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Winsford Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended 31st December, 1948.



Health Report for 1948

To the Chairman and Members of the
Winsford Urban District Council.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1948.

Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	...	...	...	7,094 acres
Population—Registrar-General's latest estimate of population	...	...	...	12,050
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948 including squatters huts. etc.)	...	...	...	3,552
Rateable value	...	...	...	£52,286
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£205

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births (Legitimate)	223	139	84	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 19.33
(Illegitimate)	10	8	2	
Still Births (Legitimate)	6	2	4	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 29.16
(Illegitimate)	1	1	—	
Deaths	159	79	80	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.19

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
No. 30 Other Puerperal Causes	—	—
Total...	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	21.45
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	22.42
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	23
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

The following table compares the main statistics for 1948 with the years 1939-1947 :—

	Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	No. of Deaths from Cancer	No. of Deaths from Tuberculosis
1939	11,170	16.47	14.06	65.21	12	7
1940	11,340	16.04	15.60	60.43	25	4
1941	11,580	15.37	11.39	48.38	17	5
1942	11,230	18.78	13.53	37.91	17	5
1943	10,850	16.95	13.82	21.73	20	5
1944	10,760	17.47	14.21	79.78	16	9
1945	10,720	16.13	14.64	17.34	16	6
1946	11,300	20.00	11.50	22.12	10	6
1947	11,640	22.85	14.26	33.83	22	6
1948	12,050	19.33	13.19	21.45	23	5

CAUSES OF DEATHS—1948.

(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables).

	M.	F.	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	—	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	—	3
8. Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—
9. Influenza	—	—	—
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Ac : Polio-myel : & Polio-enceph :	—	—	—
12. Ac : inf : enceph :	—	1	1
13. Cancer of B : cav : & oesoph (M) uterus (F)...	—	—	—
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	2	5
15. Cancer of Breast	—	3	3
16. Cancer of all other sites	11	4	15
17. Diabetes	1	—	1
18. Intra-cran : vasc : lesions	7	18	25
19. Heart Diseases	28	22	50
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	2	3
21. Bronchitis	3	—	3
22. Pneumonia	3	1	4

23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	1	—	1	
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum		—	—	—	
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	—	—	—	
26.	Appendicitis	...	—	1	1	
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	2	2	4	
28.	Nephritis	...	1	2	3	
29.	Puerperal & Post-abortion : Sepsis		—	—	—	
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	—	—	—	
31.	Premature Births	...	1	1	2	
32.	Congenital Debility & Malformations		—	1	1	
33.	Suicide	...	—	—	—	
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	1	—	1	
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	4	8	12	
36.	All Other Causes	...	7	12	19	
Totals			...	79	80	159

Section B.

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

(A) Provided by the District Council.

(1) Staff.

W. S. Slater, M.B., ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health	(Services shared with the other three Mid-Cheshire Districts and since July 5th with the County Council as Divisional M.O. & Regional Hospital Board as Medical Superintendent of Davenham Fever Hospital).
Sister I. D. Rogerson,	Trained Nurse (Scabies and Diphtheria Immunisation)	(Services shared with the other 3 Mid-Cheshire Districts and since July 5th with the County Council).
Clerical Staff	one person (whole-time)	(Services shared with the other 3 Mid-Cheshire Districts.)
W. W. White, C.R.S.I., C.M.I., M.S.I.A.	Whole-time Sanitary Inspector and Meat Inspector	(Winsford Urban District Council only).

T. H. Rogerson, A.R.San.I., Additional (Winsford Urban
M.S.I.A. Sanitary Inspector District Council
(Appointed 1st December, 1948.) only.)

J. G. Roberts Junior Asst. ditto—
to Sanitary
Inspector
(unqualified)
Re-instated 9/8/48.

(2) Laboratory Facilities.

The old arrangements made with the Manchester Public Health Laboratory, and with the County Analyst proved adequate during the early part of the year for the examination of water, milk and ice cream supplies and pathological specimens of all descriptions. After 5th July these Services became "free" to the Council under the new Public Health Laboratory Service.

(3) Ambulance Facilities.

68 Winsford patients were removed by the Council's Ambulance Service and 7 by the Northwich Urban Council Ambulance Service up to the 4th July. The Ambulance Services were then transferred to the County Council under the day-to-day management of a local Divisional Health Committee. Under this new Committee the Public Ambulances of the district—6 vehicles in all—were "pooled" and formed the nucleus of a County Service covering an area of some 100 sq. miles of Mid-Cheshire.

(4) Davenham Isolation Hospital.

The Davenham Isolation Hospital, Nr. Northwich, served adequately the needs of the District Council and admitted 15 Winsford Urban patients during 1948.

Since the 5th July this hospital has become the responsibility of the North and Mid-Cheshire Hospital Management Committee working under the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

(5) Details of the other Health Services, e.g., Sanitary and Housing Inspections, Food Examinations, etc., etc., provided by the Winsford Urban Council are recorded later in this report.

(B) Provided by the County Council.

The Cheshire County Council have Officers discharging duties in the Urban Area under the following Services:—School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare, Vaccination, Tuberculosis, School Dental, Health Visiting, Domestic Help, Care and After Care, Weights & Measures Inspection, Specialist Services e.g., Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Venereal Diseases, etc. In

addition the County have assumed responsibility for the Ambulance Services, Diphtheria Immunisation, etc. since the 5th July. County Maternity Services were provided in neighbouring Hospitals, e.g., West Park, Clatterbridge, Chester City Hospital and County Maternity Homes. These Institutions after the 5th July passed out of the control of the County Council to the Regional Hospital Boards.

The following is a summary of the main changes in the local Health Services which occurred during 1948 as the outcome of the National Health Service Act:—

The District Council, after the 5th July, were no longer responsible for:—

- (a) Diphtheria Immunisation.
- (b) Ambulance Services.
- (c) The provision of hospital accommodation for Infectious Diseases.
- (d) The provision of Diphtheria Antitoxin.
- (e) The cost of certain Laboratory facilities etc. After the 5th July, the following changes took place:—

Pathological specimens e.g. Swabs, Faeces, Urine, Blood, Cerebro, Spinal Fluid, Exudates and specimens of food, milk, water, ice-cream etc. for bacteriological examination, to be sent to the new Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester, 10. (Tel. Collyhurst 2733)

Vaccine Lymph and Diphtheria Prophylactics also to be obtained from this Laboratory.

Specimens for examination for tubercle bacilli to be sent to Altrincham General Hospital.

Specimens for the diagnosis of Venereal Disease to be examined at the York Place Laboratory, Manchester.

Reference has been made above to the newly formed local Divisional Health Committee; this body which acts under the auspices of the County Council is constituted as follows:—

18 County District Representatives from the four Mid-Cheshire District Councils.

7 County Council Representatives.

8 Co-opted Members.

The "personal" Health Services which locally this Committee has, since the 5th July, 1948, undertaken certain responsibilities delegated to them by the County Council, are:

- (1) Care of Mothers and Young Children Service (N.H.S. Act, 1946. Section 22).
- (2) Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing Services (N.H.S. Act, 1946. Section 23, 24 & 25).

- (3) Vaccination and Immunisation Services (N.H.S. Act, 1946. Section 26.)
- (4) Ambulance and Transport Service (N.H.S. Act, 1946. Section 27.)
- (5) Prevention of Illness, Care & After Care Services (N.H.S. Act, 1946. Section 28.)
- (6) Domestic Help Services (N.H.S. Act, 1946. Section 29)
- (7) Health Education and Mental Health Services.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The Town's Public Water Supply has been maintained during the year in a satisfactory condition.

During the course of the year 3 samples were submitted to the County Analyst by the Council's Staff for Bacteriological and Residual Chlorine Examinations. All were reported upon satisfactorily.

In addition to the above, copies of 39 reports on the Town's Supply have been furnished to me by the Engineer & Manager of the Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board. Of these 39 reports, 36 were reported upon satisfactorily, 2 were "border-line" and 1 was unsatisfactory.

All but 4 of the 3,552 houses in the Urban District are supplied from Public Mains and there are no standpipes in the area.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

I am indebted to Mr. P. Heaton, the Surveyor and Engineer of the Council, for the following statement under this heading:

"During the year considerable further sewer laying has been carried out in connection with housing development on the Dene Housing Estate and elsewhere, where necessary to deal with housing development. The sewerage system for the whole estate was so designed that as the work proceeded, so the expense for drainage work became less as the large sized sewers were laid in the early stages of the scheme.

A length of approximately 5,000 feet of sewers of various sizes from 15 inch. to 6 inch. have been laid during the year.

The separate system of sewerage is still operative, so that only foul sewage has to be treated at the disposal works and removes the large fluctuation in flow which would otherwise have to be dealt with by laying excessively large and expensive combined sewers.

A main sewer 12 inch. dia. has been laid in Wharton to take the drainage from the Wharton Steelworks of Messrs. Henry Smith (Constructional Engineers) Ltd. and from future and expected developments in that area. This also enables some privy conversions to be effected.

The Council, in conjunction with the County Council, have decided to obtain an independent report on the sewerage and sewage disposal conditions in the Urban District and have engaged a Consulting Engineer to prepare a comprehensive report and scheme for the revision of the sewage disposal system. The possibility of a joint drainage scheme with adjoining authorities will be examined and reported upon."

Closet Accommodation.

The work of converting pail and privy closets to the water carriage system has been continued, and the summary below shows the progress of this work during the year:—

1. Total number of Pails and Privies requiring conversion at the commencement of the year	... ..	372
2. Total number of Statutory Notices served during the year	... ..	43
3. Total number of Conversions completed during the year		30
4. Total number of Conversions for which Statutory Notices have been served during the year, and upon which work has commenced, or is expected to commence shortly...		13
5. Total number of Pails and Privies requiring Conversions at the close of the year	... ..	342

Refuse Collection.

The Engineer, who is the Official responsible, reports under this heading as follows:—

"The refuse collection and disposal is associated with the collection of salvage. Refuse collection proper is carried out by motor vehicles and the material is dumped under controlled tipping conditions at the Council's Sewage Works.

The work of salvage collection associated with the refuse collection has so far provided approximately 900 tons of baled paper (or an average of roughly 110 tons per year), 8 tons of kitchen waste per month together with quantities of other materials. The kitchen waste is processed for pig food at the Winsford Bacon Factory belonging to the C.W.S. Ltd.

The Council have placed on order this year a new Dennis Refuse Collection vehicle, specially designed for the work and delivery is expected during 1949."

Recreational Fields and Open Spaces.

On the subject of the further provision of Recreational Fields and Open Spaces the Engineer reports:—

“The total area of playing fields belonging to the Council is $26\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 10 different localities in the Urban Area.

The Council are in process of purchasing further land to provide 9.67 acres adjoining the Wharton Recreation Grounds for playing fields which will in the future be laid out for football and cricket etc. In addition wartime allotments have been resited on new sites and the land returned to playground use.

It is found that the open spaces in the Dene Housing Estate are used a great deal. The Council's intention is to develop some of these spaces as park areas by easy stages.

The public generally are not helpful in preserving woodlands and trees from destruction and new plantations have to be heavily protected or continually renewed.”

Canal Boats.

No Canal Boats are now registered with the Council. One inspection has been made in regard to minor repairs to cabins which were forthwith remedied.

Destruction of Rats and Mice.

A full-time rodent operative is now employed and systematic inspections are made throughout the area.

The whole of the town's sewers have been treated under the inspection of the Ministry of Agriculture; approximately 380 manholes were baited. The results showed an almost complete freedom from infestation in the sewerage system generally, far below the usual degree in towns of similar size.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are none in the District.

Licensed Camping Sites.

There is only one licensed camping site within the District. This site is approximately 3 acres, and is situated off William Street near the River Weaver.

Swimming Baths.

A sample of water taken from the Winsford Swimming Bath in June, 1948, was reported on satisfactorily by the Public Health Laboratory.

Schools in the Area.

There are 9 Schools, including the Verdin Grammar School. 7 of these have satisfactory closet accommodation, whilst the remaining 2 (Darnhall and Whitegate) have pails as no adequate sewage facilities are available. All schools are supplied with a satisfactory mains water supply.

No progress has been made so far in establishing a sewage scheme for the Swanlow South Area, which would accommodate Darnhall School.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Statement of Inspections Made and Notices Issued.

(Based upon a statement made by the Sanitary Inspector)

Nature of Inspections made.	Number	Number of Notices Served		Results of Service of Notices.			
		Statutory	Informal	Notice complied with	Remaining in hand	Prosecutions	
						Instituted	Pending
1. Dwelling Houses (General Inspections)	308	2	79	65	16	—	—
2. Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ..	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Privy Middens, Earth Closets, Peat Pails, Cesspool Privies	170	43	15	45	13	—	—
4. Cesspools	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. House Drainage	189	2	18	20	—	—	—
6. Ditches, Water Courses, etc.	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Offensive Accumulations ...	10	1	—	1	—	—	—
8. Keeping of Animals	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Offensive Trades	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. (a) Slaughterhouses (Public)	495	—	4	4	—	—	—
		(Used by the Ministry of Food)					
(b) Slaughterhouses (Private)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Other places where food is produced or sold	45	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. (a) Dairies	29	1	15	16	—	—	—
(b) Shippens	35	—	10	10	—	—	—
(c) Milkshops	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. (a) Factories with mechanical power	41	1	3	4	—	—	—
(b) Factories without mechanical power	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Other premises under the Act (incl. works of building)	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Outworkers' Premises ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Ashbins	115	5	9	14	—	—	—
14. Butchers Shops	19	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Overcrowding	4	—	3	3	—	—	—
16. Places of Amusement	6	—	2	2	—	—	—
17. Verminous Premises	22	—	1	1	—	—	—
18. Water Closets	80	—	1	1	—	—	—
19. Fried Fish Shops	13	—	8	8	—	—	—
20. Water Supply	9	—	2	2	—	—	—
21. Shops	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. Miscellaneous	37	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. River Boats	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
24. Infectious Diseases, Inquiries and Re-visits	63	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1839	55	170	196	29	—	—

Factories Inspection.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecut'd
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local Authorities	12	12	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority	50	41	4	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	5	5	—	—
Total	67	58	4	—

Cases in which Defects were Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedi'd	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ...					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	4	—	—	—

Section D. HOUSING.

The Post war construction of new houses at the end of 1948 was as follows :—

New Houses—traditional brick type	214
New Bungalows—Tarron IV type	30
New Bungalows—Aluminium	20
Total dwellings	264

A further 170 permanent houses were in various stages of construction.

The Council had 550 municipal houses in occupation at the end of the year and these are sited as set out below :—

SITE	Houses Constructed	
	Pre-war	Post-war
Grange Lane and Meadow Bank	56	—
Park Avenue	40	—
Gladstone Street, Woodford Lane and Moss Bank	50	—
Crook Lane	12	—
Seaton Street, Hewitt Drive and Beckett Avenue	36	—
Siddorn Street, Overway, Coronation Avenue, etc.	50	—
Kingsway, Hill Street, Massey Avenue, & prefabricated bungalows	42	52
Dene Site	—	192
Greville Drive and Lodge Drive	—	20

The conversion of Vale Royal by the I.C.I. Ltd. is well in hand and is to be used as a hostel for the firm's workers. This conversion will house approximately 280 persons including a few families but mostly single workers are to be accommodated.

One private house was divided into two living units during the year.

The Council are proposing to develop an area of Whitegate for housing purposes especially for the housing of higher income groups. This proposal will involve the complete sewerage of the Whitegate village area.

The table below outlines the main Housing activities of the Council in administering the Housing and Public Health Acts :

I. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 139 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 473 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 3 |

(3)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	127
II.	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	... ..	110
III.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:		
(a)	Proceedings under section 9, 10, 12 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	... ..	2
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	8
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:		
(a)	By Owners	... ..	8
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	... ..	Nil

Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

During the year 15 samples of milk being retailed in the area were submitted to the Laboratory for cleanliness tests with the following results:

	Part		
	Satisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Ungraded Milk	5	5	2
Pasteurised Milk	2	—	—
Tuberculin-Tested Milk 1	—	—	—

The above satisfactory reports cover both School and Public supplies.

Milk (Special Designations) Order.

The following licences were held by local dealers during 1948:—

Licence to use the designation "Tuberculin-Tested"			
Milk bottled on the premises	... ..	...	1
Licence to bottle Pasteurised Milk	... ..	...	1
Licence to sell bottled Pasteurised Milk	... ..	..	1

In addition, the County Council have issued licences to 4 farms to produce Tuberculin-Tested Milk and approximately 30 licences to producers of Accredited Milk.

(b) Meat

The following, based upon a statement by the Meat Inspector, is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned during the year :—

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	384	1994	1382	7585	100
Number inspected	384	1994	1382	7585	100
All Diseases except Tuberculosis—					
Whole Carcasses Condemned ...	7	13	25	48	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	346	344	37	473	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	91.92%	32.94%	4.48%	6.86%	4%
Tuberculosis only—					
Whole Carcasses Condemned ...	3	19	1	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	74	566	—	—	19
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	20.05%	29.33%	0.07%	—	20%

11 carcasses were examined in connection with the operation of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. The entire carcasses and organs of 5 were condemned; the remaining six were passed less any part carcase and offals which were surrendered.

Slaughterhouses.

The position regarding these shows no change since my last Report.

(c) Other Foods.

The following is a summary of other foods (and meat) condemned as unfit for human consumption during the course of inspections at Food Preparing Premises during the year :—

2072 lbs. Tinned Corned Beef	14 lbs. 5 ozs. Pickles in Jars.
23 lbs. 11 ozs. Tinned Peas.	2 lbs. Sauce in Bottles.
19 lbs. 12 ozs. Beetroot.	3 lbs. 13 ozs. Tinned Pork.
7 lbs. Tinned Jam.	12 ozs. Lambs Tongue.
3 lbs. Tinned Irish Stew.	31 lbs. Tinned Marmalade.
64 lbs. Tinned Meat & Veg.	3 lbs. Tinned Whalemeat Steak
1 lb. Spaghetti.	Casserole.
35 lbs. Tomatoes	1 lb. Tomato Juice.
7 lbs. 8 ozs. Tinned Plums	1 lb. Tinned Pilchards.
23 lbs. 8 ozs. Evap. Milk	6 ozs. Meat Paste.
(tinned)	1 lb. Tinned Scotch Broth.
218 lbs. Tinned Orange Juice	2 lbs. Tinned Minced Beef.
504 lbs. Fish (Herrings,	1 lb. 7 ozs. Tinned Veal Loaf.
Cod, Hake, etc.)	17 lbs. Flaked Barley (in packets)
1 lb. Tinned Fish Balls	3 lbs. Tinned Rabbit.
5 lbs. Tinned Stewed Steak	12 lbs. Cheese.

2lbs. 10ozs. Tinned Luncheon Meat	2 lbs. 4 ozs. Bacon.
6 lbs 4 ozs. Tinned Grapefruit	8 ozs. Crab Paste.
8 lbs. Tinned Sausage	4 lbs. 11 ozs. Cordial.
3 lbs. 12 ozs. Tinned Beans	10 lbs. 8 ozs. Concentrated Orange Juice.
6 lbs. 11 ozs. Tin'd Carrots	9 lbs. Tinned Soup.

Total weight—1 ton, 7 cwts, 3 qrs, 24 lbs., 6 ozs.

The inspection, and registration where called for, under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, of premises in which other foods, e.g. prepared meats, fried fish, etc. are prepared has been conscientiously carried out during the year. The position at the end of December, 1948, as to registered premises under this Act was:—

Registered premises for the sale of prepared meats, etc. ...	32
Registered premises for the sale of Fried Fish ...	12
Registered premises for the process of Tripe Dressing (Offensive Trade) ...	1
Registered premises for the manufacture or sale of Ice Cream	9

The powers the Council possess under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in relation to the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream were fully exercised as suggested in Ministry of Health Circular 183/46.

4 samples of Ice Cream were submitted to the Laboratory during the year for the Methylene Blue Reduction Test. Results showed that all 4 were satisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint.

In addition the following, based upon a statement by the County Council Weights & Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples obtained in the Winsford Urban District during the year 1948:—

Name of Sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.
Beans in Tomato Sauce ...	1	—
Blackcurrant Puree ...	1	—
Butter ...	1	—
Cheese ...	1	—
Coffee ...	1	—
Cooking Fat ...	1	—
Cod Liver Oil & Malt Extract	1	—
Margarine ...	1	—
Malted Milk ...	1	—
Milk ...	17	—
Pepper- White ...	1	—
Queen Cake Mixture	1	—
Salmon Paste ...	1	—
Sauce ...	1	—
Sausages—Tinned ...	1	—
Whisky ...	1	—
	32	Nil

**Section F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

(1) The prevalence of Infectious Diseases, apart from Measles and Scarlet Fever, was low and calls for no special comment.

**Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during the year 1948.**

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	15	14	—
Measles	62	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—
Erysipelas	2	1	—

Specimens submitted for Bacteriological Examination.

Examined for	Number Submitted	Result	
		Positive	Negative
Diphtheria Bacilli	1	—	1
Haemolytic Streptococci	1	1	—

(2) **Tuberculosis.**

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis :—

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 - 5 years	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5 - 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 - 25 years	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 - 35 years	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
35 - 45 years	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
45 - 55 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
55 - 65 years	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Totals	4	2	2	1	2	...	3	...

Number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years :—

1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
64	72	73	83	97	103	93	96	90	92

17 Sputum specimens taken from local patients were examined at the County Council's Laboratory during the year, 4 being reported on as positive.

(3) Diphtheria Immunisation.

The progress made in the Winsford Urban Area under the Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme, up to the 30th June, 1948, can be gathered from the following figures:—

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Up to 30th June, 1948
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Percentage of Children treated between 0-4 yrs. of age incl	18.2	36.0	51.4	47.1	51.4	50.5	47.2	52.06
Percentage of Children treated between 5-14 yrs. of age incl.	71.9	90.9	86.1	86.8	84.1	84.5	82.4	80.7

The total number of children known to have received protective treatment in the Winsford Urban area up to 30th June, 1948, was 2,893 of whom 385 have received "booster" injections.

(4) Scabies and Verminous Infestation.

The arrangements made in 1942 through the Joint M.O.H. Committee for the treatment of Scabies and Pediculosis patients worked very satisfactorily during 1948

The steady reduction in the incidence of Scabies since 1942 can be gathered from the following:

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Cases of Scabies	285	195	115	108	73	22	6
Cases of Pediculosis	2	1	3	—	—	—	—
Total	287	196	118	108	73	22	6
Number of Households involved	110	85	54	45	26	9	3

(5) Disinfection of Premises

The disinfection of 37 homes was carried out during the year as follows:—

For Vermin	..	...	...	...	...	10 houses
For Tuberculosis (plus steam disinfection of bedding)	...	...	...	...	...	11 houses
For Infectious Diseases	..	...	...	...	...	16 houses

I would like to say in closing this report how much I appreciate the help I have received from the Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

July, 1949.

Medical Officer of Health.



