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John McArthur. L.R.C.P.&S.  
Medical Officer of Health.

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## THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ended

31st December 1938.

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

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my 18th Annual Report for the twelve months ended 31st December 1938 on the Sanitary Circumstances, the Sanitary Administration and the Vital Statistics of the District.

AREA OF DISTRICT

1593 acres

## POPULATION ETC.

Census Population 1921.

15,860

Census Population 1931.

18,174

Registrar General's estimated  
residential population mid-year.

17,100

do.                      do.                      1937.

17,190

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1938. 3,931

Rateable Value mid-year

£ 55,357

Sum represented by a penny rate.

212 205





BIRTHS. The number of births registered during the year were:-

	Male	Female	Total.
Legitimate	178	161	339
Illegitimate	9	4	13
Birth Rate per 1000 of the population			20.5
Birth Rate per 1000 for England and Wales			15.1
Birth Rate per 1000 for this District 1937.			19.9

Still Births.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	9	7	16
Illegitimate	1	-	1

The total of 17 Still Births gives a rate of 1.0 per 1000 population. The Rate for England and Wales was 0.60 per 1000.

The birth rates for the four quarters of the year (not including transferable births) were:-

Quarter ended	31st March	16.6
	30th June	20.0
	30th September	15.3
	31st December	16.7

<u>DEATHS.</u>	Male	Female	Total
	89	73	162

Death Rate per 1000 of the population	9.4
Death Rate per 1000 for England and Wales	11.6
Death Rate per 1000 for this District in 1937.	10.9

The death rates for the four quarters of the year (not including transferable deaths) were:-


Quarter ended	31st March	9.5
	30th June	6.7
	30th September	6.7
	31st December	7.6



# CAUSES OF DEATH.

	All causes	Males. 89	Females. 73
1.	Typhoid & Paratyphoid fevers	-	-
2.	Measles.	2	1
3.	Scarlet Fever.	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough.	-	-
5.	Diphtheria.	-	1
6.	Influenza.	-	1
7.	Encephalitis lethargica.	-	-
8.	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	-	-
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system.	2	-
10.	Other Tuberculosis diseases.	1	2
11.	Syphilllis.	-	-
12.	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis.	-	-
13.	Cancer, malignant disease.	11	9
14.	Diabetes.	-	3
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage.	4	6
16.	Heart Disease.	21	19
17.	Aneurysm.	1	-
18.	Other circulatory diseases.	6	5
19.	Bronchitis.	3	1
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	2	5
21.	Other respiratory diseases.	-	-
22.	Peptic Ulcer.	2	-
23.	Diarrhoea etc. (under 2 years).	3	1
24.	Appendicitis.	1	-
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	1	-
26.	Other diseases of liver etc.,	-	-
27.	Other digestive diseases.	3	1
28.	Acute & chronic nephritis.	-	2
29.	Puerperal sepsis.	-	-
30.	Other puerperal causes.	-	1
31.	Congenital Debility and premature birth.	7	7
32.	Senility.	-	1
33.	Suicide.	2	-
34.	Other violence.	7	3
35.	Other defined diseases.	10	4
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown. Special causes (included in 35 above.)	-	-
	Polio-myelitis.	-	-
	Polio-encephalitis.	-	-





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## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 14 male (including 1 illegitimate) and 11 female deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 births	71.0
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 births for England and Wales.	53.0
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 births for this district in 1937.	67.0
Infantile Mortality per 1000 illegitimate births.	76.9

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 71.0 is slightly higher than that for 1937, and is higher than that for England and Wales. The deaths were due principally to Congenital Debility and Premature Birth.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the four quarters of the year were:-

Quarter ended 31st March	121.6
30th June	69.7
30th September	45.4
31st December	55.5

The number of women dying, in consequence of child birth were:-

from sepsis.	-	from other causes	1.
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### Public Health Staff.

Dr. John McArthur, L.R.C.P. & S. Edin.,  
Medical Officer of Health; Meat, Daries and Cowsheds  
Inspector; Part time appointment, half salary as M.O.H.  
contributed.

Mr. H. Thirlwall, M.I.M. & Cy.E. Surveyor  
& Sanitary Inspector. Whole time appointment, half  
salary as Sanitary Inspector contributed.

Mr. A. W. R. Taylor, C.R.S.I. Deputy Surveyor  
and Sanitary Inspector, Whole time appointment.

Mr. C. Urch, Assistant Surveyor & Sanitary  
Inspector, Whole time appointment.





## NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS ETC.

There is a private Nursing Association at Denaby Main in connection with the Fullerton Hospital which covers most of the district.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and School Nursing is provided by the County Council.

Sun Ray treatment is provided by the County Council.

The Council are a constituent Authority of the Doncaster and Mexbrough Joint Hospital Board. The Hospital is situated in the Urban District and receives cases of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever and Cerebro Spinal Fever. The Board have also a Small Pox Hospital.

Motor Ambulances are provided by the Board for the conveyance of Infectious patients to the Hospital.

A Motor Ambulance is also provided by the Local Authority for the removal of accident and other cases.

A Mortuary is provided at the Council Offices by the Local Authority.

## ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.

By the Conisbrough (Constitution of Urban District and Division into Wards) Order 1920, the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act 1890, and the Baths and Wash-houses Acts 1864 to 1869 were declared to be in force in the Urban District.

Part III of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1890 has been adopted and came into force on the 1st May 1922.

Parts II, IV, and X of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907 have been adopted and came into force on the 14th August 1922.

Part II of the Public Health Act 1925 has been adopted.

Certain sections of the above have been repealed by the Public Health Act 1936.

By Order of the Minister of Health dated September 8th 1924, Buidling Byelaws came into operation in the Urban District.

By Order of the Minister of Health dated 27th June 1930, Byelaws as to Recreation Grounds became operative.





## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### 1. Water Supply.

There has been no shortage during the year.

### 2. Drainage and Sewerage.

Extensions to the existing Sewage Disposal Works at Burcroft have been commenced.

### 3. Rivers and Streams.

It has not been found necessary to take action in connection with the pollution of rivers and streams.

### 4. Closet Accommodation.

There are now in the district, 2 pail closets, 21 privy middens, 3313 pedestal water closets, 566 waste water closets, and 167 trough water closets. During the year 24 privy middens have been converted.

### 5. Public Cleansing.

During the year 3837 loads of dry refuse have been removed, equal to approximately 7984 tons. This work is carried out by direct labour, and the total cost per house per year for dry refuse was 12/3. The emptying of privy middens is also carried out by direct labour, and the average cost per house per year was 27/5. The number of loads removed was 68 equal to approximately 102 tons.

### 6. Shops.

4 visits were made under the Shops Act 1936.

Number found unsatisfactory.	2.
Number remedied.	2.

### 7. Smoke Abatement.

Number of cautions issued.	-
Number of prosecutions.	-



## 8. Swimming Baths.

There is one Public Swimming Bath in the district under the control of the Local Authority.

## 9. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses found to be infested.	1.
Other houses.	-
Number disinfested.	±

Spraying and stoving is carried out in connection with the disinfection of houses. This is done with Zaldecide supplied by Newton Chambers and Co.Ltd; Vermicine and Insecticide supplied by British Fumigants Ltd; and Furnex fumigating lamps supplied by the Furness Fumigation Co.Ltd.

In the case of tenants removed to Council houses, the furniture is disinfested by Cyanide Gas in Vans belonging to Ball and Waite, Rotherham.

The houses are sprayed or stoved, while the bedding is done by steam disinfection by arrangement with the Isolation Hospital Authorities.

Many houses have been treated privately by the Owners in the Denaby Main area, where a large amount of reconditioning to the houses is being carried out.

## 10. Schools.

There are 7 schools in the district which are visited periodically by the Medical Officer of Health.





Statement in pursuance of Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers Order 1926 in relation to Inspections, Notices etc.,

Total number of Inspections made in 1938.	4116.
Statutory Notices in hand to convert privies into W.C's.	12
Statutory Notices served to convert privies into W.C's.	16
Statutory Notices complied with.	25
Statutory Notices outstanding at the end of 1938.	3
Preliminary Notices served to abate nuisances.	36
Preliminary Notices complied with.	35
Total nuisances in hand at the end of 1937.	-
Total nuisances in hand at the end of 1938.	1
Houses disinfected in 1938.	56

Disinfection is carried out at all houses where Infectious Diseases occur and disinfectant is also supplied for the use of occupiers in all such cases.

There is one Offensive Trade in the district, a Fat Refining Works, but no action has been necessary with regard thereto.

There are 16 Workshops and 4 Bakehouses in the district. It has not been necessary to take any action under the Factory and Workshops Acts.

Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.,

No. in district. 6.

Action with regard thereto. Nil.

Camping Sites.

No. of Sites. Nil.

Licences issued. Nil

Number of campers in district during year. Nil.



## HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year.

- (a) Total erected. 67.
- (b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme. 42

### 1. Inspection of dwelling houses.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses which were inspected for housing defects. 27
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 33
- (2) (a) Total number of dwelling houses (included in 1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. 10
- (b) Total number of inspections made. 16
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 1
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 26

### 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 6





3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

- (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.
  - (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. -
  - (2) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices. -
    - (a) By Owners. -
    - (b) By L.A. in default of Owners. -
- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.
  - (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. -
  - (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.
    - (a) By Owners. -
    - (b) By L.A. in default of Owners. -
- (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.
  - (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 1
  - (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 1



- (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.
- (1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. -
  - (2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms closed in pursuance of Closing Orders. -
  - (3) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. -

Housing Act 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. 98
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein. 106
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein. 801
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. 31
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. 25
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases. 209
- (d) Particulars of cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after steps have been taken for abatement. -





## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Milk Supply.

During the year an inspection has been made of the Cows, Cowsheds, Dairies and Dairy-men, together with the Retail Sellers, and the shops and vans selling pasteurised bottled milk.

There are only two producers in the district with an average daily sale of 21 gallons, from 7 cows. 340 gallons are produced and sold daily from outside districts. All the cows in the Urban District were found healthy and in good condition. The cowsheds are convenient for cleaning, while dairy utensils are clean and well kept.

There are 17 retail purveyors of milk in the district with a total daily supply of 361 gallons.

There are now five separate wholesale purveyors of pasteurised bottled milk coming into the district, and their average sales amount to 1592 pints or 199 gallons daily.

The Doncaster Co-operative Society from their Conisbrough shop send out an average of 450 pint bottles daily, and the Denaby Co-operative Society 680 pint bottles daily.

### Meat.

There are 2 registered and 6 licenced Slaughter Houses in the district all in good condition. These are visited regularly by the Meat Inspector, who carries out all the duties under the Meat Inspection Regulations.

The number of inspections of Slaughter Houses was 1268.



During the year the Meat Inspector has examined as follows:-

	Beast.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed.	904	27	1723	1238
Number inspected	904	27	1723	1238
All diseases except Tuberculosis.				
Whole carcasses condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis only.				
Whole carcasses condemned.-		Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil





## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Zymotic Diseases. -----

The number of cases notified together with the number of deaths and death rates with respect to the principal Zymotic diseases are as follows:-

	No. of cases notified.	No. of deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 of the population.
Measles.	-	3	0.18
Scarlet Fever	18	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Diphtheria	32	1	0.06
Diarrhoea & Enteritis.	-	4	0.24
Enteric Fever	1	-	-

### Infectious Diseases Notified. -----

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever	18	18	-
Diphtheria	32	32	1
Enteric Fever	1	1	-
Pneumonia	13	-	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	-



# Notifiable Diseases in Age periods.

Disease.	Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 yrs. & over.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	1	2	1	4	2	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	18
Diphtheria	-	1	5	2	3	10	6	3	1	1	-	-	32
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	3	-	2	13
Puerperal Pyrex.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	5

## Notifiable Diseases occurred in the Wards as follows:-

Disease.	North.	South.	East.	West.	Donaby.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	2	12	1	2	1	18
Diphtheria	8	15	6	3	-	32
Enteric Fever	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	1	8	1	2	1	13
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	-	1	-	5
Tuberculosis.						
Pulmonary	1	5	4	3	6	19
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	1	1	-	4





Tuberculosis cases notified and deaths in age periods.

Age.	New cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respir.		Respiratory.		Non-Respir.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	1
15.	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
20.	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	1
35.	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
55.	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
65 & over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	10	9	3	1	2	-	1	2

Ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths. Nil.

No cases of Tuberculosis came to hand without notification.

Infectious Diseases.

During the year 69 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified excluding cases of Tuberculosis. This is 18 less than last year and 71 less than in the year 1936.

Scarlet Fever.

18 cases were notified without fatal result. This compares favourably with last year, and is an improvement on the year before when 61 cases were notified.



#### Pneumonia.

There were 13 cases notified resulting in 7 deaths. This is an improvement on last year when there were 25 deaths from 32 notifications.

#### Measles.

This disease was prevalent at the beginning of the year, but did not reach an epidemic stage. 3 deaths occurred from measles and its complications.

#### Diphtheria.

32 cases were notified resulting in 1 death, and of those who contracted the disease, not one had been immunised. If parents could be induced to have their children immunised between the ages of 1 and 5 years there would soon be a general improvement.

#### Whooping Cough.

A considerable number of cases occurred during the year. This is a very debilitating disease especially with very young children owing to the long protracted illness.

#### Puerperal Pyrexia.

Five cases were notified during the year without fatal result.

#### Tuberculosis.

During the year 19 cases of Pulmonary and 4 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. There were 2 deaths from Pulmonary, and 3 deaths from Non-Pulmonary. Last year there were 22 notifications and 13 deaths.





Cancer.

There were 20 deaths from Cancer compared with 18 last year. There 11 males and 9 females. In its initial stages this is a painless and insidious disease and this is unfortunate because if it were painful at the beginning, more people would seek advice with a better chance of successful treatment. A periodical examination would be beneficial in a good many cases.

No action was required to be taken under section 62 of the Public Health Act 1925 for the compulsory removal of patients to Hospital.

In conclusion I have to thank Messrs. Thirlwall, Taylor and Urch for their assistance and kindly co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN McARTHUR.

Medical Officer of Health.







