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Contributors

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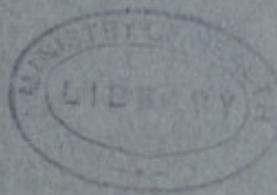
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THE URBAN DISTRICT OF CASTLEFORD



ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

Year ended 31st December, 1954

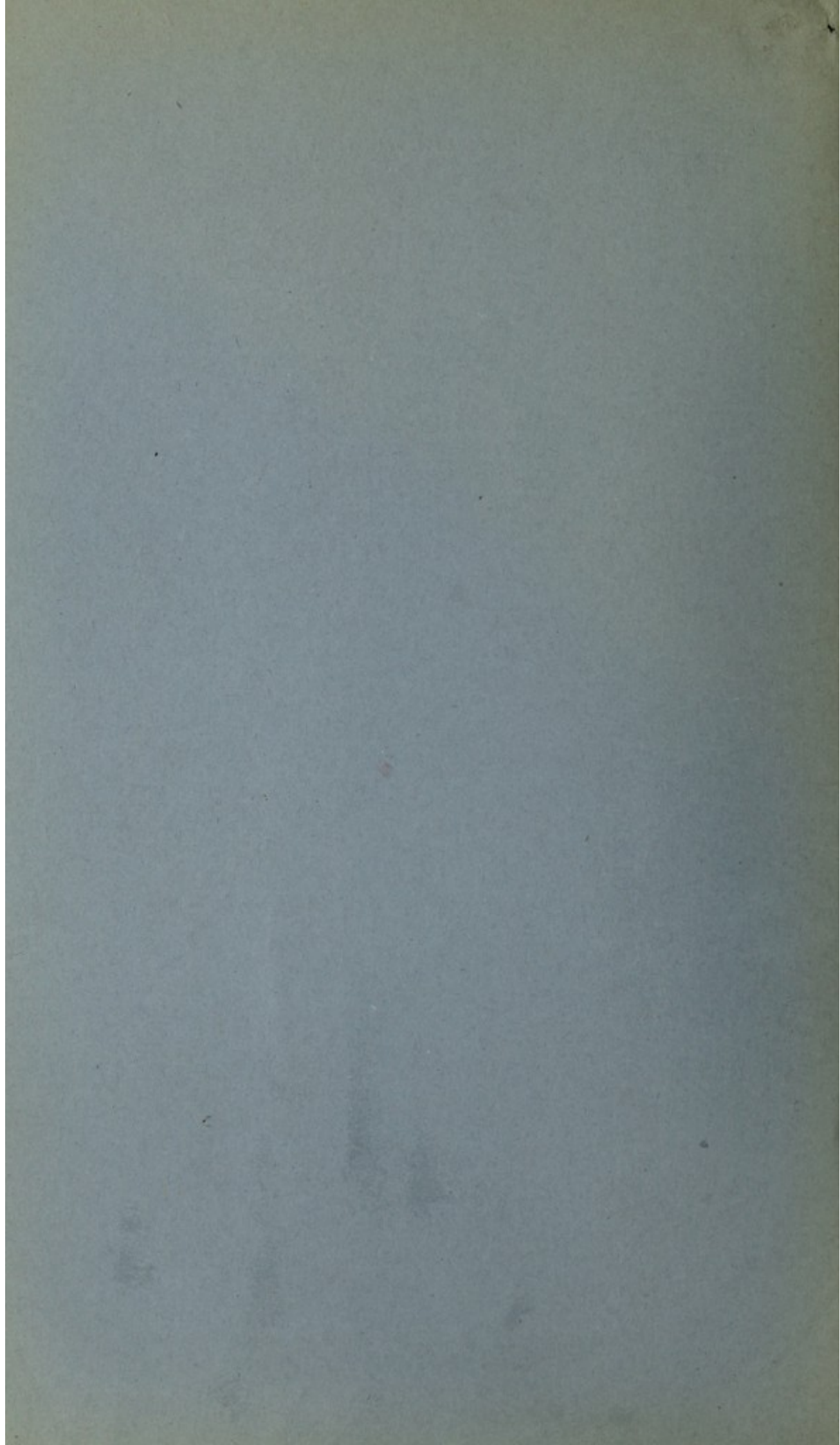


Medical Officer for Health and Divisional Medical Officer for Maternity
and Child Welfare and School Medical Services:

J. M. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.San.I.

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

E. J. WINFIELD, M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.



THE URBAN DISTRICT OF CASTLEFORD

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer
for Maternity & Child Welfare
and School Medical Services:

J.M. Paterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.San.I.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

E.J. Winfield, M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

THE USMAN DISTRICT OF CASTLEFORD

ANNUAL REPORT 1911

THE USMAN DISTRICT, 1911.

Medical Officer of Health and District Medical Officer
for Infectious & Quin's Diseases
and School Medical Services

L. H. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.M., F.R.C.S.

General Secretary, Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

E. J. STANFORD, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.S.M., F.R.C.S.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLEFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

as at 31st December, 1954.

Chairman.

Cr. A. Pickersgill, C.C.

Vice-Chairman.

Cr. J. Smart

Councillors.

Crs. T.H. Ashman
H. Astbury
A. Ball
J. Beedle, B.Sc.
J. Budby
W.D. Cartwright
W. Clarkson
C. Dews, J.P. C.C.
Mrs. A. Dodsworth, J.P.
J. Dowding, J.P.
G. East, J.P. C.C.
A. Hanson
W. Harrison
W.G. Hill
J.R. Howard
A. James
W. Limbert
H. Martin
Mrs. H. Parker
A. Poulter
P.H. Roberts, J.P.
R. Stocks
E. Taylor, M.B.E. J.P. C.A.
J.F. Tumelty
J.A. Walsh
T. Walsh
Mrs. B.M. Ward
M. Whittock, C.A. (Chairman of the Council)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

as of First December, 1922.

Chairman.

Dr. L. P. Phipps, D.O.

Vice-Chairman.

Dr. J. E. Smith

Committee.

- Dr. T. H. Ashman
E. Ashby
A. Ball
J. Baskin, D.O.
J. Baskin
W. D. Baskin
W. Baskin
G. Baskin, D.O.
Mrs. A. Baskin, D.O.
J. Baskin, D.O.
G. Baskin, D.O.
A. Baskin
E. Baskin
W. Baskin
J. Baskin
A. Baskin
W. Baskin
H. Baskin
Mrs. H. Baskin
A. Baskin
E. Baskin, D.O.
H. Baskin
H. Baskin, D.O.
J. Baskin
J. Baskin
J. Baskin
Mrs. B. Baskin
H. Baskin, D.O. (Chairman of the Council)

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

J.M. Paterson, M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H. M.R.San.I.

ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICERS
FOR MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE, and
SCHOOL MEDICAL WORK.

Miss D.J. Haiste, M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H.

P.J. Solan, M.B. B.Ch. B.A.O. D.P.H. - Resigned 13th May, 1954.

J.E. Fahy, L.R.C.P. L.R.C.S. - Appointed 16th August, 1954.

PART TIME MEDICAL OFFICERS - Maternity & Child Welfare.

E.W.L. White, M.B. Ch.B. - Medical Officer for Sagar Street Ante-Natal Clinic.

C.M. Hawick, M.A. B.Sc., M.B. Ch.B. - Medical Officer for Airedale Infant Welfare
and Ante-Natal Clinics.

D.K. Shuttleworth, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. - Medical Officer for Glasshoughton Infant Welfare
and Ante-Natal Clinics.

A.G. James, M.B. Ch.B. - Medical Officer for Sagar Street Infant Welfare Clinic.

I. Butler, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. - Medical Officer for Hightown Infant Welfare
and Ante-Natal Clinics.

PAEDIATRICIAN.

J.D. Pickup, M.D. (Distinc.), Ch.B. D.C.H.

OPHTHALMIC SURGEON.

L. Wittels, M.D. (Vienna) D.O.

E.N.T. SURGEON.

K.M. Mayall, M.A. M.B. B.Chir. M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. D.L.O.

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON.

A.J.S. Bell-Tawso, B.A. M.B. B.Chir. F.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.

HEALTH VISITORS.

E. Cooke, S.R.N. S.C.M. R.F.N. H.V.
F.G. Wrightson, S.R.N. S.C.M.N. H.V.
J. Brooks, S.R.N. S.C.M. H.V.
E.W. Hilton, S.R.N.
I.J. Robinson, S.R.N. S.C.M. H.V.
M.A. Dalton, S.R.N. S.C.M. H.V.

Telephone Numbers.

Featherstone 245
Pontefract 3583
Castleford 2005
Castleford 2217
Castleford 2689
Castleford 2689

TUBERCULOSIS HEALTH VISITOR.

A. Eades, S.R.N. S.C.M.

Castleford 2689

TEMPORARY ASSISTANT HEALTH VISITORS.

G.M. Willshaw, S.R.N.
B.A. Morgan, S.R.N.

Castleford 2689
Castleford 2689

SCHOOL NURSE.

M.E. Kelly, S.R.N.

Castleford 2689

MIDWIVES.Telephone Nos.

M. Ball, S.C.M., 16 Churchfield Lane, Glasshoughton. Castleford 2077
D. Tomlinson, S.C.M., 47 School St., Wheldon Rd., Castleford. " 2344
D. Cousins, S.R.N. S.C.M., 1 Barnsdale Est., Cutsyke, Castleford. " 2314
E.J. Dawson, S.C.M., 47 Beancroft Road, Castleford. " 2087
B.M. Fukes, S.R.N. S.C.M., 128 Smawthorne Lane, Castleford. " 2413
D.H. Taylor, S.C.M., 23 Ferrybridge Road, Castleford. " 2703
M. Wylie, S.C.M., 25 Hulme Square, Airedale. " 3485

* Relief Midwives.

HOME NURSES.

F. Farber, S.R.N. S.C.M., "Normanhurst", Hightown, Castleford. Castleford 2555
P.I. Mashford, S.R.N. S.C.M. Q.I.D.N. R.S.C.N. - Resigned 31st July, 1954.
B. Dixon, S.R.N. Q.I.D.N. - Resigned 30th November, 1954.
E. Kellett, S.R.N. Q.I.D.N., 3 Firville St., Normanton - Appointed
1st September, 1954. Castleford 3427
P. Tinker, S.R.N. S.C.M. Q.I.D.N., 18 Larcaster St., Airedale.
E. Slayton, S.R.N. A.R.R.C., 169 Fryston Road, Airedale, Castleford.
* Relief Home Nurses. * Part-time Home Nurse.

ASSISTANT HOME NURSES.

L. Ainsworth, S.E.A.N., 6 Victoria St., Whitwood More, Castleford.
J. Baxter, S.E.A.N., Cawood Villas, Barnes Road, Castleford. Castleford 2074

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLEFORD

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

1954

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

I have the honour of presenting to you this, my fourteenth Annual Report, being a report on the health of your district for the year 1954.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres).....	4,394
Population (Estimated R.G. 1954).....	42,570
Population (Estimated R.G. 1938).....	43,090
Number of Inhabited houses 1954.....	12,593
Number of Inhabited houses 1938.....	11,026
Rateable Value.....	£196,747
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£759
Density of Population.....	9.69 persons per acre.

The Urban District is divided into 10 Wards, namely:-

Airedale, Carlton, Fryston, Glasshoughton,
Half Acres, Redhill, Smawthorne, Wheldale-
Lock Lane, Whitwood and Whitwood More.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Live. Legitimate.....	327	318	645
Illegitimate.....	12	17	29
	<u>339</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>674</u>
Still. Legitimate.....	7	10	17
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-
	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>17</u>
Total Births.....	<u>346</u>	<u>345</u>	<u>691</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home Population - 15.83 (Corrected 15.2)

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home Population - .40 (Corrected 0.38)

LIVE BIRTH RATES (per 1,000 Home Population).

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Live Birth Rate for Castleford	19.7	16.6	16.5	16.99	15.45	15.83
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales.	16.7	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.2
Live Birth Rate for the West Riding) Administrative County.)	17.2	16.3	15.8	15.4	15.7	15.1

STILL BIRTH RATES (per 1,000 Live & Still Births).

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Still Birth Rate for Castleford	26.1	34.6	19.4	30.6	29.5	24.6
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales.	22.67	22.7	23.0	22.6	22.4	23.4

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE - NEO NATAL DEATHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	4	6	10
Illegitimate	1	1	2
	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>

Castleford. England & Wales.

Death Rate of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births 17.6 17.7

DEATHS OF INFANTS FROM PREMATUREITY (included in Neo-Natal Deaths).

<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1	1	2

Death Rate of infants from Prematurity per 1,000 live births - 2.97

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	9	8	17
Illegitimate	1	1	2
	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>

Castleford. England & Wales.

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 related live births 28.19 25.5

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
<u>All infants per 1,000 live births.</u>						
Castleford	49	38	23	41	38	28
England & Wales	34	32	33	29	28	26
<u>Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.</u>						
Castleford	49	38	20	40	35	26
<u>Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.</u>						
Castleford	40	50	57	67	103	69

DIARRHOEAL DEATH RATES OF INFANTS
UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE.
(Per 1,000 Live Births).

<u>Year</u>	<u>Castleford</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
1950	5.52	1.9
1951	4.24	1.4
1952	0.00	1.1
1953	0.00	1.1
1954	1.5	0.8

DEATH RATES (per 1,000 Home Population).

	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>
All causes (Corrected 12.51)	10.17	9.44
Infective and parasitic diseases, excluding Tuberculosis.	0.02	0.05
Tuberculosis, Respiratory.	0.26	0.26
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	0.00	0.09
Tuberculosis - all forms.	0.26	0.35
Cancer.	1.76	1.57
Vascular lesions of the nervous system.	1.34	1.22
Heart and Circulatory.	3.41	3.10
Respiratory Diseases.	1.50	1.33

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS - 1954.

Maternal Mortality Rate
(per 1,000 live & Still births).

Castloford.

England &
Wales.

Maternal causes, excluding abortion
Due to abortion

0.00

0.58

0.00

0.11

0.00

0.69

Death Rates per 1,000 Home Population.

All causes (Corrected 12.51)

10.17

11.3

Typhoid and Paratyphoid.

-

0.01

Whooping Cough.

-

2.39

Diphtheria.

-

0.00

Tuberculosis.

0.26

0.18

Influenza.

0.07

0.19

Smallpox.

-

-

Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis).

-

0.04

Pneumonia.

0.40

1.92

DEATHS.

Male.

Female.

Total.

240

193

433

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Deaths taken from the Registrar General's Tables).

Tuberculosis, Respiratory.

5

6

11

Tuberculosis, Other forms.

-

-

-

Syphilitic Disease.

-

-

-

Diphtheria.

-

-

-

Whooping Cough.

-

-

-

Meningococcal infections.

1

-

1

Acute Poliomyelitis.

-

-

-

Measles.

-

-

-

Other infective and parasitic diseases.

-

-

-

Malignant neoplasm, stomach.

9

4

13

Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.

13

2

15

Malignant neoplasm, breast.

-

7

7

Malignant neoplasm, uterus.

-

1

1

Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.

22

16

38

Leukaemia, aleukaemia.

1

-

1

Diabetes.

-

5

5

Vascular lesions of nervous system.

33

24

57

Coronary disease, angina.

30

15

45

Hypertension with heart disease.

3

11

14

Carried forward:

117

91

208

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Brought forward:	117	91	208
Other heart disease.	33	36	69
Other circulatory disease.	5	12	17
Influenza.	1	2	3
Pneumonia.	16	1	17
Bronchitis.	25	14	39
Other diseases of respiratory system.	5	-	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	5	-	5
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis.	3	2	5
Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.	-	4	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	16	23	39
Motor vehicle accidents.	2	1	3
All other accidents.	8	5	13
Suicide.	3	1	4
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-
TOTAL:	<u>240</u>	<u>193</u>	<u>433</u>

VITAL STATISTICS.

In Castleford the death rates for accidents and suicide in 1953 was 0.42 per thousand of the population and in 1954 0.47. This wanton loss of human life, though far from equalling the present Cancer death rate (1.76 in 1954) is yet appreciably higher than the Tuberculosis death rate (0.26 in 1954), and in spite of all attempts to stimulate measures to alleviate the position, still continues on the high side. In the report issued by the Registrar General for 1950, this matter was specifically dealt with and a detailed analysis revealed that out of a total of 18,889 deaths due to accident or suicide, 24% of them resulted from road accidents, 24% from suicide and 22% from deaths due to falls, etc. This analysis also shows that deaths from all three causes account in all for the loss of 320,013 expected years of life, many of which could be used in useful production in the interests of the community at large.

It has for many years now been a recognised fact that the death rate for the "Industrial North" compares unfavourably with that for the east and south of the country and reference to the corrected death rate for Castleford for the year 1954 shows that we are almost 1.2 per 1,000 higher than the national average. This fact has been explained as being the result of differences in the constitution or the congested urbanized nature of the community, but it is much more likely to be due to differences involving our industrial or social environment, whilst climatic or hereditary influences cannot be ruled out. It may very well happen that in the final evaluation of the problem that dietetic influences will be found to play no small part. In a mining area like Castleford, there is usually a higher mortality, especially among the hewers and getters of coal, and this is a matter which in future will have to be kept under close scrutiny. In addition to the higher general death rate there is also the fact that the infant death rate in this part of the country tends to be above the national average. This is a point I have commented on in previous annual reports. Here again, whilst we cannot be dogmatic as regards exact causes, there can be little doubt that greater crowding together

of the community, lack of fresh air and sunlight, are no doubt predisposing factors. In this latter connection it is heartening to note we have already embarked on a policy which is providing better housing conditions for our people, and it is to be hoped that before long means will be found to abate that other blot on our community life - atmospheric pollution. The pall of smoke which is not infrequently seen over our town acts as a filter, filtering out the health-giving rays which are so necessary to the community, especially young children.

The following data have been reproduced as a matter of interest from the statistical review of the Registrar General for England and Wales for the year 1950 and shows broadly how the chief causes of death have altered over the last 50 years.

Infants.

In infants immaturity, pneumonia, and other post-natal conditions now shown as birth injury or congenital malformation but formerly included under atrophy and debility or convulsions, still predominate; diarrhoea, once a severe scourge, is however no longer among the first five causes.

1 - 14 years.

Accidents and injuries predominate, especially in boys, and scarlet fever, measles, and diphtheria have ceased to be important causes of death. Of infections appearing as principal causes of death, only tuberculosis and pneumonia remain as reminders of preventive work not yet completed; but mention must be made here of poliomyelitis which caused 269 deaths in this age group in 1950, 152 of boys and 117 of girls. So much have other diseases retreated that cancer, not normally considered a serious risk to children, is now left in the field as a principal cause of death.

15 - 44 years.

At ages 15 - 44 the most dramatic feature has been the decline in the mortality from tuberculosis which, for a hundred years or more has been overwhelmingly the chief destroyer of young adult life, now takes second place to accidents and injuries among the principal causes for men, and in women is challenged for the lead by cancer. At the younger adult ages heart disease and cancer begin to dominate the scene. Maternal mortality has declined to a very low level but so have other causes of death in young women, and despite everything that can be done by obstetric medicine and surgery, diseases of pregnancy and childbirth still find mention in the list.

45 - 64.

At ages 45 - 64, tuberculosis mortality has declined even further, relative to that of other causes, than in the preceding age group; cancer and the degenerative causes, heart disease and bronchitis, have undisputed predominance. It will be seen too that the patterns are distinctly different for the two sexes; thus there is a much higher death rate from heart disease in men, and only in men do bronchitis or tuberculosis appear in the list of principal causes of death.

65 plus.

In the oldest age group, naturally, the diseases of "old age" have always been the leading causes of death, though death certification has progressively become more specific. Fewer deaths, therefore, are now attributed simply to "old age" and an increasing proportion of the certificates have mention of one or other of the degenerative processes of ageing.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Notifications. 35	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
At all ages	13	13	2	7	8	8	1	2
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1 - 5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 - 10	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
15 - 20	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	3	6	1	3	-	1	-	-
35 - 45	2	2	-	1	1	3	-	-
45 - 55	2	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
55 - 65	2	1	-	-	3	1	-	-
Over 65	1	-	1	-	3	-	1	-

Comparison between numbers on
Tuberculosis Register
in 1953 and 1954.

	<u>1953</u>			<u>1954</u>		
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
(a) Number of cases on register 1st January.	278	73	351	297	54	351
(b) New cases notified during the year.	39	2	41	26	9	35
(c) Restored to register.	-	-	-	1	-	1
(d) TOTALS:	317	75	392	324	63	387
(e) Number of cases removed from register during the year.	20	21	41	39	14	53
(f) Number of cases left on register at the end of the year.	297	54	351	285	49	334

DATA CONCERNING TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION SCHEMES OPERATING IN CASTLEFORD.

The elimination of tuberculosis calls for close scrutiny of:-

- (1) Individuals already suffering from tuberculosis.
- (2) Contacts of known cases of tuberculosis.
- (3) General measures to discover the existence of tuberculosis in the community.
- (4) Supervision of the milk production to ensure a supply free of tuberculosis infection.

This involves a splitting up of the work done by the various partners concerned in operating the National Health Service Scheme and for administrative purposes they are divided up under the headings of:-

1. Direct Services as are provided by the District Authority or the County Council,
2. Services provided by joint arrangement between the Hospital Board and the County Council, and finally,
3. Those services which are separate but nevertheless distinct entities of the same subject not governed by this Act.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY DISTRICT AUTHORITY OR THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Housing.

Environmental conditions which lead to overcrowding and poor housing, lack of sunlight and of through ventilation, and a deficiency of fresh air, are vital contributory factors in the spread of tuberculosis, and since the war the Castleford House Letting Sub-Committee, fully aware of the ravages caused by tuberculosis between the two wars (and before), has made strenuous efforts in their building programme to help to re-house tuberculous persons where such conditions exist. This service comes directly under the control of the Local Authority but the selection of the appropriate types of case in need of such help calls for close liaison between the Chest Physician, the Tuberculosis Health Visitor and the local Medical Officer of Health. During the year 1954, 17 such families, two of which were contacts, were re-housed in the area of the Airedale and Ferry Fryston Estate. This record speaks for itself.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

Owing to the elaborate measures now being taken to render our milk safe by means of pasteurisation and to segregate even the early cases of tuberculosis, it has been found that we are tending more and more to create a population of children who, when they leave school, have not yet come into actual contact with active tuberculosis and may therefore be susceptible to the disease. In view of the fact that there are chronically infected carriers harbouring tuberculosis in the community, it would be highly dangerous to allow such children to leave school and enter industry in this susceptible state, and a scheme was recently started in Castleford following the pattern of the concentrated Diphtheria school immunisation campaigns carried out since the 1940's. Children in the 13 - 14 age group are given the opportunity of being tested by means of the tuberculin test to show if they are reactors and if so are then offered protection by means of the B.C.G. vaccine. This scheme was begun in October 1954 and the table below shows the result of this work.

No. of 13 year old children on register at beginning of year	702
No. offered tuberculin testing & vaccination if necessary	279
No. of acceptances	119
No. tested	113
No. Positive	42
No. Negative	69
No. Not Ascertained	2 113
No. Vaccinated	69

All children vaccinated gave positive reaction, i.e. test of immunity on re-test.

For comparative purposes I give below figures in relation to other parts of the country:-

Castleford	-	38%
Leeds	-	35%
Birmingham	-	25%
Nottingham	-	21%
London	-	15%

Tuberculosis Health Visiting.

This is a front line service of vital importance in the prevention of tuberculosis and in Castleford is carried out by a full-time Tuberculosis Health Visitor. She interests herself in the environmental conditions of households where a tuberculosis exists, observes nutritional standards, gains first-hand knowledge of emergency needs arising in the household, and checks up all possible sources of infection. Not least of her functions is to offer help and advice to patients and relatives alike concerning the services available, whether given by the Local Authority, Local Health Authority, National Assistance or the Tuberculosis Care and After Care Committee. She emphasises the necessity for infected persons to sleep alone and gives advice regarding the disposal of infected articles and materials such as handkerchiefs and sputa. As a matter of interest it may be mentioned that some months ago there was introduced for general use in this Division a new type of disinfectant, bacteriologically much more effective against tuberculosis than some of the older disinfectants used, for the disinfection of infected sputa.

Nourishment.

Provision is made by the County Council to supply supplementary nourishment, such as milk to notified domiciliary bed cases of tuberculosis, and during 1954, 93 Castleford cases of tuberculosis were in receipt of one or two pints of free milk daily.

Home Nursing.

Extensive use is made of the home nursing service in the Domiciliary treatment of tuberculosis. Known formerly as Queen's Nurses, they have kept themselves abreast of modern methods of treatment and nursing as applied to such patients and work in close conjunction with the general medical services. During the year these nurses carried out the home treatment of 76 cases of tuberculosis, totalling in all 1,707 visits.

Home Help Service.

Provision is made by the County Council to make available the services of a Home Help in households where, because of physical disability, it is impossible to carry out the household duties. It is an unfortunate fact, however, that Home Helps generally are unwilling in this area to be recruited for this particular phase of the service, and consequently no little difficulty is experienced in fulfilling the demands put upon it. In spite of this, however, it was found possible to assist 11 active cases of tuberculosis by means of this service during the year.

Diversional Therapy.

Owing to the protracted length of time required in the physical treatment of tuberculosis, it is being realised more and more that diversional therapy methods such as basket making, leather work, rug making etc. must be adopted to keep the mind active. It is hoped in the near future to have operating in Castleford such a scheme whereby house-bound cases of tuberculosis will be provided with this form of therapy, supervised by a suitably qualified person. Members will recall that in July 1952, authority was given by this Council to carry out the disinfection of such articles manufactured by tuberculous persons.

JOINT SERVICES BETWEEN THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE HOSPITAL BOARD.

Tracing the source of infection.

The discovery of a case of tuberculosis in a family immediately renders every member of that family suspect until a searching examination carried out by the Chest Physician has shown that they are free of infection. Children, adolescents and young adults especially require a period of supervision and they and other contacts, if tuberculin negative, should be given B.C.G. vaccination in this case by the Chest Physician. The work of supervising these suspects and making arrangements for their visit to the Chest Clinic falls on the Tuberculosis Health Visitor who, in addition, is responsible for their care during all domiciliary phases of the disease. During the year 1954, following the notification of 36 new cases of tuberculosis, the Tuberculosis Health Visitor was responsible for ensuring the attendance at the Chest Clinic of 99 contacts, none of whom

luckily however was found to have become infected with tuberculosis but in the interests of safety it was found necessary to B.C.G. vaccinate 20 of these.

Miniature Mass Radiography Service.

Owing to the complex nature of pulmonary tuberculosis and the insidiousness of its onset, it is possible for members of the general public to have become infected with tuberculosis and yet be unaware of the fact, and for them periodical surveys made by the Miniature Mass Radiography Unit have been devised. The planning of these surveys calls for a very close liaison between the Miniature Mass Radiography Unit and the local Medical Officer of Health who, owing to his detailed knowledge of local conditions and industries existing within his district, can direct the efforts of the Unit along the most fruitful lines. Visits are paid to Castleford by the Unit every two years, but in view of the highly industrialised nature of the area as well as its location, it would be desirable to have more frequent and longer visits from the Unit.

Tuberculosis After Care Committee.

In spite of the good work which is being done by the various social services, it is a fact that they can only cover the basic needs of tuberculosis patients and their families, and to make provision for emergency incidentals there exists and has existed for many years now in Castleford a voluntary Tuberculosis After Care Committee supplied with funds provided by voluntary efforts and further assisted by a grant of £45 by the County Council. Twenty-four families during 1954 were assisted by this Committee and £115. 4s. 5d. were spent on providing for needs not covered by other sources.

OTHER SERVICES.

Bovine T.B.

This variety of tuberculosis is transmitted almost solely by means of infected cows milk, and since it constitutes such a large part of the diet of infants and children up to school leaving age, it is essential that it be made germ free before distribution. The extent of the problem may be gauged from the fact that approximately 2,000 deaths occur each year in England and Wales from non-pulmonary tuberculosis contracted through the consumption of raw milk. In addition there is much crippling, physical disability, and ill-health amongst children from the same cause and at least 4,000 fresh cases occur each year. The amount of unnecessary suffering and misery which bovine tuberculosis leaves in its wake in the shape of bone and joint disease has been told too often in the orthopaedic wards of general hospitals to require repeating here. The problem is being tackled realistically by the national long term policy which aims at the eventual creation of attested tubercle free herds of cattle throughout the country and the short term one which endeavours to ensure that milk coming from unattested herds is efficiently pasteurised. The scheme for attested herds was begun with the T.B. (Attested Herds) Scheme 1935 and by 1952 in the West Riding Area 28% of the cattle belonged to attested herds. This work comes under the jurisdiction of the of the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The milk consumed in Castleford is practically 100% pasteurised, both ungraded as well as from tuberculin tested cattle, and the bigger proportion of it is pasteurised at our local Co-operative pasteurisation plant. It has further been the practice in Castleford to sample raw milk prior to pasteurisation weekly for the biological (guinea pig) test because of the bottle-neck created at the pasteurisation plant, and the table below shows the results of this and the consequent ease with which a wide number of herds can be supervised.

Year.

1949	1	sample	positive	in	every	19	taken
1950	1	"	"	"	"	23	"
1951	1	"	"	"	"	26	"
1952	1	"	"	"	"	31	"
1953	1	"	"	"	"	24	"
1954	1	"	"	"	"	25	"

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1954, IN AGE GROUPS.

Notified Diseases.	Under 1 yr.	1 - 3	3 - 5	5 - 10	10-15	15-25	25 & over	No age	Total	Removed to Hospital.
Measles	4	13	16	2	-	-	-	-	35	1
Whooping Cough	10	15	28	21	1	-	1	-	76	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	4	9	9	3	-	1	-	26	23
Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Polioencephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1

Notified Diseases.	0 - 5	5 - 15	15-45	45-65	65 & over	No age	Total	Removed to Hospital.
Dysentery	2	1	2	-	-	-	5	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	1	-	2	-	-	3	3
Erysipelas	-	-	1	8	1	-	10	-
Pneumonia	5	2	10	10	3	-	30	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	8	-	-	-	8	5
Ophthalmia neonatorum	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Food Poisoning	-	1	2	1	2	-	6	-
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Another year has passed, the fifth in all, in which there has not been one confirmed case of Diphtheria in Castloford, and at the end of the year we recorded a 56% immunisation rate in the 0 - 5 population and a 97% in the 5 - 15 child population. Compared with the previous year there has been a 4% drop in the 0 - 5's but the 5 - 15's remain steady. This fall in the acceptance rate is, in my opinion, due to the ever increasing popularity of Whooping Cough immunisation and the fact that parents are unwilling to subject their infants to two courses of injections, the one against Whooping Cough, the other against Diphtheria. This calls for the general use of the combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough vaccine at our clinics and it is a strange anomaly that private practitioners use the combined vaccine very largely whilst we cannot. In the meantime let us hope that this apathy or false sense of security may not be rudely shattered one day and a young child develop and die of Diphtheria.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

It is pleasing to note that parents are now using to an increasing extent the facilities available to them to protect their children against Whooping Cough. The following table for the 0 - 5 age groups for 1952 - 54 give evidence of this:-

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Under 6 months.</u>	<u>6 months to 1 yr.</u>	<u>1 - 2 years.</u>	<u>2 - 3 years.</u>	<u>3 - 4 years.</u>	<u>4 - 5 years.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1952 (Commencing 1st April)	-	44	51	9	8	-	112
1953	-	174	105	43	22	-	344
1954	1	254	81	13	10	2	361
	1	472	237	65	40	2	817

SMALLPOX.

The following table shows the vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out since 1950:-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Under 1 year.</u>	<u>1 year.</u>	<u>2 - 4 years.</u>	<u>5 - 14 years.</u>	<u>15 years or over.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1950 Vaccinated.	29	5	4	3	41	
Re-vaccinated.	-	-	-	16	16	
1951 Vaccinated.	26	1	4	4	22	57
Re-vaccinated.	-	-	1	4	42	47
1952 Vaccinated.	24	1	1	12	15	53
Re-vaccinated.	-	-	-	-	23	23
1953 Vaccinated.	46	7	25	77	153	308
Re-vaccinated.	-	-	-	17	119	136
1954 Vaccinated.	30	4	4	2	19	59
Re-vaccinated.	-	-	-	1	11	12

PARATYPHOID FEVER (ENTERIC FEVER)

On 30th April I received a provisional diagnosis concerning a case of Paratyphoid B infection. Symptoms of an obscure nature had manifested themselves in this person about a week previously, as a result of which it was found necessary to admit for observations into hospital. Subsequent blood and faeces examination established the diagnosis and removal to an Infectious Diseases Hospital was thereupon arranged. Intensive sampling of

faeces etc. was carried out locally but I am glad to say that none of the contacts was found to be similarly infected.

This notification was followed during the course of the next nine or ten days by the diagnosis of five other persons similarly infected. Of these five, all of whom reside outside the Castleford boundary, four suffered from symptoms of a more or less severe nature, although in every instance a bacteriological examination was necessary before the final diagnosis could be established, and the fifth one was found to be a carrier of the disease suffering from no symptoms whatsoever.

The notification of a case of Enteric Fever in a district at once constitutes both a threat and a challenge to the Public Health Department, and immediately sets the Public Health Authorities the problem, if possible, of discovering and isolating the source of infection. Unluckily it is not always possible to carry out this dictum as conclusively as one would wish and this is especially true where only a few cases occur over a wide geographical area.

Outbreaks of Enteric Fever and Food Poisoning have many things in common as will be seen by a comparison of the Food Poisoning outbreak in Wakefield last year and emphasises the fact that once again by virtue of the increasing present day tendency for individuals to eat meals in canteens, restaurants etc. our conception of hygienic standards must immediately be raised, and food preparers and handlers must be made to realise the grave responsibility which devolves on them to take certain very necessary precautions, such as those of washing the hands immediately after visiting the toilet and calling in their own doctor immediately on the onset of abdominal symptoms. Unless and until such a system becomes universal we shall continue to get sporadic outbursts of disease, of an enteric nature, and herein to my mind lies one of the main planks which will have to guide our future policy for the furtherance of the interests of preventive medicine.

FOOD POISONING.

During 1954 four persons were confirmed to be suffering from food poisoning. One outbreak affected two persons - an elderly couple; the other two were individual cases and had no connection.

From samples of faeces taken from these persons laboratory tests showed the presence of organisms from the Salmonella group. Investigations, however, did not reveal the source of infection although in the case affecting the elderly couple two carriers of the organisms were found as a result of taking samples of faeces from contacts. The main symptom in all these cases was a mild to fairly severe attack of diarrhoea. In no case did the illness prove fatal.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

Supply.

Water is purchased in bulk from three neighbouring authorities, namely, Wakefield County Borough, Pontefract Municipal Borough and Tadcaster Rural District. An average of 691,000 gallons per day were obtained from Wakefield, 485,000 from Pontefract and 28,000 from Tadcaster during the year. The supplies from Wakefield and Tadcaster are soft in character but that from Pontefract is very hard, the former having a total average hardness of 5.0 degrees clark respectively and the latter of 13.0 degrees clark.

Purification.

Apart from the purification undertaken at the source of supply, no further action is taken locally for additional chlorination of water in the reservoirs.

Consumption.

In 1953 the average daily consumption for Castleford was 1,204,000 gallons, of which 808,000 gallons were used for domestic purposes and 396,000 gallons industrially. There was a sufficiency of water for all uses.

A survey has revealed the fact that the residents of 30 houses collect their water supply from communal stand-pipes.

Bacterial Purity.

During the year 436 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these, 8 were reported on as being unsatisfactory, i.e. 1.83%. The highest count of coliform was 16 but in no instance were there faecal coli present.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948-1951.

Removal to Hospital or other suitable Premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Once again I am pleased to report that during the year under review there was no necessity to invoke the powers granted under Section 47 of these Acts.

RELAXATION EXERCISES CLINIC.

During 1954 eight sessions were held at "Castlodene", 59 patients attended with a total of 462 attendances compared with 353 in 1953.

On the 8th July, 1954 a Clinic was commenced in Airedale and 16 classes were held 13 patients attended with a total of 50 attendances.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

	Days & times of sessions.	No. of sessions during year.	ATTENDANCES				Attending for first time	
			0 - 1	Average per session	1 - 5	Average per session.	0 - 1	1 - 5
Airedale Methodist Church.	Mondays. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	48	3172	66.1	342	7.1	163	10
Glasshoughton St. Paul's Institute.	Tuesdays. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	48	2263	47.1	541	11.3	102	-
Sager Street, Castleford.	Mondays & Thurs. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	96	3295	34.3	955	9.9	200	-
Whitwood Oxford St. Methodist Church.	Mondays. 1.30 p.m. - 4 p.m.	48	2222	46.3	199	4.1	99	-
		240	10952	45.6	2037	8.5	564	10

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

<u>CENTRE.</u>	<u>No. of sessions.</u>	<u>No. of attendances.</u>	<u>Average per session.</u>	<u>No. attending for first time.</u>
Airedale	34	372	10.9	103
Glasshoughton	22	112	5.1	28
Sager Street	45	325	7.2	71
Whitwood	48	364	7.6	58
	149	1173	7.9	260

Details are given below of the proprietary brands of foods etc., and their uses, which were available at cost price to all women attending the clinics.

Robrex	}	Weaning Foods.
Farrex		
Trufood Cereal		
Nostlos Bone & Veg. Broth		
Nestles Chicken Broth		
Scott's Twin Pack		
Colact	}	To increase lactation in nursing mothers.
Lactagol		
Ambrosia Tablets		
Forsolate Tablets		
Ovaltine		
Horlicks		
Glucose	}	Baby tonics and Vitamin Concentrates.
Maltoline & Iron		
Virol		
Adexolin Drops		
Minadox		
Roboleine		
Vitamin Concentrate (containing Vitamins A, B1, C, D)		
Cow & Gate Full Cream	}	Dried Milk.
Ostomilk No.1.		
Ostomilk No.2.		
Trufood Humanised		
Trufood Follow-on		

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>
Total number of deliveries - as Midwife.	270	280
Total number of deliveries - as Maternity Nurse.	12	7
Total number of patients ante-natally examined.	303	329
Number of cases delivered under Gas & Air Analgesia.	226	247
Percentage of domiciliary confinements in Castleford where Gas & Air Analgesia was used.	80.14	86.06

PREMATURE INFANTS (i.e. babies weighing under 5 lbs. 8 ozs. at birth)

		<u>Died.</u>
Number born at home and nursed at home.	15	1
Number born at home and nursed in hospital.	1	-
Number born and nursed in hospital.	42	4
	<u>58</u>	<u>5</u>
Number of premature stillbirths	- 7	
Number of premature babies who died in the neo-natal period, including 2 who died directly as a result of prematurity.	- 5	

ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT CLINIC.

Sessions were held at the Divisional Public Health Office each Tuesday and Friday for children up to 15 years of age, and the rate of attendance was twice per week.

The following are the numbers of new cases and attendances in the 0 - 4 and 5 - 15 age groups during the year:-

<u>New Cases.</u>		<u>Total Number of Attendances.</u>	
<u>0 - 4.</u>	<u>5 - 15.</u>	<u>0 - 4.</u>	<u>5 - 15.</u>
111	205	1,532	3,399

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The demands made upon this very popular service are continually increasing and in spite of an increase in the establishment of Home Helps during this period under review, great difficulty was experienced in keeping within the authorised establishment.

It is obvious from the figures quoted below, which relate to the year ended 31st December, 1954, that the greater part of this service is being taken up by assisting the aged and infirm, and chronic sick.

<u>Type of case.</u>	<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>No. of hours.</u>
Maternity	21	2053½
Tuberculosis	11	632
Chronic	243	33127½
Others	24	2884½
	<u>299</u>	<u>38787½</u>

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Number of cases.</u>	<u>Total number of visits.</u>
1953	602	14,157
1954	634	17,622
Average case load in Castleford per Home Nurse		- 3,916
Average accepted case load per Home Nurse		- 3,000

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

<u>Number of Schools.</u>	<u>Number of Schools inspected.</u>	
	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
32	22	22
<u>Number of pupils on roll as at 31st December, 1954.</u>	<u>Number of children inspected.</u>	
	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
7,631	2,335	2,511

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.

There are still nine Centres where Minor Ailments Clinics are held in the district, but during February the Wesley Street Centre was closed and the clinic sessions transferred to the Sagar Street premises. Subsidiary clinics are held at Ashton Road, Cutsyke, Airedale, Fryston, Hightown, Glasshoughton, Whitwood Mere and Wheldon Lane Nursery schools.

<u>Defects Treated.</u>	<u>Total No. of attendances.</u>
1,710	3,649

MENTAL HEALTH OCCUPATION CENTRE.

This Centre continues to serve the needs of the mentally defective children from Castleford. The activities carried on at the Centre are essentially of a practical nature, the aim being to teach the younger children the foundations of clean social habits and the older children those things which should be of beneficial use in the home. Most of the older girls are now able to engage in darning, mending and plain sewing and in one or two cases have reached quite a high standard. The work carried out by the boys is not so satisfactory as our premises are unsuitable for wood and craft work but considerable progress has been made in the art of making rugs, sea grass stools and cane work. The supervisor and her staff must have put a considerable amount of time and energy into the training of the percussion band, and it is to their credit that the majority of the children can now read the score from coloured charts. Speech training has also reached a high standard and evidence of this was clearly seen at the Open Day in May and the Nativity Play at Christmas time. The former was combined with a sale of work attended by parents, officials and members of the Mental Health Sub-Committee and the latter with the Christmas party celebrations when County Alderman Whittock was present. County Alderman Taylor took on the role of Santa Claus and distributed the presents.

On her visit to the Centre in October, the Board of Control Inspector, Mrs. Milne Redhead expressed herself well satisfied with the work carried out by the staff, with the cleanliness and good condition of the children and with the clinical facilities available for the children.

One of the highlights of the year was the formation of a Parent-Teachers Association. Although the organisation of such an association had been discussed in previous years, it had always been felt that a venture of this nature would almost inevitably prove a failure, due not so much to a lack of enthusiasm but to the distance many parents would have to travel to attend the meetings. The association was formed in March, and so groundless have these early fears been that as a result of the tireless efforts of the members, the Association has gone forward from strength to strength. Talks on appropriate subjects were given by speakers well qualified for the purpose and the various activities of the Association, combined with a £20 donation by the Leeds University Rag Day Fund brought their receipts at the end of the year to £181. This money has been put to many useful purposes, including the purchase of a velvet stage curtain, and during the early months of the new year it is proposed to take the children to a Leeds Pantomime. The annual outing in July was again held at Filey and in view of the really fine day which they had, it proved a great success and the behaviour of the children was excellent. This outing was made possible by the generosity of the Mental Health Sub-Committee.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I would extend my appreciation to the members and to the chief officers of the Council for the assistance and co-operation they have given me during the year.

To my own staff, both professional and clerical, my thanks go out for the able way they have carried out their respective duties, labouring sometimes under considerable difficulty.

Yours faithfully,

J.M. PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLE FORD

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

E.J.WINFIELD, M.R.SAN.I., F.S.I.A., M.INST.P.C.

YEAR ENDED 31ST. DECEMBER, 1954.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLEFORD

The Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year ended 31st. December, 1954, being a report of the sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Castleford.

To the Chairman and Members.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to place before you my Eleventh Annual Report in which is given a brief review of the sanitary conditions obtaining in the Urban District during the year 1954.

The year under review was eventful in that it produced new legislation in the form of the Housing Act, 1954 and the Food and Drugs Act, 1954, and the decontrol of meat supplies bringing in its train decentralization of animal slaughter, and covering legislation in the form of the Slaughterhouse Act, 1954.

A further outstanding event was the publication of the Report of the Committee on Air Pollution, and whilst this had no immediate effect on existing administration, it most certainly indicates the trend of the future.

HOUSING

At all times in considering the circumstances of an area one is compelled to give particular attention and thought to the housing of the people. The availability of good houses is a predominant factor in the well being of the community and it is of vital interest to all concerned that not only is additional accommodation being made available, but that bad property is being eliminated.

Considering first the development of new housing. In my last report I commented on the gratifying position at Ferry Fryston, where new houses were being rapidly produced by both the Council and the Housing Association of the National Coal Board. Progress was sustained throughout 1954, and 589 new houses were provided during the year. These, following upon the 225 of 1953 did much to resolve domestic overcrowding and also permit a resumption of "slum clearance" work.

In previous reports I have referred to the condition of existing properties, and emphasised the need for action against the unfit dwelling. It will be recalled that in 1950 I submitted a very full report on the housing circumstances of the area and the Council accepted this report as a basis for future action when the time was opportune. 1954 became the opportune time. The knowledge that the Government was preparing to launch a new Act which amongst other things required local authorities to lay down a programme of slum clearance, prompted the reconsideration of my previous report. The statistical side was brought up to date as far as practicable, and the revised report submitted to the Health Committee in May, but deferred until such time as the provisions of the new Housing Act were made known, this being accomplished in the early autumn, the Health Committee held a special meeting taking up the whole of one day to discuss in detail the contents of my report. As a result it was accepted in principle and resolutions were passed laying down a programme for the first five years. In my report I recommended five clearance areas covering 682 houses, three development areas covering 653 houses and some 885 individual dwellings including temporary dwellings. The Council's Five Year Programme is to be based on 150 houses per annum and these are to be taken up by two clearance areas, one redevelopment area and the remainder in individual houses.

This scheme has been submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government as the Council's Five Year Programme, and very naturally action was taken by the Department to set the scheme in motion. Indeed it must be admitted that action had been commenced prior to the passing of the Act, so that by the end of 1954 we were in fact re-housing families from unfit dwellings and demolishing those dwellings.

I hope to be able to show in future years that the programme gained in impetus and that the target figure was reached in each year.

It is insufficient to merely report on the erection of new houses and the demolition of unfit ones. Reference must be made to those that remain and whose repair and maintenance are an ever present problem. Since the cessation of hostilities the ever rising costs when tied to fixed rentals, have created a problem which at times seems to be without answer. On the construction of the Housing Act, 1954, an attempt was made to remedy the position by permitting increases of rent when certain requirements are complied with. The reaction to this was somewhat difficult to assess. Tenants of rented properties were naturally on their guard to ensure that the requirements of repair were truly met, whilst owners and agents were reluctant to rush into seeking rent increases for fear of creating new problems of maintenance. Consequently at the year end we were not in a position to truly appreciate the impact of the Act on the repair position. Sufficit to say that in the short period between the passing of the Act and the end of the year, we did in fact issue 28 Certificates of Disrepair. A further aspect of existing housing was the increased use of the Improvement Grants payable under the Housing Act, 1949. During the year it was found that a number of owners/occupiers were prepared to avail themselves of these provisions and provide for their houses the amenities of hot water, bathroom facilities and indoor sanitation. During the year 15 applications were received. Eleven were granted - a total value of grants approved of £1654. Three applications were refused and one was withdrawn. At the year end one only of the 15 had been fully completed. This greater interest in property would appear to be maintained, and one can foresee many owner/occupied houses being brought up to a standard comparable with the modern house, and at much less cost than new building. This I feel augurs well for the future.

On the question of general repair and maintenance of rented properties, one would be more diffident at making a forecast, and whilst much repair work has been secured during the year, it must be admitted that much remains to be done.

Finally, I append a tabulated report of the activities of the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

No. of dwelling-houses in the district.....12593
No. of back-to-back houses included in above. 260

1. Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses
inspected for housing defects
(under Public Health and
Housing Acts)..... 1303

(b) No. of inspections for that
purpose..... 3415

(2) No. of dwelling-houses needing further action.

(a) No. considered to be in a state so
dangerous or injurious to health
as to be unfit for human habitation.. 37

The following is a summary of the return submitted of the action taken under the Housing Acts, 1930/36 and the position at the 31st. December, 1954.

Part III 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.

By Formal Action..... 149
By Informal Action..... 32

No. of dwelling houses closed..... 38

Parts of buildings closed..... 21

No. of persons displaced from above..... 939

No. of houses made fit.

By Formal Action..... 297
By Informal Action..... 2700

SUMMARY OF NOTICES

Section	Informal Notices.	Complied with without Stat'y Notice.	Statutory Notices	Statutory notices complied with	Out-standing
Housing Act, 1936 Section 9	38	-	34	7	31
Public Health Act 1936. Sections 92/3	343	104	196	163	157
Section 75	215	164	16	24	34
Section 47	-	-	-	-	-
Section 45	167	89	44	26	54
Section 39	160	68	52	55	65
Others	12	2	9	6	7

Key.

Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 is used to require the thorough reconditioning of houses.

Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936 deals with such matters as blocked or defective drains, sink waste pipes, etc.

Section 45 is used for water closets which are defective but which can be repaired without reconstruction.

Section 47 deals with the conversion of privies, waste water closets, etc., to proper washdown water closets.

Section 75 enforces the provision of proper dustbins.

Sections 92/3 deal with premises in such a state as to be a nuisance or prejudicial to health, and are used for general repairs to houses.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued.....	28
No. revoked.....	-

Housing Act, 1949 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Grants for the Improvement of Existing Houses.

No. of applications.....	15
No. granted.....	11
No. refused.....	3
No. withdrawn.....	1
No. completed.....	1
Total value of Grants approved.....	£1654

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Of recent years the storage, preparation and sale of food supplies has become increasingly important in the lives of the community and successive Annual Reports have shown the increased amount of supervision accorded to all forms of food.

The year 1954 was in no way different to its predecessors and the Department maintained constant vigilance throughout.

In my last report I listed the retail food shops and similar premises as follows:-

Butchers.....	58
Bakers and Confectioners.....	42
Wet Fishmongers.....	12
Fried Fish Shops.....	32
Greengrocers.....	36
Grocers.....	149
Cafes and Restaurants, etc.....	15

There appears to have been no material change during the year.

In addition, the following premises have been registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:-

For the manufacture of Ice-cream.....	5
For the sale of Ice-cream.....	100
For the manufacture of Sausages, Potted, Pressed, Pickled and Preserved Foods, including the preparation of Shell Fish....	18
As Dairies.....	6

The following premises are actively engaged in food manufacture without being actually registered:-

Sweet confectionery.....	2
Maltsters.....	3
Flour Millers.....	1
Tripe Dressers.....	2
Fat Refiners.....	1

In supervising these food premises the following visits have been recorded:-

Ice-cream premises.....	195
Food preparing premises.....	153
Dairies.....	97
Food Shops.....	552
Cafes, restaurants, etc.....	22
Slaughterhouse.....	853
Market Shops and Stalls.....	109
Street Vendors.....	228

This supervision has afforded us the opportunity of studying not only the conditions existing in premises, but the outlook of traders, assistants, and the shopping public on such matters.

It is rather surprising in the light of nationwide propaganda to find so many people still unconvinced of the value of personal hygiene, the efficacy of soap and water and the protective value of screening. The general trend in our food shops has undoubtedly been to put in the necessary washing facilities, but one cannot feel that they are used with the regularity which hygienic conditions demand. In the same way it is often found that where screened show cases are provided, vulnerable foodstuffs are prominently displayed on the top of the case and therefore outside its protection.

The slowness of acceptance of these elementary principles is somewhat disappointing, and whilst every endeavour is being made to secure improved standards, one is forced to the conclusion that it will be a long time yet before public opinion is wholeheartedly behind any clean food campaign.

This somewhat pessimistic view gains support from the stormy passage through the House of the Food and Drugs Act, 1954, and the anemic creature which ultimately crept into the Statute Book does nothing to hearten one's endeavours.

At the time of writing this report it would seem that the 1954 Act will never be operated, but will in fact be superseded on the very day that it should become operative by a new Consolidation Act.

We look to the future, therefore, with great interest but little optimism.

It will be seen from the list of inspections that particular attention was paid to street vendors. In my last report I referred to the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act requiring food hawkers to be registered with the Local Authority, and the action which was then taken to secure both registration of the vendor and adequate standards for the vehicles. This work was pursued throughout 1954 and the following table shows the result of the year's work. This is not of course a final result, but merely an interim list. Further registrations were continued into 1955.

West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.
Section 76.

Hawkers	From within the District		From outside Districts.
	No. of vehicles registered.	No. of premises registered.	No. of vehicles registered.
Ice-cream	Nil	Nil	8
Greengrocers	12	10	Nil
Grocers	6	5	Nil
Butchers	4	2	Nil
Confectionery	8	4	1

During the year difficulty was experienced with a hawker resident outside the district, and who refused to take any steps towards registering. Despite repeated attempts to secure his co-operation the matter had ultimately to be brought before the Authority and subsequently legal proceedings were taken for failure to register and also for non-compliance with the Council's Food Handling Byelaws. When heard before the Local Court of Summary Jurisdiction, the Magistrates upheld the Local Authority's action and inflicted fines on the hawker.

From time to time supervision revealed new traders from outside the district who were unaware of the need for registration. Undoubtedly constant observation will be necessary as this class of trader is steadily increasing, particularly in the area of our new housing schemes.

Having thus reviewed food supervision in general, I would wish to give more details of some of the various sections.

1. Meat Supplies. The year 1954 was notable in that after fourteen years of control, the meat trade was given complete freedom of action. Cattle markets were re-opened, private purchasing became legal, and butchers were free to undertake the slaughter of their animals. With the passing of decontrol, the Government placed the responsibility for slaughterhouses upon local authorities and it became the boundened duty of every local authority to ensure that there were adequate slaughtering facilities within the area. The decision to free the meat trade came with surprising suddenness, and consequently local authorities were compelled to act hurriedly. The Urban Authority was in no better position than any other, but a series of meetings with the Local Meat Traders Association enabled some idea of future requirements to be ascertained, and gave some indication of slaughterhouse needs. From the onset it was abundantly clear that many butchers did not relish the purchasing of live cattle, and were certainly not in a position themselves to carry out the slaughter. In certain instances the occupiers of pre-war private slaughterhouses did desire to re-license and re-use these premises, but these in themselves did not provide sufficient facilities for the estimated requirements, and in June the Council agreed to take over and run the former C.W.S. Slaughterhouse, which, during the war, had been requisitioned by the Ministry. The facilities to be available were to include the services of skilled slaughtermen, and a scale of charges was prepared. As it was felt that the future of such a scheme was somewhat vague, and that my Department would in any case be responsible for meat inspection, the management of the premises was placed under my control.

In a subsequent part of this report I shall refer to the experiences which befell us during the six months and give details of the financial aspect. For the moment I would confine myself to our normal duties of meat inspection.

As in former years all carcasses were inspected as near to the time of slaughter as possible, and the following tables give details of this work.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	1178	342	148	4921	3686
Number inspected	1178	342	148	4921	3686
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	187	55	5	107	266
Percentage of number inspected with disease other than Tuberculosis	15.8	16.4	3.4	2.2	7.4
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	6	6	-	-	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	70	116	-	-	88
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.4	35.7	-	-	2.4

Carcases, Part-carcases and Organs Condemned

	<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Carcases	13	-	-	8	21
Forequarters	6	-	-	-	6
Hindquarters	6	-	-	9	15
Heads and Tongues	108	-	-	83	191
Lungs	136	-	-	-	136
Plucks	-	-	97	100	197
Hearts	11	-	-	-	11
Livers	236	-	-	-	236
Udders	11	-	-	-	11
Intestines	38	5	12	218	273

Diseases

	<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis	198	-	-	91	289
Actinomycosis	5	-	-	-	5
Abscesses	83	-	-	1	84
Angioma	18	-	-	-	18
Parasitic	64	-	103	47	214
Cirrhosis	108	-	-	-	108
Bruising	5	-	1	7	13
Mastitis	6	-	-	-	6
Pleurisy	1	-	-	3	4
Melanosis	1	-	-	-	1
Inflammation	8	5	2	220	235
Peritonitis	2	-	-	1	3
Septicaemia	1	-	-	-	1
Pericarditis	2	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	2	-	-	7	9
Arthritis	-	-	-	2	2
Endocarditis	-	-	-	1	1

In my previous report I drew attention to the incidence of disease found in the animals slaughtered and I once again offer some comparisons.

It will be seen from the foregoing tables that in 1954 the number of cattle and sheep killed was less than in 1953, but that there was a marked increase in the number of pigs. Cows increased from 311 in 1953 to 342 in 1954. Cattle excluding cows fell from 1425 to 1178, calves from 317 to 148, sheep from 7296 to 4921, whilst pigs rose from 2236 to 3686.

Of the cows slaughtered 6 were affected by Generalized Tuberculosis and condemned in entirety whilst 116 were found to be affected in part only. These combined figures show that 35.6% of cows slaughtered were affected in some measure by Tuberculosis, the figure for 1953 being 40.6% and in 1952 being 40.55%.

As against this, cattle other than cows, showed a decided improvement. Six full carcasses were condemned on the grounds of Generalized Tuberculosis, whilst 70 were found to be affected in part only. The combined figures give 6.4% of the cattle slaughtered as against 9.4% in 1953 and 14.08 in 1952. In the case of other animals the figures were quite light; only 2.2% of the sheep slaughtered were in any way affected with disease, all of course non-tubercular, whilst 3.4% of calves were affected with disease, again non-tubercular.

Of the pigs slaughtered 2.4% were affected with Tuberculosis and 7.4% with other diseases.

The unsound meat during the period of control was disposed of by the Ministry of Food to their Agents, but after control had ended, the Department arranged for the disposal of all unsound food. Unsound meat was coloured and conveyed in our vehicles to a local firm where it is utilized for non-food purposes. This is the practice which existed prior to the war and ensures proper disposal.

Slaughtering Having dealt with the inspection side of the meat supplies, I would report on the actual arrangements for the slaughter of the animals. From the 1st. January to the 2nd. July all killing was undertaken by the Ministry of Food and was carried out in the Ministry's leased slaughter-house at Carlton Street. During that period the animals slaughtered were as follows:-

Cattle (excluding cows)	646
Cows.....	171
Calves.....	6
Sheep.....	3155
Pigs.....	1800

From July forward slaughtering took place in the public slaughterhouse and in three privately owned slaughterhouses. These latter comprised two pre-war slaughterhouses which were licensed and an entirely new premises situated at a farm in the western end of the district. The occupiers complied reasonably well with the requirements for notification and no real difficulty was experienced in inspecting the animals slaughtered there. In these private slaughterhouses the number of animals slaughtered between the 2nd July and 31st December was:-

Cattle (excluding cows).....	210
Cows.....	1
Calves.....	33
Sheep.....	628
Pigs.....	207

The activities of the public slaughterhouse are worth recording.

When the Authority met the Local Butchers Association, figures were submitted to them which indicated that there would be a big demand for slaughtering facilities, but after the date of decontrol these figures disappeared into thin air, and many of the men, who in June had contemplated buying and killing their own animals, resorted to buying dead weight from wholesalers. Throughout the whole of July, August and September the through put remained very low, but in October circumstances brought to the slaughterhouse a wholesaler who was in fact supplying meat to a large number of our local butchers, and from that time forward his animals have been killed at the public slaughterhouse. With the advent of the autumn weather came an increasing demand for pigs and the slaughterhouse, having been accepted by the Minister as a grading centre, the through put grew very rapidly. At the commencement of the venture the Council engaged two slaughtermen on a whole-time basis, together with a yardman, but with the arrival of the wholesaler in October, the whole system called for re-organization. The tendency was for butchers to revert to their pre-war custom of laying in a supply of beef early in the week and Sunday killing was imperative. The demand for sheep also caused the need for evening slaughter on Mondays, and these conditions demanded the engagement of part-time slaughtermen for the rush periods. This system has continued.

A further complication which had to be dealt with was the seasonal killing of pigs for Christmas and in the ten days prior to the Christmas festivities a large number of pigs were slaughtered both weekday and Sundays, and until late evening. Throughout the period the management of the slaughterhouse has been vested in my Department and the difficulties experienced have only been met by close attention to the circumstances and requirements. The duties have been shared jointly by my Deputy and myself and it has been necessary that we both work late hours and weekends. Sunday work has been divided into morning and afternoon supervision, whilst the evening work has often demanded that we both be present.

At the turn of the year our efforts seemed to be meeting with some return for the through put had been established on a fairly constant basis and the scheme appeared to be paying its way.

The total number of animals slaughtered from the 2nd. July to the 31st. December was:-

Cattle (excluding cows).....	322
Cows.....	170
Calves.....	109
Sheep.....	1138
Pigs.....	1679

In the Abstract of Accounts for the Financial Year ending 31st. March, 1955 the slaughterhouse venture appears as follows:-

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
	£		£
Wages.....	1621	Charges.....	2185
Equipment and Tools... 139		Fees, Ministry of Food... 67	
Compensation..... 336		Sale of Waste..... 93	
Gas & Electricity..... 31		Compensation..... 5	
Cleansing Materials... 3			
Bedding & Fodder..... 16			
Postage & Telephone... 18			
Repairs & Alterations. 105			
Adverts & Stationery.. 12			
Rates..... 93			
Protective Clothing... 7			
Insurance..... 15			
Bins..... 35			
Other Expenses..... 23			
	<u>2454</u>		<u>2350</u>

It will be seen that a loss of about £100 was sustained in the period of nine months, but this was entirely due to the low through put in the months of July, August and September.

Milk During the year 1954 there was little change in the basis of the town's milk supply. During the year we were served by 107 distributors, only one of which retailed raw milk and that of Tuberculin Tested standard. All milk continues to be delivered in sealed bottles and none in open cans. As in former years the C.W.S. Retail Society was our largest single supplier, operating its own plant at Ashton Road and drawing its supplies of raw milk from farms in the adjacent areas. Every care has been taken to maintain the quality of the supply and the plant is well served by its own laboratory staff. The smaller retailers continue to draw their supplies from large scale wholesalers, principally the Manorcroft Dairies and their Associate Company, Express Dairies, Sheffield, both of whom supply Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) milk. The sale of "Sterilized" milk by shop keepers continues to be a very popular form of supply and 137 persons are registered for the sale thereof.

In previous reports I have commented upon the unsatisfactory treatment meted out to milk bottles by the consumers and observations in 1954 have given no indication that there has been any improvement in this particular aspect of the trade. Empty bottles are left outside the dwellings, all too frequently without any washing after use. They become contaminated with dust, dirt and the elements and a great attraction for the mis-directed energies of the younger generation, as well as for the natural instincts of the dog world. It is therefore not surprising that as in previous years we have had complaints of dirt line inside a full bottle of milk.

Throughout the year the Department has continued its active policy of sampling, both of bacteriological and biological examination and the results are appended in tabular form.

It will be seen that of the 375 samples submitted for biological examination, 15 gave a positive result. In previous years I have drawn attention to both this figure and the incidence of Tuberculosis in animals killed for human consumption. Whilst there may be some little fluctuation, the general position would indicate that our milk herds are still in need of thorough veterinary inspection.

During the year 22 samples of milk were submitted for chemical analysis, and two were found not to comply with legal standards. In both instances "appeal to the cow" samples revealed that the milk was as given by the animal and not due to adulteration.

The following tables summarise this section of our work:-

Registration of Producers, Distributors and Dairies.

Pasteurised Milk

No. of producers of pasteurised milk.....	1
No. of inspections of pasteurising plant.....	56

Distribution

No. of distributors on register.....	137
No. selling Raw Milk.....	Nil
No. selling Pasteurised Milk.....	37
No. selling Accredited Milk.....	1
No. selling T.T. Pasteurised Milk.....	37
No. selling Sterilized Milk.....	137

Sampling of Milk for Bacteriological Examination.

Raw Milk

No. of samples submitted to Methylene Blue Test..	903
No. of samples which satisfied Methylene Blue Test for Accredited Milk.....	569
No. which did not satisfy the above Test.....	334

Tuberculin Tested Milk

No. of samples submitted for the prescribed test.	202
No. of samples which satisfied Methylene Blue Test.....	172

Pasteurised Milk

No. of samples submitted to prescribed tests.....	150
No. satisfying Methylene Blue Test.....	150
No. satisfying Phosphatase Test.....	150

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk

No. of samples submitted to prescribed tests.....	97
No. of samples satisfying Methylene Blue Test....	97
No. satisfying Phosphatase Test.....	97

Sterilized Milk

No. of samples submitted to prescribed tests.....	16
No. satisfying Methylene Blue Test.....	16
No. satisfying Turbidity Test.....	16

Milk - Biological Examination for Tuberculosis

No. of samples submitted for above test.....	375
No. giving negative result.....	350
No. giving positive result.....	15
No. of samples void.....	10

The results of the investigation of the positive samples of milk are shown in tabulated form.

Sample No.	Date of Sample	Type of Supply	Result of Investigation
26	12/1/54	Raw milk to Pasteurising Plant.	One cow removed. Rest certified free from Tuberculosis.
27	12/1/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
43	19/1/54	-do-	Two cows removed from herd prior to veterinary inspection. Rest certified clear.
225	23/2/54	-do-	Two cows slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
492	13/4/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
560	14/5/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
708	1/6/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
781	15/6/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
786	15/6/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Milk still found to be positive, but meanwhile one further cow had been slaughtered and when remainder were tested they proved negative.
857	29/6/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Others certified clear.
927	13/7/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Others certified clear.
1323	28/9/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Others certified clear.
1532	9/11/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Check sample still positive. When another check taken two cows had been sold and slaughter. Rest of herd now clear.
1600	23/11/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Others certified clear.
1671	7/12/54	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order.

Sampling of Milk for Chemical Analysis.

Samples taken - Informal..... 22
Formal.....Nil

No. of Samples
Adulterated - Informal..... 2
Formal.....Nil

Details of Adulterated Samples.

Sample No.	Date	Analysis	Action taken
991	2/2/54	2.90% Fat 8.64% Solids not Fat	Both these samples were taken from churns sent in to the Local Pasteurising Plant from the same farm. This farm is the one giving similar results last year and from which "appeal to cow" samples were taken, which showed that the cows were giving a milk containing less fat than the 3% legal minimum. The Ministry of Agriculture was notified and advice given to the farmer on how to improve the fat content by better feeding.
1001	6/5/54	2.61% Fat 8.61% Solids not Fat	

Ice-Cream. This commodity continues to hold its popularity with the general public. Despite the somewhat inclement summer the trade appeared to maintain its usual pattern. Consequently there is very little change to report. The town is served by 100 fixed premises, registered for the sale of ice-cream, together with the itinerant vendors. Pre-packed ice-cream stored in refrigerated containers continues to be the main source of supply, although some loose ice-cream can still be obtained. Five premises are registered for the manufacture of ice-cream.

Sampling for bacteriological examination was carried out throughout the year, although staff changes caused a reduction in the number of samples taken. The results show that a good standard is generally maintained. The following tables summarise the work.

No. of premises registered for sale during the year..... 5
No. of premises registered for manufacture during the year..... 2

Position at the end of 1954.

No. of premises registered for sale..... 100
No. of premises registered for manufacture..... 5

Sampling for Bacteriological Examination

	1952	1953	1954
No. of samples taken.....	277	297	192
No. of samples classified Grade I....	199	252	144
No. of samples classified Grade 2....	50	28	23
No. of samples classified Grade 3....	22	12	16
No. of samples classified Grade 4....	6	5	7

Fish. As in former years the town continues well supplied with fish, including wet, cured and fried. The bulk of the supplies of wet fish are derived from three wholesale establishments in the town, whilst fish curing by both smoking and boiling is carried on in the district by one firm. This trade includes the preparation of shell fish; mussels and crab meat being prepared and packed for retail sale.

The fried fish and chips have lost none of their popularity and continue to form a considerable part of the diet of the town. Thirty-two fish fryers trade within the district.

Premises used in the fish trade are generally of good standard and refrigerated storage, together with the use of refrigerated show cases, ensures the keeping quality of the commodity.

There is generally little change in the conditions secured in the last few years.

Other Foods - General. The Department continues to exercise general supervision over all shop premises. It is inevitable that unsoundness will occur in canned and packed food and as in former years traders generally are ready to seek our assistance in dealing with such goods. From time to time samples are taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act as a check against the chemical composition. The following was among food surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

75 tins Meat	4 bottles Sauce
16½ lbs Sausages	75 lbs Butter
4 lbs Suet	22 lbs Lentils
132 lbs Frozen Eggs	144 lbs Sweets
189 tins Tomatoes	41 Fish Cakes
317 tins Fruit	3 tins Mixed Vegetables
9 tins Peas	3 Sponge Puddings
6 tins Fish	60¾ lbs Ham and Bacon
3 boxes & 6 stones Herrings	35½ lbs Tongue
86 lbs Cheese	96 Choc. Rolls
43 tins Beans	24 Jam Rolls
16 lbs Cake	24 Jam & Cream Rolls
4 jars Jam	192 Chocolate Teacakes
6 jars Pickles	698 lbs Beef
33 tins Dried Milk	157¼ lbs Pork
	17 lbs Lamb

The foregoing was either taken from the shop or brought by traders to the office. After surrender it was disposed of at the destructor.

Samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act were as follows:-

	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Beef Sausages	3	-
Pork Sausages	1	-
Dripping	1	-
Butter	1	-
Coffee	1	-
Tea	2	-
Flour	-	3
Totals	9	3

All the above samples proved genuine.

WATER SUPPLY

There is virtually nothing to report in our water supply other than has been said before. The town continues to draw its supplies from the Wakefield and Pontefract Corporations, with some slight assistance from the Leeds Corporation. The Wakefield supply continues to be fed largely direct to properties, via the service mains, but the Pontefract supply is delivered into storage reservoirs for re-distribution via service mains. The Leeds supply is only used intermittently, and when required feeds directly into mains in the Lock Lane area.

There is naturally no change in the quality of the supply, that from Wakefield continuing to retain its softness, whilst that from Pontefract its hardness. Systematic sampling was carried out throughout the year and this revealed the need for continuing a systematic chlorination.

No. of samples taken from reservoirs..... 98
No. showing coliform organisms..... 1
No. of samples taken from consumers taps..336
No. showing coliform organisms..... 9

The following is a tabulated list of unsatisfactory samples found during the year:-

Date of Sample	No. of Sample	Address	No. of coliform organisms
5/1/54	9	Cinder Lane	1
6/4/54	117	Fryston Colliery	1
6/4/54	118	Carr Lane	1
11/5/54	151	Treasurer's Dept., Hopgrove.	1
18/5/54	161	Treasurer's Dept., Hopgrove.	1
15/6/54	209	Treasurer's Dept., Hopgrove.	1
15/6/54	214	Carr Lane	1
22/6/54	221	Treasurer's Dept., Hopgrove.	1
22/6/54	229	Cinder Lane	1

Water Fryston Village. This hamlet continues to be served by public supply fed to an iron storage tank to reduce pressure.

Carr Wood. The natural spring of course still exists at Carr Wood, but the communal standpipe is believed to be generally used by the persons resident in the area.

SWIMMING BATHS.

Facilities for swimming continue to be centred in the Public Baths, no private pools existing. As in former years the swimming season is limited to the period of April to October and during these months regular sampling of the pool water is carried out by the Department. This sampling comprises weekly examination for bacterial count, supported by monthly samples for chemical analysis. During the whole of the season only two samples revealed the presence of coliform bacilli, whilst all the chemical samples gave satisfactory results.

No. of samples submitted for bacteriological examination..... 40
No. showing coliform bacilli..... 2

Date	Sample No.	B. Coli	
		Non-Faecal	Faecal
20/7/54	275	8	Nil
24/8/54	330	1	Nil

Chemical Analysis

Date of Sample	Total Solids	Parts per million			
		Chlorides	Free Ammonia	Albuminoid Ammonia	Oxygen Absorbed
1/5/54	160	28	0.03	0.15	1.12
1/6/54	820	271	1.20	1.76	4.64
1/7/54	780	280	0.76	2.56	5.60
1/9/54	900	344	0.60	1.60	5.40

Once again the Baths Superintendent and his staff are to be complimented on the excellent standard of both the pool and its amenities.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

To review the field of atmospheric pollution giving any marked difference is extremely difficult. During the past twelve months the staff of the Department has continued to note the condition of the various industrial chimneys and plants in the area, but unfortunately the staff position towards the end of the year did not permit the amount of observation that one would wish. It would seem however that progress has been made and that the emissions from industrial chimneys are much lighter than heretofore. Unfortunately the tonnage figures shown in subsequent tables show an increase over previous year. This may of course be due to some vagary of climatic condition, but it may also point to an increase solely due to the domestic chimney.

To consider the known improvements. The clothing factory referred to in my last report completed their reconstruction during the year, and as a result the factory is now virtually smokeless. When one realises that the original chimney was a constant source of nuisance to the neighbourhood, such an improvement is well worthy of record. The two vertical boilers referred to in my previous report have maintained their improved condition throughout the year, whilst the boiler plant of one of our large chemical works was steadily improving in its emissions through reorganization. At one of our glassworks consultation was had with the management on the question of chimney emission from their steam raising plant and during the year a scheme was prepared for complete reorganization. This will, however, take some 18 months to come to fruition, but in the meantime improved methods of firing have materially reduced the nuisance from the chimney. Some two years ago I referred to the colliery chimneys and expressed the wish that the mechanical firing of colliery boilers could be brought nearer to our boundaries. During 1954 it was noted that several chimneys in and around the district were giving much better results and it was realised that the long term policy was at last on our doorstep. It is anticipated that these improvements will continue during the next two to three years.

One cannot however report all improvement, for several works continue to be a source of nuisance to the inhabitants by their emissions. First and foremost is the coke oven plant at Glass Houghton where despite efforts of maintenance and improvement, smoke emissions occur in vast quantities. These are not only from the ovens themselves, but also arise from the hand firing of the steam raising plant.

Deputations from the Health Committee have met officials of the National Coal Board and discussed at length the unsatisfactory conditions which exist in the area around the plant caused by the emissions. It would seem that although much has been done by way of plant maintenance, nothing short of complete re-building will solve the problem of the coking ovens. Nevertheless, smoke emissions from the boiler plant could be eliminated by the installation of mechanical stokers. Whilst it is appreciated that rebuilding of the ovens is a vast financial problem there seems no justification for withholding mechanical stokers from the boiler plant. This vexed question has been with us for many years and despite all action taken it must be admitted that there is very little improvement. Negotiations continue and it may well be that in the next Annual Report something more concrete can be reported.

Our second problem is the emission of chemical fumes from one of our acid manufacturing plants. The coloured plume from this plant is well known to all our residents, but in the latter part of the year emissions appeared to be on the increase, and many complaints were received of the irritant effect. This matter is being pursued.

In my last report I referred to the emissions from one of our potteries, where coal-fired kilns still operate. The position here remains much as heretofore, although during the year the emission from a particular section of the plant gave rise to local complaint, whilst the emission from the boiler plant was very frequently unsatisfactory.

In the field of domestic smoke the main feature of the report is the visit in the autumn of the Mobile Exhibition of smokeless fuel appliances. This was centred for one day in the town's shopping area and for part of a second day in the Airedale housing scheme. The Exhibition was visited by considerable numbers who showed great interest in the appliances, but it is very doubtful if many went away convinced of the value of smokeless fuels. A Public Meeting was held in the evening of the first day, and whilst the attendance was not particularly large, the result was not entirely discouraging.

It is appreciated that in an area where raw coal is so readily available in abundant quantity and at low price, it will be extremely difficult to convert the general public to other fuels. Nevertheless it would seem that more and more gas and electrical appliances are being installed and that the modern type of firegrate is steadily replacing the old uneconomic form.

To those of us who have advocated cleaner air so long, the refusal of the individual to assist is probably most disappointing but undoubtedly the national conscience is awakening to the urgent need for action. The report of the Special Committee is now available and its findings known and this must inevitably produce results.

The submission and later withdrawal of a Private Members Bill in the House indicates some of the feeling and the promise of Government action is most encouraging. Undoubtedly the next Annual Report will show new legislation and it is to be hoped that this will contain the much needed improvements which have been asked for by the few for so long.

We look forward to the new era.

Sootfall - Tons per square mile

Month	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
January	15.20	6.41		10.58
February	31.82	10.96	11.05	16.31
March	12.25	12.81	30.30	17.29
April	14.13	6.67	6.17	9.91
May	61.65	21.26	17.15	20.25
June	18.86	7.03	7.50	9.94
July	19.10	14.86	11.58	18.80
August	17.99	19.48	13.08	17.52
September	15.17	21.30	12.25	13.00
October	25.87	24.93	9.82	37.43
November	17.38	22.19	12.25	11.15
December	16.68	15.22	13.67	15.73
Totals	266.10	183.12	144.82	198.18

Sulphur Trioxide Estimation - Milligrammes per day

Month	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
January	4.88	3.61	4.28	4.41
February	5.84	3.03	3.88	4.39
March	5.36	3.05	2.78	4.29
April	3.95	1.82	2.57	2.80
May	4.59	1.84	1.94	2.56
June	3.74	2.41	1.89	2.44
July	2.66	2.21	1.96	2.42
August	3.14	2.01	2.00	2.21
September	3.98	3.71	2.84	3.01
October	3.53	3.31	3.12	4.25
November	5.00	3.19	2.92	4.67
December	5.11	4.18	3.78	4.58
Averages	4.32	2.86	2.83	3.50

I herewith give tabulated figures for the past ten years:-

Sootfall - Shown in tons per square mile per annum.

Year	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
1954	266.10	183.12	144.82	198.12
1953	141.99	168.98	125.83	178.76
1952	194.55	258.20	139.24	204.70
1951	216.27	285.72	155.42	243.16
1950	165.76	185.61	150.37	242.70
1949	190.51	172.97	147.52	321.44
1948	237.13	257.32	212.90	352.26
1947	176.32	269.19	217.74	307.11
1946	204.72	249.72	161.52	245.04
1945	not established		206.96	225.00

Sulphur Trioxide Estimation - Average for year - milligrammes per day

Year	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
1954	4.32	2.86	2.83	3.50
1953	2.61	2.11	2.13	2.30
1952	2.09	1.47	1.79	1.91
1951	2.01	1.67	1.73	1.91
1950	1.60	0.95	1.63	1.98
1949	not established		3.23	3.18
1948	"	"	3.79	3.37
1947	"	"	2.79	2.91
1946	"	"	2.51	2.19
1945	"	"	3.05	2.96

RIVERS AND WATER COURSES

During the year some localized flooding was experienced in time of heavy rain due entirely to the overflowing of certain streams and slight surcharging of the top water drains. The town as a whole did not suffer any experience of general flooding. A new complication has however arisen from the presence of detergents in the river. In the region of the flour mill it has been found that the action of the weir causes excessive frothing, the river surface very frequently being covered with a depth of foam extending to several feet in thickness. Providing this is able to flow downstream all is well, but when the water wheel at the mill is at rest at weekends and holidays, the river currents tend to build the foam back up towards the wheel sluice. From here it lifts over the river bank particularly when assisted by an easterly wind, and deposits itself on buildings and street surfaces. Its presence in the air is definitely an annoyance to pedestrians whilst the filth it deposits on windows, etc., is upsetting to the occupiers of the buildings. Complaints were received on many occasions and two samples were taken of the foam, which proved conclusively that it was due to the presence of the domestic detergents. It would appear that the housewife today is turning this material into the sewerage system of our towns in enormous quantities, whilst the traditional sewage treatment fails to eradicate any of it, consequently the effluents discharging to our rivers are carrying what eventually amounts to a build-up. Where conditions exist as in the case of our local weir, the effect is obvious, but one wonders what is the effect on river life generally. This is obviously a problem calling for research and possibly restrictive legislation.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The organization operated in former years has been continued throughout 1954. The Department disinfected all premises after cases of notifiable disease and after deaths or removals of pulmonary cases. The treatment being the spraying and fumigation of the house with the bedding subjected to steam treatment.

The disinfectant plant at Cinder Lane continues to give good service and throughout the year we undertook work on behalf of neighbouring authorities.

Premises affected with vermin are still sprayed with solution containing D.D.T. and Pyrethrum with satisfactory results.

The policy of dealing with all Council houses upon change of tenancy and also on first occupation has been continued. The in-going tenant's furniture is concentrated to one room where it is sprayed and fumigated, whilst the remaining rooms are sprayed with solution, leaving behind a residual effect.

It is interesting to report that today we receive very few complaints of infestation by bed bugs. It would seem that modern methods allied to the availability of proprietary sprays have almost eliminated house infestation and a condition which was once so prevalent seems no longer to worry us.

As against this we are frequently asked for assistance with other forms of insect pests which vary from cockroaches and beetles to ants and even wasps. It is the general practice to assist wherever possible and Gammexane powder has been found to give excellent results.

As in former years one industrial concern had its premises treated with Hydrocyanic Acid Gas, the work being done by contractors. After treatment however the Department took the usual confirmatory samples of the foodstuffs manufactured.

The following shows the work carried out during the year:-

Disinfection after Infectious Disease.....	45
Disinfestation of verminous houses:	
Privately owned.....	22
Local Authority owned.....	2
Council houses treated upon the creation of new tenancy.....	454

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SANITARY ALTERATIONS

During the year the main development of sewerage schemes lay very naturally at the Water Fryston Estate. In that scheme under construction for the National Coal Board the Department continued to exercise supervision of the drainage works, but in that section being constructed by the Council itself the service was left with the whole-time Clerk of Works.

Drainage to houses built by private enterprise was of course supervised by the Department.

The situation of existing sewers and drainage generally has in no way altered from past years. We still continue to receive complaints of blockage and defect and invariably one is led to the thought that the damage is not infrequently caused by underground movement. In this connection cases have been found where cellars which have been free from water throughout their known life suddenly become affected with dampness and occasionally with flooding. There appears to be no reason for this and again one can only feel that underground movement has caused sub-soil water to be diverted from its previous line of flow.

It is regretted that I have to report that the section of bad sewer previously reported upon has not so far been remedied, but a scheme incorporating this is, I understand, being prepared. As in former years the mechanical appliances of the Department have been called upon to give twice weekly service to this section in order to prevent flooding or nuisance. An early reconstruction is undoubtedly required.

During the year regular emptying of cesspools was routine. Once again I would urge that those areas of the district where cesspools are present in considerable number should be provided with sewerage schemes which will enable us to abolish these very undesirable storage tanks.

As in former years a certain amount of conversion of privy middens and slop closets to water carriage was carried out and the few remaining types of convenience were again reduced in number.

Works carried out during the year were as follows:-

Privies abolished.....	2
Privies converted to water closets.....	Nil
Slop closets converted to water closets....	Nil
Water closets abolished.....	8
Additional water closets provided to existing buildings.....	24
Water closets provided to new buildings....	591
Drains and water closets reconstructed or repaired.....	167
Drains, water closets, etc., opened, cleansed, etc.....	160
Ashpits (wet) abolished.....	Nil
Ashbins abolished.....	Nil
Ashbins provided to new buildings.....	589

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

As in former years the inspection of factories was carried out and our activities were directed to cleanliness in non-mechanical factories and to sanitary accommodation and escape in case of fire in all factories. The following is a copy of the Annual Return submitted to the Ministry of Labour regarding the work under this heading:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>Notices Served</u>
Factories without mechanical power.	21	37	Nil
Factories with mechanical power.	130	202	Nil
Other premises.	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Nil</u>
Totals	<u>152</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>Nil</u>

Cases in which defects were found:-

<u>Defects</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Ref. to H.M.I.</u>	<u>Ref. by H.M.I.</u>	<u>Prosec- utions.</u>
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	2	1	1	1	-
(b) Unsuited	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences.	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	1	1	1	-

Number of outworkers on register - 1

THEATRES AND CINEMAS

The town is now served by six cinemas all of which are well maintained. The one theatre existing in the town has closed its doors; whether this will be a temporary closure is not known. When it was in use, however, it was always found to be well maintained.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

The two common lodging houses are still existent in the district and both continue to cater for men only. They are visited regularly and have always been found to be extremely clean, well maintained and well managed.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

As in former years it has been necessary to exert constant vigilance over this form of dwelling. In spite of the improved housing conditions we continue to find individuals wanting to make permanent homes in so called moveable dwellings. As we are now preparing to take action against the older colonies of van it would be folly to permit the siting of new vans. All possible steps are taken to prevent the insidious creep in of this type of dwelling.

The travelling hawker again gave rise to difficulty, It would seem that certain individuals have connection with the district and attempt repeatedly to establish themselves on certain sites with or without permission of the site owners. The conditions they create are a nuisance and unless firmly dealt with are difficult to remove. During the year the co-operation of both owners and the police force has prevented over-long visitations.

As in previous years travelling showmen used sites in the town as winter quarters in addition to visiting for the seasonal fairs. Whilst the vans and sites are always well maintained, local residents complain of the smoke from the van chimneys. This winter quartering may possibly call for closer supervision.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

There has been no change in our system during the year. Two rat catchers are employed full-time in the Department and we are thus able to carry out regular inspection and treatments. In all cases the methods and materials prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were employed and it would seem that this continuing vigilance has reduced the rat population very considerably. Infestations naturally occur and as in former years were found to be scattered throughout the whole of the district and to be varying in season. During the spring and summer the rat population appears to drift out to the river bank and the agricultural lands, returning in the autumn to sewers and buildings. Here treatments are called for and each winter sees the need for continuing the battle.

The town's sewers were treated and baited as in former years and whilst the results do not show serious infestation, they do show the value of regular and consistent treatment. If this were to be in any way restricted one cannot but believe that the rat population in the sewers would return to its former strength.

The service to domestic dwellings continues to be provided free of charge, but services rendered to business premises are still re-chargeable upon the owner or occupier. We continue to receive excellent co-operation from our townspeople and I am satisfied that this regular and systematic service is well worth its cost.

The Council continues to retain its membership of the Local Advisory Group and your officers attend the meetings.

Looking back over the years one can see a marked improvement in the general conditions. Modern methods and particularly modern poisons give results so markedly superior to those in use even just prior to the second world war. We have now come to accept this state of affairs without question, but we should never lose sight of the fact that rats and mice not only form a threat to our food supplies, but are a potential menace to health. Their numbers can never be entirely eliminated, but they should be kept to the lowest possible figure. Undoubtedly the best method of achieving this objective is regular and consistent action.

Sewer Treatment

1953/54 Maintenance Treatment II

No. of manholes baited.....	53
No. of clear takes.....	15
No. of part takes.....	10

1954/55 Test Baiting

No. of manholes baited.....	122
No. of clear takes.....	5
No. of part takes.....	15

1954/55 Maintenance Treatment I

No. of manholes baited.....	78
No. of clear takes.....	9
No. of part takes.....	15

Premises inspected and found infested during the 12 months ended 31st. March, 1955:-

<u>Property</u>	<u>Rats</u>		<u>Mice</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>		
U.D.C. Property	5	12	2	19
Business Premises	6	22	31	59
Dwelling houses	10	109	58	177
Agricultural property.	3	-	-	3

No. of treatments:-

U.D.C. Property.....	80
Business Premises.....	101
Dwelling Houses.....	242
Farms.....	2
	<u>425</u>

	<u>No. of Properties Inspected</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
U.D.C. Property	37	49
Business Premises	792	862
Dwelling Houses	1681	3833
Farms	12	37
	<u>2522</u>	<u>4781</u>

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT

The inspection and supervision of premises storing petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures was carried out on a normal basis. Sixty-two premises are licensed to store, the licences authorising the storage of 504,988 gallons of petrol and 20,350 gallons of petroleum mixtures.

TOYS FOR RAGS

In former years I have commented on the activities of rag gatherers from outside the district visiting the schools within our area at dispersal times. During the past year there has been very little evidence of the existence of this practice and no proceedings were taken. Nevertheless the Department continues to keep an ever watchful eye on this form of trading.

MARINE STORE DEALERS

This trade continues to be well established in the area, five premises being registered. In addition to the staff of the Department several police officers are authorised to act as officers under this section of the Act, consequently all premises are regularly visited.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There has been no change in this class of business and the premises registered comprise two gut scrapers, two tripe boilers, one fat melter, and two rag and bone dealers. All premises were visited and were found to be well maintained.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Again there is no change to report, three premises being registered under this Act and all of which are maintained in satisfactory condition.

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

As in previous years the registration provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951 have been applied and 44 premises are now registered under this section.

RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

As in former years one premises in the town is used for upholstering work and is registered accordingly. There are no factories actually preparing rag flock.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTION 50.

I continue to be the authorised officer of the Local Authority for this section of the Act. During the year enquiries were made concerning the interment of certain persons, but it was not necessary for the Local Authority to undertake responsibility for the burial.

MORTUARIES

Our needs continue to be served by the two mortuaries at Cinder Lane and Glass Houghton and whilst every effort is made to maintain them in the best possible condition, the fact remains that they are extremely limited in capacity and are devoid of the ancillaries which modern practice demands. I would again urge, most strongly, that a new central mortuary be provided complete with refrigerated storage accommodation and post-mortem room and other necessary facilities.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES FOUND

	<u>Informal &</u>	<u>Formal Action</u>
Nuisances found in 1954.....	667	325
Nuisances left over from 1953.....	116	54
Total requiring abatement.....	783	379
Abated during 1954.....	558	272
Outstanding at the end of 1954.....	225	107
Notices served: Formal 325	Complied with 272	
Informal 617	Complied with 558	

PUBLIC CLEANSING

As in all former years this section of the Report covers the work of refuse collection, and disposal, street cleansing and public conveniences. All the figures refer to the financial year ended 31st.March, 1955.

This service is one vital to the health and well being of the community and each succeeding year serves to emphasise the importance of its activity. The regular removal of domestic refuse, the adequate disposal, the cleansing of streets with all the ancillaries demand constant supervision and inevitably form a large item in the town's expenditure. The year 1954 in no way varied from any other; the wage rates and material costs continue to show an increase, whilst the ever growing housing scheme at Water Fryston produced a complementary increase in the refuse to be collected.

In the field of salvage the year shows a steady trade in both waste paper and cardboard and scrap metal. There is every appearance that in the structure of national industry there is a permanent place for these materials and the recovery from the refuse not only produces an income and a profit, but further assists the disposal problem.

Refuse Collection and Disposal. Once again we were able to maintain the service on the basis of a once weekly collection, and as in former years the working week was compressed into five days during the months March to October, but extended to five and a half days during the winter months. There was no change in the vehicles used during the year, which comprised two Dennis Paxit rear loaders, two Karrier C.K.3 side loaders, two Karrier Bantam side loaders, one Morrison Electricar, all engaged whole-time, and one other vehicle operating part-time. The quantity and weight of refuse to be removed continues to remain high in relation to our population. With such a plentiful supply of coal our people tend to maintain large fires throughout the winter, which inevitably produce large quantities of ash, but an even more difficult problem arises from the dross contained in the miners loads of coal. Some of this may pass through the domestic fire, but after delivery has been made we inevitably find a quantity of material picked out and discarded. This may vary from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 cwt or even more per load, and its removal when aggregated through the district is no small problem. Furthermore as many of the recipients, particularly resident in our housing schemes, persist in leaving this material on the footpath verge or in the carriageway channel, we are faced with unsightly conditions in our streets and some danger to the users. This practice is to be greatly deprecated and action should be taken to prevent it.

Controlled Tipping. Approximately 95% of our domestic refuse is disposed of by tipping and during the year three tipping sites were maintained.

At Redhill Drive the work continued at the eastern end of the former quarry and this section is now rapidly nearing completion. There is little to report on the year at this tip, although it is interesting to note that during the summer months we had some recurrence of cricket infestation. This never reached the proportion of the previous year, but it would appear to indicate that the insects are capable of surviving winter conditions, a theory which I put forward in my last report.

At Oxford Street work has continued steadily throughout the year and the final level is well advanced.

At Three Lane Ends the main feature of interest arose from the flooding of the area stripped of soil in advance of tipping. This area did not drain even in the summer months, and as time progressed the conditions turned to those which we have experienced in the past when organic refuse is in contact with water. Very steadily the water decolourised and eventually began to give off emissions of sulphurated hydrogen. Some of the water was removed by pumping, but eventually the situation was overcome by tipping a shallow layer over the affected area. This somewhat dislocated our tipping arrangements and it is now necessary to make good

the level with further shallow tipping. It is anticipated that in the next Annual Report I shall be able to say that this particular area has been completed and soiled off.

Destructor. The single cell incinerator at Wheldon Lane continued to give good service in disposing of noxious matter and trade waste. Its presence affords us an outlet for material which would be difficult to dispose of by any other means.

Salvage. During the year the waste paper output was 558 tons having a gross value of £3997. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 368 tons and £2317. The system of bonus has been maintained and gives an incentive to collection, although one feels at times that even this does not secure the maximum results. One cannot but wish that housewives, as a whole, would subscribe more wholeheartedly into the separation of the needed material. On examination of the loads and of the condition of our tips one appreciates that vast quantities of paper are lost by being dumped into the dustbin instead of being separated. Our vehicles are equipped with collecting bags and some with trailers, and have adequate facilities for dealing with the material. I would appeal once again for greater support.

Our scrap metal collection gave a reduced figure during the year, 69 tons value £254 were sold to industry, as against 133 tons value £456 in the previous year. The cause of this was difficulty of disposal covering a considerable part of the summer months.

Our salvage activities show that an income of £4251 was derived from an expenditure of £3223, showing a profit of £1028.

The following statistical information will be found of interest.

Collection. Refuse collected during the year was as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts	Estimated
Ashbins	20,367	13	"
Ashpits (dry)	457	-	"
Ashpits (wet)	128	17	"
Shop Refuse	236	2	"
Cesspools	5,240	10	"
Total	26,430	2	

The gross cost of this service was £19,726.

In addition the Department removed 297 tons 15 cwts of refuse from the Market premises, the cost of which was borne by the Markets Committee.

As in previous years tradespeople and others conveyed material to the destructor and to the tips. That to the destructor was estimated at 233 tons 9 cwts but that at the tips is not ascertainable.

Tips. Materials disposed of at the tips were as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts
Ashbins	20,367	13
Ashpits (dry)	457	-
Ashpits (wet)	128	17
Destructor Waste	188	15
Street Sweepings	1401	9
Gully Cleansing	1084	-
Total	23,627	14

Destructor.

	Tons	Cwts
Shop Refuse	236	2
Market Refuse	297	15
General Trade Waste	233	9
Total	767	6

Materials salvaged during the year were as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts		
Waste Paper	558	-	Gross Value	£3997
Scrap Metal	69	-	Gross Value	£254

The gross expenditure on disposal was £5931, but with the income from salvage of £4382 this was reduced to a net figure of £1549.

Street Cleansing. This very essential but very routine service was carried on throughout the year on the same basis as former years. The work entails the sweeping and cleaning of some 44 miles of road and cleansing some 7984 gullies.

The system of street sweeping is partly manual and partly mechanical. Two mechanical sweeper collectors are engaged whole-time and are generally used on the main traffic roads, although in times of stress they have been diverted to some of the lesser important streets. Manual sweeping is partly by gang and partly by beat system. Thirteen sweepers are engaged and they are divided throughout the district. Particular attention is given to the shopping centre which is swept every morning between the hours of 7-0 a.m. and 9-0 a.m. by a small gang of men, who on the completion of this work revert to their individual districts. In the Airedale area a small gang of three men operate the electrically propelled pedestrian controlled street orderly cart. This appliance has now been in use some two years and continues to give excellent service. In my last report I stated that it would seem to be the answer to some of our problems and I am now even more convinced of its worth. As additional streets are included in the scheme of cleansing, I feel that additional appliances of this type will be necessary.

The street gullies continue to be cleansed by our two vacuum gully emptier machines. As in former years these are also called upon to empty cesspools, flush sewers and undertake many other problem works, consequently the frequency of gully cleansing left much to be desired. In my last report I indicated that an additional machine would shortly be required and the time has now been reached when this is essential.

Street washing is not a common practice except in our larger towns and cities, it generally being assumed that our climate will provide all that is necessary. This I think is an out of date theory, particularly in an age when cleanliness is being stressed in so many ways. Consequently in the summer months a certain amount of washing is generally undertaken and once again the use of water and disinfectant was greatly appreciated by both shoppers and shop-keepers alike.

No report on street cleansing would be complete without reference to litter and the fouling of footpaths by dogs. It is a hardy annual. Of the year 1954 one can only say that the litter position deteriorated. We are now back to a state where cigarettes and sweetmeats are plentiful and that wrappings and containers abound. The result is found in all our streets daily, and when added to those wrappings that have come from that ever popular dish fish and chips, presents a growing problem to the rate. Were it not for our litter many of our streets could be amply dealt with by a once weekly sweeping, particularly in wet weather, but the increasing quantity of litter demands that many, if not all our streets must be swept several times per week. This in turn calls for an increased number of sweepers which again produces increased expenditure. Having regard to the public purse the official responsible for street cleansing is torn between a desire to give service and the knowledge that the necessary service will prove an added burden on the rate-payer. I would that some-one could convince the general public that their personal untidiness must be paid for out of their own pockets, or alternatively that tidy habits could save those same pockets. At the moment poster propaganda, although extensive in nature, appears to have no convincing power on the minds of our people.

One section of this report which must vary from time to time is that dealing with seasonal work caused by frost and snow. For some years now our winters have been comparatively mild, but the months of January to March, 1955 gave us a reminder that this does not always appertain. Prolonged cold weather with much frost and numerous falls of snow made it necessary that great care be paid to our street surfaces. In this area early morning traffic begins to run from about 4-0 a.m. and it is invariably midnight before it ceases. Throughout that period road surfaces must be kept safe. To meet the needs we once again operated a system whereby a small gang turned out for duty at 4-0 a.m. and if circumstances demanded reinforced themselves with further gangs. Evening gangs were not infrequently necessary. When conditions demanded it the carriageways and footpaths were treated with sand and salt mixture in order to thaw out frost and snow and to give added bite to vehicle wheels. On very many occasions the refuse collection service was turned over to this class of work, particularly between 7-0 a.m. and 9-30 a.m. The great benefit of this interchange of duty is that it enables the Department to turn out 7 or 8 gangs simultaneously which is very essential in that all roads require attention at the same time and delays are dangerous. In times of snowfall every endeavour is made to not only keep the main traffic routes running and safe, but at the same time to clear the shopping centre. In addition to using all the staff of the Department, we were on occasions able to secure assistance from other Departments and men were made available to us by the Highways Department, the Housing Direct Works Department and the Parks Department. The manual force was assisted very materially by the use of mechanical gritting appliances, snow ploughs and by the Parks Department's tractor using its pusher blade.

In the winter months the variable weather does throw great responsibility on the Department, and proves a great strain on both manpower and equipment. It is our pride that at such times nothing is spared to deal with the situation and one is satisfied that the work is essential to the health and well-being of the people. One is happy to receive from time to time the compliments and thanks of our people.

Cost Statement, 1954/55

(a) Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Item	Particulars	Collection	Disposal	Totals	% of total gross expenditure
	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>	£	£	£	%
1	<u>GROSS EXPENDITURE</u>				
	(i) Labour	11588	4658	16246	63.4
	(ii) Transport	8114	896	9010	35.1
	(iii) Plant, etc.	25	377	402	1.5
	(iv) Other items.	-	-	-	
	(v) Total gross expenditure	19727	5931	25658	100
2	GROSS INCOME (including £.... received from other local authorities	1	4382	4383	-
3	NET COST	19726	1549	21275	-
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above).	-	-	-	-
	<u>UNIT COSTS</u>	s d	s d	s d	
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only.	10. 11	4. 5	15. 4	
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only.	7. 8	10	8. 6	
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton.	18. 7	1. 6	20. 1	
		£	£	£	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population.	464	36	500	
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises.	1524	119	1643	

(b) Street Cleansing.

Item	Particulars	Street Sweeping and Watering	Street Gully Cleansing	Total	% of total gross expend- iture.
	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>	£	£	£	%
1	<u>GROSS EXPENDITURE</u>				
	(i) Labour	5241	240	5481	57.2
	(ii) Transport	3115	706	3821	39.9
	(iii) Plant, etc.	209	-	209	2.2
	(iv) Other items.	65	-	65	.7
	(v) Total gross expenditure	8630	946	9576	100
2	GROSS INCOME (excluding reimburse- ments from Ministry of Transport and the County Council.	128	-	128	-
3	NET COST	8502	946	9448	-
4	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE met from revenue (included above)	-	-	-	-
5	GROSS EXPENDITURE on snow clearance not included previously	1212	-	-	-
	<u>UNIT COSTS</u>	s d			
6	Net Cost (per street mile cleansed)	22. 9			
7	Net cost per 1000 gullies cleansed	£	£ 86.9	£	
8	Net cost per 1000 population.	200	22	222	

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There was no change during the year in the public accommodation provided in the town. At Bradley Street there consists a central block with accommodation for both males and females. The women's accommodation is provided with an attendant who is responsible for cleaning and supervision at the weekends and at certain hours of the weekdays. The men's accommodation is visited and cleansed each morning and evening but has no permanent attendant.

At Airedale we continue to operate the small unit in the grounds of the Airedale Hotel, giving accommodation for both males and females.

In other parts of the town urinal accommodation is provided for men at Wheldon Road, Bridge Foot, Carlton Street, Cambridge Street, Whitwood Mere and Glass Houghton.

In my last report I stressed that there was urgent need for additional accommodation; this need continues and in fact increases, and I would urge the commencement of a programme of additional accommodation.

STAFF

The Department suffered very considerably from staff changes and shortage during the year. Of the Additional Sanitary Inspectors, Mr.C.Rhodes secured another appointment and left on the 31st.August, whilst Mr.J.Lucas was at the year end on the point of leaving. Despite advertisement Mr.Rhodes was not replaced until the Spring of 1955, as was Mr.Lucas.

The Technical Assistants, Mr.Schofield and Mr.Morgan both qualified as Sanitary Inspectors in the Spring of 1955. Mr. Schofield was immediately called to serve with H.M.Forces, whilst Mr.Morgan secured a post with a neighbouring Authority. Mr.J.Hill quickly replaced Mr.Schofield, but replacement of Mr.Morgan was not secured until January,1955.

Of the clerical staff Mrs J.Muscroft resigned in December, and was replaced by Miss V.Davison, again in January,1955.

The effect of these changes was to restrict to some degree the outside work and to make more difficult routine duties.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion I would again express to the Council my appreciation and again thank my colleagues in all Departments for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

To the staff of the Department, both indoor and outdoor, I would express thanks for the loyal assistance given at all times, and particularly in times of stress. To my Deputy, Mr.Rooke I would give particular thanks for his assistance through the year and in the preparation of this report, and to Miss D.J.Lane, senior member of the clerical staff, for the lead given in the routine work of the Department.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

E.J.WINFIELD.

Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

Sanitary Department,
Cinder Lane,
Castleford.
21st.September,1955.

