at Adlington, Pemberton and Whitley, which are used only for compensation and trade purposes.

The Catchment Area, from which the greater part of the water is obtained, is agricultural land. Constant supervision is therefore undertaken to ensure the prevention of pollution and energetic steps are taken when any danger of pollution arises.

As a further safeguard of the purity of the water supply, chlorination plants are installed at Boars Head Pumping Station, Boars Head Water Tower (to deal with Thirlmere water), Edgewood (to deal with Pemberton Reservoirs) and at Bispham. This ensures that all water supplied to consumers, with the exception of purely trade water, is first chlorinated.

Enough chlorine is added to give a residual of 0.1 parts per 1,000,000 and constant tests are made to ensure this.

In certain cases an automatic and continuous record of the amount of chlorine added is charted mechanically.

In addition, samples of the various supplies are taken each month and sent away for chemical and bacteriological examination and a constant check on the purity of the water, both before and after treatment, is kept.

Apart from the local water supplies outlined above the Corporation obtain daily a further supply of 500,000 gallons per day from the Thirlmere Aqueduct of the Manchester Corporation, which quantity can be increased under agreement with the Manchester Corporation by a temporary supply of 400,000 gallons per day, if required.

There are approximately 22,000 dwellings within the Borough and with one or two exceptions each one has its supply of town's water. The approximate average daily consumption for domestic purposes is 1,776,000 gallons, representing approximately 21.30 gallons per head per day.

A few dwellings situate near the boundary of the Borough on the south side are supplied with water obtained from Billinge U.D.C.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS

The River Douglas and the streams running into it are the natural means of draining the Borough.

The River is badly polluted before entering the Borough and a certain amount of pollution occurs within.

The River Douglas is under the control of the River Douglas Catchment Board who are constantly engaged in work of dredging and straightening of the River. Considerable improvements in the course of the River have recently been made, particularly in the region between Adam Bridge and Martland Hill Bridge, which will reduce the risk of flooding in the lower lying parts of the Town.

The Catchment Board also clean the river, remove sludge, etc. from the bed, as is required.

## DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, SCAVENGING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Practically the whole of the Borough is sewered and drained.

The sewage is conducted from the town by two main outfall sewers, 27 inches and 36 inches diameter, to the Sewage Disposal Works at Hoscar, which are seven miles distant. Before leaving the town the sewage passes through two detritus tanks and also through coarse and fine screens, and at this point the storm water is diverted from the outfall sewers and is conveyed to the storm water treatment works at Pemberton.

Alumino ferric and lime are added to the sewage at Hoscar which then passes through Preliminary and Secondary Settling Tanks and a battery of circular revolving percolating filters. The effluent from the filters before it is discharged to the River Douglas is passed through humus tanks.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer, Mr. D. M. McKellen, for the following figures :—

During the year 1947, the following amounts of sewage have been treated at the Hoscar Moss and Pemberton Sewage Works :—

Pemberton Storm Water Works	....	....	190,835,000	gallons
Hoscar Bacteria Beds	....	....	1,050,112,360	„
Hoscar Drainage Area	....	....	161,385,257	„
Total sewage treated	....	....	1,402,332,617	„
Total solids, detritus tanks and screen chambers, Pemberton	....	....	2,684	tons
Total dried sludge recovered	....	....	2,057	„
Weight of dried sludge per million gallons of sewage	....	....	1.46	„
Rainfall for year	....	....	25.89	inches

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Mr. W. Smith, the Director of Public Cleansing, has supplied the following particulars :—

**Refuse Collection and Disposal.**—The collection of dry house refuse and trade refuse is carried out by both horse and mechanical transport, working as separate units, and by the Pagefield container system, and the percentage of refuse collected by each system is as follows :—

Horse	....	....	....	....	21 per cent.
Pagefield container	....	....	....	....	57 „
Mechanical vehicles	....	....	....	....	22 „

82 per cent. of the refuse collected is disposed of by tipping.

**Nightsoil and Pail Refuse.**—The refuse (465 tons) is disposed of direct to farmers as manure. All pails are washed and disinfected after each collection.

**Trade Refuse.**—No fixed charges are made for the removal of this refuse, the shops and business premises in the town have a collection every day.

**Gully Cleansing.**—During the year 14,066 gullies were emptied.

**Public Conveniences.**—The following conveniences and urinals are maintained and cleansed by the department :—

- 2 public conveniences for ladies and gents, with attendants.
- 26 public urinals.

All urinals are cleansed and inspected twice per day, including Sundays.

**General.**—The quantity of refuse dealt with by destructors during the year 1947 was 4,931 tons, and the quantity tipped was 22,628 tons. The Corporation have certain powers which require the owners or occupiers of property to provide, under certain conditions, receptacles of an approved pattern for refuse, and up to the present, 22,400 ash bins have been provided.

123,532,000 square yards of street have been swept during the year.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A general scheme for the conversion of pail closets and privy middens has been in progress in the Borough since March, 1923, with a view to placing all closet accommodation on the water carriage system.

On March 31st, 1923, the number of water closets in the Borough was 8,234, waste water closets 945, pail closets 7,081, privy middens 1,563. On March 31st, 1948, the estimated number of water closets in the Borough was 26,683, waste water closets 92, pail closets 51, privy middens 39.

The majority of the pail closets and privy middens are at unfit houses or premises which are not connected to sewers.

The Local Authority commenced a scheme for the conversion of the waste water closets to water closets with proper flushing apparatus. This was inaugurated on April 1st, 1926, and since that date 929 closets have been converted.

NOTE.—The number of privy closets connected to one privy midden varies from one to six, the average being approximately two.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Mr. John Ashton, Chief Sanitary Inspector, submits the following remarks with a summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors :—

The town is divided into five districts. A District Inspector is responsible to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the constant supervision of each District. In addition, three Inspectors specialise in the control of factories, workshops (including bakehouses), and shops.

**NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH BY  
THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING 1947.**

Houses and premises inspected and visited <i>re</i> nuisances and complaints	....	....	....	....	....	3702
Re-visits to nuisances	....	....	....	....	....	9028
Other visits made	....	....	....	....	....	761
Visits to premises (testing of drainage)	....	....	....	....	....	51
Nuisances discovered	....	....	....	....	....	9702
"    abated	....	....	....	....	....	6041
Notices issued (preliminary)	....	....	....	....	....	2464
"    (formal)	....	....	....	....	....	1278
Letters issued <i>re</i> nuisances	....	....	....	....	....	1463
Visits <i>re</i> building licences	....	....	....	....	....	1661
Visits to ice cream premises	....	....	....	....	....	75
"    canal boats	....	....	....	....	....	16
"    premises <i>re</i> Housing Act	....	....	....	....	....	119
Re-visits to premises <i>re</i> Housing Act	....	....	....	....	....	39
Visits <i>re</i> infectious disease	....	....	....	....	....	682
Visits to slaughter-houses	....	....	....	....	....	1566
Visits <i>re</i> offensive trades	....	....	....	....	....	5
Visits to markets	....	....	....	....	....	327
"    butchers and other food shops	....	....	....	....	....	402
"    cowsheds	....	....	....	....	....	15
"    dairies	....	....	....	....	....	81
"    milkshops	....	....	....	....	....	20
"    common lodging houses	....	....	....	....	....	586
"    houses let-in-lodgings	....	....	....	....	....	96
"    factories	....	....	....	....	....	526
Re-visits to factories	....	....	....	....	....	210
Visits to cinemas	....	....	....	....	....	2
"    bakehouses	....	....	....	....	....	51
Visits <i>re</i> means of escape in case of fire	....	....	....	....	....	27
"    rats and mice—dwellings	....	....	....	....	....	24018
"    "    "    other premises	....	....	....	....	....	11362
"    Poisons Act	....	....	....	....	....	122
"    smoke abatement	....	....	....	....	....	29
"    limewashings	....	....	....	....	....	—
Visits to work places	....	....	....	....	....	2
"    caravans	....	....	....	....	....	17
Visits <i>re</i> conversions	....	....	....	....	....	8
No. of shops observations (day)	....	....	....	....	....	943
"    "    "    (night)	....	....	....	....	....	165
"    visits to cinemas <i>re</i> licences	....	....	....	....	....	13
"    " <i>re</i> music and dancing licences	....	....	....	....	....	4
"    "    to shops under Shops Acts	....	....	....	....	....	394
"    revisits "    "    "    "	....	....	....	....	....	332
Other visits to shops	....	....	....	....	....	7
Visits <i>re</i> inspection of streets condition	....	....	....	....	....	41
Visits to caravans on fairground	....	....	....	....	....	67

**Samples obtained :**

Food and Drugs Act	....	..	....	....	....	240
Bacteriological examination	....	....	....	....	....	238
Sediment tests	....	....	....	....	....	75
Fertilisers and feeding stuffs	....	....	....	....	....	11
Rag Flock Act	....	....	....	....	....	2

**SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

During the year 29 smoke observations have been taken. Visits have been made to premises, and instructions have been given to stokers as to the best methods of stoking and only causing a minimum amount of smoke.

**COMMON LODGING HOUSES AND HOUSES  
LET-IN-LODGINGS.**

The common lodging houses and houses let-in-lodgings have been regularly visited, and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

**COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

No. of common lodging houses in the Borough	....	6
„ lodgers allowed nightly	....	268
„ visits	....	586

**HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.**

No. of houses on register	....	3
„ visits	....	96

**OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

The number of offensive trade premises is six. They consist of :—

- 1 fellmonger.
- 1 fat boiler.
- 2 gutscrapers.
- 1 gutscraper and fat boiler.
- 1 tripe boiler.

Five visits were made to these premises during the year 1947.

**RAG FLOCK ACT.**

All premises where bedding or furniture is manufactured are visited with a view to finding the kind of flock which is used. Two samples of rag flock were submitted to the Public Analyst.

**CANAL BOATS ACT, 1877 AND 1884, AND  
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936**

No. of boats that have been registered at Wigan	....	355
„ boats still in use or available	....	24
„ broken up, not in use, or cannot be traced	....	331
„ inspections	....	16
„ notices issued	....	2
„ notices complied with	....	2
„ contraventions of regulations	....	4
„ letters sent out	....	3

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

No. of factories on register	....	450
„ bakehouses on register	....	86
„ visits to factories	....	526

The following defects were dealt with :—

Unsuitable exits or escapes in case of fire	....	15
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	....	35
Require limewashing or cleansing	....	17
Want of ventilation	....	6
Other nuisances	....	32
Overcrowding	....	Nil
		105

No. of defects remedied	....	79
„ notices received from H.M. Inspector	....	5
„ underground bakehouses being used	....	3

**REPORT OF OFFENCES.**

Not exhibiting closing notices	....	19
„ forms <i>re</i> employment of young persons	....	8
„ form " K "	....	1
„ assistants' half-holiday forms...	....	5
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes	....	—
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	....	—
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	....	7
Provision of suitable accommodation for meals	....	—
Provision of suitable washing facilities	....	3
Retention of reasonable temperature	....	—
Lack of proper ventilation	....	—
Cleanliness of shop premises	....	7
Letters sent out <i>re</i> contraventions	....	16
Provision of seating accommodation for female staff	....	1
Defective structure of shop fabric	....	1
Not exhibiting exempted articles	....	19



**SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1936.**

No. of shops on register	....	....	....	....	1849
„ visits and observations	....	....	....	....	733

**PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.**

No. of " Listed Sellers " on register	....	....	....	....	150
„ visits to registered premises	....	....	....	....	122
„ contraventions discovered	....	....	....	....	—
„ letters sent out	....	....	....	....	—

**PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.**

There are 24 places of entertainment within the Borough. Each one is inspected periodically and reports are made on their sanitary condition before the renewal of licences.

**RODENT CONTROL, 1947.**

During the year 1947, 85 premises were reported to be infested with rats, and 20 premises were still under observation from complaints received in 1946. At 31st December, 1947, 22 premises were still under observation, and 83 premises were reported as cleared.

80 complaints of mice infestation were received during the year, and on 31st December, 1947, 66 premises had been cleared, and 14 were still under observation.

Orders were signed by occupiers of infested premises to carry out pre-baiting and poisoning, which all proved very successful. If there were any signs of rodents after a first treatment, second orders have been given. The estimated kill was 1,195, which included trapping.

**Sewers.**

A systematic survey of the sewers in the area is carried out, and manholes were subject to treatment at various times. The total poison take during the year was 162.

Two campaigns were carried out at the Hoscarr Sewage Works, with the following results :—

Poison points laid	....	....	....	....	73
Poison points taken	....	....	....	....	66

From the 1st April, 1946, the Ministry of Food advised a survey of the whole of the houses in the Borough with a view to ascertaining the extent of rats and mice infestation. This survey was completed during the year 1947.

All houses found to be infested were treated, with satisfactory results.

Three operators, who made a total of 35,380 visits during the year, are employed.

### 5.—HOUSING.

The number of dwellings at the 1931 census was 18,573, the number of families was 20,190, that is 1,617 more families than dwellings. The population at the 1931 census was 85,357, and the estimated population on July 1st, 1947, was 84,150.

Since the 1st January, 1921, a total of 5,593 houses have been erected, 2,616 by private enterprise and 2,979 by the local authority. During the period 1931-1942 approximately 1,570 dwellings have been demolished or ceased to be used for habitation.

During this year 3,636 dwelling houses were inspected for defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts. A total of 9,028 re-inspections were made. 2,908 were not reasonably fit for habitation, 1,163 were rendered fit in consequence of informal action, and 664 were rendered fit after the service of formal notices.

### OVERCROWDING.

Although many people have now been allocated Council houses there is still considerable overcrowding in the Borough. A survey of the artisan dwellings in the Borough was completed during 1947 and a tabulated statement showing the number of families in each house is given below :—

THE FOLLOWING ARE PARTICULARS OF A SURVEY OF WORKING CLASS DWELLINGS WITHIN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN :—

WARD.	No. of houses	Over-crowded as per standard	Number of Houses occupied by					No. of families in excess of the no. of houses	No. of houses occupied by one person	No. of houses occupied by two persons
			One family	Two families	Three families	Four families	5 or more families			
No. 1. St. George	716	42	648	64	4	—	—	72	51	128
No. 2. Lindsay	1289	115	1170	116	3	—	—	122	69	297
No. 3. St. Catherine	1413	133	1278	133	2	—	—	137	80	345
No. 4. St. Patrick	1733	128	1561	164	8	—	—	180	86	364
No. 5. St. Thomas	706	47	628	74	4	—	—	82	46	147
No. 6. Poolstock	1038	38	929	104	5	—	—	114	45	240
No. 7. Victoria	834	31	782	50	2	—	—	54	52	197
No. 8. St. Andrew	4104	218	3618	459	25	2	—	515	195	879
No. 9. Swinley	736	24	656	70	9	1	—	91	56	197
No. 10. All Saints	500	21	460	38	2	—	—	42	57	133
No. 11. Pemberton West	965	40	860	98	6	1	—	113	59	208
No. 12. Pemberton North	1412	35	1244	162	6	—	—	174	72	279
No. 13. Pemberton Central	2462	199	2149	297	15	1	—	330	136	451
No. 14. Pemberton South	1299	54	1167	124	7	1	—	141	42	288
TOTALS	19207	1125	17150	1953	98	6	—	2167	1046	4153

There were 11 houses in the Borough which had been dealt with under the Housing Acts. These houses had not been demolished, and were licensed for re-occupation for periods of 6 months. Only 8 of the houses were occupied on 31st December, 1947.

## CIVIL BUILDING REGULATIONS.

### DEFENCE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1939, REGULATION 56a.

On August 1st, 1945, the above Regulations came into force. To comply with these Regulations any person carrying out work at a cost of over £10 to any premises must have a Licence issued by the Local Authority. The Chief Sanitary Inspector was authorised to sign these licences. To 31st December, 1947, 3,515 licences were issued. As licences can only be issued for essential work, every house or other premises have to be visited, and this has entailed a considerable amount of work by the Inspectorial Staff.

Applications for repairs or maintenance to premises costing over £100 are dealt with by the Regional Licensing Officer, Manchester

#### 1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected (for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts) ....	3636
(b) Number of re-inspections made for the purpose	9028
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ....	3046
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ....	6
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	2908

#### 2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ....	1163
--	------

#### 3.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2314
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ....	664
(b) By local authority in default of owners ....	Nil

## 6.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK SUPPLY.

#### MILK SUPPLY (FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938).

The number of persons registered under the above enactments are as follows :—

Dairymen	....	....	....	....	141
Premises within Borough	....	....	....	....	138
Premises outside Borough	....	....	....	....	3
Wholesale dealers	....	....	....	....	6
Producers	....	....	....	....	13

Approximately 292 milch cows are kept at the 23 farms in the Borough and the cowsheds are kept in a satisfactory condition.

No. of visits to cowsheds	....	....	....	....	15
,, dairies	....	....	....	....	81
,, milkshops	....	....	....	....	20

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

No. of persons licensed for the sale of pasteurised milk	....	....	....	....	116
,, licensed for the sale and production of pasteurised milk....	....	....	....	....	5
,, licensed for the sale of accredited milk	....	....	....	....	6
,, licensed for the sale and production of accredited milk	....	....	....	....	1
,, licensed for the sale of tuberculin tested milk	....	....	....	....	1

Since the Milk and Dairies Order came into force much time has been spent with a view to improving the milk supply.

Visits are made to dairies, etc., for the purpose of examining milk on arrival.

During the year 167 samples were taken for the purpose of testing the amount of foreign matter contained in milk intended for sale in the Borough. These samples were obtained at dairies.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

167 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and/or Methylene Blue Reduction Test and Phosphatase Test. Of these samples, 57 were bulked raw milk, 89 pasteurised milk, 8 accredited milk, 12 sterilised milk and one tuberculin tested milk.

Of the pasteurised milk, one sample failed to pass the Phosphatase test, and 5 failed to pass the Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

Two samples of accredited milk failed to pass the Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

The results of all other examinations were satisfactory.

## RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

Year.	Milk samples examined from individual herds providing Tuberculin Tested Milk.		Samples of Accredited Milk.		Samples of Ungraded Milk.		Samples of Pasteurised Milk.	
	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.
1937	—	—	3	—	75	10	8	—
1938	2	—	3	—	76	11	8	—
1939	1	—	6	1	51	6	3	—
1940	—	—	—	—	13	2	5	—
1941	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1942	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1943	3	—	2	—	16	1	6	—
1944	—	—	1	—	12	—	3	—
1945	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1946	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
1947	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM.

During the year 1947, 18 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for examination. In the majority of cases the results were satisfactory, but in such cases where an adverse report was received, investigations were made at the firms concerned, and steps taken to improve the conditions likely to cause such a report.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF WATER.

During the year 53 samples of water were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, University of Manchester, for Bacteriological examination.

The results of these examinations are set out below :—

### RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

Source of Supply	Aerobic Organisms									B. Coli.										Bact. per 100 c.c.		
	In 3 days at 22oc.				In 2 days at 37oc.					Not found in					Found in							
	Under 10	10-20	20-100	Over 100	Under 10	10-20	20-40	40-100	Over 100	.01 c.c.	.1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.	100 c.c.	.1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.	50 c.c.	100 c.c.	0	1-100	Ove 100
Edgewood and Nicholson's Pit	4	3	4	1	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	3	—
Bispham and Nicholson's Pit	5	1	2	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
Thirlmere ...	6	2	4	1	9	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	1	—
Worthington and Thirlmere	3	2	8	—	9	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—
Bispham ...	2	—	1	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—
Edgewood ...	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—

## MEAT INSPECTION.

There are within the Borough 12 licensed slaughter houses. District Inspectors examine carcasses slaughtered within their own districts. Owing to Food Control only six of the above premises are being used for slaughtering. Meat which has been slaughtered in other districts, and which, there is reason to believe, has not been submitted for examination, is examined as far as possible immediately after its arrival in the town. Premises which come within the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, are frequently visited. Meat condemned is sent to a fat melter for manufacturing purposes. The firm receiving this condemned meat have signed an undertaking that it will only be used for manufacturing purposes and regularly forward special schedules of the quantities received.

Other condemned food is destroyed at the Frog Lane Depot.

Shops, stores and vehicles are constantly inspected.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	....	....	....	1566
„ „ markets	....	....	....	327
„ „ butchers' and other food shops	....	....	....	402
„ certificates issued (condemned food)	....	....	....	840

## CARCASES EXAMINED DURING THE YEAR 1947.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Total.
Carcases examined	8326	2220	3510	19493	33549
Carcases totally condemned	144	25	6	12	187
Percentage totally condemned	1.73	1.12	0.17	0.06	0.55

The following meat and offal from the Ministry of Food slaughterhouses was surrendered and destroyed, or sold for manufacturing purposes, during the year 1947 :—

	Whole Carcase and all Offal Condemned	Part of Carcase Condemned	OFFAL CONDEMNED.										
			Heads	Lungs.	Livers.	Hearts.	Stomachs.	Spleens.	Kidneys.	Udders.	Mesenteries.	Skirts.	
<b>Affected with Tuberculosis :</b>													
Beasts...	127	384	784	4091	1215	78	295	546	62	31	97	851	
Calves...	5	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	
Pigs ...	6	11	99	110	81	37	30	9	—	2	12	2	
Sheep ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>Affected with other Diseases, etc.:</b>													
Beasts...	17	4	3	843	4299	17	6	8	562	441	2	5	
Calves...	20	—	—	4	11	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	
Pigs ...	—	—	—	271	113	117	3	—	18	4	1	—	
Sheep ...	12	3	1	730	1898	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	187	403	888	6051	7618	326	335	564	645	479	112	859	

## REGISTRATION OF PURVEYORS OF MEAT AND PREMISES.

The Wigan Corporation Act, 1933, Section 36, contained powers for the compulsory registration of purveyors of meat and premises which are used or proposed to be used for the sale of meat. The total number of premises registered at the end of 1947 was 98.

## ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS AND PREMISES.

Since ice-cream was again allowed to be manufactured and sold for public consumption many visits have been paid to premises where ice-cream is manufactured. Improvements to the premises in order to bring them up to a reasonable standard of fitness to comply with Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have been and are being carried out.

Manufacturers have been advised by Sanitary Inspectors on the best methods of cleansing and sterilising vessels and equipment and the rapid cooling of the ice-cream mix so as to obtain a satisfactory bacteriological standard.



On the 1st May, 1947, the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations of 1947, came into force. The Regulations broadly require that the ingredients of ice cream shall be heat treated after being mixed and that the mixture shall then be cooled until the freezing process is begun.

The Regulation relating to the provision of cooling apparatus has been postponed owing to the difficulty in obtaining the necessary equipment.

There are seven Ice Cream Manufacturers in the Borough. Three firms have installed and are regularly using a heat treatment plant and four manufacturers are using steam sterilising units for vessels and equipment. Other manufacturers have heat treatment plants, sterilising units and coolers on order and these will be installed as soon as they become available.

### FRIED FISH SHOPS.

81 premises in the Borough used for the purpose of fish frying, all of which were kept under observation.

### SUMMARY OF OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED, 1947.

Imported Meat	....	....	....	....	....	8,233 lbs.
Other meat and offal	....	....	....	....	....	2,604 lbs.
Canned meat	....	....	....	....	....	863
Fish	....	....	....	....	....	16,835
Packages of fish	....	....	....	....	....	24
Canned fish	....	....	....	....	....	259
Fruit	....	....	....	....	....	2,129 lbs.
Packages of fruit	....	....	....	....	....	5
Canned fruit	....	....	....	....	....	210
Vegetables	....	....	....	....	....	763 lbs.
Canned vegetables	....	....	....	....	....	3,683
Rabbits	....	....	....	....	....	1,973
Canned milk	....	....	....	....	....	3,135
Eggs	....	....	....	....	....	372
Packages of other food	....	....	....	....	....	1,721
Other canned or bottled foods	....	....	....	....	....	4,216
Fowl	....	....	....	....	....	9

A large wholesale business in fish and other foodstuffs is carried on in and around the markets, and these premises are visited daily.

## FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1938.

240 samples, obtained under the above Act were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

### SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR 1947.

Articles.	Number.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk ....	161	153	8
Butter ....	8	8	—
Lard ....	3	3	—
Margarine ....	5	5	—
Jam ....	14	14	—
Tea ....	5	5	—
Condensed Milk ....	4	4	—
Cheese ....	6	6	—
Coffee ....	7	7	—
Pepper ....	3	3	—
Vinegar ....	2	2	—
Meat and Fish Pastes....	11	11	—
Sausage ....	2	2	—
Cooking Fat ....	2	2	—
Baking Powder ....	4	4	—
Lard Compound ....	1	1	—
Pepper Substitute ....	1	1	—
Rum ....	1	1	—
<b>Total</b> ....	<b>240</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>8</b>

## FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

6 Samples of Feeding Stuffs and 5 samples of Fertilisers were taken and submitted to the Agricultural Analyst who reported that one sample of feeding stuffs and one fertiliser contained a slight excess of the declared constituent. The remaining samples were in complete agreement with the statutory statements.

### CHEMICAL WORK.

The Borough Analyst, Mr. S. E. Melling, F.I.C., submits the following report of the work carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1947 :—

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST.**

CHEMICAL LABORATORY,  
The Cliff,  
Higher Broughton,  
Manchester.

The Public Analyst has the honour to report as follows upon duties of his office during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1947.

**Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

During the year, 240 samples were analysed, namely 161 milks, 14 preserves, 11 edible pastes (meat or fish), 8 butters, 7 coffees, 6 cheeses, 6 other fatty foods, 5 margarines, 2 sausages, one rum and 19 miscellaneous articles, such as, condiments, groceries and household commodities.

With the exception of 8 milks, all samples were found to be free from adulteration and afforded no evidence of the addition of foreign elements and/or worthless substitutes and, where the same applied, conformed to the requirements set out in official Regulations, e.g., Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) and the various Orders of the Ministry of Food, of which the Meat Products and Canned Meat (Control and Maximum Prices) Order and the Food Standards (Preserves) Order may be taken as type.

Moreover, in respect of the milks reported against, these samples merely failed to comply with certain so-called "standards" of composition, laid down nearly 50 years ago and reproduced in the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, and as not one of them contained extraneous water, they must not be regarded as adulterated but as of sub-normal quality and, in consequence, of lower food value than the consumer is entitled to expect. It may be appropriate to recall that the foregoing Regulations (made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries) require, inter alia, that when a sample of milk contains less than 3% and 8.5% respectively of milk-fat and milk-solids other than milk-fat, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine by reason of the abstraction therefrom of milk-fat or milk-solids other than milk-fat or, the addition thereto of water. In the above non-standard samples, 2 were deficient in fat (5.0% and 6.6%), 3 were deficient in non-fatty solids (4.7%, 5.6% and 7.2%) and 3 were deficient in both fatty and non-fatty solids (8.3% and 1.76%; 11.6% and 5.2% ; 16.6% and 2.9%). Application of the Freezing Point test proved that none of the deficiencies in non-fatty solids were ascribable to the addition of water and, therefore, as far as the law is concerned, all samples were genuine. Clearly, in this relation, these Regulations can do no more than raise a presumption. Take, for example, the limit of 8.5% of non-fatty solids, the *average* content of which in genuine milk throughout the country is in the order of 8.7%. To milk of the latter composition, 2.3% of water can be added before the non-fatty solids fall below 8.5%. Many samples, as normally

vended, contain upwards of 9% of non-fatty solids and, in a recent personal experience, one has had—on indisputable evidence based upon the composition and Freezing Point of the milk taken from the herd of cows involved—to report the presence of 5.8% of added water in a sample (as sold to the purchaser) showing 8.76% of non-fatty solids!

In view of the data already given and having regard to the analytical results set out in the formal certificates issued, one can say that the year under review showed a gratifying maintenance of a highly satisfactory milk supply, with no attempt therein to enhance appearance by the addition of artificial colouring matter or, to introduce preservative agents.

#### **Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.**

Number of feeding stuffs examined in 1947	....	6
Number of fertilisers examined	....	5

The former consisted of three types of meal (fish, undecorticated cotton and palm kernel), two cakes (nut oil and ground oil) and one National poultry food No. 1. No deleterious or worthless additions were present in any of these and when referred to the statutory statement, it was necessary in only one sample (fish meal) to call attention to a slight excess (0.5%) of oil after taking into account Limit of Variation (Regulation 2).

As regards the fertilisers (one each of Potato No. 3, Summit, No. 4 National Compound, Superior Top Dressing and No. 1 Complete Fertiliser) there was close agreement with the respective statutory statement with the exception of the Nitrogen content of the 'Summit' sample which exceeded, after making due allowance, by 0.38% the amount stated in the invoice and this, of course, was not to the prejudice of the purchaser.

#### **Rag Flock Act, 1912.**

Two samples only were submitted and although the amount of material available for the extraction and estimation of combined chlorine fell short of the weight prescribed in the official Regulations, it was still competent to show a satisfactory degree of cleanliness. The permissible maximum of chlorine is 30 p.p. 100,000, whereas the samples yielded 19.4 and 22 p.p. 100,000 on extraction with distilled water.

#### **Water Supply.**

The systematic analytical examination of the monthly samples, drawn from the four sources, continued throughout the year and there is little to add to previous observations regarding all-round quality. The table below briefly summarises the main factors that govern the opinions expressed in the formal certificate of each sample.

The Thirlmere (Manchester Corporation) supply is shown to be remarkably consistent throughout and maintains its excellent reputation as a potable supply.

The composite quality of the mixed Thirlmere and Worthington water naturally depends upon (a) the respective proportion of each contributing to the bulked supply and (b) climatic conditions. As regards the latter, the immediate effect of storm water on the gathering ground usually causes a measureable increase in organic contamination, but judicious admixture of the two waters, coupled with the control of plant exercised at Worthington, provides a residual supply which, from the chemical aspect, is suitable for general domestic use and sterilisation, prior to distribution, ensures the wholesome supply to which the consumer is accustomed.

The waters distributed in the Pemberton district, are very similar in saline characters and variation in organic condition falls within comparatively narrow limits and they both form excellent supplies for the community.

The following table summarises the extreme results of the relevant data set out in the monthly returns :—

MAIN ANALYTICAL INDICES OF THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

Year Ending 31st December, 1947.

(Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

	Thirlmere	Worthington and Thirlmere	Edgewood and Nicholson's Pit	Bispham and Nicholson's Pit
<b>Total solids :</b>				
Maximum ... ..	4.4	31.2	47.2	48.0
Minimum ... ..	3.5	8.8	36.0	32.8
<b>Total hardness :</b>				
Maximum ... ..	2.0	15.0	21.0	22.0
Minimum ... ..	1.5	4.0	15.0	17.5
<b>Combined chlorine :</b>				
Maximum ... ..	0.95	1.8	2.7	3.1
Minimum ... ..	0.7	1.0	1.5	1.5
<b>Ammoniacal nitrogen :</b> (free Ammonia)				
Maximum ... ..	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.004
Minimum ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Albuminoid nitrogen :</b>				
Maximum ... ..	0.003	0.008	0.007	0.004
Minimum ... ..	0.001	0.0016	0.003	0.002
<b>Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C. :</b>				
Maximum ... ..	0.042	0.093	0.06	0.035
Minimum ... ..	0.03	0.02	0.026	0.016

(Signed) S. ERNEST MELLING,  
Public Analyst.

7.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1947.  
Name of District—Wigan County Borough.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.											Total Cases notified in each locality (e.g., Parish or Ward) of the district.														
	At Ages—Years.											St. George	Lindsay	St. Cath	St. Patrick	St. Thomas	Poolstock	Victoria	St. Andrew	Swinley	All Saints	West Pem.	North Pem.	Central Pem.	South Pem.	
	At all ages	under 1	1 and under 3	3 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over	1															2
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	532	1	29	80	238	143	30	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	27	—	1	4	8	11	3	7	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	31	5	4	2	—	5	3	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenzal Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neon.	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pul. Tuberculosis	86	—	—	—	1	1	36	33	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	27	—	—	—	6	3	12	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	510	26	117	182	168	6	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	24	1	14	2	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	5	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	31	5	11	11	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	1292	42	177	282	430	169	99	60	26	7	37	47	112	125	31	36	41	233	126	18	40	126	215	105	—	—

## Number of Notifications, compared with other years :—

Disease.	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Smallpox ... ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	182	147	232	109	106	175	310	171	93	532
Enteric Fever ... ..	1	2	4	6	1	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup ...	344	302	235	193	150	113	61	70	59	27
Pneumonia ... ..	171	116	108	164	75	101	69	61	54	31
Influenzal Pneumonia ... ..	7	12	16	5	8	10	5	5	2	2
Erysipelas ... ..	26	27	31	27	19	30	15	20	8	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	4	1	1	1	5	4	2	1	2	2
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	73	74	67	61	89	95	81	106	101	86
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	30	32	35	46	45	56	32	36	22	27
Measles ... ..	1002	194	1224	1102	394	1061	130	963	167	510
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	17	11	6	5	4	2	1	2	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	4	5	14	22	16	8	3	2	3	5
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	5	70	197	60	58	76	21	111	31
Acute Polioencephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total ... ..	1978	1024	2122	2318	1110	1793	896	1506	719	1292

## Analysis of Notifications, 1947 :—

Disease.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Tot.
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	18	17	16	10	23	18	20	17	43	99	122	129	532
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup ...	6	4	—	2	2	1	—	1	3	3	1	4	27
Pneumonia ... ..	6	3	3	1	—	4	3	1	1	1	2	6	31
Influenzal Pneumonia ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	11
Ophthalmia Neon. ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Encephalitis Leth. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuber. ... ..	6	7	8	1	7	10	10	11	5	13	5	3	86
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	3	2	4	3	1	4	—	1	—	1	5	27
Measles ... ..	138	178	73	38	33	24	10	3	5	3	2	3	510
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	13	3	2	—	24
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	5
Whooping Cough ... ..	12	4	6	1	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	31
Total ... ..	194	216	112	59	72	59	51	40	71	126	137	155	1292

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

### DIPHTHERIA.

Comparatively few cases of Diphtheria occurred in the Borough. 27 cases were notified in Wigan, one of which died.

Free preventive inoculation has been offered since December, 1936, for children of pre-school and school age. Parents have received forms pointing out the advantages of inoculation and giving them an opportunity of signing consents.

Of the 27 cases notified all were removed to Whelley Hospital for treatment. In addition to these, nine cases from outside districts were also treated at this hospital. The results of the treatment were very satisfactory.

The Medical Officers and Nursing Staff have been continuously vigilant, and search for carriers is constantly made in the schools. Many throat and nose swabs have been taken and positive cases discovered and sent to hospital. In some cases, children attending clinics have been found positive and isolated in hospital until negative.

### CHILDREN IMMUNISED AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

	M. & C.W. Clinic.	School Clinic.	Private Doctors.	Total.
Number treated during the year 1947	1008	339	18	1365
Totals since 1937 to end of 1947	5842	8336	389	14567
		0-4 yrs. inclusive.	5-14 yrs. inclusive.	
Percentage of the child popula- tion treated at the end of 1947	42.3 per cent.	64.6 per cent		



### INOCULATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Table showing the number of inoculations carried out each year at various ages :—

Age at date of inoculation	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
0 +	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	164
1 +	—	31	16	5	12	87	176	471	448	438	582	616
2 +	—	39	22	10	16	118	197	301	134	113	213	107
3 +	1	31	22	10	7	91	138	320	73	55	114	65
4 +	4	41	17	25	12	125	151	260	78	44	90	62
5 +	24	89	32	60	2	309	131	436	72	65	44	74
6 +	28	137	16	97	2	336	117	332	43	44	29	56
7 +	14	122	18	101	1	272	73	277	13	33	20	42
8 +	6	131	6	76	—	236	89	241	25	42	12	35
9 +	1	109	7	76	—	282	69	254	14	29	14	38
10 +	—	100	3	70	—	248	88	245	7	24	10	35
11 +	—	78	3	82	—	224	56	220	8	22	8	19
12 +	—	37	4	89	—	238	40	175	6	35	3	24
13 +	—	30	2	91	—	210	47	161	6	20	2	23
14 +	—	10	5	31	—	76	9	31	—	1	—	3
15 +	—	1	1	2	—	56	24	8	—	—	—	2
Totals	78	986	174	825	52	2908	1405	3732	927	967	1148	1365

**SCARLET FEVER.**

There were 532 cases notified, 221 of which were admitted to hospital.

**MEASLES.**

This disease has been locally notifiable since April 1st, 1925, and occurs in epidemic form frequently. Every case is visited by Health Visitors or School Nurses.

510 cases occurred in 1947, and there were five deaths.

Number of cases notified	....	....	....	....	510	
Deaths	....	....	....	....	5	
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Deaths from Measles	2	6	—	2	—	5
Death-rate	0.02	0.09	—	0.02	—	0.06

**CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.**

Five cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever were notified during 1947.

All cases were treated at Whelley Hospital. Four were discharged recovered, and one died.

**ENTERIC FEVER.**

Enteric Fever has ceased to be the scourge it used to be in Wigan. The following table gives the figures since 1896 :—

	Cases.	Deaths.	Death-rate.
Yearly average for 20 years ended 1915	96	18.5	0.23
Yearly average for 20 years ended 1935	17	2.6	0.03
Yearly average for 10 years ended 1945	2.1	Nil.	Nil.
Year 1947	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

**INFLUENZA.**

	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Deaths	51	19	23	33	27
Death-rate	0.65	0.34	0.29	0.39	0.32

**WHOOPING COUGH.**

The number of deaths and the death-rates for the last five years are given below :—

	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Deaths	1	3	—	3	2
Death-rate	0.01	0.04	—	0.03	0.02

**VACCINATIONS.**

The total number of vaccinations performed during 1947 by the two Public Vaccinators was 85.

**SMALL POX.**

No case of small pox occurred in the Borough during 1947.

**RETURN to be made on or before the 14th of February, 1948, by the Vaccination Officers of the County Borough of Wigan respecting the Vaccination of Children whose Births were Registered from 1st January to 31st December, inclusive.**

Registration Sub-Districts comprised in the Vaccination Officer's District.	1	2	Number of these Births duly entered by 31st January, in Columns I., II., IV., and V. of the "Vaccination Register" (Birth List Sheets) viz:					Number of these Births which on 31st January, remained un-entered in the "Vaccination Register" on account (as shown by "Report Book") of			11	12	13
			Col. I. Successfully Vaccinated.	Col. II.		Col. IV. Number in respect of whom Statutory Declarations of Consent have been received.	Col. V. Died Un-vaccinated.	Medical Certificate.	Removal to Districts of which have been duly appraised.	Removal to places unknown or which cannot be reached and cases not having been found.			
				In susceptible of Vaccination	Had Small-pox.								
WIGAN WEST ...	341	13	—	—	186	22	1	—	106	31	198		
WIGAN EAST ...	647	59	1	—	303	30	5	208	—	87	903		
WIGAN CENTRAL	418	13	—	—	278	9	—	—	118	19	294		
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>785</b>		

9th February, 1948.

NOTE.—(a) The total of the figures in columns 3 to 11 should agree with the figures in column 2. Any cases of children successfully vaccinated after the declaration of conscientious objection had been made should be included in column 6, and not in column 3. The number of such cases should be inserted here:— One.

(b) The figures in columns 2 to 11 should not include re-registered births or cases of children born in other districts. \* The total in this column should be the number of certificates and copies of certificates of successful primary vaccination of children under 14, actually received during the year, including any relating to births registered in previous years. The total thus given should include the Certificates of successful primary vaccination of which copies have been sent to Vaccination Officers of other Districts. **The total number of copies of Certificates for the year sent to other Vaccination Officers should be stated here:—9.**

### ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

The disease made its appearance in the fourth week of July in the Beech Hill area and during the next month individual cases recurred in the north and east sides of the town and then in the subsequent fortnight twelve cases occurred, eight of which came from the crowded eastern section of the town around Scholes. Scattered cases continued to occur during the remainder of the autumn, the last case having its onset early in November.

A total of twenty-six cases came to the notice of the department by notification or otherwise among which three deaths occurred.

Apart from three cases occurring in the Newtown-Pemberton area no other definite case occurred in that part of the town south and west of the Manchester-Southport railway line.

Nineteen of the cases were treated at Whelley Fever Hospital and a consultant orthopaedic surgeon supervised the remedial orthopaedic measures in these cases until they were ready for discharge either to Leasowe Orthopaedic Hospital or to his out-patient clinic at Wigan Infirmary.

The age range of the cases was as follows :—

0-1	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+
1	12	4	1	1	4	—	3

### ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No case was notified during 1947.

### ERYSIPELAS.

No. of cases notified	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
„ deaths	....	....	....	....	....	....	—

### THE SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

**Made by the Minister of Health under Regulation 33a of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.**

Following the above, arrangements were made to treat Scabies in a vacant Ward at Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Families affected were investigated, and all members with scabies treated.

The application of Benzyl Benzoate was the treatment used, and the results were very satisfactory.

Since the commencement of the scheme on 21st January, 1942, 2,570 cases were treated and 6,420 attendances were made up to the end of 1947.

During the year 1947, 137 cases were treated and 305 attendances were made.

This scheme has meant a great amount of extra work.

Sanitary Inspectors visited the homes of persons affected and arranged the time of treatment.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES (PREVENTION) ACTS, Etc.

A high-pressure disinfectant is used for the purpose of the disinfection and disinfection of clothing, bedding, and other articles.

No. of houses disinfected	....	....	....	....	610
„ rooms disinfected	....	....	....	....	989
„ beds disinfected	....	....	....	....	426
„ sheets and quilts disinfected	....	....	....	....	1848
„ other articles disinfected	....	....	....	....	1387
„ library books disinfected	....	....	....	....	278
„ schools disinfected	....	....	....	....	1

## DISINFECTION.

All infected bedding and clothing is treated in a high-pressure steam disinfectant on the Washington-Lyons principle, which is situated within the grounds of the Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Two disinfectants deal with the disinfection of dwelling-houses. Rooms are disinfected as a routine after cases of all infectious diseases including tuberculosis, with the exception of measles and whooping cough.

Disinfection of rooms has been criticised, and in fact described as a useless procedure. Assuming that disinfection does not totally destroy the infecting organisms, it does impress the persons concerned of the necessity for cleanliness and care, and ensures a thorough scrubbing and cleansing of the rooms, which is doubtless of great hygienic value, especially in dirty houses.

There is no doubt that steam disinfection of bedding is a valuable preventive measure.

## DISTRIBUTION OF DISINFECTANTS.

Disinfectants are provided free to the occupiers of houses where infectious disease has occurred, and in cases where there are exceptional circumstances. Other persons who desire supplies are charged a small amount to meet the cost of the disinfectant.

## HEALTH EDUCATION.

Each month 2,000 copies of the journal "Better Health" are distributed in the district.

Classes for mothers are held each week at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Lectures on various health subjects are given from time to time in the town.

Propaganda regarding Diphtheria immunisation has been carried out.

**LABORATORY WORK.**

The following specimens were submitted for examination during 1947 :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Swabs for diphtheria	22	404	426
Widal tests for enteric	—	—	—
Fæces and urine for enteric	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal-fluid	—	26	26
Wassermann tests for V.D. (V.D. Clinic)	92	354	466
Wassermann tests for V.D. (M. and C. W. Clinic)	17	332	349
Kahn tests	7	22	29
Tests for gonococci...	2	8	10
Milk (for B Coli)			164
Milk (phosphatase test)			101
Milk (methylene blue test)			130
Milk (T.B. inoc. test)			3
Water (bacteriological)			53
Water (chemical)			48
Food and drug samples			240
Ice cream			18
Total examinations			2063

**HOSPITAL FOR ACUTE INFECTIOUS CASES, WHELLEY.**

76 Beds.

(44 beds based on Ministry's recommendation of 144 sq. ft. per bed).

Staff in 1947 :

Matron.	2 Assistant Cooks.
3 Sisters.	1 Disinfectant Attendant.
2 Staff Nurses.	1 Gardener.
2 Student Nurses.	1 Assistant Gardener.
1 Laundress.	2 Porters.
3 Maids.	1 Night Porter.
10 Daily Cleaners.	4 Ward Orderlies.

The Medical Officer of Health personally attends the patients.

The majority of cases admitted to Whelley Hospital are from the County Borough, but some are sent in from surrounding districts, including : Aspull and Haigh, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Hindley, Ince, Orrell, Standish, Upholland and the Wigan Rural area.

	Notifica- tions	Removed to Whelley Hospital		Died in Whelley Hospital	
		Wigan patients	Out-dist. patients	Wigan patients	Out-dist. patients
Scarlet Fever ... ..	532	221	72	—	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Group.	27	27	9	1	3
Pneumonia ... ..	31	6	1	1	1
Erysipelas ... ..	11	3	—	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis ... ..	—	8	1	5	—
Measles ... ..	510	9	4	1	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	5	5	4	1	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	31	—	—	—	—
Others ... ..	—	20	1	2	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	24	24	20	1	1
Totals ... ..	1172	324	112	12	7

### REVISIONS OF DIAGNOSIS OF CASES TREATED AT WHELLEY SANATORIUM.

Admitted as suffering from :	Revised diagnosis :
1 case of Gastro-Enteritis ....	Dysentery.
1 case of Scarlet Fever ....	Erythema.
1 case of Scarlet Fever ....	Hysteria.
1 case of Paratyphoid ....	Constipation.
1 case of Diphtheria ....	Septic Scarlet Fever.
1 case of Diphtheria ....	Tonsillitis.
1 case of Diphtheria ....	Broncho-Pneumonia.

## 8.—OTHER DISEASES.

## BRONCHITIS.

	1943		1944		1945		1946		1947
Deaths	112	....	97	....	79	....	89	....	97
Rates	1.43	....	1.23	....	0.99	....	1.07	....	1.15

## PNEUMONIA.

	1943		1944		1945		1946		1947
Deaths	62	....	49	....	44	....	48	....	70
Rates	0.79	....	0.62	....	0.55	....	0.59	....	0.83

## OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

	1943		1944		1945		1946		1947
Deaths	16	....	14	....	8	....	11	....	12
Rates	0.20	....	0.17	....	0.10	....	0.13	....	0.14

## TOTAL OF THESE THREE RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

	1943		1944		1945		1946		1947
Deaths	190	....	160	....	131	....	148	....	179
Rates	2.44	....	2.04	....	1.65	....	1.79	....	2.12

## CANCER.

	1943		1944		1945		1946		1947
Deaths	124	....	129	....	117	....	121	....	131
Rates	1.59	....	1.50	....	1.48	....	1.46	....	1.56

## DEATHS FROM CANCER.

## Figures for Last 20 Years.

Year.	No. of Deaths.		Year.	No. of Deaths.
1928	81	} 465	1938	113
1929	77		1939	108
1930	95		1940	113
1931	105		1941	122
1932	107		1942	117
1933	102	} 578	1943	124
1934	110		1944	129
1935	114		1945	117
1936	125		1946	121
1937	127		1947	131
				} 573
				} 622



### **SCHEME FOR RADIUM TREATMENT OF CANCER CASES.**

Following recommendations of the Ministry of Health (Circular 1276), the Corporation of Wigan have made arrangements with the Wigan Infirmary and the Manchester and District Radium Institute for the treatment of suitable cases of cancer by radium. The Wigan Infirmary for this purpose is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre. Treatment is carried out at Manchester.

This scheme applies only to cases resident in the County Borough of Wigan.

Twice each month, a clinic is held at the Wigan Infirmary, and during the year 1947, 57 primary attendances were made at the clinics. The total attendances of new and old cases was 574.

## 9.—TUBERCULOSIS.

### ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX.

During 1947 Artificial Pneumothorax treatment was performed in 21 new cases. 1,492 refills were carried out in these and other cases. 29 pneumoperitoneum refills were carried out.

### THE STAFF AT PEMBERTON HOSPITAL.

The Chief Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Superintendent.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Officer.

Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital is also Matron of Pemberton Hospital.

A Sister-in-charge.

Two Charge Nurses.

Two Probationer Nurses.

DOMESTIC STAFF: Cook, Ward Maid, Gardener, Gardener-Porter, Night Porter and nine Daily Cleaners.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted to Pemberton Hospital during the year :—

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
Borough cases	.... 41	.... 26	.... 1	.... 68
County cases	.... 5	.... 5	.... —	.... 10
Total	.... 46	.... 31	.... 1	.... 78

### AFTER-CARE.

There is in Wigan an After-Care Committee. The objects of this Committee are briefly:—

(1) To provide extra nourishment, mainly in the form of milk.

(2) To help in providing extra clothing needed by patients when they go to a sanatorium; also to provide clothing for necessitous tuberculous cases at home.

(3) To loan bedsteads, bedding, etc., where, in the opinion of the officers of the Committee, this is desirable, either for the greater comforts of the patients, or for their better isolation.

(4) Visiting and friendly advice.

(5) Any other help required by tuberculous persons.

(6) To assist in educating public opinion in matters of health, especially in regard to tuberculosis.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer acts as an honorary Medical Officer to this Committee, which provides extra nourishment in the form of milk and eggs, etc., on his recommendation.

During the year 144 persons received milk : of these 40 were new recommendations and 16 were removed from the list due to commencing work and other causes. The average number of persons in receipt of milk at any one time was 91.

116 persons received malted milk. 40 persons received new clothing, and 10 benefited by vouchers and gifts of clothing through the good services of members of the Committee. Two patients were provided with air cushions.

An annual grant of £150 is made, and the Social Welfare Committee subscribes £50 annually.

The members of the After-Care Committee visit the homes of the patients and assist in educating public opinion in matters of health.

**Treatment Allowances**.—For the year 1947, the amount paid out to 88 patients was £4,125 15s. 2d.; this is an average of £46 17s. 8d. per patient receiving treatment allowance.

### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1947.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
5—	—	2	3	6	—	—	—	—
15—	38	31	7	7	22	21	—	—
45—	11	2	1	2	16	4	—	—
65 and upwards ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Total ... ..	50	36	11	16	38	26	2	1

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 64, against 36 in 1946, and 37 in 1945. The number of deaths from other tubercular affections is 3, against 3 in 1946 and 9 in 1945.

The rates are as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis .... 0.76 per 1,000 of population.

Other Tuberculous Diseases 0.03                   ,,                   ,,

If taken together as tuberculous affections, we have 67 deaths, or a rate of 0.79 per 1,000 of the population.

The deaths occurred in the following Wards :—

Wards	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tubercular Diseases	Total
No. 1—St. George ... ..	—	—	—
No. 2—Lindsay ... ..	5	—	5
No. 3—St. Catharine ... ..	4	—	4
No. 4—St. Patrick ... ..	3	1	4
No. 5—St. Thomas ... ..	1	—	1
No. 6—Poolstock ... ..	5	—	5
No. 7—Victoria ... ..	5	—	5
No. 8—St. Andrew ... ..	14	—	14
No. 9—Swinley ... ..	5	—	5
No. 10—All Saints ... ..	1	—	1
No. 11—West Pemberton ... ..	2	—	2
No. 12—North Pemberton ... ..	5	1	6
No. 13—Central Pemberton ... ..	12	1	13
No. 14—South Pemberton ... ..	2	—	2
<b>Totals</b> ... ..	<b>64</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>67</b>

## TUBERCULOSIS.

### Cases Notified.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Pulmonary ... ..	94	81	106	101	86
Other forms of Tuberculosis	54	32	36	22	27
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>148</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>113</b>

### Deaths.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Phthisis ... ..	49	41	37	36	64
Other forms of Tuberculosis	14	10	9	3	3
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>63</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>67</b>

### Death Rates.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Phthisis ... ..	0.63	0.52	0.47	0.43	0.70
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.18	0.13	0.11	0.04	0.03
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.79</b>

			Total Cases Notified.		Total Deaths.
Pulmonary : Males	....	....	51	....	38
Females	....	....	35	....	26
			—		—
Total	....		86	....	64
			—		—
Non-Pulmonary : Males	....		13	....	2
Females	....		15	....	1
			—		—
Total	....		28	....	3
			—		—
Fatal Cases of Tuberculosis :					
Notified cases	....	....	....	....	62
Non-notified	....	....	....	....	5
					—
Total deaths	....	....	....	....	67
					—

The ratio of non-notified deaths from Tuberculosis to notified deaths is as 5 is to 67, or 7.47 per cent. of the total.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

### SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD FROM THE 1st JANUARY, 1947, to the 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

#### Formal Notifications.

Age periods.	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.											Total (all ages)	Total Notifications
	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—		
Pulmonary Males ...	—	—	—	—	6	10	14	9	8	3	1	51	51
Pulmonary Females ...	—	—	1	1	9	8	10	3	—	2	1	35	35
Non-pulmonary Males ...	—	—	2	2	3	3	1	—	1	—	—	12	13
Non-pulmonary Females ...	—	1	4	1	2	4	1	—	1	1	—	15	15

### SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification :—

Age Periods	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	Total
Pulmonary Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	—	7
Pulmonary Females	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Non-Pulmonary Males	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Non-Pulmonary Females	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3

The source or sources from which information as to the above-mentioned cases was obtained should be stated below :—

Source of Information	No. of Cases	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns —from Local Registrars ...	2	2
—transferable deaths from Registrar General ...	—	—
Posthumous Notifications ...	—	—
“Transfers” from other areas (other than transferable deaths) ...	7	4
Other Sources if any (specify) ...	—	—

**RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY  
DURING THE YEAR 1947.**

Diagnosis	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total		Grand Total						
	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children							
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.							
<b>A.—New Cases examined during the year (excluding contacts) :</b>													
(a) Definitely tuberculous	42	32	—	4	6	5	1	9	48	37	1	13	99
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	12	4	2	29
(c) Non-tubercul.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	121	115	24	17	277
<b>B.—Contacts examined during the year :—</b>													
(a) Definitely tuberculous	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	5	—	—	7
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	5
(c) Non-tubercul.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	32	38	36	124
<b>C.—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as</b>													
(a) Recovered	2	2	—	—	2	1	1	1	4	3	1	1	9
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous...)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	148	159	64	58	429
<b>D.—No. of Persons on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st :—</b>													
(a) Definitely tuberculous	196	193	3	6	80	100	53	54	276	293	56	60	685
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	14	5	3	34

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	714
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge in previous years	12
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	49
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes)	61
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	7,423
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	103
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :	
(a) Personal	96
(b) By letter	404
8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)	193
9. Number of visits by Nurse to homes for Dispensary purposes	1,688
10. Number of	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined	597
(b) X-ray Examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	1,428
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above	Nil.
12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st	158



### CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) NOTIFIED IN 1947.

Wards	Estimated Population	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Totals
No. 1—St. George ...	2751	1	1	2
No. 2—Lindsay ...	5124	8	1	9
No. 3—St. Catharine ..	5767	4	2	6
No. 4—St. Patrick ...	6797	9	—	9
No. 5—St. Thomas ...	2698	4	1	5
No. 6—Poolstock ...	4022	2	1	3
No. 7—Victoria ...	3033	7	—	7
No. 8—St. Andrew ...	17191	19	8	27
No. 9—Swinley ...	10956	10	2	12
No. 10—All Saints ...	2097	2	—	2
No. 11—West Pemberton	2953	1	2	3
No. 12—North ..	5970	2	2	4
No. 13—Central ..	9818	9	4	13
No. 14—South ..	4973	8	3	11
Totals ...	84150	86	27	113

### RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1947.

#### TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Disease	Under Treatment 1st. Jan. 1947.	New Cases	Discharged			Ceased to Attend	Under Treatment 31st. Dec. 1947
			Much Improved	Im-proved	Station-ary		
T.B. Glands ...	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
Lupus ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	2	1	1	1	—	—	1

### 10.—VENEREAL DISEASES.

The figures below show the work done in 1947 :—

	Borough.		County.		Others.	
	1946.	1947.	1946.	1947.	1946.	1947.
(a) Number of persons from each area dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic <b>for the first time</b> and found to be suffering from :—						
Syphilis	71	26	81	56	1	1
Soft Chancre	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	109	45	92	49	—	—
Conditions other than Venereal	112	101	175	130	3	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
(b) Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area						
	3722	3284	4858	4022	8	10
(c) Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area						
	—	2	1	—	—	—

#### Figures for the Past Five Years.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
New Cases :					
Borough	168	208	238	292	172
County	237	208	254	348	235
Others	4	2	5	4	4
Attendances :					
Borough	4227	4687	4403	3722	3284
County	6809	5539	4752	4858	4022
Others	36	2	7	8	10
In-patient days					
	24	15	3	1	2

## 11.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Since July, 1947, Dr. Isobel M. Smith has been engaged full-time in Maternity and Child Welfare work.

The following Centres are open on the days and times mentioned below for mothers and babies and expectant mothers :—

Centre.	Days Open.
Wigan Central Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4-30 p.m. Ante-natal Clinic : Tuesday and Wednesday, 2 to 4-30 p.m. Consultants' Ante-natal Clinic : Third Friday each month, 2 p.m. Dental Clinic for expectant and nursing mothers and young children : Tuesday afternoon, 2 p.m. Class for expectant mothers : Friday afternoon, 2 p.m.
Pemberton Clinic, 15 Billinge Road, Pemberton.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Friday afternoons, 2 to 4-30 p.m. Ante-natal Clinic : Monday afternoon, 2 p.m. A Consultant attends each alternate Monday.
Jackson's Square, Scholes.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Monday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m.
Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m.
St. Andrew's Mission Room, Woodhouse Lane.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m.

### Attendances at Clinics :

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Babies	10205	9773	8424	9144	10172
Primary attendances of Babies	1218	1210	961	1207	1305
Expectant Mothers :					
Weekly Clinic	2076	1977	1955	2661	2725
Special Clinic (Central)	119	139	152	165	211
Pemberton Clinic	911	806	723	855	1045

### Maternal Mortality :

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Deaths	4	3	2	6	7
Rate	2.80	2.04	1.40	3.44	3.59
Births	1426	1471	1375	1670	1886

### Visits paid to Expectant Mothers by Health Visitors

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
	136	270	206	179	258

### DENTAL TREATMENT.

The following table shows the dental work carried out during the year 1947, in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Department :—

Children Treated	Dressing, etc.	Extractions	Fillings	Mothers Treated	Extractions	Fillings	Scaling, etc.	Dentures
24	13	14	3	60	32	30	31	1

### CHILDREN'S ACT.

On the 1st January there were two nursed out children on the register. On the 31st December there were two on the register. The Health Visitors who are also Infant Life Protection Visitors paid 20 visits to premises where children were being nursed out. There were no complaints.

### ANTE-NATAL WORK.

	Wigan Centre.		Pemberton
	Weekly Clinic.	Special Clinic.	Clinic.
Number of primary cases attending			
Clinic during the year	676	1	287
Total number of attendances	2725	211	1045
Cases referred to St. Mary's Hospital	—	13	—
Cases admitted to St. Mary's Hospital	—	11	—

The table of infantile mortality for 1947 shows that almost one half of the deaths under one year occurred in the first four weeks of life—53 of the total 127. One third were under one week old—41 of the total 127. Of the 53 deaths under one month old 25 were due to premature birth.

### SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY THE HEALTH VISITORS DURING THE YEAR 1947.

No. of primary visits to births	1919
„ visits to infants under one year	7220
„ „ infants over one year and under two years	4026
„ „ infants over two and under three years	2945
„ „ infants over three and under four years	2038
„ „ infants over four and under five years	1950
„ „ expectant mothers	258
„ „ cases of abortion	8
„ „ cases of infectious disease	289
„ „ <i>re</i> deaths under one year	88
„ „ still births	63
„ „ to midwives	200
„ other visits	1241

The following is a summary of the attendances at the Infant and Young Children's Clinics during the year 1947 :—

Clinic	Children		Total	Mothers	Primary cases	Cases examined by medical attendant
	under 12 mths.	over 12 mths.				
Central ... ..	2272	506	2778	2673	402	1342
Scholes ... ..	2044	440	2484	2443	285	1226
Pemberton ... ..	1292	214	1506	1485	251	881
Worsley Mesnes..	909	210	1119	1058	136	608
Woodhouse Lane	1747	538	2285	2196	231	1078
Totals ..	8264	1908	10172	9855	1305	5135

Attendances of Expectant Mothers at the Ante-natal Clinics during the year 1947 were :—

Central	....	....	....	....	....	2,936
Pemberton	....	....	....	....	....	1,045
Total	....	....	....	....	....	<u>3,981</u>

The Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare makes investigations in each case of Puerperal Pyrexia notified.

#### CLASSES FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

44 classes were held during the year 1947, and 408 attendances were made by mothers.

**INFANT MORTALITY, 1947. NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS PERIODS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.**

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under		3 months & under		6 months & under		9 months & under		Total Deaths under 1 year
						3 months	6 months	3 months	6 months	3 months	6 months	3 months	6 months	
All Causes : Certified ...	41	5	3	4	53	28	28	28	28	9	9	9	9	127
Uncertified ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ...	1	—	—	—	3	7	4	4	4	—	—	—	—	14
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, overlying ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ...	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Premature Birth ...	4	2	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	25	2	—	—	27	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	29
Erysipelas ...	1	1	—	—	2	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	4	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Total ...	41	5	3	4	53	28	28	28	28	9	9	9	9	127

The following table shows particulars of Notifications of Births received, which were notified by Doctors and Midwives :—

No. of births notified	....	....	....	....	1892
„ medical aid forms received	....	....	....	....	331
„ still-births notified	....	....	....	....	58

#### CASES OF PUERPERAL PYREXIA NOTIFIED IN 1947.

No. of cases notified	Treated at				Result
	Home	Wigan Infirmary	Billinge Hospital	Private Nursing Home,	
2	2	—	—	—	Recovered

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year is 127, or 67 per 1,000 births, and of children over one year and under five years 22, or 0.26 per 1,000 of the population.

In 1946 there were 87 deaths under one year, a rate of 52 per 1,000.

An analysis of these 127 deaths show that they may be grouped under the following headings :—

Premature Birth	....	....	....	....	29
Atrophy, Debility, etc.	....	....	....	....	8
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	....	....	....	....	14
Congenital Malformations	....	....	....	....	9
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	35
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	7
Other causes	....	....	....	....	25

#### Infant Deaths, Year 1947.

70	Home.
20	Billinge Hospital.
21	R.A.E. Infirmary.
1	Christopher Home.
6	Park Vale Nursing Home.
9	Other Institutions :
	8. Whelley Infections Disease Hospital.
	1 St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

Total 127

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The figures for the last two years are : 3.44 in 1946, and 3.59 in 1947 per 1,000 births.

During 1947 seven women died in or in consequence of childbirth, the causes of which deaths are given below :—

Case No.	Cause.
1.	I (a) Pulmonary Embolism. (b) Phlebitis. Normal confinement.
2.	I (a) Cardiac failure. (b) Toxæmia of pregnancy. II. Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
3.	I (a) Pulmonary Embolus. (b) Normal childbirth.
4.	Pyopneumothorax and multiple pyæmic abscesses of lungs due to septic abortion with pelvic pyelophlebitis.
5.	I (a) Uræmia. (b) Anuria. (c) Toxæmia of pregnancy.
6.	I (a) Delayed shock. (b) Obstructed labour. II. Failed forceps, Cæsarean section.
7.	I (a) Paralytic Ileus. (b) Cæsarean section. (c) Obstructed labour.

### MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES' SERVICE.

The number of cases attended by the Municipal Midwives during the year 1947 was 1125, and the total number of confinements by all midwives in the town was 1309. The service consists of a Supervisor and 13 Municipal Midwives.

There are 9 Midwives in private practice, or on the staffs of maternity homes.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Year.	No. Notified.	Cases Treated :		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.
		At Home.	In Hospital.			
1947	2	1	1	2	—	—
1946	2	2	—	2	—	—
1945	1	—	1	1	—	—
1944	2	1	1	2	—	—
1943	4	2	2	4	—	—

The following instructions are being carried out by Midwives :—

(1) As soon as the head is born, thoroughly cleanse the eyelids and eyelashes with clean swabs, and warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs for each eye.

(2) When the baby is born, put one drop of a 10 per cent. solution of Argyrol in the hollow between the nose and the eye, open the lids, and tilt the head and see that the fluid runs on to the surface of the eyeball. Repeat the same process with the other eye.

(3) Allow a few minutes to elapse and then swab with warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs as before.

Every case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum is visited at once by a Health Visitor, a smear taken of discharge, if any, to be examined for gonococci or other organisms, and a report made to the Medical Officer of Health.

Cases are visited until cured.



## **CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN AND PREMATURE INFANTS.**

Increased attention is now being paid to the care of illegitimate children and premature infants.

The arrangements made for the former are that a Health Visitor, who has completed a short course of instruction in social service, has taken over the visiting of all the illegitimate children in the town, during their first year and longer in necessary cases. She is able to help the mother to settle down with the child, or if she must go out to work the Health Visitor will ensure that suitable provision is made for the infant. She is also able to assist the mother to obtain an affiliation order, and where necessary, give advice about legal adoption.

With regard to premature infants, a Health Visitor, upon receiving notification of the births, visits each one daily, showing the mother how to handle and tend the baby, and noting and reporting progress or otherwise. A special draught-proof cot complete with bedding has been provided for use in the homes where existing provision is inadequate. The experienced advice which the Health Visitor is able to give, and also the interest and care which she shows in the children's progress is being very much appreciated by the mothers.

By these measures it is hoped to ensure that the children in these two categories will receive adequate care and attention.

## **HEAD LICE.**

As suggested in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 2831, when visiting homes and also at the clinics, Health Visitors have kept a keen look-out for verminous heads, and have given suitable advice where necessary.

## **HOME HELPS.**

Three Home Helps are employed full time, and the part-time services of several home helps are available.

During 1947 the services of the home helps were provided in 119 cases.

The charges for the services of home helps are 30/- per fortnight (20/- for the first week and 10/- for the second week) where the family income is below £400 per annum, 40/- per fortnight where the family income is over £400 per annum and 30/- per week where income is over £500. Necessitous cases are free of charge.

**NURSERIES.**

The average attendances during the year 1947 were as follows :—

	ELLESMERE ROAD.	
	Day.	Night.
	(Including those who remain at night).	
Children under 2 years of age ....	17	11
Children between 2 and 5 years....	29	13
Totals ....	46	24

**RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1947.****Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic.**

Disease.	Under treatment. 1st Jan., 1947.	New Cases.	Discharged :		Ceased to Attend.	Under treatment 31st Dec., 1947.
			Cured.	Much Improved.		
Malnutrition ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Debility ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others ....	1	—	1	—	—	—
	1	—	1	—	—	—

**WELFARE OF THE BLIND.**

Dr. McCann, a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, was appointed in June, 1945, for the examination of persons under the Blind Persons Act. During the year 1947, 14 persons were examined.

**LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN DURING THE YEAR 1947.**

On 31 occasions during the year, property owners have been summoned to appear before the magistrates for the non-compliance with notices to abate nuisances.

In respect of 11 of these cases, as the work was either completed or almost completed, the summonses were withdrawn on the payment of costs.

In 5 cases an order was made for the work to be completed within periods varying from one to nine weeks, and in the other 15 cases adjournment orders were made for periods varying from three to twelve weeks, and when the cases were reheard, the summonses were withdrawn on payment of costs as the work was either completed or almost completed.

THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE CAUSES OF THE  
ACCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN THE YEAR 1901  
IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
AND  
THE ADVICE OF THE BOARD OF INVESTIGATION  
AS TO THE PREVENTION OF SUCH ACCIDENTS IN THE FUTURE

## APPENDIX.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.  
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

**Section 22. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.**

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health—April 28th, 1948.*

*Part 1.*

1.	Total mid 1946 population	....	....	....	82,830
2.	Total mid 1946 number of children under 5	....	....	....	6,550
3.	Number of registered live births :—				
				<i>Legitimate.</i>	<i>Illegitimate.</i>
	(a) 1945	....	....	1,290	85
	(b) 1946	....	....	1,612	58

*Existing Service.*

The present arrangements provide :—

- (1) Ante-natal and infant welfare services.
- (2) Health Visitors.
- (3) Hospital provision when needed.
- (4) Day nursery.
- (5) Home helps.
- (6) Special attention to illegitimate children.
- (7) Care of premature infants.
- (8) Orthopædic treatment.
- (9) Dental service.

*Staff.*

One medical officer full-time and one third of a second medical officer's time, 7 health visitors, 2 clerks, 2 ante-natal consultants, dentist, orthopædic surgeon and nurse.

*A. Ante-Natal Clinics.*

(1)	Number of clinic premises	....	....	....	2
(2)	Number of expectant mothers who attended in 1946	....	....	....	1,116
(3)	Number of sessions held weekly	....	....	....	3

*B. Post-Natal Clinics.*

(1)	Number of clinics	....	....	....	0
(2)	Number of sessions held weekly	....	....	....	0

*C. If arrangements are made with general practitioners.*

(1)	Number of women ante-natally examined	....	....	....	0
(2)	Number of women post-natally examined	....	....	....	0

*D. Child Welfare Clinics.*

(1)	Number of clinics	....	....	....	5
(2)	Number of sessions held weekly	....	....	....	5

E. *Day Nurseries.*

(1) Number	....	....	....	....	1 (24 hour nursery).
(2) Number of places	....	....	....	....	52

F. *Residential nurseries provided under Maternity and Child Welfare powers.*

(1) Number	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0
(2) Number of places for children	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	0

G. *Mother and Baby Homes.*

(1) Number	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
(2) Accommodation for 16 mothers and 10 children.								

H. *Dental treatment given in 1946.*

(1) To expectant or nursing mothers	....	....	....	....	24
(2) To children under 5	....	....	....	....	5

*Part 2.*A. *General Arrangements.*

(1) It is proposed to continue the present system of administration. The Medical Officer of Health will be in control of the service, assisted by a Medical Officer full-time, and the third of the time of another medical officer.

(2) There will not be any joint arrangements with any other local health authority.

(3) It is proposed to continue the arrangements with St. Margaret's Home—a Church of England Home—for the care of unmarried mothers and their babies, whereby such local cases are submitted.

Patients are admitted three months before the confinement is due, they are sent to Billinge Hospital for the confinement and then return to the Home with their babies and may remain there until the child is three months old.

(4) Until the subject has been discussed with the Regional Hospital Board it is proposed to continue the present arrangements for sending women to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester (abnormal cases) and the local Billinge Hospital (abnormal and normal cases), and with the Lancashire County Council for the admission of children into the Biddulph Hospital for the treatment of crippling defects.

(5) It is proposed in conjunction with the Regional Hospitals Board to secure proper co-ordination between the Council's arrangements for the care of mothers and young children and the hospital and specialist services.

B. *Clinics.*

1. (a) Two ante-natal clinics will be available, three sessions will be held each week, such additional sessions being arranged as may

prove necessary, and three sessions per month will be attended by a consultant obstetrician.

Patients will be passed on when necessary either to St. Mary's Hospital or the local Billinge Hospital.

(b) It is proposed to establish a post-natal clinic in existing premises and to hold two sessions per month or more as may be necessary.

(c) Five child welfare clinics will be available at which a session will be held each week, such additional sessions being arranged as may prove necessary. Each health visitor will attend the clinic which serves the area to which she is allocated and a Medical Officer will be present at each session.

The Medical Staff attending the above clinics consist of one full-time medical officer engaged entirely in Maternity and Child Welfare work, and the third of the time of another medical officer engaged jointly for duty with the School Medical Service.

## 2. *Care of Premature Infants.*

It is proposed in conjunction with the Regional Hospital Board, to make special arrangements for the care of premature babies.

The arrangements made for the home care of the premature infant will continue—a health visitor has the special duty of visiting the home as soon as notification of the birth is received. She is responsible for seeing that the necessary equipment is at hand and she gives special instruction to the attendant about the feeding and care of the baby.

When the doctor is in attendance she sees that his instructions are carried out and she reports cases which do not progress satisfactorily so that medical aid is obtained. The Health authority have provided a specially constructed and equipped cot for use in the homes where this is necessary.

Generally the authority propose to carry out the recommendation contained in Circular 20/44 as far as applicable.

## 3. *Dental Care.*

1. It is proposed to establish a priority dental service for expectant mothers and young children.

All forms of dental treatment will be provided including the supply of dentures which will be provided by the authority's dental officers. The construction of the dentures will be carried out by (1) mechanics to the profession, (2) the local authority's workshop if one is available, or (3) by mechanics employed by any part-time dental officer under contract with the authority.

2. It is proposed to continue the existing arrangements whereby the services of a dentist employed mainly in the School Medical Service

is available for the treatment of nursing and expectant mothers and for children under 5 years of age.

3. Time equal to two elevenths of the full-time service of one dentist will be available, but it is proposed to make such additional appointments of dentists as may be necessitated by the use made of the service.

4. The dentists' services will be available at two sessions per week, such additional sessions will be arranged as may be necessary.

#### 4. *Supply of Welfare Foods*

The Welfare foods and supplements supplied by the Ministry of Food and certain other preparations, recommended by the Medical Officer of Health, will be distributed at the centres.

#### 5. *Provision of Maternity Outfits.*

Sterilised maternity outfits will be available for patients who desire them.

#### 6. *Nursery Provision.*

(a) A 24 hour nursery is provided with accommodation for 52 children during the day and 22 at night. The nursery is open from Sunday evening until Saturday mid-day each week almost exclusively for children of mothers who are working.

(b) It is not proposed to provide a residential nursery on the appointed day.

(c) it is not proposed to institute a daily guardians scheme or to provide creches in infant welfare centres.

### *Part 3—Development Plan.*

#### 1. *Nursery Provision.*

In the near future it will be necessary to provide residential accommodation for children whose mothers are admitted to hospital or who are unable to properly look after their children. It should also provide for children who for health or some other reason are in need of care and attention.

This could be provided by extending the present nursery to accommodate 12 additional cots, or by building a permanent structure adequate for the purpose, and making it a residential nursery.

It is intended that residential accommodation shall be provided in discharge of the duty which it is anticipated will rest on the County Borough Council under the Children Bill now before Parliament and shall be administered in such a manner as may be provided in the Act and the Regulations made thereunder.

## 2. *Dental Care.*

It is proposed to expand and develop as soon as practicable, the arrangements for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and of children under the age of five so as to provide adequate facilities for every expectant mother to be examined by a dental practitioner following her first attendance at an ante-natal clinic ; for the periodical examination of children under the age of five ; and for the necessary treatment to be provided for expectant and nursing mothers and young children particular attention being given to conservative treatment.

To provide a dental service as suggested it will be necessary to arrange with the School Medical Service to appoint one or more additional whole-time or part-time dental officers in order that the requirements of the two services may be fulfilled.

## 3. *Midwifery Service.*

In order to ensure close integration between the local health service and the general medical service, the proposed panel of general practitioner obstetricians will be utilised in the future developments of ante-natal and post-natal care.

## 4. *Future Developments.*

The service will be further developed as occasion arises and circumstances permit, the necessary clinics and additional staff required being provided.

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## Section 23. MIDWIVES' SERVICE.

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 31st May, 1948.*

### *Part I.*

Total number of domiciliary births :—

(a)	1945	....	....	....	....	....	939
(b)	1946	....	....	....	....	....	1,124

### *Existing Service.*

The Council provides a domiciliary midwifery service.

A non-medical supervisor and 13 midwives are employed full-time.

The town is divided into four districts with three midwives in each district and one midwife for relief duty for holidays, days off and sickness.

The service is run on the lines suggested by the Rushcliffe recommendations, but the average number of births attended by each midwife at the present time is 86, which is above the 66 births per annum prescribed.



The non-medical supervisor, who is a trained nurse and midwife, and five midwives have obtained their certificate for the administration of Gas and Air Analgesia, four others will attend the next available course, and the remaining four will take the course subsequently.

Two Minnitt apparatus have been obtained, but the gas cylinders which are on order have not yet arrived, so the service has not been commenced.

Three ante-natal clinics are held each week and three clinics per month are attended by a consultant obstetrician. The midwives attend these clinics with their own cases.

At the present time medical practitioners called in by midwives on medical aid forms may claim their fee from the Authority, who collect it from the patient if the income is above an agreed scale.

### *Part 2.*

On the appointed day, it is proposed to have a complete service.

It is proposed that two additional midwives be appointed and if necessary, part-time midwives be used for relief purposes.

The total number of midwives to be employed full-time will then be 15 and the services of part-time midwives if required will be called upon.

There has been difficulty in housing midwives and recently two Corporation flats have been allotted to two midwives who were in unsuitable houses.

As directed by the Minister, suitable accommodation should be provided by the Authority from the general housing pool, or otherwise.

The non-medical supervisor has held the appointment for ten years. She is not qualified to act as supervisor of Health Visitors and Home Nursing Services, and it is not proposed to alter the present arrangements. The Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer will be responsible for supervision of the three services.

Bus tokens for use on buses when on duty are provided for transport during the day time. At night, if the midwife has a considerable distance to travel she is allowed to get a taxi.

If a midwife calls for medical aid the Authority will have to pay the fee of the medical practitioner obstetrician called in, and there will be no recovery costs.

It is proposed that all the midwives will be trained in the administration of Gas and Air Analgesia by the appointed day. It is proposed to obtain further supplies of Gas and Air apparatus, sufficient to provide a set whenever called for.

The apparatus will be kept at the Infectious Diseases Hospital and at the request of the midwife will be delivered to the house in

the Health Department van. After use it will be collected in the van and returned to the Hospital.

In addition to the existing Ante-natal Clinics, it is proposed to conduct two post-natal clinics per month.

It is proposed to secure that adequate arrangements exist for training all domiciliary midwives in approved methods of Analgesia.

*Part 3.*

It is anticipated that the service recommended for the appointed day will be sufficient to cover the whole district, but whether any further extension of the service will be necessary will depend on whether the demand for delivery at home increases or diminishes. If it is found that the number of midwives provided for in the preceding part of the proposals is inadequate additional midwives will be employed as needed and as they can be secured.

## Section 24. HEALTH VISITING.

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 27th May, 1948.*

*Part 1.*

1. Area in square miles	....	....	....	7.94
2. Total mid-1946 population	....	....	....	82,830
3. Number of births in 1946	....	....	....	1,670

*Existing Service.*

The Health Visiting is provided by the local authority.

Seven health visitors are employed whole-time.

Their duties include routine visits to all notified births and to children under five years of age, enquiry into still-births and deaths of young children, attendance at ante-natal and child welfare clinics, visits to cases of notified infectious disease, to expectant mothers and to cases of abortion.

Illegitimate children, premature infants and nursed out children receive special attention from the Health Visitors.

A weekly ante-natal exercise class and a lecture class for pregnant women are also conducted by a Health Visitor.

The town is divided into seven districts and each Health Visitor has a district in which there are approximately 200 births each year.

*Part 2.*

To cope with the Health Visitors duties to cover all members of the household more Health Visitors will be required and it is proposed that three additional whole-time health visitors should be appointed.

If this proves insufficient and it is most difficult to assess what the needs will be, as there are no part-time health visitors available in this district, it might be possible to relieve the full-time health visitors of some of the clinic duties and so give them more time for home visiting, by employing one or more part-time nurses experienced with children, for duty in the clinics only.

It is proposed that the staff be increased to ten whole time health visitors instead of seven as at present.

There are no voluntary organisations operating in the district and it is not necessary to make any joint arrangements with any other local health authority.

Free transit on Corporation buses is available for Health Visitors when on duty.

General practitioners should be invited to seek the use of health visitors in order that a " Preventive Outlook " should be encouraged and fostered.

### *Part 3.*

Future development will depend entirely on the amount of work involved by the extension of the health visitors' duties and the calls made upon their services by the general practitioners.

If the present high birth rate continues to be maintained, and the needs of the service justify, additional health visitors will be engaged. One health visitor would then, in addition to some routine duties, act as supervising health visitor.

In future appointments of school nurses it is suggested that applicants should possess the Health Visitors Certificate, in order that eventually the duties of health visitors and school nurses shall be combined and prevent any unnecessary duplication in home visiting.

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## **Section 25. HOME NURSING.**

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 6th April, 1948.*

### *Part 1.*

1. Area in square miles	....	....	....	7.94
2. Total mid-1946 population	....	....	....	82,830

### *Part 2.*

It is proposed to make arrangements with the local nursing association (Queen's Nurses) to provide a Home Nursing service on the appointed day.

The local health authority will be responsible for the proper working of the service, and with this in view, a sub-committee com-

posed of nine members of the local health authority and three members of the nursing association will be formed to deal with matters affecting the service.

It is proposed that affiliation with the Institute of Queen's Nurses will continue and they will be subject to inspection and training by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

It is proposed to make the Superintendent a direct employee of the local health authority, and to allow the remaining staff to be appointed by the association.

A day and night service will be available.

It is proposed to appoint two additional nurses to bring the nursing staff up to eleven, in order to meet any additional demands including night calls.

The service will be for the area of the County Borough only.

The expenses of the service will be paid by the local health authority.

The town is well supplied with 'buses, and no special form of transport is necessary, except at night when taxis can be hired.

### *Part 3.*

The service provided on the appointed day will cover the whole area of the authority and any further developments of the service will depend on future demands. If it is found that the number of nurses provided for in the preceding part of the proposals is inadequate, additional nurses will be employed as needed and as they can be secured.

It may be found advisable some time in the future to take over staff and premises and make it a direct service of the local health authority.

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## **Section 26. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.**

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 20th April, 1948.*

### *Part 1.*

1.	Total mid-1946 population	....	....	....	82,830
2.	Mid-1946 child population :—				
	(a) Under 5	....	....	....	6,550
	(b) Ages 5-15	....	....	....	12,190
3.	Number of live births registered :—				
	(a) 1945	....	....	....	1,375
	(b) 1946	....	....	....	1,670

4. Estimated percentage of mid-1946 child population who had been immunised against Diphtheria up to 31st December, 1946 :—

(a) Under 5	....	....	....	....	41%
(b) Ages 5-15	....	....	....	....	61%

5. (a) Estimate of number of vaccinations for year ending 31st March, 1949 :—

During 1946 152 children were vaccinated, and it is estimated that the number of vaccinations for the year ending 31st March, 1949, will be less than this number, unless cases occur in the district.

(b) Estimate of number of immunisations for year ending 31st March, 1949 :—

During 1946 the number of children immunised was 1,148, and it is not considered that this figure will be exceeded during the year ending 31st March, 1949.

#### *Part 2.*

#### *Diphtheria Immunisation.*

##### *A. Children under 5.*

(a) The Municipal Midwives and the independent midwives come into contact with parents at the birth of children, and, as now, they will be instructed to advise parents to have their babies inoculated preferably under 12 months. They will be provided with consent forms. Health Visitors are early on the scene and they too will advise in a similar way. They will be instructed to inform the parents that inoculations can be done by their own medical practitioner or at a session by Public Health Staff at a clinic, both free of charge.

(b) Sessions will be arranged as at the present time, when an adequate number of consents are received, the inoculations being carried out by Medical Officers on the Public Health Staff. The parents may prefer to go to their own Medical Practitioner.

(c) Following present practice, Health Visitors, Midwives, teachers, etc., will be supplied with consent forms, and continue to advise parents accordingly. Birthday cards will continue to be sent to each child on its first birthday advising inoculation. Health Visitors will be made responsible for making every effort to secure the immunisation of children in their respective districts of duty, for collecting forms of consent, and for keeping such note with regard to these children as will enable them to carry out this part of their work systematically.

Very little difficulty is encountered in gaining permission to inoculate nursery children, and children in nursery classes, and this will continue.

(d) The public will be kept constantly informed by appropriate means of publicity, of all the facilities provided for free

immunisation, including the places and times at which sessions are held.

(e) For maintaining local propaganda, personal contact by visiting staff to homes is most effective, and use will be made of suitable material supplied by the Ministry of Health and by the Central Council for Health Education.

*Sessional Arrangements for General Practitioners.*

Until Health Centres are established, it is suggested that Medical Practitioners carry out inoculations at their surgeries. Later it may be possible to arrange rotas at Health Centres.

B. *Children of School Age.*

(a) Sessions will be arranged at School Clinics by appointment, the sessions being arranged according to the number of consents received. Parents will be informed on the consent form that free inoculation will be given by their own Medical Practitioner if they prefer it.

(b) Sessional arrangements depend on the number of consents received and will be arranged by appointment with the parents concerned.

When Health Centres are established, it may be possible to arrange sessions for General Practitioners on a rota system. Before then, parents may prefer their own Practitioner to perform the inoculation and will attend at the Practitioners' surgeries.

(c) Through School Nurses, Attendance Officers and at the School Clinics, parents will be advised as at present to accept immunisation. Teachers are well aware of the value of immunisation and have had talks by Medical Officers of the Health Department. Consent forms are issued periodically to all children who have not been immunised, to take home to their parents, and this will be continued.

(d) Sessions will be arranged according to the number of consents, and the parents notified accordingly to attend the School Clinics.

If the parents prefer to have inoculation performed by their own Medical Practitioner, they will be advised to attend at the appropriate surgery. When Health Centres are established, it may be possible to arrange sessions there.

(e) Local propaganda will be continued by consent forms being issued frequently to all uninoculated children to take home to their parents, talks will be given to parents' organisations at Schools, and use will be made as at present of suitable material from the Ministry of Health and from the Central Council for Health Education.

(f) A few re-inforcing injections are now carried out, and in future parents will be told that it is necessary to have another injection in five years' time. It will be helpful to add this to the advice on the consent form, and then consent will cover additional inoculation. By following the records, the children concerned will be sent for after the period has elapsed.

#### C. *Records and Payments of Fees.*

Medical officers and general practitioners taking part in the arrangements will be required to furnish particulars for record purposes in such form as may be required by the Council in giving effect, inter alia, to the recommendations of the Minister regarding the standard basis of such records. On the basis of receiving such particulars, fees will be paid to general practitioners on such scales, according to circumstances, as are agreed upon between the Ministry and the profession.

#### D. *Medical Arrangements.*

An opportunity will be given by the Council to every practitioner providing general services in their area under Part IV of the Act to provide services also under their arrangements for diphtheria immunisation. This opportunity will also be given to general practitioners who do not intend to provide services under Part IV.

All necessary use will be made of the services of the Council's own Medical Officers in administering the arrangements and in the carrying out of immunisation at clinics or other centres.

#### SMALL POX.

A. (a) Efforts to secure the vaccination of infants will be increased, and as early as possible, after birth, Medical Practitioners will be able to carry out this work at their own surgeries, in the homes, or at future Health Centres.

(b) If the demand for vaccination warrants sessional arrangements these will be made at the various child welfare clinics, nursery classes, and nursery. Rotas of Medical Practitioners will be arranged in the areas concerned.

(c) Midwives and Health Visitors in particular, and all other persons whose duties afford them appropriate opportunity, will be expressly urged to encourage infant vaccination, and administrative arrangements will be made with a view to relating the action taken towards securing vaccination to the registration of births.

(d) The public will be kept constantly informed of the facilities provided for free vaccination.

(e) Local propaganda will be similar to that at present used for Diphtheria Immunisation, stress being laid on the advisability of having vaccination carried out as early in life as possible. It

would help very much if convincing pamphlets be prepared by the Ministry of Health or the Central Council for Health Education. National propaganda such as this will be made use of.

B. *Records and Payments of Fees.*

The arrangements will be the same as under Diphtheria Immunisation.

C. *Arrangements in the event of an outbreak of Smallpox.*

When there is an emergency demand for public vaccination, arrangements will be made for general practitioners to vaccinate babies in their homes or at doctors' surgeries.

Rotas of doctors will be formed to vaccinate or re-vaccinate work-people at factories and workshops, children at schools, and at the various clinics of the Health Service. If necessary, the Medical Officer of Health and his medical staff will help in this work, as they have done on previous occasions. Staff, both officers and workmen of the Public Health Department will be urged to be vaccinated.

The fact that all the doctors will be potential Public Vaccinators will make the problem of mass vaccination easier than has been the case with only two Public Vaccinators.

Arrangements will also be made for the public to be advised about vaccination (or re-vaccination) as a precaution and to be fully informed of all the facilities available, including the services of the family doctor.

D. *Medical Arrangements.*

The arrangements will be the same as under Diphtheria Immunisation.

*Part 3.*

As the payment to Medical Practitioners for these services has not yet been decided, and as future numbers of immunisations and vaccinations are difficult to forecast, it is not possible to give an estimate of the cost.

Propaganda will probably cost approximately £50.

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## Section 27. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 12th June, 1948.*

*Part 1.*

1. Total mid-1946 population of Wigan .... 82,830
2. The area is 7.94 square miles. The total area of the districts covered by the ambulance service is approximately 50 square miles.



3. The existing ambulance service is controlled by four separate departments :—

(1) The Health Department is responsible for the removal of infectious disease patients.

(2) The Cleansing Department is responsible for the removal of cases of sickness from homes to hospital.

(3) The Police for dealing with street accidents and accidents occurring at works (including collieries).

(4) The Social Welfare Department remove patients to the hospitals controlled by that Department, and also deal with mental patients.

3. (1) Ambulance service provided by the Public Health Department for the removal of persons suffering from infectious diseases :—

- A. The vehicles are used mainly for the removal of patients from the area of the County Borough of Wigan. During the year 1946, a number of patients were dealt with from the undermentioned areas :—

APPLEY BRIDGE.  
INCE.  
ORRELL.  
STANDISH.  
UPHOLLAND.  
WRIGHTINGTON.

- B. } Two ambulances are provided :—  
C. } (1) Austin 20 h.p. able to carry 2 stretchers. The vehicle  
D. } is in need of overhaul.  
(2) Austin 18 h.p. able to carry 2 stretchers. The vehicle  
is in poor condition.

- E. These ambulances are under the control of the Medical Officer of Health and are stationed at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bradshaw Street, Wigan.

- F. The vehicles are serviced by the drivers.

- G. There are three drivers who also drive the office car and van and carry out disinfections, etc. There is a disinfecter who also acts as ambulance attendant, and the man who works the high pressure steam disinfecter at the hospital also acts as spare driver.

Two houses are provided adjacent to the hospital for the use of two ambulance drivers, and the third driver lives in the same street thus being on the spot. A nurse from the Infectious Disease hospital, accompanies every case. The service is controlled by the Medical Officer of Health.

H. During the 12 months ended 31st March, 1947, the number of cases removed were :—

From the area of the County Borough	....	208
From the County area	....	19

I. The total mileage run in connection with the above mentioned :—

From the area of the County Borough	....	3,477
From the County area	....	220

3. (2) Ambulance service provided by the Wigan Corporation for the removal of sick persons from their homes to hospital :—

A. In addition to the area of the County Borough of Wigan, the Corporation have agreements to remove patients from the under-mentioned areas :—

- \*APPLEY BRIDGE.
- ASPULL.
- BILLINGE.
- \*DALTON.
- \*GATHURST.
- \*HAIGH.
- ORRELL.
- \*PARBOLD.
- \*SHEVINGTON.
- STANDISH.
- UPHOLLAND.
- WINSTANLEY.
- \*WRIGHTINGTON.
- \*WORTHINGTON.

\*These districts are included in the area of the Wigan Rural District Council.

B. Two ambulances are provided :—

(1) A Humber able to carry 3 stretchers ; the vehicle is in good condition.

(2) A Ford able to carry 1 stretcher ; this is a converted vehicle provided for the Civil Defence Ambulance Service. It is in poor condition, and a new Austin Ambulance is on order to replace the Ford.

C. }  
D. } No sitting case car or other type of vehicle is provided.

E. The Cleansing Department of the Corporation control this portion of the Ambulance Service and the two vehicles are stationed at the Department's Depôt in Frog Lane, Wigan.

F. The vehicles are serviced by the Cleansing Department's mechanic.

G. Nine men are employed full time to provide a 24 hours' service. In addition an extra man on the staff of the Cleansing Department can be called on in an emergency. No full time administrative staff is provided. The service is under the control of the Director of Public Cleansing.

H. During the 12 months ended 31st March, 1947, the number of calls received were :—

1. From the area of the County Borough of Wigan....	1,047
2. From out-districts shown in Section A ....	442

I. The total mileage run in connection with the calls mentioned in Section H :—

1. Calls from the area of the County Borough of Wigan	5,500
2. Calls from out-districts	3,668

3. (3) Ambulance service provided by the Police to deal with street accidents and accidents at Collieries.

A. In addition to the area of the County Borough of Wigan, accidents occurring in the undermentioned areas are dealt with :—

APPLEY BRIDGE.  
 ASPULL.  
 BILLINGE.  
 DALTON.  
 GATHURST.  
 HAIGH.  
 ORRELL.  
 PARBOLD.  
 SHEVINGTON.  
 STANDISH.  
 UPHOLLAND.  
 WINSTANLEY.  
 WRIGHTINGTON.  
 WORTHINGTON.  
 COLLIERIES.

B. } Two ambulances are provided :—  
 C. } (1) Austin able to carry 2 stretchers. The vehicle is in  
 D. } good condition.  
 (2) Ford—ex-patrol car converted. Vehicle in poor  
 condition.

E. This section of the ambulance service is controlled by the Police, and the vehicles are stationed at the Police Depôt in Chapel Lane, Wigan.

F. The vehicles are serviced by the Police drivers.

G. No special drivers are allocated for driving ambulances. Drivers are also drivers of Police patrol cars and are interchangeable. The vehicles are under the control of the Chief Constable.

H. Number of calls during the 12 months ended 31st March, 1947 :—

	<i>From the area of the County Borough.</i>		<i>From the County area.</i>	
Street accidents ....	144	....	52	
Colliery accidents..	—	....	33	
Miscellaneous calls	228	....	—	

1. Total mileage run during the same period :—

From the area of the County Borough ....	4,671
From the County area ....	1,108

3. (4) Ambulance service provided by the Social Welfare Department of the Wigan Corporation :—

A. In addition to the area of the County Borough of Wigan, patients are also removed from the undermentioned areas :—

ABRAM.  
ASHTON.  
ASPULL.  
BILLINGE AND WINSTANLEY.  
BLACKROD.  
DALTON.  
HINDLEY.  
HAIGH.  
INCE.  
ORRELL.  
PARBOLD.  
SHEVINGTON.  
STANDISH.  
UPHOLLAND.  
WRIGHTINGTON.  
WORTHINGTON.

B. Two ambulances are provided :—

- (1) An Austin 20 h.p. able to carry 2 stretchers. The vehicle is in poor condition and in need of renewal.
- (2) An Austin 18 h.p. able to carry 2 stretchers. The vehicle is in poor condition and in need of renewal.

C. A six-seater 18 h.p. Austin car is provided for the removal of mental patients. The vehicle is in need of renewal.

D. No other type of vehicle is provided.

E. This section of the ambulance service is controlled by the Social Welfare Department, and the vehicles are stationed at the Social Welfare Home, Frog Lane, Wigan.

F. The ambulance drivers service and maintain the vehicles.

G. Three drivers are employed full-time on a shift basis from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and are on call between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. No separate administrative staff is provided. The service is controlled by the Director of Social Welfare.

H. The number of calls during the 12 months ended 31st March, 1947, were :—

		<i>From the area of the County Borough.</i>		<i>From the County area.</i>	
Ambulance	....	600	....	500	
Car	....	85	....	68	

I. Total mileage run in the same period :—

		<i>From the area of the County Borough.</i>		<i>From the County area.</i>	
Ambulance	....	8,240	....	6,860	
Car	....	850	....	1,020	

#### *Part 2.*

1. Before the war and before the County Borough Fire Service became part of the National Fire Service, the whole of the ambulance work of the town and outside districts was carried out by the Police and the Fire Service, with the exception of the removal of Infectious cases, and removal of cases under the control of the Public Assistance Committee.

When the local fire service became part of the N.F.S., the ambulance work which they performed was carried out by the A.R.P. ambulance service based on the "Elms," in Wigan Lane : the Police however continued to deal with street accidents, works and colliery accidents.

A. It is proposed that the present ambulance service dealing with Infectious Diseases should continue to be controlled by the Public Health Committee, and that the vehicles should continue to be stationed at Whelley Hospital. Two houses are provided adjacent to the Hospital and are occupied by two drivers of these ambulances ; a third driver lives in the same street a few yards away ; and they perform other work including disinfection of houses, transport work by van in connection with Whelley and Pemberton hospitals, and the Department generally.

A nurse accompanies each case removed and this arrangement should be continued.

Thus the drivers perform other work than ambulance driving, and one of these drives the department car.

It is hoped that, when the Hospitals are taken over by the Regional Hospital Board, arrangements can be made for the present service to be continued based on Whelley Hospital. The work is well done and is economical, and the duties of the drivers varied.

B. As regards the other three services at present in operation :—

(1) Hospital case removals mainly in connection with the Wigan Infirmary, at present controlled by the Cleansing Committee, and based on the Cleansing Depôt ;

(2) Hospital case removals to and from Billinge Hospital and the Social Welfare Home, at present carried out by the Social Welfare Committee and based on the Social Welfare Home.

(3) Cases arising out of street accidents and accidents at various works and collieries at present removed by the Police.

These services should be merged and the Control passed to the Fire Service when it is transferred to the Local Authority. The Health Committee will be responsible for the policy and planning of the Ambulance Service, but will "contract out" the day to day management of the non-infectious service to the Committee responsible for the Fire Service. The Medical Officer of Health will be the Ambulance Officer. The Chief Fire Officer will also be an Ambulance Officer in relation to the non-infectious service and will be answerable to the Committee responsible for the Fire Service, which committee will report regularly to the Health Committee.

C. Arrangements have been made whereby the Wigan County Borough Council will provide an ambulance service in adjoining parts of the County of Lancaster, and arrangements will be made with that Authority for mutual assistance in boundary areas and in emergency.

D. (a) It is estimated that at least 20 drivers and attendants will be required initially and these will be engaged solely in ambulance duties.

(b) The Council will make arrangements for securing that, as far as possible (i) all ambulance drivers and attendants shall hold the first-aid certificate of the St. John Ambulance Association or the British Red Cross Society, or the St. Andrew Ambulance Association or such other first-aid qualification as may be approved or prescribed by the Minister of Health ; (ii) All such drivers and attendants shall be so trained as to be interchangeable in their duties.

E. The vehicles operated by the Fire Service Departments would be serviced by the staff and as regards the vehicles controlled by the Health Department, all servicing other than that of a minor character will be carried out at a local garage.

F. *Conveyance of patients by railway.*

Where it is necessary for the Local Health Authority to provide transport for a person who has to make a long journey and can without detriment to his health most conveniently be conveyed for part of it by railway, as a stretcher case or in some similar way involving special arrangements with the railway undertaking, the Local Health Authority propose to arrange accordingly.

G. *Call out arrangements.*

The Council will keep all hospitals and other institutions for the sick, all general medical practitioners, dentists, nurses, domiciliary midwives, the police, fire services and telephone authorities in or serving the County Borough informed of the action to be taken to call an ambulance.

2. *Development Plan.*

In order to provide adequately for the conveyance, where necessary, at any time of the day or night of persons suffering from illness (as defined in Section 79 (1) of the National Health Service Act, 1946), or mental defectiveness or expectant or nursing mothers from places in the County Borough to places in or outside the County Borough and to meet the Council's obligations to neighbouring Local Health Authorities under arrangements for joint user or for mutual assistance in emergency, the service will comprise a total of 8 to 9 ambulances, 1 to 3 sitting-case cars and 20 to 28 drivers and attendants together with the part-time services of hospital employees. In addition, certain drivers engaged on associated work for the Health Committee may be employed part time in the ambulance service. The Council intend to develop the service up to the minima mentioned as rapidly as circumstances permit. The requirements of the ambulance service will be kept under constant review, and such increases as experience shows to be required will be made from time to time to the maxima mentioned above in the number of ambulances, sitting-case cars and staff.

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**Section 28. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE.**

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 13th April, 1948.*

*Part I.*

A. TUBERCULOSIS.

With regard to Sections 38 and 39 of Circular 118/47, the Council agree in principle with the establishment of a workshop for ex-patients needing sheltered employment, and of a night sanatorium for convalescents who are fit to be discharged from hospital and to work during the day, but need night accommodation for the purposes of observation for a period.

The need is recognised for the establishment of facilities of this kind, and they will be carefully examined as the Scheme develops.

*Care Committees.*

A Care Committee called the Wigan After Care Committee for Consumption has been established in Wigan for many years. The Mayor is the President, with vice-presidents, one of whom is the

Chairman of the Health Committee, and a Committee of sixteen including the Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee. The Medical Officer of Health and the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer are medical advisers to the Committee, and the Tuberculosis Health Visitor is Hon. Health Visitor to the Committee.

A yearly grant is paid to them by the Council.

By various activities, they raise funds to provide extra nourishment for suitable cases, to help to provide extra clothing if needed for patients going into sanatoria and on their return home. The members of the Committee visit cases and assist in educating the public in matters of health in regard to Tuberculosis on lines advocated by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer. They lend out beds, mattresses and blankets, etc.

The representation of the Health Committee on the Care Committee will be increased.

More efforts will be made under Section 43 of the Circular whereby help will be given to suitable patients to return to employment and obtain the benefit of arrangements made by Ministry of Labour and National Service under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act. This will mean as stated in the Circular close co-operation with local industrialists and trade union officials.

The Authority will seek agreement with the Regional Hospital Board regarding joint appointment of medical specialists responsible for the treatment of tuberculosis who will also be concerned in preventive and care work under the Authority's Scheme, and for the Authority's staff who will visit tuberculous patients in their homes to spend part of their time working in the dispensaries with the medical specialists.

#### B. MENTAL ILLNESS OR DEFECTIVENESS.

Detailed proposals have been submitted on the above on the lines of Appendix to Circular 100/47, and there is nothing further to add to this.

#### C. OTHER ILLNESSES.

(i) So far as the Authority arranges under Section 28 for the follow-up of persons under treatment for, or known or believed to be suffering from venereal disease, such arrangements will be carried out in co-operation with the Medical Officers of the V.D. treatment centres of the Regional Hospital Board.

(ii) The Authority intends to develop arrangements, in the light of circumstances and experience, for affording all necessary care and after care to persons discharged from hospital or other invalids, and it will adopt whatever ways and means may be found possible to obtain systematically the requisite information about such persons, so, how-



ever, that the arrangements in this respect will be such as will lie outside the scope of the hospital and specialist services and of the provisions of Part III of the National Assistance Act.

(iii) The Authority, in connection with its arrangements under Section 28, will seek to develop health education in its area by all appropriate means.

#### D. PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS.

Arrangements will be made for the supply or loan of nursing equipment as outlined in paragraph 47 of the Circular.

### Section 29. DOMESTIC HELPS.

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 9th June, 1948.*

#### *Part 1.*

(1) Area in square miles	....	....	....	7.94
(2) Mid-1946 population	....	....	....	82,830

At present, a "Home Help" service is provided by the Corporation.

Two home helps are employed full-time and the services of four women are available as required.

The services of home helps are available where confinements take place at home.

The non-medical supervisor of midwives makes arrangements in connection with the employment of these women.

#### *Part 2.*

On the appointed day, it is proposed to employ three domestic helps full-time and to employ women on a part-time basis as the occasion demands.

The total service provided will be equivalent to the employment of six full-time domestic helps.

The non-medical supervisor of midwives will continue to make arrangements for the employment of these women.

It is proposed that domestic help will in future be provided for households where it is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age.

*Part 3.*

The employment of additional domestic help will depend on the future developments of the health services.

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**Section 51. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

*Scheme as finally approved by the Minister of Health, 15th April, 1948.*

*Part 1. Statistical Data.*

(i) Population	....	....	....	....	....	82,830
(ii) Number of patients at present chargeable under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts	....					278
(iii) Number of patients dealt with under those Acts by the Relieving Officers during 1946	....					75
(iv) Number of defectives ascertained as subject to be dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Acts during 1946	....	....	....	....	....	5
(v) Number of persons reported to the Local Authority as mentally defective during 1946	....					4

*Part 2. Proposals.*

**A. GENERAL.**

(i) It is recommended that a Mental Health Sub-Committee should be formed from members of the Health Committee.

(ii) The Medical Officer of Health will be Chief Executive Officer of that sub-committee and he will be responsible :—

(a) for the organisations and control of the service.

(b) medical direction of the service with the help of various medical and lay staff to be appointed.

**B. MEDICAL.**

(a) It is proposed to appoint a part-time Medical Officer to advise on mental health matters and under the Medical Officer of Health to undertake the direction of the Mental Health Social workers.

He would also be an approved Medical Practitioner for the purpose of giving certificates of mental defect to accompany petitions for orders under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

(b) It is proposed to appoint a part-time psychiatrist to advise on appropriate cases.

At present the certifying officer under the Mental Deficiency Acts is an Assistant Medical Officer of the Health Department.

It is considered that the brief course of training which such officers have undertaken is not sufficient to enable them to undertake this work efficiently, and it is suggested that the Medical Adviser mentioned in paragraph B (a) above should undertake this important duty.

C. NON MEDICAL.

(i) It is proposed that one relieving officer be employed as " Authorised Officer."

He will be responsible for obtaining orders for Lunacy and Mental Deficiency cases.

He will also be engaged in a certain amount of Mental Health Visiting under the Mental Treatment Act, Lunacy Act, and Mental Deficiency Acts.

He will be responsible for removing cases to mental hospitals and institutions.

The " Authorised Officer " will be required to undertake a certain amount of clerical work involved in the mental services and in the work of the Health Department.

During office hours the " Authorised Officer " will work from the Public Health Office and after office hours from his own home.

(ii) The clerk responsible for the clerical duties in relation to mental health work would, in addition, be trained and employed as a third duly authorised officer to be utilised as a relief and stand-by to the two authorised officers and mental health visitors.

(iii) It is proposed to appoint a whole-time mental health visitor, if possible one at present employed on this type of work by the Lancashire Mental Hospitals Board.

She would work in co-operation with the Occupation Centre, feeding it with suitable cases from those under supervision and cases as they are notified.

She would be responsible for visiting persons on licence from Institutions and the making of progress reports,

(iv) It is proposed to appoint a part-time psychiatric social worker.

This appointment will have to be made in consultation with the Regional Hospitals Board.

In view of the scarcity of these workers it may not be possible to make the appointment for some time.

*Training of Defectives.*

The authorised officer should, after suitable training, carry out the training of defectives at home until suitable social workers can be found for the purpose.

*Occupation Centre.*

It is proposed to take over the administration of the Occupation Centre in Wigan together with the staff which consists of a supervisor and two assistants.

It is at present housed in Hope Street School, where ample accommodation is provided, but somewhat scattered.

It may be advisable in the future to consider the provision of more suitable and compact premises for this work.

Arrangements will have to be made with outside authorities to make a payment for cases admitted on a per capita basis.

**D. AMBULANCE SERVICE.**

It is proposed to make use of the local ambulance service for the removal of cases.

Cases will be accompanied by an " Authorised Officer " together with, if necessary, a trained attendant (male or female) from the Mental Wards at Billinge Hospital.

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