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DONCASTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE ANNUAL
REPORT

.for the year 1954



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

Public Health Department,
Nether Hall,
Doncaster.
July, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members,
Public Health Committee,
Doncaster Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the health conditions of the Rural District in 1954 as required of me by Statute.

Since the report incorporates that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, I have left to Mr. Reynolds certain sections relating to matters closely associated with his duties.

The birth rate showed a further slight increase and exceeded the County and National rates. The death rate from all causes compared favourably with that for England and Wales, although the death rate from all forms of tuberculosis remained a little higher than the County and National figures. Even so, the mortality from tuberculosis was less than half of what it was in 1949.

The infant mortality was the lowest ever recorded and bettered the National rate for the first time since 1946. The still birth rate was equally low and confirmed the genuine nature of the fall in infant mortality.

There was no case of diphtheria for the fourth year running; other notifiable infections of an acute type, with the exception of measles being under their normal endemic level. New cases of tuberculosis continued at the somewhat higher rate which has been generally experienced since the war.

The number of houses completed during the year by the District Council, the Coal Industry Housing Association, and private persons, exceeded 1,400, the highest achievement of the post-war era. The most urgent of the housing needs were thus met and enabled the Council to turn its attention to unfit houses.

With the abolition of the Ministry of Food centralised slaughtering of animals was discontinued and 13 private slaughter-houses re-licensed in the Rural District. There was a moderate improvement in the smoke problem.

I have to thank all my staff who have helped me in the work of the department and Mr. Reynolds for his substantial contribution to this report.

I have also to thank the Committee for their encouragement and support at all times in the work of prevention.

Yours faithfully,

A. PENMAN, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

BIRTH AND MORTALITY RATE - 1954

RATES	Doncaster Rural District:	Aggregate West Riding Rural Districts:	West Riding Admin. County:	England and Wales:
Crude Birth: per 1,000 population...	18.4	16.3	15.1	15.2
Adjusted Birth: do.	17.8	16.4	15.3	—
Crude Death: do.	8.7	9.9	11.9	11.3
Adjusted Death: do.	11.9	11.4	12.5	—
Tuberculosis, Respiratory do.	0.24	0.12	0.16	0.16
Tuberculosis other do.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Tuberculosis do.	0.26	0.14	0.18	0.18
Cancer all forms. do.	1.42	1.70	2.01	2.04
Vascular lesions, Nervous system do.	1.11	1.33	1.84	*
Heart and Circulation do.	3.04	3.64	4.54	*
Respiratory Diseases: do.	1.16	1.08	1.22	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births):	0.98	1.10	0.89	0.69
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births)	22.1	27.2	28.0	25.5
Still Birth (per 1,000 live and still births):	20.6	24.2	25.9	23.4

RECORD OF PROGRESS—DONCASTER RURAL DISTRICT

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	23.7	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
1951	18.06	9.97	0.43	47.81	NIL
1952	17.0	8.84	0.11	32.9	NIL
1953	18.3	9.24	0.28	37.3	1.95
1954	18.36	8.72	0.26	22.08	0.98

* Figures not available

SECTION A

STATISTICS

General:

AREA of the District (in acres)	75,086
Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population	54,250
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1954)	16,455
Rateable Value	£291,554
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,116 6 9

Extracts of Vital Statistics:

Live Births:

	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	492	465	957	Doncaster R.D. Live
Illegitimate	24	15	39	Birth Rate 18·36 *
	—	—	—	Adjusted 17·81
	516	480	996	England & Wales ... 15·2

Still Births:

	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	7	14	21	Doncaster R.D. Still
Illegitimate	—	—	—	Birth Rate 20·6 †
	—	—	—	Adjusted 19·98
	7	14	21	England & Wales ... 24·0

Deaths of Infants: Under 1 year:

(in brackets under 4 weeks)

	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	15 (8)	7 (6)	22 (14)	Doncaster R.D. Infant
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	Mortality Rate ... 22·08††
	—	—	—	England & Wales ... 25·5
	15 (8)	7 (6)	22 (14)	

Deaths: All Causes:

	Male	Female	Total	
	257	216	473	Doncaster R.D. Crude
	—	—	—	Death Rate 8·72 *
				Adjusted 11·86
				England & Wales ... 11·3

Deaths from Tuberculosis:

	Male	Female	Total	
(a) Respiratory ...	10	3	13	Doncaster R.D. Death Rate
(b) Non-respiratory	-	1	1	from Tuberculosis 0·26 *
	—	—	—	England & Wales ... 0·179
	10	4	14	

* per 1,000 of the population.

† per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

†† per 1,000 live births.

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year home population was 54,250, an increase of 70 over that of the previous year, in spite of the fact that live births for the year exceeded the deaths by 523.

Births.

The number of registered live births increased by five to 996, giving a rate of 18·36 per 1,000, compared with 15·2 for England and Wales. The district rate thus remained almost the same as that of 1953 (18·3), while the national rate declined slightly (from 15·5).

Male live births exceeded female by 36. Illegitimate live births were 4 per cent. of the total.

The live birth rate adjusted by the Registrar-General's factor was 17·81, making the rate comparable with the national figure by correcting the district advantage in age and sex constitution.

Deaths.

There were 473 deaths from all causes among the resident population, 257 males and 216 females. This was 27 less than in 1953. The crude rate for the district was 8·72 per 1,000, and the adjusted rate 11·86, representing a slight fall from the corresponding rates of the previous year. The national figure was 11·3.

The principal causes of death were:—

	1954	1953	Compare with 1952
Diseases of the heart and circulation (including vascular lesions of the nervous system) ...	225	209	207
Cancer (including leukaemia) ...	78	92	93
Pneumonia, bronchitis, influenza, etc. ...	63	62	51
Accidents and violence (motor vehicle accidents 9; other 17; suicide 2; other 1) ...	29	39	25
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	14	15	6

The deaths from these causes were 86 per cent. of the total. Diseases of the heart and circulation remained, as usual, the most common cause of death. While still remaining the next most notable cause of death, cancer was responsible for 14 fewer deaths. Deaths from respiratory diseases were next in importance with little variation from year to year.

The fall in the deaths from accidents was made up of 10 less in the industrial and domestic groups; actually there were two more fatal road accidents, although the road deaths amounted to only nine of the total.

Road deaths receive the most prominence in propaganda for prevention; much also is heard of industrial accidents, and deservedly so. Too little is heard of accidents in the home, particularly to the under-fives and the over-seventies.

Maternal Mortality.

There was one death from maternal causes, the number of mothers at risk being represented by 1,017 live and still births. The maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births was thus 0·98. The cause of death was air embolism from attempted self-abortion.

	1954—Maternal Deaths per 1,000 live and still births.	
	Doncaster R.D.	England & Wales
Maternal causes (excluding abortion) ...	—	0·58
Abortion ...	0·98	0·11
Total Maternal Mortality ...	0·98	0·69

This unfortunate occurrence just prevented a repetition of the experience of 1951 and 1952, when there were no deaths at all.

Infant Mortality.

22 infants (15 male, 7 female) died before reaching the age of 1 year. No fewer than 14 of them died in the first 28 days following birth. Since the number of births registered was 996, the infant mortality rate was 22·08 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was provisionally estimated at 24·0. This large decrease in the infant mortality (from 37·3 in 1953 and 32·9 in 1952) has brought the district rate below the national rate for the first time since 1946.

The causes of death are given in the accompanying table. From this it can be seen that the number of deaths from infectious diseases and gastro-enteritis was none, while those from bronchitis and pneumonia continued to be of substantial importance. The majority died from congenital deformities and immaturity. A feature of the table is the few deaths from post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis (collapse of the lungs), being no fewer than 11 less compared with the previous year. If death certification was accurate in both these years, it would suggest that resuscitation methods were more successful in 1954.

The following was the distribution of the 22 infant deaths:—

Health Visiting Area:	Notified Live Births	Infant Deaths
Armthorpe, Cantley, Awkley, Blaxton ...	191	4
Askern, Moss, Fenwick, Owston, Burghwallis, Norton	184	5
Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall, Kirk Bramwith, etc.	85	1
Brodsworth, Hooton Pagnell, Clayton, Barnburgh, Adwick	50	1
Edlington, Warmsworth, Conisbrough Parks, Wadworth, Loversall, etc.	201	4
Rossington, Bawtry	215	5
Sprotborough, Cadeby, High Melton ...	97	2
	<u>1023</u>	<u>22</u>

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS—1954

Cause of Death	All Infants		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
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	5	1	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	1
Gastro-Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation	4	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Immaturity	4	4	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemolytic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidental Suffocation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES ...	15	7	8	6	3	—	2	—	1	—	1	1

CAUSES OF DEATH—1954

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN

No.	Cause of Death	Males	Females
	ALL CAUSES:	257	216
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	10	3
2	Tuberculosis, Other	—	1
3	Syphilitic Disease	—	1
4	Diphtheria	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8	Measles	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm: stomach	13	9
11	do lung, bronchus	8	2
12	do breast	—	7
13	do uterus	—	5
14	do lymphatic and other	14	18
15	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	1	—
16	Diabetes	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of the nervous system ...	30	30
18	Coronary disease: angina	38	17
19	Hypertension with heart disease	5	5
20	Other heart disease	31	49
21	Other circulatory disease	11	9
22	Influenza	2	1
23	Pneumonia	10	2
24	Bronchitis	30	10
25	Other diseases of the respiratory system	8	—
26	Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ...	1	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	4	4
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1
31	Congenital malformations	4	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	14	29
33	Motor vehicle accidents	6	3
34	All other accidents	10	7
35	Suicide	2	—
36	Homicide and operations of war	1	—

SECTION B

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

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

Births:

1,066 live and still births occurred among mothers resident in this divisional area. 440 of them took place in Maternity Hospitals or Nursing Homes; 626 were domiciliary. Institutional births were thus 41% of the total, a decrease of 1% over the previous year. The total adjusted births represented an increase of 20. Of this total there were 21 still births, comprising 9 domiciliary and 12 institutional.

Ante-Natal Clinics:

About 64% of the total expectant mothers attended the County Council's Ante-Natal clinics during the year. The Hospital Board has ante-natal clinics in being, and medical practitioners supervise many of their own patients ante-natally; midwives also give ante-natal supervision to expectant mothers. The average number of attendances per mother was five, and the total attendances were 3,137. 378 half-day sessions were held at Armthorpe, Askern, Edlington, Rossington, Kirk Sandall, Sprotborough and Bawtry.

Consultants' Ante-Natal Clinics: held at Western Hospital.

132 patients were referred to these clinics from ordinary Ante-Natal Clinics with the following results:—

Delivered in Western Hospital	81
Domiciliary Confinements	39
1955 Confinements	9
Treatment	3
Total ...	<hr/> 132 <hr/>

Post-Natal Clinics:

Post-natal clinics were held in conjunction with the ante-natal clinics. 96 mothers attended for the first time and 130 mothers in all. As in former years fullest use is not made of these services, in spite of the fact that every encouragement is given to the mothers to attend.

Help in the Home:

Cases provided with Home Help during the year ended 31st December, 1954.

	No. of Cases	Hours employed
(1) Maternity and Expectant Mothers ...	47	3590
(2) Tuberculosis	1	159
(3) Chronic Sick (incl. aged & infirm)	164	38452
(4) Others	10	3003
	<hr/> 222 <hr/>	<hr/> 45204 <hr/>

This compares with 37,902 hours employed on 171 cases in the year previous, and represents an increase of about 20 per cent. in the total volume of help in the home.

85 per cent. of the total related to helping the aged and infirm. During 1954 the number of hours of help given by part-time home helps was equivalent to 19.75 whole-time employees. The service is still growing at the time of writing this report, and authorisation for an increased quota of home helps is being sought from time to time from the County Council.

The maintenance of the elderly in their own homes and the temporary assistance in households during "critical" times is likely to be a permanent feature of the welfare services.

Child Welfare Centres:

About 66% of the available infants under one year attended the centres in this division, 55% of those aged 1 to 2, and 50% of the age groups 3 to 5. The total attendances were 18,045.

Education in the method of infant feeding, clothing and management were the principal functions of these Centres, while medical advice was available at an early stage for children apparently not responding.

Dried milk, cereals and vitamin supplements were on sale to attenders.

In addition to the usual sessions, special clinics were held at the larger centres for immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and smallpox.

The distribution of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamins was taken over from the Ministry of Food in July, and the existing arrangements continued generally. Eleven of the thirteen distribution points are managed by voluntary workers, mainly W.V.S., who deserve our thanks for their efforts.

Seldom mentioned in these reports also are the voluntary workers at the Child Welfare Centres. In their hands rests nearly all the social work of the Centres, each of which has its devoted band of helpers. There are many with long years of service and to each and all we are grateful.

Number of children aged 0—5 years attending during the year	...	...	...	...	...	1,740
No. of attendances of children aged 0—5 during the year:—						
(a) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	11,636
(b) Over 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	6,409
Number of children attending for the first time, being under 1 year of age at the date of first attendance						772

Health Visiting:

The following is a summary of the work performed by Health Visitors:—

(a) Total number of attendances made at Local Authority Clinic Sessions	...	...	...	...	1371
(b) Visits:—					
			First Visits.	Total Visits.	
(1) Expectant Mothers	...	...	269	420	
(2) Children under 1 year	...	...	1023	8559	
(3) Children between 1 and 2 years	...	...		5453	
(4) Children between 2 and 5 years...	...	...		8908	
(5) Other cases	...	...		2961	
(6) Visits to households re Tuberculosis				1813	
			1292	28114	

The Senior Health Visitor acted as Almoner to Western Hospital and Hamilton Lodge for three of the West Riding Health Divisions, and was able to use the Health Visiting staff to promote liaison between the home and the hospital.

Midwifery:

(a) Domiciliary:

The midwifery staff consisted of 9 whole-time Midwives, 2 Home Nurse/Midwives, and 2 Senior Reliefs. Midwives were booked for 651 confinements in the home and, of these, 564 were completed, 26 miscarried before term, 18 removed from the district before term, and 96 were removed to hospital or institution either before or after confinement. 3,524 ante-natal visits were made. Midwives were present at 630 labours, and a doctor was also in attendance on 101 occasions.

Gas and air analgesia was given to 431 mothers and pethidine to 192. 12,538 post-natal visits were paid which included 358 to 64 mothers discharged from hospital before the 14th day. 463 infants were established on breast feeding at the time the Midwife ceased attending.

(b) Institutional:

440 mothers normally resident in the district were delivered of babies in maternity hospitals or homes; of these 81 had been referred to hospital as abnormalities.

Institutional confinements amounted to about 41% of the total, which is a high proportion for this district, but low when compared with the country generally.

Home Nursing:

There were 7 full-time Home Nurses and 1 Senior Relief Home Nurse, in addition to 2 Home Nurse/Midwives. A heavy volume of work was carried out, 1,511 cases involving 28,580 visits analysed with the following classification:—

	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses during the year:	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year:
Medical	872	18733
Surgical	603	9135
Infectious Diseases ...	2	26
Tuberculosis	19	498
Maternal Complications	15	188
Total ...	1511	28580

Visits.

Patients included in above who were aged 65 and over at the time of first visit during the year:

472 patients 13940

Children included in above who were under five years of age at the time for first visit during the year:

138 children 1045

Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.

130 patients 8322

Ultra Violet Ray Clinics:

This clinic was held twice weekly at the Sprotborough Child Welfare Centre during the months of January to May and October to December inclusive.

24 children made 324 attendances for treatment. All were recommended by their own doctor or a school medical officer and were referred back for re-examination after treatment. The cases were selected and the results good generally; those not likely to respond not being encouraged because of the distance to be travelled by the patient and parent. Reciprocal arrangements are in force with Bentley Clinics for the convenience of the patients.

Mental Deficiency Acts:

Eleven new cases were ascertained during the year and the procedure for reporting to the Local Health Authority had been completed in ten at the end of the year. All the new cases reported were placed under statutory supervision.

Ten defectives (4 male, 6 females) ceased to be under community care, died, or removed from the area.

These changes resulted in the following total of known defectives:—

	Under 16:		Aged 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under Statutory Supervision ...	15	13	36	30
Under Guardianship ...	—	—	—	1
In places of safety ...	—	—	—	—
Under voluntary supervision ...	—	—	7	11
Total ...	15	13	43	42

31 defectives were in full-time and four in part-time employment, while 22 were adequately occupied at home.

10 defectives were actually attending occupation centres, although 41 were considered suitable for centres. This inadequacy is mainly due to lack of accommodation, but also to transport difficulties.

Two home teachers and one social worker shared the work of three Public Health Divisions (Adwick, Doncaster and Thorne).

Liaison was maintained with the Juvenile Employment Office, the Disablement Resettlement Officer, and the Medical Officers of Institutions.

School Medical Inspection (Brief Summary):

A. Periodic Medical Inspections:

Number of inspections in the prescribed groups:—

Entrants ...	1387
Last year primary ...	821
Last year secondary ...	618
Total ...	2826

B. Other Inspections:

Number of special inspections ...	57
Number of re-inspections ...	433
Total ...	490

Nutrition—Classification of General Condition:

A. Good (above average)	20.59 per cent.
B. Fair (average)	77.99 „
C. Poor (below average)	1.42 „

This compares with 1.5 per cent. in Category "C" among school children examined in 1953 in the West Riding.

Cleanliness:

Total number of school children on rolls	9923
1. Total number of examinations in the schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	16240
2. Total number of individual pupils found to be infested (however slightly)	42
3. Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944)	3
4. Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act 1944)	—

The issue of disinfecting lotions with explanatory leaflet and guidance by the school nurses in their use were sufficient in almost all cases.

Defects found:

Of the 2,826 children examined at routine inspections (plus specials) the following defects were found requiring treatment:—

Eyes: (a) Vision	103	Orthopaedic: (a) Posture	8
(b) Squint	9	(b) Flat foot	6
(c) Other	6	(c) Other ...	14
Ears. (a) Hearing	20	Nervous System:	
Nose and Throat	153	(a) Epilepsy	2
Speech Defects	19	(b) Other	9
Heart and Circulation	6	Psychological:	
Lungs	10	(a) Stability	—
Development (a) Hernia	1	(b) Development	—
(b) Other	5	Other	20

Under the same classification a larger number of minor conditions were found not requiring treatment but observation.

Defects Treated:

Defects treated during the year were as follows:—

	No. of Cases treated:	
	By the Authority	Elsewhere or Otherwise
Skin Diseases:		
Ringworm (1) Scalp	—	—
(2) Body	3	—
Scabies	—	—
Impetigo	178	—
Other skin diseases	302	—
Total	<u>483</u>	<u>—</u>

Eye Disease, Defective Vision, Squint:

External conditions	183	—
Refraction and Squint	414	—
Total	<u>597</u>	<u>—</u>

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects:

Operative treatment for:—

(a) Diseases of the ear	—	—
(b) Adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	108
(c) For other conditions of nose and throat	—	21
Received other forms of treatment	293	—
	<u>293</u>	<u>129</u>

Orthopaedic and Postural Defects:

(a) Number treated in hospital	—	9
(b) Number treated otherwise	30	5

Child Guidance Treatment:—

Number of pupils treated	14	—
---------------------------------	----	---

Speech Therapy:

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	80	—
--	----	---

Other Treatment Given—attendances:—

(a) Minor ailments	4580	—
(b) Ultra Violet Ray Clinic	24	—

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1954

(other than Tuberculosis)

AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE

Arranged in the manner prescribed by the Registrar General.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	Paralytic		Non-Paralytic		M	F	M	F
					M	F	M	F				
Under 1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	13	15	—	—
1 to 2 ...	3	1	6	7	—	—	—	—	47	45	—	—
3 to 4 ...	2	6	6	5	—	—	—	—	58	52	—	—
5 to 9 ...	13	8	9	11	—	—	—	—	103	69	—	—
10 to 14	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
15 to 24	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 & over	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	20	20	26	23	—	—	—	—	222	183	—	—

Age Group	Acute Pneumonia		Bacillary Dysentery		Erysipelas		Acute Encephalitis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 14...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 44	3	2	—	1	—	—	1	—
45 to 64	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	7	2	1	1	—	1	—

Puerperal Pyrexia: 7

513 cases of notifiable infections (other than tuberculosis and food poisoning) came to the knowledge of this department during the year.

This total included 405 cases of measles and 49 of whooping cough. Although measles infection was greater than in the previous two years, it did not approach the quadriennial maximum which is expected in 1955. No infant deaths were caused by measles and whooping cough.

There was no case of diphtheria and no case of infantile paralysis.

Anti-Diphtheria Immunisation, 1954:

Children completing a course of immunisation:—

Age	0-4	5-14	Total
Primary	637	164	801
Reinforcement doses	8	533	541

The state of anti-diphtheria immunisation at the end of 1954 was:—

Age	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
	33	2101				4914	3792	
TOTAL ...						2134	8706	10840
Estimated mid-year population				4701		10020		14721
Percentage Immunised				45		87		74

The percentage of children under five who were immunised for the first time continued to be too low to guarantee the freedom of the community from infection, although the number inoculated showed some improvement. There is need of further improvement in this age group. Special immunisation clinics are now run monthly in all the larger parishes in connection with the child welfare centres at which not only diphtheria immunisation is offered, but also the inoculations against whooping cough and smallpox. Those who prefer the children to be inoculated by their own doctor can have it arranged under the National Health Service.

Vaccination against Smallpox:

In 1954 when there were 996 live births the following was the result of a campaign modelled upon that used against diphtheria:—

Ages of persons vaccinated 1954:

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 & over	Total
Primary Vaccination	274	8	18	11	11	322
Re-vaccinated ...	—	—	6	9	13	28

This amounts to an acceptance rate of 27·5 per cent., compared with 20·2 per cent. in 1953, and with the West Riding County figure of 26·2 in 1953.

The improvement, although small, is heartening. Health Visitors in areas showing poor responses have been asked to bring the facilities for vaccination to the notice of the parents of every child without fail, and to have a signed refusal before "relinquishing hope."

Careful parents are thus enabled to make provision early and the organisation for meeting an emergency is kept alive for the benefit of all.

Scarlet Fever:

40 cases of scarlet fever were notified compared with 99 and 49 in the preceding two years. Most of the cases were treated at home following the modern practice of removing only those cases to hospital when the balance of advantage lies in so doing. This policy is proving the proper one, as shown by the uninfluenced prevalence, and has resulted in the saving of hospital beds and their availability for other more serious infections.

Other Infections:

There was an absence of poliomyelitis among the notifications and a decrease in the number of cases of acute pneumonia from 31 in 1952 to 14 in 1953.

Bacillary dysentery re-appeared on the notification list and, according to the local epidemiological experience, is likely to keep re-appearing. The disease is mainly of the mild Sonné type, the usual manner of spread being by mild cases moving about in the community, coupled with faulty personal hygiene.

Food Poisoning: Salmonella Infection.

A circumscribed outbreak of gastro-enteritis occurred in a new housing estate in a large colliery village, involving 24 persons. All had consumed portions of 10 pork pies retailed locally, but infected at the bakery in a distant city. The information came direct to us originally from one of the victims, and the picture was very quickly completed by investigation in which the sanitary inspectors played major parts locally, while the City Medical Officer of Health was quick to investigate and discover the cause, namely an employee with an unrecognised attack of salmonella typhi-murium. Two remaining unsold pies of the same consignment were seized and sent for investigation.

Local medical practitioners informed me that the cases were mostly of mild gastro-enteritis, but three or four were moderately severe, involving a week in bed and convalescence.

Salmonella typhi-murium was recovered from the pies sent for analysis and organisms of the same kind were found in the faeces of the patients tested.

Tuberculosis:

New cases and mortality during 1954:

Age Group	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 14	3	5	1	3	—	—	—	—
15 to 24	4	5	1	—	—	1	—	—
25 to 44	14	10	1	1	5	—	—	1
45 to 64	6	3	—	—	2	2	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All ages	28	25	3	4	10	3	—	1

There were 60 new cases, classified as in the accompanying table, compared with 66 in the previous year, and equal to the average for the previous five years. This represents an annual incidence rate for the Rural District of just over one per thousand of the population.

The parish distribution of the new cases and deaths was as follows:

	New Cases.	Deaths.
Armthorpe	6	1
Askern	2	1
Austerfield	1	—
Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall	4	3
Bawtry	1	—
Blaxton	1	—
Braithwell	1	—
Brodsworth	2	—
Clayton-with-Frickley	2	—
Conisbrough Parks	1	1
Edlington	20	5
Rossington	11	2
Sprotborough	4	1
Stainton	1	—
Wadworth	1	—
Warmsworth	2	—

The parish distribution singles out Edlington as the most productive of new cases. The incidence in this parish was 3 per 1,000 of the population in 1954, and was similarly large in 1953. The 20 new cases in Edlington consisted of 8 males and 12 females. Their occupations were given as follows:—Males: Miners 3, Labourer 1, Machinist 1, Refuse Collector 1, Surveyor's Assistant 1, Warehouseman 1. Females: Housewives 5, Shop Assistants 2, Schoolchildren 2, Infant 1, Bus Conductress 1, Machinist 1. This analysis shows that the new cases are not particularly associated with one type of occupation, having regard to the normal preponderance of miners and housewives in the parish and discounts any close association with the apparently high rate of pneumoconiosis at the Mass Radiography survey. The variety of occupations seems to indicate a higher level of infection generally. This accords with my own knowledge of the overcrowding which the parish experienced during the war years and subsequently. Although this overcrowding has now been liberally abated by fresh housing provision, these new conditions have not existed long enough to loosen the hold of this preeminently chronic disease. Other factors remaining equal, one may expect a decrease in incidence during the next few years.

The Mass Miniature Radiography Unit of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board visited Armthorpe, Askern, Edlington and Rossington during the year with the following results:—

Survey Undertaken	Number Examined	Abnormalities Discovered			Total
		Tuberculosis		Other	
		Active	Inactive		
Armthorpe .	1782	3	6	58	67
Askern ...	1528	1	11	58	70
Edlington .	1782	3	8	107	118
Rossington	1540	1	5	49	55
Totals ...	6632	8	30	272	310

Two years had elapsed since the previous survey and thus the number of unsuspected cases of active tuberculosis discovered was not excessive for the numbers examined. Without further knowledge of details of individual cases, it is not possible to comment upon the inactive tuberculous lesions, most of which, of course, are healed, but it is remarkable that so many could pass through the disease unaided and emerge with only a scar or a shadow to denote it.

The high number of other abnormalities at Edlington was accounted for by pneumoconiosis among the miners aged 45 and over, since the sample of the population examined at Edlington was almost exclusively miners, the only suitable place for the Unit being the Colliery Yard.

Deaths from tuberculosis during the year were 14 in number, 13 from the respiratory and 1 from the non-respiratory form. The death rate from all forms of tuberculosis was thus 0.26 per 1,000 of the population compared with 0.18 for England and Wales and for the County of the West Riding.

Sanatorium and Hospital Treatment :

The following numbers of cases were admitted or discharged from Institutions during the year:—

	Admitted			Discharged or Died		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory:						
Adults	29	29	58	27	32	59
Children	—	3	3	—	—	—
Non-respiratory:						
Adults	1	—	1	—	—	—
Children	1	2	3	2	1	3
	31	34	65	29	33	62

21 hospitals, sanatoria and other institutions were involved, mainly in the Leeds and Sheffield hospital regions.

The waiting period for male patients for admission to sanatoria lengthened because of shortage of staffed accommodation and gave cause for some misgiving to the Physician and Medical Officer of Health alike.

Home Visiting:

The Tuberculosis Visitor paid 1,811 visits to households in connection with reports on home circumstances, health education, grants of extra nourishment, housing circumstances and talks to contacts regarding examination at the Chest Clinic, outdoor shelter maintenance, etc., etc.

Housing conditions unfavourable to the treatment and limitation of the spread of infection were reported to the housing sub-committees in support of applications for council houses with gratifying results.

Extra Nourishment:

No. of patients receiving extra nourishment:

(a) At the beginning of the year	43
(b) Granted extra nourishment during the year	18
(c) No. of grants discontinued	31
(d) Number of patients receiving extra nourishment at the end of the year ...	30
(e) Total number of orders issued during the year	275
Outdoor Shelters: Supplied and maintained ...	5

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

It is convenient to introduce this Section here if only to preface the report on the detailed routine work of the Chief and other officers of the Sanitary Department, which follows.

The position with regard to water supplies was, on the whole, satisfactory, with a few shortcomings. The failure of a pump in one borehole which needed about a week to repair brought out the need for a fourth borehole at Austerfield (Doncaster & Tickhill Joint Water Board) as the remainder of the boreholes were inadequate to cope with the demand. This inadequacy is the only one worthy of recording during the year. Various temporary measures of distribution were necessary for a short time in a few places.

One village estate supply, with springs for the source, developed an unexpectedly acid reaction with potentially dangerous lead dissolving qualities. The estate management diverted the springs at source and admitted the Dearne Valley Water Board's supply which was fortunately interconnected with the village mains. This will remain so until a filter bed of limestone chippings can be introduced at the springs to neutralise the acidity.

During the year the village of Norton was re-sewered and a new sewage-disposal works brought into function. The list of places waiting to have modern sewerage and disposal works still remains lengthy owing to arrears, which have accumulated since the new house building became first priority. Schemes for Sprotborough (Park area), Barnburgh, Brodsworth (Barnsley Road area), Burghwallis and Cantley are pending. The small scheme at Burghwallis was the subject of an Inquiry and approval was obtained subject to a small readjustment of the site for the sewage works.

New sewer extensions were made to serve the 1,407 new houses erected by the Council, the Industrial Housing Association, and private enterprise.

With regard to atmospheric pollution, there is little change from the position reported in 1953. The mean of the monthly total deposits at Askern was 32·97 tons (per sq. mile) compared with 38·05 and 50·11 for 1953 and 1952 respectively. This progressive improvement is very good so far, but needs to proceed further. It will also be necessary to ascertain the concentrations of sulphur dioxide in the vicinity of the coalite plant at various points.

Housing:

The feature of the year was the large number of houses completed by the Coal Industry Housing Association for miners at Armthorpe, Campsall, Edlington and Rossington. These, together with others erected by private enterprise, made a total of 955. With the 452 completed by the District Council, the total of 1,407 new houses were provided during the year; surely a record for the Rural District.

With the large majority of the urgent cases of housing need satisfied, the Council felt able to turn attention to the matter of unfit houses.

Fortunately the National Coal Board agreed to the demolition of the wooden bungalows at Edlington, simultaneously with the erection of the new Industrial Housing Association and council houses at Broomhouse Lane and 72 of these worn out structures were demolished. They were built to meet a housing emergency after World War I, but had outlived their purpose. The main "shells" deteriorated more rapidly than maintenance work could remedy. By the end of the year few of them remained and the rest are due for similar treatment.

National Assistance Acts, 1947 and 1951, Section 47.

A few elderly persons were found to be unable to care for themselves in such a manner as to prevent insanitary conditions arising with and/or without the help of relatives or neighbours.

In no case was it expedient to resort to the powers provided by these Acts, arrangements being made by informal procedure.

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

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. A. PENMAN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (also Divisional Medical Officer, West Riding County Council).

Assistant County Medical Officers:

Dr. M. T. BURTON, L.M.S.S.A.
Dr. C. M. DORNAN, M.B., B.Ch.

Health Visitors:

Miss E. Humphries—Senior Health Visitor.
Miss A. M. Hogg }
Miss L. Shaw } ARMTHORPE
Mrs. G. Daley—ASKERN
Mrs. W. Blagojevic—BAWTRY
Miss E. Goulden—BRODSWORTH
Miss F. Arrand }
Miss N. H. Stewardson } EDLINGTON
Miss M. Simpson—KIRK SANDALL
Mrs. F. Weaver }
Mrs. W. Blagojevic } ROSSINGTON
Miss E. P. Llewellyn—SPROTBOROUGH
Mrs. C. R. Burston—Div. Area T.B.

Midwives:

Senior Reliefs:

Nurse B. Gilbert, 17 Brecks Lane, Kirk Sandall
(Tel. Barnby Dun 251).
Nurse G. M. Wilkinson, 10 Low Road, Warmsworth
(Tel. Doncaster 53245).
Nurse W. Allen, 6 Bevan Avenue, Rossington. (Tel. Rossington 353).
Nurse M. Burgin, 35 Clark Avenue, Edlington. (Tel. Conisbrough 3167).
Nurse D. Duckworth, 1 Queen's Road, Bawtry (Tel. Bawtry 312).
Nurse M. Hampshire, "Rockley," Norton, Askern (Tel. Askern 269).
Nurse E. Hawksworth, 5 Common Lane, Tickhill (Tel. Tickhill 289).
Nurse F. A. Heard, Co-operative House, Rossington
(Tel. Rossington 255).
Nurse D. M. Hill, Merton House, Mill Lane, Warmsworth
(Tel. Doncaster 53188).
Nurse M. Jones, 22 Rushy Moor Avenue, Askern (Tel. Askern 294).
Nurse D. Lee, 9 Rands Lane, Armthorpe (Tel. Armthorpe 239).
Nurse R. H. Senior, 95 Hawthorn Avenue, Armthorpe
(Tel. Armthorpe 206).
Nurse F. Wilkinson, 1 Park Drive, Campsall, Askern. (Tel. Askern 340)
Nurse B. F. Wright, 11 Scott Avenue, Barnburgh. (Tel. Goldthorpe 2150)

District Nures:

Senior Relief:

Nurse D. Robinson, Holly Cottage, Bessacarr
(Tel. Doncaster 55168).

Nurse P. Anstock, 7 Low Road, Warmsworth (Tel. Doncaster 53860).

Nurse A. Caygill, Birch View, Warning Tongue Lane, Bessacarr
(Tel. Rossington 385).

Nurse D. Duckworth, 1 Queen's Road, Bawtry (Tel. Bawtry 312).

Nurse D. Gilbert, 8 Church Road, Kirk Sandall (Tel. Barnby Dun 314).

Nurse E. Hawksworth, 5 Common Lane, Tickhill (Tel. Tickhill 289).

Nurse N. A. Jeffreys, 19 Tennyson Avenue, Sprotborough
(Tel. Doncaster 49845).

Nurse E. L. Jones, 50 Grange Lane, Rossington (Tel. Rossington 246).

Nurse E. E. Oades, "Little Haven," Bone Lane, Campsall
(Tel. Askern 304).

Nurse M. Renecar, 120 Tickhill Road, Doncaster (Tel. Doncaster 53436).

Nurse D. E. Robson, "Ingledene," Nutwell Lane, Armthorpe
(Tel. Armthorpe 225).

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year
1954 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		
		Inspections	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 ...	85	95	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
Total	85	95	2	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosec't'ns 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	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	1	—

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 1954 ...	11666
Nuisances reported during 1954	499
Nuisances in hand 1953	57
Abated during 1954	502
Outstanding at end of 1954	54

The total inspections relate to:—

Nuisances	913	Bakehouses	25
Housing Acts & Regulations	564	Butchers' Shops	126
Moveable Dwellings	148	Restaurants, Cafes, and	
Rehousing Investigations ..	1016	Hotel Kitchens	25
Interviews with Owners		Food Preparing Premises ..	27
and Tradesman	69	Fish and Chip Shops	35
Factories	95	Slaughterhouses	399
Smoke Observations	28	General Provision Shops...	70
Spoilbanks & Refuse Tips	433	Canteens	8
Public Sanitary Conveniences	9	Shops' Act	58
Drainage	328	Unsound Food	161
Pet Animals Act	1	Milk Shops and Dairies ...	17
Hairdressers	14	Ice Cream Shops	48
Public Cleansing & Salvage	6084	Ice Cream Manufacturers .	22
Conversions	443	Hawkers' Premises	28
Prevention of Damage by		Water Supplies:	
Pests Act	4	Samples taken	74
Miscellaneous	7	Supplies investigated ...	17
Dirty & Verminous Premises:		Milk samples taken	27
Bed Bugs	29	Ice Cream Samples taken .	51
Other Vermin	29	Infectious Diseases:	
Dirty Houses	15	Disinfections (inc. T.B.)	173
Markets	24	Investigations	124
Food poisoning	21		

Notices:

Informal Notices served ...	499	Complied with:	
Statutory Notices served ...	12	(from 1953 to 1954)	502
Legal Proceedings taken ...	12	(from 1953 to 1954)	20

WATER SUPPLIES

The major part of the district is supplied by two water undertakings, the Doncaster & Tickhill Joint Water Board and the Doncaster Corporation. In addition there are three private suppliers—Pilkington Bros. Ltd., serving the village of Kirk Sandall and two estate supplies to the rural parishes of Clayton-with-Frickley and Hooton Pagnell.

Water is mainly derived from deep boreholes which give supplies of constant purity and moderate hardness.

All the parishes in the Rural District have a piped supply, the only dwellings not receiving water from the mains being those situated in remote parts not within a reasonable distance of the supply.

The following samples of water were submitted for bacteriological analysis:—

	Number of Examinations:	
	Satisfactory.	Not Satisfactory.
Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board	32	2
Doncaster Corporation	25	—
Pilkington Bros. Ltd.	8	—
Private Wells	5	3
Dearne Valley Water Board	1	—
Springs—Estate Supplies	1	—
Private spring	2	—
Borehole—Askern Colliery	—	1
Totals ...	74	6

The two unsatisfactory results from the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board's supply were of a temporary nature. Flushing of the newly extended main from which the samples were taken resulted in the repeat samples proving satisfactory.

In addition sixteen samples were submitted for chemical examination:

Clayton with Frickley	10	8 from spring supply 2 Dearne Valley supply	Good
Cadeby	1	Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board ...	Good
Hooton Pagnell	1	Estate supply	Good
Kirk Sandall	1	Pilkington Bros. Ltd. ...	Good
Austerfield	1	Pumping Station	Good
Warmsworth	1	Doncaster Corporation ...	Good
Askern	1	Private borehole at Colliery (not used for drinking)	Doubtful

The eight samples from the spring supply were taken during investigations relating to the pH concentration (acidity) which was of such a degree as to encourage lead solvency.

This is referred to by Dr. Penman under Section C of the report.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION: END OF YEAR 1954

	No. of inhabited houses 31/12/54	Water closets	Pail closets	Privy middens	Dustbins	Dry Ashpits	Cesspools
Parishes Closely Built: Armthorpe, Askern, Barnby Dun with Kirk Sandall, Bawtry, Edlington, Rossing- ton, Sprotborough and Warmsworth.	12636	13113	132	18	13306	6	340
Parishes Closely built in parts: Austerfield, Barnburgh, Blax- ton, Braithwell, Brodsworth, Cadeby, Cantley, Denaby (Old), Marr, Norton, Wad- worth.	2842	2300	552	182	2756	8	524
Parishes Entirely Rural: Adwick - on - Dearne, Awkley, Burghwallis, Clayton - with - Frickley, Conisborough Parks, Fenwick, Hampole, Hickleton, Hooton Pagnell, Kirk Bram- with, Loversall, Melton (High), Moss, Owston, Stain- ton, Thorpe-in-Balne.	977	491	396	112	881	12	147
TOTAL ...	16455	15904	1080	312	16943	26	1011

Closet Conversions and Additions for 1954:

- 16 Privies to water closets.
- 11 Pails to water closets
- 1407 water closets provided for new buildings
- 62 additional cesspools provided

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 47

- (a) **Sub-section 1—Replacement of earth closets, etc. by water closets at joint expense of owner and local authority.**

Ten conversions to water closets were carried out where sewer and water supply were available at a cost to the Council of £382 7s. 6d.

- (b) **Sub-section 4.—Replacement of earth closets, etc. by water closets at expense of owner with grant assistance by the local authority.**

Eight conversions were completed with drainage into cesspools at a cost of £120 (£15 per conversion) to the Council.

Provision of Dustbins:

The scheme for the supply of dustbins to householders by the Council, under Section 73 (3) Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by the Local Authorities (Charge for Dustbins) Order, 1949, has continued to work satisfactorily.

Four hundred and sixty bins were supplied. An annual charge of five shillings is made on the property as part of the General Rate.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

(a) Colliery Spoilbanks:

There has been a marked improvement during the year at Askern, Armthorpe, Hickleton and Brodsworth Collieries, where the spoilbanks have been on fire for a number of years.

At Edlington the new aerial tip is on fire. Spraying with water has kept the nuisance down to a minimum.

Red shale, the residue from burning spoilbanks, is now being put to good use for road making. Should this continue, some of the unsightly pit hills will disappear or be reduced to such proportions that they may be levelled off and planted with trees and other vegetation.

It is gratifying to know that the National Coal Board are levelling and grading some of the spoilbanks in the area.

(b) Industrial chimneys:

Thirty-four smoke observations were taken of thirty minutes duration. Seventeen showed excessive emission of black smoke based on the bye-law standard of not more than three minutes black smoke in thirty minutes.

The installation of mechanical stokers to replace hand fired boilers at Yorkshire Main Colliery, Edlington, has been two-thirds completed during the year. This has made some improvement, but the full effect will not be noticed until the change-over is complete.

Askern Colliery is the next to be supplied with mechanical stokers.

(c) Askern—Doncaster Coalite Works:

Conditions here are much the same as last year. The Deposit Gauge readings for 1954 are set out below. These show an average monthly total deposit of 32.97 tons per square mile, which is approximately 5 tons per square mile less than last year when the average was 38.05 tons.

The monthly average for 1952 was 50.13 tons per square mile.

DEPOSIT GAUGE AND LEAD PEROXIDE READINGS—1954

St. Peter's Church, Askern.

ASKERN	Rainfall	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Deposit	Sulphur Dioxide in exposed lead peroxide
January ..	27	34.74	6.64	41.38	2.070
February ..	36	17.37	4.40	21.77	1.548
March	20	47.50	4.37	51.87	2.232
April	23	26.78	3.46	30.24	1.440
May	65	18.62	5.32	23.94	.927
June	37	21.94	3.79	25.73	1.602
July	27	62.68	4.33	67.01	1.998
August ...	104	19.30	5.82	25.12	1.188
September	28	24.48	4.98	29.46	2.142
October ...	53	7.55	4.61	12.16	3.65
November .	65	26.24	3.32	29.56	2.439
December .	53	27.70	9.75	37.45	3.519
	Millimetres	Tons per square mile			Milligrammes

**SMOKE FILTER MACHINE—PUBLIC CLEANSING DEPOT,
KIRK SANDALL**

By drawing measured quantities of outside air through a one inch 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 tables:—

SMOKE READINGS FOR THE YEAR—1954

Centre:—Kirk Sandall

Station:—Public Cleansing Depot, Sunnyside.

Month	Highest	Lowest	Average
January ...	.475	.019	.163
February ...	.323	.019	.157
March .....	.323	.019	.131
April .....	.152	.019	.071
May .....	.076	.019	.0418
June .....	.114	.019	.052
July .....	.114	.019	.044
August ...	.152	.019	.063
September ..	.152	.019	.074
October ...	.228	.038	.101
November ..	.608	.038	.185
December ..	.323	.019	.155
Highest in Year ... ..			.608
Lowest in Year ... ..			.019
Average ... ..			.103

General observations:

Work carried out at the burning spoilbanks, the change over from hand-fired to mechanical stokers at the collieries and the reduction in the tons per square mile deposited at Askern, are all improvements in the right direction.

It only remains for these to continue during 1955, plus the discovery of some way to control emission of smoke and fumes from the Doncaster Coalite Works, to make the atmospheric conditions of the area more favourable to health.

Eradication of Bed and Bugs and Other Vermin:

Eight infestations of bed bugs, silver fish and blacklocks were dealt with in private properties.

Pet Animals Act, 1951:

One licence has been granted to keep a pet shop.

Hairdressers and Barbers:

There are thirty-three Certificates of Registration in force under Section 120—West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1955
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Type of Property				(5) Agricultural
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling (includ'g Council) Houses	(3) All other (incl. business premises)	(4) Total of Cols (1), (2) and (3)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority District ...	117	15930	1952	17999	600
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	12	163	28	203	1
(b) Survey under the Act	27	—	4	31	315
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) ..	—	—	—	—	—
III. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections	718	623	195	1526	368
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	35	142	28	205	13
(b) Mice Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	5	21	3	29	1
V. Number of infested properties (in Sec. IV) treated by the L.A.	40	163	31	234	14
VI. Total treatment carried out — including re-treatment	718	621	189	1528	79
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	10	—	10	—

SECTION D

HOUSING

(1) Council Houses:

The number of houses owned by the Council at the end of 1954 was 2,964, made up as follows:—

Pre-War 629; Post-War 2,330; Sewage Works houses 5.

In addition the Council have control of a hostel at Warmsworth which provides accommodation for 30 families. Also a camp at Sprotborough which provides accommodation for 15 families. The Council have now decided that the remaining tenants of Sprotborough shall all be rehoused by the end of 1955.

(2) Housing Postal Survey (September, 1954)—Result:

Applications re-affirmed 1,456.

These 1,456 applicants were classified at the time of application.

	Resident in the district.
From householders	617
From non-householders	839
Total ...	1,456

During 1954 452 houses were completed and let as under:—

	Coal Miners	Agric.	Others	Total
Airey	—	—	—	—
Traditional	85	8	340	433
Aged Persons Bungalows	—	—	19	19
	85	8	359	452

In addition 109 private houses and 846 houses for the Coal Industry Housing Association were completed.

Rehousing:

One thousand and sixteen visits were made in connection with rehousing of families into Council houses. The furniture, particularly the bedding is thoroughly examined to ensure that the house about to be occupied does not become infested with any kind of vermin, especially bed bugs. This also applies to houses where exchanges have been arranged.

It was necessary to disinfest the furniture and bedding in three cases, the work being carried out by a firm of fumigation experts. Hydrogen Cyanide gas was applied except for the bedding, which was steam disinfested. This is a reduction on last year's number of five.

One hundred and fifty-eight houses which became vacant for various reasons, were inspected for cleanliness and defects, in order that the necessary repairs could be carried out before the houses were re-occupied.

Privately Owned Houses:

One hundred and twenty-eight notices were served in respect of houses requiring defects to be remedied.

Legal proceedings were taken against the owner relating to twelve houses.

The Court enforced compliance of Notices and awarded Costs to the Council.

Seventy-two houses were demolished during the year.

The National Coal Board rehoused the families from sixty-one houses and the Council eleven families from Victory Estate, Sprotborough.

Thirtyeight licences were granted for a period of twelve months in each case. The position is satisfactory, insomuch that there are no large colonies of this type of dwelling in the area, and the places were well kept.

There is one licensed site near Bawtry, designed to accommodate ten caravans. This is a model of what can be done on a well regulated site.

The caravans are all of the latest types, each one being sited in an enclosure suitably fenced, provided with concrete footpaths, and an artistically designed store shed. All the gardens are neatly laid out with flowers and small grass plots. Dust bins are provided.

Piped water supply and drainage is supplied to each pair of caravans. Four water closets, two for males and two for females are installed in a well designed building, conveniently situated. There is also an Elsan lavatory to each caravan.

SECTION E

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLY

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The Slaughterhouses Act, 1954

Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924-1952

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

The Ministry of Food ceased to be responsible for the control of meat and livestock on 29th June, 1954, and authorised private slaughtering to commence on 2nd July, 1954. This was the end of meat control which had been administered by the Ministry since the outbreak of war in 1939.

Local Authorities were instructed to see that slaughtering facilities were available to traders to meet the needs of each district.

Thirteen applications for licences were received from owners or occupiers of slaughterhouses which had been in use before 1938. These were granted by the Council and slaughtering commenced on the 1st July, 1954.

The licensed slaughterhouses are situated in the following parishes:—

Armthorpe 1; Bawtry 4; Barnby Dun with Kirk Sandall 2, Braithwell 1, Hooton Pagnell 1, Norton 3, and Wadworth 1.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and inspected,

**MEAT INSPECTION DURING THE PERIODS SHOWN, GIVING NUMBERS OF ANIMALS
INSPECTED AND THE PERCENTAGE DISEASED**

From	To	BEASTS (Excluding Cows)			COWS			SHEEP			PIGS		
		No. Inspected	% Diseased T.B. Causes Other Causes		No. Inspected	% Diseased T.B. Causes Other Causes		No. Inspected	% Diseased T.B. Causes Other Causes		No. Inspected	% Diseased T.B. Causes Other Causes	
1.7.54	17.7.54	37	21.6	5.4	29	44.8	—	42	—	—	63	—	1.6
18.7.54	21.8.54	85	9.4	14.0	82	23.1	12.2	152	—	0.66	154	2.6	2.6
22.8.54	18.9.54	1 calf 76	4.0	21.0	55	34.5	12.7	75	—	1.3	165	1.2	3.6
20.9.54	16.10.54	2 calves 81	6.1	6.1	51	31.3	15.7	76	—	2.6	219	1.8	1.4
18.10.54	21.11.54	2 calves 104	5.7	7.7	63	44.4	14.3	82	—	—	340	1.4	2.9
22.11.54	18.12.54	65	9.2	9.2	60	35.0	11.6	30	—	—	224	1.7	.4
20.12.54	1.1.55	26	30.7	7.6	14	28.0	—	7	—	—	166	1.8	—
Year end total ...		5 calves 474	9.37	10.62	354	33.89	11.58	464	—	.86	1331	1.65	1.87

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Details of Meat condemned during the period 1st July to
31st December, 1954.

Details	Weight			
	No.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
BEASTS (excluding cows)				
Carcase of beef and offal (bullock), (TB)	1	11	0	0
Carcase of beef and offal (heifer), (TB)	1	6	1	12
Carcase of beef and offal (calf) (Abscesses)	1	0	1	22
Hind quarter (calf) (bruising)	1	0	0	11
Hind quarter (injury and bruising)	1	0	3	24
Head and Tongue (TB)	10	2	2	12
Head and Tongue (Cysticercus bovis)	3	0	2	23
Head and Tongue (Actinomycosis)	1	0	1	2
Liver Part (Parasites)	17	0	3	12
Liver (Parasites)	4	0	2	0
Liver (Cirrhosis)	2	0	1	0
Liver (Abscesses)	17	1	0	25
Liver Part (Degeneration)	1	0	0	6
Liver (TB)	4	0	2	0
Lungs sets (Pleurisy)	6	0	2	4
Lungs sets (TB)	12	1	0	22
Lungs sets (Abscesses)	3	0	1	2
Lungs sets (Parasites)	1	0	0	7
Heart (Pericarditis)	2	0	0	8
Spleen (Peritonitis)	1	0	0	2

Details	Weight			
	No.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
COWS				
Carcase of beef and offal (TB)	4	21	2	5
Carcase of beef and offal (injury)	1	6	0	0
Part Hind Quarter (TB)	3	0	2	7
Part Hind Quarter (Peritonitis)	1	0	0	5
Part Fore Quarter (TB)	1	0	0	21
Head and Tongue (TB)	27	7	0	20
Liver (Abscesses)	8	1	0	0
Liver (TB)	12	1	1	24
Liver (Parasites)	4	0	1	20
Liver Part (Parasites)	12	0	2	0
Liver (Cirrhosis)	6	0	2	16
Liver (Angioma)	3	0	1	12
Liver Part (Hepatitis)	1	0	0	6
Lungs sets (TB)	82	7	0	26
Lungs sets (Pleurisy)	3	0	1	2
Lungs sets (Abscesses)	1	0	1	2
Udder (TB)	2	0	1	0
Udder (Mastitis)	11	1	1	4
Udder (Garget)	1	0	0	6
Mesentery (TB)	10	2	2	0
Spleen (Peritonitis)	1	0	0	2

Details	Weight			
	No.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
PIGS				
Carcase of pork and offal (Swine Fever)	3	2	2	20
Carcase of pork and offal (ill bleeding and fever)	1	0	2	4
Head and Tongue (TB)	17	2	3	2
Liver Part (Degeneration)	1	0	0	4
Liver (Degeneration)	4	0	0	16
Liver (Peritonitis)	1	0	0	4
Liver (Tumours)	1	0	0	8
Liver (Cirrhosis)	3	0	1	1
Liver (Necrosis)	1	0	0	4
Liver (TB)	1	0	0	14
Lungs (congestion)	1	0	0	2
Lungs sets (Pleurisy)	5	0	0	7
Lungs sets (Adhesions)	1	0	0	4

Pluck (Decomposition)	1	0	0	7
Pluck (TB)	1	0	0	14
Pluck (Cysts)	1	0	0	7
Pluck and Intestines (Haemorrhage)	1	0	0	14
Kidneys (Cysts)	2	0	0	2
Mesentery (TB)	3	0	0	8
Kidneys (Tumours)	2	0	0	2
Hearts (Pleurisy)	4	0	0	4

SHEEP

Details	Weight			
	No.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Carcase and offal (ill bleeding)	2	0	3	21
Liver (Cirrhosis)	1	0	0	3
Lungs sets (Abscesses)	1	0	0	2

Unfit Food:

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered by the owners:—

Cooked Meats	983½lbs.	Flour	99lbs.
Canned Meats	375 tins	Butter and Fats	114½lbs.
Bacon	446½lbs.	Vegetables (canned)	46 tins
Sausage	526lbs.	Cream	3 tins
Cheese	276lbs.	Suet	16 pkts.
Cheese parings	167lbs.	Cereals	39 pkts.
Cheese spread	112 cartons	Gravy Powder	45 pkts.
Tomatoes	939 tins	Soups	112 tins
Tomatoes (fresh)	213lbs.	Sauces	161 bots.
Pulses	343 tins	Coffee Essence	2 bots.
Pulses (dried)	27½lbs.	Pickles	25 jars
Fruit	55 jars	Sandwich Spread	49 jars
Fruit (dried)	142lbs.	Sugar	8lbs.
Fruit (canned)	2754 tins	Mustard	8lbs.
Fish (canned)	75 tins	Meat paste	2 tins
Fish cakes	259	Meat Pies	17
Fish Paste	140 tins	Pastries	17
Milk	646 tins	Semolina	77lbs
Preserves	176lbs.	Puddings	50
Mixed Peel	20lbs.	Orange Juice	4 tins
Fruit Cake	225½lbs.	Miscellaneous Foods	29 tins

Condemned foods are removed by the Council's lorries and buried deep on the refuse tips.

There are fifty-one licensed slaughtermen on the register.

In this part of the report for 1953 I said "Now that the date for the decontrol of meat supplies has been fixed for July, 1954, I feel that cleaner meat with better keeping properties will be for sale in the shops."

There is no doubt that this has come about. The public, especially the housewife agrees, and the traders now take a pride in selling good clean meat under hygienic conditions.

Milk Supplies:

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

The following licences were in force at the end of the year:

Dealers' licences for the sale of:—

Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	21
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	19
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	73

Supplementary licences for the sale of:—

Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	6
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	4
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	4

The district has not yet been included in a "Specified Area" as defined by The Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, but the amount of raw ungraded milk sold is very small.

Twenty-six samples of milk were submitted for guinea pig inoculation for detection of bovine tuberculosis. Twenty-three proved to be negative and three positive. The necessary action was taken in the unsatisfactory cases.

Ice Cream:

Fifty-one samples were sent to the laboratory for examination.

The results were classified as follows:

Grade I	...	...	...	...	31
Grade II	...	...	...	...	11
Grade III	...	...	...	...	6
Grade IV	...	...	...	...	3

Manufacturers were interviewed and their processes examined in the cases of the lower grade.

There are five ice-cream factories in the area. Twenty-two inspections were made of these and forty-eight visits paid to shops where ice-cream is sold.

Food Premises and Food Handling:

Considerable attention was devoted throughout the year to these most important subjects. The public are demanding a high standard of hygiene in food premises and the trader who does not keep up with the times cannot hope to get business. Refrigerators with glass fronts and glass covered counters or cases for confectionery and biscuits are becoming standard fittings in the shops. The practice of exposing unwrapped sweets in shop windows and on shop counters has nearly ceased.

The materials now used for window boards, counters, shelves and walls of shops, being non-absorbent and easily cleaned is a great improvement.

In general the food byelaws were well observed.

At the end of the year, one hundred and sixty-three premises were registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

These were made up as follows:—

Manufacture of ice-cream	...	...	...	5
Manufacture of preserved foods	...	...	...	62
Sale of ice-cream	...	...	...	96

There are two hundred and sixty shops in the district where food is sold, the main groups being:—

Butchers shops	...	...	...	...	33
Fish frying premises	...	...	...	...	30
Grocers and general provisions	...	...	...	...	147
Others	...	...	...	.....	50

Food Poisoning:

See report of the Medical Officer of Health—Section F.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Rural District is served by a direct labour scheme for the collection and disposal of household refuse, the cleaning of privies and pail closets, the emptying of cesspools. Street sweeping is undertaken in five of the most populous parishes.

No additional charge, over the general rate is made for any of the services, in fact many householders receive attention over and above the ordinary service, where it is deemed necessary to prevent nuisances. This particularly applies to the emptying of cesspools.

The average weekly collections, including schools and other premises number 17,934 and the vehicles travelled 164,160 miles in the execution of the work.

Dust bins and pail closets are emptied weekly and privies monthly. The cleansing of cesspools varies from one week to two months having regard to the circumstances. The number of cesspools has increased again during the year and will continue to do so each year, unless further sewerage and sewage disposal schemes are provided. Barnburgh, Sprotborough, parts of Braithwell and Cantley are badly in need of these services.

The Council either own or rent eight refuse disposal sites each serving an area within reasonable access of the places of collection.

Transport:

Eighteen modern type vehicles are used for public cleansing. The deisel engined cesspool emptier purchased in 1953 has continued to work satisfactorily.

Salvage:

The amounts collected and sold during the year were:—

T	C	Q	lbs.			
231	13	3	0	Waste Paper	...	£1,567 5 7
1	0	1	22	Textiles	...	£18 16 0
				Scrap Metal and old batteries	...	£8 9 6
						£1,594 11 1

A bonus of £218 18s. 2d. was shared amongst the workmen in the Public Cleansing Department.

Public Cleansing Depot:

The lorries are garaged, regularly greased and maintained, repaired and painted in the Depot at Kirk Sandall. Two mechanics are employed on this work.

Salvage is mechanically baled there. The Depot is also used as the Council Stores.

Works Committee:

Again this Committee, comprised of three members of the Council and three representatives of the workmen, has continued to function amicably.

Wages and Conditions of Service as laid down by the Provincial Joint Council are complied with in every respect. A five-day week of

forty-four hours is worked for ten months of the year and a five and a half day week during January and December on account of shorter hours of daylight.

The recruitment of suitable labour has become progressively worse during the year.

Details of Work Performed:

Population served	...	...	...	...	...	54,180
Total collections	...	...	...	...	...	915,587
Average weekly collections	...	...	...	...	...	17,607
Miles travelled by vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	159,256
Gallons of Sewage removed	...	...	...	...	...	7,864,740
Gallons of fuel consumed	...	...	...	...	...	18,845

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

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

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

**SANITARY OFFICERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL.**

**Chief Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent, Officer in Charge
of Council House Lettings:**

A. Reynolds, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. Certificate for Inspectors of Meat
and other Foods. (Appointed August, 1924).

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

No. 1 District—Edlington, Sprotborough, Warmsworth area:

E. K. Smith, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. Certificate for Inspectors of
Meat and Other Foods. (Appointed April, 1932).

No. 2 District—Armthorpe, Bawtry, Rossington area:

G. Stevenson, C.S.I.B., National Certificate in Building.
(Appointed January, 1951).

No. 3 District—Askern, Norton, Brodsworth area:

R. Durant, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certificate for Inspectors of
Meat and Other Foods, Certificate of R.S.I. in Sanitary
Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works. National
Certificate in Building. (Appointed September, 1952).

Public Cleansing Foreman and Disinfecting Officer:

G. Buckley.

Clerks:

E. Hemingway.

J. A. Hickling.

Telephone Numbers:

Council Offices, Nether Hall, Doncaster	...	Doncaster 3427-8-9
A. Reynolds	...	Barnby Dun 267
E. K. Smith	...	Doncaster 53442
R. Durant	...	Doncaster 53912
Public Cleansing Depot, Kirk Sandall	...	Barnby Dun 258

