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Dearne Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for the Year

1958





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DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

J. A. W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

G. H. ALLEMBY, C.R.San.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector

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THE DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1958/59

Chairman :

Councillor J. NOBLE.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor J. GRAYSON

Councillors :

Mrs. E. A. CHAMBERS	W. FAWCETT
Mrs. A. M. TAYLOR	H. FOSTER
Mrs. J. VINCE	J. HARRIS
E. AUSTWICK	C. KNIGHTON
G. COPELAND	R. M. L. LOWMAN
W. CROWTHER	A. W. RAMSDEN

THE DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1925-26

Chairman:	
Councillor J. NOBLE	
Vice-Chairman:	
Councillor J. GRAYSON	
Councillors:	
Mrs E. A. CHAMBERS	W. FAWCETT
Mrs A. M. TAYLOR	H. FOSTER
Mr J. VINCE	J. HARRIS
E. AUSTWICK	E. KNIGHTON
G. COPPELAND	R. M. L. LOWMAN
W. CROWTHER	A. W. RAMSDEEN

SECTION 2

SECTION 3

PREFACE

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Bolton-on-Dearne.
May, 1959.

To the Ministry of Health
and to the Chairman and Members of
the Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958.

Apart from a slight increase in the population, all the
principal vital statistics for the Urban District show a slight
fall, compared with last year's figures.

During the year, the Urban District Council gave its
support to the formation of a local Home Safety Committee.
It is hoped to make the community more "accident conscious"
and to give special attention to the young, the aged, the sick
and the infirm.

There were no deaths from home accidents in the
district during 1958, but two males and one female died as a
result of accidents outside.

At the beginning of the year it was possible to have the
use of hired premises in Mexborough, to hold a central Group
Training Class. Hitherto, the Mental Health Home Teacher
held classes in the five clinics in the division. By this arrange-
ment, the maximum period of tuition for pupils each week did
not exceed one day, but by collecting all the pupils in one
central premises, each scholar could attend for four days per
week. Parents and pupils alike, benefitted greatly from this
new class and a display of work at Christmas reflected much
credit on the staff and pupils at the centre.

It is pleasing to report that a further development of the Mental Health Service will take place next year, when a purpose-built Occupation Centre will be in operation before the summer, in the adjoining Health Division and will serve both.

At the end of the year, restriction on new Council house building took place in the district, and no new Council houses have been built since March, 1958. The essential purpose of Council housing is to provide within the limits of the purse of the Local Authority and the tenant, the conditions of comfort, enjoyment and health—necessary for the making of a home and the rearing of a family.

During the last four years, the Council have cleared all the slums in its area and so relieved these families of the degrading influence of worn-out and neglected buildings, lack of ordinary domestic services and over-crowding—all of which have an adverse effect on health. However, there still remains a Waiting List of families who are sharing homes. Over-crowded living conditions may promote immorality, make the streets the children's playground and increase Juvenile Delinquency.

The tragedy of the shared house is the change—partly physical, partly mental—which makes for strife between and within families. It is hoped that the present temporary cessation of house building will soon be over, in order to avoid much unhappiness, misery and ill-health in the community.

I wish to express my thanks, for the co-operation given by my Chairman, Members of the Committees, Officials of the Council and the work of my staff in the Public Health Department and the Divisional Office, during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. W. REID,

Medical Officer of Health.

Divisional Public Health Office,
Council Offices,
Adwick Road, Mexborough.
Tel. No. : Mexborough 3011-5.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I have to present details of a year's work undertaken by your Public Health Inspectors, this time for 1958. A great deal of this has been spent in obtaining repairs to privately owned dwellinghouses, the Rent Act of 1957 being the instrument in many cases to effect repairs. The Act provides the means for owners to bring to a satisfactory standard of repair their house property, and to keep it so. Much of our slum clearance property has been dealt with but there are, scattered about the Dearne, fairly well constructed houses built in terraces but, due to neglect of maintenance, repairs etc. these may be found to be "not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit."

The power to make grants to property owners in order that they may improve their house property by provision of additional amenities has continued to be used by the Council. Your Inspectors carried out the necessary inspection prior to consideration of each case to ensure that the property would be in a good state of repair. So far as overcrowding of dwellings within the Dearne very few new cases have come to light. The enforcement of the law concerning caravans has continued with good effect. I can see no reason for an Urban area such as ours with its fair record of housing having the need to licence a site for such "temporary" dwellings.

The important question of pollution of the air has been topical throughout the whole year. While it is recognised that the domestic smoke problem locally is a much greater one than that from industry, the concentration of plant at the Coal Carbonisation works of the National Coal Board at Manvers Colliery, Wath-on-Dearne immediately outside our boundary has underlined the very great difficulty of carrying on such works without the emission of volumes of smoke and waste invisible gases of which not the least injurious are the sulphur compounds. There appears to be no possibility of preventing these waste products entering the atmosphere when such an enormous amount of soft bituminous coal is processed on one site. The local domestic smoke problem is closely related to the concessionary coal allowance of the miner—the sooner agreement is reached on this question the better.

During the year four sites were chosen within our area to be used as recording stations for the purpose of atmospheric pollution. On these sites were placed recording instruments which, after analysis etc. give results showing the amount of sulphur dioxide and the amount of solid matter deposited in tons per square mile.

From the 1st June, 1958 the remaining provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956 came into operation.

The water supply throughout the year has been generally plentiful and pure but individual blocks of property have suffered shortage. Action has been taken against the owners and in many of these cases pressure blowing of water supply pipes has resulted in a much improved supply. One large modern industrial concern in the Bolton-on-Deane area suffered from a very poor water supply at "peak" periods occasionally. A meeting of the firm's representatives, your Chief Public Health Inspector and the Water Board Manager resulted in suggestions being considered for a scheme to be carried out by the firm in question to provide additional water storage facilities. At the year end no progress had been made at the factory although water shortage was being experienced on occasions.

An outbreak of Dysentery occurred in the Bolton-on-Deane area early in the year, the majority of the large number of cases being children attending the Bolton-on-Deane Infants' School. Your Public Health Inspectors assisted the Medical Officer of Health in carrying out preventive measures at the School and at the patients' homes.

Food inspection has been an important routine duty, and in 4 cases prosecutions were instituted under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for selling food not of the nature and/or quality demanded by the purchaser. Slaughterhouses within the area have had constant attention to guarantee an efficient system of meat inspection. The Slaughterhouses Act and the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations were issued in 1958, the Act operating from the 1st August, 1958 while the Regulations operate from the 1st January, 1959. Briefly the Act sets out to provide by Regulation better hygienic construction, layout and equipment of premises. Personal hygiene and conduct of the trade are dealt with as also the licensing of premises. Dealing with prevention of cruelty in the premises is the task of another set of Regulations—the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 and these will take effect

from the 1st January, 1959. The enforcement and routine work arising from the new legislation will be mainly the responsibility of the Public Health Inspector.

The control of pests, including rats and mice, has continued successfully.

The work of removal and disposal of the district's house and trade refuse has proceeded without break. An exceptional heavy period is recorded evidenced by the total tonnage—during the 12 months under review there being over 12,000 tons of refuse. Disposal by controlled tipping in the disused railway cutting off Ingsfield Lane, Bolton-on-Dearne created no nuisance although complaints were received regarding the surface drainage from the site flowing into a local fishing club's pond. This matter was receiving attention at the year end.

One new refuse collecting vehicle has been purchased, powered by a diesel engine. There is no doubt that this type of vehicle is very economical on fuel and I hope to make a complete change-over to diesel vehicles eventually.

I take this opportunity to record my thanks to the members of the staff and particularly the District Public Health Inspectors. The staffs of other Departments of the Council have been co-operative whenever help has been required.

I also extend, once again, my thanks to you Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Council for your generous support in the work we have undertaken during 1958.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. H. ALLEMBY,
Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION "A"

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

(a) General Statistics

Area (in acres)	3,888
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population Mid-1958	27,100
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1958	7,776
Population density (persons per house)	3.48
House density (houses per acre)	2.00
Rateable Value	£173,983
Net product on a penny rate	£647

(b) Physical and Social Conditions

The Dearne Urban District comprising the villages of Bolton-upon-Dearne, Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe, with a small portion of the Parish of Barnburgh, was formed in 1937. The main industry of the area is deep seam coal mining.

There was a further increase of 160 in the Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population. The number of inhabited houses at the 31st December, 1958, showed only an increase of 13 over the number at the 31st December, 1957.

The rateable value of the district increased over the past year by over £4,700 to £173,983. The net product of a 1d. rate also showed an increase of £11.

VITAL STATISTICS

(c)

Live Births—

	Males	Females	Total
Total	293	290	583
Legitimate	285	274	559
Illegitimate	8	16	24
Live Birth rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population ... ..	...	...	21.5
Comparability factor ... ..	...	...	0.95
Live Birth rate (corrected) per 1,000 population	20.4		
Illegitimate births per 1,000 live-births	27.0 41.0		

Still-births—

				Males	Females	Total
Total	...	...	...	7	4	11
Legitimate	...	...	...	7	4	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 live and still-births ... 18.5

Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population... 0.41

				Males	Females	Total
Total Live and Still-births	...			300	294	594

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—

				Males	Females	Total
Total	...	...	...	6	12	18
Legitimate	...	...	...	6	9	15
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	3	3

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... 30.9

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 26.8

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 125.0

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age—

				Males	Females	Total
Total	...	...	...	5	10	15
Legitimate	...	...	...	5	7	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	3	3

Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 related live births 25.7

Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births ... 4.1%

Maternal deaths (including abortion) ... 1

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births ... 1.68

Deaths—

				Males	Females	Total
All causes	...	...	...	125	99	224
Death rate (uncorrected)	...	...	...	...	...	8.3
Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.49
Death rate (corrected)	...	...	...	...	...	12.4
Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	31
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Infantile Mortality

Causes and Ages at Death

	Weeks				Months					Total
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	1-2	2-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Haemolytic disease of the newborn	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Birth Injury	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Malformation	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	4
TOTALS	13	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	18

6 deaths were recorded in the 1st Quarter, 6 in the 2nd Quarter, 6 in the 3rd Quarter and nil in the last Quarter of the year.

Principal Causes of Death	No. of deaths	% of all deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop.
Heart and Circulatory Disease ...	95	42.4	3.5
Cancer	31	13.8	1.1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	10.7	0.9
Respiratory Infections	36	16.0	1.3

Deaths From Cancer

	1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	5	4	9	—	3	6	6	10	3	2	7	3	7	8	4	2
Malignant Neoplasm, bronchus	8	—	4	—	5	—	4	3	7	—	5	1	7	1	6	—
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	—	—	8	—	4	—	2	—	4	—	2	—	6	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus (F)	—	2	—	3	—	2	—	2	—	4	—	2	—	3	—	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms including Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	18	9	13	11	9	6	17	10	9	6	10	8	11	8	9	6
TOTALS	31	15	26	22	17	18	27	27	19	16	22	16	25	26	19	12

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1958

	Males	Fem.	Total
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, Other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	4	2	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	—	6
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	6	15
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	14	24
18. Coronary diseases, angina	28	14	42
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	2	7
20. Other heart disease	15	17	32
21. Other circulatory disease	6	6	12
22. Influenza	—	1	1
23. Pneumonia	6	2	8
24. Bronchitis	13	8	21
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	3	6
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea...	—	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	2	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	1	1
31. Congenital malformation	—	3	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	12	23
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
34. All other accidents	2	1	3
35. Suicide	3	—	3
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	125	99	224

TABLE I. DEARNE U.D.C.—PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS 1937-1958

Year	Crude Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Still Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate	T.B. Incidence Pulmonary	Pulmonary T.B. Death Rate	Population
1937	19.5	75.9	42.4	9.9	6.1	1.44	0.36	24,360
8	19.9	51.5	33.8	9.0	6.1	0.98	0.45	24,276
9	18.3	91.0	30.4	9.9	4.5	0.95	0.46	24,130
1940	18.6	48.7	43.0	11.2	—	0.79	0.67	22,650
1	22.1	48.6	25.7	10.2	3.9	0.83	0.63	22,300
5 year Mean.	19.7	63.1	35.1	10.0	4.1	0.99	0.51	
1942	19.9	72.4	41.2	10.9	2.2	0.76	0.41	22,120
3	21.8	68.5	26.2	10.7	—	0.92	0.68	22,070
4	25.7	56.7	33.2	10.4	1.7	0.88	0.71	22,620
5	23.0	68.3	16.8	10.6	—	0.83	0.69	22,870
6	23.5	42.0	33.5	9.8	—	0.73	0.73	23,270
5 Year Mean.	22.8	61.6	30.2	10.5	0.8	0.82	0.64	
1947	24.3	51.0	19.1	11.7	—	1.11	0.94	23,330
8	24.8	54.9	41.0	10.8	—	1.17	0.83	23,860
9	22.3	44.5	14.6	10.4	1.8	1.57	0.62	24,170
1950	21.7	24.6	27.6	7.8	1.8	0.82	0.61	24,240
1	19.2	38.6	33.1	11.6	—	1.07	0.45	24,240
5 Year Mean.	22.5	42.7	27.1	10.5	0.7	1.25	0.69	
1952	18.5	17.8	21.7	9.4	4.3	1.19	0.25	24,300
3	19.4	29.3	20.5	8.0	—	1.62	0.32	24,620
4	21.0	29.7	23.6	9.2	—	1.32	0.27	25,620
5	20.4	29.5	28.7	8.3	—	0.67	0.04	26,620
6	22.7	27.8	31.7	9.0	1.6	0.53	0.11	26,860
5 Year Mean.	20.4	26.8	25.2	8.8	1.2	1.07	0.20	
1957	22.0	33.8	19.9	9.9	1.7	0.52	0.04	26,940
8	21.5	30.9	18.5	8.3	1.67	0.29	0.04	27,100

MORBIDITY STATISTICS
New Claims to Sickness Benefit 1958
Goldthorpe M.N.I. Office

Week ending—			Week ending—		
January	7	407	July	1	260
	14	329		8	286
	21	340		15	325
	28	322		22	266
				29	314
		<hr/>			<hr/>
		1398			1451
February	4	381	August	5	120
	11	422		12	271
	18	403		19	238
	25	380		26	245
		<hr/>			<hr/>
		1586			874
March	4	442	September	2	248
	11	428		9	311
	18	309		16	220
	25	347		23	339
		<hr/>		30	340
		1526			<hr/>
					1458
April	1	319	October	7	359
	8	278		14	384
	15	294		21	336
	22	276		28	357
	29	282			<hr/>
		<hr/>			1436
		1449			
May	6	333	November	4	319
	13	248		11	347
	20	221		18	286
	27	334		25	299
		<hr/>			<hr/>
		1136			1251
June	3	301	December	2	358
	10	226		9	294
	17	374		16	274
	24	308		23)	703
		<hr/>		30)	
		1209			<hr/>
					1629

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

(a) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(1) Staff

(a) Public Health Department, Bolton-upon-Dearne.
(Dearne Urban District Council).

Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer :
J. A. W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent :*

G. H. ALLEMBY, C.R.San.I., M.A.P.H.I.,
Cert. Insp. of Meat and Other Foods, Cert. R.S.I.
Smoke Inspector, Shop Acts Inspector.

District Public Health Inspectors :

W. WEBSTER, C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

T. DUFFY, C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Cert. Insp. of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerk/Typist : Mrs. A. C. SPATE.

(b) Divisional Health Office, Mexborough.
(West Riding County Council).

*Senior Assistant County Medical Officer and Deputy
Medical Officer of Health :*

Dr. B. R. A. DEMAINE.

Assistant County Medical Officer :

Dr. H. F. FULLWOOD.

Obstetrician :

Dr. J. C. MACWILLIAM

(Joint Appointment with Regional Hospital Board).

Mental Health Social Worker : Mrs. F. H. REDMAN.

Mental Health Home Teachers :

Mrs. P. M. WINSTANLEY.

Mrs. D. SHARP.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Miss D. M. E. GOLDTHORPE, Mrs. N. NOBLE,
Mrs. I. E. PETTMAN, Mrs. E. POCKLINGTON
Mrs. O. M. FISHER (Part-time).

Midwives : Mrs. G. M. CORLEY (Relief), Mrs. M. F.
HILL, Mrs. H. E. HILLERY, Mrs. E. SANDS,
Mrs. E. STOTT, Mrs. R. WILLIAMS, Mrs. R. Y.
SMITH.

Home Nurses : Mrs. M. BROOKS, Mrs. M. HERRING,
Mrs. S. SHEEHAN (Relief), Mrs. K. ROEBUCK.

Clerical Staff : Mr. P. GODDARD—Chief Clerk, Mr. C. V.
EYRE—Deputy Chief Clerk, Mr. H. HAIGH,
Mrs. H. SHIRLEY, Mrs. J. HIGGINS, Mrs. D.
BILLINGTON, Miss M. WORTON, Mrs. M.
MASON, Miss A. GARBUTT, Miss A. FOSS.

The Public Health Division No. 30 comprises the Urban Districts of Conisbrough, Dearne and Mexborough. The Divisional Medical Officer is also Medical Officer of Health to each of the constituent Authorities.

Under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health, Chief Public Health Inspector and the District Public Health Inspectors are contributed to by grants from the Ministry of Health.

(2) LABORATORY SERVICES

The Public Health Laboratories at Wakefield under Dr. Little and at Sheffield under Dr. Gillespie carry out bacteriological examinations.

The following reports were received in respect of specimens and samples examined at the laboratories during 1958.

Faeces Samples for Dysentery and Food Poisoning	1370
Nose and Throat Swabs	7
Sputum (T.B.)	50
Milk and Ice Cream	65
Miscellaneous	22

(3) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

SECTION 47—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was not necessary to take any action under this section during the year.

SECTION 50—Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

No cases requiring action under this section occurred during 1958.

(4) PUBLIC CLEANSING

(Referring to year April 1958 to March 1959)

A weekly collection of refuse from all premises in the area was maintained during most of the period with the exception of a few weeks after Christmas. During January and February, 1959 one third of the labour force was absent from work due to sickness and the engagement of an extra gang was necessary before the arrears of work were made good.

Five petrol driven Karrier Bantam lorries and one diesel Karrier Bantam vehicle were available as transport at the commencement of the year. Four lorries are in full time use, one occupied part time and one is in reserve as a spare. A new diesel driven refuse collection vehicle was bought and put into service on January 6th, 1959 and one of the petrol driven Karrier Bantams was handed over to the Surveyor's Department to be converted for use on street lighting maintenance.

Protective clothing was issued to each man, including overalls, gloves and rubber boots. An issue of donkey jackets was made to the cleansing staff as an addition to the normal clothing supply. The jackets were reinforced with leather, fully on the backs and sleeves and over shoulders, parts subject to heavy wear during refuse removal work.

The sickness rate amongst the workmen was fairly low for the first 9 months of the year, but during the last quarter much working time was lost. On some days as many as 13 men out of a total of 28 were absent due to sickness.

The number of man-hours lost was :

		1958-59	1957-58	1956-57
Certified Sickness	... ..	7,314	8,542	5,469
Absent for other reasons	...	828	1,317	1,309
		<hr/> 8,142	<hr/> 9,859	<hr/> 6,778

For the twelve months under review the time loss is equal to four men absent (excluding holiday entitlements) for each working day of the year. It has been necessary for me to put into operation on several occasions the clause in the workmen's sick pay scheme whereby an employee, on the request of the employer, submits to a medical examination by a doctor nominated by the employer.

Average Estimated Annual Yield of Refuse from each House

Calculating each lorry load as being the equivalent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons the weight of refuse removed from each house during 1958 was—at Thurnscoe 1 ton 10·0 cwts (year 1957 1 ton 7·60 cwts) and the old Bolton-on-Dearne area 1 ton 7·37 cwts (year 1957 1 ton 8·30 cwts).

Labour—Staff Employed

It was necessary to employ 20 labourers and 4 lorry drivers in order that refuse collection and disposal should be maintained. Sickness etc. resulted in an average of 16 labourers out of the 20 being available at one time.

One man is employed as a bulldozer driver, devoting part of his time to the disposal of refuse and the remainder to the soiling of the adjoining area to be used as a playing field. A workman, trained in rats and mice control, devoted a small part of his time assisting in public cleansing work when not busy on rats and mice destruction.

A workman from the cleansing staff has the regular job of cleansing the district's public lavatories.

The departmental foreman supervised the work of refuse collection and disposal, carried out disinfection and disinfection work, and cleansed blocked drains where the owners have agreed to participate in the Council's scheme to liberate such blockages on payment of a small charge.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The average number of premises on our weekly collection list for the past year was 8,010 for the district of Dearne (1957 total 7,996) comprising 4,663 at Bolton-on-Dearne and Goldthorpe, 3,307 at Thurnscoe, and 40 at Barnburgh. The number of receptacles were 4,706 at Bolton-on-Dearne and Goldthorpe, 3,412 at Thurnscoe and Barnburgh (Green Lane) 40, making a total of 8,158 receptacles (the figure for 1957 was 8,129).

Trade Refuse

Eighteen premises were on the list for trade refuse removal and a small charge was made for the service. Clinker and refuse have been removed regularly from all schools in the district.

Collection Cost per House

The annual cost of collecting refuse from each house and conveying it to the disposal site was £1 17s. 9d., last year's figure being £1 19s. 4d.

The cost of collecting a bin, emptying and conveying the refuse to the tip was approximately 9d.

DISPOSAL

All refuse collected during the 12 months under review was disposed of by controlled tipping at the disused railway cutting, Ingsfield Lane, Bolton-on-Dearne.

The old brickworks quarry adjoining the tip which had been filled previously with town's refuse is gradually taking shape as a proposed recreation ground. The bulldozer has been used with the earth scraper to level soil on the area when the weather has permitted. All the other time has been spent on refuse disposal.

During the months of June and July abnormal rainfall occurred, when approximately ten inches of rain fell at Bolton-on-Dearne. Following this exceptional spell of weather, discoloured water flowed off a waterlogged portion of the tip at the Wath end of the cutting. This eventually linked up with flooded land a quarter of a mile away on which a fishing pond is situated and possibly helped to add some pollution to an already polluted area. It was decided that some form of filtration and piped drainage should be introduced to treat and improve any liquid draining from the refuse tip in the future. Provision is being made for this work to be commenced in the 1959/60 year.

SUMMARY OF LOADS

Bolton-on-Dearne District

(including Goldthorpe and Green Lane, Barnburgh)

	Lorry Loads
Ingsfield Lane Tip, Bolton	3,322
Thurnscoe District	
Ingsfield Lane Tip, Bolton	2,458
	<hr/> 5,780 loads
Expressed as Tons (2½ tons per load) ...	12,282 tons

PUBLIC CLEANSING — COSTING RETURNS

Cost Statement 1958-59

Revenue Account

	Collection £	Disposal £	Total £
1. Gross Expenditure			
(i) Labour 	10,188	102	10,290
(ii) Transport 	4,474	570	5,044
(iii) Bin maintenance etc.	1,178	56	1,234
Total gross expenditure	15,840	728	16,568
2. Gross Income 	24	12	36
3. Net Cost 	15,816	716	16,532
4. Capital Expenditure met from Revenue 	1,033	Nil	1,033

Unit Costs

	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
5. Gross cost per ton, labour only 	16	7	—	2	16	9
6. Gross cost per ton, transport only 	7	3	—	11	8	2
7. Net cost (all expenditure) per ton 	25	9	1	2	26	11
	£		£		£	
8. Net cost per 1,000 population	591		26		617	
9. Net cost per 1,000 premises	1,977		90		2,067	

Operational Statistics

10. Area (statute acres)—land and inland water 3,888 acres
11. Population at 30th June, 1958
 (Registrar General's Estimate) 27,100 persons
12. Total refuse collected (tons)..... 12,282 tons
13. Weight (cwts) per 1,000 population per day... 24.83 cwts
14. Number of premises from which refuse is
 collected 8,010 premises

15. Premises from which collection is made weekly ... 100%
16. Average haul, single journey to final disposal point 2 miles
17. Kerbside collection, if practised Nil
18. Total refuse disposed of (tons) 12,282 tons
19. Methods of disposal (Salvage excluded) :
 Controlled tipping 100%
20. Salvage and Trade Refuse.
 Analysis of income and tonnage :

	Income	Tonnage Collected
Trade Refuse	36	450
21. Remarks :
 Item 1(ii) Transport. The rate charged for transport covers depreciation of the vehicles, and the cost of a Karrier Bantam Diesel Lorry, £1,033, has been met from the Renewals Fund.
 Item 1(iii) Bin Maintenance etc. This includes £1,058 in respect of renewal of dust-bins.

Observations—Public Cleansing

As in the previous year (1957) no separate collection of waste paper, cardboard etc. took place. Labour costs in such a paper and cardboard collection plus the cost of preparation of the material for sale proved uneconomical particularly as the waste paper mills cut severely the amount they could take from us. The waste material so involved was collected and disposed of as refuse. The effect of this was to increase the number of loads of refuse dealt with during the year, a record of 12,282 tons being reached.

It is opportune to comment upon the financial side of a service where at least 66% of the cost is labour. During the year under review a reduction in costs was recorded. The total "nett cost" for collection and disposal was £16,532 (1957—£18,024), a reduction of £1,492 from 1957. Labour costs increased approximately £200 on refuse collection, fell £700 on disposal. Transport of refuse cost £4,474 in 1958 while for 1957 the figure was £5,856, showing a fall of £1,382. With such a fall in costs and an increased amount of refuse dealt with the cost per ton of refuse for collection and disposal was greatly reduced—£1 6s. 11d. as compared with (1957) £1 11s. 7d.

The introduction of the bulldozer into refuse disposal work has been highly effective, a more hygienic tip together with a certain amount of freedom from fire. The utilisation of the machine during the periods in which it is not disposing of refuse by making a recreation ground has effected a saving financially, labour costs on tip work have been cut to a minimum. Some economy is being effected by carrying out my scheme to replace worn-out petrol-driven refuse collecting vehicles with diesel driven types. The saving in fuel costs is considerable and I am convinced that the power unit in the diesel vehicle will give much longer service with less maintenance.

(5) CONTROL OF PESTS ACT, 1949

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

58 treatments were carried out against rats and mice infestation on land and property in the district.

The poisons used following pre-baiting were Zinc Phosphide and Antu. In 46 of the treatments, Warfarin was used as a direct poison bait.

781 poison baits were laid and there were 255 bodies recovered (rats 248, mice 7) when revisits were made after poisoning. Bodies of rodents found after treatment of premises can be taken as representing only a fraction of the number actually killed.

Premises	Number of Treatments	Infestation	Type of Treatment
Private Houses	18	Rats and Mice	Poison
Sewers	10	Rats	Poison
Sewage Works	5	Rats	Poison
Allotments	12	Rats	Poison
Block Control	3	Rats	Poison
Schools	2	Mice	Poison
Local Authority Property	4	Rats and Mice	Poison
Maggot Factory	2	Rats	Poison
Business Premises	2	Rats	Poison
TOTAL	58		

(6) DISINFESTATION

84 cases of houses infested by insects were dealt with as follows :—

(a) Disinfected by spraying with an insecticide :—

Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 houses.
Red Mite	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 houses.
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 houses.
Black Ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 houses.

(b) Insecticide purchased by the householder :—

Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	55 houses.
D.D.T. Liquid	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 houses.

On 8 occasions houses were sprayed as a precautionary measure prior to them being re-occupied.

(b) LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Section 22

Ante-Natal Clinics

Sessions : Child Welfare Centre, Welfare Hall, Washington Road, Goldthorpe. Thursdays 2 to 4.30 p.m.

Child Welfare Centre, Central Hall, Houghton Rd., Thurnscoe. Fridays 2 to 4.30 p.m.

Attendances : Goldthorpe Ante-Natal Clinic—

259 mothers made 1,021 attendances.

Thurnscoe Ante-Natal Clinic—

152 patients made 593 attendances.

Nearly 70% of all expectant mothers in the Dearne area attended Local Authority Ante-Natal Clinics during 1958.

In July, arrangements were made for the commencement of Ante-Natal Relaxation Classes at the Goldthorpe Child Welfare Centre, and these have proved to be very popular with the mothers. 137 attendances were made in the 6 months during which the classes were held.

Birth Control Clinics

The Family Planning Association held clinics at the Child Welfare Centre, Adwick Road, Mexborough, on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 2 to 3.30 p.m., and on each Tuesday evening from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m. Attendances at the Tuesday evening sessions are by appointment only, and the clinic is closed throughout August.

Infant Welfare Clinics

Sessions: Child Welfare Centre, Welfare Hall, Goldthorpe.
Mondays 2 to 4.30 p.m.

Child Welfare Centre, Central Hall, Thurnscoe.
Mondays 2 to 4.30 p.m.
Tuesdays 2 to 4 p.m.

Attendances

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the clinics during 1958, and the number of attendances made by these children :—

	No. of Children			Attendances		
	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years
Goldthorpe	171	161	67	2887	257	54
Thurnscoe	231	182	43	4603	547	187

In addition to sales of proprietary brands of dried milks etc., Welfare Foods such as National Dried Milk, Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil, were distributed at Child Welfare Centres in the Division. During 1958 the following issues were made from the 5 Centres in the Division and from the Divisional Public Health Office.

National Dried Milk	14,687
Orange Juice	26,488
Cod Liver Oil	3,943
A & D Vitamin capsules	1,970

MIDWIFERY - Section 23

There are 7 Midwives including one relief employed by the County Council within the area of the Dearne Urban District, and all are authorised to use their private motor cars on official duties.

Of the 594 deliveries in the Urban District during 1958, 415 were undertaken at home by these District Midwives, representing 70% of the total. In 59 cases, General Practitioners were present at the confinements.

Midwives made the following number of visits to patients during the year :—

	Ante-Natal visits	Post-Natal visits
Domiciliary cases ...	3,683	8,382
Hospital cases ...	234	374
	<hr/> 3,917 <hr/>	<hr/> 8,756 <hr/>

312 of the 415 mothers confined at home received Gas and Air Analgesia, and 188 of these additionally received injections of Pethidine Hydrochloride. Three quarters of all patients confined at home therefore received some form of analgesia.

37 cases were discharged from Maternity Hospitals to the care of the Domiciliary Midwife prior to the 14th day after delivery.

HEALTH VISITING - Section 24

There were 5 full-time and one part-time Health Visitors employed in the District at the 31st December, 1958, and they combined their Health Visiting duties with School Nursing. 3 full-time Health Visitors were based at the Child Welfare Centre at Goldthorpe to cover the Goldthorpe and Bolton-on-Dearne areas, and the remainder of the Health Visiting staff have their Headquarters at the Thurnscoe Child Welfare Centre.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1958 by these six Health Visitors.

Visits—To expectant mothers	39
To children under 1 year	3,704
To children aged 1 to 2 years	1,768
To children aged 2 to 5 years	1,781
To T.B. households	230
To other miscellaneous cases	3,223
Clinics attended—Maternity and Child Welfare	575
Other Clinics	133
School Clinics (Minor ailments)	111
Special Defects Clinics	3
School Nursing—Medical Inspections	151
Cleanliness Surveys	50
Special visits to schools	88
Home visits in respect of infectious diseases, etc. ...	25

HOME NURSING - Section 25

Three Home Nurses with a fourth employed on relief duties were engaged in District Nursing in the Dearne area during 1958, and they made between them 10,095 home visits. This was 4,315 visits less than in 1957.

The tables below show (a) the number of cases which were nursed in age groups and classified according to the type of case and (b) the number of visits made to these cases under the same headings :—

New Cases

AGE GROUPS			CLASSIFICATION					
0-5	5-65	65+	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Total
34	322	170	388	105	—	17	16	526

Visits

AGE GROUPS			CLASSIFICATION					
0-5	5-65	65+	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Total
348	6616	4469	6428	1971	98	1356	242	10095

30% of all cases and 44% of all visits referred to patients aged 65 or over.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION - Section 26

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The following table shows the number of children immunised against Diphtheria during 1958.

Immunisations

	Under 1	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
PRIMARY	113	410	62	20	18	226	—	849
BOOSTER	—	—	—	—	—	121	134	255

Vaccinations against Smallpox

The undermentioned numbers of persons were vaccinated or re-vaccinated against Smallpox during the year.

Vaccinations

Under 1 year	Primary				Re-vaccination		
	1-5 years	5-15 years	15 years and over	Total	1-15 years	15 years and over	Total
71	34	5	4	114	—	12	12

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

209 children between the ages of one and four years were vaccinated against Whooping Cough.

The number of notified cases of this disease during the year was 13 compared with a total of 42 cases for 1957.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Since the commencement of the scheme for vaccination against Poliomyelitis in 1956, a total of 3,950 children in the Dearne Urban District had been given 2 injections at the 31st December, 1958. The original scheme was confined to those children born between the years 1947 and 1954, but late in 1957 the age group was extended to include all children from the age of 6 months, up to and including those born in 1943, and vaccination was also offered to expectant mothers.

49% of all children in the eligible age groups had been given 2 injections at the end of 1958, but including those who had received one injection and children awaiting a first injection, the overall acceptance rate in the district was nearly 60%.

The following table shows the numbers in age groups vaccinated against Poliomyelitis in the 3 years 1956 to 1958.

Persons vaccinated against Poliomyelitis at 31st Dec., 1958

Born 1955-1958	% Vaccinated	Born 1943-54	% vaccinated	Total 1943-58	% vaccinated	Expectant mothers
660	38%	3290	53%	3950	49%	189

AMBULANCE SERVICE - Section 27

The Local Ambulance Depot is at Dunford House, Wath-upon-Dearne, under the control of the Depot Superintendent, Mr. F. Hyde. The service is under the overall control of the County Ambulance Officer.

The Wath-upon-Dearne Depot has a staff of 25 including the Depot Superintendent, and there are 2 clerk/telephonists who maintain a 24 hour service, 16 male driver attendants, 2 female driver attendants and 4 shift-leaders. 6 vehicles are available including one sitting case car, and all ambulances are radio controlled. Vehicles from neighbouring depots are utilised as and when necessary either to reinforce or economise in the transport of patients.

I am grateful to Mr. Hyde for the following information which he has supplied in respect of the Wath-upon-Dearne Depot for the year 1958 :—

No. of patients conveyed 29,462

No. of journeys 4,764

Total mileage from 1st January to

31st December, 1958152,145 miles

The number of patients conveyed increased by 600 over the year compared with 1957, but there were nearly 1,000 fewer journeys and the mileage decreased by 7,600 miles.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS - CARE and AFTER-CARE

Section 28

(i) Nursing Equipment in the Home

Nursing equipment—(i.e. beds, dunlopillo mattresses, wheel chairs, fracture boards, urine bottles, bed pans, bed rests, air rings, bed cradles and walking aids etc.), is available for loan on the recommendation of the District Nurses or the General Practitioners where this will facilitate the nursing of patients at home and increase the patient's comfort. In all, 547 loans of all these items of equipment were made during 1958 to patients throughout this Divisional Public Health Division.

(ii) Hospital After-Care

A Health Visitor from the Dearne area (Miss D. M. E. Goldthorpe), attends at the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, each Wednesday and Friday afternoon for approximately 2

hours to liaise with the medical and nursing staff at the hospital for the care and after-care of in-patients. Arrangements are made through Miss Goldthorpe for the provision of background reports for the information of the medical staff, and advanced provision is made for such services as the District Nurses, Home Helps and supervisory visits which the patient may require on discharge.

Similar duties are performed at the Fullerton Hospital, Denaby Main, by Miss A. D. Willoughby, a Health Visitor employed in that area.

(iii) Tuberculosis After-Care

The Chest Clinic for the area is at Whateley House, Cemetery Road, Mexborough, and Dr. F. C. N. Holden is the Consultant Chest Physician. Dr. R. L. Sadler, Assistant Chest Physician, terminated his appointment at the Clinic on the 8th December, 1958.

The close co-operation between the Health Department and the Chest Clinic has been maintained throughout the year. Miss A. D. Willoughby, Health Visitor, has acted as Liaison Officer between the two Departments, visiting the clinic each Thursday to discuss with the Medical Officers any particular cases requiring special attention by her Health Visitor colleagues, and to check on the attendances of contacts who had been referred to the Chest Clinic by other Health Visitors.

In consultation with Dr. Sadler, a list of those patients requiring priority visiting and close supervision, was drawn up for circulation to Health Visitors, and this list was periodically checked and brought up-to-date by Miss Willoughby.

A start was also made during 1958 with the scheme for the B.C.G. Vaccination of 13 year old school children. Consent forms were distributed through the Headteachers of Secondary Modern Schools to children who were in the appropriate age groups. The following are details of acceptances and vaccinations :—

No. of Consent Forms returned by parents	79
Pre-Vaccination Tuberculin Tests :	
No. of children tested	61
No. found negative	53
No. Vaccinated against Tuberculosis	39

19 children who were known contacts of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were given B.C.G. Vaccination at the Chest Clinic.

19 patients in the Dearne area were receiving daily extra nourishment in the form of 2 pints of milk at the ~~13~~^{31st} December, 1958, under the scheme operated by the County Council.

Assistance in the form of clothing, shoes, etc., was provided in needy cases by the Doncaster Tuberculosis Care Committee. This Committee which is entirely voluntary, seeks to alleviate distress caused by Tuberculosis, but more recently it has extended its activities to cover the whole field of Chest and Heart Diseases. Most of its income is derived from voluntary subscriptions, although the West Riding County Council and Doncaster County Borough provide grants in aid. The devoted work of these Care Committees is not so well known as the familiar N.A.P.T. Christmas Seals, the sales of which provide a fair amount of the income for their activities.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE - Section 29

171 households were served by the Domestic Help Service over some period of 1958. 152 cases were at the homes of chronic sick patients, the majority of whom were aged 65 and over. There was an increase of 17 cases in this category compared with the number provided with Home Help in 1957.

The total number of hours for which Home Helps were employed was 24,076, an increase of over 3,000 hours compared with the total for 1957. Over 22,000 hours of the total time employed was devoted to the chronic sick category of patients.

The following table shows the number and types of cases assisted and the hours employed at these cases during 1958 :—

	Cases	Hours
Chronic Sick	152	22,296½
Tuberculosis	2	317
Maternity	11	785¾
Others	6	677
		<hr/> 24,076 <hr/>

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The outstanding feature of the Mental Health Service in the Division during 1958, was the institution of centralised group training classes at the St. George's Hall, Mexborough.

Prior to April, 1958, half day classes had been held at 4 Child Welfare Centres in the Division, and at the most, each patient only received 2 half days' training each week. The equipment used had of necessity to be portable, and the instruction given was, therefore, limited.

Arrangements were made for the rental of the St. George's Church Hall, Main Street, Mexborough, for 4 days each week, Tuesdays to Fridays inclusive, and from the 15th April, 1958, all Group Training Classes were centralised in this building. Special transport arrangements were made to convey patients from their homes to the Hall where this was justified, and local patients were escorted by their parents. 28 patients were admitted to the Centre, their ages ranging from 7 to 35 years. By the end of the year 33 patients were in attendance. The average attendance over the year was 81%.

Arrangements were also made for the provision of school dinners, and from the 15th of April, 1958, to the 31st January, 1959, 3,395 meals were served to patients and staff.

Two Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped were employed at the Centre, Mrs. P. M. Winstanley and Mrs. D. Sharp. The patients were divided into 2 groups, the males and females over 16 years of age being taught by Mrs. Sharp, and the patients under 16 years of age under Mrs. Winstanley.

The older boys were taught stool seating, rug making and weaving using a 20" Wendy Loom and 15" Tabby Loom, on which dishcloths, bath mats, scarves and chair back covers were completed. The female patients were taught sewing and knitting, and they made a variety of cushion covers, trolley cloths, tea cosies and television covers. Dishcloths, table cloths and towels were made for use at the Centre. Domestic training was also introduced for these older girls.

The younger patients were instructed in sense training, simple P.E. activity, music, singing and percussion, along with essential social training.

An open day combined with a Christmas Party was enjoyed by 60 patients and their parents from this and a neighbouring division. There was an exhibition of handicrafts made by the patients at the Centre, and several musical items etc., were presented. Each patient afterwards received a gift and other Christmas fare.

The Group Training Classes were discontinued on the 31st January, 1959, in anticipation of the opening of the new purpose built Occupation Centre at Wath-upon-Deerne.

The following are statistics relating to patients who were being supervised by the Mental Health Social Worker in the Dearne Urban District during 1958 :—

No. under Statutory Supervision	54
No. under Voluntary Supervision	10
No. of after-care cases	11
No. of new cases ascertained	1
No. on Licence	Nil
No. of Patients attending Doncaster Occupation Centre	8
No. of Patients provided with short-stay hospital care	Nil
No. of Patients admitted to permanent Institutional Care	2
No. of Patients attending Group Training Classes	10
No. of urgent cases requiring care	Nil

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Dr. H. F. Fullwood, Assistant County Medical Officer has supplied the following report :—

Periodic Inspections

It has been gratifying to have the attendance of so many mothers particularly with the younger children. It gives one a chance to note any special medical history which may be useful at a later date and also to discuss with the mother any particular condition found.

General Physique

Each year the general physique of the school child seems to improve and the later leaving age in the secondary modern schools does give the adolescent a better chance to develop without the strain of commencing employment. Many of our secondary modern leavers are indeed of very fine physique and on physical grounds, apart from any consideration of the academic advantage, the extra year at school has been well worth the little delay in commencing employment.

Skin Conditions

Improvement in general hygiene has banished many of the types found at one time, but we still have the cases of eczema, psoriasis, and other constitutional types, but these also to a lesser degree.

Hygiene

We still seem unable to banish head lice and nits from the hair. Children who are otherwise clean still come to school with dirty heads and many mothers appear indifferent to this aspect of personal hygiene. A few families have for years provided the hard core of bad cases and after a school holiday return in a condition worse than usual. One feels that much time spent by health visitors and school nurses could be avoided if only mothers would take more pride in the state of their children's hair.

Teeth

In my area, I regret the reduced facilities for dental treatment at the school clinic. The teeth of the younger children bear marked evidence of the generous pocket money allowed nowadays, spent chiefly on sweets and lollipops.

Tonsils and Adenoids

One is struck by the number of children who commence their school life having already had their tonsils and adenoids removed.

Heart Conditions

To-day it is rare to find a child with a serious heart condition as rheumatic fever is almost a thing of the past. What cases we have are mostly congenital heart defects and only a few are of a severe type.

Respiratory Conditions

While the tubercular cases have markedly decreased in number, the cases of asthma and other allergic conditions appear to be markedly increased. Physiotherapy has helped many of these.

Feet

This year I have found many boys as well as girls wearing "elastic stretch" nylon socks which were obviously too short. One feels that there is a real danger here of increasing development of hammer toes and deviation of the big toes with thickening of the metatarsal joints.

These stockings are very popular but one has constantly to warn parents of the need to ensure that they are really long enough, especially as they last longer than wool or cotton and the child's feet are always growing.

Nail Biting

This is very prevalent in all schools and departments. It is a habit to be deprecated especially as we come across quite a number of cases of worms, both thread and round ones, and other intestinal infections.

Posture

There has been marked improvement over recent years and the cases of mild spinal curvature are becoming much less and severe ones almost non-existent.

Immunisation

There has been a fairly good response for immunisation against Poliomyelitis but many children still enter school unprotected against Diphtheria and this necessitates full protective treatment instead of just a boosting dose.

While there is always room for improvement, there is much to appreciate in the health and physique of the modern school child. Children are better clothed and better shod and very few attend school in a dirty condition. Indeed it is a treat to see the boys, and the girls especially, in their delightful clothes of modern materials and design.

(c)

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Local Hospital services are administered by the Rotherham and Mexborough Hospital Management Committee and the Barnsley Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

General Hospital Services are mainly provided by the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, Moorgate Hospital, Rotherham, and the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley.

Cases of **Infectious Diseases** requiring hospital isolation are admitted to Kendray Isolation Hospital, Barnsley, and exceptionally to the Isolation Hospital, Doncaster.

Maternity Hospital Services are available at the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, St. Helen's Hospital, Barnsley, and Moorgate General Hospital, Rotherham. During 1958, 168 mothers in the Dearne Urban District were confined in Hospitals and Maternity Homes in the area.

Venereal Diseases Clinics are held at the Out-Patient Department, Moorgate General Hospital, Rotherham, and sessions are held as follows :—

TREATMENT SESSIONS :

Males : Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 4.30 to 6.30 p.m.

Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Females : Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, 4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

CLINICAL SESSIONS :

Males : Wednesday, 4.30 to 6.30 p.m.,

Friday, 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Females, Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.,

Friday, 4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Chest Clinic

The local Chest Clinic is at Whateley House, Cemetery Road, Mexborough, and sessions are held as under :—

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

(d) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

There are 12 Medical Practitioners practising in the Urban District, one practice has a partnership of 3 Doctors with an Assistant, and there are 2 partnerships of 2 Doctors and 4 single-handed practices.

Main and Branch Surgeries are situated in each of the townships of the Urban District.

(e) **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

91 people were medically examined by the Medical Officers of the Public Health Department during 1958, and the following are details :—

	Males	Females
Sick Pay	20	Nil
District Council Superannuation Scheme	12	4
County Council Superannuation Scheme	14	4
For employment as teachers or for admission to Teachers' Training Colleges	23	14

(f) **PROBLEM FAMILIES**

Meetings are held at Mexborough in January, May and October, of a Committee formed for the correlation of information relating to children neglected or ill-treated in their own homes. The Medical Officer of Health is the designated Officer. The following Departments and Organisations are represented :—

The Public Health Department by Medical Officers, Health Visitors, Mental Health Social Worker and Public Health Inspectors. The Education Department by the Divisional Education Officer and School Welfare Officers. The Welfare Department by the Divisional Welfare Officer and Assistant Children's Officers. Representatives from the N.S.P.C.C., Probation Service, National Coal Board (Welfare Division), National Assistance Board, S.S.A.F.A. and the Church of England Diocesan Moral Welfare Council also attend the meetings.

The information available from all these sources relating to problem families in the area is correlated and decisions taken by the Committee as to the best method of improving the circumstances of these families.

Of the 15 families discussed during the year, 11 had homes in the Dearne Urban area.

SECTION "C"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

During the year the following inspections were made:—

General inspections as to complaints, nuisances, etc. ...	1,278
Inspections and re-inspections of verminous premises...	41
Drains tested (smoke, colour, etc.)	15
Re-inspections as to compliance with notices, etc.....	348
Inspections as to works in progress	33
Contractors seen as to works	48
Owners seen as to works	42
Inspections in reference to infectious diseases	628
Smoke observations	43

Inspections of :—

Grocers' Shops	86
General Shops	109
Fried Fish Shops	26
Bakehouses	35
Food Preparing Premises	78
Ice Cream Premises	21
Slaughterhouses and Lairs	410
Markets	113
Food Hawkers	61
Tripe Shed, Maggot Factory	18
Allotment killed pigs	27
Premises re rodent infestation	152
Refuse Tips	285
Factories	74
Cinemas	19
Hairdressers' Shops	41
Schools	53
Swimming Bath	9
Public Conveniences	141
	4,234

Notices

Informal notices numbering 315 were issued in relation to matters arising from the inspections and in 33 cases formal notices were served.

At the end of the year, 57 nuisances and defects remained on the books and 2,284 had been remedied during the year.

Legal Action

Summonses were issued against the Owner for non-abatement of Nuisances at the following property :—

28 Chapel Street, Thurnscoe (a Nuisance Order was served on the Owner but this had not been complied with at the year end).

ACTION UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Inspections were made in connection with nuisances and defects at 584 houses while defects at 564 houses were remedied during the year; in connection with those remaining on the books further action is pending.

The following statement shows the nuisances abated and the defects remedied in and around dwellings other than Council-owned dwellings :—

House Repairs

House roofs repaired	29
Eaves spouts, fallpipes or vent shafts renewed, repaired or cleansed	80
Fireplaces or ranges, repaired or renewed	44
Sink waste pipes and sinks, repaired or renewed.....	11
Floors repaired	26
Windows repaired	61
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	166
Doors repaired or renewed	22
Wash coppers repaired or renewed	2
Hot water systems repaired	1
Water supply improved	51
Boundary walls repaired	2
Walls, external brickwork repointed	20
Chimneys repaired	14
Yard surfaces repaired or renewed	47
Outbuildings repaired	7
Ashbins renewed	382

Drains

Taken up and relaid	7
Opened and cleansed	50
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	7
Gullies cleansed or provided	18

Water Closets

Obstructions removed	10
Water supply pipes repaired	11
Cisterns repaired or renewed	31
Flush pipe joints repaired	4
Pedestals renewed	16
Apartments generally repaired	14
Outgo pipe joint repaired	1

Other Nuisances etc., abated

Houses cleansed or rid of vermin	26
Accumulations removed	2

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Type of Convenience & Receptacle	Goldthorpe	Thurnscoe	Barnburgh	Total	% 1958
Water Closets	5,020	3,684	39	8,743	99·98
Midden Privy	1	—	1	2	0·02
Total Closets	5,021	3,684	40	8,745	—
Ashbins	4,706	3,412	40	8,158	99·98
Privy Pits	1	—	1	2	0·02

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two premises were licensed as Pet Shops, the pets concerned being birds and fish.

HAIRDRESSERS OR BARBERS

29 premises are registered as hairdressers under Section 120 of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. No infringement of the Byelaws occurred during the year.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATH

Two samples of water from the Public Swimming Bath, Thurnscoe, were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and both proved to be satisfactory.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

Eight samples of mains water supply were taken, seven being satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. Following action taken by the Water Board, later samples proved to be satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Excluding the outbreak of Dysentery, enquiries have been made into 21 cases of infectious diseases including 15 cases of Scarlet Fever, 4 cases of Gastro-Enteritis and 2 cases of Food Poisoning.

The distribution of these cases was 9 at Bolton-on-Dearne and Goldthorpe and 12 at Thurnscoe.

The cases at Bolton-on-Dearne and Goldthorpe comprised 4 cases of Scarlet Fever, 4 cases of Gastro-Enteritis and 1 case of Food Poisoning.

The cases at Thurnscoe comprised 11 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 case of Food Poisoning.

During the months of March and April more than 600 visits were made to houses and schools by your Public Health Inspectors during the two outbreaks of Dysentery and 1,021 faeces samples were collected and sent for examination. Quite a large amount of additional clerical work was undertaken by the clerk/typist to your Chief Public Health Inspector and this was carried out smoothly and efficiently.

CLEARANCE OF CHOKED DRAINS

79 owners have given general instruction to the Department to deal with blockages to drains and water closets as they come to notice.

63 drains were cleansed under this arrangement at a cost of 5s. 6d. to each owner. By this means serious nuisances which ordinarily would take some days to effect abatement are removed within hours of my Department being notified.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The only trade termed "offensive" by law, an old established tripe dresser has operated at Goldthorpe without nuisance. A thriving industry at Harlington deals with much material of an offensive nature in the production of maggots—it being a maggot factory. Regular visits of inspection have been paid to this trade, and where improvements have been needed the proprietor has responded quickly.

SHOPS ACTS

Routine inspections were made to shop premises throughout the year and no serious contravention of Shops legislation was found.

FACTORIES

Premises	No. on Register	Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	16	52	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	33	57	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	49	109	—	—

NOTES : Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 Factories Act, 1937 refer to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors of factories.

Sec. 7 Factories Act, 1937 refers to Sanitary Conveniences at Factories.

SUPPLY OF ASHBINS

SECTION 75, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

The Council's decision to provide and maintain dustbins where they become defective in lieu of requiring the owner or occupier to do so, was continued during the year. This service is chargeable to the general rate of the district. The scheme applies to dwellinghouses only.

The ashbins supplied during the year were as follows :

	1958	1957	1956	1955
1. Bin renewals to privately owned houses	382	259	517	414
2. Bin renewals to Council houses	222	140	272	171
3. Bins provided to new houses	13	26	60	14
	<u>617</u>	<u>425</u>	<u>849</u>	<u>599</u>

The average number of bins provided under the scheme for each of the four years was 622.

The cost for the year under review was £1,058.

From my experience in Public Health work and the control of refuse removal I regard the scheme as highly beneficial to all.

Eventually all domestic premises within the Dearne will have been provided with a standard type dust bin. There is no delay in replacing defective receptacles with new bins.

SECTION "D"

HOUSING IN THE AREA

There were 7,776 inhabited houses in the Urban District at the end of 1958.

House Erection

During the year 17 new houses were provided by private enterprise; no new Council houses were completed.

Housing Demolition

Clearance Areas—Section 42, Housing Act 1957

The tenants of 11, 13 High Street, Thurnscoe were rehoused in March and the houses were being demolished at the year end.

The Council made a Clearance Order respecting 40-50 Mexborough Road, Bolton-on-Dearne in September and this was confirmed by the Minister early in the new year.

The two old cottages belonging to the Council, 9 and 11 Homecroft Road, Goldthorpe were demolished in March.

Section 16, Housing Act 1957

A demolition order was made by the Council on 32 High Street, Bolton-on-Dearne.

The tenants of 18 High Street, Thurnscoe were rehoused in January and the house demolished.

The tenant of the Gas House, Lowfield Road, Bolton-on-Dearne was rehoused in April.

Tents, Vans and Sheds

There has been no permanently parked van in the area during the year. This does not mean that caravans have been absent from the Dearne, in fact just the opposite. Many vans have parked "temporarily" on spare pieces of land, lanes etc. Without the strict enforcement of the law I am afraid colonies of these temporary dwellings would soon have become permanent. There is no licensed caravan site within the Dearne.

ACTION UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS

Houses not in all respects fit

Under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and the Housing Consolidated Amendment Regulations, 1932, 110 inspections of dwelling houses were made and particulars recorded.

During the year 48 houses were made in all respects fit.

The Rent Act 1957

In accordance with the policy of the Council your Public Health Inspectors have been available to advise those affected by the Act. This service has been greatly used and, I think, well appreciated.

Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

1.	Number of applications for certificates	51
2.	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	1
3.	Number of decisions to issue certificates	
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	11
	(b) in respect of all defects	39
4.	Number of undertakings given by landlords	41
5.	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	Nil
6.	Number of certificates issued	24

Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

7.	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	11
8.	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	6
9.	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	1
10.	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	6

SECTION "E"

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD FOOD SUPPLY

Meat, Milk and Other Foods

The meat purveyed locally has been of fair quality. A good percentage of it is produced from animals slaughtered in the four slaughterhouses operating in our area. While the small private slaughterhouse may cause occasional nuisance there is a feeling of satisfaction in having your own qualified meat inspectors carrying out examination of locally killed animals. The incidence of tuberculosis amongst cows has fallen to 14%. No milk can be sold in the Dearne unless it is pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested. The district has been a "specified area" under the Food and Drugs Act since the 10th April, 1956.

Food Premises

The total number of food premises within the Dearne is 241 made up as follows: Butchers 32, General Shops 100, Greengrocers 23, Confectioners 10, Fried Fish and Chip Shops 23, Bakeries 8, Off Licensed Shops 10, Public Houses 13, Clubs 15, Chemists 7. (Food Hawkers are mentioned later in the Report.)

Of the foregoing 241 premises 92 are registered for the sale of ice-cream under Sec. 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, 3 are registered to manufacture ice-cream and 4 to manufacture iced lollipops. 23 premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale under Sec. 16, Food and Drugs Act 1955. Four premises are licensed as slaughterhouses.

Inspection of Food Premises

765 visits were paid to food premises during the year, 410 to slaughterhouses, and 355 to other food premises. The majority of the food premises in the area comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, in 40 premises alterations and improvements have been carried out by the trader, including the installation of sinks, wash-hand basins and provision of a constant supply of hot water. Requirements, other than those of a structural nature, such as provision of first aid outfits, soap and towels, and display of "wash hands" notices, have been complied with.

There are a number of premises remaining where work is to be carried out and these will receive attention.

Registration of Hawkers of Food and their Premises.

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

At the year end 29 food hawkers were registered and also 17 food storage premises used by hawkers. The types and character of the vehicles vary greatly but in general a fairly high standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

Public Markets

The two open markets within your area, the privately owned one at Thurnscoe and the Council's Goldthorpe market, were well patronised during the year. The display of open foods has given your Inspectors some concern, screening from dust, dirt and flies, is often of a temporary nature.

Inspection of all food stalls is regular and again informal action on occasion has been necessary in order to obtain compliance with the law. Washing facilities in the public lavatories continued to be provided by the Council, but such facilities are lacking in the privately owned market at Thurnscoe, although here the owner, at the year end, was constructing six "shop stalls" of a permanent character to be made available to food retailers. Each of these premises will have hot and cold water supply, and fixed wash hand basins. With the letting of these new premises there will remain some vendors of food occupying stalls. These persons will need to be provided with proper washing facilities. During the year I again approached the market owner concerning this matter.

Meat Inspection

The following list records the meat and offal rejected by your Public Health Inspectors as unfit for sale for human food during the year.

Beasts

64	pairs Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	...	766	lbs.
38	Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	532	lbs.
35	Heads and Tongues	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,050	lbs.
15	Mesenteries	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	lbs.
3	Udders	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	lbs.
1	Heart	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	lbs.
4	Spleens	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	lbs.
3	Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	lbs.
4	Skirts (diaphragms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	lbs.
1	complete carcase	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	lbs.
	Beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	lbs.

Sheep

2	pairs Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	lbs.
9	Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	lbs.

Pigs

8 Heads and Tongues	...	...	...	...	80	lbs.
4 pairs Lungs	...	...	...	...	12	lbs.
7 Livers	...	...	...	...	24	lbs.
1 Mesentery	...	...	...	...	2	lbs.
6 Hearts	...	...	...	...	3	lbs.
1 Spleen	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$	lb.

Total ... 3,150 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

The disposal of food found to be unfit for sale for human food has been either by burying it on the Council's controlled refuse tip or in the case of unfit meat and offal, sale (by the owner) to a local maggot breeding factory or knacker's yard. In all cases very stringent precautions are taken to see that such food is properly disposed of.

Slaughterhouses and Slaughtering

27 licences to slaughter or stun animals were issued to slaughtermen during the year. In all cases the licences specified that the type of instrument to be used be a mechanically operated instrument in proper repair and the period of the licence be one year. Five slaughtermen were restricted to the killing of pigs only, and the remainder to the killing of cattle, sheep and pigs. No cases have come to notice of any cruelty to animals—slaughtering in the local slaughterhouses has been carried out in a humane manner.

Slaughterhouses

Four licensed private slaughterhouses have been used regularly, these being fairly old buildings which have been improved somewhat, most of them having limited accommodation. There is one licensed slaughterhouse situated in each ward of the district. No serious nuisance has occurred from the use of the premises.

Meat Inspection

Your inspectors paid 410 visits to slaughterhouses and inspected the carcasses and offal of 2,355 food animals. Details of the meat and offal found to be unfit for human consumption and the percentage of the incidence of disease etc. are recorded elsewhere. A system of meat inspection (Memo 3/Meat) issued by the Ministry of Food in 1952 has been adhered to rigidly. The four slaughterhouses re-licensed for use again since the 2nd July, 1954 have been constantly used. It gives me some satisfaction to record that the general quality of the meat produced from the premises has been good, and that every animal slaughtered in the Dearne has been inspected prior to the meat being retailed.

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or
in part

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	506	227	—	1007	615	—
Number inspected	506	227	—	1007	615	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	34	13	—	10	8	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	7%	6%	—	1%	1%	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases con- demned	—	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	27	32	—	—	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5%	14%	—	—	1%	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	4	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD INSPECTION

Four prosecutions took place under this heading.

A bakery firm were summoned for selling a loaf containing oil and grease. The firm was fined £3 and costs.

A meat packing company was summoned for selling a tin of meat containing some rag and although the magistrates considered the case had been made out, the company successfully pleaded a warranty defence. As the food was prepared and packed outside the United Kingdom the case was dismissed.

Two prosecutions against firms for selling tinned food containing foreign bodies were dismissed. One case was that a tin of peas contained glass; the other being a crane fly in a tin of baked beans. In both instances the court ruled that there was some doubt that these objects were in the tins before they were opened by the purchasers. They accordingly gave the benefit of the doubt to the defendants.

UN SOUND FOOD

The food listed below was surrendered voluntarily :—

Tomatoes	117	tins
Meat	55	tins
Fruit	55	tins
Vegetables	19	tins
Milk	10	tins
Fish	11	tins
Soup	15	tins
Sausages	12½	lbs.
Cheese	112	lbs.
Bacon	15	lbs.
Ham	14½	lbs.
Golden Syrup	1	tin
Marmalade	4	jars
Tongue	6	lbs.
Cake	5	lbs.
Tomatoes	12	lbs.
Rice	1	tin
Sultanas	7	pkts
Butter	6½	lbs.
Piccalilli	1	jar
Jam	4	jars

MILK AND DAIRIES

Registration of Distributors

Sixtyfour retail distributors of milk were on the register at the end of the year.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 to 1953

The number of Licences in force were :—

	Dealer's Licences	Supplementary Licences
(a) Pasteurised Milk	—	2
(b) Sterilised Milk	1	2

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954

The number of Licences in force were :—

	Dealer's Licences	Supplementary Licences
Tuberculin Tested	—	1

ICE CREAM PREMISES

92 premises were registered at the year end for the sale of ice-cream, including three which were authorised also to manufacture ice-cream and four to manufacture iced-lollipops.

Six samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and provisional grading showed them to be satisfactory. Five were Grade 1, and the other Grade 2.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The full provisions of the Clean Air Act came into operation on 1st June and for the first time in smoke abatement legislation all chimneys including, to some extent, the chimneys of private dwellings were subject to compliance with the Act. Emission of "dark smoke" for longer than specified "permitted periods" from any chimney is banned. As chimneys of private dwellings rarely emit "dark smoke" but send out volumes of smoke less intense in shade but more injurious in content, the general provisions of the Act apply more so to industrial chimneys. In order that control of smoke from dwellings shall be effective the Act provides for a Local Authority to make Smoke Control Orders which define areas of a district in which smokeless fuels only shall be burnt in domestic premises. This question involving as it does the mineworkers' concessionary allowance of cheap coal is one which has occupied the Council's deliberations. In the interests of public health the sooner it is settled the better for the community.

During the past year observations were made of all industrial chimneys. Where excessive smoke was emitted visits were paid by your Public Health Inspectors to the firm and verbal notice given. Improvements were later recorded.

The 1st June also saw the setting up of Atmospheric Pollution Gauges in various parts of the district. The figures recorded for the last seven months of the year are set out below.

Atmospheric Deposit Gauge Sewage Works, Bolton-on-Dearne

Measuring total solids deposited monthly in tons per square mile.

Month 1958	Tons per square mile			Rainfall Inches	Rainfall— average over 44 years periods
	Insoluble Matter	Soluble Matter	Total Solids		
June	8.25	7.92	16.17	4.10	1.67
July	6.79	8.08	14.87	5.44	2.48
August	7.72	7.98	15.70	2.44	2.53
September	7.85	7.75	15.60	1.97	1.94
October	8.11	6.43	14.54	1.73	2.27
November	8.68	5.73	14.41	0.67	2.54
December	7.29	8.64	15.93	2.80	2.30
Monthly Average	7.81	7.50	15.31	2.74	2.24

Note : An inch of rainfall delivers 101 tons, or 22,617 gallons on each acre.

Lead Peroxide Gauges

Recording milligrams of Sulphur Dioxide per day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Lead Peroxide.

Month 1958	Sewage Works Bolton	Dearnside School Goldthorpe	Y.E.B. Store Goldthorpe	Council Depot Thurnscoe
June	2.29	1.37	0.93	1.82
July	1.82	1.22	1.36	1.58
August	3.15	1.22	1.69	1.58
September	3.72	1.19	1.91	1.47
October	3.98	2.07	2.71	2.39
November	5.20	3.25	3.82	3.58
December	4.07	3.18	3.47	4.48
Daily Average	3.89	1.93	2.27	2.41

The R.A.F. Meteorological Office at Finningley are providing records of wind velocity and direction which are used in conjunction with the atmospheric pollution readings. During the seven months June to December, the prevailing wind was a South East one, the average wind speed being Beaufort Scale 3 (10 m.p.h.) with a maximum recording of Beaufort Scale 8 (45 m.p.h.).

SECTION "F"

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

469 notifications of infectious diseases were received during the year compared with the number of 696 received during 1957.

Dysentery

An outbreak of dysentery broke out in the Bolton-upon-Dearne area of the Urban District in March. The first indications of the extent of the disease in the community came from the Headteacher of an Infants' School, when she reported that about 40 pupils had been off school during the past three weeks with sickness and diarrhoea.

Investigations at the school showed that cases had occurred in all classes, the first occurring in the youngest age groups three weeks previously.

A list of pupils who had been absent with gastrointestinal symptoms during the previous four weeks and had subsequently returned to school was compiled, together with a list of those pupils at present off school. 57 pupils were included in the former list of which 16 were proved to be carriers, 27 had negative stools and the remainder had not been absent because of dysentery.

The following action was taken at the school :—

1. Notification to Doctors and Headteachers of the outbreak.
2. Letters of exclusion and guidance to parents of children sent home from school.
3. Institution of a hand-washing regime and the use of paper towels.
4. Antiseptic washing of toilets and desks to minimise spread of infection.

5. Investigation of school meals kitchen and personnel hygiene.
6. Instruction of the temporary Caretaker in toilet hygiene.
7. Thorough cleaning of class rooms, and communal toys and books.

The teaching and school meals staff were all interviewed and faeces samples taken. 2 teachers, the Caretaker, his wife who helped with school cleaning, and one school meals helper were excluded from work as cases of dysentery. Visits were made to the households of those children presently absent from school. During the next two weeks 43 children from the Infants' School were found to be suffering from the disease. During this period also, cases were discovered in other schools in the township as follows :—

- Adjoining Junior Girls—5.
- Adjoining Junior Boys—1.
- A new Junior Mixed School—10.
- Secondary Modern—2.
- Infants and Junior Mixed—1.

11 of these 19 cases were household contacts of cases which occurred in the Bolton Infants' School.

In the first half of April, 48 cases were confirmed, and a further 16 in the latter half. Cases fell to 19 in May and then tailed off to 13 in June and 5 in July. During this epidemic from March to June, 88% of cases occurred in Bolton-on-Dearne. Few cases came to light in Goldthorpe, the disease seeming to by-pass the central township and re-appear again in Thurnscoe. At the end of June, 5 adults in 2 families in Thurnscoe, had mild stomach upsets due to salmonella derby. The source of this food contamination was not traced.

At the beginning of October, more notifications of suspected dysentery were received mainly from the Goldthorpe area. 81 cases were investigated and all the faeces samples were negative for shigella, salmonellae, and epidemic B. Coli. When these cases were visited, it was found they differed from the type of illness seen in the dysentery outbreak in the second quarter of the year. The illness was rapid, adults were mainly affected, and other members of the family had developed similar attacks of vomiting, diarrhoea and headache some days or weeks previously. Unsuccessful efforts were made to isolate an organism from the faeces or the blood serum of an early case.

In the midst of this epidemic of so called "winter vomiting," one case of salmonella heidleburg was discovered.

The onset of this illness was 3 weeks previously, and although a case of salmonella heidleburg was confirmed in another town in the division, no link could be established between them.

From Table I it will be seen that during the year, 183 cases of dysentery were confirmed. The highest incidence (30%), occurred in the primary school children, followed by the infants (28%), and the pre-school children (19%). Only 7 children under 1 year of age, and 18 adults were confirmed cases of dysentery. 13% of the cases were cleared of infection by 7 days, a further 35% within 14 days and 20% more within 21 days. In 15% of cases the time taken to obtain the first negative was over 28 days. Of the total cases 123 (67%) had a negative specimen following one positive stool; 43 (23%) after 2 positives; 14 (7%) after 3 positives. 2 persons had 4 consecutive positive stools and one boy had 6 positive results before a negative specimen. 34 families had more than one case in them, 2 of these families shared a house, the remainder did not. 2 members of each family were infected in 20 instances, 3 members in 12, and in one family 4 persons were infected. All 10 members of one family were infected. In 5 families where a case in a young child under 2 years of age occurred, the mother was also infected.

During the outbreak 473 families were investigated, 661 persons came to the notice of the Health Department, and 1,110 samples submitted for examination.

Shigella Sonne was the organism responsible for the outbreak and was in all cases sensitive to streptomycin. Patients were treated by guanimycin, and symptoms subdued rapidly under treatment. Six persistent carriers resistant to guanimycin or sulphonamides, cleared quickly on oral streptomycin. The only other organisms responsible for illness during the outbreak were *Salmonella Derby* and *Heidleburg*.

No evidence could be found of spread through school meals or contaminated food. The method of entry of the disease into the Bolton Infants' School was by children with mild symptoms who were either not taken to their own doctors for advice or who had a short course of treatment, but no bacteriological investigation.

I am grateful for the willing assistance given by Dr. Gillespie and Dr. Little and their staff at their Public Health Laboratories at Sheffield and Wakefield; the General Practitioners in the division; teachers in the schools, and Mr. Stockdale, the Divisional Education Officer; the General Public, and my staff of Public Health Inspectors and Clerks in the Public Health Department.

TABLE I. DYSENTERY, 1958

Age Groups	Time taken to get 1 negative (in weeks)										No. of Positives before 1 negative.				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Over	Unknown	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6
Under 1	—	2	2	1			1	1	7	4	3	—	—	—	—
Pre-School	—	13	7	5	3	4	2	2	36	22	10	4	—	—	—
Infants	4	18	13	7	4	5	1	1	53	31	15	4	3	—	—
Primary	12	20	15	6	2	2	—	1	58	41	13	4	—	—	—
Secondary	4	3	—	1	2	1	—	—	11	10	1	—	—	—	—
Adults	4	8	1	2	1	—	—	2	18	15	1	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	24	64	38	22	12	12	4	7	183	123	43	14	3	—	—

Scarlet Fever

43 notifications were received all of which were confirmed. There was an increase of 27 over the number of cases notified in the previous year.

Whooping Cough

Only 13 cases were notified, a decrease of 42 cases compared with 1957.

Measles

Compared with the previous year there was a reduction of 594 notifications; 106 cases being notified.

Pneumonia

As in 1957, 13 cases were reported. 8 deaths were attributable to this cause in 1958.

TABLE II
Infectious Diseases (Corrected) 1958
Age Distribution (After Correction)

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Cases After Correction	Under 1 yr.	1 —	2 —	3 —	4 —	5 — 9	10 — 14	15 — 24	25 — 44	45 — 64	Over 59	Adm. to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	43	43	—	2	7	9	7	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	13	13	4	1	3	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	106	106	6	11	21	16	22	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	288	241	5	9	13	17	18	104	30	4	41	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	13	13	3	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	2	2	—	—
Food Poisoning	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	469	418	18	23	44	44	48	159	30	7	41	2	2	—	—

Tuberculosis

8 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during 1958, 6 males and 2 females. There were no cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. The Pulmonary Tuberculosis incidence rate for the year was 0.29 per thousand of the estimated population which compares with a rate of 0.52 for last year and is easily the lowest ever recorded.

As in 1957, there was only one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and the death rate of 0.04 per thousand is the same as for 1957 and 1955 which are the lowest recorded. There were no deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis.

The following number of cases were on the Tuberculosis Register at the 31st December, 1958 :—

				Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Males	...	...	...	128	11
Females	...	...	...	95	18
				<hr/> 223 <hr/>	<hr/> 29 <hr/>

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY FOR 1958

New Cases

Deaths

Age Groups	Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pul.		Non-Pul.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26-35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46-55	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
56-65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
66 and over	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF DIVISIONAL STATISTICS, 1958

General Statistics

	Conis- brough	Dearne	Mex- borough	Div. 30
Area in acres	1593	3888	1452	6933
Population	17700	27100	18630	63430
No. of inhabited houses	5072	7776	5563	18411

Vital Statistics

Live births	354	583	294	1231
Live birth rate per 1,000 population...	20.0	21.5	15.8	19.4
Stillbirths	13	11	3	27
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and still- births	35.4	18.5	10.1	21.5
Total live and stillbirths	367	594	297	1258
Infant deaths	11	18	11	40
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	31.1	30.9	37.4	32.5
Maternal Deaths	Nil	1	Nil	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	—	1.68	—	0.79
No. of deaths	181	224	203	608
General death rate per 1,000 population	10.6	8.3	10.9	9.6

Principal Causes of Death

(% age of total deaths)

(a) Infants under 1 year

Infection	63.6	33.3	27.3	40
Congenital deformity	27.3	22.2	27.3	25
Prematurity	—	16.6	45.4	20
Others	9.1	27.7	—	15

(b) All Ages

Heart Disease	35.9	42.4	32.5	37.1
Respiratory Disease	12.7	16.0	20.6	16.6
Cancer	19.9	13.8	15.7	16.3
Vascular disease of nervous system	10.5	10.7	9.3	10.2

Infectious Diseases

(a) Tuberculosis

Notifications :

Respiratory	...	...	...	11	8	13	32
Non-respiratory	...	...	...	2	Nil	5	7

Incidence rate :

Respiratory	...	...	...	0.62	0.29	0.69	0.50
Non-respiratory	...	...	...	0.1	Nil	0.27	0.11

Death Rate :

Respiratory	...	...	...	0.34	0.04	0.11	0.14
Non-respiratory	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(b) Measles

Notifications	...	...	...	76	106	110	292
Incidence	...	...	...	4.3	3.9	5.9	4.60

(c) Whooping Cough

Notifications	...	...	...	—	13	1	14
Incidence	...	...	...	—	0.48	0.05	0.22

(d) Pneumonia

Notifications	...	...	...	4	13	53	70
Incidence	...	...	...	0.22	0.48	2.84	1.10

(e) Dysentery

Notifications	4	288	87	379
Incidence	0.22	10.6	4.7	5.98

(Rates per 1,000 population)



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