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DONCASTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE ANNUAL
REPORT

for the year 1950

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A. PENMAN
M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

A. REYNOLDS
C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.



Public Health Department, Nether Hall, Doncaster

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DONCASTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Doncaster Rural District Council
Public Health Department,
Nether Hall,
Doncaster.

August, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members,
Doncaster Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the state of public health of the District in accordance with my statutory duty. I have personally written on vital statistics, services rendered by the County Council, infectious diseases and part of the sanitary circumstances. The rest of the report, including the remainder of sanitary circumstances, housing, the supervision of Food and Public Cleansing have been contributed by Mr. A. Reynolds, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The birth, general death rates, and the death rate from tuberculosis compare favourably with those for England and Wales. The maternal mortality is slightly above the national figure, not due to the extent or quality of the effort expended to circumvent it, but mainly owing to a small minority of expectant mothers who failed to co-operate. The infant mortality, which over the past thirty years has been reduced to less than half its former dimensions, has stubbornly resisted further reduction for the past four years and now is well above the national rate. To make sure these tender lives survive, the environment must be improved (housing and atmospheric pollution), breast feeding encouraged in order to reduce the diarrhoea and enteritis rate, and measures to save premature babies intensified both in hospital and home.

I have to thank the Council for their encouragement and my staff for their help and support.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. PENMAN, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1950.

(based on Registrar General's figures)

	Doncaster R.D.	Aggregate W. Riding Rural Districts.	W. Riding Adminis- trative County	England and Wales.
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)	18.2	18.1	16.3	15.8
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated population):—				
(a) all causes	11.9	11.2	11.8	11.6
(b) Infective and Parasitic diseases excluding Tuberculosis; Syphilis and other V.D.	0.19	0.11	0.10	*
(c) Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.23	0.25	0.26	0.32
(d) Other forms of Tuberculosis..	0.09	0.04	0.04	0.04
(e) Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1.24	0.94	1.18	*
(f) Cancer (including Leukæmia and Aleukæmia) ..	1.39	1.51	1.83	1.99
Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) ...	54	39	35	30
Diarrhoea (deaths under 2 years per 1,000 live births)	4.98	*	*	1.0
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live and still births	1.95	1.06	0.98	0.86

* Figures not available.

Year	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	All Forms of Tuberculosis	Infant Mortality	Maternal Mortality
1911	35.1	14.9	1.32	126.4	*
1916	30.6	13.9	1.64	106.9	*
1921	30.8	14.0	1.14	130.9	*
1926	29.4	10.3	0.8	82.3	*
1931	23.1	9.10	0.9	81.5	*
1936	18.42	8.74	0.56	61.0	8.25
1937	18.23	8.72	0.67	55.0	5.35
1938	18.76	8.01	0.38	48.0	9.15
1939	19.21	8.59	0.58	56.0	2.92
1940	20.11	9.11	0.49	67.0	0.98
1941	20.8	9.3	0.61	61.0	4.59
1942	20.8	8.1	0.47	41.0	2.91
1943	20.6	9.3	0.58	54.0	4.83
1944	23.9	8.8	0.55	42.0	4.97
1945	20.8	8.6	0.59	61.0	0.94
1946	21.9	7.9	0.39	42.0	2.56
1947	22.36	9.66	0.73	58.4	2.46
1948	22.06	9.2	0.53	49.8	1.68
1949	19.98	9.15	0.55	52.98	1.85
1950	18.81	9.05	0.34	53.79	1.95

* Figures not available

SECTION A

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	73,755
Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year home population	53,380
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950) according to rate books	14,126
Rateable value	£259,104
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,003 15s 10d

Live Births

	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	515	443	958	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population — 18·81 (England and Wales—15·8)
Illegitimate	25	21	46	
	540	464	1,004	

Still Births.

Legitimate	12	10	22	Still birth rate per 1000 of estimated population—0·41 (England and Wales—0·37).
Illegitimate	—	—	—	

Deaths of Infants.

Under 1 year.

Legitimate	31	23	54	Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births 53·79 (England and Wales—29·8).
Illegitimate	—	—	—	

Deaths of Infants.

Under 4 weeks of age.

Legitimate	17	14	31
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Deaths (all causes).

264	219	483	Crude death rate per 1000 estimated population — 9·05. Adjusted death rate — 11·8 (England and Wales—11·6).
-----	-----	-----	---

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

(a) Respiratory	10	2	12	Tuberculosis death rate per 1000 estimated population — 0·32 (England and Wales—0·36).
(b) Non-respiratory	2	3	5	

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year home population was 53,380. This is not comparable with last year's since it contains members of the armed forces stationed locally: the estimates of former years have been purely civilian.

The excess of births over deaths was 521—which represents the natural increase.

The 1951 Census figures are available; I include them in this report. 53,332.

Births.

Live births were down by 53 at 1,004 causing a fall in the birth rate to 18.81 from 19.98 in the previous year. The national birth rate fell from 16.7 to 15.8.

Still births at 22 were two less than in the previous year and gave a still birth rate of 0.41, compared by that of 0.37 for England and Wales.

Deaths.

483 deaths from all causes were recorded (males 265, females 219), one less than in 1949 giving a crude death rate of 9.05 per 1,000 of the population. When this rate is adjusted by a factor supplied by the Registrar-General to make it comparable, from the point of view of age and sex distribution, with England and Wales, the death rate then is 11.8. The death rate from England and Wales is estimated at 11.6.

The principal causes of death were:—

	1950	Compare with—	
		1949	1948
Diseases of the heart and circulation including vascular lesions of the nervous system	200	170	168
Pneumonia, bronchitis, influenza, etc.	66	84	75
Cancer	74	70	64
Accidents and other violence (road 5; other accidents 13; suicide 5; homicide 1)	24	29	28
Tuberculous diseases	17	28	23

These causes constituted about 80 per cent. of the total.

Maternal Mortality:—

	Rate per 1,000 live and still births	
	Doncaster Rural District	England and Wales
Cause of Death.		
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.09
Other abortion	0.00	0.05
Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.97	0.54
Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.00	0.03
Other complications of the puerperium	0.97	0.15
	1.95	0.86

There were 1,026 live and still births and an unknown number of pregnancies which did not reach term, but only two mothers died.

Both mothers had refused to follow the medical advice given to them earlier in pregnancy when abnormalities were discovered.

This failure to co-operate on the part of a very few is a now familiar story in this district and results in the local maternal mortality rate comparing unfavourably with the national rate although the scope and quality of the efforts exerted to reduce it are well above the average. Fourteen years ago the maternal mortality rate for Doncaster Rural District was 8.25 per 1,000 live and still births. Progress has been great up to a point, but it looks as if the hard core of the problem has now been reached as the downward trend of the local rate has ceased for the past three years.

Infantile Mortality.

54 infants (31 males; 23 females) died before reaching the age of 12 months. The infantile mortality rate was thus 53·79 per 1,000 live births which compared very unfavourably with the corresponding rate for England and Wales of 29·8.

The causes of death, ages, and sex of the infants are set out in the accompanying table:—

CAUSES OF DEATH — 1950. REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.

Cause of Death	Total		Under 4 wks.		4 wks. to 3 mths.		3 to 6 months		6 to 9 months		9 to 12 months	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Measles	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
C.S.M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Gastro-Enteritis...	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
Premature Birth	12	7	12	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cong. Defects and Icterus...	3	6	3	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
Development and Wasting Diseases...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.B. Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia...	6	7	1	3	3	1	—	3	1	—	1	—
Birth Injuries	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	3	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	31	23	17	14	5	3	3	5	5	1	1	—

The principal causes of death were:—Prematurity, 19; bronchitis and pneumonia, 13; congenital defects, 9; diarrhoea and gastro-enteritis, 5. Seven of the instances of prematurity were hospital born and followed some abnormality of pregnancy. The gastro-enteritis rate, although still high, was an improvement upon previous years and corresponded with an increase in the practice of breast feeding.

The distribution of the deaths was as follows:—(figures in brackets are live births for the parish). Askern 11 (146); Armthorpe 9 (146); Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall 8 (76); Rossington 8 (173); Edlington 7 (137); Sprotbrough 5 (82); Adwick-on-Deane 1 (3); Austerfield 1 (8); Braithwell 1 (9); Conisborough Parks 1 (4); Norton 1 (34); Warmsworth 1 (35).

There were no infant deaths in the following parishes:—(live birth in brackets) Awkley (8) Barnborough (8); Bawtry (27); Blaxton (9); Brodsworth (23); Burghwallis (4); Cadeby (5); Cantley (7); Clayton-with-Frickley (5); Old Denaby (1); Fenwick (2); Hampole (3); Hickleton (2); Hooton Pagnell (4); Kirk Bramwith (4); Loversall (4); Marr (2); High Melton (4); Moss (4); Owston (1); Stainton (2); Thorpe-in-Balne (1); Wadworth (12).

Seven of the infants who died at Askern succumbed to bronchitis or pneumonia; and Askern is a parish where pollution of the atmosphere by industrial smoke is heavy.

Edlington shewed a remarkable improvement in the figures of infant mortality. Usually Edlington ranks alongside Askern. It may be one of the first fruits of the new housing schemes at Edlington or in part due to the duplication of the health visiting staff.

The figures for Barnby Dun, Kirk Sandall and for Armthorpe are frankly disappointing having regard to the comparatively good conditions prevailing and to the services available.

SECTION B

Services Provided by the County Council.

This brief summary is not comprehensive and is not meant to replace the report of the County Medical Officer and the Chief School Medical Officer.

HEALTH VISITING.

There were 10 full-time qualified Health Visitors including a Senior Health Visitor and one part-time qualified Health Visitor on duty during the year. They were assisted by 2 full-time and 2 part-time Assistant Health Visitors.

The Health Visitors paid visits to infants after the Midwives had finished their nursing duties, re-visited toddlers, made arrangements for immunisation and vaccination, attended Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinics, special clinics (ultra-violet ray, orthopaedic, child health specialist and Chest Clinic) and furnished reports on home conditions of patients in hospital.

The Senior Health Visitor interviewed home helps to ascertain their suitability and attended the Western Hospital and Hamilton Annexe, Doncaster, as visiting Almoner, and had charge of the special care of illegitimate children and adoptions.

The numbers of visits paid by Health Visitors during the year were as follows:—

	First Visits	Total Visits
(1) Expectant Mothers	437	781
(2) Children under 1 year of age	1,091	7,455
(3) Children between the ages of 1 year and 5 years	30	9,809
(4) Other classes	540	1,535
	2,098	19,580

This year the number of visits to cases of infectious diseases was much larger than usual owing to the commencement of a measles epidemic following a poliomyelitis epidemic in the Autumn.

During the year a sun-ray clinic was established at Sprotborough (two sessions per week) in the Autumn, Winter and Spring. This work has been added to the following sessions which are a call on the nurses' time:—

	Average number of sessions per week.
Ante-Natal Clinics	8
Infant Welfare Clinics	8
Ultra Violet Ray Clinics	2
Paediatric Clinic	$\frac{1}{4}$
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	$\frac{1}{4}$
Tuberculosis Dispensary	$\frac{1}{2}$
School Clinics	1/
School Medical Inspections	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Immunisation and Vaccination	2
Inspections in Schools	3

I have called attention to the increased clinics at Askern during the year and it would appear necessary that a second Health Visitor be appointed because of the adverse conditions. The amount of enlightenment necessary to make conditions approach normal is such as to need a concentration of educative forces.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

80 per cent. of expectant mothers attended Local Authority's Ante-Natal Clinics. During the year it was found necessary to increase the number of sessions at Askern Clinic; an improvement which was really long overdue. Askern usually shares with Edlington not only the high birth rate but also an unduly high maternal mortality rate.

The number of sessions was increased at Edlington in the previous year and two Health Visitors have been based on that parish owing to the pressure of adverse conditions and unfavourable statistics of maternal and infant loss.

Midwives co-operated well and attended Ante-Natal Clinics with their cases. All midwives except two have been issued with sphygmomanometers so that increased blood pressure in toxic cases could be detected at the earliest moment.

Number of expectant mothers referred to the Consultant

Obstetrician through ordinary Ante-Natal Clinics	189
Number of such mothers referred by Consultant for confinement in hospital	125
Number referred by Consultant for other treatment	10
Number referred by Consultant for Domiciliary confinement	46
Number receiving post-natal care from Consultant	7
Number removed from district	1

Post-Natal Clinics

No Clinics are held specially for post-natal advice. Ante-Natal clinics cater for them in this Division. Only 82 attendances were made post-natally and this means that only one mother in ten returned for advice. On making enquiries I am told by my Health Visitors that most mothers go to their own National Health Service doctors post-natally. There is some reason to believe, however, that the sessions allocated to ante-natal work are barely sufficient to allow of this work alone and extension of post-natal work would entail more Health Visitors time in clinics than could be spared at the moment, but it is desirable that at least one routine post-natal check should be made in each case six weeks after birth. The Hospital Board's medical staff are encouraging mothers delivered in hospital to return to a special post-natal clinic for this purpose.

Infant Welfare.

About 66 per cent. of the infant population were brought to Infant Welfare Centres in the Division during the year. No doubt some attended Centres outside the Division, e.g. Goldthorpe, Bentley, Mexborough and Doncaster.

54 infants died before reaching the age of 12 months and a comprehensive analysis of this is given in Section A Statistics, page 9.

Health Visitors reported on the environmental conditions and standard of mothercraft in 40 of these cases in which such factors had full opportunity to influence the life of the child. In only three cases was mothercraft described as indifferent and in one of these, housing conditions were bad as well. In all the others the Health Visitors considered housing conditions and mothercraft at least average.

Midwives.

The following changes took place in 1950:—

Midwife Mrs. L. M. Morton, Askern, left the County Service.

Midwife Mrs. M. Jones, Edlington, transferred to Askern.

Midwife Miss M. Thickett, Warmsworth, left the County Service.

Midwives Miss M. Blacker and Mrs. D. M. Ibbitson were appointed to Edlington and Warmsworth areas.

Midwife Miss E. Stevenson, Sprotborough, became a student Health Visitor in June, 1950.

Owing to the somewhat smaller number of births it was not considered necessary to ask for a replacement for Miss E. Stevenson.

For a considerable part of the year Mrs. S. Rollinson was off duty on maternity leave.

320 Medical Aid Notices were issued in connection with domiciliary births. Notable causes were:—

Ruptured perineum	...	...	...	...	89
Delayed labour	...	...	...	...	25
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	17
Premature infants	...	...	...	...	16
Miscarriage	...	...	...	...	12
Jaundiced infants	...	...	...	...	10
Post-partum hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	9

Mrs. E. M. Mason and Mrs. D. M. Ibbitson had courses of gas and air analgesia and duly obtained their certificates, thus all the midwifery staff are at present qualified with the exception of Nurse E. Harding.

Gas and Air Analgesia was administered in 278 domiciliary confinements, thus maintaining the upward trend of the popularity of this form of analgesia.

The midwifery service owes a great deal to the late Miss G. M. Harvey, late County Supervisor of Midwives, who died during the year. Her frequent visits to midwives and the Divisional Health Office, her devotion to duty, her helpfulness in time of difficulty and her wise counsel, will be sadly missed.

Maternal Mortality.

See Section "A." page 8.

Home Nursing.

The total strength of the nursing staff was maintained on an average at about eight full time home nurses, one relief nurse, and three home nurse-midwives, giving half their time to home nursing.

The following staff changes took place during the year :—

Nurse E. Whitehouse, (Loversall, Wadworth, Stainton and Braithwell), resigned.

Nurse M. Renecar, Edlington, transferred to area vacated by Nurse Whitehouse.

Nurse F. H. Kinnear, Springwell Lane, appointed to Edlington.

Nurse K. McGregor, Armthorpe, resigned.

Nurse D. E. Robson appointed to Armthorpe.

22,029 visits were paid to 1,010 patients in their homes by the home nursing staff and an analysis of these visits is given in the accompanying table.

The close liaison which has always existed between the family doctor and the district nursing service is being supplemented by similar liaison between the hospital, family doctor and district nurse. From the report on 'After-Care' it will be seen that the home nurse was required for 24 patients discharged from hospital, and the midwife necessary for 34 mothers and babies leaving maternity hospitals during the last quarter of the year.

As in other services the lack of housing accommodation for the nursing staff in the proper places impedes the even development of a comprehensive service. Too often there is an inadequacy of nursing provision comparing one area with another.

Since the transfer of duties from the Voluntary District Nursing Associations four new areas have been created in this Public Health Division for the Home Nursing Service.

Home Help Service.

There were 24 home helps willing to give full time service and 19 part-time, compared with 20 and 16 in the previous year.

156 cases were helped in the home compared with 112 in the previous year. The increase was almost entirely due to the help provided for the aged. This was achieved without a great increase in the hours employed as it was found by experience that during the lying-in, many mothers required only part-time help and a saving was made there. The development of the service to the aged and infirm is not yet complete and an increase in help given to households where there is a case of mental deficiency is to be expected when the Mental Health Social worker's reports become available.

Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948.

I was obliged to ask the Rural District Council to apply for a Court Order in respect of an elderly man of 81 living in a hen house on an allotment at Rossington, in insanitary conditions and in poor health, after failing to get relatives to take charge of him. The Magistrates granted the order for three months and the man went into Part III accommodation provided by the County Council. Latest reports showed that his health had improved.

Prevention, Care and After-Care. Hospital Liaison Service.

In the final quarter of the year the Senior Health Visitor took up the duty of Visiting Almoner at Western Hospital and Hamilton Annexe. The result of her work there included 32 visits to the hospital, 102 background reports provided for the medical staff, and 54 patients assisted in hospital or on discharge, 48 from the Divisional Medical Office.

**HOME NURSING
ANALYSIS OF WEEKLY REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1950.**

Home Nurse	Total Patients	Total Visits	Acute Illness, Accidents, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Ulcer, Gastro-Enteritis, etc.		Chronic Sick Old and Infirm Cancer, Cardiac, Tuberculosis, etc.		Treatment. Dressings, Injections, etc.		Hospital Follow-up. Post-Operative, etc.	
			Patients	Visits	Patients	Visits	Patients	Visits	Patients	Visits
A. Caygill	147	2464	37	496	39	988	64	896	7	84
E. C. Chaplin	44	1047	13	184	9	342	22	521	—	—
E. A. Harding	30	1085	9	416	13	590	5	55	3	24
E. Hawksworth	60	571	11	129	22	211	26	224	1	7
N. A. Jeffreys	104	2063	27	479	31	549	44	997	2	38
E. L. Jones	124	2324	29	662	14	364	73	1071	8	227
F. Kinnear	59	2560	19	474	13	693	26	1377	1	16
K. McGregor	44	437	16	123	5	64	22	239	1	11
E. E. Oades	128	2592	46	699	36	822	39	958	7	113
F. Osborne	3	303	1	97	1	101	1	105	—	—
M. Renear	49	2355	11	186	23	899	13	1245	2	25
D. E. Robson	101	1493	48	566	7	129	42	731	4	67
S. Rollinson	29	424	9	117	7	144	12	154	1	9
L. Shaw	88	2311	21	533	22	812	39	869	6	97
	1010	22029	297	5161	242	6708	428	9442	43	713

School Medical Inspections.

2,707 children were examined at periodic medical inspections; and 105 more at special and re-inspections. Routine inspection fell short of minimal "maintenance" figures owing to the lack of a second Assistant County Medical Officer from the 1st July onwards.

Nutrition.

24 per cent. of the children were nutritionally described as "Above average" or "Good."

74.3 per cent. of the children were nutritionally described as "Average" or "Fair."

1.7 per cent of the children were nutritionally described as "Below average" or "Poor."

The number classed as "Good" has gone up by nearly 6 per cent. and those thought to be "Poor" diminished by 0.3 per cent.

Cleanliness.

20,555 examinations were made by authorised nurses for vermin: 131 pupils were found to be infected. It was only necessary to issue 4 cleansing notices.

Infestations of the head can be dealt with at School Clinics or at the Borough of Doncaster Cleansing Station. Infestations of the body are nearly always dealt with at the latter place.

Minor Ailments Clinics.

There were 13 Clinics in operation at which the following ailments were treated:—Ringworm of the scalp 1; Ringworm of the body 7; Scabies 18; Impetigo 172; Other skin diseases 41; External or other eye disease (excluding errors of refraction and squint) 185; Diseases of the ear (non-operative) 347; Postural defects (e.g. flat feet exercises) 90; Miscellaneous (minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) 2,339.

Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases.

The Consultant held Clinics for this Public Health Division approximately once a month and had 473 cases referred to him. 126 were recommended for operative treatment and 347 for non-operative treatment (carried out in school clinics). Delays in operation are confined to the senior school children and is due to the lack of beds in the adult wards of the Doncaster Royal infirmary. Every effort is being made to minimise the delays and some improvement in the position effected.

Errors of Refraction, (including squint).

During the year a new arrangement came into being whereby the local Authority's Clinics were replaced by those of the Hospital Board.

Errors of Refraction, including squint:

Number of cases dealt with 271

Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed 146

The average waiting period for spectacles has now diminished to a comparatively reasonable time.

Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

1. Number of sessions held during the year		19
	Pre-School	School
2. Number of individual patients referred	4	50
3. Number of above (2)—		
(a) referred for operative treatment	1	5
(b) who obtained operative treatment	1	5

(c) recommended treated by orthopaedic nurse or physiotherapist—		
(1) at clinics	...	9
(2) domiciliary	...	—
4. Total number of attendances	4	56
5. Number of appliances recommended	—	7
Number of appliances obtained	—	7

Child Guidance Treatment.

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	22
--	----

Speech Therapy.

This local Clinic was not re-opened during the year owing to the lack of a Speech Therapist.

4 cases were treated at Leeds by special arrangement.

Paediatric Service.

1. Number of sessions held during the year		12
	Pre-School	School
2. Number of individual patients referred	17	52

Paediatrician's recommendations:—

Family doctor advised regarding treatment	8	22
Full school activity	—	13
Observation at Sheffield Children's Hospital	1	—
Continue school (with observation)	—	10
Ear, Nose and Throat treatment	—	2
No action	3	3
Observation only	5	—
Referred to Hospital	—	1
Orthopaedic treatment	—	1
	17	52

Mental Health Service.

Mental Deficiency.

An experienced Health Visitor has acted as a mental social worker and kept the County Council informed of the conditions under which mental defectives are living. On several occasions it was possible to give help over some periods of domestic crises.

A home teacher was also seconded to this area and in a short time 25 defectives were receiving training at home. 8 children under 16 years attend the Occupation Centre in the Borough of Doncaster.

Number of ascertained Mental Defectives:—

	Male	Female	Total
(a) On licence from Institutions			
(under 16 years of age)	1	—	1
(over 16 years of age)	—	1	1
(b) Under Guardianship			
(under 16 years of age)	—	—	—
(over 16 years of age)	2	4	6
(c) Under Statutory Supervision (excluding cases on licence)			
(under 16 years of age)	14	18	32
(over 16 years of age)	36	29	65
(d) Under some form of Voluntary supervision			
(under 16 years of age)	—	—	—
(over 16 years of age)	2	—	2
	55	52	107

Number of mental defectives now under
Guardianship or Statutory Supervision
who await admission to Institutions :—

(under 16 years of age)	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
(over 16 years of age)	...	...	...	...	2	—	2

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE 1950.

(Other than Tuberculosis)

AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE

Arranged in the manner prescribed by the Registrar-General.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)		Measles		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	2	—	9	4	1	1	5	8	—	—
1 to 2 ...	3	7	6	14	1	2	17	27	1	—
3 to 4 ...	14	11	16	14	—	3	37	36	—	—
5 to 9 ...	18	21	23	18	3	—	51	55	—	—
10 to 14	1	8	2	1	2	—	—	1	—	—
15 to 24	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
25 & over	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
	38	51	56	51	7	7	112	129	1	—

Age Group	Acute Pneumonia		Erysipelas		Meningococcal Infection	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	9	4	—	—	—	—
5 to 14...	2	1	—	—	—	1
15 to 44	4	3	—	1	—	—
45 to 64	4	3	1	1	—	—
65 & over	3	2	1	—	—	—
Age unknown	1	—	—	—	—	—
	23	13	2	2	—	1

	M	F
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	15
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	6

516 cases of notifiable infections (excluding tuberculosis) among the civilian population came to the knowledge of this department during the year. This compares with 549 in 1949 and 808 in 1948. The 1950 figure includes the beginning of a measles epidemic now being experienced at the time of writing.

Incidence Rates per 1,000 of Home Population, 1950.

	Doncaster R.D.	England & Wales
Scarlet Fever	1·07	1·50
Diphtheria	0·019	0·02
Measles	4·51	8·39
Whooping Cough	2·00	3·60
Pneumonia	0·67	0·70
Erysipelas	0·08	0·17
Acute Poliomyelitis including Acute Polioencephalitis—		
(a) Paralytic	0·26	0·13
(b) Non-paralytic	—	0·05
Food Poisoning	—	0·17
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0·019	0·03

Death Rates per 1,000 Home Population :

Deaths	Doncaster R.D.	England & Wales
All causes	11·80 (adjusted)	11·60
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0·00
Whooping Cough	0·04	0·01
Diphtheria	—	0·00
Influenza	0·11	0·10
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	0·02	0·02
Pneumonia	0·30	0·46
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0·34	0·36
Death Rates per 1,000 live births :		
Diarrhoea under 2 years	4·98	1·90
Of infants under 1 year—all causes	53·79	29·80

Scarlet Fever.

89 cases represented the lowest level of prevalence for some years. The character of the illness was also mild. The practice of isolating cases at home when possible is growing.

Measles.

241 cases indicated a non-epidemic year but included the beginning of an epidemic which started in December in a gradual fashion.

Whooping Cough.

107 cases compared with 92, 90 and 25 for the previous three years. This is a disease in which a considerable number of mild cases escape notice.

There were two deaths from whooping cough and one death from measles.

The recent experiments in immunisation against whooping cough at several large centres of population have indicated that a vaccine with considerable influence on the disease is in being and that there is good hope that an efficient one will be discovered.

Diphtheria.

Only one case of diphtheria was confirmed, and that case was an un-immunised child of a family just arrived in the district two days before.

The following is the summary of the work done during 1950 towards immunisation of the community and the state of immunity:—

Primary Immunisation	Half-year ended June 30th	Under 5	5-14	Total
		381	196	577
		242	57	299
	Half-year ended December 31st	623	253	876

Children : 5—14

Reinforcement or "Booster" Immunisations	$\frac{1}{2}$ year ended	
	June 30th	207
	$\frac{1}{2}$ year ended	
	December 31st	293
		500

Diphtheria.

Immunisation in relation to the Child Population.

Number of children who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before 31st December, 1950.

Age at 31.12.50	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1941-5	1936-40	
No. immnsd.	29	473	744	752	630	3635	3237	9,500
Estimated mid-year child population	Children under 5 5,018					Children 5 to 15 7,888		12,906
Percentage Immunised	52.4					87.1		73.56

Generally speaking the state of immunisation against diphtheria is good, but it could be better among the pre-school children for these are of an age more susceptible naturally to the disease. This effort must be kept up to hold diphtheria at bay, otherwise slackness will allow a return of the enemy.

In 1950 some months were practically lost, so far as immunisation was concerned, due to the outbreak of poliomyelitis: it being considered not advisable to risk trauma, however slight, to a limb of a child because of increasing the risk of developing paralytic poliomyelitis.

Smallpox—Vaccination.

In 1950 when there were 1,004 live births during the year, the following was the result of a campaign modelled upon that used against diphtheria:—

	Under 1 year	1—4 years	5—14 years	15 years & over	Total
Primary Vaccination	164	128	16	21	329
Re. Vaccination	1	—	4	20	25

This result is about the same as that of the previous year and is equally disappointing.

One redeeming feature is that those community minded persons who do reduce the risk of a smallpox outbreak, help by so doing to keep alive an organisation capable of expansion to meet the sudden call of a threatened epidemic.

Why wait until the villain is on your doorstep? A new generation is arising, which will see little of the enemy Diphtheria. It is to be hoped that the absence of the disease will not breed the same complacency to diphtheria immunisation as the freedom from smallpox has done in the case of vaccination.

Other Infectious Diseases.

Poliomyelitis.

The Doncaster Rural District, on the whole, escaped rather lightly in the 1947 outbreak. The 1950 outbreak was just as severe as far as we were concerned.

An unusual occurrence of four cases in one family (all children) was reported specially upon to the Ministry of Health. This was probably associated with infection acquired attending school where there had been cases previously.

The distribution of the cases (Stainton and Askern areas) rather suggested that the 1950 outbreak was visiting places missed by the 1947 epidemic.

There was only one fatal case, one with severe residual paralysis, and the remainder were left with surprisingly little disability, although some of them looked alarming in the acute stages of their illness.

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1950.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15	—	2	3	3	—	—	1	2
15 to 25	7	6	3	3	—	2	1	—
25 to 35	5	7	1	1	3	—	—	—
35 to 45	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 to 55	4	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
55 to 65	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
All ages	19	22	9	7	10	3	2	3

There were 57 new cases of tuberculosis (Males 28, Females 29), notified during 1950 compared with 60 during 1949 and 63 in 1948.

All forms of tuberculosis accounted for 18 deaths, (Males 12, Females 6). The death rate from tuberculosis was thus 0·34 per 1,000 compared with 0·36 for England and Wales in 1950 and with 0·55 in Doncaster Rural District for 1949.

Four cases came to our notice for the first time by certification of causes of death. One of these related to an acute miliary case; two to cases of pneumoconiosis after post mortem examination; and one to an involvement of the skin (lupus vulgaris) of a woman aged 70 acting as a secondary cause of death.

Sanatorium Treatment.

Cases admitted to Sanatoria in 1950 were Respiratory, Males 10, Females 18; Non-Respiratory, Males 1, Females 1.

Tuberculosis Care and After-Care: Milk Supplies.

	Patients.	Pints of Milk Supplied.	Cost.
Males	20	9,906	
Females	22	8,058	£411 13s. 6d.
Total	42	17,964 Pints	

District Nursing was supplied to cases treated at home.

A special tuberculosis visitor from the local authority visited all new cases and many others under treatment and reported to the Chest Physician for the area.

Outdoor shelters supplied and maintained, 4.

At the beginning of the year there were, on the notification Register 205 cases (Males 113, Females 92), of respiratory, and 134 cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis (Males 70, Females 64) and the corresponding figures at the end of the year were 226 (Males 124, Females 102) and 127 (Males 68, Females 59).

SECTION C

WATER SUPPLIES

Two large water authorities supply the greater part of the District, namely, Doncaster Corporation and Doncaster and Tickhill Water Boards. One small water authority (Pilkington Brothers) supply the village of Kirk Sandall and two small estate supplies cater for the needs of Hooton Pagnell and Clayton-with-Frickley.

In 1949 only 403 houses were not supplied from the public mains, i.e. less than 3 per cent., of all the inhabited houses. 52 of these were in the Parish of Kirk Bramwith, the only one of 35 parishes now without public water mains.

Mr. Hempel, Water Engineer, kindly informs me that the Owston and Thorpe-in-Balne main extensions have been completed and most of the property in the vicinity connected up. This should end the periodic water famine conditions which have been too frequent in the past in dry summers especially on dairy farms. Several other extensions of the water mains were made to housing sites: viz., Holywell Lane,

Braithwell, 168 yards of 3-inch main; Hill Top, Edlington, 1,156 yards of 3-inch, 4-inch and 6-inch mains; leaving only 700 yards to complete in this site; Alfred Road, Askern, 97 yards of 3-inch main laid. Another 900 yards to lay for completion. Mr. Hempel also sends me chemical analysis of water from the Austerfield borehole, dated 20th September, 1950, which is as follows:—

Richardson & Jaffe,
Analytical Chemists.

Victoria Chambers,
Victoria Square,
Bradford.

General Composition. :—

	Grains per Gallon.
Calcium Nitrate	1·46
Calcium Carbonate	5·30
Magnesium Carbonate	4·20
Sodium Chloride	2·14
Sodium Sulphate	1·48
Silica, Iron and Alumina	0·70
	15·28

Carbonates present in solution as bicarbonates.

Total Hardness	11·2
Temporary Hardness	10·3
Permanent Hardness	0·9
pH	7·8
Free Ammonia	0·0014
Albuminoid Ammonia	0·0014
Nitrous Nitrogen	None
Nitric Nitrogen	0·25
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours @ 80°F) ...	0·02

(Signed) F. W. M. JAFFE.

Richardson & Jaffe.

Samples from various sources were taken for bacteriological analysis with the following results:—

Sources	No. of Samples	Results
Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board	3	All satisfactory.
Doncaster Corporation	6	All satisfactory.
Pilkington Brothers	7	All satisfactory.
Private Wells	2	All satisfactory.

Apart from the drying of wells at Thorpe-in Balne and Owston in the summer of 1949 continued into January 1950, a situation now remedied, we hope, for good, there was no shortage of drinking or domestic water during 1950.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Sewers were extended to serve new properties and to housing sites at Braithwell, Edlington, Askern, and Sprotborough.

No large sewerage schemes have been undertaken since the pre-war period and some are now badly needed (Norton, Barnburgh and Sprotborough Park) to replace antiquated schemes and to abolish cesspools.

Schools.

There are 50 school departments or groups of school departments in the District.

Visits were made by the Medical Officer of Health to ten schools during the year in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease or sanitary defects.

No school was closed for infectious disease among the children but individual contacts were excluded.

A general idea of the condition of the schools can be got from the report made to the County Medical Officer of Health in 1949:—

(a)	In first-rate sanitary condition	24
(b)	Having minor sanitary defects	12
(c)	Having serious sanitary defects	
	requiring remodelling of the premises	14

Nearly all the larger units are in group (a). The building of modern school premises has had to compete with the housing shortage during and after two wars. A new school for juniors is in course of erection at Sprotborough to relieve school overcrowding locally.

(Signed) A. PENMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

CAUSES OF DEATH—1950.

Registrar-General's Return.

No.	Cause of Death	Males	Females
	ALL CAUSES:	264	219
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	10	2
2	Tuberculosis, Other	2	3
3	Syphilitic Disease	2	1
4	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	1	1
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0
7	Acute poliomyelitis	0	1
8	Measles	0	1
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	3	0
10	Malignant neoplasm: stomach	12	6
11	do lung, bronchus	5	1
12	do breast	0	7
13	do uterus	0	5
14	do lymphatic and other	19	19
15	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	0	0
16	Diabetes	0	1
17	Vascular lesions of the nervous system ...	16	23
18	Coronary disease: angina	26	9
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	5
20	Other heart disease	48	47
21	Other circulatory disease	8	5
22	Influenza	3	3
23	Pneumonia	9	7
24	Bronchitis	21	14
25	Other diseases of the respiratory system	7	2
26	Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ...	3	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	4
29	Hyperplasm of the prostate	2	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	2
31	Congenital malformations	2	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	37	40
33	Motor vehicle accidents	5	0
34	All other accidents	9	4
35	Suicide	4	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	1	0

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year
1950 for the Rural District of Doncaster in the County of Yorkshire.
(W.R.).**

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers prosec't'd
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	—	—		—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	96	54	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—		—
Total	96	54	1	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—		
Total	1	1	—	1	—

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances.

The Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector—

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Statement made to the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926, in relation to inspections, notices, etc:—

Total number of inspections during 1950	4,180
Nuisances reported during 1950 (including provision of pails and dustbins)	451
Nuisances in hand	107
Abated during 1950	497
Outstanding at the end of 1950	61

The total inspections relate to:—

Nuisances	919	Water Supplies:	
Tents, Vans and Sheds	70	Samples taken	13
Shops Act	104	Supplies investigated	88
Schools	5	Infectious Diseases:	
Factories	54	Disinfections	34
Drainage	204	Investigations	50
Public Cleansing	415	Housing:	
Smoke Observations	8	Section 9 and Public	
Milk and Dairies:		Health Act, 1936	431
Retailers	95	Section 11	2
Meat and Food:		Overcrowding	8
Slaughter Houses	9	Re-housing	391
Butchers' Shops	36	Hostels and Camps	40
Fish and Chips	40	Spoilbanks	181
Ice Cream	81	Conversions	333
Ice Cream Samples	11	Food Poisoning	0
Bakehouses	24	Infestations:	
Food	111	Bed Bugs	352
Canteens and Cafes	28	Other Vermin	23

NOTICES.

Informal Notices served	451	Complied with	421
Statutory Notices served	42	Complied with	38
Legal Proceedings taken			1

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—1950

PARISHES	No. of inhabited houses 31.12.50	Water Closets	Pail Closets	Privy Middens	Dustbins	Dry Ashpits	Cesspools	No. of houses to Cesspools
Parishes closely built:								
Armthorpe	1557	1574	9	1	1689	—	8	8
Askern	1516	1528	1	—	1561	—	1	2
Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall ...	1261	1303	—	2	1333	—	10	10
Bawtry	387	383	10	17	419	4	8	8
Edlington	1605	1706	20	—	1719	—	10	10
Rossington	1958	1916	62	2	1998	4	18	23
Sprotborough	1739	1833	28	8	1877	—	212	220
Warmsworth	702	825	14	3	701	—	4	4
TOTAL ...	10725	11068	144	33	11297	8	271	285
Parishes closely built in parts:								
Austerfield	147	131	8	16	129	2	19	29
Barnbrough	263	206	47	19	243	—	21	79
Blaxton	110	55	57	8	103	1	40	46
Braithwell	197	150	43	19	173	2	62	83
Brodsworth	588	521	70	4	631	1	67	125
Cadeby	36	8	17	10	24	3	3	6
Cantley	321	287	77	34	286	1	133	166
Denaby (Old)	56	18	35	5	43	—	16	16
Marr	39	19	17	3	43	—	7	12
Norton	533	308	85	59	503	—	89	177
Wadworth	179	62	102	34	145	2	12	44
TOTAL ...	2467	1765	558	211	2323	12	469	783
Parishes entirely rural:								
Adwick-on-Deane ...	36	20	20	—	42	1	4	4
Awkley	93	28	43	18	75	—	18	30
Burghwallis	59	39	18	—	61	—	19	31
Clayton-with-Frickley	68	17	30	24	44	5	5	5
Conisbrough Parks ...	98	43	34	17	81	—	12	12
Fenwick	45	9	14	20	24	2	7	8
Hampole	56	26	33	1	55	2	8	8
Hickleton	37	42	—	—	44	—	3	3
Hooton Pagnell	80	23	55	—	88	—	1	1
Kirk Bramwith	51	7	30	14	36	2	5	6
Loversall	39	10	14	14	29	—	1	1
High Melton	69	57	6	6	68	—	11	14
Moss	69	7	36	26	43	—	9	15
Owston	44	9	22	16	40	—	12	12
Stainton	55	24	23	9	46	—	12	22
Thorpe-in-Balne ...	33	6	22	5	9	1	2	3
TOTAL ...	932	367	400	170	785	13	129	175
Summary:								
Parishes closely built:	10725	11068	144	33	11297	8	271	285
Parishes closely built in parts	2467	1765	558	211	2323	12	469	783
Parishes entirely rural:	932	367	400	170	785	13	129	175
TOTAL ...	14126	13200	1102	414	14405	33	869	1243

CLOSET CONVERSIONS FOR 1950.

- 29 Privies to water Closets.
- 11 Privies to Pail Closets.
- 8 Pail Closets to Water Closets.
- 278 Water Closets provided for new buildings.
- 9 Additional W.C. to old houses.
- 2 Dry ash pits to other use.
- 2 Pails demolished.

RODENT CONTROL.

TREATMENTS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1950.

Refuse Disposal Tips:—

Armthorpe ; Askern ; Bawtry ; Brodsworth ; Cantley ; Edlington ;
Rossington ; Barnby Dun ; Quarry at Wadworth.
Treated in continuous rotation.

Sewage Disposal Works:—

Armthorpe ; Askern ; Bawtry ; Edlington ; Warmsworth ; Barnby
Dun ; Rossington ; Sprotborough.
Treated in continuous rotation.

Schools:—

Askern (1) ; Edlington (1) ; Kirk Sandall (2) ; Rossington (5) ;
Sprotborough (1).

School Canteens:—

Askern (1) ; Barnby Dun (4) ; Rossington (2).

Other Council Properties:—

Barnby Dun (1) ; Bawtry (2) ; Edenthorpe (4) ; Edlington (2) ;
Rossington (1) ; Sheffield Road Estate (1) ; Warmsworth (2).

Private Properties:—

103 Treatments.

Business Premises:—

Armthorpe (5) ; Askern (1) ; Austerfield (1) ; Bawtry (3) ;
Bessacarr (2) ; Braithwell (1) ; Cantley (1) ; Finningley (1) ;
Kirk Sandall (2) ; Rossington (4) ; Sprotbrough (1) ; Warm-
sworth (1).

Quarterly inspections and treatments carried out at two large
industrial concerns.

Treatment of Sewers:—

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Infestation Control
Division did not deem it necessary to treat the sewers in the district
this year. These were done in 1948 and 1949 when "no takes" of bait
were recorded.

I am of the opinion that there are no infestations in the sewers
and it is most unlikely that there will be, owing to the fact that most of
the pipes are surcharged after heavy rain.

Observations relating to Rodent Control in the District:—

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, came into force on the thirty-first day of March, 1950. This makes it the duty of every Local Authority to take such steps as may be necessary to secure so far as practicable that their district is kept free from rats and mice.

Previous to the Pests Act, 1949, becoming law, the West Riding County Agricultural Executive Committee dealt with all agricultural land and hereditaments, all other properties being the responsibility of the Rural District Council.

With a view to ascertaining the position and condition of farms, lands and smallholdings, approach was made by the Council to the County Agricultural Executive Committee and a meeting was held to discuss the situation.

Little progress has been made, therefore there is no change, although the new Act has been in force over a year.

There are no major infestations in the part of the District where the work is undertaken by the Council.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

(a) Spoilbanks.

There are spoilbanks adjacent to the collieries at Armthorpe, Askern, Brodsworth, Bullcroft, Edlington, Hickleton and Rossington and one near the Doncaster Coalite at Askern.

The amount of waste deposited on the sites increases the area and the height of the banks each year.

There is little change from the position reported last year with regard to the three spoilbanks which were on fire at Askern, Edlington, and Hickleton. Spraying with water and slurry lagooning has continued throughout the year, to keep the fires under control and minimise the nuisance caused by smoke and fumes.

(b) Askern—Coalite Works.

Although several channels have been explored with a view to preventing or cutting down the amount of smoke and fumes emitted from these works, there has been very little improvement.

(c) Industrial Chimneys.

With the exception of two or three of the colliery chimneys in the area, there is no excessive emission of black smoke.

(d) Research.

As part of the scheme for investigating the extent of atmospheric pollution throughout the country which is being carried out by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, three instruments were installed at the Public Cleansing Depot, Kirk Sandall, and put into operation on the 1st April, 1950.

- (i) **The Deposit Gauge.** This apparatus is designed to measure rainfall and matter deposited on the ground out of the atmosphere.

The deposited matter, expressed in tons per square mile, is divided into total insoluble deposit and total soluble deposit.

- (ii) **The Lead Peroxide Instrument.** This measures the amount of sulphur in the atmosphere expressed in milligrams of SO₃ per day per 1,00 sq. c.m.

The table of monthly tests, April to December, 1950, is given below :—

Month	Rainfall in Inches	Insoluble Deposit Tons/Sq. Mile	Soluble Deposit Tons/Sq. Mile	Total Deposit	Sulphur mg/1000 sq.cms./day.
April	3.152	6.33	5.69	12.02	12.5
May	2.206	5.08	4.00	9.08	4.9
June	1.193	4.61	3.59	8.20	6.9
July	1.596	6.60	3.35	9.95	5.2
August	1.970	1.86	1.52	3.38	5.2
September ..	2.522	6.30	5.18	11.48	6.4
October ...	1.064	10.23	7.82	18.05	11.2
November ..	4.176	2.37	10.84	13.21	21.2
December ...	0.591	6.67	4.91	11.58	16.7
Average per month .	2.050	5.56	5.21	10.77	10.02

- (iii) **Smoke Filter Machine.** By drawing measured quantities of outside air through a 1in. diameter filter paper and the stain being matched with a scale of shades, the concentration of smoke is estimated and expressed in milligrams per hundred cubic metres, as shown in the following table :—

Month	Highest	Lowest	Average
March	0.512	0.049	0.183
April	0.456	0.062	0.171
May	0.211	0.022	0.102
June	0.192	0.016	0.093
July	0.162	0.026	0.082
August	0.249	0.040	0.098
September	0.183	0.050	0.101
October	0.394	0.072	0.1979
November	0.542	0.084	0.275
December	0.886	0.108	0.361
Highest in Year	0.886		
Lowest in Year	0.016		
Average	0.378		

The results of these observations compare favourably with other parts of the country. Kirk Sandall, however, where the records have been taken, cannot be said to be a true example of the Doncaster Rural District.

Next year's readings which are being taken in the industrial parish of Askern will, no doubt, present a different picture.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS AND OTHER VERMIN.

Last year I said it was gratifying to note the decrease in the number of houses where it was necessary to deal with bed bugs. The improvement was maintained during 1950.

Fourteen disinfestations with hydrogen-cyanide gas were carried out on the furniture owned by tenants moving into Council houses.

SECTION D

HOUSING.

(1) Council. Houses.

The number of houses owned or controlled by the Council at the end of 1950 was 1,639. These are situated in twenty-five parishes as set out below :—

	Post-War	Pre-War	Sewage Works Houses	Total.
Armthorpe	208	92	2	302
Askern	89	108	—	197
Awkley	16	—	—	16
Austerfield	10	—	—	10
Barnbrough	22	16	—	38
Barnby Dun	99	76	—	175
Bawtry	14	80	—	94
Braithwell	6	12	—	18
Brodsworth	20	24	—	44
Burghwallis	6	—	—	6
Cadeby	4	—	—	4
Cantley	10	4	—	14
Conisbrough Parks	10	—	—	10
Edlington	166	85	—	251
Fenwick	—	2	—	2
Hampole	6	2	—	8
Loversall	2	—	—	2
Marr	4	—	—	4
Melton (High)	4	—	—	4
Norton	24	22	—	46
Rossington	149	104	2	255
Sprotborough	64	—	—	64
Stainton	6	—	—	6
Wadworth	20	16	—	36
Warmsworth	32	—	1	33
	991	643	5	1,639

In addition, the Council have control of a camp at Sprotborough where the huts have been adapted to house 32 separate families, and a hostel at Warmsworth where alterations have provided dwellings for 30 families.

The adaptations are of a temporary character, with a very limited life.

(2) Housing Position.

Applications for council houses were reviewed in December, 1950. There were 2,806 on the files.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING SURVEY. DECEMBER, 1950.

Number of applicants on files at commencement of Survey to whom renewal forms were sent	2,806
Number of former returned completed	1,966
Number of forms returned through Dead Letter Office ...	132
Number of forms not returned	708
	2,806

Number of forms taken into Survey 1,932

The difference between the number of forms returned completed and the number taken into the survey (34) is accounted for by

- (a) Persons stating they no longer require a house;
- (b) Applicants residing on Victory Estate and Sheffield Road Estate.

Of the 1,932 forms taken into the Survey:—

1,840 are from Residents in the Rural District
92 from Non-residents.

Non-residents have been classified in accordance with the decision of the Committee at a meeting held on 2nd, December, 1950.

Of the 1,840 Residents:—

648 are householders
1,192 are Non-householders.

Analysis of Householders (RESIDENT applicants only)

Unsuitably housed	15
Require a larger house	114
Require a smaller house	46
Already suitably housed	473
	648

Analysis of Non-Householders (RESIDENT applicants only)

Three or more families in house	107
Two families in house morally overcrowded ...	271
Two families in house not overcrowded ...	814
	1,192

NOTES:—

- (a) Applications from persons occupying accommodation on Victory Estate, Sprotborough, and Sheffield Road Estate, Warmsworth, have not been included in the above figures.

There are 33 families on Victory Estate, and
30 families on Sheffield Road Estate,
for whom provision will have to be made at some future date. Only 31
of these have applied for a house.

- (b) This survey does not cover applicants for aged persons bungalows.

DONCASTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
HOUSING SURVEY — DECEMBER, 1950

Parish	Popu- lation	Houses already erected.	Applicants requiring a house	Less houses not completed.	Number of houses required.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Adwick-on-D. .	113	—	5	—	5
Armthorpe	6348	224	171	—	171
Askern	5916	89	146	64	82
Austerfield ...	460	10	9	—	9
Awkley	237	16	5	—	5
Barnborough ..	896	22	19	2	17
Barnby Dun ...	4712	95	116	18	98
Bawtry	1439	6	21	—	21
Blaxton	397	—	12	4	8
Braithwell	667	6	19	8	11
Brodsworth	1892	32	50	—	50
Burgwallis ...	183	6	1	—	1
Cadeby	108	4	2	—	2
Cantley	1056	10	8	—	8
Conisbro' Pks...	335	10	—	—	—
Clayton-w-F. ...	194	—	—	—	—
Denaby, Old ..	163	—	3	2	1
Edlington	6927	158	185	50	135
Fenwick	157	—	—	—	—
Hampole	210	6	2	—	2
Hickleton	119	—	—	—	—
Hooton Pagnell	251	—	—	—	—
Kirk Bramwith	184	—	1	—	1
Loversall	148	2	—	—	—
Marr	131	4	—	2	2
Melton, High...	286	4	7	2	5
Moss	229	—	—	—	—
Norton	1901	24	25	4	21
Owston	148	—	4	4	—
Rossington ...	8483	139	260	104	156
Sprothorough ..	5696	66	100	—	100
Stainton	171	6	—	—	—
Thorne-in-B. ...	118	—	—	—	—
Wadworth	603	20	12	—	12
Warmsworth ...	1932	34	24	—	24
Totals ...	52810	993	1207	264	943

Column 3 "Applicants requiring a house" includes:—

(a) Persons unsuitably housed	15
(b) Non-householders	1,192

Total 1,207

To the number shown in column 5 there should be added:—

to re-house occupants of Victory Estate	33
„ „ Sheffield Road Estate	30
„ „ Edlington Bungalows	73

Total 136

During 1950, Two hundred and Seventy four houses were completed and let as follows :—

Parish	Airey type			Traditional			Hawksley		A.P.B.	Total
	C.M.	Ag.	Oths.	C.M.	Ag.	Oths.	Al. B.	C.M. Oths.		
Armthorpe							8	8	10	26
Askern	3		35							38
Awkley			4							4
Austerfield					3	1				4
Barnby Dun w- Kirk Sandall	1		7						4	12
Bawtry									8	8
Edlington				13	6	37	20		16	92
Hampole		4								4
Norton	8	3	9							20
Rossington									10	10
Sprotborough ..			16			12				28
Wadworth			2		6					8
Warmsworth ...		1	11			8				20
	12	8	84	13	15	58	28	8	48	274
	104			86			36		48	
TOTAL: 274										

In addition, four private houses were completed under licence.

(3) **Rehousing.**

Three hundred and ninety one inspections were made relating to re-housing.

The homes and effects of every selected tenant are examined, and where necessary fumigation by hydrogen-cyanide gas is carried out at the expense of the Council, thus ensuring that no new houses become infested. Fourteen fumigations were undertaken during the year. Not one complaint has been received of infestation by vermin in Council Houses.

(4) **Privately Owned Houses.**

There are still seventeen houses occupied upon which Demolition Orders were made prior to 1939.

Two houses which were beyond repair have been voluntarily pulled down by the Owner. The tenants were re-housed by the Council.

Seventy-one Notices were served in respect of houses requiring defects to be remedied.

(5) **Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc. Section 268, Public Health Act, 1936**

There are twenty-one structures licensed as moveable dwellings.

This number would have been much higher had not the Council taken a firm stand with regard to the type of van for which licences were granted, and the localities where they should be sited.

SECTION E

THE SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLY.

The Preparation of Food.

There are one hundred and twelve premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Twenty-seven relate to premises used for the manufacture of food and twenty-seven to fish and chip shops.

Fifty-two are for the sale of Ice-cream and six for the manufacture and sale of Ice-cream.

The Bye-laws dealing with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food, came into operation on the 19th March, 1950. These have been welcomed by firms and persons connected with food manufacture and distribution. Advice has been asked for on a number of occasions and in all cases where alterations and improvements have been suggested by the Department, these have been readily agreed to. The general standard of cleanliness is good, and it is gratifying to report a marked improvement as purveyors of food and the public become more "clean food minded."

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

None were reported during 1950.

Unfit Food.

During the year the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered by the owners.

Pork Loaf, 5 tins.	Raspberries, 2 tins.	Beef Sausage, 13 lbs.
Chopped Pork, 17 tins.	Strawberries, 2 tins.	Sausage, 127 lbs.
Brawn, 9 tins.	Tomato Juice, 29 tins.	Brawn, 20½ lbs.
Luncheon Meat, 108 tins.	Orange Juice, 30 tins.	Jellied Veal, ½ lb.
Meat-in-Gravy, 13 tins.	Lime Juice, 1 tin.	Rabbit, 7
Pork, 5 tins.	Grape Fruit Juice, 1 tin.	Veal Loaf, 10 tins.
Pork Brawn, 4 tins.	Lemon Essence, 1 tin.	Tongue Paste, 1 tin.
Minced Beef, 40 tins.	Jam, 56 tins.	Meat Paste, 3 tins.
Luncheon Meat, 10½ lbs.	Marmalade, 24 tins.	Beef Paste, 1 tin.
Ham and Veal Loaf, 5 tins	Syrup, 1 tin.	Luncheon Sausage, ½ lb.
Stewed Steak, 9 tins.	Lemon Curd, 1 tin.	Pork and Beef Loaf, 6 tins
Tongue, 6 tins.	Orange Curd, 1 tin.	Broth, 1 tin.
Brisket, 1 tin.	Mincemeat, 5 tins.	Fish Cake, 11 tins.
Bacon, 4 tins.	Honey, 1 tin.	Cheese, 182½ lbs.
Bacon, 64½ lbs.	Beans, 117 tins.	Cheese Parings, 41 lbs.
Ham, 25 lbs.	Peas, 145 tins.	Plums, 1938 lbs.
Ham (cooked), 101lb. 5oz.	Mixed Vegetables, 6 tins.	Pineapples, 22 lbs.
Calve Foot Jelly, 2 tins.	Carrots, 2 tins.	Pears, 91 lbs.
Whale Meat, 5 tins.	Oatmeal, 5 tins.	Peaches, 30 lbs.
Chicken Soup, 2 tins.	Suet, 35 lbs.	Strained Prunes, 6 lbs.
Soup, 17 tins.	Suet, ½ lb.	Tomatoes, 139 lbs.
Sauce, 20 bottles.	Steak and Kidney	Cherries, 3 lbs.
Salmon, 42 tins.	Pudding, 1	Apricots, 1 lb.
Brislings, 3 tins.	Xmas Pudding,	Damsons, 5 lbs.
Sardines, 1 tin.	Rice 118lbs.	Apple Puree, 8 lbs.
Pilchards, 21 tins.	Pudding Mixture, 18 pkts.	Kidney, 1 lb.
Crab, 2 tins.	Custard Pudding, 2 pkts.	Strawberries, 1 basket.
Crab Meat, 2 tins.	Pan Yan Pickles, 1 jar.	Tomatoes, 57 lbs.
Crayfish, 23 tins.	Pickled Cabbage, 2 jars.	Gooseberries, 1 lb.
Crawfish, 4 tins.	Mixed Pickles, 16 botts.	Evaporated Milk, 698 tins
Brisling Paste, 60 tins.	Sweet Pickles, 1 bot.	Condensed Milk, 111 tins.
Fish Paste, 5 tins.	Pickled Onion, 7 bots.	Spaghetti, 12 lbs.
Silds, 1 tin.	Spam, 1 tin.	Flour (Self-raising), 2 lbs.
Snoek, 1 tin.	Pork-in-Gravy, 1 tin.	Flour, 109 lbs.
Herrings, 11 tins.	Cambridge Sausage, 5 tins	Soya Flour, ½ lb.
Barracuta, 1 tin.	Pork Links, 47 lbs.	Barley Kerneis, 1 pkt.
Dates, ½ lb.	Pork Sausage, 271 lbs.	Semolina, 2 lbs.
Grapes, 10 tins.	Beef Links, 8 lbs.	Ryvita, 2 pkts.

Cake, 34½ lbs.	Pea Nut Butter, 1 jar.	Salad Cream, 33 bots.
Cake Mixture, 34 pkts.	Sugar, 4 lbs.	Black Puddings, 4½ lbs.
Pastry Mixture, 1 pkt.	Marmite, 1 jar.	Red Cabbage, 2 bots.
Wheat Flakes, 1 pkt.	Oxo, 133 jars.	Piccalilli, 1 bot.
Quaker Oats, 1 pkt.	Coffee, 6 bots.	Horse Radish, 1 bot.
Scots Oats, 3 pkts.	Nescafe, 7 tins.	Vinegar, 1 bot.
Farex, 1 pkt.	Confectionery, 1 jar.	Margarine, 48 lbs.
Cremola, 9 pkts.	Bev, 3 bots.	Butter, 1 lb.
Custard Powder, 1 pkt.		

Milk Supplies.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

Dealers' Licences granted for the sale of:—

Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	22
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	14
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	5
Sterilized Milk—Bottled	...	...	...	42
Accredited Milk	...	...	...	2

Supplementary Licences for the sale of:—

Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	6
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	1
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	3
Sterilized Milk	...	...	...	4

Approximately 95 per cent. of the milk consumed in the area is heated treated or graded.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There are forty-five licensed slaughtermen on the Register. Humane slaughter of animals is carried out throughout the district, mostly at approved slaughter points.

The animals are killed under licence issued by the Ministry of Food under the Self Suppliers of Meat scheme.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES.

The whole district is served by a comprehensive scheme carried out by direct labour.

Dustbins and pail closets are emptied weekly and privies monthly. The emptying and disposal of the contents of the eight hundred and sixty-nine cesspools varies from one week to approximately two months according to need.

Street cleansing is undertaken in several of the more populous parishes.

Disposal of refuse is by tipping. The Council either own or rent eight sites, each serving an area within reasonably easy access.

Sixteen vehicles comprise the fleet used for public cleansing. They consist of ten refuse collectors, four motor vacuum cesspool emptiers, one specially constructed lorry for dealing with pail closets and one used for the disposal of the contents of privies.

The Public Cleansing Depot, Sunnyside, Kirk Sandall, is a well appointed building owned by the Council where the vehicles are garaged, serviced, repaired and periodically painted.

Engagement of suitable staff has presented a difficulty and is getting progressively worse. Sickness and shortage of labour has meant that the total complement of staff has not been available for duty for weeks on end.

Wages and Conditions of Service as laid down by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council are complied with in every respect.

The working week is forty-four hours. During the months of March to October inclusive, the five-day week is operated, the remaining four months being worked as a five and a half day week on account of the shorter hours of daylight.

The Works Committee consisting of three members of the Rural District Council and three representatives of the staff has continued to function with the same goodwill as in previous years.

Salvage operations were suspended at the end of 1949. No collections were made during 1950, but the Council decided towards the end of the year that salvage be again collected from the beginning of 1951. This is now being done.

Details of work performed.

Population served	...	...	...	53,380
Total collections	...	...	...	742,948
Average weekly collections	...	...	...	14,287
Miles travelled by vehicles	...	...	...	142,986
Gallons of sewage removed	...	...	...	7,176,780
Gallons of petrol consumed	...	...	...	17,117

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. REYNOLDS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

Chronicle Printers Doncaster

