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Contributors

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URBAN DISTRICT OF CASTLEFORD.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1941.

Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer
of Maternity and Child Welfare Service:
J. M. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing & Transport Superintendent:
T. E. BIRTWISLE, M.B.E., F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLEFORD.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 1941.

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

I have the honour of placing before you, this my first Annual Report, and in it I have given an account on the health of your district for the year ended 31st December, 1941.

Previous war-time reports have been largely abbreviated and this one will prove to be no exception. For this report, following the instructions of the Ministry of Health, it has been requested that complete tables of local populations should be omitted, as well as quotations supplied by the Registrar General, which may enable any substantial series of local populations to be reconstructed.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area 4,394 acres.
Rateable Value £182,371.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £674.

The Registrar General's estimate of population again reveals a further decrease in the population of Castleford, and for this I am at a loss to account.

Births.

Live Birth Rate - 17.38 per 1,000 of the population
(Legit. 16.50).
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales - 14.2 per 1,000 of the population.
Still Birth Rate - 0.70 per 1,000 of the population.
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales - 0.51 per 1,000 of the population.

Deaths.

Crude Death Rate - 11.96 per 1,000 of the population.
Death Rate for England and Wales - 12.9 per 1,000 of the population.
Death Rate from Puerperal causes and Post abortion Sepsis - nil.
Death Rate for England and Wales from Puerperal causes - 0.48 per 1,000 total births (live and still).
Death rate from other maternal causes - 1.39 per 1,000 total births (live and still).
Death Rate for England and Wales from other maternal causes - 1.75 per 1,000 total births (live and still).

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

For all infants - 81.63 per 1,000 live births.
For England and Wales - 59 per 1,000 live births.
For legitimate infants - 81.16 per 1,000 legitimate live births.
For illegitimate infants - 90.90 per 1,000 illegitimate live births.

Principal Causes of Death in 1941, given per 1,000 of the Population.

Heart Disease - 2.68. Other Circulatory Diseases - 0.26.
Bronchitis - 0.99. Pneumonia - 0.51. Other respiratory diseases - 0.09.
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions - 1.26.
Cancer (all forms) - 1.82.
Tuberculosis: Pulmonary - 0.53. Other forms - 0.07.
Convulsions, Malformations and Premature Births, etc. - 0.56.
Suicide - 0.12. Accidents and other violent causes - 0.63.

General Provision of Health Services.

These services as regards laboratory, ambulance, nursing, hospitals (Infectious Disease and General) Midwifery and the Maternity Home are in full operation.

The Casualty and Ambulance Services in connection with Civil Defence are well provided and in full operation.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity Home.

During the year the Home was kept extremely busy and the work of the Matron and Staff proved most exacting. As in previous years accommodation has been totally inadequate and 30 cases had to be refused admission. There is a crying need for extension and for a town of this size we should be able to be in a position to treat abnormal as well as normal cases. One of our first duties post war should be a further consideration of an extension of premises.

Admissions during the year 1941 were:-

Castleford Cases	159
Pontefract Borough	39
Rothwell U.D. (Methley)	8
W.R.C.C.	65
Total	<u>271</u>

Medical Aid was summoned in respect of 118 cases of which 9 were removed to another hospital on account of complications. One case was transferred from Leeds Maternity Home to our own.

Cases sent to Institutions not previously admitted to our Home numbered 40.

Clinics.

At all the four Infant Welfare Centres work has proceeded as usual and ready advice was always obtainable. The Health Visitors performed their work efficiently and as ever quietly, unobtrusively.

Details of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services were returned to the Ministry of Health on the prescribed forms.

The arrangements for Dental and Orthopaedic services remain as hitherto.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. These will be treated in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Infectious Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis)

The following table shews the incidence of infectious diseases in the various age groups, the number of cases removed to hospital for treatment, and the number of deaths.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1964.

(SHOWN IN AGE GROUPS)

NOTIFIED DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.														
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	94	-	8	2	7	4	35	18	9	9	-	2	-	93	1
Erysipelas	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	6	2	-	-
Pneumonia	21	-	2	3	1	1	-	-	2	4	3	5	-	-	21
Scarlet Fever	65	-	5	5	7	10	28	5	1	3	1	-	-	65	-
Whooping Cough	129	15	23	24	24	17	23	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Typhoid	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	3	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Cerebro Spinal	8	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	7	5
Measles	146	2	16	13	18	28	60	7	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	6	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u>	491	20	55	48	57	61	146	33	19	30	6	14	2	175	34

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics are held every other Friday at Sagar Street Clinic, and though the attendances were reasonably good, one might, in view of recent propaganda, have hoped for a bigger response.

293 immunisations were completed during the year and an additional 20 did not attend for the full course.

Tuberculosis.

The following tables give particulars regarding Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year 1941.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>
	M	F	M	F	
No. of new cases on Register, 1st January, 1941.	119	68	52	58	297
New cases notified during year.	21	22	8	7	58
TOTALS	140	90	60	65	355
Removed from Register during year.	15	22	5	5	47
Remaining on Register, 31st December, 1941.	125	68	55	60	308

Notifications 58	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
At all ages	21	22	8	7	10	12	2	1
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5 years	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
5-15	1	1	3	3	-	-	1	1
15-25	4	12	2	1	1	3	-	-
25-35	3	5	1	1	2	5	-	-
35-45	6	3	-	-	1	2	-	-
45-55	4	1	1	-	4	1	1	-
55-65	3	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Conclusion.

This is a report where actual figures have had to be cut down to a minimum, owing to present war-time emergencies. All relevant facts and statistics, however, are being filed away for the day when they can be disclosed.

I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

Town Hall,
Castleford.
15.7.42.

J. M. PATERSON. M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

231.60.7/42.M.O.H.

URBAN DISTRICT OF CASTLEFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

Sanitary, Cleansing
and
Transport Department.

YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1941.

Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing and Transport Superintendent:
T.E.BIRTWISLE, M.B.E., F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C.

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Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Year ended 31st. December, 1941.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I beg to place before you my twenty-ninth Annual Report.

The pressure and urgency of Civil Defence and various forms of other national need, had their effect upon the activities of this Department during the year.

Strenuous endeavours were made to adapt and use our resources to meet the calls of national service, and it is believed that some measure of success was achieved.

We lost the services of Mr. F. E. Elsey, Additional Sanitary Inspector, in November last, and although Mr. J. Rooke was appointed to succeed him, Mr. Rooke has been called to H. M. Forces, and we are therefore one technical officer short on the staff.

Housing

The cessation of building operations together with the necessity of housing munitions works has had the effect of accentuating the house shortage.

Housing repairs have received attention but considerable difficulty has been experienced owing to the short supply of labour and materials.

Particulars of action taken are given below.

Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action of Local Authority or their officers.....34

(a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....5

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners.....4

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.....Nil

(b) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 11, Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation.....Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....8

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners:-

(a) To render houses fit for human habitation.....8 (Voluntary Undertaking).

(b) As to usage other than human habitation.....Nil

The following is a summary of the action taken under the Housing Acts, 1930-36, and the position at the 31st. March, 1942:-

Part I of the Act. Clearance Areas -

No. of unfit dwelling-houses demolished.....68
No. of persons displaced.....243

Part II of the Act. Individual Unfit Houses -

No. of dwelling-houses demolished:
Formal action.....102
Informal Action.....26
No. of dwelling-houses closed.....26
Parts of buildings closed.....7
No. of persons displaced from above.....594
No. of dwelling-houses made fit:
Formal action.....154
Informal action.....922

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply

Particulars as to milk purveyors and producers, dairies, etc., are given below:-

No. of Wholesale Traders and Producers of Milk on the register.....4
No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk on the register...48
Total number of cowsheds in the District.....5
Total number of Milk Cows.....94
Total number of Dairy and Cowshed inspections.....32
No. of 'Accredited' Producers.....Nil

There were three licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 to sell milk as pasteurised, two of which were supplementary licences.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1941.

One application was received under the above Regulations to use the term 'pasteurised' in relation to milk treated by the High Temperature Short Time process. A licence was granted to this effect, and necessary alterations were carried out to the plant.

This plant had previously been licenced under the Holder process as distinguished from the continuous flow method, now allowed by the Regulations mentioned above.

For the purpose of bacteriological examination, 43 samples of milk were taken, 36 of which were ordinary milk and 7 of pasteurised milk. The results of examination are given below:-

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

No. of samples taken of Ordinary milk.....28
No. of samples which satisfied the Methylene blue test for Accredited Milk.....15
No. of samples taken of Pasteurised Milk.....7
No. which satisfied the Plate Count Test.....2

All the above samples were further subjected to a biological test, and the following results were obtained:-

Ordinary Milk found to be Tuberculous.....Nil
Pasteurised Milk found to be Tuberculous.....Nil

Six further samples of ordinary milk were subjected to a biological test, one of which was found to be tuberculous.

This result was reported to the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and action was taken by him at the farm where a tuberculous cow was discovered and slaughtered.

Two other samples of milk were taken and submitted for Bacteriological Examination in connection with certain cases of Paratyphoid Fever. The milk was found to be satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Sampling

Total number of samples taken:

Informal.....	4
Formal.....	105
Total	<u>109</u>

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>
Milk	43	Flour	2
Margarine	8	Sausage	2
Rice	8	Egg Substitute	3
Tea	6	Mustard	1
Cocoa	6	Yeast	1
Butter	4	Liver Sausage	1
Lard	4	Pearl Barley	1
Sugar	4	Meat Roll	1
Saccharin	4	Synthetic Cream	3 (Informal)
Baking Powder	3	Flaked Rice	1 (Informal)
Coffee	3		

The following samples were reported upon by the Public Analyst, as being adulterated, the remainder were found to be genuine:-

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Action</u>
160	Milk	Vendor warned.
162	do.	Further sampling satisfactory.
167	do.	Vendor warned.
169	do.	Further sampling satisfactory.
195	do.	Vendor warned.
196	do.	Legal proceedings.
197	do.	Vendor warned.
198	do.	do. do.
199	do.	do. do.
203	Saccharin	Legal proceedings.

Notes on samples 196 and 203 are given below.

Sample No. 196

In this case, milk was found to be adulterated to the extent of 13.4% of added water, calculated on non-fatty solids of 8.5%.

An "appeal to cow" sample yielded only 8.35% of non-fatty solids, and the extent of adulteration was therefore reduced to 11.6% of added water.

Informations were laid under Section 3 in respect of nature, substance and quality, and under Section 24 in that the milk contained added water, and was intended for human consumption.

The vendor was fined £5 on each charge.

Sample No. 203

In this case, notices were prominently displayed advertising Saccharin tablets as full strength at 60 for 1/-.

On analysis these were found to be only one-third of the recognised commercial strength.

Proceedings were taken under Section 3 in respect of nature, substance and quality, and under Section 6 in respect of the misleading advertisement.

Penalties were imposed of £10 in each case.

Meat and Other Foods

This section of the work received unremitting attention during the year.

The number of slaughtermen licenced was 18.

Figures relating to meat inspection are given below.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle Excl'g Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed.	1233	273	70	6519	756
No. inspected.	1233	273	70	6519	756
All diseases except <u>Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	Nil	1	Nil	14	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	18	25	Nil	14	4
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	6	10	Nil	Nil	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	97	62	1	Nil	45

Other foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption included the following:-

Canned Meats	103 lbs	Flour	98 lbs
Beef	741 lbs	Cheese	(31 lbs
Pork, Bacon & Ham	167½ lbs		(27 packets
Other Meats	40 lbs	Rice	21 lbs
Sausages	31 lbs	Milk	26 tins
Rabbits	113 lbs	Fruit	24 tins
Meat Paste	14 jars	Oranges	(1836
Fish	(6½ boxes		(5 cases
	(7 tins	Eggs	1747
Vegetables	8 tins		
Onions	13 lbs		
Potatoes	2¾ cwts		
Tomatoes	48 lbs		

All food found to be unfit for human consumption was removed and converted for use in industrial processes.

Fish Frying

The trade or business of fish fryer was by Order declared an offensive trade by your Council in 1927.

By Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936 this Order ceased to have effect on 1st. October, 1940.

Water Supply

Considerable sampling was done with a view to ascertaining the quality of water supplied in the area, the results of which are given below.

In respect of No. 8 it should be stated that No's 10 and 11 were taken subsequently from the house and found to be satisfactory.

Sample No. 16 was taken as part of an investigation into possible alternative means of supply in war emergency.

The investigation has been continued during the present year.

Bacteriological Examination. Samples from Public Supplies

No.	Date	Sample taken from.	Source of Supply.	No. of presumptive B. Coli in 100 ml. of water.	Remarks
1	1/1/41	Town Hall.	Wakefield	None	Satisf'y
2	1/1/41	do.	do.	None	do.
3	1/1/41	do.	do.	None	do.
4	1/1/41	Healdfield Road	do.	1	do.
5	6/8/41	29, Healdfield Rd.	do.	2	do.
6	6/8/41	Town Hall.	do.	None	do.
7	6/8/41	College Rd., Airedale.	Pontefract	None	do.
8	6/8/41	Lock Lane.	Leeds	More than 18.	Unsatisfactory.
10	15/8/41	Lock Lane.	Leeds	None	Satisf'y
11	15/8/41	Lock Lane	Leeds	None	do.
12	15/8/41	Lock Lane	Leeds	None	do.
13	15/8/41	Lock Lane	Leeds	None	do.
14	15/8/41	Lock Lane	Leeds	None	do.
15	15/8/41	Lock Lane	Leeds	None	do.
18	5/10/41	Town Hall.	Wakefield	None	do.

Samples from Wells

No.	Date	Sample taken from.	No. of presumptive B. Coli in 100 ml. of water.	Remarks
16.	21/8/41	Wheldon Lane. Council's Depot.	More than 180	Unsatisfact'y

Water Supply

Chemical Analyses

Sample No.16 was submitted for chemical analysis, and gave the following results:-

Total Solids	145.0	Grains per gallon.
Chlorine	5.2	do.
Nitrites	None	do.
Nitrate	.100	do.
Free Ammonia	None	do.
Albuminoid Ammonia	.0007	do.
Metals	None	do.
Total Hardness	64	do.
pH.	6.2	

This is water of good organic purity, well suited for drinking but objectionably hard for domestic use.

Samples from Public Baths

No.	Date	No. of presumptive B.Coli in 100 ml. of water.	pH.Value	Free Chlorine in 1,000,000 parts of water.
9	6/8/41	7.6 9.	7.6 9	None
17	5/11/41	4.4 16.	4.4 16	None

Disinfection and Disinfestation

Owing to salvage operations, the raising of steam from refuse incineration was found to be no longer practicable.

gas
A/fired vertical steam boiler was installed at a cost of approximately £200, and this has been found to give every satisfaction.

House disinfection was done by means of spraying, and fumigation with formalin vapour.

The furniture and effects of 5 families were disinfested before removal to Council owned houses.

Attention was also given to other dwelling-houses. In this connection 5 Council owned houses and 11 privately owned houses were subjected to disinfestation.

Public Conveniences

The expenditure and income were as follows:-

Gross Expenditure	£514. 16. 1d
Less Income	£113. 7. 6d
Net Expenditure	<u>£401. 8. 7d</u>

All the public urinals in the town were cleansed twice daily at the least.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sanitary Alterations

Works carried out during the year 1941 are summarised below:-

Privies abolished (redundant)	Nil
Privies converted into water closets	97
Slop closets converted into water closets	1
Water closets abolished	8
Water closets (additional) provided to existing buildings	5

Drains and water closets reconstructed or repaired.....	109
Drains, water closets, etc., opened or cleansed.....	245
Ashpit (wet) abolished.....	51
Ashpit (dry) abolished.....	Nil
Ashbins provided in substitution for ashpits.....	97
Chemical closets (new).....	Nil
Ashbins provided to new buildings.....	5
Ashbins abolished.....	8

Statement of Sanitary Defects or Nuisances found and Results of Action:-

Total number of inspections for nuisances.....	1486
Defects or nuisances found.....	503 (premises)
Number carried over from 1940.....	129
Number abated during 1941.....	466
Number outstanding end of 1941.....	166
Notices issued:	
Informal Notices 114	Complied with 94
Statutory Notices 10	do. do 197

Rats and Mice Destruction

Serious attention was given throughout the year to this important subject, having regard to damage to foodstuffs by destruction and fouling.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining the services of a competent rat-catcher, and during the early part of the year, recourse was had to the engagement of what men could be obtained.

In October we arranged to share the services of a competent man for this purpose with the Pontefract Corporation. He has since been working in the area during alternate fortnights, and it is believed that excellent results have accrued. Special attention was paid to farms, food premises, sewage disposal works, sewers and tips.

Particulars with reference to destruction and baiting are given below.

Number of baits laid.....	2972
Number of baits taken.....	1635
Number of rats known to have been destroyed.....	908

General Factories, Shops and other Registered Premises.

Owing to pressure of war time duties, together with shortage and changes of staff, it has been impossible to maintain desirable routine inspection. Matters have been dealt with however, as and when they have arisen.

Air Pollution

Sootfall.

The total sootfall for the year as shown by analysis of the deposit passing through our soot-gauges was found to be as follows:-

Cambridge Street.....	273.166 tons per sq. mile.
Redhill.....	192.81 do. do.

Sulphur Estimation

Town Hall.....	3.84 milligrammes of SO ₃ per day.
Maternity Home.....	3.56 milligrammes of SO ₃ per day.

Petroleum Storage

There were issued during the year 53 licences for the storage of petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium; the quantity allowed to be stored under licence was 464,825 gallons of petroleum spirit and 3,678 lbs of carbide of calcium.

Public Cleansing, Transport and Salvage

All figures given under this heading refer to the year ended 31st.March,1942.

Tipping of refuse at the Healdfield Quarry is still proceeding and the tipped level is now well above the original water level. There is therefore no likelihood of further flooding.

The electrical pumping apparatus has been taken out and stored for future use.

The salvage of waste materials as a part of the national war effort has been the subject of much care and attention. It is felt that while a good deal has been achieved, a good deal more could be done if our people were more salvage minded, and realized the greatness of their individual responsibility.

The Yorkshire County Salvage Drive was held in September, in which we took part and made special appeal.

A further drive was held in December in conjunction with the Waste Paper Recovery Association, in which we also had the assistance of members of H.M.Forces, through the kindness of Major Gilbey.

During the year a system of collecting food waste by means of communal bins has been in operation, and the results have been greatly appreciated by pig and poultry keepers in the district.

A survey of scrap iron and steel for war munitions industries was made, and the information sent to the appropriate Government Authority.

Later, the survey of unnecessary railings was undertaken, and of these, schedules have been supplied to the Ministry of Works and Buildings.

Refuse Collection and Disposal Costings

Refuse collected during the year was as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts
Ashbins and Ashpits	20,597	7
Shop Refuse	921	17
Cesspools	2,837	0
Total	24,356	4

The cost of this was £7,959. 9. 2d.

The refuse was received and disposed of partly at the destructor, but mainly at the tips. From the material collected, re-usable materials were extracted and returned to industry. The estimated quantity of material disposed of was:-

<u>At the Tips</u>	Tons	Cwts
Ashbins and ashpits	20,597	7
Cesspools	2,837	0
Street Sweepings	1,142	9
Miscellaneous	172	3
Total	24,748	19

	Tons	Cwts
At the Destructor	2,546	8
At the Tips	24,748	19
Total	27,295	7

From this 860 tons of re-usable material was salvaged.
The cost of the work was as follows:-

Cost of Tips	-	£761. 14. 3d
Cost of Destructor	-	£546. 9. 10d

Salvage.

Gross expenditure	£2,455. 15. 3d
income	£2,205. 19. 10d
Net loss	£249. 15. 5d
Net cost of Disposal	£1,557. 19. 6d

Standard Costs

	Collection			Disposal			Total		
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
Net Expenditure	7,959	9.	2	1,557	19.	6	9,517	8.	8
A. Cost as rate in the pound.	0.	0.	11.5	0.	0.	2.2	0.	1.	1.7
B.(i) Cost per ton	0.	6.	6.4	0.	1.	1.8	0.	7.	8.2
(ii) Cost per 1000 population.(est. 41,000).	194.	2.	8	37.	19.	11	232.	2.	7
(iii) Cost per 1,000 premises. (Est. 12,000)	663.	5.	9	129.	16.	7	793.	2.	4

C. Weight of Refuse per 1,000 population per day 32.55 cwts.

Street Cleansing

Street Sweeping and Gully Cleansing

The cost of work done under this head during the present year amounted to £5413. 13. 3d. Of this the West Riding County Council contributed the sum of £445 in respect of work performed on County Roads.

Street Gritting and Snow Removal

One again the winter conditions proved severe, and expenditure was accordingly high.

The total cost of gritting was £842. 17. 9d, and of snow removal £1716. 17. 8d, of which the County Council refunded £198. 14. 3d and £819. 11. 10d respectively.

Transport Work

Work done by Motor Lorries

Hours worked - 32,561 Loads hauled 24,656 giving an estimated tonnage of 38,658 and an estimated mileage of 81,509. During the period, 14,450 gallons of petrol and 3,728 pints of oil were consumed.

Motor Vans

Work done by these two vehicles (Ford Van and Dodge Van) was as follows:-

Hours worked - 927 Journeys made - 1,971
giving an estimated mileage of 6,757. During the period 820½ gallons of petrol and 268 pints of oil were consumed.

Gulley Emptiers.

Work done by these two vehicles was as follows:-

Hours worked - 3295 Gullies cleansed 19,404
Other material removed 5,139 tons. Estimated mileage 6,544.
During the period 1,565 gallons of petrol and 318 pints of oil were consumed.

The total expenditure for all transport, including overhead charges and running costs was £5,399. 2. 6d with an income of £1,158. 18. 7d, leaving a net expenditure of £4,240. 3. 11d. This does not include drivers wages. The net expenditure was charged out proportionately to the various services of the Council.

Motor Ambulance Service

Number of calls.....2,126

Miles travelled.....20,890

Total costs for the year were	£629.	8.	9d
Less Income		37.	15. 0d

£591. 13. 9d

Add for standing charges, proportion of rates and taxes, lights, etc.		40.	0. 0d
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Total	£631.	13.	9d
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The cost per mile was 7.25d

Civil Defence

During the year much has been done to develop the services operated by the Department, viz:-

General Decontamination, Food Decontamination,
Transport and Ambulance.

General Decontamination

The men employed in the Cleansing Service have formed the mainstay of our operations, and have shown great willingness in undergoing training in the work. Such training has been systematic throughout the year; changes in the personnel have fortunately been few in number and the service is well up to strength. The County Scheme gives the area an allocation of five squads, with a unit strength of 35 men; the allowance for reserves gives an establishment strength of 50. Such number of trained men are available and five full squads can be called upon for duty. The reserve strength allows of support by two tank vehicles carrying water, assistance at the Depot, and replacement in case of emergency.

The majority of the men concerned have also received training in Rescue Work, several having had experience with the Rescue Service in rendering assistance to other less fortunate towns.

Food Decontamination

Every endeavour has been made to develop this branch of the Service. The co-operation of local food traders has been sought, and as a result of this, some twenty persons, both male and female, have been enrolled, have undergone training, and are now capable of undertaking this very special duty. Further endeavour is being made to increase this number, and at the time of writing, the staffs of the two largest food stores, are receiving training; in addition a number of local butchers have been specially trained in the decontamination of carcasses.

A food treatment site has been prepared and equipped at the Council's Depot, where facilities are now available for receiving and treating affected foodstuffs.

Transport and Ambulance

The augmented service has been well maintained throughout the year. A number of changes have occurred, as private vehicles have been withdrawn on account of petrol restrictions. Nevertheless, a full strength of vehicles is still available in the event of emergency.

Before concluding this report, I desire to record my appreciation of the loyal assistance rendered by the staff of the Department, both indoor and outdoor, during the year.

Throughout a very trying winter, the men stood up to their responsibilities in a commendable manner, while in the matter of Civil Defence leisure has been willingly given up by all concerned in order to undergo necessary training.

I desire to thank the Council for their continued confidence in me.

I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

T.E.BIRTWISLE.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Cleansing and Transport
Superintendent.

Town Hall,
Castleford.
9th. July, 1942.

