

[Report 1953] / Medical Officer of Health, Halifax County Borough.

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Halifax (England). County Borough Council. nb2008024085

Publication/Creation

1953

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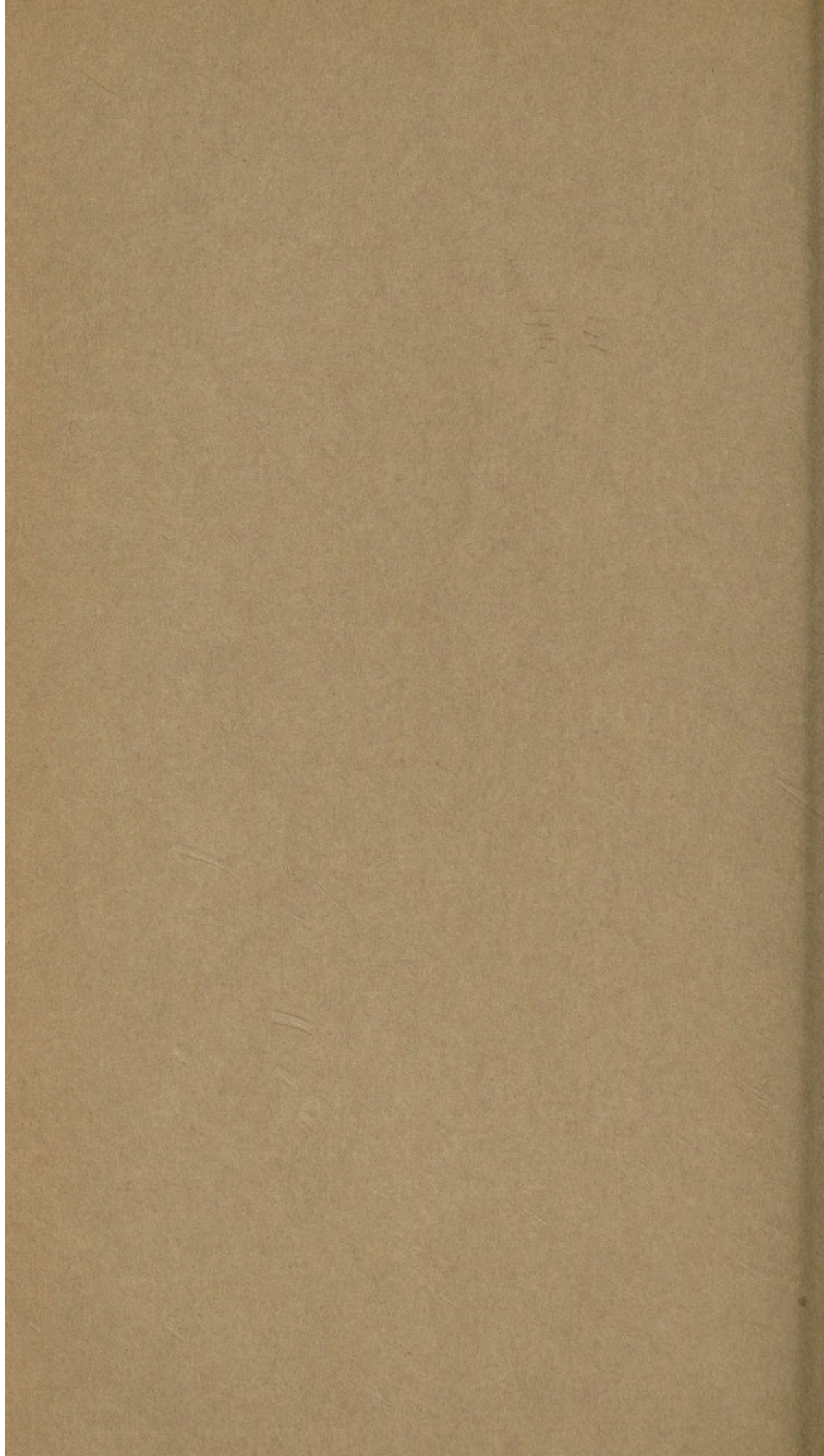


County Borough of Halifax
Health Department

Annual Report
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE BOROUGH
FOR THE YEAR 1953



GEORGE C. F. ROE
M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M., D.P.H., D.P.M.
Medical Officer of Health





County Borough of Halifax
Health Department

Annual Report

ON THE HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR 1953



GEORGE C. F. ROE

M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M., D.P.H., D.P.M.

Medical Officer of Health

Health Committee

(as on December 31st, 1953).

Mayor • Councillor HAROLD PICKLES

Councillor FRANK H. SWIRE, Chairman.
Councillor FRANCIS O'ROURKE, Vice-Chairman.

Aldermen.

EDGAR O. BOWER

LEWIS CHAMBERS

Councillors.

ALBERT BERRY
TOM BERRY
GEORGE H. HACKETT
WILLIAM HIGGINS
SAMUEL HOLLAND
JACK JOHNSON

LAURA A. MAWSON
JAMES E. MORAN
FRED L. PAY
ERIC RILEY
ELIZABETH L. WHITLEY

Sub-Committees

Appointed by the Health Committee

Accounts Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Councillor PAY

Alderman CHAMBERS
Councillor T. BERRY

Sanitary Services Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Alderman BOWERS
Alderman CHAMBERS
Councillor HACKETT

Councillor HIGGINS
Councillor PAY
Councillor RILEY
Councillor WHITLEY
Councillor MORAN

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Alderman CHAMBERS
Councillor HACKETT
Councillor MORAN
Councillor MAWSON

Councillor PAY
Councillor RILEY
Councillor WHITLEY
Mrs. DORA I. GREENWOOD
Mrs. GLADYS PICKLES
Mrs. DORIS RHODES

Mental Health Services Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Alderman CHAMBERS
Councillor A. BERRY

Councillor HACKETT
Councillor HOLLAND
Councillor WHITLEY

Staff of the Health Department

(as on December 31st, 1953).



Medical Officer of Health.

GEORGE C. F. ROE, M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M., D.P.H., D.P.M.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health.

ELENORA J. SIMPSON, M.B., Ch.B., Medical Officer,
Maternity and Child Welfare

MARJORIE SMITH WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer,
Maternity and Child Welfare (Appointed Nov.).

Public Analyst.

R. MALLINDER, B.Sc., F.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

H. MARGERISON, M.R.San.I.

Meat and Foods Inspector.

G. A. WOODHEAD.

Lay Administrative Officer and Ambulance Controller.

H. HUDSON.

District Sanitary Inspectors.

H. LEAPER

F. BURKE.

J. E. BANKS.

A. LUM.

B. R. BEAUMONT.

Housing Inspector.

F. BURTON.

Clerical Staff.

H. WRIGHT—Senior Clerk.

N. BRADLEY
(Sanitary Section).

A. SUTCLIFFE.

K. RYDER.

L. WOOD
(Housing Section).

Mrs. E. A. SUNDERLAND. Miss J. WILEY. Miss V. M. ATKINSON.

Miss B. L. MITCHELL
(M. & C.W. Centre).

Miss C. BOOTH
(Junior Clerk).

Mental Health Service.

Senior Authorised Officer — S. PARKINSON.

Duly Authorised Officer — L. HOLDSWORTH.

Duly Authorised Officer — Miss E. CLARKSON.

Rodent Control.

Senior Rodent Operative—J. T. O'NEIL.

Rodent Operative—R. GARFORTH.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Superintendent Health Visitor :

Miss V. GRAY.

Health Visitors.

Miss M. MOORE.

Miss N. DINGS DALE.

Miss S. E. BRIGGS.

Miss P. A. VAUGHAN.

Miss D. V. STAMPER.

Mrs. E. M. KENDALL.

Miss A. R. STAMPER—Assistant Nurse.

Miss I. HOLDSWORTH—Assistant Nurse (appointed Dec.).

Domestic Help Organiser.

Miss E. CLARKSON.

Day Nurseries.

Craigie Lea Day Nursery, Ovenden—

Matron : Mrs. M. R. WILSON.

Ling Bob Day Nursery, Pellon—

Matron : Miss M. GOODWIN.

Ambulance Service.

Depot Superintendent—L. HANSON.

18 Driver-Attendants, 2 Switchboard Attendants.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF HALIFAX

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1953

INTRODUCTION

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health
Committee*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present herewith the Annual Report upon the Health of Halifax for the year 1953. The Report is the eighty-first of the series. It is planned in sections so that the details of any specific service may be readily obtained.

The following Table shows some of the chief Vital and Mortal Statistics for the period under review compared with 1952.

YEAR	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	Mat. Deaths	No. of Still Births	No. of Illeg. Births	Pulm. T.B. D.R.	Cancer D.R.
1952 ...	14.39	14.14	27.14	1	35	99	.17	2.36
1953 ...	14.57	15.15	29.70	—	27	91	.21	2.68

The number of births in Halifax during 1952 was 1,400. In 1953 the number was 1,414.

The major causes of death were as follows :—

No. of deaths from Heart Diseases	451 (454 in 1952)
No. of deaths from Cancer	261 (230 in 1952)
No. of deaths from Cerebral Haemorrhage	239 (238 in 1952)
No. of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	20 (17 in 1952)

The incidence of serious infectious diseases was very low.

The incidence of Poliomyelitis since 1940 is as follows :—

1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
2	Nil	5	2	Nil	Nil	1	6	1	7	3	10	2	3

In Public Health the emphasis has now passed from the infectious diseases (with the exception of Poliomyelitis) to Cancer, Coronary Heart Diseases and diseases associated with Hypertension, particularly Cerebral Haemorrhage and Thrombosis. These diseases are the Captains of the Men of Death in this scientific age. They take a heavy toll of life. They constitute a challenge to scientists and the Scientific Age.

As regards the environment of the citizen the three major problems that still remain are inadequate housing, atmospheric pollution and food handling by carriers of disease germs. Public Health Education should play a big part in the solution of these problems.

Mental illness continues a major cause of ill-health. About 40 per cent of our hospital beds are occupied by cases of mental illness. In 1953 there were some 62,000 admissions to mental hospitals and 62,700 admissions to licensed houses and mental deficiency institutions. Apart from these known cases of mental illness there is a considerable proportion of incapacitating illness in the community which is due, at least in part, to mental ill-health.

In former reports I have written at some length on this subject. It is obvious that (sooner or later) a great deal more will have to be done in this matter. It may well involve new legislation. It might well be contended that present legislation in respect of mental illness requires revision. But however this may be, the problem grows more complex. For example, it is estimated that there are, at least, 300,000 mental defectives in England and Wales. These figures do not include cases of mental illness, which have a different pathology and are in a separate category. I think the time has come when the whole subject requires careful consideration and attention.

I wish to thank the staff of the Public Health Department for the zeal, energy and loyalty which they have, one and all, displayed during the year.

Also, I wish to express my grateful thanks to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Members of the Health Committee who have always supported me in our common endeavour to be of service to the people of Halifax.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

G. C. F. ROE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION 1

Statistics

Latitude	53° 44' North.					
Longitude	1° 50' West.					
Mean height above sea level, feet	...	...	...	...	780	
Area in acres	...	...	...	...	14,081	
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	98,115	
(Males 44,600. Females 53,515).						
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	98,376	
(Males 45,487. Females 52,889).						
Population (Mid year, 1953)	...	...	...	...	97,070	
(Registrars General's figures).						
Density of population per acre	...	...	...	...	6.9	
Number of inhabited houses (1931 Census)	...	...	...	...	28,488	
Number of houses according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	33,232	
(31st December, 1953).						
Average number of persons to each occupied house	...	...	...	...	2.92	
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1953	...	...	...	...	£653,190	
Estimated product of a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£2,600	

Summary of Vital Statistics.

Number of Live Births (R.G's figures)	M 700	F 714	Total	1,414
Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	14.57
Numer of Stillbirths (R.G's figures)	M 16	F 11	Total	27
Rate per 1,000 Total Births	...	...	...	18.74
Number of Deaths (R.G's figures)	M 716	F 755	Total	1,471
Deathrate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	15.15
Infantile Deaths (R.G's figures)	...	...	...	42
Deaths of children under one year of age	M 28	F 14		
Infantile Deathrate per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	29.70
Phthisis deathrate	...	...	...	.21
Deathrate from other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	.02
Tuberculosis deathrate (all forms)	...	...	...	.23
Deathrate from Cancer	...	...	...	2.69

Summary of Deaths.

(Based on the Registrar General's "Short List" of causes of death).

Cause Death						M	F	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	15	5	20
„ other forms	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm—Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	34	31	65
„ „ Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	44	5	49
„ „ Breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	28	28
„ „ Uterus	...	...	...	...	...	—	17	17
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	52	60	102
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	11	11
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	90	149	239
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	131	95	226
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	10	14	24
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	71	130	201
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	25	43	68
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	4	13	17
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	39	26	65
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	53	28	81
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	15	1	16
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	6	7	13
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	15
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	28	—	28
Pregnancy, child birth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	49	45	94
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	12	2	14
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	15	21	36
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Total						716	755	1471

Year	Birthrate per 1,000 Total Population	Annual Deathrate per 1,000 Population						Rate per 1,000 Births	
		ALL CAUSES	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid	Small-Pox	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years)	DEATHS under one year
England and Wales ... 1953	15.5	11.4	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.16	1.1	26.8
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ... 1953	17.0	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.15	1.3	30.8
HALIFAX ... 1944	18.6	14.5	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.03	3.5	38
... 1945	16.39	16.1	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.09	3.4	42
... 1946	18.6	14.4	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.04	2.3	31
... 1947	19.9	14.8	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03	5.8	42
... 1948	17.7	13.8	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	5.3	29
... 1949	16.5	15.4	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.12	1.8	33
... 1950	15.9	14.8	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.07	1.3	39
... 1951	15.5	15.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.0	28.3
... 1952	14.39	14.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.0	27.14
... 1953	14.57	15.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.0	29.70

Vital and Mortal Statistics for Halifax during the last 21 years.

Year	Death-rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate	Tuberculosis (all forms)		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Typhoid and Para-typhoid		Cerebro Spinal Fever		Smallpox	
				New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
1933	15.4	92	9.4	161	71	173	13	256	2	nil	nil	3	3	nil	nil
1934	13.9	77	10.5	132	60	344	20	337	2	nil	nil	1	1	nil	nil
1935	14.6	70	6.4	158	55	322	16	227	2	nil	nil	1	1	nil	nil
1936	15.2	68	7.02	206	75	206	12	136	nil	3	nil	2	2	nil	nil
1937	14.6	63	2.39	135	38	164	5	162	nil	1	nil	5	5	nil	nil
1938	14.1	57	2.92	165	55	155	6	145	nil	nil	nil	3	1	nil	nil
1939	15.3	60	4.4	135	65	129	5	184	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1940	15.6	45	8.8	118	51	311	15	166	nil	3	1	31	9	nil	nil
1941	15.7	65	1.5	111	60	230	12	97	nil	nil	nil	16	3	nil	nil
1942	14.6	56	3.4	113	56	196	5	669	nil	1	nil	9	4	nil	nil
1943	15.4	50	1.9	123	68	127	4	411	nil	2	2	nil	2	nil	nil
1944	14.5	38	2.3	156	54	118	4	481	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1945	16.1	42	2.0	110	53	92	5	173	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1946	14.4	31	1.1	69	41	17	nil	74	nil	73	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1947	14.8	42	0.52	87	44	21	2	84	nil	2	nil	3	nil	nil	nil
1948	13.8	29	0.58	61	32	9	nil	161	nil	*1	1	2	1	nil	nil
1949	15.4	33	0.50	77	32	8	nil	222	nil	nil	nil	1	1	nil	nil
1950	14.8	39	1.23	85	29	1	nil	293	nil	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1951	15.2	28	0.00	179	30	nil	nil	123	nil	15	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1952	14.1	27	0.69	107	19	nil	nil	119	nil	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1953	15.2	30	0.00	122	22	nil	nil	88	nil	3	nil	1	nil	4	nil

* Transferred in

Vital and Mortal Statistics for Halifax during the last 21 years (continued).

Year	Pneumonia		Whooping Cough		Poliomyelitis		Cancer Deaths	Heart Diseases Deaths	Cerebral Hæmorrhage Deaths
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths			
1933	105	87	nil	3	4	nil	158	418	87
1934	80	66	nil	2	1	nil	180	381	74
1935	117	69	nil	1	1	nil	194	406	67
1936	91	74	nil	4	1	nil	193	448	74
1937	115	77	nil	2	nil	nil	178	424	73
1938	164	58	nil	nil	1	nil	186	419	77
1939	182	59	2	2	2	nil	193	449	89
1940	156	57	185	2	2	nil	187	408	232
1941	188	66	240	3	nil	nil	235	381	179
1942	226	61	174	nil	5	nil	216	374	164
1943	236	55	211	4	2	nil	205	374	179
1944	124	38	201	3	nil	nil	177	366	199
1945	103	43	133	2	nil	nil	219	398	237
1946	69	35	153	2	1	nil	206	464	182
1947	67	37	237	1	6	nil	214	455	188
1948	62	39	295	1	1	1	206	415	213
1949	85	71	92	1	7	1	241	471	203
1950	59	43	374	1	3	nil	239	505	208
1951	73	49	145	nil	10	nil	211	468	231
1952	41	30	153	nil	2	nil	230	454	238
1953	54	65	154	nil	3	nil	261	451	239

Table showing comparative yearly Vital and Mortal Statistics from 1944 to 1953 inclusive.

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Venereal Diseases		Pneumonia	
					New Cases	Death-rate	Syphilis	Gonorrhœa	New Cases	Deaths
1944	18.6	14.5	38	2.3	90	.48	45	49	124	38
1945	16.39	16.1	42	3.0	90	.48	50	67	103	43
1946	18.6	14.4	31	1.1	53	.37	103	124	69	35
1947	19.9	14.8	42	0.5	72	.40	95	130	67	37
1948	17.7	13.8	29	0.5	61	.33	70	73	62	39
1949	16.5	15.4	33	0.5	64	.29	48	66	85	71
1950	15.9	14.8	39	1.2	85	.26	40	44	59	43
1951	15.5	15.2	28	nil	162	.30	31	8	73	49
1952	14.4	14.1	27	0.7	99	.17	21	16	41	30
1953	14.6	15.2	29	nil	111	.21	23	30	54	65

Year	Deaths from Heart Disease	Deaths from Cancer	Deaths from Cerebral Hæmorrhage	Deaths from Diabetes	Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever	
					New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
1944	366	177	199	19	118	4	481	nil
1945	398	219	237	15	92	5	173	nil
1946	464	206	182	16	17	nil	74	nil
1947	455	214	188	14	21	2	84	nil
1948	415	206	213	13	9	nil	161	nil
1949	471	241	203	8	8	nil	222	nil
1950	505	239	208	9	1	nil	293	nil
1951	468	211	231	14	nil	nil	123	nil
1952	454	230	238	13	nil	nil	119	nil
1953	451	261	239	11	nil	nil	88	nil

Notification.

The following Table shows the number of notifications of infectious disease received during the year :—

Disease	Number	
	Notified	Con- firmed
Smallpox	2	4
Dysentery	59	59
Food Poisoning	41	41
Typhoid Fever and Enteric Fever	1	—
Para-Typhoid	3	3
Scarlet Fever	88	88
Malaria	2	2
Diphtheria	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	16	16
Erysipelas	25	25
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1
Measles	232	232
Whooping Cough	154	154
Pneumonia—Primary-Influenzal	54	54
Meningococcal Infection	1	1
Tuberculosis—		
Respiratory	111	111
Other Forms	11	11
Total	804	805

Road Traffic Accidents.

During the year there were 14 deaths attributable to Road Traffic Accidents. The following table affords a comparison with the number of fatal accidents occurring in previous years :—

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Fatal	9	4	7	12	7	12	7	7	14

The Growth of the Borough of Halifax.

Year	Population	Note
1848	40,000	Borough Incorporated.
1861	51,937	
1871	65,510	
1881	63,360	
1891	82,864	
1892	83,364	Borough extended by the additions of Ovenden and Illingworth Wards.
1899	90,934	Borough extended by the addition of Copley Ward.
1900	96,684	Borough extended by the additions of Warley and Northowram Wards.
1901	104,936	
1911	101,556	
1921	100,700	
1931	98,115	
1945	89,390	Mid year density of population per acre 6.3.
1946	93,280	
1947	94,580	
1948	96,420	
1949	97,820	
1950	98,840	
1951	97,490	Mid year density of population per acre 6.9.
1952	97,320	ditto
1953	97,070	ditto

SECTION 2



National Health Service Act, 1946

Section 22. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Section 23. MIDWIFERY.

Section 24. HEALTH VISITING.

Section 25. HOME NURSING.

Section 26. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Section 27. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

**Section 28. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS,
CARE AND AFTER-CARE.**

Section 29. DOMESTIC HELP.

Section 51. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SECTION.

I am indebted to Dr. E. J. Simpson for the following report :—

It is somewhat disappointing to have to report that the Halifax infant mortality rate for 1953 is 29·7 per 1,000 live births whereas the rate for England and Wales is 26·8, and Halifax last year was 27·14. The slight rise in rate was due to an increase in the number of premature births and deaths. Our still birth rate at 18·74 per 1,000 births is lower than that of England and Wales (22·4) and this is an encouraging sign. The actual number of live births in Halifax was 1,414, slightly higher than in 1952 (1,381).

It is a matter for rejoicing that there were no maternal deaths here in 1953. The system of co-operation between domiciliary, general practitioner and hospital midwifery services is excellent and is often referred to outside the borough as a model for other authorities to copy.

Attendances at the Child Welfare Clinics were 18,397—practically the same as in 1952. Considering the fact that our health visitor staff was depleted, and therefore there were fewer home visits paid, and also from September onwards Dr. Cockcroft was only able to work part time, it is satisfactory that this attendance figure was maintained.

The Ministers of Health and Education have appointed a working party to advise on the proper field of work, and the recruitment and training of Health visitors. It is hoped that this will lead to a better appreciation of the work and status of health visitors and eventually solve the problem of the acute shortage of these highly trained nurses. There are signs that the value of preventative medicine, if only as an economy measure, is gradually becoming recognised. The Health visitor is a health teacher and family advisor—she is also an interpreter to the family of social services available according to need whether these services be statutory or voluntary. It is impossible to assess just how much ill-health and unhappiness she prevents by her friendly advice in home and clinic. One point, seldom mentioned, is her work for the preventative of home accidents. These are so often caused by thoughtlessness like the omission of fireguard precautions and other similar practices by parents who are unaware until the Health visitor comes into the home that a fireguard is a legal requirement in any home where there are young children. **Many people still do not realise that the numbers of deaths through accident in the home is higher than the much more widely publicised figures of deaths on the roads.** These home accidents especially affect the old and the young.

The Queen bestowed the Coronation Medal on our Senior Health Visitor, Miss Margaret Moore, who has given long and faithful

service in this department. We congratulate her and Dr. Roe who also received this honour.

There were a good many changes in staff during 1953. Owing to the claims of her growing family Dr. Cockcroft left in December after being Assistant Medical Officer—Maternity and Child Welfare since April 1950. Both patients and staff will miss her very much for she combined sound knowledge and a deep interest in preventative medicine with a friendly approach.

We are glad to welcome Miss Gray who joined the staff as Superintendent Health Visitor in February. She has had wide experience and is especially keen on the educational side of our work—Miss Vaughan the health visitor, who formerly devoted all her time to tuberculosis work, began in April to combine this work with Maternal and Child Welfare, as tuberculosis visiting is now shared by all the health visitors.

Miss Barnes who had been a Health Visitor on the staff for eight years left in October for a post in Keighley—where she is nearer her beloved dales—we wish her all success and happiness.

Miss Wolstanholme, acted as Assistant Nurse at the Clinics for some months and left in October to take a midwifery course in order to qualify to return to Halifax for training as a Health Visitor.

Mrs. Smalley was appointed Clinic Helper in October and her services are invaluable.

Miss Donohoe, whose devoted work as a voluntary worker dates back to the Wade Street days, died, and there was a large representation of staff and voluntary workers at the Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Church.

We are always indebted to our voluntary workers for their services. Not only does their work release trained staff for other duties, but we all, including patients, appreciate their interest in the service.

Health Education lectures given in 1953 by E. J. Simpson.

April.	The Future of Child Welfare Clinics.
April.	Family Life.
May.	Child Welfare Services in Halifax.
August.	Difficult Children.
September.	Behaviour Problems.
September.	Child Welfare Services in Halifax.

Births.

No. of births occurring in the Authority's area during 1953 :—

Attended by doctors with and without midwives ...	823
Attended by midwives only ...	1,572
Royal Halifax Infirmary ...	580
Halifax General Hospital ...	1,400
Local births occurring in Nursing Homes in other areas ...	16

Care of Premature Infants.—i.e., babies weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of period of gestation. Stillbirths should be excluded.

Number of premature infants notified during the year (including transferred notifications) whose mothers normally reside in the Authority's area :—

- (i) Born at home—29.
- (ii) Born in hospital—138.

Premature still births	Premature Live Births						
	Nursed entirely at home					Trans- ferred to hospital	Birth weight
	Died in first 24 hours	Died on 2nd to 7th day	Died on 8th to 28th day	Survived 28 days	Total		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2lb. 3oz. or less
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	Over 2lb. 3oz. up to 3lb. 4oz.
5	1	—	—	—	1	1	Over 3lb. 4oz. up to 4lb. 6oz.
2	—	—	—	7	7	—	Over 4lb. 6oz. up to 4lb. 15oz.
3	—	—	—	18	18	1	Over 4lb. 15oz. up to 5lb. 8oz.
12	1	—	—	25	26	2	Totals

Born in Private Nursing Homes in Halifax C.B.—Nil.

Infectious Diseases.

	Ophthalmia Neonatorum		Pemphigus Neonatorum		Puerperal Pyrexia	
	Domiciliary Confinements	Institutional Confinements	Domiciliary Confinements	Institutional Confinements	Domiciliary Confinements	Institutional Confinements
Number of cases notified during the year ...	—	—	—	—	3	13
Number of cases removed to Hospitals ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year, in which :—

(a) Vision was unimpaired	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Vision was impaired	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c) Vision was lost	...	...	...	...	...	—
(d) The patient died	...	...	...	...	...	—
(e) The patient was still under treatment at the end of the year	—	—	—	—	—	—
(f) The patient removed from the district	...	...	...	...	...	—

CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

Ante and Post Natal Clinics are conducted weekly by Public Health Medical Officers at the Halifax District Nursing Association home for domiciliary cases.

There is close co-operation with the Consultant Obstetrician who sees abnormal cases at the Medical Officer's request.

Such clinics are also held at the Halifax General Hospital and the Royal Halifax Infirmary for hospital cases and there is a weekly session held at the Northgate Child Welfare Clinic for expectant mothers intending to be confined out of the borough.

Mothers booked for domiciliary confinement are visited in their own homes by midwives.

Full advantage is taken, both at the Clinics and during home visits to teach mother-craft and particular stress is placed on the importance of breast-feeding. Leaflets on breast-feeding and diet sheets are distributed at the clinics.

Maternity outfits for Halifax cases are issued about the 28th week of pregnancy. Home visits are made by the Health Visitors when home conditions are said to be unsuitable and when hospitalisation is recommended.

Health Visitors pay home visits as soon as possible after the return of the mother from hospital, or, in the case of domiciliary confinements, after the midwife has ceased to attend. The mother is advised as to diet and hygiene and is encouraged to bring her baby to the nearest child welfare centre. Thereafter, the Health Visitor visits as regularly as is possible, concentrating on those children who need special attention, or who have not been brought to the Centre.

1	No. of Clinics provided at end of year (whether held at Child Welfare Centres or other premises)	No. of sessions now held per month at Clinics included in Col. 2	No. of women in attendance		Total number of attendances made by women included in col. (4) during the year
			No. of women who attended during the year	No. of new cases included in Col. 4, i.e., for A.N. clinics women who had not previously attended any clinic during current pregnancy and for P.N. clinics women who had not previously attended any P.N. clinic after last confinement	
2	3	4	5	6	
Local Health Authority Clinics :—					
Ante-Natal clinics	1	4	19	10	19
Post-Natal clinics	1	4	110	82	110
Clinics provided by voluntary organisations					
Ante-Natal clinics	1	12	709	566	3643
Post-Natal clinics	1	4	182	182	182

Arrangements with Medical Practitioners.

There are no arrangements with general practitioners for ante-natal and post-natal mothers to be examined.

Child Welfare Clinics.

Infant Welfare Centres are provided at Northgate, Queen's Road, Ovenden, Luddenden, Siddal, Northowram and Illingworth. The Northgate Centre is a whole-time clinic. The other clinics are situated in Church Schools and sessions are held as follows :—

Queen's Road clinic	...	Two sessions weekly (Tuesday).
Ovenden clinic	...	One session weekly (Wednesday).
Luddenden clinic	...	One session fortnightly (Monday).
Siddal clinic	...	One session weekly (Monday).
Northowram	...	One session weekly (Wednesday).
Illingworth	...	One session weekly (Fridays).

Child Welfare Centres.

Centres provided by	No. of centres provided at end of year	No. of C.W. sessions now held per month at centres in col. (2)	No. of children who first attended a centre of this L.H.A. during the year, and who at their first attendance were under 1 year of age (4)	No. of children who attended during the year and who were born in			Total no. of children who attended during the year	No. of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were			Total attendances during the year
				1953	1952	1951-48		Under 1 year (9)	1 but under 2 (10)	2 but under 5 (11)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
L.H.A.	7	42	1067	980	773	1340	3093	12274	2805	3318	18397
Vol. Org.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Artificial Sunlight.

Number of sessions...	...	...	...	...	195
Number of cases treated	...	...	...	...	284
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	3,821
Average attendance at each session	...	...	...	...	19

Supply of Dried Milk, etc.

Dried Milk was distributed at the C.W. Clinics to the extent of :

Cow & Gate	...	...	3,537 cartons.
Ostermilk	...	...	2,505 „
Trufood	...	...	1,755 „

In addition, National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, and Orange Juice were issued at all outlying clinics by arrangement with the Ministry of Food.

Infant Mortality.

There were 42 deaths of infants under 1 year.

9 died under 24 hours.

9 died under 1 week.

10 died under 1 month.

14 died between 1 month and 1 year.

Day Nurseries.

The Local Authority provides two Day Nurseries, one at Ling Bob, Pellon, and one at Craigie Lea, Ovenden.

	No.	No. of Approved Places		No. of children on register at end of year		Average daily attendance during year	
		0—2	2—5	0—2	2—5	0—2	2—5
Nurseries maintained by Council	2	50	63	58	78	42	55
Nurseries maintained by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulation Act, 1948.

	Number registered at 31st December, 1953	Number of Children provided for
Premises ...	1	5
Daily Minders	—	—

Registration of Nursing Homes (Section 187 to 194 of Public Health Act, 1936).

	Number of Homes	Number of beds provided for		
		Maternity	Others	Totals
Homes first registered during 1953 ...	—	—	—	—
Homes on the register at the end of 1953 ...	1	—	12	12

Mother and Baby Home.

The Halifax Rural Deanery Moral Welfare Council administer a Mother and Baby Home at St. Margaret's House, 8, Balmoral Place, as agents of the Halifax Corporation. Under an agreement between the Council and the Moral Welfare Council the Corporation agree to pay five-sixths of the costs of maintenance.

No. of Beds.

(1) Total Beds (excluding Maternity, Labour and Cots)...	10
(2) Labour Beds	0
(3) Cots	6
(4) No. of admissions (ignoring re-admissions after confinement) during the year	39
(5) No. of admissions in col. (4) for which the authority was responsible	13

Average Length of Stay.

(a) Ante-Natal	6 weeks
(b) Post-Natal*	6 weeks

No. of cases sent to other homes (payment being made on an "ad hoc" basis).

(1) Expectant Mothers—2

(2) Post-Natal Cases—0.

* Exclusive of lying in period.

I am indebted to Miss Westwood, Moral Welfare Worker for the following notes on the work of the home during 1953 :—

During the year twenty-seven unmarried mothers and seven married women with illegitimate children were referred to us from the County Borough of Halifax. Twenty-three expectant mothers and three mothers and four babies were admitted to St. Margaret's House from outside the County Borough.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF HALIFAX.

Unmarried Mothers.

- 8 expectant mothers were admitted to St. Margaret's House.
- 1 mother and baby were admitted straight from Hospital.
- 2 expectant mothers went to Mother and Baby Homes outside Halifax.
- 16 were advised and helped in their own homes, lodgings, etc.
- 1 expectant mother and 1 mother and baby were resident at St. Margaret's on the 1st January, 1953.

On the 31st December, 1953.

- 11 mothers were with their babies at home, in lodgings or with relations.
- 4 were expectant mothers.
- 1 mother and baby from St. Margaret's were in Hospital.
- 1 expectant mother at St. Margaret's.
- 2 mothers married the baby's father.
- 1 mother kept her baby and later married.
- 1 expectant mother returned to her own area.
- 1 mother left Halifax.
- 1 mother died in Hospital.
- 2 mothers are in residential posts with their babies.
- 3 babies were adopted.
- 1 baby was placed with a foster-mother.

Married women (of whom 1 was a widow, 1 divorced, 2 were living with their husbands and 3 living apart from their husbands).

- 1 mother and baby in Hospital.
- 1 expectant mother.
- 1 husband and wife are living together with the baby.
- 1 husband has died and baby is with the mother.
- 3 babies are with their mothers.

I am indebted to Mr. Franklin Brook (Speech Therapist) for the following report :—

The Speech Therapy sessions were held at The Education Committee School Clinic premises with effect from August. The transfer to Holly House became necessary because the accommodation at Northgate was not available when the speech therapist visited Halifax. The new arrangements have proved most satisfactory.

The following summary gives some idea of the work carried out in the clinic's second year :—

No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	...	40
No. of appointments kept	...	...	...	...	...	133
No. of children seen	...	...	...	...	...	38

Classification of patients according to symptom :—

Seriously delayed speech	...	...	...	...	...	13
Lisps and severe articulative defects	...	...	...	...	...	11
Aphasia (failure of language development)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cleft palate speech	...	...	...	...	...	3
Primary stammer	...	...	...	...	...	8
Idioglossia (speech unintelligible)	...	...	...	...	...	1

The following results were obtained from treatment :—

Complete adjustment	...	...	...	...	...	20
Transferred (to Special School) (by Education Com.)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Improved but transferred to school speech clinic on reaching school age	...	...	...	...	...	3
Parents unco-operative, patient unadjusted or improved	...	...	...	...	...	6
Continuing to receive treatment	...	...	...	...	...	15

It is not the duty of the clinic to provide treatment for all children with imperfect speech. Generally speaking the Medical Officer will only refer those children whose speech defects are considered abnormal and therefore not likely to "grow out" of their defects.

In spite of the facilities provided children are still being referred aged five and six years to the school speech clinic having severe speech disorders such as Stammering. Investigation usually shows that these children have been stammering for two or three years and that their condition has gradually worsened. It is to be hoped that more and more Halifax Medical Practitioners will make full use of the facilities now available.

Dental Care.

I am indebted to Mr. F. Richardson (Principal School Dental Officer) for the following details relative to dental care of pre-school children :—

No. examined	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
No. needing treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
No. treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
No. made dentally fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	115

Forms of dental treatment provided :—

Extractions	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Anaesthetics—Local	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
General	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Scaling, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Silver Nitrate	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Radiographs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Dentures	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Section 23

MIDWIFERY.

The Domiciliary Midwifery Service is carried out through the agency of the Halifax District Nursing Association and I am indebted to the Superintendent (Miss Savage) for the following details.

Midwives.

	Number of Midwives practising in the area of the Authority at 31st December, 1953.		
	Domiciliary Midwives	Midwives in Institutions	Total
Midwives employed by the Authority	—	—	—
Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations			
(i) Under arrangements with the Local Health Authority in pursuance of Section 23 of National Health Service Act.	6	—	6
(ii) Otherwise (including Hospitals not transferred to the Minister under the National Health Service Act	—	—	—
Midwives employed Hospital Management Committee, etc.	—	15	15
Midwives in Private Practice	2	—	2
TOTALS	8	15	23

Maternity Cases Attended.

	Number of Maternity Cases in the Area of the Local Supervising Authority attended by Midwives during 1953.					
	Domiciliary Cases		Cases in Institutions		Total	
	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses
Midwives employed by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations.						
(a) Under arrangements with the Local Health Authority in pursuance of Section 23 of National Health Service Act	403	6	—	—	403	6
(b) Otherwise (including Hospitals not transferred to the Minister under the National Health Service Act	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees, etc.	—	—	1164	816	1164	816
Midwives in Private Practice	5	1	—	—	5	1
TOTALS	408	7	1164	816	1572	823

Medical Aid under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act 1918.

Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act 1918, by a Midwife :—

(a) For Domiciliary Cases :—

(i) Where the Medical Practitioner has arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service	142
(ii) Others	67

Medical Aid Forms received during the year on behalf of child 45
Of these :—

Discharging eyes	21
Jaundice	1
Cold	3
Cyanosis	—
Unsatisfactory condition	5
Prematurity	2
Talipes	1
Spina-Bifida	—
Rash	2
Hæmorrhage	—
Mongal	—
Abnormality of back	—
Oedema-Leg	1
Slightly Tongue Tied	—
Septic Spots	4
Cerebral Irritation	1
Vomitting	4

Notification received in accordance with C.M.B. Rules :—

Intention to resort to artificial feeding	56
Notification of stillbirth	4
Notification of having laid out dead body	5
Liable to be source of infection	3

Section 24

HEALTH VISITING.

Health Visitors undertake the care and after-care of sick patients and are in close touch with the local practitioners and hospital almoners.

Visiting is undertaken in connection with the Child Minders Regulations Act, 1948 (Section 7) and the Midwives Act, 1951 (Section 17).

Student Health Visitors are engaged when available and they receive their theoretical training at the Bradford Technical College and their practical training here.

It is very difficult to obtain Health Visitors and, although the establishment is 1 Superintendent and 11 Health Visitors, there were only 6 Health Visitors and one assistant nurse on the staff at the end of the year. Miss V. Gray commenced duties as Superintendent Health Visitor in February.

	No. of Health Visitors employed at end of year		No. of Visits paid by Health Visitors during the year						
			Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children between the ages of 1-5	T.B.	Other Cases
	Whole Time on Health Visiting	Part Time on Health Visiting	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits		
1953	6	—	92	209	1,328	4,071	6,958	953	380

One Health Visitor has attended 84 Special Treatment Clinics throughout the year, and has paid 70 visits in connection with this work.

Section 25

HOME NURSING.

The Halifax and District Nursing Association carry out the Home Nursing Service as agents of the Corporation, which is adequate to meet the needs of the Borough. The Local Authority have equal representation on the Joint Committee.

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES (Home Nursing).

							Cases	Visits
On books 1st January, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	285	—
Medical	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,485	35,802
Surgical	...	...	...	...	...	...	299	8,701
Gynæcological	...	...	...	...	...	...	104	653
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	85	817
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	567
Infectious Diseases (Gen.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	94
Complicated Mid. and Mat.	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	223
Casual	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	72
TOTAL CASES							2,315	46,929

CASES COMPLETED 1953 ... 1,946

REMAINING CASES 31st December, 1953 ... 369

Number of Home Nurses employed at the end of the year :—

Whole-time on Home Nursing	...	14
Part-time on Home Nursing	...	1
(Equivalent whole-time)	...	14½

Section 26

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Children under 5—

Children in this group are immunised either at the Child Welfare Clinic or by doctors (chosen by parents) taking part in the Authority's arrangements. Doctors are supplied free with immunising agents.

Immunisation is encouraged by the Medical Officer of Health, by Public Health Lectures, and by the Public Health Department Staff.

Children of school age—

Children in this group are immunised at the School Clinic or by doctors chosen by the parents. Details will be found in the separate report on the School Medical Service.

No. of Children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the period ending 31st December, 1953			Total No. of Children who were given a secondary or Reinforcing Injection
Age at date of Final Injection		Total	During 12 months ending 31st December, 1953
Under 5	5—14		
953	179	1,132	941

Vaccination.

Medical arrangement in respect of vaccination are the same as those in operation for immunisation. In the event of an outbreak of smallpox, the Child Welfare and School Clinics will be used as emergency vaccination centres, and general practitioners will be asked to co-operate either at their own surgeries or at the emergency vaccination centres.

The public are kept constantly informed of the facilities provided for free vaccination.

No. of persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during period :—

Age at 31st December, 1953	Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
No. Vaccinated ...	570	171	162	806	1709
No. Re-vaccinated ...	10	40	292	3177	3519

Section 27

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

I am indebted to Mr. H. Hudson, Ambulance Controller, for the following report :—

The Halifax Ambulance Service has continued to operate in accordance with the provisions of Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, as amended by Section 24 of the National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1949.

A 1941 Humber Snipe Ambulance was transferred to Civil Defence during the year and replaced by a New Morris Ambulance. It will soon be necessary to withdraw one of the sitting case cars as the maintenance costs are heavy due to its rapid deterioration. However, this vehicle is placed in reserve as much as is possible and an apparently more economical replacement would be the purchase of another car/ambulance.

I am grateful to the Transport Manager for his help and advice concerning the maintenance of the vehicles which are serviced by his department.

Depot accommodation is one of our problems and four of the vehicles have to be taken to the Transport Department, Water Lane, each night.

As may be seen from the following statistics, the total mileage for the year is somewhat below that for the previous year but the pressure on the service has been heavier owing to so many patients having to be taken from the local hospitals to outside hospitals for special treatment and consultants' examinations, e.g. regular journeys are requested for the transfer of patients from a local hospital to a hospital about 35 miles away to be examined by a consultant. The patient is usually left overnight and requires to be returned the next day.

The installation of a radio-communication system between the vehicles and the depot would be a great asset to the service and, no doubt, would result in a considerable saving in mileage and, ultimately, expense.

Constant vigilance and immediate action have been exercised to minimize abuse and misuse of the service.

Whenever possible, arrangements are made for long distance cases to travel by train. In such cases, the patients are taken to the station, escorted to the train and met at the end of the rail journey by the nearest ambulance service to that point.

West Riding patients from the Calder Valley area are still conveyed by your ambulance service to and from the Halifax hospitals and the mileage incurred for this purpose during 1953 was

Ambulances 18,873 Cars 13,168.

		No. of Vehicles in service 31st Dec.	Total No. of Journeys during the year	Total No. of Patients carried during the year	No. of Accidents and other Emergency Journeys included in Col. 3	Total Mileage during the year	No. of paid whole-time Staff at 31st Dec.
1950	Ambulances	8	8,295	10,530	875	87,064	20
	Cars Cars/Amb.	2 1	4,164	8,618	7	37,651	1 Assn Controller
1951	Ambulances	8	8,466	10,263	945	82,624	20
	Cars Cars/Amb.	2 1	4,173	11,495	5	44,773	1 Assn Controller
1952	Ambulances	8	9,351	12,920	894	89,474	20
	Cars Cars/Amb.	2 1	4,244	11,412	2	46,318	1 Assn Controller
1953	Ambulances	8	9,123	12,785	883	83,228	20
	Cars Cars/Amb.	2 1	4,336	11,277	9	42,600	1 Dep Supt

First Aid Courses are held at the Depot and examinations arranged each year, although the men are not required to re-qualify annually.

A few complaints and appreciation have been received and each complaint has been thoroughly investigated.

Generally speaking, the men are keen to give good service to the public and to their employers but patients, occasionally, can be extremely difficult to please.

Members of the Civil Defence Ambulance Corps have attended the Depot to become acquainted with a peace-time Depot routine and to acquire a wider knowledge of the district by means of accompanying the drivers on as many journeys as possible.

The discussions at the Association meetings during the year have been helpful to the Controller with, I am sure, resultant benefits to your Service.

I would not wish to conclude this report without expressing my appreciation and thanks to the Health Committee, Medical Officer of Health, Depot Superintendent, members of the Health Office clerical staff and officials of other departments who have assisted me to maintain, with economic efforts and sometimes under difficult circumstances, a satisfactory ambulance service throughout the period now under review.

Section 28

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

Convalescent Home Treatment.

Convalescent Home Treatment is available for those who need a recuperation period before returning to their normal duties. A medical certificate is obtained from the patient's own doctor recommending a period of convalescence and if no actual treatment is required, the applications are dealt with as vacancies occur in the Homes at St. Annes-on-Sea and Ilkley. Thirty-six cases were admitted during 1953.

Loan Equipment.

During 1953 about 507 patients were issued with various items of loan equipment. The most called for items included air-rings, bedpans, bedrests, and mackintosh sheets. In addition urinals, bedcradles, wheel chairs, crutches, feeding-cups were issued. Our present list of loan equipment includes the following items :—

Air Rings.	Sputum Flasks.
Bed Rests.	Urinals.
Enamel Bowls.	Water Beds.
Bed Cradles.	Air Beds.
Bed Pans.	Wheel Chairs.
Crutches.	Syringes.
Feeding Cups.	Eye Undines.
Hot Water Bottles.	Bed Tables.
Inhalers.	Spinal Carriages.
Mackintosh Sheets.	

Special equipment is provided for paraplegics for use at their own homes. Periodical checks on the articles are made by the health visitors.

PUBLIC HEALTH LECTURES.

Title	Delivered by
The Riddle of Cancer	Dr. G. C. F. Roe.
Amentia	"
Neuroses	"
Coronary Disease	"
Man v. Microbe	"
The Virus Diseases	"
Personal Hygiene	"
Infection by the Mouth	"
Diseases of Uncertain Aetiology	"

Venereal Diseases.

The usual source of infection is a human being suffering from the disease—syphilis or gonorrhœa. Infection is most commonly acquired by sexual intercourse. The control of the venereal disease is as much a social as it is a medical problem. From the strictly medical aspect, the first aim is the prompt diagnosis and efficient treatment of patients with a view to rendering them non-effective. Among the general measures directed towards the prevention of venereal disease, the most important is the provision of instruction for adolescents in sex knowledge and for young adults in the risks of illicit intercourse. A number of infections are contracted while under the influence of alcohol, which not only inhibits the control of the higher centres, but also renders the individual less capable of taking the precautions which, if sober, he might use.

The following figures refer to local patients attending Treatment Centres :—

Number of persons dealt with for the first time during the year, and found to be suffering from

				<i>Local Clinic</i>	<i>Other Clinics</i>
Syphilis	...	...	...	23	—
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	27	3
Other Conditions	...	...	...	125	5
				—	—
Total	...	...	...	175	8

Pathological Work.

Microscopical :—

*Specimens examined at
Treatment Centre*

For Syphilis	...	...	...	21
For Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	224

Attendances.

	Syphilis		Gonor- rhœa		Other Conditions		TOTALS		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Total
For individual attention by Medical Officers	1053	990	139	35	620	271	1812	1296	3108
For intermediate Treatment	558	435	37	—	217	5	812	440	1252

TUBERCULOSIS.

I am indebted to Dr. W. Smith (Chest Physician) for the following details :—

Chest Clinics at the Royal Halifax Infirmary.

On Mondays	Morning and afternoon.
Tuesdays	Mornings.
Wednesday	Morning and afternoon.
Friday	Afternoons.

Number of new patients suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis from the County Borough of Halifax examined at the Chest Clinic during the year 1953 ...	565
Number of patients found to be suffering from Tuberculosis during the year 1953 from County Borough of Halifax	97
Number of contacts examined in 1953 from the County Borough of Halifax	220

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

Public Sessions have not been held in this period but arrangements are in hand for early 1954.

Section 29

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The service is in charge of one Domestic Help Organiser (Miss Clarkson) and its efficiency is due to her hard work, enthusiasm, understanding and patience that come from a broad outlook on life and its many problems.

No. of whole-time helps employed at the end of the year ... 15

No. of part-time helps employed at the end of the year ... 20

The following details give a birds-eye view of the work done during the year :—

No. of applications for assistance during the year 454

No. of cases where help was given in respect of :—

(a) General and chronic sickness	...	...	...	...	107
(b) Old people	...	...	...	...	205
(c) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	3
(d) Blind people	...	...	...	...	5
(e) Maternity	...	...	...	...	134

Section 51

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The administration of the Mental Deficiency Acts and the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts is under the control of the Health Department, and in addition to the Medical Officer of Health, two male and one female authorised officers carry out this work.

I am indebted to Mr. S. Parkinson, Senior Authorised Officer, for his contribution to this section of my report.

The past year has been uneventful in almost every respect. A review of the work done in 1953 shows much of a stereotype nature, but no real advance in new directions. The statistical data concerning the Mental Health Service again shows an increase over the previous year ; the upward trend begun in 1949 is still maintained.

Much work undertaken in the early years of the Service was empirical, but though experience has tempered hypothetical thought, the duties have not undergone much change during the past four years, but in some ways the work has tended to become more onerous. This in the main is attributable to extraneous conditions which have a bearing on the functioning of the Service rather than to the Service itself. For example : the position concerning admissions into mental hospitals is still affected by the severe shortage of beds ; there has been a slight deterioration in the employment situation. The number of ex-patients who, on account of mental affliction, seek work in sheltered conditions has steadily increased over the year, but the opportunities for such employment have been limited. On the other hand it is satisfying to report that a definite improvement has occurred in that section of the work concerned with mental deficiency, particularly in obtaining accommodation for patients in mental deficiency hospitals. The inauguration of an Admission Bureau conducted on a district basis by the Leeds Regional Hospital Board has been a most successful innovation. Although the Bureau was not in operation throughout the whole year sufficient time has elapsed to enable the advantages of a uniform system of notification and apprisement to be felt. More-

over, the new system has resulted in the most needy cases being allocated the vacant beds. In general there are grounds for a certain amount of satisfaction in what has been achieved since the inception of the Mental Health Service, but there can be no room for complacency whilst the incidence of mental disorder continues to rise.

There is a limit to the achievements in this work with the facilities at present at our disposal, and in this connection we felt our limitations locally some time ago. This situation is not peculiar to Halifax, but one likely to be met with in populous urban areas where comprehensive mental health services have been operating over the past five years. Paradoxically, the view has been expressed that as yet only the bare fringe of the problem of mental illness has been encountered and much remains to be done. With this last sentiment there can be little disagreement, but it is our belief and contention that only by a complete reorganisation and reorientation of the present mental health services will any real advancement be made. It has been repeatedly pointed out in these Annual Reports that many ideas and many legal conceptions concerning mental illness are inappropriate and incompatible with modern thought. Little progress in the field of mental health is likely to be made until some of the legal phraseology is jettisoned and more simpler (though not necessarily less effective) methods of procedure found.

The announcement of the formation of a Royal Commission to inquire into these problems has given deep satisfaction. The deliberations of the Commission will be intently followed, any ensuing recommendations which may be made will be received with great interest. The Royal Commission is a necessary step and long overdue; an inquiry into the position concerning mental health matters has been frequently advocated in these Reports during past years. If revision of the legislation is ultimately recommended and such recommendation results in alterations to the law, some progress will assuredly have been made towards a solution of the many problems; but it would be folly to believe that this alone will be the panacea for all the ills which at present beset the Mental Health Service. In our opinion success will only be achieved if revision of the various statutes is geared to better facilities for the *prevention* of mental illness.

Much has been revealed in recent years to substantiate the concept that a great proportion of mental illness is preventable to a degree which would have astonished some time ago ; much has also been shown of the weaknesses in the present structure of the Mental Health Services. As at present constituted, the Services are incapable of applying the remedy the situation so patently demands. Among other things it should be possible to bring about a reduction in the numbers of in-patients in mental hospitals by extending and improving out-patient clinic facilities. A reduction in the numbers of in-patients would automatically bring about an improvement in the conditions in mental hospitals both from the point of view of the patient and staff. An efficient out-patient clinic functioning effectively in the community by making early skilled treatment available, would go far to remedy much that is wrong. It is certain that there would be less recourse to in-patient treatment. One of the obstacles to this end has been the great variation which exists throughout the country both in the conduct of out-patient clinics and administration of mental health services. There are many who feel that this diversity has contributed functionally to the complexity of the problems which exist in the Services today. These differences in the various methods of operation of local authority services are even more accentuated by contact with the Hospital and General Practitioner Services provided by Regional Hospital Boards and Executive Councils respectively. Constant endeavours have to be made to reconcile the demands of the nationally controlled aspects of the Health Services with those administered locally. Because of this, the workings of a mental health service are unduly complicated. It is a common complaint of mental health staffs that they themselves have become the unfortunate " cushion " between the two, certainly many officers carry out their duties in an atmosphere of ambivalence.

Co-operation has existed from the inception of the National Health Service between this Authority's Mental Health Service and the hospitals. This liaison has been of especial benefit in dealing with the after-care and resettlement of ex-patients. Its success has been largely due to the inherent concern of the respective staffs in matters appertaining to the patient rather than to any virtues which there may be in the constitution of the present Health Service. Few

patients ever become aware that anything but a unified Health Service exists ; none but those actively concerned with mental health have any conception of the many unofficial efforts constantly made in the interests of patients to bridge gaps in official procedure. Meanwhile, mental health staffs are still engaged after five years' working of the Service in ensuring that national and local Services enmesh and not merely impinge.

TABLE ' A '

(b) Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930 by Duly Authorised Officers.

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
Total number of cases referred to Mental Health Service	246	233	248	227	199
Total number of visits paid by Authorised Officers	2807	2762	2580	2224	1927
Prevention					
Cases dealt with by preventive measures	62	54	38	26	23
Care					
(i) Cases referred for accommodation under National Assistance Act, 1948 (Part III)	8	5	5	6	9
(ii) Cases referred to Hospital Management Committee under National Health Service Act, 1946	17	22	39	16	18
(iii) Cases dealt with by Authorised Officers under Lunacy Acts, 1890-1:					
Sections 4 and 5	3				
Section 16	50				
Section 20	32				
Section 21	1				
Section 22	2				
	88	89	117	116	80
(iv) Cases dealt with under Mental Treatment Act, 1930	81	69	65	53	41
(v) Cases dealt with by this Local Health Authority on behalf of other local health authorities	16	24	25	13	15
(vi) Cases dealt with by other local health authorities on behalf of this Local Health Authority	2	4	1	Nil	Nil
After-care					
Number of patients afforded After-care during the year	41	50	36	51	44

The following Table B shows in Age Groups and Sexes the cases dealt with during 1953. Comparable figures are also shown for the years 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952 ; for convenience the incidence is shown as a percentage :—

TABLE 'B'

Age Groups	MALES					FEMALES				
	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
Under 21	5.71	6.67	5.38	4.12	8.07	4.96	2.40	4.52	1.54	4.39
21 to 30	15.24	17.14	18.28	14.43	22.58	19.86	14.40	12.26	10.00	9.65
31 to 40	26.67	25.71	19.35	14.43	22.58	15.60	16.00	7.74	14.61	14.91
41 to 50	22.86	12.38	15.05	11.34	9.68	13.48	9.60	11.61	16.92	8.77
51 to 60	8.57	16.19	7.53	20.63	12.90	20.57	23.20	18.06	16.15	19.30
61 to 70	13.33	14.29	18.28	18.56	12.90	16.31	12.80	21.29	21.55	15.79
Over 70	7.62	7.62	16.13	16.49	11.29	9.22	21.60	24.52	19.23	27.19

Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38.

- (i) The statutory duty of ascertaining amentia (whereby ineducable children are referred to the local health authority under the provisions of the Education Act, 1944) has been carried out during the year. There were 15 new cases notified during 1953, and more patients in institutions and under supervision than at any previous time. A total of 254 defectives were known to this Authority on the 31st December, 1953. Authorised Officers paid some 530 visits in respect of these cases during the year.
- (ii) There are no patients under Guardianship Orders in this Authority's area, but some 7 patients on licence from institutions are residing here with relatives. Visits are made periodically to all cases on behalf of the institutions concerned.
- (iii) Work has commenced on the building of a new Occupation Centre in Halifax. This will fulfil a great need and accommodation is being made to cater initially for 30 children from the County Borough area. The premises will be completed and taken into use during next year.

The following Table sets out in tabular form the work undertaken under the Mental Deficiency Acts :—

TABLE 'C'

Cases dealt with under Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38.

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
1. (a) New cases notified during year ...	15	22	12	27	16
(b) Cases brought forward from previous year which had not been acted upon...	—	1	9	1	—
Total cases during current year ...	15	23	21	28	16
2. Disposal of cases notified (as para. 1) :—					
(a) Admitted to Institutions ...	4	3	2	5	7
(b) Placed under Statutory Supervision ...	11	19	17	13	3
(c) Placed under Voluntary Supervision ...	—	—	—	1	—
(d) Found not to be defective ...	—	1	—	1	4
(e) Action not yet taken ...	—	—	2	8	2
	15	23	21	28	16
3. Movement of patients during year					
(a) Ceased to be under Statutory Supervision on account of :—					
(i) Being admitted to Institutions ...	4	6	1	—	—
(ii) Removal from this area ...	1	—	—	5	—
(iii) Death ...	2	—	1	—	—
(iv) Being placed under Voluntary Supervision ...	7	—	—	—	—
(b) Ceased to be under Institutional care (including Licence leave) on account of:					
(i) Discharge from Order (by Board of Control) ...	3	2	6	2	—
(ii) Death ...	1	1	3	3	1
4. Distribution of patients at 31st December:—					
(a) In Institutions ...	140	136	132	134	131
(b) On Licence ...	7	7	7	7	8
(c) Under Guardianship ...	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Under Statutory Supervision ...	98	101	87	72	64
(e) Under Voluntary Supervision ...	11	4	4	4	3
(f) Under Training ...	—	—	—	—	1
(g) Action not yet taken ...	—	—	2	8	2
Total number of patients ...	254	248	232	225	209
5. Cases awaiting admission to Institutions ...	7	8	10	5	6
6. Total number of visits paid by Authorised Officers (Cases of amentia only) ..	530	589	458	423	401

SECTION 3



Sanitary Circumstances

Housing

Food
(Inspection and Supervision)

including

Milk Distribution

Food and Drugs Sampling

Meat and other Foods

Ice Cream, etc.

Factories

Rodent Control

Smoke Abatement

Atmospheric Pollution

Sanitary Circumstances

AND

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. H. Margerison, M.R.San.I., Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the following report :—

Inspections and Visits.

Dwellingshouses :—

Primary Inspections under the Housing Acts	...	...	23
Subsequent Inspections under the Housing Acts	...	...	158
Visits re work in progress under the Housing Acts	...	...	69
Visits re removals and disinfestations	...	...	800
Visits re overcrowding	...	...	5
Re sanitary defects (complaints, etc.)	...	...	1,080
Re notifiable diseases	...	...	256
Re dirty and/or verminous premises	...	...	114
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	1
Houses-Let-in-Lodgings	...	...	18

Drainage :—

Public sewers inspected	...	...	192
Special Drainage Inspections	...	...	558
Public sewers tested	...	...	71
Drains tested	...	...	343

Factories, etc.:—

Factories with mechanical power	...	...	80
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	11
Outworkers' premises	...	...	4
Workplaces (general)	...	...	3
Workplaces (offices)	...	...	4

Shops :—

Shops Act, 1950, Section 38	...	...	1
Other visits	...	...	62

Food Inspection :—

Dairies	...	...	47
Milkshops	...	...	37
Ice Cream premises	...	...	94
Fried Fish shops	...	...	17
Bakehouses	...	...	20
Restaurants, Cafés, etc.	...	...	38
Other food premises	...	...	122
Applications for Catering Licences	...	...	17

Smoke Abatement :—

Smoke observations	...	...	75
Visits to works re smoke emission	...	...	59

Sampling :—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	371
Bacteriological Samples—Milk	...	...	...	...	...	49
Bacteriological Samples—Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	58
Biological Samples—Milk	...	...	...	...	...	54
Water	...	...	...	...	...	22
Swimming Baths Water	...	...	...	...	...	55
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	...	...	31

General :—

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act	...	...	...	...	...	37
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	34
Rodent infested premises	...	...	...	...	...	2,348
Stables re nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fowls, Swine and other animals	...	...	...	...	...	26
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Places of Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	21
Public Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	211
Pharmacy and Poisons Act	...	...	...	...	...	30
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	...	3
Small Dwellings Acquisition Act	...	...	...	...	...	78
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	1,463
Total number of Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	...	...	9,273
Total number of re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	3,641

Sanitary Improvements Effected.**Dwellinghouses :—**

							Informal Action
General repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	263
Dirty Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Council houses found bug infested and disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other houses found bug infested and disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Houses cleared of vermin (other than bugs)	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Houses-let-in-lodgings. Nuisances abated or improvements effected	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Drainage :—

Sewers cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Drains cleansed and/or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	156
Drains reconstructed or new drains provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Public sewers repaired and/or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	36

Factories :—

Factories with mechanical power. Nuisances abated or improvements effected	17
Factories without mechanical power. Nuisances abated or improvements effected	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Workplaces (Offices). Nuisances abated, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Shops :—

Nuisances abated or improvements effected	15
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

General :—

Premises cleared of rats—Dwellinghouses	456
Other premises	305
Premises cleared of mice—Dwellinghouses	320
Other premises	169
Fried Fish Shops—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	6
Ice Cream premises—Improvements effected	1
Restaurants, Cafés, etc.—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	1
Other food premises—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	8
Boiler Plants improved re emission of smoke	10
Fowls, Swine and other animals—Nuisances abated	3
Stables—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	1
Places of Public Entertainment—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	8
Public Sanitary Conveniences—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	27
Building Licences issued	10
Noise—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	12
Miscellaneous Sanitary improvements effected	88

Prosecutions during 1953.

Date of Hearing	Act	Offence	Penalty
20/1/53	Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950. Section 9.	(a) Offering for sale milk to which had been added at least 8.4% of extraneous water. (b) Offering for sale milk to which had been added at least 6.4% of extraneous water.	Defendant fined £5 on each charge (a total of £10) with £2 5s. 0d. costs.
22/4/53	Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. Regulations 21 (1) (a) and 29 (2).	(a) Handling and storing milk in a room used as a scullery. (b) Filling and closing bottles of milk on unregistered premises.	Defendant fined £2 10s. 0d. on each charge, a total of £5.
24/11/53	Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950. Section 9.	(a) Offering for sale milk to which had been added at least 19.8% of extraneous water. (b) Offering for sale milk to which had been added at least 19.5% of extraneous water.	Defendant fined £2 10s. 0d. on each charge (a total of £5), with £3 6s. 0d. costs.

General

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

Fertilisers and Feedings Stuff Regulations, 1932.

Of the 31 samples obtained during the year, 15 were of fertilisers and 16 were of feeding stuffs. Eight of these samples were unsatisfactory, and appropriate action was taken by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.

Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

At the end of 1953 there were 168 registered sellers of Part II poisons, occupying 223 registered premises.

There were 30 inspections of these premises during the year.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

At the end of the year there were 7 premises registered under this enactment.

No samples were taken.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Section 1 of the abovementioned legislation, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1952, enacts that no persons shall keep a Pet Shop except under a licence granted by the Local Authority.

Eight applications were received during the year and licences were granted in each case.

Places of Public Entertainment.

During the year 21 inspections were made of theatres, cinemas and other premises for which theatre licences are necessary and improvements were carried out in eight cases.

Swimming Baths.

Every month the swimming bath waters are sampled for chemical and bacteriological examination at the Public Baths and all School Swimming Baths.

Conditions have been greatly improved during the year, and the caretakers at all school baths have been instructed in the chlorination and proper treatment of the bath water.

Health Education.

During the year lectures have been given by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, as follows :—

“ Food Hygiene ” (illustrated with film strips)—

- do. Halifax General Hospital.
- do. Royal Halifax Infirmary.
- do. St. John's Hospital.
- do. Northowram Isolation Hospital.

“ Public Health ” (illustrated with film strips)—

- do. Building Societies' Institute.
- do. Citizenship Course at Police Headquarters.

Housing

Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year :—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 1,201
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 3,543
 - (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 23
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 23
 - (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 20
 - (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 3
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 430
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—
 - (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
 - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 2
 - (2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (b) By owners ... Nil
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 1
 - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—
 - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 141
 - (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners ... 10
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 75

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	13
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	6
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	7
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit	Nil
4. Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV)—Overcrowding.	
(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1,101
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	1,135
(3) Number of "persons" dwelling therein	4,074
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	17
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	3
(2) Number of "persons" concerned in such cases	15
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

Eradication of Bed-Bugs.

(1) (a) (1) Number of Council Houses found infested	1
(2) Number of Council Houses disinfested	1
(b) (1) Number of other houses found infested	21
(2) Number of other houses disinfested	21
(c) Number of houses where furniture was disinfested with HCN gas at Charlestown	90

Closing and Demolition Orders : Housing Act, 1936.

Continuing the information given in previous reports, the following Table shows the position on the 31st December, 1953 :—

Ref. No.	Situation	Date of Report	Date of Closing Order	Date of Demolition Order	Remarks
202	4, Rock Court Ovenden	19/2/53	2/4/53	—	Undertaking to use as business premises accepted
203	3, Gill's Court	19/2/53	—	—	
204	16, Smith Street North	19/3/53	31/7/53	—	
205	1, Terrace Street	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
206	3, " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
207	5, " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
208	7, " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
209	9, " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
210	2, Middle Terrace Street	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
211	4, " " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
212	6, " " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
213	8, " " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
214	10, " " "	23/4/53	—	2/7/53	
215	3, Milner's Court	18/6/53	12/8/53	—	
216	1, Lower Horley Green	18/6/53	—	4/8/53	
217	3, " " "	18/6/53	—	4/8/53	
218	5, " " "	18/6/53	—	4/8/53	
219	2, Riley's Court	17/12/53	4/2/54	—	
220	23, Moxon Terrace	17/12/53	4/2/54	—	
221	14, " "	17/12/53	4/2/54	—	

To complete observations made in previous annual reports, the following information is given :—

Ref. No.

179—184	Houses demolished by owner	...	...	2/9/1953
195	House demolished by owner	...	...	31/12/1953

Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946.

No cases were referred by the Housing Committee to the Furnished Houses Rent Tribunal, under the above Act.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is only one Common Lodging House in the Borough, and one inspection of same was made during the year. It was found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Houses-Let-in-Lodgings.

At the end of the year there were 44 Houses-Let-in-Lodgings, providing accommodation for 221 families. There were 18 inspections made during the year and, whilst conditions generally were satisfactory, nuisances were abated or improvements effected in four cases.

Cleansing Facilities.

There is a Cleansing Station, which operates under the general supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, at the Disinfestation Station, Charlestown. Hot baths and showers and the usual cleansing materials are provided.

Men are cleansed by the attendant at the Disinfestation Station, and the cleansing of women is carried out under the supervision of a Health Visitor.

Provision exists for the steam sterilisation of clothing and, if necessary, for bedding, etc. Where necessary, houses are treated with a D.D.T. preparation.

Food (Inspection and Supervision)

Milk Distribution

At the end of the year there were 236 registered distributors of milk (excluding dairy farmers) within the Borough, and there were 14 registered dairy premises.

Licences, under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, were granted as follows :—

Pasteurised Milk—Pasteuriser's Licence	...	...	1
Pasteurised Milk—Dealers' Licences	...	...	66
Pasteurised Milk—Supplementary Licences	...	...	13
Sterilised Milk—Dealers' Licences	...	...	188
Sterilised Milk—Supplementary Licences	...	...	2
Tuberculin Tested Milk—Dealers' Licences	...	...	66
Tuberculin Tested Milk—Supplementary Licences	...	...	11

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

During the year, 85 samples of milk were submitted to bacteriological examination, as shown below. One (or 1.80%) of these samples was unsatisfactory.

Designation	Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	5	5	—
Pasteurised	43	43	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	3	3	—
Accredited	7	6	1
Sterilised	3	3	—
Undesignated	24	24	—
Total	85	84	1

Biological Examination of Milk.

During the year 54 samples of milk were submitted to biological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service. Of this total, 32 samples were of milk produced within the Borough and 22 of milk from outside the Borough.

One (or 3.13%) of the locally produced milks gave a positive result, whilst none of the samples of milk produced outside the Borough was positive. One local sample was declared void due to the premature death of the guinea-pig.

Notices were served by the Medical Officer of Health, in accordance with Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, in 2 cases where such action was appropriate.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

A total of 371 samples of Foods and Drugs was obtained during the year and submitted to the Public Analyst.

These included 244 samples of milk, 52 samples of ice cream and 75 samples of foods and drugs.

Samples of milk "not genuine" according to the Sale of Milk Regulations numbered 19, giving a percentage of 7.79.

All the 52 samples of Ice Cream were reported as satisfactory.

Of the 75 samples of other foods and drugs, 5 (or 6.67%) were reported not genuine.

Full details of all samples will be found in the following Tables :—

TABLE 1.

Nature of Sample	No. of Samples taken			No. not genuine		
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total
Milk	*239	5	*244	19	—	19
Alcoholic Drinks :—						
Beer, Bitter	1	—	1	—	—	—
Beer, Bottled	—	3	3	—	—	—
Beer, Mild	3	—	3	—	—	—
Brandy	1	—	1	—	—	—
Gin	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rum	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whisky	1	—	1	1	—	1
Castor Oil	1	—	1	—	—	—
Coconut, Desiccated	3	—	3	—	—	—
Coffee & Chicory Essence	4	—	4	—	—	—
Condiment, Non-Brewed	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cream :—						
Double	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fresh	—	3	3	—	—	—
Synthetic	—	3	3	—	—	—
Fish Cakes	—	4	4	—	—	—
Ginger Ground	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	52	52	—	—	—
Indian Brandy	2	—	2	—	—	—
Mincemeat	4	1	5	1	1	2
Nuts, Mixed	1	—	1	—	—	—
Paste :—						
Meat	2	3	5	—	—	—
Salmon	2	1	3	—	—	—
Rhubarb, Compound Tinct. of	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rice, Ground	2	—	2	—	—	—
Sausages :—						
Beef	9	—	9	1	—	1
Pork	3	—	3	—	—	—
Soft Drinks :—						
Cordials	4	—	4	—	—	—
Suet, Beef	1	4	5	—	—	—
Vinegar, Malt	3	—	3	1	—	1
	291	80	371	23	1	24

* Includes 2 "Appeal to Cow" Samples which were genuine.

TABLE 2.

Administrative Action taken in respect of Samples reported by the Public Analyst to be Not Genuine or otherwise irregular.

No. of Sample	Nature of Sample and Result of Analysis, etc.	Administrative action taken
24	Sausages, Beef— Deficient in Meat	Formal sample containing only 47% of meat against the required 50%. Case reported by the Chief Sanitary Inspector to the Divisional Food Enforcement Officer.
40 80	Milk— 3.6% Deficient in fat Milk— 11.0% Deficient in fat	Formal sample obtained at the "place of delivery" to Pasteuriser's Plant. Formal sample, being a check sample of the same producer's milk. Formal "Appeal to Cow" samples (W.R.C.C. 5676, 5677, 5678, 5679) were obtained and found to be genuine milk. The matter was reported to the Health Committee, who instructed the Town Clerk to send a warning letter.
65 81	Milk— 5.0% Deficient in fat Milk— 3.3% Deficient in fat	Formal sample obtained at the "place of delivery" to Pasteuriser's Plant. Formal sample, being a check sample of the same producer's milk. Warning letter sent by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.
152	Milk— 6.1% Added Water	Formal sample from a firm of dairymen. Formal "Appeal to Cow" samples (Nos. 159 & 160) were obtained, the latter sample containing only 2.81% milk fat, the deficiency being due to natural causes. The matter was reported to the Health Committee who instructed the Town Clerk to send a warning letter.
165	Vinegar, Malt— 0.6% Deficient in Acetic Acid	Formal sample from a retailer containing only 3.4% of acetic acid against a required minimum of 4.0%. The matter was reported to the Health Committee who instructed the Town Clerk to send a warning letter.
170	Milk— 5.0% Deficient in fat	Formal sample obtained at the "place of delivery" to Pasteuriser's Plant. A warning letter was sent by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.
195	Milk— 10.6% Deficient in fat	Formal sample from a firm of dairymen. Formal "Appeal to Cow" sample (W.R.C.C. 7282) was obtained and found to contain only 2.33% milk fat, but in view of the fact that the sample was taken under official supervision, the milk must be regarded as genuine.

TABLE 2—Continued.

No. of Sample	Nature of Sample and Result of Analysis, etc.	Administrative action taken
238	Milk— 19.8% Added water	Formal samples obtained at the "place of delivery" to Pasteuriser's Plant. Formal "Appeal to Cow" samples (W.R.C.C. 8825 and 8826) were obtained and found to be genuine milk. Reported to Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 24th November, 1953, when the defendants were fined £2 10s. 0d. in each case and ordered to pay £3 6s. 0d. costs.
239	Milk— 19.5% Added water	
278	Milk— 14.8% Added water	Formal samples from a distributor's consignment of surplus milk—on direction from Ministry of Food—taken at the "place of delivery" to Pasteuriser's Plant. Reported to Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. After an adjournment at the request of the defence, the case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 26th January, 1954, when the defendants were fined a total of £20 and ordered to pay £3 3s. 0d. costs.
288	13.6% Added water	
290	11.6% Deficient in fat	
301	6.4% Added water	
304	20.0% Deficient in fat	
311	20.0% Deficient in fat	
314	7.4% Added water	
320	4.6% Deficient in fat	
323	3.0% Added water & 3.6% Deficient in fat	
324	13.0% Deficient in fat	
341	Mincemeat— Deficient in soluble solids	Formal sample from retailer found to contain only 58.0% of soluble solids against the required 65.0%. Informal check sample from same delivery, which, on analysis, yielded the same result as sample No. 341. Reported to Health Committee who authorised the Town Clerk to send a warning letter.
357	Mincemeat— Deficient in soluble solids	
362	Whisky— Deficient in proof spirit	Formal sample from a licensee-tenant of hotel, found to contain only 61.3% of proof spirit against the required minimum of 65.0%. Reported to Health Committee who authorised Town Clerk to send a warning letter.

TABLE 3.

Monthly Average Composition of Milk Samples.

Month	No. of Samples	Analytical Data	
		Milk Fat per cent.	Non-fatty Solids per cent.
January	20	3.55	8.72
February	16	3.52	8.62
March	20	3.38	8.65
April	17	3.64	8.60
May	11	3.90	8.86
June	27	3.51	8.75
July	9	3.56	8.73
August	10	3.83	8.80
September	25	3.74	8.71
October	20	3.82	8.93
November	50	3.63	8.73
December	17	3.55	8.61
Total	242		
Average for the year 1953		3.68	8.78
” ” 1952		3.67	8.78
” ” 1951		3.72	8.73
” ” 1950		3.66	8.75
” ” 1949		3.68	8.77
” ” 1948		3.71	8.74
” ” 1947		3.88	8.76
” ” 1946		3.84	8.86
” ” 1945		3.79	8.85
” ” 1944		3.78	8.87

NOTE.—2 “Appeal to Cow” samples are excluded from the above Table.

TABLE 4.

Articles of Food examined for Preservatives in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations.

Food	No. of samples examined	Permitted Preservative	Amount		Remarks
			Allowed	Found	
Milk	244	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Beer	7	Sulphur Dioxide	70 ppm.	7-Nil	
Coffee & Chicory Essence	4	Benzoic Acid	450 ppm.	4-Nil	
Cream :—					
Double	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Fresh	3	Nil	Nil	3-Nil	
Synthetic	3	Nil	Nil	3-Nil	
Fish Cakes	4	Nil	Nil	4-Nil	
Mincemeat	4	Nil—except as allowed in ingredients		4-Nil	
Paste :—					
Fish	5	Nil	Nil	5-Nil	
Meat	3	Nil	Nil	3-Nil	
Sausages	12	Sulphur Dioxide	450 ppm.	8-Nil 1-360 ppm. 1-320 ppm. 1-120 ppm. 1- 16 ppm.	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
Soft Drinks	4	Sulphur Dioxide or Benzoic Acid	350 ppm. 600 ppm.	1-246 ppm. -Nil 1-240 ppm. -Nil 1-184 ppm. -Nil 1-Nil -Nil	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory

Meat Inspection.

Since January 1940, the slaughter of food animals has been under Ministry of Food control at the abattoir which is a supply centre for the County Borough of Halifax, Sowerby Bridge, Hebden Bridge, Ripponden, Queensbury and Shelf, and Todmorden.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

The following Table shows the number of animals slaughtered during the year and the number condemned :—

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	7,402	2,187	28,133	8,190
Number inspected	7,402	2,187	28,133	8,190
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B.				
Whole carcases condemned	16	15	50	55
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3,443	9	1,014	2,061
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	46.7	1.1	3.3	25.8
T.B. ONLY				
Whole carcases condemned	85	—	—	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,673	—	—	419
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	23.7	—	—	5.3

Food Inspection.

The following Table shows the amount of foods condemned :—

Food Condemned	Quantity in lbs.
101 Carcases of Beef	49,382
Beef not in Carcase	13,499
15 Carcases of Veal	476
Veal not in Carcase	27
50 Carcases of Mutton	1,326
Mutton not in Carcase	584
72 Carcases of Pork	8,476
Pork not in Carcase	9,071
Offals	113,429
Bacon and Ham	216
Bread	224
Canned Provisions	11,507
Cereals	80
Cheese	199
Confectionery	112
Cooked Meats	78
Dried Fruits	402
Dripping	112
Eggs—frozen	238
Fish	759
Fruit	324
Meat Pies	24
Nuts	20
Poultry	109
Rabbits	1,680
Sausages	358
Sponge Puddings	197
Sweets	94
Total Weight	213,003

Shell Fish.

Supplies of shell fish coming into the Borough received attention in an endeavour to ensure that they had first been subjected to treatment in purification tanks before being offered for sale. Certain known suspect sources were excluded.

The following Table shows the total approximate weight of meat and offals destroyed on account of tuberculosis, and from other causes :—

Total Amount of Meat Destroyed	...	...	...	lbs. 82,841
Total Amount of Offals Destroyed	...	...	...	113,429
Total Amount of Meat Destroyed on account of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	62,681
Total Amount of Offals Destroyed on account of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	55,674
Total Amount of Meat Destroyed from other causes	...	...	...	20,160
Total Amount of Offals Destroyed from other causes	...	...	...	57,755
Total Meat and Offals Destroyed				196,270

Manufacture and/or Sale of Ice Cream.

During the year 94 inspections were made of 305 registered premises :—

Manufacture-vendors	...	...	...	5
Vendors only	...	...	...	299

A total of 58 samples was submitted to bacteriological examination by the Methylene blue reduction test, particulars of which are given in the following Table :—

Produced	No. of Samples	Grade 1 Highly Satisfactory	Grade 2 Satisfactory	Grade 3 Unsatisfactory	Grade 4 Very Unsatisfactory
In Borough	9	6 (66.66%)	3 (33.33%)	—	—
Outside of Borough	49	29 (59.18%)	13 (26.53%)	7 (14.29%)	—
Total	58	35 (60.34%)	16 (27.59%)	7 (12.07%)	—

I am pleased to be able to report that all mobile vans and carts selling Ice Cream in this Borough are so constructed as to comply with the Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and also equipped with means for the provision of hot water and washing of the hands. In addition, towels are provided and sterilizing agents for the treatment of the servers.

Fried Fish Shops.

During the year 17 inspections were made of 138 premises. Improvements were effected in 6 cases.

Bakehouses.

The number of bakehouses on the register at the end of the year was 79.

There were 20 inspections made.

Factories

H.M. Inspector of Factories sent 7 notices (comprising 7 items) under Section 9 of the Factories Act, 1937. In addition there were 7 complaints (10 items) brought forward from 1952.

Complaints remedied during the year numbered 4 (4 items). There were 10 outstanding complaints (13 items) at the end of the year.

There were 16 outworkers on the register at the end of the year, and no cases of default in sending lists to the Council were discovered (Section 110). There were no cases of outwork being carried on in unwholesome premises (Section 111).

Table 1.

Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	39	11	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	807	80	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority† (excluding outworkers' premises)	35	—	—	—
Total	881	91	4	—

† i.e. Electrical Stations (S.103(1)), Institutions (S.104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

Table 2.

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	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 ...	—	—	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	4	—	5	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	4	—	7	—

Rodent Control

Premises	Inspected		Treated		Outstanding		Cleared	
	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
Local Authority's Premises :								
Abattoir	10	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Borough Market	31	49	16	48	—	2	11	22
Day Nurseries	4	11	3	3	—	—	2	—
Piece Hall	92	55	81	47	2	3	42	20
Refuse Disposal Works	12	6	12	4	—	—	9	4
Reservoir Embankments	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tips	18	—	9	—	—	—	6	—
School Canteens	19	13	10	11	1	1	6	7
Schools	18	20	15	16	1	1	7	8
Sewage Disposal Works	11	—	5	—	—	—	5	—
Sewers (Public) Manholes	9	—	3	—	1	—	1	—
Other Premises	31	25	24	21	—	—	14	11
Private Business Premises :								
Bone Works	12	—	11	—	1	—	—	—
Canteens	22	24	17	17	—	—	14	11
Factories (with mechanical power)	44	29	40	25	1	—	25	17
Factories (without mechanical power)	23	25	19	14	—	—	16	9
Hospitals	20	17	17	16	1	—	8	11
Hotels	8	7	2	1	—	—	—	2
Houses-let-in-Lodgings	15	13	9	10	—	—	4	5
Piggeries	18	—	8	—	—	—	6	—
Places of Public Entertainment	17	3	2	1	1	—	1	—
Sewers (Private) Manholes	104	—	102	—	—	—	87	—
Shops	43	56	37	47	1	3	27	31
Stables	12	2	5	2	—	—	3	1
Tips	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other premises	42	34	18	15	1	—	10	10
Dwellinghouses :								
Corporation Houses	166	245	158	231	—	6	106	151
Private Dwellinghouses	581	325	568	325	10	7	350	169
Totals	1,389	959	1,193	854	21	23	761	489

Summary of Operations				Rats	Mice	Total
Number of Primary Inspections ... ..	...	...	...	1,389	959	2,348
Number of Re-inspections ... ..	...	...	...	2,279	2,918	5,197
Number of Complaints received ... ..	...	...	...	148	87	235
Number of Complaints remedied ... ..	...	...	...	145	83	228
Number of Complaints outstanding ... ..	...	...	...	11	9	20
Number of Local Authority's Premises treated ... ..	...	...	...	179	150	329
Number of Corporation Houses treated ... ..	...	...	...	158	231	389
Number of Private Business Premises treated ... ..	...	...	...	288	148	436
Number of Private Dwellinghouses treated ... ..	...	...	...	568	325	893
				Local Authority's	Private Business	Total
Premises test-baited and found not infested ... ..	...	...	...	47	50	97
Visits with District Sanitary Inspectors re drainage ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Estimated number of rats killed ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	9,252

Smoke Abatement

The number of smoke observations made during the year was 75, details of which are given in the following Table.

Visits to works in connection with smoke emission numbered 59, and the average emission of black smoke was 0.95 minutes per observation, or 1.90 minutes per hour.

Boiler plants were improved re smoke emission in 10 cases.

Chimney	No. of observations (30 minutes each)	Average minutes black smoke per observation
Atlas Boiler Works	1	9.5
Battinson Road Mills	2	Nil
Blackwood Mills	2	Nil
Bowling Dyke Mills	2	3.75
Brunswick Mills	10	Nil
Central Laundry	1	Nil
Clay Pits Works	2	Nil
Copley Mills	1	Nil
Croftmyl	10	0.05
Dean Clough Mills (Brick)	1	0.5
Dean Clough Mills (Stone)	1	2.0
Dunkirk Mills	3	Nil
Halifax Steam Laundry	6	0.875
Highroad Well Works	1	Nil
Ostler County Secondary School	1	Nil
Pioneer Iron Works	3	0.25
Royal Halifax Infirmary	9	0.61
Royal Mills	5	4.85
Ryburne Mills	1	0.5
Spring Hall Mills	6	0.79
Stone Trough Brewery	1	Nil
The Brewery	2	3.0
Victoria Mills	1	Nil
West Grove Mill	3	1.5
Total	75	0.95

TABLE No. 1.—DEPOSITED ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION, 1953.

Month	WADE STREET (Central)				BELLE VUE PARK ($\frac{1}{2}$ -mile West)				AKROYD PARK ($\frac{1}{2}$ -mile North)				INFIRMARY (1 mile South)				WEST VIEW PARK ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles West)			
	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids
January	0.83	8.29	3.77	12.06	0.79	4.83	3.59	8.42	0.79	3.30	4.82	8.12	0.75	3.21	3.03	6.24	0.79	1.98	3.84	5.82
February	2.60	13.34	5.40	18.74	1.77	6.17	5.55	11.72	2.56	14.81	7.06	21.87	1.10	4.65	3.92	8.57	2.44	6.78	6.26	13.04
March	2.17	16.23	6.63	22.86	2.36	10.38	7.05	17.43	2.05	12.65	5.68	18.33	2.36	8.72	5.05	13.77	0.91	5.93	4.26	10.19
April	2.88	15.30	6.30	21.60	2.76	6.21	7.04	13.25	2.80	14.83	6.21	21.04	2.92	4.98	4.92	9.90	1.46	4.81	3.85	8.66
May	2.21	16.39	5.71	22.10	2.25	7.85	5.37	13.22	1.26	7.19	4.43	11.62	2.09	6.66	3.83	10.49	*	*	*	*
June	2.99	13.00	6.87	19.87	3.03	6.37	6.45	12.82	3.12	4.20	5.51	9.71	2.84	6.22	5.79	12.01	3.51	6.32	7.38	13.70
July	3.63	15.13	8.73	23.86	3.59	4.81	5.69	10.50	3.35	7.78	7.36	15.14	3.67	4.54	4.40	8.94	3.74	3.58	7.47	11.05
August	4.37	8.96	9.37	18.33	4.45	4.18	8.11	12.29	*	*	*	*	4.49	4.08	6.71	10.79	4.45	2.80	7.11	9.91
September	2.13	8.95	5.97	14.92	1.93	4.84	5.52	10.36	2.29	5.95	8.06	14.01	2.09	4.31	4.11	8.42	2.17	4.01	4.00	8.01
October	2.09	9.29	5.24	14.53	2.29	3.72	5.48	9.20	2.09	3.69	4.78	8.47	2.21	3.52	3.54	7.06	2.21	2.80	3.80	6.60
November	3.82	8.84	10.94	19.78	3.78	4.54	6.61	11.15	*	*	*	*	3.94	4.10	7.38	11.48	3.66	3.45	6.47	9.92
December	0.71	7.73	4.67	12.40	1.46	4.58	5.89	10.47	1.46	5.12	6.32	11.44	1.42	3.98	5.69	9.67	1.38	3.75	4.53	8.28
AGGREGATES	30.43	141.45	79.60	221.05	30.46	68.48	72.35	140.83	21.77	79.52	60.23	139.75	29.88	58.97	58.37	117.34	26.72	46.21	58.97	105.18
MONTHLY AVERAGES	2.53	11.79	6.63	18.42	2.54	5.71	6.03	11.74	2.18	7.95	6.02	13.98	2.49	4.91	4.86	9.78	2.43	4.20	5.36	9.56

* Records spoilt by unlawful interference.

Monthly Average for whole Borough :—Rainfall in inches

Insoluble Solids

Soluble Solids

Total Solids

2.44
6.92 tons per square mile.

5.78

12.70

Total Annual Deposit for the Whole Borough :—154.33 tons per square mile.

**Total Annual Deposit for the whole Borough for
the past ten years**

(Tons per square mile).

1953	...	154.33
1952	...	171.30
1951	...	185.04
1950	...	174.30
1949	...	202.95
1948	...	183.79
1947	...	241.91
1946	...	238.09
1945	...	198.53
1944	...	226.26

There has been a steady drop in the atmospheric pollution figures during the last few years. Nothing very spectacular, but yet a step in the right direction.

Several firms have been dealt with during the year where plants have been entirely reconstructed, and other firms have been electrified or persuaded to use smokeless fuels.

TABLE No. 2
SULPHUR POLLUTION — LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD, 1953.

Station	Milligrams of SO ₃ per 100 Square Centimetres—Daily Average.												Total Daily Average
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
WADE STREET (Central) ...	3.89	3.59	4.22	2.61	1.84	1.45	1.05	1.21	1.53	2.80	3.43	3.33	2.58
WEST VIEW PARK (1½ Miles West) ...	3.00	3.06	3.77	1.71	1.60	1.28	0.80	0.86	1.33	2.33	2.58	2.85	2.10
BEACON HILL (¼ Mile East) ...	9.00	5.98	6.99	3.64	2.77	2.00	2.29	2.98	3.75	5.03	7.11	5.63	4.76
Total Daily Average ...	5.29	4.21	4.99	2.65	2.07	1.57	1.38	1.68	2.20	3.38	4.37	3.93	3.14

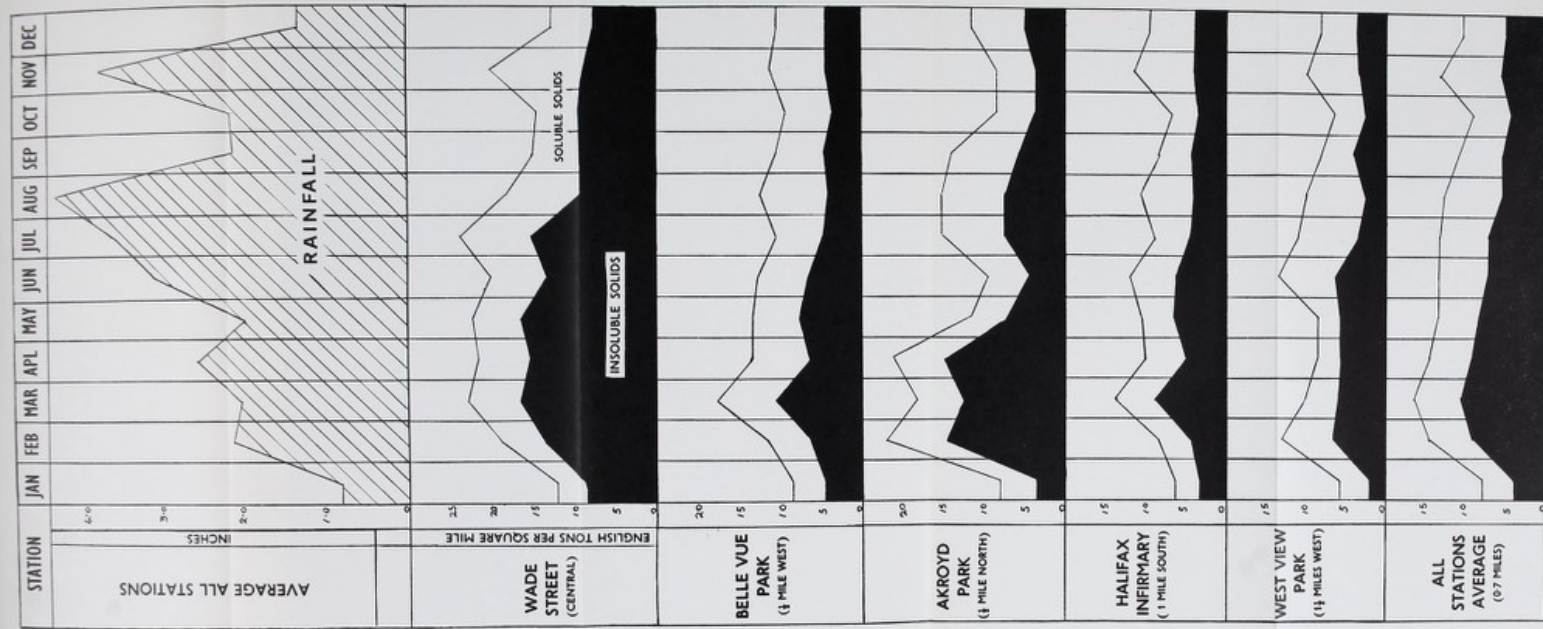
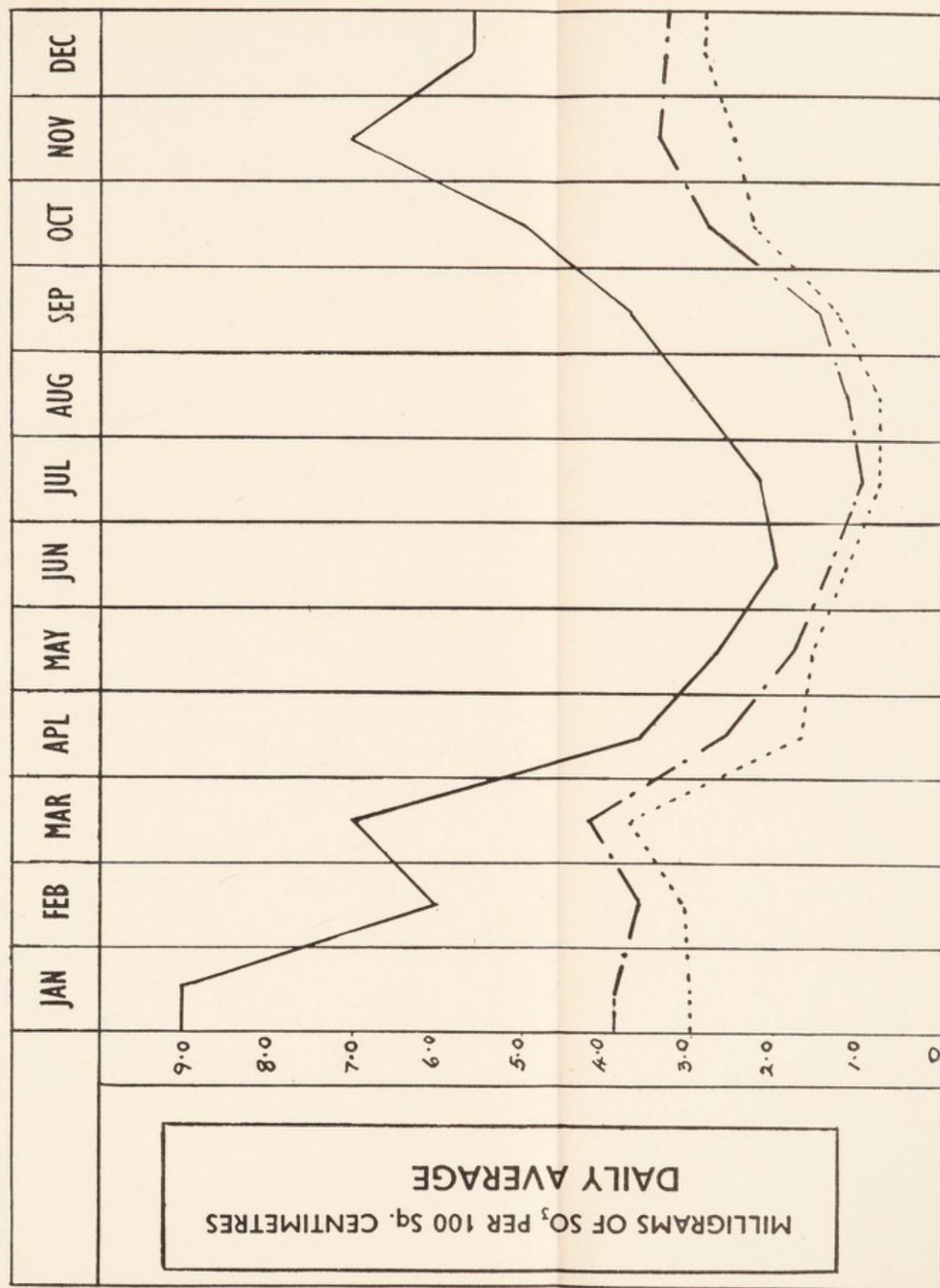


TABLE No. 2A

SULPHUR POLLUTION 1953

BEACON HILL _____ WADE STREET _____ WEST VIEW PARK _____



Miscellaneous

National Assistance Act, 1948.

A few cases have been reported to me under Section 47 of this Act but I have been able to deal with them satisfactorily without compulsory orders.

FOOD POISONING

Food may be injurious to human beings in various ways :—

- (1) Some foods are **poisonous in themselves**—e.g. fungi eaten in mistake for mushrooms.
- (2) Food may be **contaminated by chemicals**,—e.g. metals in tinning processes, arsenic from harmful colouring matters, etc.
- (3) **Parasites** may contaminate food.
- (4) **Bacterial Infection**—much the most important group.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

These include skilled meat inspection at the time of slaughter, thorough cleanliness of food premises, general cleanliness in manufacture, sale and distribution of food. Food handlers should be instructed in food hygiene. Simple precautions—like washing the hands after using the toilet—will go a long way in the prevention of food poisoning.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

In a previous report I suggested that there are certain people who are by nature particularly susceptible to accidents. I will not go over this ground again. In 1953 there were 14 deaths from motor vehicle accidents.

Year	Suicides	Deaths from Motor Vehicle Accidents
1949	15	10
1950	21	14
1951	13	10
1952	13	8
1953	9 (5M 4F)	14 (12M 2F)

I am indebted to Mr. G. S. Bradbury (Chief Welfare Officer) for the following information :—

Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends :—	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment ...	18	5	—	31
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ...	17	4	—	10
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ...	12	1	—	10

Resident in Homes for Epileptics.

2 Males. 3 Females.

Resident in Part III accommodation.

1 Male who is also a registered blind person.

On the Register of Blind Persons there are also

1 girl aged 4 years. 1 Male. 4 Females.

The number of unemployed epileptics is very small in Halifax, probably at the most 6 cases, but the difficulty seems to be getting employers to realise that this unfortunate type of person can usually lead an almost normal life.

The Disablement Resettlement Officer does wherever possible try to rehabilitate these cases through the Remploi Factory, but I understand that until extensions are completed, the facilities are very limited.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. A. C. Wildsmith, Waterworks Engineer, for the following report :—

The water supply of the area has been highly satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological Examinations of raw water :—

420 Samples. Results varying from 0 to 180+ pres.B.coli.

Bacteriological Examinations of filtered and treated water :—

1,220 Samples. Results highly satisfactory.

These samples were taken and checked at the Waterworks Laboratory. In addition 153 samples were taken independently by the Borough Analyst and the results of his bacteriological analyses were :—

149 Highly satisfactory.

4 Satisfactory.

The soft, moorland water supplied to Halifax is liable to have plumbo-solvent action. To counteract this the raw water is treated with lime and the pH factor raised to 8.0 to 8.5.

The number of chemical analyses taken is 23 and the results are averaged on aforementioned enclosures.

The raw water is chemically treated, filtered and chlorinated before use. All new mains laid are sterilised by chlorination and flushed out prior to being put into service. Number of yards sterilised :—10,033.

The number of dwellinghouses and the population supplied :—

(a) Direct to the house—33,000 houses : 98,000 population.

(b) By means of standpipe—5 houses.

SEWAGE

I am indebted to Mr. C. Lumb, Sewage Works Manager, for the following Report :—

Sewage Purification.

Efficient purification of sewage and trade waste waters continues to form a vital link in the chain of Health Services, without which there would be a retrogression to the dangerous insanitary conditions which prevailed a century ago.

The sewage and trade effluents from most of the Borough gravitate to the Sewage Works, situated partly at Salterhebble, partly at Copley and partly at North Dean, and are purified by modern methods.

The bulk of the solids are first removed by scientifically controlled precipitation, and the liquid is then further purified, part by percolating filters and part by the activated sludge system, finally passing

as a tributary of innocuous clean water to the River Calder in accordance with standards imposed by the Yorkshire Ouse Rivers Board. Just about half of the total load on the works, taking volume and strength together, is contributed by trade effluent from approximately sixty manufacturing premises in the Borough.

The putrefactive solid residues, extracted in the form of wet sludges, are dewatered by mechanical means, sterilized and further processed to yield grease and fertiliser. These products are then sold so that complete disposal of the sludge matters results.

The works are continually developed and kept abreast of requirements in accordance with modern standards and by the application, where applicable, of the latest research. During the past year work has been proceeding in converting a portion of the large percolating filter area to a modification of the so-called recirculation system, in accordance with research conducted in the Department. This programme will enable greater volumes to be treated and thus keep pace with the trend towards increasing volumes of sewage, and will also offset certain difficulties now being caused through increasing use of the new synthetic detergents.

During the past year, 2,277 million gallons of sewage and trade effluents were fully purified; an average of 6,238,000 gallons for every day of the year. From this 55,247 tons of sludge residues were extracted, which were worked up into 387 tons of grease and 3,334 tons of fertilisers.

Owing to the topography of the Borough certain limited areas cannot drain into the Salternebble system. Thus, the Northowram area is drained by agreement into the Brighouse sewers and the Sewage therefrom dealt with at the Brighouse Sewage Works, while the Luddenden area drains to the works of the Luddendenfoot Joint Sewerage Board, on which Halifax Corporation is represented.

CLEANSING

I am indebted to Mr. A. J. Burrell, Director of Public Cleansing, for the following notes :—

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection of house and trade refuse has operated regularly throughout the year, during which period a total of 29,202 tons were handled by the Department. Of this quantity 18,859 tons were dealt with by means of the separation-incineration plant at Charlestown and the remaining 10,343 tons by controlled tipping—principally at Birks Hall.

Salvage.

The income derived from the sale of materials reclaimed from the house refuse together with processed wastes and offals from markets and abattoir, realised the sum of £28,295 which is the equivalent of a 11d. rate.

Street and Gully Cleansing.

Shortage of labour continues as the biggest problem so far as street cleansing is concerned as, although it has been possible by means of the mechanical road sweeper-collectors, to keep the actual carriageways in a fairly high degree of cleanliness, it is impossible to cleanse pavements, short cul-de-sacs and the like by any means other than manual sweeping. In this connection, the public themselves can greatly assist matters by making the fullest possible use of the litter receptacles provided on the streets and on the buses.

108,149 gullies were cleansed in the course of the year.

PUBLIC MORTUARY, HALL STREET.

Arrangements are in hand for the painting of the P.M. Room, the Viewing Room, the Toilet, the Trolleys and the outside door and window frames and for new curtains. There were 77 p.m's performed in the mortuary during the year.

1870
The first of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured by the drought. The weather was very hot, and the crops were much injured by the drought. The weather was very hot, and the crops were much injured by the drought.

The second of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured by the rain. The weather was very cold, and the crops were much injured by the rain. The weather was very cold, and the crops were much injured by the rain. The weather was very cold, and the crops were much injured by the rain.

The third of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured by the drought. The weather was very hot, and the crops were much injured by the drought. The weather was very hot, and the crops were much injured by the drought.

The fourth of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured by the rain. The weather was very cold, and the crops were much injured by the rain. The weather was very cold, and the crops were much injured by the rain.

The fifth of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured by the drought. The weather was very hot, and the crops were much injured by the drought. The weather was very hot, and the crops were much injured by the drought.

The sixth of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured by the rain. The weather was very cold, and the crops were much injured by the rain. The weather was very cold, and the crops were much injured by the rain.

I am indebted to Mr. F. C. Pritchard, F.L.A., Chief Librarian, for the following details.

LONGITUDE = 1° 52' W.

ALTITUDE = 625 FEET. (BAROMETER 632 FEET)

1953	Barometer		Air Temperature						Mean Temperature		Relative Humidity	Vapour Pressure	Mean Reading of Thermometers			Wind									Mean Amount of Cloud	Rainfall					
MONTH	Mean at 32 F. and Sea Level	Range	Maximum	Minimum	Range	Mean			Air	Dew Point			Maximum in sun's rays	Minimum on grass	Earth 4 Feet Down	Estimated Strength	Relative Proportion							No. of Raindays		Amount Collected					
						Maxima	Minima	Range									N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.				N.W.	CalmS			
January ...	30·109	1·15	50·0	24·0	26·0	42·2	34·8	7·4	38·5	35	86	Mb.	6·9	50·2	32·9	°F	41	2	2	5	0	0	0	20	9	14	0	Eighths	7	14	ins.
February ...	30·072	2·12	55·4	21·4	34·0	43·5	34·6	8·9	39·1	35	79	6·9	62·4	33·2	41	3	1	9	3	4	0	11	4	9	2	6	12	2·23			
March ...	30·370	1·31	65·3	23·9	41·4	50·7	34·0	16·7	42·3	34	65	6·6	80·9	31·0	42	2	1	1	9	8	0	7	7	13	2	4	7	2·17			
April ...	29·880	1·10	61·7	29·6	32·1	49·8	36·3	13·5	43·1	34	64	6·5	88·0	33·8	44	3	2	6	6	6	0	14	1	11	0	5	15	2·81			
May ...	30·032	1·00	79·2	35·0	44·2	61·4	45·8	15·8	53·7	44	65	9·6	103·6	44·6	47	3	3	4	14	4	1	11	0	9	1	5	12	2·16			
June ...	29·934	0·61	77·3	39·0	38·3	63·0	49·4	13·6	56·2	50	76	12·5	97·1	47·4	51	3	2	17	7	2	0	4	7	4	2	6	18	2·93			
July ...	29·834	0·85	74·9	46·4	28·5	64·4	45·1	8·1	2·6	50	71	12·6	106·9	49·9	56	4	0	2	2	1	0	21	9	11	1	6	22	3·52			
August ...	29·970	0·79	86·9	48·6	38·3	66·1	53·1	13·0	59·6	52	71	13·0	108·8	49·5	56	3	0	0	0	5	0	17	5	21	1	6	17	4·18			
September ...	29·891	1·67	70·9	37·3	33·9	61·7	49·1	12·6	55·4	49	71	11·8	96·7	45·9	55	3	0	0	2	5	0	16	4	15	1	5	15	1·83			
October ...	30·043	1·19	64·4	32·4	32·0	55·2	41·9	13·3	48·5	45	79	10·0	80·2	38·3	52	2	0	6	1	8	1	18	5	7	4	6	10	2·06			
November ...	30·053	1·30	45·5	13·4	20·7	49·9	42·2	7·7	46·1	43	85	9·4	62·4	39·6	48	3	0	0	1	3	3	21	9	8	2	6	16	3·69			
December ...	30·105	0·95	57·1	31·6	25·5	46·9	39·2	7·7	43·1	41	89	8·8	52·1	36·8	47	2	0	2	6	11	0	18	1	8	1	6	19	1·39			
Annual Means	30·026	1·17	55·3	33·6	32·9	54·6	42·7	11·9	48·6	43	75	9·5	82·4	40·2	48	3	1	4	4	5	0	15	5	11	1	6	Total	177	Total	29·77	

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