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Borough of



Doncaster.

Doncaster Urban Sanitary Authority

(Chairman: Councillor H. M. MARSHALL).

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1921.

Doncaster :

"Doncaster Gazette," General Printers, 32, Printing Office Street.

BOROUGH OF



DONCASTER.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor H. M. MARSHALL.

Committee:

Councillor HANNAH CLARK	Councillor SHAW
„ RHODEN	„ OLIVER
„ GARNER	„ GLOVER, M.D.
„ LEACH	„ ROLLINGS
„ RANYARD	„ BUTTON
„ SCARLL	

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. D. LECHMERE ANDERSON.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

HERBERT INNOCENT.

Chief Health Visitor :

Miss L. McNICOLL.

DONCASTER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report for the Year 1921.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1921.

In compliance with a Circular from the Ministry of Health, the report is drawn up in a different form to previous years and is considerably abbreviated. A full report will in future be submitted at five yearly intervals.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. LECHMERE ANDERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Office,
Doncaster.

Medical Officer's Report, 1921.

I. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	4,831
Population (1921)	...	...	...	...	...	54,700
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	...	11,848
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921) (approximate)	...	...	...	...	...	12,841
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£308,569
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,238

II. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate	1209	612	597	} Birth Rate (R.G.) 23.4.
	Illegitimate	73	45	28	

Deaths ... 693 386 307 Death Rate (R.G.) 12.6

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth:
from Sepsis, 1; from other causes, 2.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births:
Legitimate, 114.1; Illegitimate, 150.6; Total, 116.2.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 1

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 11

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... 29

POPULATION.

According to the Census which was taken on 19th June, 1921, the population of Doncaster was 54,052, comprising 27,272 males and 26,780 females. Owing to the Census being taken during the holiday season, the Registrar General considers it necessary to make an adjustment and has estimated the population at 54,700. There is, therefore, an increase of 6,245 since the last census, which was taken in 1911.

BIRTH RATE.

The net number of births assignable to Doncaster was 1,282 (657 males and 625 females), giving a birth rate of 23.4 per 1,000. Of these 45 males and 28 females were illegitimate. The total number of births shows a decrease of 145 as compared with 1920. The following table shows some interesting figures for the Birth Rate for past 40 years:—

Estimated Population.				No. of Births		Birth Rate.
1882	...	21,338	...	712	...	32.5
1890	...	25,640	...	757	...	29.5
1900	...	28,708	...	837	...	29.1
1910	...	30,403	...	737	...	24.2
1919	...	53,743	...	1053	...	19.5
1920	...	53,647	...	1427	...	26.5
1921	...	54,700	...	1282	...	23.4

DEATH RATE.

During the year the number of deaths from all causes in the Borough, as corrected by the Registrar General, was 693—males 386, females 307—making a death rate of 12.6 per 1,000. This rate is somewhat higher than that for 1920 (12.3) but it must be remembered that the death rate in that year was the lowest on record for 44 years. The death rate for England and Wales was 12.1. The decline in the death rate of Doncaster since the year 1876 is shown by the following table:—

1876—1882	Average	Death Rate	...	22.3
1883—1892	do.	...	...	18.8
1893—1902	do.	...	...	18.2
1903—1913	do.	...	...	15.5
1915	Death Rate	...	...	16.4
1916	do.	...	...	14.6
1917	do.	...	...	14.7
1918	do.	...	...	16.1
1919	do.	...	...	13.7
1920	do.	...	...	12.3
1921	do.	...	...	12.6

It must never be forgotten that the death rate, besides furnishing a measure of the rate of mortality which interests comparatively few people, is also an index of the relative frequency of sickness which intimately affects the whole population. A fall in the death rate denotes, not only so many valuable lives saved, but also thousands of days of sickness averted.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the year the number of deaths of children under one year of age was 149 (corrected number from Registrar General), compared with 143 for previous year. The total number of births was 1,282, so that the Infantile Mortality Rate (i.e., the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births) works out at 116.2. The table on page five shows the cause of death at various ages under twelve months. It will be noticed that 56 deaths or about one-third of the total were ascribed to premature birth, atrophy, marasmus, and debility, i.e., ante-natal causes. Apart from these, the chief group of diseases killing the babies before they reach the age of one year are the respiratory diseases, bronchitis and pneumonia, which accounted for 23 deaths.

The following table reveals some interesting facts:—

Births and Infant Mortality in various wards:—

	Central	East	Hexthorpe	St. George's	St. James	Hyde Park	Balby	St. John	Wheatley
No. of Births ..	128	73	180	128	93	196	229	171	95
No. of Deaths, under 1 year ..	29	4	18	25	3	17	25	22	13
Infant Mortality	227.3	54.7	100	195.3	32.2	86.7	109.1	128.6	136.8

It will be seen that the Infantile Mortality Rate is exceptionally heavy in the Central and St. George's wards.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Causes of Death.			Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks to 3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Small Pox	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chicken Pox	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	5
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	3
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningitis (not Tubercular)	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Convulsions	...	...	5	1	0	1	7	2	2	2	0	13
Laryngitis	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bronchitis	...	...	1	0	0	0	1	2	3	2	1	9
Pneumonia (All forms)	...	...	0	0	1	0	1	3	6	6	7	23
Diarrhoea	...	...	0	1	0	0	1	4	0	2	2	9
Enteritis	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gastritis	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	1	5	15
Syphilis	...	...	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	4
Rickets	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Suffocation (overlying)	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injury at Birth	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Atelectasis	...	...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Premature Birth	...	...	24	2	2	1	29	5	0	0	0	34
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	4	3	3	2	12	4	2	2	0	20
Other Causes	...	...	1	1	0	1	3	1	5	3	2	14
Totals	...	...	38	9	7	5	59	23	31	23	20	156

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1903-1921.

Date.	Doncaster.	Wheatley.	Balby-with-Hexthorpe.	Combined Township.
1903	... 181	... 136	... 185	... 167
1904	... 163	... 137	... 159	... 153
1905	... 152	... 152	... 118	... 141
1906	... 164	... 129	... 117	... 137
1907	... 152	... 134	... 134	... 140
1908	... 147	... 97	... 110	... 118
1909	... 129	... 128	... 100	... 119
1910	... 117	... 102	... 99	... 106
1911	... 152	... 94	... 93	... 113
1912	... 113	... 104	... 103	... 107
1913	... 142	... 102	... 101	... 125.7
1914	... 139	... 119.6	... 116.9	... 129.9
Borough Extended 1915.				
1915	... —	... —	... —	... 99.6
1916	... —	... —	... —	... 104
1917	... —	... —	... —	... 110.4
1918	... —	... —	... —	... 96.8
1919	... —	... —	... —	... 81.6
1920	... —	... —	... —	... 100.2
1921	... —	... —	... —	116.2 116.2

III. — NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

The total number of cases notified during 1921 was 310, compared with 282 the previous year, the increase being largely accounted for by the prevalence of Diphtheria in the latter part of the year. The following table shows the number of cases notified in the various age groups:—

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during 1921.

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.														Total Cases R'd to Hospl
	At all ages	At ages — Years.													
		Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5— 10	10— 15	15— 20	20— 35	35— 45	45— 65	65 & over		
Small Pox	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
Diptheria	75	0	1	1	8	4	40	14	1	2	3	1	0	64	
Erysipelas	27	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	5	6	9	0	
Scarlet Fever ..	49	0	0	0	1	1	23	8	3	12	1	0	0	44	
Enteric Fever ..	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	4	
Peurperal Fever ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Ophthalmia Neonatorium.	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	55	0	1	0	0	0	6	1	5	18	12	11	1	0	
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	15	1	2	1	3	0	2	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	
Pneumonia	49	3	1	6	5	1	15	1	1	3	5	3	5	1	
Measles	26	0	0	1	2	2	17	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORIUM.	CASES			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated					
		At Home	In Hospital.				
	8	8	0	5	2	1	0

2. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

YEARS.	No. of Cases.	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CASES.												
		Small-Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Enteric Fever.	Typhus.	Puerperal Fever and Septicaemia.	Erysipelas.	Polio-myelitis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Measles.	Cerebral Spinal Meningitis.	Pneumonia.	Malaria.
1893-1902	255	1.3	157	27.3	26.9	0	1.4	38.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1903-1912	157	3	74.6	29.9	16.5	0.1	2	22	0.1	0	0	0	0	0
1912	65	0	11	18	14	0	0	21	1	0	0	0	0	0
1913	178	0	87	42	8	0	3	38	0	0	0	0	0	0
1914	371	0	235	41	33	0	0	56	1	5	0	0	0	0
Borough Extended	400	0	234	79	17	0	6	46	0	7	0	1	0	0
1915														
1916	1401	0	183	51	4	0	4	40	2	11	1105	1	0	0
1917	684	0	103	52	7	0	1	40	1	10	469	3	0	0
1918	349	0	66	66	2	0	0	32	1	6	176	0	0	0
1919	1597	0	52	20	10	0	2	31	0	11	1291	0	160	17
1920	212	0	76	20	2	0	2	37	0	8	12	1	49	3
1921	240	1	49	75	4	0	1	27	0	8	26	0	49	0

3.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DONCASTER MUNICIPAL BOROUGH, 1921.

CAUSES OF DEATH.						Males.	Females.
All causes (Civilians only)						386	307
1.	Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	0	0
2.	Small Pox	..	..	..	..	0	0
3.	Measles	..	..	..	..	0	1
4.	Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	2	9
6.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	5	3
7.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	18	17
8.	Encephalitis lethargica	..	..	..	..	0	0
9.	Meningococcal meningitis	..	..	..	..	0	0
10.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	34	15
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	10	11
12.	Cancer, malignant disease	..	..	..	..	27	36
13.	Rheumatic Fever	..	..	..	..	2	2
14.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	4	3
15.	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	..	..	..	..	23	20
16.	Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	29	28
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	..	..	..	..	4	4
18.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	32	24
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	38	23
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	6	4
21.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	..	..	..	..	2	1
22.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	18	11
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..	..	..	2	2
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	1	2
25.	Acute and chronic nephritis	..	..	..	..	6	3
26.	Puerperal sepsis	..	..	..	..	0	1
27.	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition.	..	..	..	..	0	2
28.	Congenital Debility, etc.	..	..	..	..	36	20
29.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	7	3
30.	Other deaths from Violence	..	..	..	..	17	4
31.	Other defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	60	54
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	..	..	..	..	3	4
Special Causes (including above) :							
	Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	..	..	..	..	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year {							
Total					..	93	56
Illegitimate					..	6	5
Total Births.. .. .						657	625
Legitimate						612	597
Illegitimate						45	28
Population for Births and Deaths						54700	

SMALL POX.

One case of Small Pox was notified during the year. The disease was of a very mild and aberrant type. The patient made a complete recovery and no other cases developed. The members of the household were re-vaccinated and placed in quarantine in a separate block of the Small Pox Hospital for 16 days. The source of infection could not be traced.

Notification of Small Pox contracts from other places have been received and have been kept under observation as long as necessary. None of the cases developed the disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

49 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, and of these 44 were removed to Hospital. This disease was much less prevalent than during 1920, when 76 cases occurred. The disease was of a very mild type and there were no deaths. There were no "return" cases.

DIPHTHERIA.

This disease was rather prevalent in the latter half of the year. Altogether 75 cases were notified—an attack rate of 1.3 per 1,000—as against 20 in 1920.

The cases notified in the different months of the year were as follows:—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3	4	2	1	3	6	7	6	5	17	12	9

Of the total cases no fewer than 54 occurred in the 5-15 age group, whilst 14 were under 5 years of age. (For further particulars as to age groups see Table on page 7).

65 cases were removed to Carr House Hospital. The disease accounted for 8 deaths, giving a case mortality of 10.6%, and a mortality rate of .14 per 1,000 living. 6 of the deaths occurred at Carr House Hospital, 3 of the cases dying on the day of admission.

Energetic measures were taken by the Public Health Department in dealing with the disease. A large number of swabs were taken from persons in affected households and from School children. In only a few cases were positive results received. These children were excluded from school and other precautions taken until further examination failed to reveal the presence of the specific organism. All patients treated at the Hospital were detained until three successive swabs taken at intervals of a few days gave a negative result.

Diphtheria antitoxin was supplied to Medical Practitioners free of charge for use in the poorer patients. Antitoxin was administered to all cases treated at Carr House Hospital.

ENTERIC FEVER.

There were 4 cases of Enteric Fever notified during the year. Two of the patients were treated at Carr House Hospital, and one died 2 days after admission. The other was discharged cured. The other two patients died, one at the Royal Infirmary and the other at the Union Infirmary.

The three fatal cases did not reside in the Borough.

ERYSIPELAS.

Twenty-seven cases of this disease were notified, in contrast to 37 in 1920. One severe case proved fatal.

PNEUMONIA.

There were 49 notifications of Pneumonia during the period. All pneumonia cases are visited by the Health Visitors, who give advice regarding isolation, ventilation, cleanliness, etc. On recovery or death of the patient, disinfection is carried out.

MALARIA, DYSENTERY AND TRENCH FEVER

There were no notifications of these diseases during the year.

INFLUENZA.

Towards the end of the year, Influenza was again epidemic. The disease was of a milder type than in former outbreaks, still 35 deaths were registered as due to Influenza and 64 as due to Pneumonia.

Almost half the deaths occurred in children under 5 years of age, the heaviest mortality being in children under 1 year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Eight cases of this disease were notified during the year, 3 by Medical Practitioners and 5 by Midwives practising in the Borough.

Five cases were cured, without impairment of vision. Of the remaining three, vision was considerably impaired in two cases, and one child is completely blind.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 70 cases of tuberculosis were notified. Of these 55 were pulmonary and 15 other forms of tuberculosis. In 1920 70 cases were also notified.

All cases notified are visited and the house is thoroughly inspected, and where defects are found notices are issued. On death of a tubercular patient the house is disinfected.

The total number of deaths from Tuberculosis during the year was 70—a tuberculosis death rate of 1.27 per 1,000. Of this number, 49 were pulmonary, making the Pulmonary Tuberculosis death rate .9 per 1,000.

Twenty-three deaths from Tuberculosis which had not been notified by Medical Practitioners occurred during the period under review.

IV.—SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

No permanent provision is made by the Authority for the nursing of Infectious or Non-infectious patients in their homes. In the event of this being required for Measles and the like, the Public Health Committee have authorised the engagement of extra nursing assistance.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) SCHOOL CLINIC.—This Clinic is open every morning for the treatment of minor ailments.

(b) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—This is held in the same premises as the School Clinic but at different times. The Centre is open two afternoons each week. The numbers attending the Centre continue to increase. Consultations are held and advice given to the mothers. Milk and other foods are supplied at cost price and in necessitous cases free of charge.

(c) VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC.—This is under the West Riding County Council and is held at the Royal Infirmary. I am indebted to Dr. Callander, the Medical Officer of the Centre, for the following account of the Borough inhabitants treated during the year:—

Borough patients treated for Venereal Disease				
during 1921	...	...	...	83
Total attendance of above patients	...	...	...	1460

(d) TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.—This is under the control of the West Riding County Council.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

There are two Hospitals in the Borough for the treatment of Infectious Diseases.

(1) CARR HOUSE HOSPITAL.—This Hospital is used chiefly for the treatment of cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever, but occasionally patients suffering from other Infectious Diseases, e.g., Measles, Pneumonia, Erysipelas, etc., are admitted. There is accommodation for 56 patients at this Hospital. During the year 118 patients were treated, with 7 deaths.

In previous reports, the structure of the Hospital, and its suitability as an Infectious Diseases Hospital, have been commented upon.

(2) SMALL POX HOSPITAL.—This Hospital is situated in the Balby District and is quite suitable in construction and equipment. There is accommodation for 20 patients. During the year one case of Small Pox was treated at the Hospital.

VOLUNTARY HOSPITAL—DONCASTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.

There is accommodation at this Hospital for 65 patients. The majority of the cases admitted into the Institution are of a surgical nature.

No institutional provision is provided for unmarried mothers or illegitimate infants.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.—A horse ambulance is provided at each of the two Isolation Hospitals.

(b) FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.—Two motor and two hand ambulances are available and are kept at the Police Station.

V.—LABORATORY WORK.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

All samples for Chemical analysis have been submitted to the Public Analyst for the Borough. The work has been satisfactorily performed and the arrangements have worked smoothly. For details as to samples submitted and adulterations see Report of Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The Bacteriological work of the Borough is performed by the West Riding Authorities at Wakefield. The Medical Practitioners avail themselves of the facilities to an increasing extent each year.

LISTS OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS, AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.—Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890
(parts 2, 3 and 4).

LOCAL ACTS.—Doncaster Corporation Act, 1904.
Doncaster Corporation Act, 1915.

BYE-LAWS dated 1921 are in force governing the following :—

- Nuisances.
- Removal of House Refuse.
- Ashpits.
- Slaughter Houses.
- Common Lodging Houses.
- Houses Let in Lodgings.
- Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.
- Offensive Trades.

REGULATIONS.—Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

VI.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—During the year 1379 privies were converted into water closets. This is the largest number for any year since the work commenced and it is hoped that the Borough will soon be free from objectionable privy middens. At the end of the year there were 1722 privy ashpits in the Borough.

The following table shows how this work has proceeded since 1903:—

			Average per year.		Total.
1903-1907	...	...	32.6	...	163
1908-1912	...	...	41.6	...	208
1913-1917	...	...	200.4	...	1002
1918	...	...	—	...	1
1919	...	...	—	...	8
1920	...	...	—	...	432
1921	...	...	—	...	1379

During the war and the two succeeding years the work of privy conversion had to be discontinued, otherwise all the privies in the Borough would have been converted into water closets long ere this.

SCAVENGING.—The management of this work is conducted by the Health Department. The contents of privy ashpits are disposed of at the Destructor and Low Pasture. The tipping of nightsoil on Low Pasture is liable to create a nuisance, but the quantity so disposed of is rapidly diminishing owing to the conversion of privies into water closets.

WATER SUPPLY.—During the year the water supply of the Borough has been augmented by the opening of the Armthorpe Borehole. This boring is 320 feet deep and is capable of supplying 500,000 gallons of water per day. The water is pumped to a water tower from which it gravitates to the Town. Chemical and bacteriological examination shows the water to be of good quality.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—A new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme is under consideration and an inquiry was conducted by the Ministry of Health in November. Formal approval has not yet been obtained, but permission has been given for part of the work to be proceeded with.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are three Slaughter Houses in the Borough—1 Public and 2 Private. These are inspected regularly and all meat killed at these Slaughter Houses is inspected before distribution to the Shops. For particulars of animals killed at the various Slaughter Houses, see Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—All these premises have been regularly inspected. The following are the numbers on the Register:—

Number of Cowkeepers	10
Number of Cowkeepers, also Purveyors ...	8
Number of Purveyors	27

The greater part of the milk consumed in Doncaster comes from outside sources. It is brought chiefly by rail, and is hence liable to contamination during transit.

SANITARY CONDITION OF PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.—Supervision has been maintained over all places where food is prepared or exposed for sale. These include Fried Fish Shops, Sausage and Polony Shops, Pork Pie Shops, Bakehouses, etc.

It is desirable that before such shops are opened, notification of their intention to do so should be sent to the Local Authority and permission granted by the Authority only when the premises are satisfactory. In some instances persons begin business in a small way in most unsuitable premises, and some time may elapse before our attention is called to the fact.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are 7 Common Lodging Houses in the Borough registered to accommodate 197 adults and 8 children. There is no accommodation for women or married couples at any of the above houses. All have been inspected regularly and where any infringement of the Byelaws has been found, verbal notice was given and complied with in all cases. New byelaws (dated 1921) governing Common Lodging Houses are in force. No case of Infectious Disease has been notified at Common Lodging Houses during the year.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.—New Byelaws (dated 1921) governing houses Let in Lodgings have been adopted. A register of such houses is being prepared and will enable us to keep them under closer supervision.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISINFECTION.—A high pressure steam disinfecter is installed at Carr House Hospital, and bedding, clothing, etc., from houses where infectious disease has occurred is removed there for disinfection. The apparatus is in good working order, and there is no communication, except through the disinfecter, between the room into which infected articles are put and that which receives them after disinfection.

Disinfection in houses where infectious cases have occurred is carried out chiefly by formalin, and stripping of the room is insisted upon in all cases.

There is no cleansing station in the Borough.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

- (1) Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer.
- (2) Assistant Medical Officer of Health, who is also Assistant School Medical Officer.
- (3) Chief Sanitary Inspector.
- (4) Three Assistant Sanitary Inspectors.
- (5) Chief Health Visitor, also Chief School Nurse.
- (6) Four Assistant Health Visitors, also Assistant School Nurses.
- (7) Office Staff :—
 - 2 Male Clerks.
 - 1 Female Clerk, also engaged part time at School Medical Work.
 - 1 Office Girl, also engaged part time at School Medical Work.

VIII.—HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	103
(b) As part of the Municipal Housing Scheme						92

(1) UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

Inspection—(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	1281
(b) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...			1052
(c) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...		nil.
(d) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	*358

(2) REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	113
Number of defects partly remedied	...	...	34

(3) ACTION UNDER STATUTORY NOTICES.

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., 1919:—

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit:— | |
| (a) By owners | nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | nil. |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | nil. |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 25 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied:— | |
| (a) By owners | 18 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 7 |

C.—No proceedings have been taken under Sections 17 and 18 of Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

*A large number of these defects were of a very minor character.



Annual Report of the Chief Health Visitor to the Public Health Committee for the Year ending December 31st, 1921.

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1921.

It will be noticed that there is a slight increase in the percentage of infants who are artificially fed from birth. We may assume that ante-natal conditions and the health of the mother account for this, but there is a decided tendency to supplement natural feeding at an earlier date than was the case a few years ago. This I attribute to the increased advertising of dried milk, and patent baby foods, which, by suggestion, leads the mother to believe that the baby requires a supplemental supply at a very early age.

That the popularity of dried milk is increasing is due to the many adverse criticisms on the methods of production, supply, and delivery of cows' milk, and the frequent references in the daily press to its causation of various diseases, the veracity of which may well be challenged.

Pure cows' milk is undoubtedly the best and cheapest substitute for natural milk, and that it should have to be cleansed and manufactured before it can safely be given to young children suggests apathy on the part of the public, and the exploitation to trade interest of the health and physique of our future citizens.

It has often been suggested that something should be done to interest the father in Infant Welfare work, but the suggestion stage has been left behind as far as Doncaster fathers are concerned. They have been of the greatest help to us, by encouraging their wives to attend the Infant Welfare, and by taking an interest in the weight charts which show the progress or otherwise of their babies. They frequently thank us for the help we have given, and one father said, "Nurse, I used to be against all this sort of thing, but I am beginning to see what a help it is to us all. Things are so different in these days, and we ought not to be content to live and do the same as our parents and grandparents did."

Again, there is an increase in the number of infants born in houses occupied by two or more families.

A few years ago, the only reason for this condition was the shortage of houses: people had money to pay rents which were not excessive. Now another factor enters, i.e., shortage of work and consequent reduction in wages. In very many cases it is impossible to pay the advanced rent and rates, therefore it becomes a necessity to occupy portions of houses.

The deaths of 131 babies have been investigated. Many of them were unavoidable, due to pre-natal conditions, etc.; some due to mismanagement and ignorance of the elementary laws of Hygiene and Dietetics, might have been saved under more favourable conditions. But the outstanding point is, that out of the above total, 47 (including 5 illegitimate children) or 35% babies died in houses occupied by more than one family. When we consider what this means, it will throw some light upon our high Infant Mortality rate.

Wherever two or more families live in small houses, it means that the kitchen, water supply, washhouse, food and coal stores, and lavatory accommodation are communal. If there are no children, this arrangement may act more or less satisfactorily, but the introduction of children, affects the whole situation, and is frequently disastrous to the mental and physical wellbeing of the whole household. The parents live in a state of high nervous tension, frequently irritable, and always trying to arrange their domestic duties to accommodate the other occupants of the home. Frequently friction arises amongst the families, and as a consequence, the general health is lowered, and the nervous stability shaken. When the children are ill, the conditions are aggravated, and the effects are apparent in a high mortality rate.

Infant Welfare workers and Centres cannot make or keep infants healthy. Every social activity touching the lives of the community must co-operate, and until this (perhaps a Utopian ideal) is done, much labour, thought and money is wasted on attempting to achieve the impossible.

HOME VISITATIONS.

During the year, 6,287 homes were visited. 4,609 visits were paid to infants under one year of age, of which 1,143 were first visits.

The total number of these babies who died under 1 year was 59, making an infant mortality rate of 46.0 per 1,000, or 70 less than the infantile mortality rate of the district.

No less than 463, or 40.5 per cent., of the total new babies visited were born in houses occupied by more than one family. This did not apply to any particular district, it was general throughout the town.

The methods of feeding at the time of the first visit were :

Naturally Fed ...	...	...	989
Partly Naturally Fed ...	...	...	38
Artificially Fed ...	...	...	116

Therefore 89.8% of babies began life having their natural food.

RE-VISITS.

3,185 babies under 1 year, and 1,162 re-visits were made to children between the ages of 1—5. Advice on management, feeding, clothing and minor ailments was given, applicable to each individual case.

ANTI-NATAL VISITS.

98 Anti-natal cases were visited, and 37 re-visits were made.

STILLBIRTHS.

The causes of 36 Stillbirths were investigated.

EARLY NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Total Number of Births Notified by Doctors ...	764
Total Number of Births Notified by Midwives ...	513
Total Number of Births Notified by Parents ...	26
Late Notification ...	41
Total ...	1344

TUBERCULAR DISEASE.

78 new cases of Tubercular Disease were visited, and 575 re-visits were paid. Arrangements were made in 26 cases, to disinfect the homes where deaths occurred from this disease.

PNEUMONIA.

18 new cases of notified Pneumonia were visited, 10 re-visited, and arrangements were made in all cases to disinfect the homes where the cases had occurred.

MISCELLANEOUS VISITS ... 151.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

This branch of Public Health Work continues to increase in usefulness and importance, until at the present time it is firmly established as one of the recognised institutions in the town.

At the commencement of the year, there were 508 names on the register, 523 new members joined, and at the end of the year there were 1,031 members, with an average weekly attendance for the year of 111 babies, 193 mothers, and 67 children. Total: 371.

The Nursery is open one day per week. Here, children under school age, are left in charge of a nurse while their mothers are engaged with the babies in the consulting and tea rooms. Average weekly attendance, 30. Total: 1,419.

27 children died who were members of the Infant Welfare Centre. The following is a brief synopsis of the cases:—

55% were ill on admittance.

37% made only one attendance each.

55% were first children of young parents.

66% were wholly or partly artificially fed.

SUPPLY OF MILK TO NECESSITOUS CASES.

During the year 41 mothers have been supplied with cows' milk free and 53 with dried milk, for varying periods, according to needs of the cases.

A large quantity of dried milk has been sold at a cheap rate, so that there has been no need for underfeeding of infants.

MATERNITY OUTFIT.

1921 was the first full year that the work had been administered by this department, and as was anticipated, more applications were made for the loan of the clothing than in the previous years. 38 outfits were lent out.

L. McNICOLL.

Sanitary Inspector's Report *for the Year 1921.*

NUISANCES.

Complaints received and dealt with	...	...	...	418
Inspections	...	...	...	6577
Preliminary Notices Issued (Written and Verbal)	...			932
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	26
Notices complied with	...	...	...	836
Notices not fully complied with	...	...	...	61
Notices not complied with	...	...	...	61
Inspection of School Premises	...	...	...	8
Inspection of Common Yards and Passages	...	...		2111
Inspection of Caravans	...	...	...	8
Inspection of Urinals	...	...	...	349
Inspection of Entertainment Places	...	...	...	19
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	1
Drains Tested	...	...	...	28
Special inspections re water supplies and drainage	...			482
Legal proceedings for refusing to admit Inspector	...			1
Nuisances abated and defects remedied	...	...		3104

Comprising as follows:—

Ashpits repaired or provided with doors	...	...	16
Ashpits abolished	...	...	4
Ashpits limewashed (after cases of disease)	...		47
Accumulation of Offensive Refuse removed	...		45
Nuisance from Offensive Trades abated	...	...	2
Privies abolished	...	...	8
Yard Pavings, repaired or renewed	...	...	45
Flooded Cellars, nuisances abated	...	...	16
Smoky Chimneys	do.	...	5
Overcrowding	do.	...	4
Keeping of Animals	do.	...	90
Sanitary ashbins provided	...	...	212
W.C.'s provided with water for flushing	...	...	26
Privies converted into W.C.'s	...	...	1379

W.C.'s and privies repaired or provided with new doors	77
W.C.'s and privies cleansed	19
W.C.'s provided with new pans	50
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	86
Yards and passages cleansed	22
Drains cleaned out, repaired or retrapped	244
Drains relayed	2
Gullies cleaned out	41
Gullies provided with new grates	28
Drains—inspection chambers provided	4
do. inspection chambers repaired or new covers fixed	4
do. ventilating shafts repaired	12
Water supply—wells cleaned out	1
Water supply—service pipes repaired	4
Dykes cleaned out	1
Houses and bedding cleansed	20
Sinks—renewed	69
Sinks—new waste pipes provided, repaired or cleaned out	33
Urinals—provided with flushing apparatus	3
do. abolished	2
do. cleansed	1
Lavatory basins renewed	1
New eaves-gutters or fall pipes provided	29
Eaves-gutters or fall pipes cleaned out and repaired	77
Fall pipes disconnected from drains	2
Cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	7
Workshops ventilated	3
do. cleansed and limewashed	9
do. new sanitary accommodation provided	1
do. internal W.C. abolished	1
do. ventilated space provided between sanitary convenience and workrooms	2
Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed	8
do. walls and ceiling repaired	1
do. ventilated	1

Dwelling-house walls, roofs, floors, doors, fire-places and chimneys repaired ...	145
do. range repaired	34
do. water supply fixed inside	6
do. windows repaired or sashes re-corded	105
do. new windows	2
do. chimneys re-built	4
do. foodstores ventilated	1
do. coppers repaired or renewed ...	35
do. additional sinks provided	6
do. dangerous buildings removed ...	2

PRIVY CONVERSION WORK.

No. of Inspections made	10008
No. of Statutory Notices	1380
No. of privies converted into W.C.'s	1379

Note.—In all these cases the ashpits have been abolished and sanitary ashbins provided.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inspections made	229
Visits re Isolation of Cases	71
Rooms inspected after disinfection	186
Rooms disinfected	179
Rooms, Articles and Clothing, etc., disinfected ...	2423
Notices sent to Schools	184
Notices sent to Public Library	50

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

Cases Reported	24
Cases Confirmed	1
Cases Not Confirmed	23
Visits to Infected Premises	111
Inspections of Cattle Trucks and Sidings	104

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

No. of Samples taken (comprising as follows) ...	116
New Milk	51

Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Lard	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Separated Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sweet Spirits of Nitre	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Camphorated Oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paregoric	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gregory Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Compound Liquorice Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Glycerine	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Friars Balsam	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Epsom Salts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of Samples Adulterated (including 1 informal sample)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
No. of Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of Cautions	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS.

Samples of Milk examined	...	...	...	...	54
Samples of Cream examined	...	...	...	...	7
Contraventions	...	...	...	...	1

SLAUGHTER HOUSES, SHOPS AND MARKETS.

Public Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	1
Private Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	2
Inspections of Slaughter Houses, Shops & Markets	...	...	...	...	369
Animals killed at the Public Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	20165
Animals killed at the Private Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	3239
Offensive Trades (including Fried Fish and Marine Stores in the Balby-with-Hexthorpe area)	...	...	...	...	14
Inspections	...	...	...	...	78
Fried Fish Shops on Register	...	...	...	...	48
Inspections	...	...	...	...	72
Ice Cream Shops on Register	...	...	...	...	54
Inspections	...	...	...	...	32

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following is a list of Food condemned and destroyed or otherwise disposed of so that the same could not be used for human food :—

At the Public Slaughter House.	{	Whole Carcases and Offals ...	88
		Forequarters of Beef ...	5
		Hindquarter of Beef ...	1
		Quarters of Veal	2
At the Private Slaughter Houses	{	Whole Carcases and Offals ...	7
		Beast Livers	6
		Beast Lungs	2
		Pig Livers	2
At Shops and Warehouses.	{	Calf Liver	1
		202 lbs. Beef.	
		144 lbs. Bacon.	
		144 lbs. Tripe.	
		38 lbs. Sausages.	
		88 lbs. Frozen Eggs.	
		40 lbs. Butter.	
		17 tins Meats.	
		1 Hamper of Rabbits.	
		1 Kit and 1 bass of Haddocks.	
		1 Box of Ling and 3 boxes, 2 bass and 1 kit of mixed Fish.	
		10 bags Vegetables.	
		4½ barrels Apples.	
		276 Rabbits.	
		63 boxes Mackerel.	
		390 tins Fish, Fruit and Milk.	
		23 Cowheels.	
		112 lbs. Codlings.	
		347 lbs. Chilled Halibut.	

COWKEEPERS AND MILK PURVEYORS.

No. on Register	...	...	...	...	...	45
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	142

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on Register	...	...	...	...	180
No. of Outworkers (February List)	...	...	...	...	15
No. of Outworkers (August List)	...	...	...	...	13
Inspections	...	...	...	...	213
Reports from Factory Inspector	...	...	...	...	5

CANAL BOATS.

On Register	...	...	...	...	...	134
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	46
Persons on Board (Adults)	...	...	...	...	...	83
Persons on Board (Children)	...	...	...	...	...	5
Contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	5

LODGING HOUSES.

On Register	...	...	...	...	...	7
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1043

SCAVENGING.

Privy Middens Emptied	...	...	...	...	10588
Dry Ashpits Emptied	...	...	...	...	8084
Sanitary Bins and Boxes Emptied	...	...	...	...	weekly
Loads removed, Nightsoil	...	...	...	...	4629
„ „ Dry Ashes	...	...	...	...	4022½
„ „ Bell Cart Refuse	...	...	...	...	8533

DISPOSAL OF NIGHTSOIL.

Loads to the Destructor	...	...	...	...	940
„ „ Low Pasture	...	...	...	...	3520
„ „ Allotments	...	...	...	...	165
„ „ Balby Tip	...	...	...	...	4

DISPOSAL OF DRY ASHES.

Loads to the Destructor	...	...	...	...	669
„ „ Low Pasture	...	...	...	...	3280
„ „ Balby Tip	...	...	...	...	39
„ „ Marsh Gate	...	...	...	...	22½
„ „ Allotments and Other Places	...	...	...	...	12

DISPOSAL OF BELL CART REFUSE.

Loads to the Destructor	...	...	...	...	5111½
„ „ Balby Tip	...	...	...	...	2527
„ „ Low Pasture	...	...	...	...	848
„ „ Marsh Gate Tip	43½
„ „ Carr	3

HOUSING REGULATIONS.

No. of Dwelling Houses Inspected	1052
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SANITARY ACCOMMODATION (Approximate).

Dwelling Houses provided with Privies and Ashpits	1722
Dwelling Houses provided with Dry Ashpits	... 2280
Dwelling Houses provided with W.C.'s and Sanitary Bins or other Moveable Receptacles	... 8480

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT.

Persons Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6

HERBERT INNOCENT, Sanitary Inspector.