BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT ON THE MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN,

for the Year 1923,

BY

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.
Fellow and Member of Council (Past President Yorkshire Branch)
of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.
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Public Health Department,
Batley,
April 2nd, 1924.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Batley.

Gentlemen,

The returns from the Registrar-General having arrived on April 1st, this annual report is now completed, being compiled on the lines laid down in the Circular of the Ministry of Health No. 451 dated December 15th, 1923.

It is largely self-explanatory and shows, on the whole, consistent satisfactory progress.

The continued active interest and support of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Sanitary and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees, Alderman Milnes and Councillor Fearnsides, has been much appreciated by the Department. To these Committees I express thanks for the sympathetic consideration they have given to my recommendations during the year, which is of benefit to all parties concerned.

I am indebted to the members of my staff for their ready help and assistance during the year, and thank them accordingly.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. H. PEARCE,

Medical Officer of Health.

1. Summary of Statistics, 1923.

Area of Borough (in acres)	3,227
Civil Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	36,930
Population at Census of 1921 (Males 16,647, Females 19,490)	36,137
Total Private Families at Census 1921	9,320
Population living more than two persons per room (Census)	18.8%
Average number of persons per house	3.8
Density of population per acre	11.4
Number of Births (Males 358, Females 350) ... ... Total	708
Illegitimate Births (Males 18, Females 18) ... ... Total	36
Birth-Rate per 1,000 living	19.1
Illegitimate Birth-Rate per 1,000 Births registered ...	50.8
Number of Deaths, including residents who died away from Batley (Males 265, Females 231) ... ... Total	496
Net Death-Rate per 1,000 living	13.4
Infantile Death-Rate per 1,000 births registered	84.7
Illegitimate Death-Rate per 1,000 births registered	139
Tuberculosis Death-Rate (all forms) per 1,000	0.6
Phthisis Death-Rate per 1,000	0.4
Zymotic Death-Rate per 1,000	0.4
Respiratory Diseases Death-Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	2.7
Cancer Death-Rate per 1,000	1.0
Cases of Infectious Disease notified	273
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	63
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	3
Number of Inquests	34
Rateable Value	£180,129
Rate of 1d. in £1 produces	£696
Rainfall in inches	29.61
Number of Wet Days	190
Parliamentary Voters	18,665
Local Government Voters	16,193
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£6,908.2.5
Primary Vaccinations	213
Exemption Certificates granted	382
Dried Milk given under Milk (Mothers and Children) Order	,1137 lbs. cost £94.13.8

Batley Municipal Borough. CENSUS 1921 Buildings, Dwellings, Rooms and Families.

Buildings.			Population 1921		Dwellings occupied by Non Private Families	Structurally Separate Dwellings by Private Families or Vacant.							
In course of Erection	Completed: Not containing Dwellings.	Completed: Containing Dwellings.				Vacant on Census Night.	Occupied by Caretaker	1—3 Rooms	4—5 Rooms	6—8 Rooms	9 or more Rooms	Total Dwellings.	Total Rooms
144	...	9,278	35,074	1. Undivided Private Houses	9	208	...	6,192	2,508	497	72	9,269	30,327
...	...	2	27	2. Structurally divided Private Houses...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	17
...	...	1	9	3. Blocks of Flats, Tenements, etc.	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	4
...	243	230	905	4. Shops	...	4	...	55	137	32	6	230	1,030
1	520	4	122	5. Others	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	6
145	763	9,515	36,137	Total	11	212	...	6,252	2,650	529	78	9,509	31,384

WARD POPULATIONS CENSUS 1921.

	Acres	Persons	Males	Females	Persons per Acre
EAST ...	350	11,811	5424	6387	33.7
NORTH ...	1083	11,048	5071	5977	10.2
SOOTHILL...	1188	4,866	2310	2556	4.1
WEST ...	606	8,412	3842	4570	13 9

HOUSING OF PRIVATE FAMILIES—1921 CENSUS.

Urban or Rural Area.	Percentage of Structurally Separate Dwellings Returned as:			Rooms per Dwelling.	Families per Dwelling.	Persons per Family.		Rooms per Person.			Increase or Decrease (-) in Dwellings, 1911-1921.		Increase or Decrease (-) in Families 1911-1921.		Surplus or Deficiency (-) of Rooms in 1921 on basis of England and Wales Standard, 1911.		Population living more than 2 Persons to a Room.			
	Private Houses.	Maisonettes, Flats, Tenements etc.	Attached to Shops, Offices, Warehouses, etc.					All Private Families.	Families in 1-9 Rooms.						No.	Per Centage of Standard No.	Population.		Percentage of Total Private Family Population.	
				1921	1921	1921	1911	1921	1921	1911	No.	Per Cent.					1921	1911	1921	1911
Batley M.B.	98	0	2	3.29	1.00	3.85	3.97	0.85	0.84	0.82	229	2.5	226	2.5	-11,168	-27.0	6,754	6,975	18.8	19.3

2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Borough of Batley.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1923 and Previous Years.

Yearly Average.	Estimated Population.	Nett Births.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1901-10	31,694	827	26.1	143	171	537	17.0
1911-20	36,435	676	20.5	93	123	571	16.0
Year							
1921	36,910	791	21.4	64	80.9	460	12.4
1922	37,070	642	17.3	54	84.1	479	12.9
1923	36,930	708	19.1	60	84.7	496	13.4

		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Births	Leg.	708	340	332	Birth Rate, 19.1
	Illeg.	36	18	18	

Deaths, 496. Death Rate, 13.4.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—Leg. 55, Illeg. 5. Total 60.

Number of Women Dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth : from sepsis, Nil ; from other causes, Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 8
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 4
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years) 1

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which received or required more than is made in this Report.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and **Analysis** of **Mortality** during the year 1923.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1923, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1922. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns).

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Births.		Percentage of Total Deaths.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales	19·7	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·14	0·03	0·10	0·07	0·22	0·44	7·7	69	92·0	6·9	1·1
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	20·4	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·15	0·03	0·12	0·09	0·22	0·40	9·9	72	92·2	7·2	0·6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000) ...	19·8	10·6	0·01	0·00	0·19	0·02	0·10	0·06	0·21	0·38	6·4	69	92·6	6·1	1·3
London	20·2	11·2	0·01	0·00	0·08	0·02	0·09	0·13	0·17	0·45	10.2	60	90·8	9·1	0·1
BATLEY	19·1	13·4	0·02	0·00	0·2	0·05	0·1	0·02	0·38	0·29	1·4	84	93·1	6·8	0·0

INFANT MORTALITY.

1923. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & under 3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes { Certified ...	14	4	2	5	25	5	10	9	11	60
All Causes { Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis *(not Tuberculous)*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Convulsions	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	3
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngismus Stridulus ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	1	2	5	3	4	15
Pneumonia *(all forms)* ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	3	3	2	10
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlaying ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations...	4	1	...	...	5	1	1	1	...	8
Premature Birth ...	6	1	1	3	11	...	...	...	...	11
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	1	2	...	...	3	...		...	...	3
Other Causes	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Violent Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	14	4	2	5	25	5	10	9	11	60

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

Yearly Averages	Great Towns.	England and Wales.	Batley.
1891-00	172	154	190
1901-10	139	127	172
1911-20	108	100	123
Years			
1921	87	83	80
1922	82	77	84
1923	73	69	84

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Yearly Averages	Number	Rate per 1,000 births registered	Years.	Number.	Rate per 1.000 births registered
1908 to 1917	33	42	1918	41	66
			1919	51	82
			1920	50	56
			1921	39	49
			1922	35	54
			1923	36	50

COMPARISON BETWEEN LEGITIMATE AND ILLEGITIMATE DEATH RATES.

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants			Deaths of Legitimate Infants		
Yearly Averages	Number.	Rate per 1,000 births registered	Yearly Averages	Number.	Rate per 1000 births registered
1908-17 Years	7	226	1908-17 Years	98	123
1918	9	219	1918	67	117
1919	10	196	1919	52	92
1920	5	100	1920	69	82
1921	5	128	1921	59	78
1922	5	142	1922	49	80
1923	5	138	1923	55	81

Causes of Death in Batley for the Years 1912 to 1923.

	Yearly Averages 1912—1921.	Year 1922.	Year 1923.
Enteric Fever	2.3	3	1
Small Pox	0.1	...	...
Measles	11 5	6	8
Scarlet Fever	1.0	1	2
Whooping Cough	5.9	3	4
Diphtheria and Croup ...	7.1	...	1
Influenza	27.6	23	14
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	1
Meningoccal Meningitis ...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	31.9	17	18
Other Tuberculous Diseases	11.8	14	6
Cancer, malignant diseases	42.9	44	38
Rheumatic Fever	2.6	1	3
Diabetes	.2	5	6
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c	4.4	43	42
Heart Disease	57 4	65	72
Arterio Sclerosis	1.8	28	25
Bronchitis	51 0	53	60
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	40.1	25	42
Other Respiratory Diseases	6.0	7	8
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum...	0.4	6	3
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 yrs.)	12.3	3	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2.6	3	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1.9	...	1
Acute & Chronic Nephritis	25 3	21	15
Puerperal Sepsis	1.1	...	...
Other Accidents & Diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	3.4	4	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth...	34.9	26	25
Suicide...	3.3	3	2
Other Deaths from Violence	12.6	8	11
Other Defined Diseases ...	148.4	66	86
Diseases ill defined or unknown	0.8	1	...

The BIRTH RATE (19.1 per thousand) is a small improvement upon the previous year, is slightly lower than that for England and Wales and the rest of the country, but, generally speaking, is in the near neighbourhood of those figures.

The GENERAL DEATH-RATE (13.4 per thousand) is slightly higher than that for 1922 (12.9) and is above the Registrar-General's uncorrected figures for 1923, which are—England and Wales 11.6, the Great Towns 11.6, 157 Smaller Towns 10.6, and London 11.2. On the other hand it is well below the average yearly figures for the ten-year period 1901 to 1910 (17.0) and 1911 to 1920 (16.0). There is an increase in the deaths from heart disease, bronchitis and pneumonia, which are largely responsible for the rise in the local death-rate. It is pleasing to note no death was due to accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition, whilst the Zymotic Death-Rate was only 0.4 per thousand. The deaths from diarrhœa, under two years, largely due to polluted cow's milk and improper feeding of infants, have been reduced from such average yearly figures as 49.5 to one only, which is eloquent testimony to the efforts of the Health Visitors and the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. Here is an instance where many lives have certainly been saved in recent years which under the old conditions would have been undoubtedly lost. It must also be remembered that the conditions making for improved health of infants are not confined to the first year of life. Thus where formerly many of those who escaped death were handicapped afterwards by impaired health, to-day their chances of living the life of a normal individual are considerably greater. This all makes for the improvement of the race, better conditions of existence, more wage-earning capacity, and thereby lower taxation owing to the fact that modern conceptions of the importance of public health if acted upon will relieve the citizen largely from having to support so many members of the community whose health is undermined, making them a charge on others. On reflection it must be apparent to the most heedless amongst us that the only thing really of importance is the public health. Without that all other matters, individually or collectively, become insignificant.

The deaths from premature birth continue high, as in previous years, but there is a tendency to improvement. The average yearly figure of about 35 has dropped to 25, as against 23 in 1922.

The CANCER death-rate, though somewhat lower than in recent years, is higher than twenty-five years ago. Although much interesting research work has been done throughout the world we are still as ignorant of the cause and nature of the disease as we ever were. The following figures apply to Batly since 1900:—

Yearly Averages.	Deaths.		Yearly Averages.	Deaths.
1900—1909	28.9	...	1920—1923	44.7
1910—1919	40.4	...	Year 1923	38

The Annual Birth and Death-Rates are slightly higher than would have been the case had they been calculated on the Registrar-General's population figure for Batley in 1922, which was 37,070. He has reduced his estimate of the population to 36,930 for 1923. In these days of housing shortage and overcrowding it is difficult to believe the population of Batley is decreasing, but the figures are official.

3. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

BOROUGH OF BATLEY. **Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1923, and for the period 1890 to 1923.**

Cases Notified During the Last 34 Years. Yearly Averages.				NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Total cases notified in each locality (*e.g* Parish or Ward) of the District				Total Cases Removed to Hospital.			
						At Ages—Years.														
1890 to 1899	1900 to 1909	1910 to 1919	1920 to 1923		At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	1 North Ward	2 East Ward	3 West Ward	4 Soot'l Ward	1923	1922	1921	1916 to 1920
56.1	19.1	0.8	...	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
51.8	29.6	56.3	31.2	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	14	...	6	4	4	...	...	...	7	4	2	1	14	21	34	259
37.3	12.8	15.9	8.2	Erysipelas	9	...	...	...	...	2	7	...	4	1	3	1	...	...	...	...
102.3	90.7	50.3	78.2	Scarlet Fever	124	...	19	74	23	8	...	...	33	44	29	18	123	77	47	166
...	...	...	...	Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
64.6	46 9	15.2	5.7	Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	16	2	26
...	...	67.0	37.7	Pneumonia	47	3	15	13	9	4	3	...	11	23	7	6	7	6	4	1
...	...	...	...	Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	12.0	0.4	Malaria	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	0.2	Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	0.1	...	Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2.7	1.5	1.6	0.7	Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	0.1	...	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
...	...	0.4	0.2	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	11.3	7.2	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	...	1
...	25.0	85.0	53.2	*Pulmonary Tuberculosis	63	...	2	24	8	24	5	...	28	20	8	7	50	19	14	9
...	...	31.2	11.7	†Other forms of "	8	...	1	4	1	1	1	...	2	3	3	...	5	6	...	202
...	...	...	0.2	Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	10
314.8	225.6	347.2	234.8	Totals	273	7	44	119	46	41	16	...	88	98	52	35	200	146	101	675

* Males 36, Females 27. † Males 5, Females 3. Total deaths from all notified infectious diseases 16.

Year 1923.

Table shewing relationship between domestic conditions of persons under 15, and incidence of notifiable disease.

Notifiable disease.	Less than 1 person per room.		1 to 2 persons per room.		More than 2 persons per room.	
	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.
Pneumonia ..	...	1	...	22	...	9
Scarlet Fever	...	8	1	68	...	21
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	1	...	...
Diphtheria ..	...	2	...	7	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	..	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	..	...	...	..	...

Year 1923.

Attack rates per thousand persons under 15 not known to have had a previous attack.

Notifiable disease.	Less than 1 person per room.	1 to 2 persons per room.	More than 2 persons per room.
Pneumonia	0.02	0 59	0.24
Scarlet Fever	0.21	1.86	0.56
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	...	0 02	...
Diphtheria	0.05	0.18	...
Enteric Fever ..	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...

SMALL POX.

Table shewing cases notified and deaths in Batley since 1890 in ten year periods :—

	Notifications.	Deaths.
1890—1899	561	65
1900—1909	191	12
1910—1919	8	1

No case occurred in Batley during 1923, but on various occasions contacts were kept under observation, and suspected persons examined by the Medical Officer.

DIPHTHERIA.

Table shewing cases notified and deaths in Batley since 1890 :—

	Notifications.	Deaths.
1890—1899	518	73
1900—1909	296	53
1910—1919	563	80
1920	52	4
1921	35	3
1922	24	Nil.
1923	14	1

This disease caused no anxiety during 1923. The system of control of all contacts which has been in operation for some years appears to have much to do with keeping diphtheria in check. Antitoxin is provided free of charge to doctors for immediate use upon request.

ERYSIPELAS.

Table shewing cases notified and deaths in Batley since 1890 :—

	Notifications.	Deaths.
1890—1899	373	20
1900—1909	128	8
1910—1919	159	8
1920	4	Nil.
1921	6	Nil.
1922	14	Nil.
1923	9	Nil.

No special comment is called for, the majority being slight cases.

SCARLET FEVER.

Table shewing cases notified and deaths in Batley since 1890:—

	Notifications.	Deaths.
1890—1899	1023	78
1900—1909	907	47
1910—1919	503	10
1920	55	1
1921	52	Nil.
1922	82	1
1923	124	2

There was a large increase in the number of cases during 1923, but the type of disease was very mild. This resulted in a number of missed cases which were only discovered later, when others had been infected by them. Several cases occurred in the Batley and District Hospital, which was the subject of a special report to the Health Committee by the Medical Officer.

ENTERIC FEVER.

	Notifications.	Deaths.
1890—1899	646	113
1900—1909	479	108
1910—1919	152	30
1920	3	2
1921	2	1
1922	16	3
1923	2	1

The great decline in this totally preventable disease is coincident with the diminution in the number of privy middens in the town. In 1922 there was a local epidemic in the Healey district. This was of a special nature and the subject of a special report to the Town Council and Ministry of Health, published in the Annual Report for 1922 of the Medical Officer. The two cases in 1923 lived next door to one another. The nature of the illness was not diagnosed until several weeks had elapsed from the onset. One of the patients most probably caught the infection from the case next door. The original source of infection was indefinite, but a number of sanitary defects were discovered upon the premises.

PNEUMONIA.

Forty-seven cases were notified. The conditions in a number of the homes were bad from the patient's standpoint. Only seven

cases were removed to the Oakwell Hospital. The majority, or their relatives, declined to permit hospital treatment.

MEASLES.

Table shewing deaths in Batley since 1890:—

Year.	Deaths.
1890—1899	156
1900—1909	154
1910—1919	112
1920	9
1921	Nil.
1922	6
1923	8

Whooping Cough.

Table shewing deaths in Batley since 1890:—

Year.	Deaths.
1890—1899	103
1900—1909	122
1910—1919	84
1920	3
1921	1
1922	3
1923	4

MALARIA.

One case was notified which was later found to be wrongly diagnosed. One case of ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA was wrongly notified. Both of the above proved to be cases of Tubercular disease.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

	Notifications.	Deaths.
1890—1899	27	18
1900—1909	15	13
1910—1919	16	12
1920	2	2
1921	1	Nil.
1922	Nil.	Nil.
1923	Nil.	Nil.

It is satisfactory to note that for two years no case of this disease has been notified.

Table showing Zymotic Death Rate in Batley during last 40 years.	
Yearly Averages.	Rate per 1000 of population.
1884 to 1893	3.7
1894 to 1903	2.7
1904 to 1913	2.2
1914 to 1923	0.97
Year. 1923	0.4

Table shewing number of deaths in children under two years from Diarrhœa.	
Yearly Averages.	Annual Deaths.
1890 to 1899	35.0
1900 to 1909	49.5
1910 to 1919	16.5
Years.	
1920	11
1921	11
1922	3
1923	1

This table shews the striking relationship between the infant death rate from diarrhœal diseases and the abolition of privy middens, opening of infant welfare centres, use of dried milk if breast feeding is impossible, and advice given to mothers by Health Visitors.

Tuberculosis in Batley, 1923.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
1	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
5	7	7	2	1	...	...	...	...
10	5	6	1	...	...	...	...	...
15	2	2	1	...	...	2	...	1
20	3	2	...	...	2	1	1	...
25	7	4	...	...	2	1	1	...
35	8	3	...	1	1	1	...	...
45	3	...	1	...	4	2	1	...
55	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
65 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	36	27	5	3	9	8	4	1

The Regulations respecting notification of Tuberculosis are not strictly observed by practitioners, as the following table shows. The County Council is the Authority for the treatment of the disease, and it is interesting to record that during the year 1922 no cases of tuberculosis were notified to the Medical Officer of Health by the local Tuberculosis Officer and only four notifications were received from him during 1923.

Table shewing relationship between date of notification and date of death of all persons in Batley who were certified to have died from Tuberculosis between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1923, and is a guide to the extent to which the requirements as to notification of Tuberculosis are observed by medical practitioners :—

Death before notification ...	52	Death 6 months after ...	10
Death 1 month, or under, after notification	117	Death 7 months after ...	9
		Death 8 months after ...	3
Death 2 months after	26	Death 9 months after ...	3
Death 3 months after	19	Death 10 months after ...	3
Death 4 months after	11	Death 11 months after ...	5
Death 5 months after	11	Death 12 months and over	69

Tuberculosis in Batley since 1900.

Yearly Averages.	Notifications of Phthisis.	Notifications of other Tubercular Diseases.	Deaths from Phthisis	Phthisis Death Rate.	Deaths from other Tubercular Diseases.	Death Rate from other Tubercular Diseases	Total Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis.	Removals to Hospitals.	
								Phthisis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis
1900-1909	...	...	33.1	1.09	19.8	0.59	1.68	6	6
1910-1919	98	31	33.3	0.89	15.2	0.38	1.3	38.5	2.4
1920-1923	53	12	20.2	0.47	7.7	0.25	0.72	24	2.75
Year 1923	63	8	18	0.4	6	0.2	0.6	50	5

OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM, 1923.

CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Death.
Notified	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital				
4	3	1	4	None	None	None

The figures respecting notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are not a true index of the number of cases. It is not unusual for the Health Visitors to report instances where the disease is present but has not been notified, as is required by the regulations.

4.—Causes of Sickness.

Apart from what has been previously mentioned there were no causes of sickness and invalidity which were specially noteworthy in Batley during the year. Several Smallpox contacts were at different periods kept under observation, but the year passed without a case being notified, although there were a number in areas comparatively near at hand.

5. Summary (for Reference) of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL.—The Batley Nursing Service is provided by a voluntary committee of residents who raise funds for the payment

of two District Nurses, who act as such in the homes of sick persons in the North, East and West Wards of the Borough. The Soothill Ward is served by District Nurses provided by the Dewsbury and District Nursing Association.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES, e.g., MEASLES, etc.—Several years ago the Town Council, on the suggestion of the Local Government Board, endeavoured to arrange terms with the Batley Nursing Service, under which their district nurses would be available for the home nursing of cases of Measles, Whooping-Cough and Pneumonia where the conditions were such as to render this desirable. One of the rules of the service is that infectious cases must not be attended, and the nursing committee informed the Town Council their proposals could not be acceded to. During epidemics of Measles a district nurse has been temporarily engaged by the Health Committee for home nursing purposes, working under the supervision of the M.O.H.

Cases of Measles complicated by Pneumonia or otherwise are admitted to the Oakwell Joint Hospital from the North, West and East Wards of Batley if in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health the home circumstances are such as to prevent the patient having the best chance of recovery. The residents in the Soothill Ward are debarred from this advantage. When the Borough was extended in 1909 the Dewsbury Joint Hospital continued to be the isolation hospital for this Ward, but the Hospital Board has several times refused the request of the Batley Town Council to admit urgent infectious cases other than Smallpox, Typhoid, Diphtheria, and Scarlet Fever. This is very regrettable. The Soothill residents are at a disadvantage compared with their fellow rate-payers in the other Wards of the town, whilst the possession of similar facilities would mean the certain saving of life in future epidemics of Measles in Soothill. It is purely a matter of administration, would not often be necessary, and need not cost a single penny nor require the laying of even one brick.

MIDWIVES.—There are 10 practising in the Borough, of whom 4 reside outside the boundary. 2 are uncertificated. They are under the control of the County Council, being periodically inspected by a nurse on the staff of the Medical Officer of Health of the West Riding County Council at Wakefield. The Health Committee has on several occasions petitioned the County Council to delegate to the Batley Town Council its powers of supervision

through the Medical Officer of Health of the Borough, who knows and sees much of the work of the midwives, and has frequent reports made to him on the subject by the Health Visitors on his staff. It may be answered that the County Council does not now possess the power of delegation, but that does not prevent arrangements for inspection being made. All should be agreed that the doctor on the spot can deal with these matters more promptly and effectively than occasional inspection by a nurse residing in Wakefield could ever provide. The public would receive the benefit. In addition to the above there are 4 certified midwives in the Batley Corporation Maternity Home, but these do not practise outside the Home.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—There are two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, one at the Town Mission Hall, Batley, open each Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m., and one at the Wesleyan Sunday School, Batley Carr, open each Wednesday 2.15 to 3.45 p.m. There is a voluntary committee of ladies connected with the Centre at the Batley Town Mission, who collect subscriptions, provide tea for mothers, sell suitable garments, and help generally in the work of the Centre. The Superintendent Health Visitor works the Batley Carr Centre, there being no voluntary workers attached thereto. The Medical Officer may be consulted at both Centres in alternate weeks. Health Talks are given weekly to mothers at the Welfare Centres by the Health Visitors.

It is invidious to mention names as a general principle in such matters, but the regular services for several years of Mrs. L. Almond, Mrs. J. J. Greenwood ,and Mrs. Wilman cannot be left unnoticed.

HEALTH VISITORS have made the following visits to homes during 1923:—

Antenatal—First Visits	149	
Re-visits	275	
	——	424
Infants under twelve months—		
First Visits	692	
Re-visits	6462	
	——	7154
Children between twelve months and five years—Visits		5880

Visits to cases of—

Ophthalmic Neonatorum	8
Pneumonia (notified)	83
Tuberculosis	247
Still Births	34
Miscellaneous	98
Total	13,928

On two afternoons weekly Health Visitors are on duty at the Welfare Centres. They also report to the Medical Officer on insanitary conditions observed during their routine work.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—During 1923 doctors notified 300 births, midwives 410, and other persons 11, a total of 721. Of these 38 were still births.

Table showing number of deaths amongst infants who attended or did not attend a Welfare Centre. Deaths under 4 weeks are not included for feeding.

Year	Infant Deaths		Attended Centre	Not Attended Centre	Breast Fed	Artificially Fed
	Number	Died in first month				
1919	62	30	5	27	2	8
1920	74	46	11	17	11	15
1921	64	35	12	17	4	22
1922	54	27	9	18	17	6
1923	60	19	12	29	11	30

BATLEY TOWN MISSION WELFARE CENTRE.—Attendances of mothers with infants 1,861; new admissions 251; number of mothers on register 358; average attendance per mother 5.

BATLEY CARR WELFARE CENTRE.—Attendances of mothers with infants 1,134. Number of mothers on register 149; new admissions 69; average attendance per mother 8. At both Centres

the individual attendances are much larger than the figures given, which only refer to mothers who have their infants with them. No record is kept of other attendances, such as for the purchase of dried milk, cod liver oil, etc.

MILK (MOTHERS and CHILDREN) ORDER.—1,136 lbs. were given at a cost of £94 13s. 8d. Purchases at cost price by mothers from the Town Council were Glaxo 6,075 lbs., value £487 19s. 0d ; Virol, 124 tins ; Virolax, 98 tins ; Emulsion, 352 small and 218 large bottles.

Ten dozen vests have been distributed through the Health Department to Batley children from the " Save the Children Fund."

BATLEY WELFARE CENTRES VOLUNTARY WORKERS' SECTION REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1922.

The Voluntary Committee has continued the work of previous years. Mothers and prospective mothers are welcomed at the Centres, and a cup of tea is provided for them.

Infants' garments are supplied at the cost price of the materials, the garments being made by a voluntary service which is not adequate for our requirements. We should be grateful for more help of this nature.

Wool, patterns, and materials are also supplied at cost prices for home manufacture.

Garments sold at Batley :—53 vests, 10 pairs of socks, 25 nightgowns, 30 belts, 10 petticoats, 10½ yards of flannel, 28 oz. of wool, and 1 Harrington Square.

Garments sold at Batley Carr :—14 vests, 29 pairs of socks, 4 nightgowns, 8 petticoats, 2½ yards of flannel, and 6 Harrington Squares.

The following goods have been supplied gratis at the Centres :—14 lbs. of Glaxo, 1 pot of Virol, 8 bottles of Medicinal Oil, and 2 petticoats.

E. WILMAN, Hon. Secretary.
L. ALMOND, Hon. Treasurer.

BATLEY CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS' SECTION.

Statement of Accounts, 1923.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions	21	17	10
Batley—Garments Sold	15	4	9½
Batley Carr—Garments Sold...	4	13	5½
Batley—Teas	3	14	1
Batley Carr—Teas	2	9	10
	£48	0	0

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Harringtons	1	1	6
Secretary	0	6	9
Mrs. Sheard, Caretaker	5	14	0
Batley Carr, Caretaker	2	16	4
Gifts	1	15	8
Batley Co-op. Soc.—Biscuits	6	17	9
Do. Garments material	16	11	6
Expenses	0	1	2
Balance at Bank	9	1	8
Cash in Hand	3	13	8
	£48	0	0

(Mrs.) LAVINIA ALMOND,
Hon. Treasurer.

25th March, 1924.

(Mrs.) EMMA WILMAN,
Hon. Secretary.

DAY NURSERIES.—None are provided. A SCHOOL CLINIC is in existence at the Public Health Department, the work in which is described in the School Medical Officer's Annual Report.

TUBERCULOSIS and VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS are provided by the West Riding County Council. None are situated in Batley. The number of Batley patients known to have attended the V.D. Clinic in Dewsbury during 1923 was 32 males and 5 females. At the Bradford Royal Infirmary 4 males and 3 females attended from Batley so far as is known.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.—(1) TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA in several parts of the West Riding; (2) MATERNITY.—The Batley Maternity Home was opened for the reception of patients on September 1st, and the formal official opening followed on October 23rd, 1922. There are eight beds provided for patients in four wards, one bed in an isolation ward, and one bed in the labour room. The staff consists of an Administrative Matron who is also Superintendent of Health Visitors and School Nurses, four resident Nurse Midwives, Cook, and Housemaid, with occasional Charwoman. During 1923, 156 patients were admitted, 153 infants born, and 205 bookings of beds by intending patients registered. The Home is filling an extremely useful purpose, is popular amongst those for whom it is primarily intended, and well thought of by the medical practitioners in Batley.

(3) CHILDREN.—There is no hospital for children, but admission can be obtained by them to the public institutions mentioned below.

(4) FEVER HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION is provided at the Oakwell Joint Hospital (77 beds, 18 cots, and 8 beds and 2 cots for Smallpox) for the old Borough of Batley, and at the Dewsbury Joint Hospital (72 beds and 30 cots) for that portion of the Borough which was formerly within the Urban District of Soothill Upper. Any infectious disease can be admitted and treated at Oakwell. The Dewsbury Joint Hospital Board definitely refuse to admit any cases other than Smallpox, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever. Full particulars have been given in previous annual reports respecting these hospitals. Both are under the medical superintendence of general practitioners residing in Birstall and Dewsbury respectively. The action of the Dewsbury Board prevents the admission of patients from the Soothill Ward of Batley unless suffering from one or other of the four diseases above-mentioned, and hence they are at considerable disadvantage compared with residents in the remaining Wards of the town.

(5) Smallpox patients are also treated at these Fever hospitals.

(6) OTHER HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION, apart from the Poor Law, is provided at the Batley and District Hospital, established 1878, supported by voluntary contributions, and containing 50 beds, the Dewsbury Infirmary (50 beds), and the Bradford and Leeds Infirmaries. The Poor Law Hospital at Staincliffe contains 300 beds. There is no INSTITUTIONAL provision for UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS, and HOMELESS CHILDREN apart from the POOR LAW. AMBULANCE FACILITIES (a) for infectious cases by the Oakwell and Dewsbury Isolation Hospitals; (b) for non-infectious and accident cases by the Batley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

6. Laboratory Work.

PATHOLOGICAL and BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS are carried out by Dr. Sutherland at the County Laboratory, County Hall, Wakefield. Outfits are kept at the Public Health Department, Batley, and delivered to practitioners on request. The figures for the year 1923 as supplied by Dr. Sutherland are:—Widal 5, Sputa 22, Diphtheria 67, Urine 4, Ringworm 4, Mussels 11; total, 113. Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied by the Corporation free of charge to medical practitioners for immediate use in their practice. During 1923 18,000 units were supplied on request to doctors. They are disinclined to make use of this essential, preferring the remedy to be used after the patient has been removed to hospital. This is regrettable, an early use of Antitoxin, if the greatest benefit is to be obtained, being essential.

7. Sanitary Administration.

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYELAWS.—The following are in force in Batley:—

	Parts or Sections in force.	Date of adoption.
Baths & Washhouses Acts 1846-1882.	Whole Act.	1890.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	I., II., III., IV. & V.	November 1st, 1892.
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.	Whole Act.	November 1st, 1892.
Public Libraries Act, 1887	Whole Act.	January, 1904.
Notification of Births Act, 1907.	Whole Act.	January 2nd, 1908.
Museums & Gymnasiums Act, 1891.	(As to Museums only.)	April 23rd, 1913.
Batley Corporation Act, 1921.	Whole Act.	August, 1921.

Bye-law.	Date.
Tramways	1882
Cemetery	1886
Prevention of Nuisances	1889
Common Lodging Houses	1889
Houses Let in Lodgings	1889
New Streets and Buildings	1889
Slaughter-houses	1889
Cleansing of Footways, etc.	1889
Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops Order	1891
Hackney Carriages	1891
Baths and Wash-houses	1893
Markets and Fairs	1898
Betting in Streets	1899
Pleasure Grounds	1910
Shop Hours Act (Hairdressers and Barbers)	1908
Employment of Children	1920
Sale of Coal	1923

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—A statement of the position at December 31st, 1915, is given on page 10 of the Report for that year. The following shews the conditions between that date and December 31st, 1923:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Water Closets	6833	6861	6863	6879	6952	7065	7205	7244
Trough and Automatic Water Closets	293	293	293	293	293	288	288	288
Blocks of Trough Water Closets ...	49	49	49	49	49	47	47	47
Pail Closets	9	11	11	10	10	10	10	10
Privies	102	100	100	100	76	75	74	66
Privies Converted into Water Closets ...	7	2	—	—	24	—	1	2
Additional W.C.'s provided for old Property	8	26	2	16	28	6	31	31
Additional W.C.'s provided for new Property	11	—	—	—	21	126	109	8

The 66 privies and 10 pail closets are situated as under:—

5 off Purlwell Lane.
1 Towngate Road.
3 Smithies Lane.
6 Hanover Square.
5 Victor Street.
2 Cemetery.
2 Brownhill.
6 Upper Batley Low Lane.
2 off Town Street.
1 off York Road.
1 off White Lee Road.
1 Branch Rd. Mill Cottage.
5 Shay Ter., Carlinghow.
2 Holland Street.
1 Station Rd., Upper Batley
1 Upper Batley Lane.
1 Culvert Road.
4 Bradford Road.
2 Lamplands.
1 Howley Low Mills.
2 Smithies Moor Ln. Chapel
9 Victoria Mills.
1 off East Bath Street.
1 Leeds Road, Soothill.
1 Leeds Rd., H'den Clough
3 off Grange Road.
5 Football Field.
2 Healey St. Chapel.

It is very desirable that where possible all privies be abolished and their places taken by modern sanitary water closets. In some of the above cases the sanitary accommodation only consists of one privy to three houses, a state of affairs which should not be permitted. The trough water closets should also be abolished. They are insanitary and create nuisances. It costs the ratepayers over one hundred pounds annually in wages to attend to their flushing. During the last ten years well over a thousand pounds

has been spent by the Corporation over these trough closets, whereas if modern W.C.'s were installed the sanitation would be improved and the ratepayer's pockets saved. As in previous years I again suggest consideration be given to my recommendations, which, if adopted, would be a financial gain.

SCAVENGING.

Year.	Loads of Refuse.			Cost of Scavenging.			No. of Covered Metal Bins.	No. of Fixed Brick Receptacles.
	Burnt.	Tipped.	Sent to Farmers	£	s.	d.		
1910	12076	1272	2700	3319	14	1	No record	No record
1911	10343	3443	2469	3289	18	11	No record	No record
1912	8848	4140	1492	2868	17	4	No record	No record
1913	7948	3615	700	2004	13	6	2981	1036
1914	4221	7400	260	1883	18	9	3149	1040
1915	4777	6584	260	1971	17	4	3182	1053
1916	8051	2809	312	1947	16	6	3249	1023
1917	6581	3784	250	3143	2	1	3249	1023
1918	6317	3493	222	4483	4	9	3249	1023
1919	7854	5277	223	6660	1	5	3249	1023
1920	8640	4991	387	8648	0	4	3270	1023
1921	8614	5808	364	7721	5	0	3437	999
1922	8885	5488	367	7272	0	0	3598	978
1923	9342	5419	266	7224	10	11	3622	966

An examination of the above figures is of interest, and should support the view often expressed in previous Annual Reports that the time is overdue for an enquiry by the Committee into the whole method of scavenging and its organisation in the town. Here is another opportunity for adopting modern methods employed in similar towns with a very probable saving to the rates.

The following information, extracted from a well-known Yorkshire newspaper, shows what some other towns are doing:—

"The City of Westminster affords one of the best examples of development in this connection. Some few months ago the Corporation there installed a remarkable plant which sifts and sorts the refuse and converts almost every constituent of it into a marketable product, and renders valuable what has previously been looked upon only as filth.

"Compared with the methods employed at Westminster, the Leeds scheme would be regarded no doubt as primitive, but it will interest ratepayers to learn that the revenue from the salvage work done locally totalled £6,000 in the last financial year.

"The Corporation of Eccles, near Manchester, have had at work a plant which screens and permits sorting and picking the following materials, all of which find a ready market, or are used in their own works:—(1) Ashes are separated from dust, the former being used for boiler firing and giving such a high calorific value as to generate 6lb. of steam for 1lb. of ashes burnt, whilst the dust is taken away and sold, either with road sweepings or by itself, to the local farmers for putting on their land; (2) the elimination of dust from the destructor prevents calcining and fusion of the dust in the flues, which hitherto has been a very expensive difficulty to overcome; (3) all tins are separated in transit, are put into a baling press, and find a ready market; (4) all bottles are separated and temporarily stored, but find a ready market; (5) all paper is put into a baling press as it is picked and bundled, and it, too, finds a ready market. What has to go to the destructor is vegetable and organic matter.

"Barnsley Corporation have a similar plant, but in this case they go one step further—inasmuch as they can wash the ashes and generally make clean the combustible material of similar description. Bootle (Liverpool), Hull, Preston, and Stoke-on-Trent are all Corporations that are installing, or about to instal, apparatus of this class, and we believe that Leicester has similar ideas, so that you will see that it is a proposition that is now becoming pretty general."

Work of Sanitary Inspectors Under Article 19 of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1922.

INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT.

Total number of inspections made in 1923	4048
Informal notices served	300
Informal notices complied with	278
Statutory notices served	6
Statutory notices complied with	6
Total number of nuisances in hand at close of 1922	30
Total number of nuisances in hand at close of 1923	23
Total number of nuisances reported, 1923	337
Total number of nuisances abated, 1923	344
Summonses or other legal proceedings	2
Complaints registered	326
Number of house gullies empties	18377
Smoke observations	154
Statutory notices served (re smoke)	None.
Informal notice served (re smoke)	54

The time and money expended in attending to house gullies on private property could be used to better advantage in the promotion of the public health. No benefit to the health of the com-

munity is derived therefrom, but it is one of those things which has the effect of pleasing the eye. Should a house gully become blocked it is the duty of the tenant to remedy the condition, which can usually be done at once by using a stick or coal-rake. If this is unsuccessful a complaint to the Sanitary Department would result in the matter being promptly dealt with. I have often referred to these house gullies and am satisfied here is another opportunity for financial economy without in any way profiting at the expense of the health of the people.

INSPECTIONS OF PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED numbered 755. The Corporation obtained special powers in the Batley Corporation Act, 1921, for regulating such premises. ICE CREAM.—55 persons are registered and 169 inspections were made. FISH FRYING.—There are 57 persons on the register. In some instances there is no drainage connected to the buildings, the washings being thrown into the street or elsewhere. This has been previously referred to by me in past years and should be stopped. There were 429 visits of inspection. An application was made by the trade organisation in 1921 for the adoption of certain sections of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, under which bye-laws for the better regulation of these premises could be obtained and put into force as recommended by the Medical Officer for a number of years. The Health Committee considered the matter, but no action was taken. OFFENSIVE TRADES.—There are four, all tripe boiling, and three of these fat rendering also. Seventeen inspections were made. Attention is again drawn to the desirability of the adoption of bye-laws respecting offensive trades. BAKEHOUSES.—There are 32 on the register. The conditions are only moderate, it being difficult to obtain more frequent and thorough cleansing. 114 inspections were made. MANUFACTURE OF POTTED MEATS, BRAWN, SAUSAGES, etc.—43 visits of inspection were made. The conditions can be improved under the provisions of the Batley Act, 1921. RESTAURANTS.—12 inspections were made. COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—There are three, two for men only and one for both sexes. The general condition is fair. There were 10 inspections. SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Structurally and in relation to adjoining dwelling-houses, the conditions are not good. The numbers are :—

	In Jan., 1914.	In Jan., 1920.	In Dec., 1923.
Registered	9	7	6
Licensed	8	None.	9

They are kept in as cleanly condition as circumstances permit. The inspections numbered 221.

Food Surrendered and Destroyed Year 1923.

Feb. 7—Mussels ... ... 1 cwt.
Mar. 30—Mussels ... ... 1 cwt.
April 21—Mussels ... ... $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
May 14—Tomatoes, Pears—2 tins ... ... $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
,, 14—Salmon—Nestles Milk—2 tins ... ... 2 lbs.
,, 22—Beast Forequarter and Offal (tuberculosis)
July 9—Six Sets of Pigs Livers (necrosis) about 13 lbs.
,, 12—Eight Sets of Ditto. (ditto) about 17 lbs.
Sept. 11—Beast Udders (unsound) ... ... 1 ton
,, 20—Mussels ... ... $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
,, 28—Rabbits (60) ... ... 75 lbs.
Dec. 22—Mussels ... ... $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

MILK SUPPLY.

Year	Cowsheds	Cows	Cowkeepers	Cowkeepers who are also Milk purveyors	Purveyors living in Borough	Purveyors living outside Borough
Annual Average 1910 to 1919	60	378	29	21	28	27
1920	*36	269	21	21	8	27
1921	*38	278	22	22	10	24
1922	*38	280	21	13	9	27
1923	*38	291	21	13	10	27

*Occupied. During 1923 sixteen in addition to the above were not occupied.

The minimum cubic air space for each cow in a properly lighted and ventilated cowshed should not be less than 800 feet. The following Table shews the cubic capacity per cow in Batley cowsheds :—

Over 1000 cubic feet 3
Over 800 and under 1000 cubic feet 6
Over 600 and under 800 cubic feet 26
Over 400 and under 600 cubic feet 16
Over 300 and under 400 cubic feet 3

Only 9 of the 38 occupied cowsheds comply with the generally accepted standard.

During the year the Committee devoted considerable attention to the hygienic conditions under which milk, milk vessels and utensils were kept by retailers. For many years it had been customary for some to carry on their business in such a manner that

the public health was likely to be endangered by their methods, as, for instance, milk vessels being kept in small houses in the living room of the dealer, where they were exposed to any infective conditions amongst the occupants and to other objectionable happenings which can easily be imagined. In every instance the dealer was compelled to provide a dairy entirely separate from the house, with which there must be no direct communication. An adequate supply of boiling water must at all times be available for cleansing the milk vessels and utensils, whilst the dairy floor must be flagged or concreted, sufficiently lighted, ventilated, and used for no other purpose than the milk trade. This is a great improvement upon anything of the kind in Batley previously, but until all milk vessels are properly sterilised by being kept at the temperature of boiling water for at least five minutes, it cannot be said that all that is necessary or desirable for the protection of the public health has been done. No dairy in Batley sterilises its vessels, which is very easy and inexpensive, but it is hoped during the present year the Committee may decide to take this further step. Improvement in the sanitary condition of milk carts, the vessels and receptacles for vessels in the carts, and the milk churns themselves is urgently necessary, as can readily be seen by passers-by in the streets. A tap should be fitted to all churns and the milk drawn through this by the retailer when serving his customers. Dust from the streets, dirt from the vessels carried in the carts, and from the retailer's clothing when he dips his arms into the churns, would thus be largely prevented from getting into the milk. These improvements are customary in most parts of the country, and will be remembered by holiday makers who have seen them elsewhere. There should be no reason why what is customary in other towns should not be the practice in Batley, when, after all, the object is protection of the public health and purer milk for the householder, who finds the money. Another matter considerably overdue is improvement in the hygienic conditions of the cowsheds. The Council has power to insist upon it. Twelve months ago the President of the local farmers' organisation said at a public meeting—"It was the fault of public authorities if milk was not produced now under ideal conditions." I hope the hint will be acted upon.

The following extract from an article in the journal "Municipal Engineering and the Sanitary Record" is interesting, shewing, as is well known, how very simple it is for a dairyman to sterilise his milk vessels if he desires to. He is the gainer, because his

milk will keep fresh considerably longer and the consumer has not so often to pay for sour milk :—

> "The demonstrators lay stress on cleanliness of cows and sheds, cleanliness of workers, and sterilisation of vessels by live steam. Farmers and milkers are first shown how to clean a dirty cow. Though this seems to take a good deal of time in the first instance, when once it is done properly a minute or two only is required afterwards, prior to each milking. The cows are then milked into a covered pail, the type being used having a detachable top, not only to facilitate cleansing, but, as it can be made to fit any existing pail, saves the cost of new pails. The milk is then strained and cooled, if desired, but as the object in view is to produce clean milk which will keep by excluding the cause of its rapid deterioration, the "cooler" is really unnecessary. The importance of real sterilisation is emphasised. It is achieved by the use of the usual farm "copper." A hole is bored in the wood lid, through which is pushed a short piece of tin or copper tube, about 1½ in. in diameter; in fact, an old carbide tin will do if the lid be removed; the bottom cut off and two or three short slits cut in the side of the tin, about 1½in. from one end, the cut portions being turned back at right angles. After pushing the tube through the lid, it is then nailed in position. Churns and pails can then be sterilised by current steam just as effectively as if the steam were generated from a pressure boiler, the only difference being a slight increase in the time occupied. After seeing one of these demonstrations, I wonder that any milk producer can afford to carry on in the old way. Is it too much to hope that Somerset's example will be copied by other County Councils?"

A number of milk samples sent to the Analyst to be examined for cleanliness are adversely reported upon. It is well the public should understand that manure is the principal contamination. Thirteen samples were examined in 1923, the result being 4 clean, 4 reasonably clean, and five passably clean. All should be such as can be reported clean. It has been often demonstrated that clean milk can be produced from the filthiest cowshed if proper methods are adopted by the milkers. Insistence by the public on clean milk being supplied would considerably strengthen the hands of local authorities. After standing all night a black sediment at the bottom of the milk basin at once shows the housewife that the milk she is purchasing is not clean, and it is desirable that she should change her milkman without delay. Dirty milk has caused the death of many young children in Batley during previous years. The great improvement in the death rate from diarrhœal diseases in artificially fed infants can in large degree be attributed to the use of dried milk, which is clean, otherwise it would not be saleable.

Report of the Corporation's Veterinary Inspector.

Bank Foot House, Batley,
June 2nd, 1923.

Dr. Pearce, M.O.H., Batley.

" Re Inspection of Milk Cows in the Borough."

Sir,

I have again pleasure in submitting my report of the Inspection of Milk Cows.

The general condition of cows satisfactory; have experienced the cows looking fitter at this time of year, the cause probably continuous cold, wet weather.

The udders satisfactory from a tubercular point of view; deaf quarters in three cows (no secretion); three cows on one farm on the thin side. Udders sound. I will keep a note on these animals. One other cow emaciated (should be slaughtered), coughs; a case in my opinion of generalised tuberculosis; no secretion of milk, and owner informs me the cow has not been milked for some time back.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

Bank Foot House, Batley,
December 31st, 1923.

Sir,

I have again the pleasure of submitting my report of the Inspection of Milk Cows in the Borough. The general condition of the cows is quite satisfactory; from a tubercular point of view I am satisfied with the udders of the cows. At two farms a case of indurated udder, strong evidence caused by injury to the teat; no secretion of milk in either case.

The cows noted in my last report as being thin have been disposed of and the emaciated cow also named was sent to the knackers. At one place condition of hind-quarters not altogether satisfactory, but owner promised to remedy this condition at once.

Considering the number of cows it is extremely satisfactory that up to the present we have had no suspicious case of foot and mouth disease reported.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

Dr. Pearce, M.O.H., Batley.

It will be remembered that the Tuberculosis Order was abolished in 1914 by the Government on the ground of economy. Under its provisions tubercular cows could be slaughtered, the owners compensated, and the milk supply protected. Tubercular milk is almost entirely the cause of tuberculosis of bones, joints and glands in children, and probably an important cause of tuberculosis in adults. The cost of carrying out this Order was comparatively small.

During 1923 Foot and Mouth Disease was prevalent in England and Wales. The disease has little relationship to human beings and is not very fatal to cattle, but when attacked they quickly go out of condition, lose flesh, and are unsaleable. It takes some months to get them into condition again. The policy of slaughter has cost the taxpayer over three million pounds during the year.

It is interesting to compare the importance attributed to a disease which causes loss of money to owners of cattle and the trifling importance attached to tuberculosis, which kills or cripples thousands of persons annually.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.—Sixty samples of food have been submitted to the public analyst as under :—

ARTICLES	Genuine	Genuine but poor Quality	Adulterated	Cream Abstraction	Totals
New Milk	44	3	4	1	52
Lard	1	—	1	—	2
White Pepper	2	—	—	—	2
Baking Powder... ...	2	—	—	—	2
Malt Vinegar	1	—	—	—	1
Dried Milk	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	51	3	5	1	60

The Sanitary Committee ordered prosecution in the case of new milk adulterated with 7.2 per cent. of added water. A fine of £5 0s. 0d. and costs £1 5s. 0d., also agent 5s., was imposed. The other adulterated and cream abstraction cases were considered by the Sanitary Committee not bad enough to justify legal proceedings.

Thirteen samples of new milk were examined, as previously stated, for dirt, with the following results :—4 clean ; 4 reasonably clean ; 5 passably clean (20, 20, 20, 25.8, 28.6 parts per million of fully centrifuged fluid dirts).

Rag Flock Act, 1911.

No. 30—Rag Flock contained 10.0 parts per 100,000 of chlorine.

No. 31—Rag Flock contained 10.0 parts per 100,000 of chlorine.

DISINFECTIONS have been performed as shewn below :—

	Beds	Pillows	Cushions	Blankets	Mattresses	Sheets	Quilts	Wearing Apparel	Carpets	Miscellaneous Articles	Totals
Destroyed for the Borough ...	38	10			174	6	1	18		6	253
Disinfected for the Borough ...	414	878	106	1107	160	393	388	1906	193	801	6346
Disinfected for the Batley and District Hospital	34	76		60		62	26	44	3	164	469
Totals ...	486	964	106	1167	334	461	415	1968	196	971	7068

No. of houses disinfected 145, rooms disinfected 80, apparatus charged 880 times, library books disinfected 308.

CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION of VERMINOUS PERSONS AND THEIR BELONGINGS can be carried out at the disinfecting and contact station, where waiting rooms, bathing facilities, and a modern Manlove Alliott steam disinfecting apparatus are installed.

Smoke Abatement.

In common with other similar industrial towns the emission of dense black smoke from mill chimneys is a source of nuisance, needless expense to millowners and householders, as well as very detrimental to the public health. Until methods of power production other than by the burning of coal are adopted there will be this smoke nuisance, which at times is intolerable. On the other hand it is unreasonable to expect the atmosphere in a busy industrial area to be similar to that of a residential town under present conditions, but such is not by any means impossible of attainment.

The Mayor of Batley (Councillor H. Crothers) has actively interested himself in the smoke problem for several years, and his remarks upon the subject when presiding at lectures which were held in the town last year, or at meetings of the Town Council, have been worthy of the consideration of all persons concerned with the problem of improving the present state of affairs, and have been received by millowners and householders alike with attention. It is hoped during the present year to arrange some practical demonstrations for stokers and others.

With the object of shewing the behaviour of certain chimneys during recent years the following table has been prepared, which should be useful. It is compiled from the reports to the Health Committee of the Sanitary Inspector shewing every chimney in Batley where observations for the emission of black smoke have been taken by him during the last five years—January, 1919, to December, 1923—and the conditions reported to exist at such observations.

The practice in Batley has been to allow 7 minutes per chimney per hour as the permissible ~~minimum~~ maximum. It is generous and above the ~~minimum~~ maximum of many other industrial towns. The adoption of a higher standard might well be considered in the near future.

CHIMNEY	Number of Observations by Inspector.					Average minutes per hour dense black smoke calculated upon Inspector's observations.				
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Albert Mill	...	1	...	...	...	...	Nil	...	...	...
Albion Mill	...	1	...	2	2	...	4.0	...	2.0	2.2
Alexandra Mill	4	4	2	2	1	3.7	3.5	2.5	3.5	5.0
Anchor Mill	5	4	6	4	2	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.5	5.7
Bank Foot Foundry	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	2.5	1.5	...
Bank Foot Mill	5	5	7	4	3	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.5	2.5
Batley Colliery	...	1	7	5	2	...	4.5	3.0	3.2	2.5
Blakeridge Mills	3	2	6	3	2	0.5	2.5	6.5	2.6	4.5
Bottoms Mill (long chimney) ...	5	7	5	5	3	1.9	1.8	2.8	2.2	1.5
,, ,, (short chimney) ...	4	4	5	5	3	3.5	4.2	5.3	4.6	2.3
Branch Road Mills	2	3	6	2	1	4.0	0.8	1.7	2.5	4.0
Brighton Mill	3	3	3	3	4	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.7	Nil
Brights ,, ...	4	6	2	3	3	3.1	3.4	2.0	3.0	2.6
Brookroyd ,, ...	4	2	3	4	5	2.8	2.0	2.3	1.7	1.2
Bulrush ,, ...	4	4	3	4	5	1.5	2.0	1.3	1.7	1.8
Carlinghow ,, ...	5	5	7	4	5	1.1	2.4	2.5	2.9	2.5
Carr Dyke ,, ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	Nil	...	...	...
Chapel Fold ,, ...	...	2	...	2	...	...	5.0	...	6.0	...
Cheapside ,, ...	8	7	6	6	2	2.06	2.5	3.1	5.0	6.0
Clerk Green ,, ...	3	2	1	2	2	4.8	4.2	4.5	2.5	3.3
Culvert ,, ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	Nil	1.0	...	...
Dale Street ,, ...	...	1	...	1	2	..	5.0	...	3.0	4.7
Dewsbury District Co-op. Laundry	3	2	2	3	2	1.0	1.7	2.5	1.3	1.0
Dock Ing Grease Works	3	3	3	4	5	0.16	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dock Ing Mills	4	3	5	4	5	4.0	4.3	4.2	3.5	3.3
Fountain Mills (long chimney) ...	5	5	7	5	6	3.3	3.5	2.0	3.0	2.3
,, ,, (short chimney)...	4	4	7	4	6	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.1	0.6
Greenhill Mills	4	4	3	2	1	5.2	3.4	2.0	3.0	4.0
Healey Lane Mills	1	1	...	1	...	4.0	4.0	...	2.0	...
Hick Lane ,, ...	6	7	7	4	3	3.5	4.1	3.3	3.7	5.2
Highfield ,, ...	...	2	...	2	...	...	5.0	...	5.0	...
Lady Ann ,, ...	1	1	1	...	...	10.0	3.5	3.0	...	...
Little Dock Ing Mills	4	3	3	4	5	2.9	2.2	0.7	1.7	2.3
Little Orme ,, ...	3	2	2	2	2	2.3	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.2
Livingstone ,, ...	2	4	2	3	2	5.0	4.9	5.2	2.3	3.5
New Branch Mill (Victoria) ...	2	3	5	2	1	4.7	5.7	5.2	5.0	5.0
New Ing Mill	5	6	3	3	4	3.5	3.7	4.1	4.3	2.9
New Mill	...	1	...	2	2	...	6.0	...	3.0	3.7
Newsome & Askham's Works ...	..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3.0	...
Old Mill	5	5	5	3	3	3.6	3.4	2.8	3.3	2.8
Park Lane Mills	4	4	7	4	2	3.5	4.7	5.6	4.7	4.3
Perseverence Mill	5	6	7	5	4	3.3	3.9	3.5	2.5	3.2
Phœnix Mill	2	3	2	1	1	2.0	1.6	0.5	5.0	1.5
Print Works	4	2	3	4	5	4.7	6.0	5.3	6.5	6.0
Providence Mills	...	2	...	2	...	...	6.5	...	4.5	...
Queen Street Mills	5	7	5	6	4	5.8	4.0	5.9	5.1	2.7
Ridings ,, ...	3	3	3	4	5	1.7	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.6
Roche Colliery	...	2	2	3	1	...	1.5	1.0	0.3	Nil
Savile Mills	4	4	2	2	1	1.7	2.9	1.0	3.0	3.5
Smithies Lane Mill	3	2	3	4	5	3.3	1.5	1.5	1.1	Nil
Spafield Mills	...	1	...	1	2	...	5.0	...	2.0	2.0
Spring Mills, Staincliffe	...	2	...	2	...	...	4.7	...	3.7	...
Spring Mills, Carlinghow ...	4	3	3	4	5	3.4	3.6	1.3	2.9	3.1
Springwell Mills (round chimney)	...	1	...	1	2	...	4.0	...	5.0	4.0
,, ,, (square chimney)	...	1	1	1	2	...	11.0	2.0	2.0	5.0
Staincliffe Low Mills	...	2	...	2	...	..	3.5	..	4.3	...
Staincliffe Mills	...	2	...	2	...	...	3.7	...	4.5	...
Stanley Mill	3	2	1	3	1	Nil	0.2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Talbot Street Works	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2.0	...	...
Union Mills	4	4	2	2	...	4.7	4.5	13.5	5.0	...
Union Street Grease Works ...	3	2	1	...	...	1.1	3.2	2.0	...	...
Valley Mills	3	2	1	2	2	2.7	3.0	5.0	2.5	5.2
Victoria Foundry	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	Nil	..	1.0
,, Grease Works	3	3	2	3	2	1.8	3.0	Nil	4.2	4.0
,, Mills, Batley Carr ...	...	3	1	3	1	...	5.0	5.0	4.3	2.0
,, ,, Carlinghow ...	4	5	7	5	5	3.1	3.2	2.4	1.5	2.6
Warwick Road Mills	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	Nil
Wensleydale Mills	3	2	3	4	5	3.6	4.5	3.0	3.1	4.4
Wheatcroft ,, ...	3	3	1	2	2	4.5	4.0	Nil	Nil	3.5

8.—Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and School Medical Officer	G. H. Pearce, M.D., (Durh.), D.P H, (Camb.), Barrister-at Law (Inner Temple).
School Oculist	Randal Herley, B.A., L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.).
Veterinary Inspector	Geo. Whitehead, M.R.C.V.S., (Lond. and Edin.).
School Dental Surgeon	W. Adderley, L.D.S., (Eng). (Appointed Dec., 1923).
Public Analyst	F. W. Richardson, F.I.C., F.C.S.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	Joseph Lindley, F.S.I.A.
Superintendent Health Visitor, Superintendent School Nurse, Administrative Matron of Maternity Home	Miss Evans.
Health Visitors and School Nurses ...	Miss Farthing. Miss Dearden. Miss Waterhouse. Miss Robertshaw.
Assistant Sanitary Inspectors... ...	J. W. Beaumont (Apptd. Dec. 1923.) George Milner.
Chief Clerk	Mrs. Louks.
Junior Clerk	Miss K. Lister.
Maternity Home	Sister - - Miss Scott Staff Nurse - Miss Cooke. Nurse Midwife Mrs. Molyneaux. Midwife - Miss Fildes. Midwife - Miss Potter.

All devote their whole time to the Public Health Service, with the exception of the School Oculist, Veterinary Inspector, and Public Analyst, who are part-time officers. The School Dental Surgeon devotes three-fifths of his time to Batley and two-fifths to another Local Authority. A fifty per cent. salary contribution is received by the Town Council under the Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants in respect of each, with the exception of the Veterinary Inspector, Public Analyst, Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, and Clerks, but a sixth part of the Clerk's salaries is paid from the above funds in respect of some work done for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and one-third for work in the School Medical Service.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Nuisances. Mr. J. W. Beaumont possesses the certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors and Inspectors of Meat and other Foods. All the Health Visitors are fully trained State Registered Nurses and Certified Midwives. The Superintendent is specially qualified in addition by virtue of being for some years a sister at the St. Mary's Hospitals for Women and Children, Manchester. At the Maternity Home, Miss Scott and Miss Cooke are fully trained nurses and certified midwives. Mrs. Molyneaux is a State Registered nurse and certified midwife. Miss Fildes and Miss Potter are certified midwives.

9. Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total 6

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919 or 1923—

(1) By the Local Authority ... ... None.

(2) By other bodies or persons ... ... None.

1. Unfit dwelling-houses—

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts) 363

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 105

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... None.

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ... None.

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 28

3. Action under Statutory Powers—

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... None.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—(a) by owners ... ... None.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners None.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close None.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 30

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—

(a) by owners 28

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... None.

C.—Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ... None.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... None.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ... None.

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... None.

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... None.

There are many houses in the town which are defective and in more normal times would have been dealt with by closure, or other methods less drastic. The commonest conditions met with are dampness, lack of light, defective ventilation and dilapidations. It is frequently demonstrated that ordinary repairs to houses are not undertaken because the landlords, often in poor circumstances, are not able to pay the cost which for even small work may easily take more than is left of a year's rent after the landlord has paid his outgoing charges. In my opinion the provision of houses by private persons will not be undertaken until all restrictions are removed, when the law of supply and demand will again regulate conditions. It would appear that there is little prospect of this happening in the near future.

As bearing upon the question of repairs to property and the alleged difficulty of getting them done on the ground of expense, the remarks, according to the local Press, of the President of the Dewsbury Pioneers' Industrial Society are of interest. He is reported to have shewn " that for nine years, 1915—1923 inclusive, the Society's house property, in which capital amounting to £62,085 is invested, had only made an annual return to the Society of 2.2 per cent. On these figures it would appear there should be no ground for surprise at the " indisposition of private persons, or co-operative institutions, to invest their capital on so poorly productive an enterprise as housing."

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1923.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.
Fellow and Member of Council (Past President Yorkshire Branch) of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.
Member of the Royal Sanitary Institute,
&c.

Public Health Department,
Batley,
January, 1924.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following Annual Report is compiled in accordance with instructions contained in Form 6 M of the Board of Education dated December, 1920. The Board suggests a lengthy statement should not be given every year under every heading of the Memorandum, and hopes such will tend to economy by leading to a general saving of time and trouble on the part of all concerned. It is, therefore, with this object in view, together with financial economy, I present this report for 1923. There are some unsatisfactory features about it, but in general I am of opinion the Committee has cause to feel that the physical condition of the scholars is gradually improving, and I am satisfied this will continue in the future, probably even at a greater rate than in the past. So much depends upon education. The mothers of the near future have had the advantage of instruction to some extent in the laws of health and the benefits of fresh air and sunlight which their parents were not always able to obtain. There were no Health Visitors, Welfare Centres, and School Nurses in their younger days. Education Committees did not possess the powers for the benefit of scholars in their schools which are usual to-day.

All these circumstances are working together for the advantage of the school child. In Batley the fact is being demonstrated daily.

I am,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

G. H. PEARCE,
School Medical Officer.

Staff.

The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer and personally undertakes all the routine and special examinations. He is assisted by a Superintendent School Nurse, who is present at all examinations. There are, in addition, four School Nurses, each of whom devotes one half of her time to School Medical work, the remainder being occupied with Health Visitor's duties. Two part-time officers—an Ophthalmic Surgeon and a Dental Surgeon—are also on the Staff of the School Medical Officer. The clerical work is done in the general office at the Public Health Department.

Co-ordination.

Arrangements under this heading are satisfactory. The Medical Officer of Health being School Medical Officer links up these two branches of his department, which is completed by the School Nurses being also Health Visitors working under the Health and Education Committees. Hence children from birth are under the care of a Health Visitor until their names are entered upon a school register, when they automatically come under the care of a School Nurse who is usually the same individual.

The Education Committee does not possess any nursery schools.

The School Medical Service in Relation to Public Elementary Schools.

School Hygiene.—Particulars respecting the hygienic circumstances of all the Batley Elementary Schools are given on Pages 2 and 3 of the report of the S.M.O. for 1921, and are applicable to the present year. The number of scholars on the roll on December 31st, 1923, was 5,272.

The Director of Education (Mr. Elliott) has kindly furnished me with the following information respecting structural alterations during 1923:—

Brownhill C.E. School.—Improvements to the heating apparatus and additional radiators.

Carlinghow School.—Windows lowered and casement windows provided in the Girls' and Infants' Departments. New Lavatory Bowls provided in the Infants' Department.

Field Lane School.—New lavatory bowls provided.

Healey School.—Half playground re-asphalted.

Park Road School.—W.C. for teachers provided.

Purlwell School.—Electric lighting installed in Girls' Department.

Warwick Road School.—Improvements to heating and radiation of Infants' Department. Additional incandescent lighting.

Gregory Street School.—Large portion of playground re-asphalted. Portion of school floor replaced.

Hanging Heaton C.E.—Portion of school floor replaced.

As last year, a large sum has been spent upon repairs to roofs, ventilation and heating installations, and upon pointing, etc., of School Buildings.

Casement windows are generally unsuitable for schools. On warm summer days they may be very estimable, but in this country the all-year-round climate is such as to make their use for efficient ventilation impracticable. Cross ventilation of schoolrooms by means of properly constructed and sufficient hoppers is the best natural method and is suitable for all weathers. This should be regarded as the real means of ventilation, casement windows being only useful on special occasions.

Medical Inspection.

(a) Age groups inspected during 1923 were all those newly admitted and under the age of five years, together with all those whose fifth, ninth, and thirteenth birthdays occurred during 1923.

(b) The Board's Schedule of Medical Inspection has been followed in every instance.

(c) The steps taken for ascertaining cases of crippling defects are fully explained on Pages 62 and 63 of the report of the S.M.O. for 1920.

(d) The same remarks apply to the extent to which disturbance of school arrangements was involved by medical inspection.

Findings of Medical Inspection.

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT ROUTINE EXAMINATIONS, EXCLUDING DEFECTIVE TEETH.

Free from classified defects.		Found suffering from one or more classified defects.	
Averages 1908–12	40 2%	Averages 1908–12	59.7%
,, 1913–17	40.8%	,, 1913–17	59.0%
,, 1918–22	44.8%	,, 1918–22	55.1%
1923	40.1%	1923	59.9%

If verminous conditions are also deducted the figures are :—

Free from classified defects.		Found suffering from one or more classified defects.	
Averages 1908–12	77 6%	Averages 1908–12	22.3%
,, 1913–17	54.3%	,, 1913–17	45.2%
,, 1918–22	51.5%	,, 1918–22	48.3%
1923	43.0%	1923	56.9%

As a comparison the figures for elementary scholars in the area of the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council may be taken from which it appears that in such area of the County the School Medical Inspectors found rather more than 54 per cent. of scholars to be suffering from defects during the year 1923.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

Percentage of Children found with Defects at Routine Examinations Excluding Defective Teeth.

SCHOOL.	1908–12	1913–17	1918–22	1923
	Infants' Department.			
Parish Church ...	57.88	45.56	35.16	65.2
Brownhill	59.85	53.24	40.01	57.1
Carlinghow	60.62	46.06	31.96	28.6
Field Lane	54.86	46.61	36.5	41.4
Healey	52.34	42.18	37.22	60.8
Park Road	68.14	58.32	43.2	55.5
Purlwell	38.64	39.24	35.76	53.06
St. Mary's	70.5	69.34	45.96	65.8
Staincliffe	51.74	48.42	32.28	52.1
Warwick Road ..	58.55	47.44	50.16	60.7
Gregory Street ...	47.13	48.48	36.7	43.7
Hanging Heaton ..	74.16	41.44	27.42	58.3
Mill Lane	53.4	42.26	35.04	30.4
	Girls' Department.			
Parish Church ...	53.46	66.66	65.96	52.5
Brownhill	66.45	79.0	59.3	55.5
Carlinghow	68 47	79.8	75.64	66.2
Healey	46.24	78.84	68.56	50.0
Park Road	69.52	77.88	80.86	58.2
Purlwell	66.28	79.28	72.42	65.5
St. Mary's	77.76	86.02	82.3	70.9
Staincliffe	67.36	65.94	72.72	61.5
Warwick Road ..	68.88	71.1	78.02	73.6
Gregory Street ...	65.9	68.5	71.0	62.5
Hanging Heaton ...	58.3	78.9	78.24	64.3
Mill Lane	68.83	81.0	56.3	60.5
	Boys' Department.			
Parish Church ..	55.56	50.08	56.72	45.2
Brownhill	48.9	77.04	75.62	72.7
Carlinghow	56.52	75.68	62.9	64.4
Healey	55.92	59.0	62.82	46.9
Park Road	59.44	67.12	71.72	72.6
Purlwell	56.62	68.76	66.3	61.3
St. Mary's	76.36	78.08	84.68	84.7
Staincliffe	63.14	56.76	63.46	42.3
Warwick Road ...	58.57	73.6	70.04	62.3
Gregory Street ...	...	...	55.15	63.6
Hanging Heaton ...	63.06	73.48	62.56	53.3
Mill Lane	61.1	68.76	59.1	69.2
Totals ...	55.1	59.08	60.88	59.9

An examination of the preceding figures is at the outset calculated to give a depressing result, as things appear to be little better than they have been during the fifteen years school medical inspection has been customary.

The fact is, however, that many of the defects now met with are minor in character compared with years past, so that, although the figures are somewhat disappointing those familiar with the physical condition and appearance of the scholars, teachers and members of the school medical staff, are well aware of the very great improvement all round. On the other hand many children suffer from defects which should never have arisen had the advice given the parents by the Health Visitors been followed in infant life. It also occasionally happens that parents refuse to accept the advice offered at the routine inspections, but this is a decreasing occurrence. Over 67 per cent. of parents were present at the examinations in 1923, which is a high figure if comparisons are made with other areas. It is regrettable that the parents of sixty scholars had to be threatened with prosecution by the Education Committee for neglecting or refusing to obtain the necessary treatment for their children's defective sight, but all complied without being actually taken before the magistrates, although in some cases it took several months to get them to do so. It seems incredible that these conditions exist when all facilities are provided by the Education Committee at no cost to the parents, even spectacles being purchased by the Committee if poverty is a hindrance. I suppose ignorance is the real cause of the difficulties raised by parents in such cases.

The figures for malnutrition are better in 1923. Only 160 children, or 10.2 per cent, were found to be suffering from the condition, against 14.6 and 21.7 in 1922 and 1921 respectively, but it must not be forgotten that ten per cent. of school children under-nourished is a serious state of affairs. The cause is not poverty—there are a few exceptions, of course—nor insufficient food, the real reason being unsuitable food and lack of parental control, combined with ignorance on the part of parents of the value of foodstuffs, which has no relation to the cost of the article. Much work has been done, as previously, in the Welfare Centres and the homes of the scholars by the nurses in demonstrating to mothers the relative values of articles of diet.

(a) UNCLEANLINESS.—There is an improvement here, more self-respect being apparent amongst the older girls, who for years were the worst offenders, and the mothers, who frequently used to be heard discussing the verminous condition of their daughters as though it was a natural circumstance, and certainly nothing to be ashamed of. A word of commendation should here be expressed to certain head teachers, for it is well-known that those schools where the teachers interest themselves in this unsavoury subject contain the least number of verminous scholars. The grosser verminous cases, once so common, are becoming a rarity, due again, I believe, to education, but many of these are restricted annually to the same families. During 1923 13,065 surprise examinations were made by the School Nurses, and 780 individual children, being 14.8 per cent. of the scholars on the school registers, were found to be in a verminous condition. This is the lowest figure yet attained in Batley, and, although high, is satisfactory when compared with previous years. Two prosecutions were undertaken.

(b) MINOR AILMENTS.—The table explains the circumstances.

(c) TONSILS and ADENOIDS.—An arrangement is in existence between the Batley Education Committee and the Governors of the Batley and District Hospital by which, in consideration of the annual payment to the funds of the Hospital by the Committee of £50, cases of Adenoids and Enlarged Tonsils referred by the School Medical Officer are operated upon at the Hospital by members of the Honorary Surgical Staff. During 1923 the number of cases so referred by the School Medical Officer was 59, and 40 of these were actually operated upon at the Hospital, 36 being referred in 1923 and 4 from previous years. There is an increasing disposition upon the part of parents to accept the advice giver them respecting these dangerous conditions.

(d) TUBERCULOSIS.—At the routine examinations one definite and seven suspected Pulmonary cases were discovered, together with one definite Non-Pulmonary case. During the year 1923, 28 cases of Tuberculosis have been notified by doctors, being 25 Pulmonary cases and 3 Non-Pulmonary, 27 attended the Elementary Schools and 1 the Girls' Grammar School. There are at present 68 children of school age in Batley suffering from some form of Tuberculosis.

I have for a number of years recommended that delicate scholars suffering from such conditions as malnutrition, anæmia, etc., should be taught in the open air in the Park.

During 1922 the Committee applied to the Board of Education for permission to establish such a school, but the Board refused. The matter was again pursued, and in December, 1923, the Board revoked their previous decision and gave recognition and approval to the arrangements for the school and the accommodation of an average attendance of 20 children. It is hoped to commence work in the forthcoming Spring. I have every reason to think the result will amply justify the decision.

(e) SKIN DISEASES.—Twenty-three cases were met with at routine examinations. No special comment is needed.

(f) EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.—Eleven cases were seen, mostly blepharitis, and referred for treatment.

(g) Dr. Randal Herley, the Committee's Ophthalmic Surgeon, has continued his work at the Clinic in the Public Health Department during the year. His services are of much value to those who need them. Many scholars have made marked progress at school since their errors of refraction were corrected. The Ophthalmic Department of the School Medical Service in Batley has done continuous good work since its establishment.

Report of the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

54, Bradford Road, Dewsbury,

January 1st, 1924.

TO THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER, BATLEY.

Dear Sir,

From January 11th, 1923, to November 29th, 1923, I examined the eyes of 163 school children, and spectacles were prescribed in 158 cases:—Hypermetropic 48, Myopia 35, Simple Myopic Astigmatism 6, Compound Myopic Astigmatism 10, Simple Hypermetropic Astigmatism 13, Compound Hypermetropic Astigmatism 39. Mixed Astigmatism 7. There was one case of Congenital Word-blindness, and one with Double Optic Atrophy. In three cases it was not necessary to prescribe new glasses.

I wish to thank the Nurses on your staff for preparing the cases and helping me during the year.

Yours faithfully,

RANDAL HERLEY.

(h) EAR DISEASE and HEARING.—The conditions met were generally due to a previous attack of Measles or Scarlet Fever. Special care is taken to impress upon parents the importance of treatment where discharge from the ears occurs.

(i) DENTAL DEFECT.—The School Dental Surgeon (Mr. W. G. Gray, L.D.S.) ceased his work in December, 1923, an arrangement having been made between the Batley and Spenborough Education Committees for the whole-time services of a dental surgeon, who will commence his work on February 1st, 1924, devoting three-fifths of his time to Batley and two-fifths to Spenborough.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL SURGEON.

Broomfield, Halifax Road,
Dewsbury.

TO THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER, BATLEY.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year ending 31st December, 1923.

As in previous years, children of the age groups 6—8 years inclusive have been examined and treated, and, in addition, 95 "special" cases from older age groups, and referred by you, have been inspected and treated at the Clinic. The condition of these special cases, from a dental aspect, was bad, and the need for education in dental hygiene is still very pronounced.

The accompanying tables give the figures for the year.

I wish to record my appreciation of the valuable help given me by you and your staff.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

W. G. GRAY,

School Dental Surgeon.

Dental Inspection at Schools, 1923.

SCHOOL.	No. Examined.	No. Absent.	No. Re-examined.	No. Requiring Treatment.	No. Re-examined requiring treatment.	No. Re-examined requiring further treatment.
Field Lane	78	10	43	34	25	4
Hanging Heaton ..	37	10	26	17	16	4
Brownhill	53	2	27	29	17	3
Gregory Street ...	60	5	33	31	20	1
Mill Lane	77	16	51	45	36	14
Healey— Infants & Mixed	105	24	45	57	27	9
Carlinghow-Infants	85	22	51	34	25	6
Girls & Boys	57	10	55	42	40	19
Warwick Rd.-Inf'ts	99	8	49	46	25	7
Girls & Boys	65	9	56	52	44	6
C. of E.— Infants & Mixed	131	6	78	98	67	18
Staincliffe— Infants & Mixed	89	11	43	63	34	10
St. Mary's— Infants	65	6	—	40	—	—
Mixed	70	11	68	58	57	12
TOTALS ...	1071	150	625	646	433	114

Dental Treatment at Clinic.

Number of hours taken over treatment	212
Appointments made	726
Appointments broken	41
New patients attended	268
Former patients attended	270
Patients from former years attended	117
No. of amalg. fillings—temporary	8
permanent	469
No. of compound fillings—temporary	Nil
permanent	28
No. of cement fillings—temporary	Nil
permanent	83
No. of root fillings—temporary	Nil
permanent	10
No. of teeth actually filled	511
No. of extractions—temporary	404
permanent	11
No. of local anæsthetics	240
No. of Ag NO_3 Dressings	72
No. of Devitalising dressings	6
No. of other dressings	27
No. of scalings	1

(j) CRIPPLING DEFECTS.—Particulars are given in the Tables. Every effort is made to persuade parents of crippled children to obtain the necessary surgical treatment where such is desirable, and at no cost to the parents in necessitous cases.

Accommodation in the Homes of Batley School Children Examined During 1923.

This table is not strictly accurate, as experience proves that parents do not always give truthful replies to queries respecting housing conditions:—

No. of rooms in house	No. of persons per Tenement.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 and upwards	Total.
1				1									1
2		4	48	113	97	67	39	35	16	5	3	2	429
3		1	39	98	120	68	54	33	13	9	1	1	437
4			16	45	47	38	30	20	15	4	5	3	223
5 & upwards			18	33	36	40	36	23	11	11	6	1	215

Infectious Diseases.

Head Teachers reported 578 and School Attendance Officers 310 cases of infectious or contagious disease during the year.

It was not found necessary to recommend the closure of any school during that period.

In all infectious or contagious conditions the Head Teacher is furnished with a certificate of Exclusion by the School Medical Officer, and the scholar must not be re-admitted to school until a re-admission certificate has been received by the Head Teacher from the same source. Duplicates of these certificates are sent to the Director of Education.

The total number of exclusions during the year was 1,206.

The following shows the average weekly number of children, either patients or contacts, excluded from school during 1923 on account of infectious or contagious conditions:—

Scarlet Fever	15	Mumps	8
Diphtheria	1	Ringworm	7
Enteric Fever	Nil	Impetigo	1
Measles	21	Contagious Ophthalmia	.02
Whooping Cough	23	Scabies	0.1
Chickenpox	3	Verminous Conditions...	2

In the case of non-notifiable diseases or conditions—that is to say not notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health under the Notification of Infectious Diseases Acts, or Regulations made under the Public Health Acts—information is generally obtained through notification being made by Head Teachers or Attendance Officers.

Particulars respecting rules for exclusion of children from school are given on pages 70 and 71 of the Report of the School Medical Officer for 1920, copies of which were supplied to all Head Teachers.

Following Up.

All defects discovered, if necessary, are followed up through visitation of the home by the School Nurses, the giving of further advice, and persuasion of parents to take the requisite steps for the amelioration of the particular condition. In this connection 2,328 home visits were made during the year and 170 visits to schools for purposes other than verminous and allied conditions.

Medical Treatment.

The methods employed or available for the treatment of defects are fully specified on pages 13 and 14 of the Report of the School Medical Officer for 1921. The conditions during 1923 were the same.

Open-air Education.

(a) PLAYGROUND CLASSES.—It is the practice in most schools, particularly in infants' schools, to take classes out into the yard in suitable weather. At schools like Brownhill the scholars are taken into an adjacent field.

(b) SCHOOL JOURNEYS.—Mr. Elliott informs me that several senior schools arranged day or half-day journeys to York, Scarborough, Ilkley, Bolton Abbey, the Dukeries, etc. Increasing groups of scholars have paid visits to the Park and Museum.

(c) SCHOOL CAMPS.—None were organised during 1923.

(d) OPEN-AIR CLASS-ROOMS in public elementary schools are as yet non-existent, but where possible it is common for classroom windows to be widely open during suitable weather. Here the fresh-air policy largely depends upon the Head Teacher. The casement window has been previously referred to. Generally throughout the schools the benefits of fresh air and efficient ventilation are becoming more matters of concern to all affected.

(e) DAY OPEN-AIR SCHOOLS.—A proposed open air school will be established in Wilton Park, reference to which was made in my report of last year. During last month (December, 1923) approval by the Board of Education was given for accommodation not exceeding, at present, an average attendance of 20 children. Arrangements are, therefore, being made for a class comprising 23 delicate children, probably between 10 and 13 years of age, to commence about April, 1924. Arrangements will include provision of breakfast and dinner at a charge to parents in accordance with their means.

(f) RESIDENTIAL OPEN-AIR SCHOOLS.—The Committee do not possess any.

Physical Training.

The particulars given on page 73 of my report for 1920 are applicable in the main to the year under review. The usual arrangements were made for instruction in swimming to be given at the Public Baths to 590 boys and 445 girls from the Elementary Schools. Certificates were awarded to 223 boys and 111 girls for swimming from 1 to 72 lengths. Arrangements continue whereby all the schools (with the exception of Field Lane Infants' School) have the use, or partial use, of a playing field.

The marked improvement in the physical condition of many scholars, I am satisfied, is largely due to the increased custom of open-air games.

Provision of Meals.

Mr. Elliott informs me that no meals have been provided during the year 1923. This was also the case during 1922, as against 3,853 free meals to scholars in 1921. Whilst trade has been so bad throughout the country during the last two years these facts are worthy of consideration.

School Baths.

There are no baths attached to any of the schools. Scholars visit the swimming baths under supervision as previously explained, but this is for purposes of swimming, not for cleansing.

Co-operation of Parents, Teachers and School Attendance Officers.

During 1923 67.2 per cent. of parents attended the routine inspections. On pages 15 and 16 of the Report of the School Medical Officer for 1921 particulars are given respecting the assistance given by Head Teachers and School Attendance Officers. This has been continued during 1923 as previously.

School Clinic.

The total number of attendances during 1923 at the School Clinic was 968, the individual scholars numbering 240.

Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

It is occasionally necessary to invoke the aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children where it is found that children are persistently verminous and generally neglected. In such cases the School Nurses occasionally fail to make an impression, but a visit from the Society's Inspector generally results in much benefit to the scholars concerned.

During the early portion of the year "The Boots for the Bairns' Fund," inaugurated by the ex-Mayor of Batley (Alderman T. Western) and administrated by a Committee, provided 80 pairs of boots and 45 other garments for children. The distribution was carried out by a Committee in co-operation with Mrs. A. W. Western, Mr. Elliott, the Teachers, and the School Attendance Officers. Previously the work was done in co-operation with the Health Department.

Blind, Deaf, Defective, and Epileptic Children.

The arrangements described on pages 16 and 17 of the Report of the School Medical Officer for 1921 still hold good. Particulars are given in the appended tables.

Nursery Schools.

The Education Committee does not at present possess any.

Secondary Schools.

The School Medical Officer, as such, is not concerned with the scholars attending secondary schools in Batley. He is, however, frequently consulted by the heads of the boys' and girls' Grammar Schools respecting matters arising out of infectious disease, advice being given in the capacity of Medical Officer of Health.

Continuation Schools.

The School Medical Officer is not concerned as such with pupils attending this institution in Batley.

Employment of Children and Young Persons.

(1) Scholars, where employed out of school hours, are chiefly engaged in the distribution of papers and periodicals for news-agents, and in other ways as messengers, errand boys, etc.

(2) There is no co-ordination between the work of the School Medical Service and that of the certifying Factory Surgeon for the Borough, this officer being a general practitioner who resides in another town.

Statistical Tables.

The four statistical tables required by the Board of Education in respect of children in Public Elementary Schools are appended herewith. I desire to record my appreciation of the excellent work performed by the School Nurses during 1923 and the hearty co-operation of the Director of Education (Mr. Elliott), the Head Teachers, and the Attendance Officers (Messrs. Hinchcliffe and Barker).

G. H. PEARCE, M.D., D.P.H.,

School Medical Officer.

TABLE 1.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Code Group Inspections—	
Entrants	340
Intermediates	503
Leavers	487
Total	1330
Number of other Routine Inspections	196

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	178
Number of Re-inspections	214
Total	392

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1923.

	DEFECT OR DISEASE.	Routine Inspections: No. of Defects — Requiring Treatment.	Routine Inspections: No. of Defects — Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Special Inspections: No. of Defects. — Requiring Treatment.	Special Inspections: No. of Defects. — Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Malnutrition	160	—	—	—
	Uncleanliness (See Table IV, Group V.)	94	35	—	—
Skin.	Ringworm—				
	Scalp	—	—	—	—
	Body	—	—	—	—
	Scabies	—	—	—	—
	Impetigo	2	16	—	—
	Other Diseases (Non-Tubercular)	—	5	—	—
Eye.	Blepharitis	5	3	—	—
	Conjunctivitis	1	—	—	—
	Keratitis	—	—	—	—
	Corneal Opacities	—	2	—	—
	Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	79	120	13	—
	Squint	22	14	9	—
	Other Conditions	—	—	—	—
Ear	Defective Hearing	4	11	—	—
	Otitis Media	9	4	1	—
	Other Ear Diseases	1	—	—	—
Nose and Throat.	Enlarged Tonsils (only)	52	66	—	—
	Adenoids (only)	7	7	1	—
	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	—	—	—	—
	Other Conditions	2	3	—	—
	Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tubercular)	—	40	—	—
	Defective Speech	—	8	—	—
	Teeth—Dental Diseases (See Table IV, Group IV)	95	—	—	—

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Heart and Circulation.	Heart Disease—				
	Organic	—	7	—	—
	Functional	—	1	—	—
	Anæmia	17	—	—	—
Lungs	Bronchitis	—	52	—	—
	Other Non-Tubercular Diseases	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis.	Pulmonary—				
	Definite	1	—	—	—
	Suspected	5	2	—	—
	Non-Pulmonary—				
	Glands	—	1	—	—
	Spine	—	—	—	—
	Hip	—	—	—	—
	Other Bones and Joints	—	—	—	—
	Skin	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	—	—	—	—
Nervous System.	Epilepsy	—	2	—	—
	Chorea	—	1	—	—
	Other Conditions	—	4	—	—
Deformities.	Rickets	1	110	—	—
	Spinal Curvature	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	1	30	—	—
	Other Defects and Diseases	—	276	—	—

B.—Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental diseases.

Group. (1)	Number of Children. Inspected. (2)	Found to require treatment. (3)	Percentage of children found to require treatment. (4)
Code Groups :			
Entrants	340	95	27.9
Intermediates ..	503	156	31.0
Leavers	487	182	37.3
Total (code groups) ...	1330	433	32.5
Other routine inspections ...	196	9	4.6

TABLE III.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind).	(*i*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	2	—	2
		Attending Public Elementary Schools			
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	(*ii*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	1	—	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	2	3	5
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
Deaf (including Deaf and Dumb and partially deaf)	(*i*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	1	—	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools			
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	(*ii*) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	—	1	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	—	1	1
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
Mentally Defective.	Feeble-Minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority.	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.			
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	1	1	2
		Attending other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year	Feeble-Minded			
		Imbeciles			
		Idiots			
Epileptics.	Suffering from severe epilepsy	Attending Certified Schools (Special) for Epileptics			
		In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools...			
		Attending Public Elementary Schools			
		At no School or Institution	—	1	1
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe	Attending Public Elementary Schools	1	1	2
		At no School or Institution			

			Boys	Girls	Total
Epileptics	Infectious Pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	1	3	4
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution	19	26	45
	Non-Infectious but Active Pulmonary and Glandular Tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board			
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools			
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ...			
		At Public Elementary Schools	11	14	25
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
Physically Defective.	Delicate children (*e.g.*, pre- or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.)	At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools			
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ...			
		At Public Elementary Schools	79	98	177
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis... ...	At Sanitoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	1	1
		At Public Elementary Schools	4	6	10
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution			
	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculosis), *e.g.*, children suffering from paralysis, etc., and including those with severe heart disease.	At Certified Hospital Schools	1	—	1
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools			
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ...			
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	12	23	35
		At other Institutions			
		At no School or Institution	2	1	3

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1923.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group 1.—Minor Ailments.

(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.)

Disease or Defect	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
SKIN			
Ringworm—Scalp	21	1	22
Ringworm—Body	9	1	10
Scabies	—	—	—
Impetigo	26	4	30
Other Skin Diseases	1	—	1
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ... (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	13	2	15
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ...	5	14	19
MISCELLANEOUS ... ... (*e.g.* minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	1	5	6
TOTAL ...	76	27	103

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

Group 2.—Defective Vision and Squint.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments, Group 1.

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. (3)	Otherwise. (4)	Total. (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint).	163	1	nil	164
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group 1.)	2	nil	nil	2
TOTAL ...	165	1	nil	166

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed.

(*a*) Under the Authority's Scheme ... 157.

(*b*) Otherwise ... ... 1.

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles.

(*a*) Under the Authority's Scheme ... 145

(*b*) Otherwise 1

Group 3.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.

Received Operative Treatment.			Received Other Forms of Treatment.	Total Number Treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Total. (3)	(4)	(5)
40	2	42	3	45

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

Group 4.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of children who were:—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist:

Age Groups 6-8 years—

Total	1071
Specials	95
Grand Total	1166

(b) Found to require treatment 646

(c) Actually treated 362

(d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination ... ... None.

(2) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection	12
Treatment	59—Total 71

(3) Attendances made by children for treatment 685

(4) Fillings—

Permanent teeth	503
Temporary teeth	8—Total 511

(5) Extractions—

Permanent teeth	11
Temporary teeth	404—Total 415

(6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions None

(7) Other operations—

Permanent teeth	106
Temporary teeth	nil—Total 106

GROUP 5.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses 4.5

(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses 13,065

(3) Number of individual children found unclean 780

(4) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority ... ... None

(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 ... ... None

(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws 2