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BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

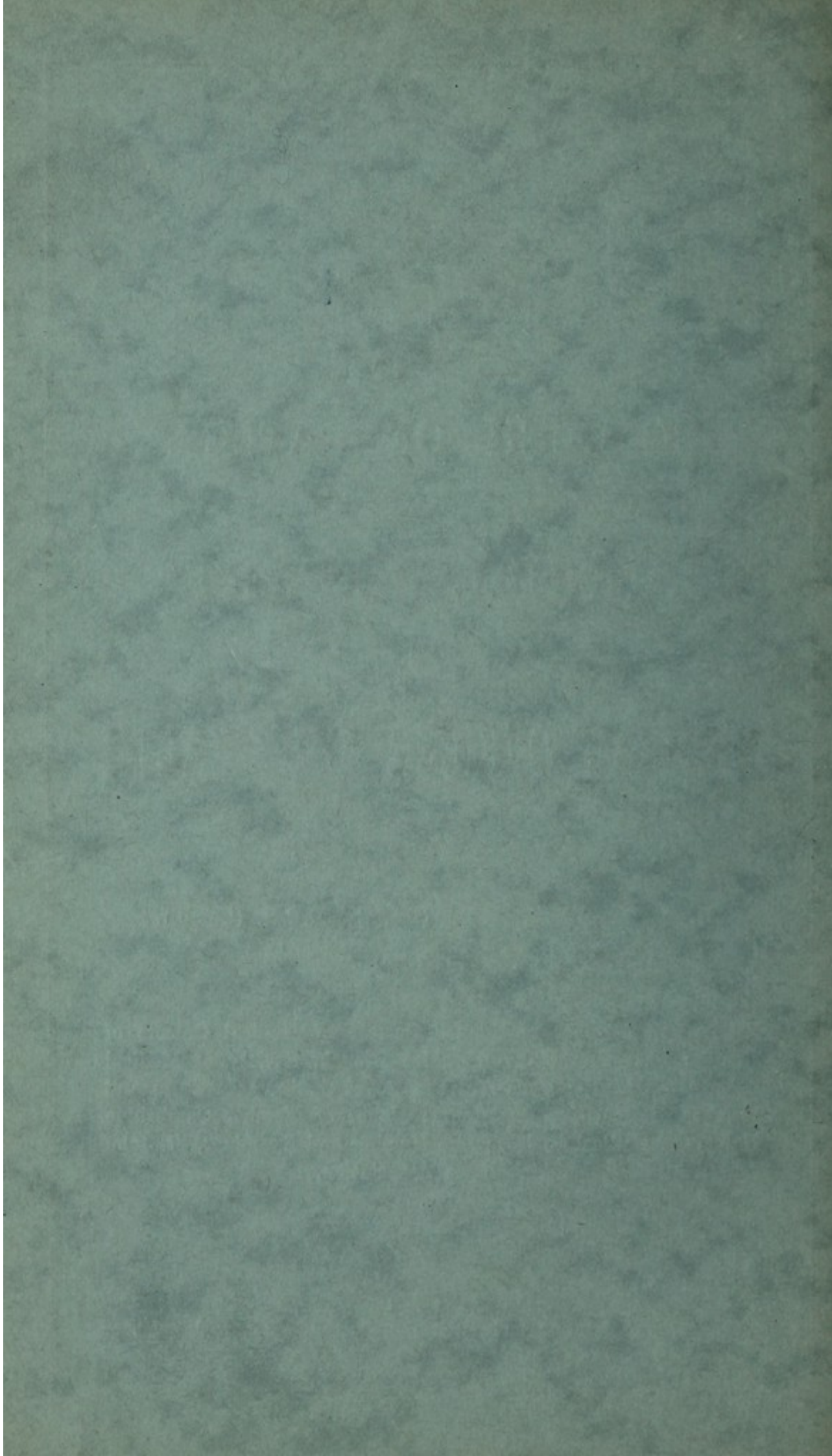
for the Year 1928.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

Fellow and Member of Council Society of Medical Officers of Health; Past President, Yorkshire Branch, Society of Medical Officers of Health; Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Member of Board of Examiners; Honorary Member Cambridge University Medical Society; Life Member and Examiner, St. John Ambulance Association,
etc.

BATLEY:

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etc.

This Annual Report is compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 939 (England), issued by the Ministry of Health, 13th December, 1928.

General Statistics, 1928.

Area of Borough (in acres)	3,227
Civil Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	34,250
Population at Census of 1921 (Males 16,647, Females 19,490)	36,137
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	9,509
Total Private Families at Census (1921)	9,320
Population living more than two persons per room (Census)	18.8%
Number of inhabited houses, 1928	9,905
Average number of persons per house	3.4
Density of population per acre	10.6
Number of Births (Males 257, Females 282) Total	539
Illegitimate Births (Males 10, Females 26) Total	36
Birth-Rate per 1,000 living	15.7
Number of Still Births Registered	32
Illegitimate Birth-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	66.7
Number of Deaths, including Residents, who died away from Batley (Males 210, Females 224) Total	434
Net Death-Rate per 1,000 living	12.6
Infantile Death-Rate per 1,000 births registered	55.6
Illegitimate Death-Rate per 1,000 births registered	111.1
Tuberculosis Death-Rate (all forms) per 1,000	0.6
Phthisis Death-Rate per 1,000	0.3
Zymotic Death-Rate per 1,000	0.2
Respiratory Diseases Death-Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	1.7
Cancer Death-Rate per 1,000	1.6
Cases of Infectious Disease notified	236
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	39
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	13
Number of Inquests	46
Rateable Value	£184,120
Rate of 1d. in the £ produces	£697
Rainfall in Inches	30.6
Number of Wet Days	191
Parliamentary Voters	18,823
Local Government Voters	16,435
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£4,405-9-6
Primary Vaccinations	239
Exemption Certificates Granted	377
Dried Milk given under Milk (Mothers and Children) Order	1,010 lbs. Cost £71-16-10



**Borough of Batley.—Vital Statistics of Whole District
during 1928 and Previous Years.**

Yearly Average	Estimated Population.	NETT BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Number	Rate	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number.	Rate.
10 years 1901-10	31,694	827	26.1	143	171	537	17.0
10 years 1911-20	36,435	676	20.5	93	123	571	16.0
5 years 1921-25	36,808	695	18.8	55	79	484	13.1
Year 1926	35,330	625	17.7	44	68	463	13.1
1927	34,930	562	16.0	46	81	525	15.0
1928	34,250	539	15.7	30	55	434	12.6
England & Wales ...	...	...	16.7	...	65	...	11.7
107 County Bor- oughs and Great Towns including London ...	...	...	16.9	...	70	...	11.6
156 Smaller Towns...	...	...	16.6	...	60	...	10.6
LONDON ...	...	...	15.9	...	67	...	11.6

PROVISIONAL FIGURES 1928.

Births	{ Leg. ... Illeg. ... }	Total (Male Female)			} Birth Rate, 15.7
		503	247	256	
		36	10	26	

Deaths ... 434 Death-Rate ... 12.6

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth—

From sepsis ... 1 From other causes ... 1

Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

Legitimate ... 26. Illegitimate ... 4. Total ... 30

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 5

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ... 4

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

**Causes of Death in Batley for the Years
1912 to 1928.**

	10 Years Average, 1912-1921.	5 Years Average, 1922-1926.	Year, 1927.	Year 1928.
Enteric Fever	2.3	1.2	1	...
Small Pox	0.1	...	...	...
Measles	11.5	4.6	10	...
Scarlet Fever	1.0	1.0	...	1
Whooping Cough	5.9	4.8	2	5
Diphtheria and Croup ..	7.1	1.0	1	...
Influenza	27.6	20.8	18	9
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	0.2	1	1
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	...	0.4	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respira- tory System	31.9	16.6	14	13
Other Tuberculous Diseases	11.8	9.4	9	8
Cancer, Malignant Disease	42.9	47.4	55	55
Rheumatic Fever .. .	2.6	2.8	2	1
Diabetes	0.2	5.8	6	6
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc	4.4	42.0	43	28
Heart Disease	57.4	72.2	71	74
Arterio-Sclerosis	1.8	25.0	33	32
Bronchitis	51.0	51.6	57	29
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	40.1	33.0	50	30
Other Respiratory Diseases	6.0	7.0	5	...
Ulcer of Stomach or Duo- denum	0.4	5.0	2	1
Diarrhoea, &c (under 2 yrs.)	12.3	3.0	1	4
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2.6	2.6	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1.9	0.2	...	1
Acute & Chronic Nephritis	25.3	16.2	24	18
Puerperal Sepsis	1.1	0.6	...	1
Other Accidents & Diseases of Pregnancy & Parturi- tion	3.4	2.6	5	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	34.9	22.8	23	18
Suicide	3.3	3.2	3	6
Other deaths from violence	12.6	10.8	2	22
Other Defined Diseases ...	148.4	70.0	85	68
Diseases ill defined or un- known	0.8	0.8	...	...

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—Batley is entirely an industrial town. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are the manufacture of heavy woollen goods and the making of shoddy and mungo. The rag trade is also responsible for the employment of a large proportion of the inhabitants. The bulk of the workers find employment in the numerous mills of the town, both males and females following their occupation there. It is quite usual for husbands and wives to work together at the same mill. The rest of the workers amongst the population of the Borough find employment in the coal mines—a large proportion of miners residing in the town, at ironworks, on the railways, as teamers, general labourers, etc. More females than males are employed in textile manufactures. No particular occupation appears to have any detrimental effect on the public health, which is contrary to expectation.

POPULATION.—On May 4th, 1929, the Registrar General furnished his figure for the population of Batley at the middle of 1928 which is 34,250, a decrease of 680 upon the previous year. In my opinion, expressed in former years, these figures are open to considerable doubt, which will only be settled at the taking of the next census. There were 539 births and 434 deaths in Batley during 1928, giving a natural increase of population of 105, yet the Registrar General estimates a decrease of 680. As his figures are official they must be accepted and upon them the various rates in this report are calculated.

BIRTHS.—The births registered numbered 257 males and 282 females, a total of 539 giving a birth rate of 15.7 per 1,000 of the population. Still births registered by the local registrar numbered 32. The illegitimate births were 36, being 10 males and 26 females.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.—This rate is calculated upon the number of births registered. If there are comparatively few births the infantile death rate quickly shows to disadvantage. In textile areas, where the birth rate is always considerably less than in coal mining areas, the contrast is very marked. The result is that owing to the fall in the number of births during 1928 the infantile death rate for Batley is 55 per 1,000 births registered. This figure is the lowest ever recorded in Batley, is less than England and Wales (65) the Great Towns (70) the smaller towns (60) and London (67). Notwithstanding the drawbacks the Batley infantile death rate for 1928 is a figure which should give the Town Council and others interested in the public health great

satisfaction. It is not so very many years since this figure was over 200 and the present state of affairs testifies to the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare section of the Council's public health activities. Unfortunately no less than eighteen of the thirty infantile deaths were due to congenital debility, malformation and premature birth. Whilst such conditions continue there must be ample work for the ante natal clinic.

THE GENERAL DEATH RATE calculated upon the Registrar General's lower population figure is 12.6 per 1,000. Reference may be made to the table which gives comparative figures for the Borough since 1901 and for England and Wales, the Great Towns, etc. Decreases are noted in the number of deaths from Influenza, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Apoplexy, Acute and Chronic Nephritis. A welcome decrease appears in the deaths from Congenital Debility, Malformation and Premature Birth which may, to a degree, be ascribed to the work of the Ante Natal Clinic in conjunction with other maternity activities. Suicides increased from 3 to 6 and other deaths from violence reached 22 as against 2 only the previous year.

Below is given some particulars respecting deaths from Cancer in Batley. Whilst the cause is still unknown there appears to be some hope, in certain suitable cases, of cure by the application of Radium.

CANCER.

Year	No. Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population	Year	No. Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population	Year	No. Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population
1909	34	1.06	1915	36	0.9	1921	42	1.1
1910	39	1.05	1916	47	1.3	1922	44	1.1
1911	34	0.9	1917	46	1.3	1923	38	1.0
1912	32	0.8	1918	51	1.5	1924	53	1.4
1913	40	1.08	1919	39	1.1	1925	49	1.3
1914	40	1.08	1920	56	1.5	1926	53	1.5
						1927	55	1.6

The death-rate per 1,000 from Cancer for England and Wales for 1927 was 1.3. The 1928 figures are not yet available.



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

A. (1) **FEVER HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION** is provided at the Oakwell Joint Hospital (77 beds, 18 cots, and 11 beds and 2 cots for Smallpox) for the old Borough of Batley, and at the Dewsbury Joint Hospital (72 beds, 30 cots, and 18 beds for Smallpox) 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 will not 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 superintendance of general practitioners residing in Birstall and Dewsbury respectively.

(2) **SMALLPOX** patients can be treated at the Oakwell Hospital, and the Hospital of the Joint Board owned by Dewsbury, Heckmondwike and Batley.

B. (1) **TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA**, in several parts of the West Riding of Yorkshire, provided by the West Riding County Council, together with beds in sanatoria under arrangement with local authorities elsewhere.

(2) **MATERNITY**.—The Batley Maternity Home is provided by the Town Council. There are ten beds for patients in five wards, one bed in an isolation ward, and one bed in the labour room. The staff consists of the Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse, who acts as Administrative Matron, one staff nurse, one nurse midwife, and 2 midwives. The domestic staff comprises cook, housemaid, two charwomen and handyman. The whole domestic staff is non-resident excepting the housemaid.

Details are as under:—

Year.	Bookings	Patients admitted.	Infants Born
1923	205	156	153
1924	215	213	212
1925	212	213	209
1926	184	163	160
1927	206	203	202
1928	182	165	159

The Housing Conditions of 929 patients, residents of Batley, who were confined in the Batley Maternity Home from opening to December 31st, 1928 were as follows:—

TYPE OF HOUSE.—Back-to-back, 462; single, 196; through, 257; one room, 14.

NUMBER OF ROOMS IN HOUSE.—One, 20; two, 342; three, 290; four, 159; five, 96; six and over, 22.

NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS OF HOUSE.—Two, 32; three, 190; four, 258; five, 168; six, 113; seven, 68; eight, 45; nine, 23; ten, 19; eleven, 8; twelve, 5.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF PATIENTS.—Living in own house, 609; living in own house with lodgers, 22; living in lodgings, 298.

The total number of patients in the Home during the above-mentioned period was 934 residents of Batley and 170 from outside the Borough, the complete figures being 1,104.

During the year 1928, 20.1% of the Batley patients confined in the Maternity Home were living in lodgings.

In December, 1927, the Medical Officer of Health prepared a special report upon occasional overcrowding in the home (see pages 10 to 15 Annual Report, 1927). During 1928 the bookings were less than in 1927—182 against 206— and the occasions when overcrowding occurred were 14 days in January, patients varying from 11 to 13; 4 days in February, patients 11 to 12; 3 days in September, patients 11; and 2 days in October, patients 11; a better state of affairs than in 1927. Any overcrowding, however, is always of grave import in Maternity Homes. The sub-committee appointed to meet the Batley hospital governors in March, 1927, had not been able to fix a date up to December 31st, 1928, but it is hoped a convenient occasion may arise in the near future. The Medical Officer of Health has been reminded that in his report upon occasional overcrowding at the Maternity Home no mention is made respecting the admission of patients who reside outside the borough boundaries. The omission was deliberate, it being well known that the greater the number of patients, up to a permissible maximum, the cheaper is the cost of running a public institution such as a Hospital or Maternity Home. The suggestion having been made, it is one which might be considered by the Town Council.

The statement of detailed cost of Municipal Maternity Homes and Hospitals issued by the Ministry of Health in December, 1928, shows the total net cost of each patient admitted to the Batley Maternity Home to be £4 4s. 5d. per week after deduction

of fees paid by patients which in the case of Batley residents amount to £1 2s. 6d. per week and those residing outside Batley £2 7s. 6d. per week. Each patient admitted from outside therefore receives considerable financial assistance from Batley ratepayers. The exclusion of outside residents might reduce overcrowding, but not necessarily, because of the impossibility of fixing an exact date when any patient will require admission. The number of patients residing outside Batley confined in the Maternity Home since the opening in October, 1922, to December 31st, 1928, was 170, of whom 30 were admitted during 1928.

In 1925 it was arranged that it be brought to the notice of all patients that the cost to the Corporation was much greater than the amount paid by individual patients and each is invited to make such a donation when leaving the Home as their financial circumstances may warrant. The amounts contributed have been:

1925 ...	£10 10 6	from 18 patients;	total patients being	213
1926 ...	£18 11 0	„ 23	„ „ „ „	163
1927 ...	£26 17 6	„ 27	„ „ „ „	203
1928 ...	£3 5 0	„ 5	„ „ „ „	165
	<hr/>			<hr/>
	£59 4 0	„ 73	„ „ „ „	744
	<hr/>			<hr/>

The donations amount during the four years to 16s. 2d. per head of those contributing and only 1s. 7d. per head of total patients admitted. On no occasion has any contribution been received from those patients who reside outside Batley.

(3) CHILDREN.—There is no hospital for children, but admission can be obtained by them to the public institutions mentioned below, including a children's ward in the Batley Hospital.

(4) ORTHOPÆDIC.—At a meeting of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee on December 19th, 1928, it was resolved that, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, application be made to the Batley and District Hospital Board to extend to that committee facilities for the orthopædic treatment of children under school age where requisite. An arrangement between the Board and the Education Committee for scholars to be treated is approaching completion.

(5) OTHER HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION, apart from the Poor Law, is provided at the Batley and District Hospital, established in 1878, supported by voluntary contributions, and containing 80 beds, the Dewsbury Infirmary (60 beds), and the Bradford and Leeds Infirmaries. The Poor Law Hospital at Staincliffe contains 336 beds. It is partly in Batley and partly in Dewsbury,

being built upon the boundary line. Batley and District Hospital is in the Borough of Batley, as is the Maternity Home. All others mentioned are outside the Borough boundary.

The Borough Treasurer states that during 1928 the Corporation paid to the Governors of the Batley Hospital £270 7s. 0d., being £150 annual subscription, £50 rent of mortuary, and £70 7s. 0d. through the Education Committee for removal of tonsils and adenoids from school children. Disinfection of bedding for the hospital by the Corporation entails a considerable sum in wages annually.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS and HOMELESS CHILDREN (apart from the Poor Law) is not provided. An unmarried female may be admitted to the Batley Maternity Home for confinement on the first occasion but not subsequently.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) For infectious cases by the Oakwell and Dewsbury Joint Isolation Hospitals, (b) for non-infectious and accident cases by the Batley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. As in previous years, Superintendent Horne of the St. John Ambulance Association continues to render great assistance which is much appreciated by patients and others concerned.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Address.	Sessions.	Authority Providing.
Ante Natal Clinic	Maternity Home	Monday, 1-30—3-30.	Batley Corporation
Infant Welfare Centre	Town Mission Hall	Tuesday, 2—4.	Ditto
Ditto	Wesleyan Sunday Sch., Batley Carr	Wednesday, 2-15—3-45	Ditto
Minor Ailments Clinic	School Clinic, Bk Cambridge St.	Daily, 9 a.m. and 4-15 p.m.	Ditto
Ophthalmic Clinic	Ditto	When required, 2—5.	Ditto
Dental Clinic	Ditto	Mon., Tues., Wed 9—12, 2—5. Alternate Saturdays, 9—12.	Ditto
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Branch House, Batley.	Thursdays, 2—4 and 6-8.	West Riding County Council
Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease	Dewsbury Infirmary	Monday, 3. Thursday, 6-30.	Ditto.

Consultation only.

It is desirable that arrangements should be made, if possible, for the establishment of a treatment centre for patients suffering from venereal diseases at the Batley Hospital, as is customary in other towns. During 1928, forty-one males and seven females attended the venereal diseases clinics at Dewsbury Infirmary and there were twenty attendances by males and ten by females at similar clinics at Leeds Infirmary. These patients were resident in Batley. As is customary, others, without doubt, went elsewhere or remained untreated, and some would be attended by their own doctors.

ATTENDANCES AT WELFARE CENTRES.

TOWN MISSION :—

Yearly Average.	No. of mothers on register.	Expectant mothers.	Mothers with Infants.	New admissions.	Average attendance per mother.
1916-1920	374	12	1,982	59	3.8
1921-1925 Year.	458	54	2,543	274	5.4
1926	530	57	3,223	321	6.08
1927	475	19	2,810	236	5.9
1928	410	8	2,342	212	5.7

BATLEY CARR :—

Yearly Average.	No. of mothers on register.	Expectant mothers.	Mothers with Infants.	New admissions.	Average attendance per mother.
1919-1923 Year.	144	2	1,132	69	6.8
1924	174	50	1,439	70	8.0
1925	224	46	1,648	116	7.0
1926	222	20	1,729	97	7.8
1927	217	7	1,527	97	7.03
1928	195	2	1,160	64	5.9

RECORD OF INFANTS MEDICALLY EXAMINED AT CENTRES DURING RECENT YEARS.

Year.	New Cases Seen.	ALL CASES.		
		Infants under 6 months.	Older Children.	Not wholly satisfactory.
1926	248	269	201	275
1927	218	309	208	230
1928	186	406	252	306

Under the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918, dried milk has been given as follows:—

Year.	Lbs. dried milk given.	Cost.	Year.	Lbs. dried milk given.	Cost.
1918	873	£88 5 6	1924	428	£32 2 0
1919	976	£94 11 4	1925	746	£51 16 4
1920	241	£27 0 10	1926	2,145	£140 19 10
1921	3,060	£328 16 6	1927	815	£57 8 10
1922	3,437	£325 17 0	1928	1,010	£71 16 10
1923	1,136	£94 13 8			

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.				
1921	64	35	12	17	6	23
1922	54	27	9	18	19	8
1923	60	19	12	29	11	30
1924	42	25	9	8	4	13
1925	58	33	6	19	13	12
1926	43	29	10	4	9	5
1927	46	24	9	13	15	7
1928	30	20	5	5	5	5

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928.

	1925	1926	1927	1928
Individual patients attending Clinic	194	193	228	190
Patients found normal	78	40	64	58
Patients found suffering from one or more defects	116	153	164	132
Total number of attendances at Clinic	500	528	728	681

DEFECTS CLASSIFIED.

Respiratory System, including Tuberculosis	10	47	41	17
Circulatory System, excluding Varicose Veins	18	39	45	53
Digestive System, excluding defective teeth and constipation ...	4	14	21	4
Urinary System	12	14	15	10
Small or deformed Pelvis	17	7	8	6
Gynaecological defects including venereal disease	7	11	11	14
Deformities of Breasts	6	7	3	1
Varicose Veins	27	44	45	42
Constipation	24	48	23	23
Placenta praevia	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Teeth	41	45	53	42
Miscellaneous	12	28	20	9
Communications to practitioners respecting patients	53	66	88	67

WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS DURING 1928.

Ante-Natal—First Visits	16	
Re-Visits	9	
		— 25
Infants under 12 months—Visits		
First Visits	502	
Re-Visits	4693	
		— 5195
Visits to children—		
Between 12 months and 3 years	3382	
Between 3 and 5 years	1591	
		— 4973
Visits to cases of—		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	
Pneumonia (notified)	65	
Tuberculosis	158	
Still Births	16	
Diarrhœa	5	
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	
Miscellaneous	350	
		— 602
		—
Total Visits		10795

The preceding figures do not include visits paid by the nurses in their capacity as School Nurses, which were 1,669. The grand total, therefore, of visits by the Health Visitors and School Nurses during 1928 was 12,464.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—Doctors notified 187, midwives 389, and other persons 18 births, a total of 594 during 1928. Of these 32 were still births.

The work in this department was considerably retarded owing to the resignations of two Health visitors which resulted in long delays before the vacancies were filled. Following upon the disorganisation referred to in the previous annual report, it has caused all this particular work to be very much in arrear at the present date.

BATLEY MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS' SECTION.

BALANCE SHEET, 1928.

RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	EXPENDITURE.	£ s. d.
Cash in Bank—		Gifts	2 13 9½
Dec. 31, 1927	17 3 6	Biscuits, Tea and Sugar	11 15 5
Cash in Co-op. Soc.,		Milk	1 8 3
Dec. 31, 1927	9 14 5	Flannel, Wool, Cotton, etc.	1 19 8
Cash in hand, Dec. 31/27	1 5 3	Vests, Materials & Making	3 6 0
Subscriptions	5 17 6	Batley Carr Caretaker	2 10 4
Town Mission—		Vests for Distribution by	
Teas £7 9 3		Health Visitors	5 5 0
Garments ... £6 14 11		Stamps & Stationery ...	0 7 6
	14 4 2	Sundries	0 2 6
Batley Carr—		Cash in Bank, Dec. 31/28	11 17 9
Teas £2 5 2½		Cash in Co-op. Soc., Dec.	
Garments ... £1 0 7½		31/28	8 8 4
	3 5 10	Cash in hand	1 16 1½
	<u>£51 10 8</u>		<u>£51 10 8</u>

(Mrs.) SARAH ANN GREENWOOD, Hon. Treasurer.

(Mrs.) EVA THOMPSON, Hon. Secretary.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent Maternity Home	G.H. Pearce, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H., (Camb.), Barrister-at-Law (Inner Temple).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health, M. and C.W. (part time)	Mildred M. Thierens, M.B., Ch.B. (Resigned May, 1928). Hilda A. Channon, M.B., M.R.C.S. D.P.H. (App. May, 1928)
School Oculist and Hon. Ophth. Surgeon Maternity Home (part time)	Randal Herley, B.A., L.R.C.P. and S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P. and S. (Glas.)
Senior Sanitary Inspector	J. W. Beaumont, M.R.S.I. † ‡ * (Resigned Dec. 31, 1928).
Veterinary Inspector (part time)	Geo. Whitehead, M.R.C.V.S.
Public Analyst (part time)	F. W. Richardson, F.I.C., F.C.S.
District Sanitary Inspectors	C. A. Wood † ‡ * H. Hornby † ‡ ¶ (App. Sen. San. Insp., Jan. 1, 1929).
School Dentist	A. L. Hyslop, L.D.S. (Resigned June, 1928). Marion M. Thom., L.D.S. (App Sept. 1, 1928).
Superintendent Health Visitor, Superintendent School Nurse, Administrative Matron of Maternity Home...	H. Evans, § +
Health Visitors and School Nurses	E. Farthing § + O L. Waterhouse, § + J. R. Carr § + O J. B. Lynch § + O
Chief Clerk	E. Louks.
Clerk	K. Lister
Junior Clerk	C. I. Broadley.
Maternity Home	Staff Nurse I. Walton, § + Nurse Midwife N. Anderson, § + Midwife M. E. Fildes, + Midwife A. Rowling, +

† Holds Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute.

‡ Holds Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods, Royal Sanitary Institute.

* Holds Certificate for Sanitary Science, etc., Royal Sanitary Institute.

¶ Holds Certificate for Smoke Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute.

§ Holds Certificate for three years' general training.

O Holds Certificate for Health Visitors, Royal Sanitary Institute, approved by Ministry of Health.

+ Holds Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

Half the salaries of all the above-mentioned persons is paid by the Government from Exchequer grants or under the Public Health Acts, with the exception of the Veterinary Inspector and Public Analyst. One-sixth of the salaries of the Chief Clerk and Clerk is paid by the Government. The Junior Clerk is paid entirely from local sources.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Heckmondwike, in consequence of an arrangement entered into between the Local Government Board, Batley Corporation, and Heckmondwike Urban District Council

before he came to the town. The Assistant Medical Officer is employed part time, her duties being confined to Maternity and Child Welfare.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME—(a) GENERAL.

This is provided for the North, East and West Wards by the Batley Nursing Association, and for the Soothill Ward by the Dewsbury Nursing Association. Both are voluntary organisations working entirely independently of the Local Authority or County Council. (b) For Infectious Diseases there is hospital accommodation previously mentioned.

The rules of the local nursing association prevent them nursing cases of infectious disease.

MIDWIVES.—Six certified practise on their own account, of whom one resides outside the borough boundary. They are under the control of the County Council as the local Supervising Authority, a nurse from the department of the Medical Officer of the County Council visiting them occasionally. In the event of a patient being unable to pay the fee of a midwife the Town Council has arranged, in approved cases, to make a grant (up to a maximum of 12/6d.) of 50 per cent. of the midwife's fee, such cases to be defined as those in which the family income does not exceed 6/6d. per head per family per week (after deduction of rent). No grant was applied for during the year.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.—The Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, has now been repealed, but under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, the Corporation made application to the West Riding County Council for the delegation of their powers under this Act to the Corporation. The County Council refused. The Corporation thereupon appealed to the Minister of Health who in a letter dated January 3rd, 1929, says he "is of opinion that a decision on the representation of the Town Council should await the decision of Parliament on Clause 50 of the Local Government Bill and the result of any application by the Town Council, should that provision become law, to be made the Local Supervising Authority, under the Midwives Acts, 1902 to 1926."

The only establishment in the town likely to be affected by the Act is the Maternity Home.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.—The Medical Officer of Health has been designated as the person appointed to investigate maternal deaths and cases of puerperal fever,

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

The following are the Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws:—

	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 Preven- tion Act, 1890	Whole Act.	November 1st, 1892.
Public Libraries Act, 1892	Whole Act.	January, 1904.
Notification of Births Act, 1907	Whole Act.	January 2nd, 1908.
Museums and Gymnasiums Act, 1891	(As to Museums only).	April 23rd, 1913.
P.H.A.A. Act, 1907	Sec. 86	Aug., 1918.
	Sec. 95	July, 1924.
	Sec. 45	Jan., 1926.
	Sec. 51	July, 1927
Batley Corporation Act		1921.

BYE-LAWS.

	Date.		Date.
Tramways	1882	Markets and Fairs	1898
Cemetery	1886	Betting in Streets	1899
Prevention of Nuisances ...	1889	Pleasure Grounds	1910
Common Lodging Houses...	1889	Shop Hours Act (Hairdressers)	1908
Houses Let in Lodgings ...	1889	Employment of Children ...	1920
New Streets and Buildings	1889	Sale of Coal	1923
Slaughter-houses	1889	Violent Behaviour Schools	1926
Cleansing of Footways, etc.	1889	New Streets and Buildings	1927
Hackney Carriages	1891	Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ...	1927
Baths and Wash-Houses ...	1893	Underground Sleeping Places	1927

The desirability of adopting those portions of the Public Health Act, 1925, which are possible, has been recommended in previous years without effect. Such action would place Batley on an equality with other towns so far as this matter is concerned.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.—Particulars are given in the Medical Officer's Annual Report for 1925. Construction of the additional reservoir is still proceeding, and further borrowing powers have been obtained during the year. The quantity of the supply has been satisfactory. Various samples have been submitted to several analysts during the year by the Medical Officer of Health and the Water Engineer. The analysts' reports have all been placed before the Public Health and Water Committees.

The following remarks are taken from the local Press of February 9th of the present year (1929) in reference to a meeting of the Batley Town Council on the previous day.—

“Councillor Brearley asked the result of analyses of water samples from domestic taps and Alderman Oldroyd replied that it was satisfactory.”

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—The Batley beck is polluted by dye waters and trade waste. The West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board is the authority which exercises supervision.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The Borough Surveyor, Mr. H. L. Hall, has kindly supplied the following information:—

“During the year the two large Storm Water Beds have been emptied of all filtering media and are now being reconstructed for use as Storm Water Tanks. Each of the large beds is being converted into two tanks, and will be used in conjunction with the existing 8 small tanks. When completed the whole of the 12 tanks will have a capacity of approximately 426,000 gallons.

This method of filling is so arranged that these tanks may be used in series or in parallel.”

H. L. HALL.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1928.

Water Closets	7558
Trough and Automatic Water Closets	222
do do converted into proper W.Cs.	25
Blocks of Trough Water Closets	31
do do converted into proper W.Cs.	8
Pail closets	12
Privy middens	36
Additional Water Closets provided for old property	27
Additional Water Closets provided for new property	49

Information as to the situation of the 36 privy middens and 12 pail closets is given on page 21 of the Annual Report for 1927.

A considerable sum continues to be spent annually in wages for attending to trough closets. During the year some progress, it will be noted, has been made in the abolition of these obsolete appliances. Twenty-five trough closets contained in eight blocks were abolished in favour of modern pedestal w.c.'s by informal action.

SCAVENGING.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The particulars in this section are compiled by Mr. Hornby who, it will be observed, refers inter alia to trade refuse and supply of steam to the electricity works, both of which have many times been commented upon by the Medical Officer of Health. It is surely unfair that the general body of ratepayers should be charged with the cost of the removal of trade refuse, the traders themselves paying nothing towards this; and there seems no valid reason why the Public Health Committee should continue to assist in producing revenue for the Electricity Committee, as has been customary for many years, to its own financial detriment. The same remarks apply to clinker supplied for the use of the General Works Committee.

FOREWORD.—In the following report the weights of refuse are largely estimated owing to lack of facilities for weighing carts distributed about the town in various directions daily. With regard to mechanical transport the tonnage credited to the Freighter is exact as every load has been weighed. Horse transport tonnage is estimated on an average load of 15 cwts., the waggon being reckoned as two loads, arrived at by fixing an average on actual weights of a number of seasonal loads.

Again following the instructions of the Ministry of Health, collection and disposal have been kept as separate items and disposal has been sub-divided into incineration at the Destructor Works and tipping respectively.

The number of days in the year has also been taken at 365 and not the actual working days.

The Registrar-General's estimate of population is 34,250, and the number of occupied houses 9,905.

COLLECTION.—At the beginning of the year mechanical transport was introduced, an S.D. Freighter being brought into operation and two carts and a waggon dispensed with. The fol-

lowing comparative table shows the staffs engaged in collection during the years 1927 and 1928.

	1927	1928
Mechanical transport	Nil	1 S.D. Freighter
Horse transport—Waggons	2	1
—Carts	8	6
Drivers	10	8
Throwers-out	10	10
Foreman	1	1

It will be seen that approximately one quarter of the total refuse has been collected by the Freighter at a cost of 6s. 3½d. per ton as compared with horse transport at 7s. 10d. per ton. The Freighter has therefore achieved all that was expected of it and has proved itself a cheaper form of transport than that it replaced. The reasons are not far to seek. The Freighter's advantage over the cart is its capacity for saving time when considered in relation to equal weights of refuse collected and delivered to the place of disposal. Its low loading line makes for easier and quicker collection, again, whilst the cart only conveys 15 cwts. at a relatively low speed, the Freighter carries 2 tons in a much less time and returns quickly to the point of collection thus reducing waiting time between loads. Another important point with regard to mechanical transport is that a Freighter represents a unit which lends itself to more effective checking than a cart. Because of its greater speed every load can be weighed without any appreciable loss of time, records can be conveniently kept giving exact details and time employed in every aspect of its work, supervision is easier, and the results are accurately known.

It will be noted that there is an increase of 6d. per ton over 1927 in the cost of collection by horse transport. In explanation of this it will be remembered that the summer was a warmer and finer one than the average, which reflected itself in a correspondingly less use of fires in the people's homes and therefore a lower production of refuse. On the other hand the number of calls as shown in Table I, increased by 4,288 over the year, thus there would be a relatively lower weight of refuse collected for a larger amount of work done and area covered. This would affect tonnage results of the slow moving horse transport to a much greater degree than the mechanical.

Another consideration which loads up the costs against horse transport is the matter of the maintenance of temporarily unfit animals which during the year was equivalent to a loss of 1,200 working hours.

All dust bins are emptied weekly and ashpits at periods varying from two to four weeks. Progress has been made with ashpit conversions and during the year 46 ashpits were abolished and 163 dust bins provided in lieu thereof.

TRADE REFUSE.—This continues to be removed without any charge and some arrangement is urgently needed whereby trading premises producing relatively large quantities of refuse could be required to contribute to the cost of collection and disposal instead of the whole cost falling on the rates as obtains at the present time.

DISPOSAL.—About 68 per cent. of the total refuse dealt with has been burnt at the Destructor Works where the plant consists of a Horsfall Destructor with four cells staffed by a foreman, four stokers and two labourers.

The calorific value of the refuse reduced is considerable and is utilised for steam raising by means of a Lancashire boiler fitted with a superheater, the steam being passed on to the Electricity Department. It is felt that the sum of £200 per annum which is received for this steam is not commensurate with its true value, especially as all the water evaporated and boiler maintenance costs have to be met as part of disposal charges. The water charges alone against the Destructor for the year were £96. In addition to the benefits which the Electricity Department receives in the way of cheap steam it is claimed that the considerable volume of heat which the Destructor introduces into the chimney used in common by the plant of both Departments so improves draught conditions that the Electricity Department obtain better heat value from their own furnaces.

Disposal of clinker continues to be a heavy charge on the Destructor Works. During the year 1,956 loads were delivered at the Sewerage Works and utilised for mortar manufacture. The Destructor Works receives no share of any profits which accrue from this manufacturing process to which it supplies and delivers raw material, and though there may be admissible arguments on both sides as to the advisability of the continuance or otherwise of the present arrangement it does not, to say the least, appear equitable to the Public Health Department.

TIPPING.—About 32 per cent. of the total refuse has been tipped under conditions which may be regarded as distinctly favourable as the nett cost was at the low rate of 2½d. per ton. Not only was the refuse used for levelling up various lands owned by

the Corporation, thus eliminating rentals, but the major portion of the cost involved was recovered from other Corporation Departments who benefited by useful improvements at small cost and at the same time created facilities for cheap disposal to the Public Health Department.

The only tip for which a rental is paid is that situate in Grange Road.

Comparisons with 1926 and 1927 are:—

	1926	1927	1928
Weight of refuse collected (in tons)	11,063	10,900	10,489
do. do. per house (cwts)	22.5	22	21.2
do. do. per 1,000 of the population per day (365 days) (cwts)	17.2	17.1	16.78
Nett cost of collection of refuse ...	£4,203	£4,001	£3,894
Nett cost of disposal of refuse	£2,828	£2,543	£2,192
Nett cost of collection per ton	7s. 7d.	7s. 4d.	6s. 3½d. Mech. 7s. 10d. Horse
Nett Cost of disposal per ton	5s. 1½d.	4s. 8d.	6s. 1d. Destr. 2¾d. Tipping
Total nett cost of collection and disposal per ton	12s. 8½d.	12s. 0d.	11s. 7¼d.
Total saving in cost of collection and disposal of refuse		£487	£457
Saving in cost of collection and disposal of refuse per ton		8½d.	4¾d.

H. HORNBY,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

REPORT BY J. W. BEAUMONT, LATE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR, ON WORKING AND COST OF RUNNING S.D. FREIGHTER FOR COLLECTION OF REFUSE.

PERIOD — 48 WEEKS.

STAFF.—One driver and three loaders.

TOTAL MILEAGE RUN.—3,336.

WEEKLY AVERAGE.—72.6.

TOTAL WEIGHT OF REFUSE COLLECTED—2,606 tons.

WEEKLY AVERAGE.—54.25 tons.

TOTAL LOADS COLLECTED.—1,262.

WEEKLY AVERAGE.—26.3.

TOTAL PETROL CONSUMPTION.—585.6 gallons.

WEEKLY AVERAGE.—12.2 gallons.

COST.

	£	s.	d.
Capital cost of a 6 cub. yard dust cart with twin tyres and special rear door	622	10	0
*Depreciation based on 5 year M.O.H. loan	124	10	0
*Average interest at 5 per cent. per annum on depreciation value	18	13	6
*License	26	0	0
*Insurance	9	3	8
Wages (Driver £3 3s. 0d. per week) (Loaders—3 @ 1s. 1d. per hour)	526	19	6
Superannuation	26	7	0
Unemployment, Health and Pensions Insurance	11	5	4
Sick Pay	3	16	5
Petrol	33	0	0
Oil and grease	3	13	5
‡Spare parts, etc.	4	13	11
†Mileometer and fitting	6	0	9
†Number Plates	1	1	0
†Driver's expenses at Letchworth	3	7	5
†Garage (stove, bench, vice, farring roof, eaves-gutters, electric light and fittings, hose-pipe and water, coke and cleaning materials)	14	17	1
Weighing of refuse collected	3	17	1
	<hr/>		
	£817	6	7
	<hr/>		

NOTE :—

* Represents annual charges.

‡ Represents materials in stock and unused.

† Includes initial costs not likely to recur.

It is also necessary to point out that the report of the estimated cost of operating Freighter Dust Cart dated June, 1927, was based upon a capital cost of £602 with depreciation based upon a 7-year M.O.H. loan, making a difference of £62 in the annual charges. In spite of this fact, however, and the details noted above, it is found that the cost per ton collection has worked out at 6s. 3d. which is the estimated cost in report.

In view of these facts, therefore, I have not the slightest hesitation in recommending the Public Health Committee to purchase an additional Motor Waggon which could be housed in our existing garage quite easily, the only alteration necessary being the enlarging of the present entrance.

JOHN W. BEAUMONT,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Batley.

31st December, 1928.

TABLE II.—Disposition of Rabbits.

Year	Month	Number of Rabbits	Disposition	Remarks
1928	Jan	100	100	100
1928	Feb	100	100	100
1928	Mar	100	100	100
1928	Apr	100	100	100
1928	May	100	100	100
1928	Jun	100	100	100
1928	Jul	100	100	100
1928	Aug	100	100	100
1928	Sep	100	100	100
1928	Oct	100	100	100
1928	Nov	100	100	100
1928	Dec	100	100	100
1929	Jan	100	100	100
1929	Feb	100	100	100
1929	Mar	100	100	100
1929	Apr	100	100	100
1929	May	100	100	100
1929	Jun	100	100	100
1929	Jul	100	100	100
1929	Aug	100	100	100
1929	Sep	100	100	100
1929	Oct	100	100	100
1929	Nov	100	100	100
1929	Dec	100	100	100
1930	Jan	100	100	100
1930	Feb	100	100	100
1930	Mar	100	100	100
1930	Apr	100	100	100
1930	May	100	100	100
1930	Jun	100	100	100
1930	Jul	100	100	100
1930	Aug	100	100	100
1930	Sep	100	100	100
1930	Oct	100	100	100
1930	Nov	100	100	100
1930	Dec	100	100	100

HOAHHVI LYBIE

LYBIE I—Collection of Rabbits

TABLE 1.—Collection of Refuse.

MONTHLY TABLE.

1928.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
No. of Slaughterhouse receptacles emptied ..	105	104	129	103	127	103	104	127	104	105	129	79	1319
No. of Fish Receptacles emptied ..	149	92	145	114	107	101	85	99	98	107	117	103	1317
No. of Privy Pails emptied ..	43	35	35	34	75	42	44	66	43	45	41	23	526
No. of Privy Middens emptied ..	107	110	121	87	92	86	85	99	77	116	106	71	1157
No. of Dry Ashpits emptied ..	1718	2083	2046	1373	1322	1895	2259	2096	1805	2619	2316	1449	23981
No. of Dustbins emptied	21819	20506	21634	20489	21033	21332	22611	22142	20752	24144	22207	20936	259605
Totals ..	23941	22930	24110	22200	22756	23559	25188	24629	22879	27136	24916	23661	286305

TABLE II.—Disposal of Refuse.
MONTHLY TABLE.

1928.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	Estimated Tonnage
Loads of Refuse burnt at Destructor ..	822	779	794	628	708	786	785	745	685	834	762	532	8860	7083
Loads of Refuse to Grange Road Tip	100	115	79	83	92	70	23	31	95	71	100	126	985	738
Loads of Refuse to White Lea Tip ..	53	56	46	25	42	29	33	12	48	54	59	83	540	405
Loads of Refuse to Wilton Park ..	111	64	133	164	131	153	119	129	31	32	45	46	1138	1021
Loads of Refuse delivered to farmers	6	9	8	8	7	7	10	5	7	5	10	7	89	67
Loads of Refuse to Healey School Tip	110	94	107	106	104	99	88	90	98	107	111	132	1246	1005
Loads of Refuse to Mount Pleasant Recreation Ground	16	31	4	4	6	2	10	43	24	..	2	85	227	170
Totals ..	1218	1148	1171	1018	1090	1126	1068	1055	988	1103	1089	1011	13085	10489

TABLE III.—Disposal of Clinker from Destructor Works.

MONTHLY TABLE.

1928.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Loads of Clinker to Sewerage Works ..	100	194	207	160	202	231	167	127	114	150	174	130	1956
Loads of Clinker to New Ing Fields ..	196	94	95	28	32	22	18	57	63	81	40	109	835
Loads of Clinker to Mount Pleasant Recreation Ground	29	14	21	10	20	4	..	6	4	40	81	69	298
Totals ..	325	302	323	198	254	257	185	190	181	271	295	308	3089

TABLE IV.—Cost of Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Collection of Refuse	3894	0	0	851	7	9	Mechanical transport (S.D. Freighter) Actual weight = 2714 tons. = 6/3½d. per ton.
				3042	12	3	Horse transport Estimated weight = 7,775 tons. Averages 7/10d. per ton
Destructor Works—Burning of Refuse	2396	0	0				Estimated weight 7083 tons. Averages 6/9d. per ton gross. Averages 6/1d. per ton nett.
Tipping at Grange Road Tip (Rent)	22	0	0				Estimated weight, 3,406 tons. Averages —/10d. per ton gross. —2½d. per ton nett.
Wages of Tipman em- ployed at Grange Road Tip	31	0	0				
Wages of Tipman em- ployed at Healey School, White Lea and Rec. Ground Tips ...	90	0	0				
	£143	0	0				
Total Gross Cost (Collection and Disposal	6433	0	0				averages 12/3d. per ton.
Revenue from Sale of Steam, Scrap Iron, Tins, etc., at Destruc- tor Works	242	0	0				347 0 0
Proportion of wages & other costs paid by the Gas and Educa- tion Depts.	105	0	0				
	£347	0	0				
Total Nett Cost (Collection and Disposal)	6086	0	0				averages 11/7½d. per ton

**WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTORS UNDER ARTICLE 19 (12)
OF THE SANITARY OFFICERS' ORDER, 1922.**

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT YEAR 1928.

Total Number of Inspections made 11,461

Details:—	Primary.	Re- inspections.
Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations	91	349
Notifiable and Other Diseases	2285	6
Verminous and dirty houses	159	139
Inspections re sanitary defects	1141	2137
Re overcrowding	30	30
Common Lodging Houses	30	Nil.
Factories and Workshops, etc.	170	10
Bakehouses	36	Nil.
Smoke Observations	455	Nil.
Drains tested, etc.	1079	76
Re Swine, Fowls, etc.	32	15
Stable re manure pits, etc.	31	22
Houses re Water Supply	43	30
Offensive Trades	32	Nil.
Tents, Vans and Sheds	55	1
Schools, Cinemas, etc.	13	2
Plots of Waste Ground, Tips, etc.	56	1
Re Sewers, Street Gullies, etc.	38	1
Rat infested premises	54	11
Slaughterhouses	1330	Nil.
Meat, Fruit, Vegetable and General Provi- sion Shops	101	Nil.
Fried Fish and Chip Shops, etc.	40	Nil.
Ice Cream Premises	34	Nil.
Dairies and Milkshops	88	Nil.
Cowsheds	141	Nil.
Markets	51	Nil.
Samples of Food and Drugs taken	166	Nil.
Miscellaneous Visits, etc.	832	18
	—	—
Grand Total	8613	2848

Informal Notices served	567
Informal Notices complied with	*637
Statutory Notices served	151
Statutory Notices complied with	114
Number of Complaints received	184

* The excess of notices complied with over notices served is due to notices brought forward in 1927 and complied with in 1928.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The remarks in this Section are by Mr. Hornby, who became Senior Sanitary Inspector on January 1st, 1929:—

In the few years during which attention has been focussed on the problem of smoke abatement many reports have been written, all more or less stressing the great damage culminating from atmospheric pollution and pointing the way by improved methods to a diminution in the quantities of dense black smoke belched forth daily from our factory chimneys. Some have laid emphasis on the point that smoke abatement pays **in terms of cash** quite apart from the great advantage to be gained by public health.

If this is true there is no doubt that it is along the lines indicated by such a contention that the problem of smoke abatement must be tackled, at any rate, in so far as it applies to steam raising plants. We cannot expect a mere demonstration of the fact that smoke pollution is injurious to health to so act upon the sentiments of a manufacturer that he is going to rush into his mill and put an end to the nuisance by doing what in his view amounts to purchasing expensive appliances, increasing his fuel and labour costs and generally upsetting the harmonious working of his factory for the sake of what further seems to him to be a whim of the Health Department.

Actuated by this point of view, erroneous though it is, manufacturers again and again impress it on the sanitary inspector when he visits to complain about an offence and offer advice, that their conduct is dictated by purely commercial considerations and if the works are to be run for the good of public health, bankruptcy will surely result and then there will be no one to pay the rates.

Now that is all very well so far as it goes, but suppose the inspector cannot see eye to eye with such ideas and tries to explain that it is bad economics for a private business concern to waste money and at the same time poison the community, he is looked upon as an incorrigible theorist whose ideas are of little value in a practical world. In fact, he is often told point blank that such a contention is ridiculous and may on occasion receive a reply similar to that given by a local mill manager, "Well, it is our coal we are wasting, not yours." It is an interesting fact that in these days when business men insist upon the necessity for organisation and the cutting down of overhead expenses to a minimum, to-

gether with the attainment of the highest possible degree of efficiency, that so many manufacturers pay little regard to that considerable item, the fuel bill, or to the efficiency of the fuel when they have purchased it.

It must be remembered that coal as such is not the manufacturer's primary object in buying fuel. He has engines which must be driven; he requires steam to drive them.

Now steam may be said briefly to be a matter of heat applied to water, so that what should interest the manufacturer very keenly is the question of whether he is getting value in **heat**, not coal, for the expenditure represented by fuel costs. Go into all except the most modern factories and inquire what check is kept on fuel costs and it is usually found that beyond a few empirical rules based on an acquired knowledge of what coal has been consumed per week, say, in the past, no reliable data is available. If it is asked how many pounds of water are being evaporated per pound of coal or what quantity of fuel is being burned per square foot area of fire bar—very necessary bits of information which should be demanded by the manager of any well-run concern—one is looked at askance and told that the information cannot be obtained. What has all this got to do with smoke abatement one may ask? A great deal, for smoke abatement and combustion efficiency are one and the same thing. When the manufacturer applies the true principles of economy to his fuel costs, his object must necessarily be to gain a maximum amount of heat from a minimum quantity of coal, and by the elementary laws of combustion the nearer he gets to this object the more smokeless will be his furnaces. Chemistry further confirms what economy indicates, for smoke is unburnt carbon and unburnt carbon is wasted fuel.

Let it then be clearly understood that the manufacturer who desires to prevent waste and the inspector who is doing his duty to prevent smoke nuisances are both out for one another's advantage in trying to secure furnace efficiency in boiler plants. The gain is mutual; to the manufacturer in lessened fuel costs and to the community represented by the inspector in a purer atmosphere.

It should not be forgotten, also, that the heat evolved by bad and good combustion respectively varies between the extreme limits of 1 to 3 for similar weights and qualities of coal. A realisation of this fact alone should be sufficient to compel every

manufacturer to demand combustion efficiency in his boiler furnaces.

If one were asked as to the causes of smoke nuisances as found during inspection immediately after the commission of an offence in Batley, the answer would be found amongst the three following conditions:—

(1) Ignorance of the elementary laws of combustion, and inefficiency on the part of boiler fireman;

(2) Defective design in many furnaces.

(3) Lack of interest on the part of the management to check fuel consumption and evaporation properly and give encouragement to a skilful fireman.

As regards domestic smoke and in comparison with the magnitude of the problem, little has been done to prevent it. It may truly be claimed that the efforts of a number of enthusiasts to wake up public opinion as to the serious atmospheric pollution resulting from domestic smoke has borne fruit and the public would no doubt embrace any remedy which does not

(1) abolish the open fire for which English people have a traditional liking, and

(2) cost more for a similar result obtained by the burning of raw coal in an open grate.

Electricity and gas are now available for all, but the question of cost prevents them being adopted by the masses as a complete alternative to coal fires.

The greatest hope lies in the direction of a smokeless fuel which can be burnt in an open fireplace. "Coalite," a form of soft coke obtained by low temperature carbonisation is the nearest approach to the desired fuel. Unfortunately, "Coalite" has not yet been produced in such quantities or at such a low price as to be attractive when compared with coal, yet there is no apparent reason why these difficulties should not be overcome. It is also a matter of note that fireplaces are now obtainable which successfully burn ordinary gasworks' coke.

During the year application was made to the Ministry of Health to confirm the following Bye-law:—

“The emission of black smoke for a period of two minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes from any building other than a private dwelling house shall until the contrary is proved be presumed to be a nuisance.”

Similar applications were made by the local authorities of Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Guisely and Spenborough.

Formal objections were lodged with the Minister of Health against the confirmation of the proposed bye-law by the Bradford Dyers' Association, the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, the Consultative Board of Textile Employers' Associations, the Batley and Birstall Chamber of Commerce, etc.

The Minister then directed a public local inquiry to be held at Bradford at which the local authorities and objecting parties stated above were all represented. Evidence on behalf of the Borough of Batley was given by the Medical Officer of Health. Later, on the 26th day of November, 1928, the Minister of Health allowed the bye-law stated above but with the following reservations:—

“The foregoing bye-law except in so far as it determines:

- (1) that the emission of black smoke for a period less than three minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes shall be presumed to be a nuisance.
- (2) in calculating the said aggregate it includes the emission of smoke from more than one chimney of the same building.”

is hereby allowed by the Minister of Health this 26th day of November, 1928.

The accompanying table of smoke observations shows a considerable amount of work involved in smoke abatement. In comparison with last year's figures some improvement would appear to have resulted. It must be remembered that slackness in trade does not necessarily mean less smoke, for it is a fact that under-loaded boilers are as liable to cause smoke nuisances as forced ones.

H. HORNBY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS, 1928.

Chimneys.	Number of Observations.	Total Mins. Observations.	Av. mins. per hr. of dense black smoke calculated upon observations taken.	Av. mins. per hr. of dense black smoke calculated upon observations taken.
Albion Mill	10	275	3.27	0.33
Alexandra Mill	9	270	3.22	0.22
Anchor Mill	14	420	8.29	0.14
Bankfoot Mill	12	360	2.50	0.17
Bankfoot Foundry	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Batley Colliery	22	638	2.92	0.09
Batley Corporation Electricity Works	10	300	1.70	Nil.
Batley Corporation Gas Works	1	15	24.00	Nil.
Batley Corporation Public Baths	3	38	15.00	Nil.
Batley Hygienic Laundry	2	60	1.00	6.00
Blakeridge Mill	11	305	1.18	Nil.
Bottoms Mill—				
(short chimney)	10	300	2.70	Nil.
(long chimney)	11	330	1.73	0.20
Branch Road Mill	12	360	.08	Nil.
Brights Mill	4	120	2.00	Nil.
Brookroyd Mill	13	364	2.30	Nil.
Carr Top Mill	2	60	0.50	Nil.
Carrbrooke Mill—				
(metal chimney)	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
(stone chimney)	1	30	2.00	Nil.
Carlinghow Mill	3	90	0.33	Nil.
Carpet Works, Bradford Road (C.)	1	30	Nil.	2.00
Chapel Fold Mill	6	180	0.83	Nil.
Cheapside Mill	10	300	0.60	Nil.
Clerk Green Mill	25	740	3.36	0.65
Croft Lane Flock Mill ...	7	210	0.43	0.57
Dale Street Mill	8	220	1.50	0.30
Dewsbury and District				
Co-op. Laundry	3	90	0.66	Nil.
Dock Ing Mill	8	240	5.25	0.25
Fountains Mill—				
(long chimney)	5	150	0.40	Nil.
(short chimney)	8	240	0.75	Nil.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS (Continued).

Chimneys.	Number of Observations.	Total Mins. Observations.	Av. mins per hr. of dense black smoke calculated upon observations taken.	Av. mins per hr. of dense other than black smoke calculated upon observations taken.
Greenhill Mill	1	30	2.00	Nil.
Healey Lane Shoddy Mill	4	120	1.00	0.50
Hick Well Mill	3	90	Nil.	0.66
Hick Lane Mill	12	360	0.50	Nil.
Highfield Mill	7	210	2.40	Nil.
Ideal Water Pipe Works	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Lady Ann Mill	3	90	3.66	3.33
Little Orme Mill	13	390	1.54	Nil.
Livingstone Mill	5	150	2.20	Nil.
New Ing Mill	6	180	1.83	Nil.
Old Mill	13	390	2.54	Nil.
Park Lane Mill	10	300	2.40	Nil.
Print Works	12	360	3.25	.58
Providence Mill—				
(Bradford Road C.)	18	540	1.17	1.00
(Smithies Moor Lane)	11	330	1.91	Nil.
(Staincliffe)	6	180	1.66	Nil.
Queen Street Mill	10	300	0.90	0.20
Savile Mill—				
(steel chimney)	6	180	Nil.	Nil.
(brick chimney)	6	180	1.33	Nil.
Spafield Mill	3	90	Nil.	0.66
Spring Mill—				
(Carlinghow)	6	180	2.00	Nil.
(Staincliffe)	6	180	0.66	Nil.
Springwell Mill	9	270	2.53	Nil.
Staincliffe Low Mill	6	180	1.33	Nil.
Upper Dock Mill	6	180	1.83	Nil.
Victoria Mill—				
(Bradford Road E.)	6	180	3.50	1.00
(Bradford Road W.)	11	330	1.91	0.55
Victoria Oil Works	2	60	3.00	Nil.
Warwick Road Foundry	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Wensleydale Mill	13	390	3.23	Nil.
Wheatcroft Mill	5	150	2.20	Nil.
Totals	455	13,455	2.08	0.24

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES—

No. of Houses 3, Keepers 3, Inspections 30.

At the end of the year the number of premises had been reduced to two. Following the death of the keeper of No. 18, Wellington Street, the Corporation, as owner, closed the house and later demolished it.

Of the two remaining, both are poor as regards general arrangement. The cleanly condition of one compensates in some degree for many disadvantages otherwise. The other house is only moderately looked after. In the hands of a painstaking keeper, great improvements could be effected in methods of cleanliness. Drainage and sanitary conveniences have been improved at one house and improved partitions provided in rooms used by married couples at the other.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES—

There are 14, of which 6 are registered and 8 licensed. The number of inspections during the year was 1,330. None of the slaughterhouses comply with the model Byelaws of the Ministry of Health, many are structurally bad, all, without exception, are within one hundred feet of a dwelling, and some actually adjoin a dwelling-house. The remarks made in last year's report respecting difficulty of inspecting meat prepared or in process of preparation for sale to the public under existing conditions, and the subject of humane slaughtering, apply equally at present.

The following remarks, with which I agree, are by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Hornby:—

“Care in matters of cleanliness is quite as important as the building, given a reasonable condition of fitness, as influencing the cleanliness and excellence of the meat prepared for sale. It must not be forgotten that amenities and general suitability play a large part in a slaughterhouse as to the standard of cleanliness attainable. The important points are lighting, ventilation, drainage, hot and cold water supply, arrangements for cooling meat after slaughter and accommodation for temporary storage of refuse. In many of these important qualifications most of our private slaughterhouses fail. Small premises usually mean that the

carcases of animals first slaughtered are hung up for cooling in the slaughter house whilst other animals are being slaughtered and dressed, rendering the air to which the meat is exposed humid and unwholesome. Again, the process of emptying the stomachs and intestines, which is invariably done in the doorways of small slaughter houses, not only saturates the air with foul odours, but is a dangerous process anywhere near uncovered human food, as poisonous organisms are present in the intestinal contents of all animals and may prejudicially affect the meat or may even render it poisonous through an accidental contamination. Most butchers do their best, considering the limitations under which they work, but the time is due when the Public Health Committee should give serious consideration to this matter, with the object of obtaining the following desirable conditions in these premises:—

- (a) That every animal, the flesh of which is intended for human food, shall be slaughtered humanely and under hygienic conditions.
- (b) That every carcase immediately after slaughter shall be cooled in a clean, well ventilated room apart from the slaughter house.
- (c) That all intestines, stomachs, etc., shall be emptied and cleansed in a room entirely separate from the slaughter house and cooling room.

OFFENSIVE TRADES—

Number of premises 3 Inspections 32

Processes carried on are Tripe Boiling, Fat Rendering, and Gut-scraping.

Section 51 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, has now been adopted by this Town Council with a view to extending the list of Offensive Trades, as enumerated in Section 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, so as to include the following:—

Glue Maker, Fat Melter, Fat Extractor, Size Maker, Leather Dresser, Gut Scraper, Tanner, Blood Drier, Rag and Bone Dealer, and Fish Frier.

Some difficulty arose respecting the trades of a Rag and Bone Dealer, so the proposed bye-laws respecting this trade were dropped. Unfortunately nothing further was done by the Committee, and the town is still without byelaws for the regulation of Offensive Trades as first recommended by the Medical Officer of Health in 1911.

COWSHEDS—

No. of cowsheds	33
No. of cows	262
No. of cowkeepers	18
Cowkeepers who are also milk purveyors	8
Purveyors with premises inside the Borough	45
Purveyors with premises outside the Borough	27
Inspections made	141

It was hoped that during 1928 the whole of the cowsheds would have been brought more into line with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, but the epidemic of Smallpox and pressure of other work prevented this.

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS—

No. on registers	30	Inspections	88
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Improvements have been carried out at 3 dairies and one has been discontinued.

ICE-CREAM PREMISES—

Number of premises	26	Inspections	34
Number of premises improved	6		
Number of premises closed as unsuitable	5		

The strictest supervision is kept over all ice-cream premises, which are required to conform to all the requirements of a dairy under the Milk and Dairies Order.

FRIED FISH SHOPS—

No. of premises	57	Inspections	40
No. of premises improved	6		
Number of premises closed as unsuitable	2		

These premises are in many cases very unsatisfactory.

Bye-laws respecting the trade of a fish-fryer have been badly needed in Batley for many years. The Town Council has been recommended to adopt them on several occasions, and in furtherance of such recommendation Section 51 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, relating to offensive trades, has been adopted and is now in force within the Borough, but Byelaws are still required.

BAKEHOUSES—

Number of premises	34	Inspections	36
Number of premises improved	7		

Some of these bakehouses are not kept in a cleanly condition.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

There have been 54 inspections of rat infested premises, resulting in the necessary action being taken by occupiers.

There was no local campaign during the National Rat Week, 1928. Advertisements were put in the local Press calling attention to the matter and requesting that any complaints should be sent to the Health Department. An article was written for the Press by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

No action has been taken, or needed, so far as is known, respecting houses let in lodgings, but considerable benefit has already accrued through the adoption in 1927 of byelaws respecting tents, vans and sheds, and underground sleeping rooms, recommended on many occasions by the Medical Officer of Health.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD are at present adequate at Batley Cemetery, which is under the control of the Corporation. Since cremation is becoming more and more common year by year it is desirable that in any future necessity for extension of the cemetery, this subject should be given full consideration.

SCHOOLS.—The hygiene of schools is referred to in the Annual Report for 1928 of the School Medical Officer. The total cost to the rates during 1928 of the Batley School Medical Service was one and one-seventh of a penny in the pound according to figures prepared by the Borough Treasurer.

HEALTH EDUCATION.—The following is an extract from the Annual Report for 1927:—

“Section 67^{of the Public Health Act, 1925} empowers any Local Authority or County Council to arrange for the publication within their area of information on questions relating to health or disease, and for the delivery of lectures and the display of pictures in which such questions are dealt with, and to defray the whole or a portion of expenses incurred for any of the purposes of this section. In view of this, a body known as the Central Council for Health Education was set up by the Society of Medical Officers of Health, and a monthly journal entitled “Better Health” started. The journal gives very useful information written in popular terms, technicalities being avoided. Many towns have adopted it for free distribution, including near neighbours, and it is eagerly looked forward to by many at their Welfare Centres, School Clinics, Hospitals, Elementary Schools, Clubs and similar institutions. The Medical Officer of Health on three occasions has recommended the Sanitary

Committee to follow the example thus set, but so far with no success. The recommendation is again made."

In September the matter was brought before the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in consequence of the offer of a supply free of expense to the Town Council. This was accepted and it is anticipated at least one thousand copies will be distributed monthly in the near future.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.—Owing to uncertainty as to the legal definition of Rag Flocks, no samples were taken, but now that this question has been settled the requirements of these Acts will be complied with.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

1. INSPECTION

of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecu- tions. (4)
FACTORIES			
(Including Factory Laundries)	42	12	—
WORKSHOPS			
(Including Workshop Laundries)	85	21	—
WORKPLACES			
(Other than Outworkers' premises)	30	11	—
Total	157	44	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.				
Want of Cleanliness	20	19		
Want of Ventilation	3	2		
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of Floors				
Other Nuisances	25	24		
Sanitary Accommodation {	insufficient ...	5	4	
	unsuitable or defective ...	9	6	
	not separate for sexes ...	1		
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act.				
Illegal occupation of underground Bakehouse (S. 101)				
Other Offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)	3	2	3	
Total	66	57	3	

HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the Year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	49
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:	
(1) By the Local Authority	30
(2) By other bodies or persons	11

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

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1252
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	115
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	*17
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	965

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	821
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

A. Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	65
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	50
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	8
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	Nil.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	57
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	31
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

C. Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	14
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	11
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.

* Includes three voluntary closures by the owner. In two cases house is closed only until the necessary repairs have been effected to make it safe structurally.

On December 31st, 1928, the number of waiting applicants for Corporation houses was less than twenty. It was stated that this was largely due to the bad state of trade in this district. It is not a guide to the amount of overcrowding in the town, which is considerable. In November, 1919, the Corporation resolved to build 500 houses. Up to the end of 1928 the number completed was 368. The Borough Surveyor, Mr. H. L. Hall, has kindly furnished the following remarks:—

“(a) Total No. of houses erected by Corporation under 1919 Housing Act	178
(b) Total No. of houses erected by Corporation under 1923 Housing Act	64
(c) Total No. of houses erected by Corporation under 1924 Housing Act	126
<hr/>	
Total	368
<hr/>	

Total No. of houses completed by the Corporation during the year 1928, and included in “c” 30

Total number of Assisted Dwelling-houses erected by private enterprise under the Housing, Etc., Act, 1923 40
of which 11 have been completed during 1928.

Total number of other dwellings erected during 1928 8

With regard to the future policy of the Council respecting housing, I may say that I have no instructions at present to prepare any further schemes.”

H. L. HALL.

CLOSING ORDERS HOUSING ACTS, 1909 to 1928.

Particulars are given on pages 37 and 43 of the Annual Reports for 1926 and 1927. To these the following must be added to show the position on December 31st, 1928 :—

Situation.	Date of Representation to Sanitary Committee.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Determination of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order	Remarks.
Old Windmill, Upper Batley.	Sept. 14th, 1927.	Oct. 6th, 1927.	None made.	None made	Premises ceased to be used for human habitation. Adapted as stable, etc.
6, Providence Street.	Feb. 15th, 1928.	March 1st, 1928.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	17.12.28 Order obtained from Magistrates for possession within 21 days.
37, Peel Street	Feb. 15th, 1928.	March 1st, 1928.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	Premises still occupied as a dwelling Dec. 31st, 1928.
No. 3, in Court 6, King Street, Batley Carr.	Feb. 15th, 1928.	March 1st, 1928.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	Owner obtained Order from Magistrates for possession. Premises still occupied as a dwelling Dec. 31st, 1928.
No. 6 in Court 6, King Street, Batley Carr.	Feb. 15th, 1928.	March 1st, 1928.	None made.	None made. (cellar dwelling)	19.6.28. Occupier vacated premises
72, King Street, Batley Carr.	Feb. 15th, 1928.	March 1st, 1928.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	11.12.28. Occupier vacated premises.
78, King Street, Batley Carr.	Feb. 15th, 1928.	March 1st, 1928.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	20.4.28. Occupier vacated premises.
26, Dale Street, Batley Carr.	April 18th, 1928.	None made.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	Owner carrying out improvements. Further consideration carried over to 1929.
28, Dale Street, Batley Carr.	April 18th, 1928.	None made.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	Owner carrying out improvements. Further consideration carried over to 1929.
30, Dale Street, Batley Carr.	April 18th, 1928.	None made.	None made.	None made (cellar dwelling)	Owner carrying out improvements. Further consideration carried over to 1929.
17, Thorncliffe Road.	June 20th, 1928.	Aug. 2nd, 1928.	None made.	Consideration carried over to 1929	26.11.28. Occupier vacated premises
93, King Street, Batley Carr.	Oct. 17th, 1928.	Oct. 25th, 1928.	Consideration carried over to 1929.	(cellar dwelling)	Premises still occupied as a dwelling, Dec. 31st, 1928.
2, Newgate, Hanging Heaton	Oct. 17th, 1928.	Oct. 25th, 1928.	Consideration carried over to 1929.	Consideration carried over to 1929	16.11.28. Owner appealed to Minister of Health against Closing Order. Appeal not decided on termination of 1928. 17.11.28. Occupier vacated premises.
39, Hanover St.	Oct. 17th, 1928.	Nov. 3rd, 1928.	Consideration carried over to 1929.	Consideration carried over to 1929	Premises still occupied as a dwelling Dec. 31st, 1928.
42, Victoria St. Carlinghow.	Nov. 21st, 1928.	Dec. 6th, 1928.	Consideration carried over to 1929.	(cellar dwelling)	Premises still occupied as a dwelling Dec. 31st, 1928.

Particulars are given on page 21 and 22 of the Annual Report to show the position on December 31st, 1928:—

Date of Closing Order	Date of Report	Station	Particulars
Oct. 31st 1927	April 14th 1927	Windsor Hill	Upper Battery
March 31st 1928	Feb. 10th 1928	Providence	Providence
March 31st 1928	Feb. 10th 1928	West Street	West Street
March 31st 1928	Feb. 10th 1928	King Street	King Street
March 31st 1928	Feb. 10th 1928	King Street	King Street
March 31st 1928	Feb. 10th 1928	King Street	King Street
March 31st 1928	April 15th 1928	Dale Street	Dale Street
April 30th 1928	April 15th 1928	Dale Street	Dale Street
April 30th 1928	April 15th 1928	Dale Street	Dale Street
Apr. 30th 1928	June 30th 1928	Thornhill	Thornhill
Oct. 31st 1928	Oct. 15th 1928	King Street	King Street
Oct. 31st 1928	Oct. 15th 1928	Newgate	Newgate
Nov. 31st 1928	Oct. 17th 1928	Hampden St.	Hampden St.
Nov. 31st 1928	Nov. 30th 1928	Victoria St.	Victoria St.



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—There are 18 producers of milk within the Borough, but no producers of graded milk.

The following licenses to sell graded milk in the Borough were granted during the year:—

Certified Milk, 8; Grade A (TT) Milk, 2; Grade A Milk, 2.

Twenty-four samples of Certified Milk and one of Grade A (T.T.) Milk were bacteriologically examined and all complied with the high standard of bacterial purity required by The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923. This may be looked upon as an excellent result proving the consistently high quality of what are claimed to be very superior milks.

Of the non-graded milks two samples of so-called sterilised, one of bottled and described as "special" milk, and five samples of ordinary milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. The so-called sterilised and "special" milks were satisfactory, but three out of five ordinary milks shewed such a high bacterial count and Coli content as to prove they were seriously contaminated with manure, pointing to laxity in the methods practised at the respective dairy farms. As pure clean milk is available in Batley, it is remarkable that purchasers will continue to drink such mixtures sold as milk. Twenty-eight samples of ordinary milk have been submitted for chemical examination for dirt, and averaged 9 part per million of fully centrifuged fluid dirt. Of the samples examined under this heading six were classed as clean, eleven as reasonably clean, ten as passably clean, and one as doubtful. The results shew a great improvement on those for the years 1927 and 1926, which were 20 parts per million, and 12 parts per million of fully centrifuged fluid dirt respectively. The public should remember that this dirt is usually cow dung. It may be mentioned that again numerous instances have been brought to notice of the ignorance of the general public as to the relative quality of the various graded milks. This is partly attributable to the present designations used, which are very misleading. The popular idea of the meaning of the term "Grade A" leads one to believe that anything so described must be the best of its class, whereas in the case of graded milks Grade A is only the third quality.

The differences between Certified Milk, Grade A (Tuberculin Tested) Milk and Grade A Milk were fully explained in the annual report for 1927.

A curious idea which persists among the public is that if milk is sold in bottles it is superior to that out of a milk-can. Actually it cannot be better and may be worse. The bottle the milk is put into may be unclean, whilst in any case it cannot be germ free unless sterilised under proper conditions.

Where milk is sold in bottles, the public are advised to ask the dealer to show his licence. They should also carefully examine the cap on the bottle to make certain it is one of the graded milks produced under licence and not ordinary milk poured into a bottle for trade purposes only. Complaints have been received respecting the practice of certain dealers bottling milk in the streets and on unregistered premises. This is an offence against the Milk and Dairies Order.

The names and addresses of persons licensed to sell graded milks in Batley are:—

CERTIFIED MILK—

Brook, William, 72, Town Street, Batley Carr.

Gray, Mrs. Bertha, Upper Batley.

Leach, Herbert, Smithies Moor Lane, Batley.

Leach, John, Smithies Moor Lane, Batley.

Swales, Willie, 3, Knowles Lane, Batley.

Wilson, Briercliff, 1, Trinity Street, Batley Carr.

Worth, Charles Godfrey, 7, Branch Road, Batley.

Haley, George, 15a, Regent Street, Heckmondwike.

GRADE A (TUBERCULIN TESTED) MILK—

Carlton, David, 52, Cliffe Street, Dewsbury.

Jessop, Percy, 503, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

GRADE A MILK—

Smith, Frank, Navigation House, Ravensthorpe.

Squires, Ben, 33, Owl Lane, Shaw Cross, Dewsbury.

It is obvious a clean, disease-free milk should be the only milk sold. Such is impossible at present, hence the reason why the Ministry of Health established the several grades of milk.

REPORTS OF THE VETERINARY INSPECTORS.

Bankfoot House, Batley,

30th May, 1928.

Dr. Pearce,

Dear Sir,

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my inspection during this month of the milk cows in the Borough of Batley.

If we except two cows (Marriott), one cow (Broadfield) and one cow (Audsley), which are low in flesh, but not exhibiting definite clinical signs of Tuberculosis, the general condition of the cows is quite satisfactory.

I note (under treatment) two cases of Mastitis, not serious. The secretion from these cases is being destroyed.

At Brown's and Richardson's a case of slightly enlarged hind quarter of udder, but don't think they are likely to be Tuberculous.

After a biological test of the milk—a cow (Bedford's) was placed (March 8th) under the Tuberculosis Order—slaughtered. Post-mortem proving it a case of Tuberculosis. I have confidence in stating that this cow's udder on my inspection early December was normal.

After careful inspection I am satisfied the cows (263) and the cows' udders are, from a tubercular point of view, satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

GEO. WHITEHEAD.

Veterinary Department,

County Hall, Wakefield,

9th October, 1928.

Dear Sir,

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

I beg to inform you that on October 5th I made an inspection of the registered milk producers' premises in your Borough in company with your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Beaumont.

I visited 19 farms, on which there were 271 cows and heifers, all of which I examined clinically with the exception of four dry cows, which were away in a field at the time of my visit.

The condition of the cows is satisfactory, and no cows were found showing signs of disease coming within the scope of the Tuberculosis Order or suffering from any disease mentioned in

the Milk and Dairies Acts and Order. I took two samples of milk, however, for bacteriological examination.

The cleanliness of the cows and premises was distinctly better than on my previous visit, although of course this is to be expected in summer, when the cows are kept out at grass. The arrangements made for the disposal of the manure is in most cases satisfactory, and the general tidiness of the yards is highly satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,

Chief Veterinary Officer.

The Medical Officer of Health, Batley.

Bankfoot House, Batley,

27th December, 1928.

Dear Sir,

Re Inspection of Milk Cows.

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my Inspection during the last ten days of milk cows in the Borough of Batley.

The general condition and the class of cows kept in the Borough is most satisfactory if we except one owner (Marriott), whose cows appear healthy but are a poorer class than the rest. This owner has a cow with a slightly indurated fore-quarter; to me, non-tubercular.

Considering the number of cows (277) the udders are satisfactory to me from a tubercular point of view.

I note five cases of deaf quarters, no secretion.

BURROWS.—Red cow, a suspicious quarter; a sample of milk from this quarter bacteriologically examined—a negative result.

BROWN, J.—A case of a non-tubercular indurated quarter.

ALMOND.—A case of a non-tubercular indurated quarter.

WIGGLESWORTH.—A case of a non-tubercular indurated quarter.

WEBB.—Enlarged fore-quarter, a nodule in hind-quarter of another beast—non-tubercular.

THOMPSON.—A cow light in flesh, but appears to be sound.

The udder (Webb) mentioned before, now normal.

After a careful inspection I am satisfied the cows in the Borough are a credit to the owners.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :—Most of the remarks in this Section are by Mr. H. Hornby, Senior Sanitary Inspector :—

Careful supervision has been exercised during the year over the carcasses and organs of all animals slaughtered within the Borough for human food. This work has involved 1,242 visits to slaughter houses.

The method of inspection continues to be that laid down by the Ministry of Health in Memo. 62, Foods. On the whole the system works satisfactorily, and in the few instances where the butcher disagrees with the standard of judgment practised, it is usually due to a difference in outlook and training between himself and the inspector rather than to the operation of a too rigid standard of inspection. The butcher by his experience and training judges meat on the excellence of its appearance and marketability. The inspector, whilst taking these matters into account, must pay attention more to the pathological view, and if satisfied that injurious organisms or their toxins are present in meat, is bound to condemn or fail in his duty to the public. It often happens, especially with tubercular animals, that the meat even of generalised cases is good in appearance but definitely dangerous from a health standpoint. It is in such instances demanding total condemnation that the butcher protests the fitness of the meat and is often misled by the incorrect statement that "cooking destroys all dangerous organisms." Even if it were so it would be both unfair and dangerous to the public to be compelled to buy as pure and wholesome food, meat which required sterilisation to eradicate all its dangerous properties.

No prosecutions were undertaken during the year for selling or exposing for sale unsound meat or other foods. In one case a seizure was made of certain diseased organs of a sheep at a private slaughter house where the butcher failed to notify the diseased condition as required by the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924.

The Sanitary Committee decided that a warning would meet the case.

The following table, giving particulars of meat condemned, is interesting as shewing the causes of condemnation in a class of animals of a rather higher general state of health than the average, as they were selected by butchers at various markets as sound animals fit for the meat trade. It will be noted that tuberculosis continues to be the greatest cause of condemnation, and that the

amount condemned for the diseases which are most liable to render meat poisonous, i.e., septic conditions and immaturity, was relatively low.

As regards parasitic cysts, the chief cause of condemnation was the hydatid cyst, a parasitic affection common to man as well as animals, but not supposed to be transmissible through the medium of meat.

No case of the more dangerous parasitic affections which transmit tape-worm to man through the medium of meat has been found.

A sharp look out has been kept for foot and mouth disease in view of its occurrence about the country, but no case has been detected in local slaughter houses.

It may be pointed out that the real value the public derives from a proper system of meat and food inspection is not simply that certain diseased meat is excluded from sale, but that wherever an efficient standard of inspection is maintained, the trade exercises an equally high standard of selection in the live animals which they purchase, thus improving quality all round.

ANNUAL SUMMARY, 1928.

SURRENDERS AND SEIZURES OF UNSOUND FOOD, OFFAL, ETC.

Numbers of whole carcasses, part of carcasses, organs and offals condemned as unfit for food:—

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
Whole Carcasses including					
Organs	10	4	4	4	22
Part Carcasses	8	0	6	0	14
Heads (including tongues)	77	1	133	0	211
Tongues	1	0	0	0	1
Lungs	234	1	59	1	295
Livers	129	10	75	0	214
Hearts	3	1	39	0	43
Spleens	6	1	8	0	15
Kidneys	7	0	1	0	8
Stomachs	3	0	0	0	3
Udders	15	0	0	0	15
Diaphragms	18	1	2	0	21
Omentum	1	0	2	0	3
Mesenteries	43	0	49	0	92
Uterus	2	0	0	0	2

CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION AND WEIGHT.

Disease.	Cattle. Lbs.	Sheep. Lbs.	Pigs. Lbs.	Calves. Lbs.	Total. Lbs.
Tuberculosis	14,389	0	3,026	4	17,419
Distomatosis	1,038	11	0	0	1,049
Abscesses	444	0	0	0	444
Parasitic Cysts	82	4	83	0	169
Metritis, Acute Septic	840	0	0	0	840
Mammitis	58	0	0	0	58
Pneumonia, Acute Septic	0	120	0	0	120
Pneumonia, Primary ...	0	0	14	0	14
Pleurisy	16	0	5	0	21
Pericarditis	8	0	2	0	10
Jaundice	0	0	0	60	60
Immaturity	0	0	0	120	120
Moribund	0	140	0	0	140
Injury	0	0	6	0	6
Melanosis	20	0	0	0	20
Angioma	30	0	0	0	30
Actinomycosis	82	0	0	0	82
Cirrhosis	41	0	69	0	110
Necrosis	3	0	0	0	3
Decomposition	0	0	12	0	12
Total					20,727

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
= 9	5	0	7

At the recent dinner of the local butchers' association—as reported in the local press—it was “affirmed that the meat distributed was of a quality which could not be excelled in the North.” Should this statement be correct, the fact that over 9½ tons was found unfit for food by the Batley inspectors during 1928 gives cause for thought.

In the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health it is desirable advantage be taken of Sec. 126 of the Batley Corporation Act, 1921, which empowers the Corporation to make byelaws “for securing cleanly and sanitary conditions in places used for the preparation or manufacture of cooked or prepared food for the purpose of sale and intended for the food of man.”

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

During the year 134 samples of Food and Drugs have been procured and submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified 123 samples to be genuine, and 11 samples to be adulterated (i.e., 8.21 per cent. of adulteration).

A further comparison shows that of the 108 milk samples analysed 8 were adulterated (i.e., 7.41 per cent.).

TABLE I.

Nature of Sample.	Adulterated.	Genuine.	Informal.	Formal.	Totals.
Milk	8	100	2	106	108
Camphorated Oil	—	1	1	—	1
Cocoa	—	1	1	—	1
Cream	—	3	3	—	3
Lard	—	1	1	—	1
Ammoniated Quinine					
Tablets	—	1	1	—	1
Margarine	—	1	1	—	1
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	2	1	2	1	3
Mercury Ointment ...	1	—	1	—	1
Boiled Sweets	—	1	1	—	1
Tincture of Iodine ...	—	1	1	—	1
Sausages	—	1	1	—	1
Butter	—	1	1	—	1
"Icilma" Cream	—	1	1	—	1
Vinegar	—	2	—	2	2
Common Beer	—	4	4	—	4
Baked Beans	—	1	1	—	1
Shredded Beef Suet ...	—	1	1	—	1
Bismuthated Magnesia					
Tablets	—	1	1	—	1

TABLE II.

**Administrative Action Regarding Samples Reported to be
Not Genuine.**

No.	Nature of sample and result of analysis.	Remarks.
14	MILK 98.8% Added Water 1.2%	Vendor appeared before Public Health Committee and was given a warning.
57	MILK. Deficient in milk fat ... 4.7%	Reported to Public Health Committee. No action taken.
65	MILK. Deficient in milk fat ... 8.7%	Reported to Public Health Committee. No action taken.
70	MILK. Deficient in Milk Fat ... 2.3%	Reported to Public Health Committee. No action taken.
88	SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE. Contained only 60.4% of the required minimum (1.52%) of Nitrous Ether.	Both samples were purchased from one vendor. Reported to Public Health Committee. Town Clerk forwarded letter of warning to the vendor.
89	SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE. Contained only 40.8% of the required minimum (1.52%) of Nitrous Ether.	
114	Milk 96.5% Added water 3.5%	Both samples originated from one producer. Reported to Public Health Committee. Proceedings taken against producer. Case proved and defendant was fined £5 and costs.
128	Milk 90.9% Added water 9.1%	

TABLE III.
Monthly Average Composition of Milk Samples.

Month.	No. of Samples.	Analytical Data.	
		Milk Fat, per cent.	Non-Fatty Solids, per cent.
January	—	—	—
February	4	3.54	8.92
March	13	3.53	8.98
April	7	4.34	8.99
May	21	3.66	8.98
June	13	4.21	9.01
July	13	3.79	8.93
August	—	—	—
September	—	—	—
October	16	3.90	8.98
November	13	3.83	9.01
December	8	3.47	8.87
Average for the year 1928 ...		3.81	8.96
Average for the year 1927		3.83	8.98
Average for the year 1926		3.80	8.97
Average for the year 1925		3.82	8.93
Average for the year 1924		3.78	8.88
Requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901		3.00	8.50

TABLE IV.
**Articles of Food examined for Preservatives in accordance with
the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925.**

Food.	No. of samples examined.	Preser- vatives.	Amount.		Remarks.
			Allowed.	Found.	
Milk	108	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cream	3	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	No thickening sub- stance was found.
Beer	4	Sulphur dioxide.	70 parts per million.	Nil.	Nil.
Baked beans ...	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Beef Suet	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Lard	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Boiled sweets ...	1	Sulphur dioxide.	Sugar 70 parts per million.	Nil.	Nil.
Sausages ...	1	Sulphur dioxide.	450 parts per million.	Nil.	Nil.
Butter	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Margarine	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	The conditions of sale laid down by the Butter and Margarine Act, 1907, were com- plied with.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD has not been specially required during the year otherwise than for milk. Bacteriological examinations of certified milk have been made monthly by the Clinical Research Association at the request of the Ministry of Health. Ordinary chemical examinations of food samples have been made as usual by the analyst who usually does this work.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The outstanding episode during 1928 was the epidemic of smallpox. In March, 1927, an isolated case was discovered. Nothing further resulted, the steps taken respecting contacts and procedure followed being apparently effective. During the remainder of that year contacts with smallpox in other towns but residing in Batley were almost continuously dealt with, and on many occasions the Medical Officer of Health was called in consultation to see suspected cases.

On December 28th, 1927, the first case of the recent epidemic was discovered, and the final case was notified on October 23rd, 1928, it being nearly the middle of November before the last of the contacts were released from daily observation. During this period the town was never free from smallpox, and there is no doubt whatever that had it not been for the very great exertions made by the staff of the health department the cases would have been multiplied to an unknown figure.

Originally imported from elsewhere, smallpox spread from person to person largely, if not entirely, through failure to observe the precautions recommended. It was extremely difficult to keep the disease under control because of lack of co-operation and occasional active opposition on the part of some patients, relatives, and neighbours. At times it seemed an impossible task to keep houses where the disease had occurred free from neighbours and friends.

It was difficult to obtain all the articles of bedding, clothing, etc., at infected houses for disinfection, and it is known they were not handed over in every instance. In one district a ratepayer made a complaint to the department that a woman had been boasting to neighbours she had kept back certain articles of clothing worn by the infected person. It would take up too much space to deal with every case in this report. Full par-

particulars were furnished to the Ministry of Health about each. The type of disease was generally mild, and there were no deaths, although some were badly marked. Every person attacked was unvaccinated, with the exception of two males, aged 35 and 58, and two females, aged 52 and 33. Each was stated to have been vaccinated in infancy. The protection afforded these four had presumably been exhausted, as would be expected, but notwithstanding this the course of their illness was mild, probably due to the earlier vaccination. Schools, mills, and rag warehouses were invaded, and considerable difficulty in administration was caused through one of the staff of a wholesale tailoring establishment developing the disease.

It was not uncommon for information respecting contacts to be withheld, and on more than one occasion false information was given, with the object of preventing the officers of the department carrying out their duties.

During the period January 1st to the middle of November, male members of the staff were never off duty, with the exception of one Sunday, entirely on account of smallpox. Four hundred and ninety-six contacts and five hundred and ninety-nine sub-contacts were kept under daily observation for sixteen days in each case. Five thousand one hundred and one visits were paid to homes in connection with the outbreak, and the number of hours of actual overtime worked entirely on smallpox was three hundred and fifteen, often up to midnight and in the early mornings. In addition the routine work of the department was kept going, thereby causing a total of four hundred and twenty-one hours' overtime, which is equal to more than eleven weeks, calculated upon the official office hours as the basis. A request for some financial recompense was made to the Medical Officer of Health by certain members of the staff and on two occasions brought by him to the notice of the Public Health Committee on behalf of these officers. The application was refused.

The staff at the bathing and contact station being, of course, males, it was necessary for a woman to be present, as is customary, when women contacts were dealt with. At first a Health Visitor was present on these occasions, but nursing qualifications being unnecessary, Mrs. Bromley, the caretaker and cleaner of the department, was appointed and rendered much assistance. It is a pleasure to record her very useful services. She was, of course, protected by vaccination before being permitted to officiate.

One Saturday afternoon a case of smallpox was notified, when it was impossible to find either Mrs. Bromley or any of the nurses. The Medical Officer asked his wife to take Mrs. Bromley's place, which she did. This circumstance is only mentioned to shew its bearing upon vaccination. Needless to say he would not have made the request had there been danger of contracting smallpox through neglect of previous vaccination. Three men, members of the Health Department staff, engaged in disinfection of houses and clothing, were infected by smallpox on different occasions. They had each refused to be vaccinated, though urged to avail themselves of this protection. For many years Batley has been an anti-vaccination town. It was interesting to find that very many vaccinations were performed by doctors during the epidemic. Under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, the Medical Officer of Health did 79 primary and 87 re-vaccinations of contacts.

Diphtheria was notified on eleven occasions. There were no return cases and no deaths. Antitoxin is provided by the Corporation to practitioners free upon request. 28,000 units were thus distributed during the year. Twenty cases of ERYSIPELAS were notified. There were no deaths. There were sixty-two cases of SCARLET FEVER, of which sixty were removed to hospital. Four were removed from one house and on six occasions two were removed from other houses. These were not return cases, all being removed at the same dates. There were no return cases. The type of the disease, as is usual at present, was mild. One death took place, the patient being 4 years old. ENTERIC FEVER was notified twice and PARATYPHOID B four times. One enteric fever patient, a woman aged 26, was also positive to paratyphoid A and B. The evidence pointed to the infection having been contracted through eating oysters whilst on holiday at Blackpool. She resided at Gildersome, but arrived on a visit to Batley when already ill, and was removed to hospital eleven days afterwards. This case was not included in the Batley returns.

Of the others, one was a woman aged 53, the source of infection being doubtful; the second a woman of 43 years, who was notified after giving a positive reaction to paratyphosus B, but her doctor stated she appeared to be well with a normal temperature. The source of infection was not traced. Two other paratyphoid patients were a mother and son aged 34 and 13, who were infected through eating polluted mussels sold by a local dealer, who obtained his supplies from Askham-in-Furness, in the

area of the Ulverston Urban District Council. Samples sold in Batley obtained from this area were submitted for analysis by the bacteriologists of the Fishmongers' Company and the West Riding County Council.

A report in the following terms was made by the Medical Officer of Health on January 16th, 1929, a copy of which was sent to the Ministry of Health. Names and addresses are suppressed:—

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL FISH) REGULATIONS, 1915.

Report by the Medical Officer of Health Upon Two Cases of Para Typhoid Fever.

- 28.11.28. Notification received from the Resident Medical Officer, Poor Law Institution, Dewsbury Union, that Mrs. L— A— T—, aged 34, Carlinghow, Batley, at that time an inmate of the Institute, was suffering from Para Typhoid Fever. I had the case removed to the Isolation Hospital of the Oakwell Joint Hospital Board.
- 29.11.28. Notification received from a Batley doctor that G— T—, aged 13, residing at Carlinghow, Batley, the son of the above-mentioned, was suffering from Para Typhoid Fever. This case I also had removed to the same Hospital.

On investigation it appeared that both these persons had been in the habit of eating mussels every Tuesday, purchased from Mr. J. E. R—, Carlinghow, Batley. Mrs. T— partook of them on October 16th, 23rd, 30th and November 6th. G— T— partook of them on the last occasion, October 30th, 1928.

The date of onset of illness of Mrs. T— was stated to be November 13th, and of G— T— November 25th.

I interviewed the dealer, J. E. R—, who stated that he obtained supplies of English mussels from Mrs. A—, Askham-in-Furness.

The following is a quotation from a letter addressed by me to the Medical Officer of Health, Askham-in-Furness, dated 29th November, 1928:—

“Enteric Fever and its allied diseases are practically unknown here with a very occasional exception, when almost invariably the source of infection is traced to polluted shellfish from the West Lancashire beds. Will

you kindly cause investigation to be made and let me know from what bed the mussels sold by Mrs. A— are obtained?

“In the past I have occasionally had West Lancashire mussels bacteriologically examined and several times the Fishmongers' Company, London, has made examinations and taken the matter up with the Authorities concerned. I cannot, of course, definitely state that this patient's illness was caused by West Lancashire mussels, but the presumption is that such was the case. Perhaps you will be good enough to let me hear from you in due course.”

On December 5th, 1928, the following letter was received from the Medical Officer of Health, Ulverston Combined Sanitary District, in whose area it appears the layings in question are situate:—

“Further to yours of the 29th ult., I beg to say that I have made enquiries into the production of mussels at Askham, and I find that none are taken from the prohibited area; they all come from the deep sea (20 feet at least). Would it not be well to take samples at Batley and examine for B. Coli and B. Enteritidis? If you find the counts excessive we must go further into the matter.”

I replied as follows:—19-12-28.

“I have your letter of December 5th. Naturally the first thing I endeavoured to do was to obtain samples of the mussels supplied by Mrs. A—, of Askham-in-Furness, but until yesterday it was not possible to obtain them in this town when I was able to purchase some and submit for bacteriological examination. I suggest that as these mussels come from the area for which you are Medical Officer of Health it would presumably have been easy for samples for bacteriological examination to be obtained by you, thereby enabling us to have had a report upon their bacteriological condition some time since.”

I received the following letter, dated 20.12.28, from the Medical Officer of Health, Ulverston Combined Sanitary District:—

“In reply to yours I beg to say that I entirely agree

that I might have obtained a sample of mussels for bacteriological examination, but that would have afforded no legal proof that the samples consigned to Batley were polluted. I am assured that the mussels are taken from deep water, but I have only the men's word for this, and you know how much this is worth."

It was not possible to obtain samples of mussels consigned to Batley by Mrs. A—, Askham-in-Furness, until December 18th, 1928, when I was able to purchase two samples of such mussels from J. W. F—, Batley, who has been regularly receiving consignments of mussels from Mrs. A—. As on previous occasions I invoked the aid of the Fishmongers' Company, Fishmongers' Hall, London. The Clerk to the Fishmongers' Company notified me that on arrival the mussels were found to be bad, hence no bacteriological examination could be made.

2. 1.29. On this date I was able to obtain a supply of mussels from J. W. F—, Batley, which had been consigned to him by Mrs. —, Askham-in-Furness. The report of the bacteriologist is as follows:—

4th Jan., 1929.

" Re Sample of Mussels (No. E. 1564).

" Of ten Mussels examined, nine contained *B. coli* per 1/10 cc. Of two Mussels specially examined, none contained Streptococci per 1/10 c.c., and none contained *B. enteritidis sporogenes* per 1 cc.

RESULT " 10% clean."

(Sgd.) JOHN EYRE."

A similar sample had been consigned on Jan. 2nd, 1929, for examination in the Bacteriological Laboratory, County Hall, Wakefield. The following is the report:—

" Of ten Mussels examined 6 contained *B. coli* in 1/10 c.c. Of three specially examined all contained enteritidis sporogenes in 1 cc.

Result. The above examination shows that these mussels are of doubtful purity.

(Sgd.), P. L. SUTHERLAND. 11.1.29."

I understand that certain areas embracing mussel beds in the locality of Askham were closed some time ago by Orders made under the 1907 and 1915 Public Health Regulations owing to the danger to public health from the consumption of such shellfish.

In view of the above circumstances it is desirable, in my opinion, that the Batley Town Council, acting through its Public Health Committee, make representation to the Sanitary Authority of the district in which the layings are situated from which the above-mentioned mussels were taken—in this case the Ulverston Combined Sanitary District—with a view to closure of these layings by order of the Ulverston Sanitary Authority, as provided by the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1915.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

16th January, 1929.

On the same date the Public Health Committee resolved:—

That a Representation be made to the Ulverston Combined Sanitary Authority under Article III. of the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1915, of the fact that shell-fish from such layings are likely to cause danger to public health, and request such Local Authority to take into consideration the question of making an Order under the said Regulations prohibiting the distribution for sale of shell-fish derived from such layings.

The second case of Enteric Fever notified was a woman aged 30, who had been infected during a visit to Ireland. The Medical Officer of Health reported the circumstances to the Department of Local Government and Public Health, Ireland, with a request that an investigation be made.

PNEUMONIA is not generally notified in accordance with the Regulations. Sixteen cases were removed to hospital, usually the Batley Hospital. Mostly hospital accommodation is refused, patients or their relatives preferring otherwise. It is remarkable how so many recover when nursed in the kitchen or living-room.

MALARIA and DYSENTERY were never notified during the year.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA was notified on three occasions. Each patient was confined and attended in her own home by a medical practitioner. Two recovered, but the third was removed to Batley Hospital and died there. A report of this case was sent to the Ministry of Health on December 20th for the use of the Maternal Mortality Committee.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA was notified in respect of a youth aged 20. The patient visited a doctor's surgery on July 4th and died in Batley Hospital on July 15th. The notification was received two days after death. No definite history was obtainable.

Facilities are provided at the County Council Laboratories, Wakefield, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens. The figures for the year 1928 are Widal 27, Sputa 51, Diphtheria 52, Miscellaneous 12, a total of 142.

Contacts are searched for in school or at home when necessary. Isolation is possible at the Oakwell Joint Hospital, or, to a modified degree, at the Dewsbury Joint Isolation Hospital for patients from the Soothill Ward. Disinfection is done by the Corporation's disinfecting staff in the homes and at the Disinfecting Station, where a modern steam apparatus is installed.

It would be a great advantage if a motor ambulance was available for the removal of patients to the Oakwell Hospital.

DISINFECTION, 1928.

The following table shows the number of disinfections during the year :—

	Beds	Pillows	Cushions	Blankets	Mat- tresses	Sheets	Quilts	Wearing Apparel	Carpets	Miscell. Articles	Totals
Destroyed for the Borough	4	7	..	5	4	..	1	10	1	11	45
Destroyed for others out- side the Borough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disinfected for the Borough	305	709	101	977	93	231	299	3941	411	1369	8436
Disinfected for others out- side the Borough ..	31	85	18	109	4	19	27	880	43	448	1664
Disinfected for the Batley and District Hospital	64	200	..	53	..	26	13	3	..	49	408
Totals ..	404	1001	119	1144	101	276	340	4834	455	1877	10551

Number of houses disinfected, 77; number of rooms disinfected, 215; number of times apparatus charged, 789; number of library, etc., books disinfected, 150.

So far as the Medical Officer of Health is aware, no use has officially been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever respectively or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunisation against these diseases, but serum treatment has been tried in several cases of Scarlet Fever by general practitioners, who have reported favourably.

Non-notifiable infectious diseases become known to the Medical Officer of Health principally through the agency of Head Teachers and the School Attendance Officer, of whom the former notified 182 and the latter 36 during 1928. Such cases are visited at home by the School Nurses.

The average weekly number of scholars excluded either as patients or contacts during the year for notifiable or non-notifiable diseases was:—

Scarlet Fever	7.7	Mumps	5.7
Diphtheria	0.9	Ringworm	1.1
Para Typhoid Fever... ..	0.09	Impetigo	1.9
Measles	0.21	Contagious Ophthalmia...	0.12
Whooping Cough	9.4	Scabies	0.4
Chickenpox	13.1	Verminous Conditions ...	3.8
Smallpox	4.02		

No locally contracted case of Anthrax or Rabies was notified during the year. No compulsory cleansing of verminous persons was resorted to, but many scholars were cleansed from vermin by their parents under threat of prosecution. The cleansing and disinfecting station was frequently used to deal with smallpox contacts.

During the autumn the usual measures in connection with Rat Week were taken as described in previous Annual Reports.

MEASLES was absent, only three cases being known in the schools, and INFLUENZA was not prevalent to an extent calling for unusual notice. There were cases termed influenza, but the majority were common colds, which it is now customary to call influenza.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1928.

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													1928				1927		
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	1 Ward	2 North Ward	3 East Ward	4 West Ward	1928	1927	1926	1916 to 1925				
Small-pox	35	2	10	9	8	6	6	22	7	35	5	...	...	...	...	
Cholera (°) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	11	2	6	1	2	...	...	3	4	1	3	11	17	21	339			
Erysipelas	20	1	42	8	3	...	...	9	2	5	4	...	...	...	...	
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria	62	9	42	8	3	...	...	23	14	21	4	60	38	28	466			
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Para Typhoid (B)	4	1	11	12	6	5	7	17	22	2	4	16	5	5	31					
Pneumonia	45	1	11	12	6	5	7	17	22	2	4	16	5	5	31					
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	1	2	3		
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-myelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Pulmonary Tuberculosis	39	...	...	8	1	21	9	13	13	7	6	32	32	35	406			
†Other Forms of "	13	...	4	2	2	3	...	2	2	3	1	6	7	5	29					
Præcephalitis Lethargica	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	236	3	28	82	33	52	32	84	81	48	23	166	107	99	1341					

* Males 17, Females 22. † Males 6, Females 7. Total deaths from all notified Infectious Diseases, 22. The Zymotic Death-rate for 1928 was 0.2 per 1,000 of the population.

Analysis of total Deaths from Notified Infectious Diseases under Age Groups.

Disease	Under 1 year											65 and over
	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years		
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...
Pneumonia	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	...
Scarlet Fever	2	...

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE LAST 39 YEARS.

YEARLY AVERAGES.

Disease	1890-1920				1890-1920				1890-1920			
	1890-1900	1901-1910	1911-1920	1899-1928	1890-1900	1901-1910	1911-1920	1899-1928	1890-1900	1901-1910	1911-1920	1899-1928
*Measles	56.1	19.1	0.8	4.4	56.1	19.1	0.8	4.4	56.1	19.1	0.8	4.4
Diphtheria	51.8	29.6	56.3	21.1	51.8	29.6	56.3	21.1	51.8	29.6	56.3	21.1
Erysipelas	37.3	12.8	15.9	9.6	37.3	12.8	15.9	9.6	37.3	12.8	15.9	9.6
Scarlet Fever	2.3	90.7	50.3	55.9	2.3	90.7	50.3	55.9	2.3	90.7	50.3	55.9
Enteric Fever	64.6	46.9	15.2	3.6	64.6	46.9	15.2	3.6	64.6	46.9	15.2	3.6
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	0.7	...	...	...	0.7	...	...	...	0.7
Pneumonia	...	...	...	34.7	...	...	...	34.7	...	...	...	34.7
Malaria	...	...	...	12.0	...	...	...	12.0	...	...	...	12.0
Dysentery	...	...	...	0.1	...	...	...	0.1	...	...	...	0.1
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	0.3	...	...	...	0.3	...	...	...	0.3
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	25.0	...	...	...	25.0	...	...	...	25.0
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	31.2	...	...	...	31.2	...	...	...	31.2
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	0.3	...	...	...	0.3	...	...	...	0.3
Grand Total	2121	1891	3602	1306	2121	1891	3602	1306	2121	1891	3602	1306

* Measles was notifiable from 1916 to 1919.

YEAR 1928.

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 attacked. previously	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.	Previously attacked.	Not previously attacked.
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	1	...	5	...	2
Erysipelas	1	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	1	36	...	13
Enteric Fever
Pneumonia	15	...	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	...	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis	4	...	2
Smallpox	3	...	9
Para Typhoid Fever (B)	1

YEAR 1928.

Attack rates per 1,000 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.
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	0.03	0.1	0.05
Erysipelas ... ..	...	0.03	...
Scarlet Fever	0.03	1.05	0.3
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Pneumonia ... ..	...	0.4	0.2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0.03	...	0.03
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	...	0.1	0.1
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	...	0.1	0.05
Smallpox ... ..	...	0.08	0.2
Para Typhoid (B) ... ..	...	...	0.03

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Sec. 66 Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, the local facilities appearing to be sufficient.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, 1928.

Year.	CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Death
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
1928	2	1	1	2			

TUBERCULOSIS IN BATLEY, 1928.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	...
5	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	...
10	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
20	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	...
25	5	9	...	2	1	...	...	1
35	2	5	1	...	2	1	...	1
45	2	4	...	...	3	2	...	1
55	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 & upwards	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
Totals	17	22	6	7	9	3	3	4

The Registrar-General's figures shew 21 deaths amongst Batley residents from Tuberculosis of the lungs and other Tubercular diseases, but most careful search does not reveal more than 19 local deaths, and this figure has been taken, notwithstanding that it differs from the Registrar-General's official returns. The West Riding County Council is the Authority for the treatment of tuberculosis. A dispensary has recently been established in Batley. Previously patients had to go out of the town for dispensary treatment.

Housing conditions of patients notified to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the ten years 1919 to 1928 were as follows:—

Years	Notifica- tions		Type of House		Occupants.						Houses with more than one Patient and Notified	Rooms.				Bedrooms.				Sleeping Accommodation for Patients.								
	M.	F.	B. to B.	Single Through	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9 and over	1	2	3	4	5	6 and over	1	2	3	4 and over	Separate Room.	Shared Room.	Separate Bed	Shared Bed	
																												18
1919 to 1928 (inclusive)	289	208	246	127	138	43	101	101	102	58	40	20	36	74	28	163	159	89	48	24	187	244	68	11	111	404	237	278
Year 1928	18	21	15	11	11	6	6	5	12	5	2	0	1	5	18	11	4	2	2	0	15	15	6	0	5	32	11	26

The above figures give an insight into the way many persons in Batley are spending their lives, the conditions not being confined to tuberculosis patients only. The table has been previously published in former years, but has never excited any comment. This appears remarkable.

The relationship between notification of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease is shown in the following table, which covers the period between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1928:—

Death before notification	88	Death 6 months after	14
Death 1 month, or under, after notification	135	Death 7 months after	12
Death 2 months after	35	Death 8 months after	6
Death 3 months after	23	Death 9 months after	6
Death 4 months after	14	Death 10 months after	3
Death 5 months after	14	Death 11 months after	5
		Death 12 months and over ...	98

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths during 1928 was 7 to 19 or 36.8 per cent.

During the year a letter was received from the Ministry pointing out that in 1927 the ratio was 9 to 23 or 39.1 per cent. A circular letter was sent to all medical practitioners in Batley respecting this fact.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken or called for under these Regulations during 1928.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

This section refers to the compulsory removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. It is similar to Section 138 of the Batley Corporation Act, 1921. The West Riding County Council is the authority responsible for the provision of hospital accommodation for persons suffering from tuberculosis. There are many cases where such is very desirable, though not provided, partly because there are not sufficient beds available and partly because tubercular patients often refuse hospital treatment. No action was taken under this section.

The adoptive portions of this Act were recommended to the Sanitary Committee by the Medical Officer of Health for adoption by the Town Council at a meeting of that Committee on September 22nd, 1926. The recommendation is again made.

In conclusion the Medical Officer of Health wishes to place on record his appreciation of the services rendered during the year by the staff of the department. This was particularly shewn in connection with smallpox, and has been previously mentioned. The departures of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Beaumont, to Halifax, and Nurses Dearden, A.R.C.C., and Robertshaw to Wakefield were regretted. As in former years Mrs. Louks has been very helpful in the preparation of statistical matter in this report, and generally.

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

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G. H. FEARCE, M.D., D.P.H.

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REGULATION NO. 100

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PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1904, SECTION 100

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