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Borough of Harrogate.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1934

BY

JAMES MAIR, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

B. THORPE, PRINTER, HARROGATE.





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ANNUAL REPORT

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JAMES MAIR, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1934.

CHAIRMAN: ALDERMAN H. R. WEBSTER.

THE MAYOR (COUN. J. H. NEWSOME, J.P.)

ALD. CHARLES	COUN. CARTWRIGHT	COUN. SCHOFIELD
„ FOSTER	„ HESSELWOOD	„ SPENCELEY
„ STOTT	„ LENG	„ WATERHOUSE
„ WEBSTER	„ MORRIS	„ WHITELEY
COUN. ATKINSON	„ PEARSON	
„ BARBER	„ ROBERTSON	

Health Sub-Committee:

CHAIRMAN: ALDERMAN H. R. WEBSTER.

THE MAYOR	ALD. WEBSTER	COUN. MORRIS
Ald. STOTT	COUN. CARTWRIGHT	„ SCHOFIELD

Maternity & Child Welfare Sub-Committee:

CHAIRMAN: ALDERMAN H. R. WEBSTER.

THE MAYOR	COUN. SPENCELEY
ALD. WEBSTER	„ SCHOFIELD
COUN. PEARSON	

Co-opted Members:

MRS. IMESON	MRS. SHEPHERD
MRS. THOMPSON	MRS. WEBSTER

Supply of Milk to Nursing and Expectant Mothers Sub-Committee:

CHAIRMAN: ALDERMAN H. R. WEBSTER.

The MAYOR	Mrs. SHEPHERD	Mrs. WEBSTER
Ald. WEBSTER	Mrs. THOMPSON	Mrs. WHITEOAK
COUN. LENG		

**To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
Borough of Harrogate.**

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you for your information and consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough of Harrogate for the year 1934.

I have again to express my thanks for the assistance and co-operation given by my colleagues and by the members of my Staff, and I have also to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the support accorded to me.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES MAIR,
Medical Officer of Health.

Municipal Offices,
Harrogate,
June, 1935.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1934.

*** Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :**

JAMES MAIR, M.B., D.P.H.

*** Physician to Welfare Centres and Babies' Hospital (part-time) :**

LAURA S. VEALE, M.B.

*** Chief Sanitary Inspector :**

H. WALLS, A.R.S.I., Certified Meat Inspector.

*** Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods :**

V. OVERSBY, M.R.S.I.

*** Health Visitors and School Nurses :**

Miss A. WARDLE, C.M.B., M.R.S.I., Cert. of Ministry of Health.
(Senior Health Visitor).

Miss NIBLETT, C.M.B.

Miss B. M. WILSON, C.M.B.

Miss N. GREEN, C.M.B.

Miss M. LANGTON, C.M.B.

*** Sister-in-Charge, Municipal Babies' Hospital :**

Miss J. C. DENNY, C.M.B.

Clerical Staff :

R. W. LEEMING.

L. R. WILKINSON.

J. H. WILSON.

† Miss M. UNSWORTH.

† Miss P. LEAF.

* Contributions made to the salaries of these Officers under the
Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

† part-time Child Welfare work

General Statistics, 1934.

Area (acres)	3,277
Population (Census, 1931)	39,770
Population (mid-summer, 1934, estimated by the Registrar-General)	39,210
Number of Inhabited houses (Census, 1931)	9,430
Number of Inhabited houses (Rate Books, Oct., 1934)	10,745
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1931)	9,846
Rateable value, 1934	£522,959
Produce of Penny Rate	£1,961
	Males. Females.
Live Births: Legitimate, 217 } 235	Legitimate, 190 } 207
Illegitimate, 18 }	Illegitimate, 17 }
Birth Rate	11.3
	Males. Females.
Still Births: Legitimate, 12 } 14	Legitimate, 14 } 15
Illegitimate, 2 }	Illegitimate, 1 }
Number of deaths: Males 247, Females 326	573
Death Rate	14.6
Corrected Death Rate	12.3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age: Legitimate, 16 }	21
Illegitimate, 5 }	
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births: Legitimate, 39.3 }	47.5
Illegitimate, 142.9 }	
Death Rate from Phthisis	0.43
Death Rate from other Tuberculous Diseases	Nil
Zymotic Death Rate (11)	0.3
Deaths from Measles (1)	0.03
Deaths from Whooping Cough (1)	0.03
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years (1)	0.03
Primary Vaccinations	157
Exemption Certificates granted	256
Number of Marriages	254
Mean Annual Temperature	49.0°F.
Total Rainfall (in inches)	28.45in.
Hours of Bright Sunshine	1348.3

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF HARROGATE
FOR 1934 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

	Estimated Population.	Nett Births		Nett Deaths			
		No.	Rate	Under 1 year of age		At all ages	
				No.	Rate per 1,000 Births	No.	Rate
1912	34,400	500	14.5	32	64.0	320	9.3
1913	34,960	582	16.3	45	77.3	423	11.9
1914	35,030	513	14.6	36	70.2	371	10.6
1915	35,030	503	14.4	47	93.4	508	14.5
1916	33,204 Death rate 36,127 Birth rate	530	14.7	42	79.2	412	12.4
1917	33,204 Death rate 36,127 Birth rate	415	11.5	26	62.6	397	11.9
1918	33,245 Death rate 37,240 Birth rate	398	10.7	37	93.0	461	13.9
1919	36,231 Death rate 37,742 Birth rate	431	11.4	22	51.0	391	10.8
1920	37,674	619	16.4	36	58.2	422	11.2
1921	34,440	482	14.0	35	72.6	387	11.2
1922	34,490	485	14.1	30	62.0	419	12.1
1923	34,280	480	14.0	30	62.5	364	10.6
1924	34,300	485	14.1	31	63.9	440	12.8
1925	34,160	469	13.7	30	64.0	456	13.3
1926	35,500	474	13.4	34	71.7	471	13.3
1927	36,070	448	12.4	18	40.2	460	12.8
1928	36,880	445	12.1	30	67.4	466	12.6
1929	37,590	441	11.7	17	38.5	551	14.7
1930	37,590	464	12.3	21	45.3	513	13.6
1931	38,600	460	11.9	35	76.1	529	13.7
1932	38,590	471	12.2	16	34.0	510	13.2
1933	38,850	452	11.6	21	46.5	565	14.5
1934	39,210	442	11.3	21	47.5	573	14.6

	M.	F.	Total	
Live Births {	Leg. ... 217	... 190	... 442	Birth Rate ... 11.3
{	Illeg. ... 18	... 17		
Deaths ...	... 247	... 326	... 573	Death Rate ... 14.6

No. of Women dying in, or
in consequence of, childbirth ... 4.

Death rates of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births :
Legitimate, 39.0 Illegitimate, 142.8 Total, 47.5

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 1.
Do. Whooping Cough (all ages), 1.
Do. Diarrhoea (under 2 years), 1.

TABLE II.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HARROGATE BOROUGH, 1933 & 1934.

Causes of Death		1933		1934	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
(Civilians only)	ALL CAUSES	238	327	247	326
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	...	1	...	...
2	Measles ...	...	...	...	1
3	Scarlet Fever ..	...	...	3	4
4	Whooping Cough ...	2	...	1	...
5	Diphtheria ...	1	1	1	...
6	Influenza ...	12	9	2	6
7	Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...
8	Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	1
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	11	9	6	11
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	2	...	...	...
11	Syphilis ...	2	...	1	2
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ...	1	...	2	1
13	Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	29	50	32	65
14	Diabetes ...	3	6	1	3
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ...	12	20	12	20
16	Heart Disease... ..	47	81	56	74
17	Aneurysm ...	3	1	1	1
18	Other Circulatory Diseases ...	19	23	15	25
19	Bronchitis ...	10	12	13	10
20	Pneumonia (all forms) ...	14	11	17	19
21	Other Respiratory Diseases ...	3	9	3	5
22	Peptic Ulcer ...	4	...	2	2
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) ...	1	1	...	1
24	Appendicitis ...	1	1	3	...
25	Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1	1	1	...
26	Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ...	...	3	1	6
27	Other Digestive Diseases ...	5	13	5	7
28	Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	12	14	17	13
29	Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	...	...	1
30	Other Puerperal Causes ...	...	...	...	3
31	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ..	6	6	10	2
32	Senility ...	4	13	6	6
33	Suicide ...	4	3	4	2
34	Other Violence ...	10	8	9	10
35	Other Defined Diseases ...	19	31	23	24
36	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ...	...	...	...	1
SPECIAL CAUSES (included in No. 35 above)					
	Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...
	Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...
	Polioccephalitis ...	...	1	...	...

TABLE III.
 INFANT MORTALITY, 1933 and 1934
 Nett Deaths from Stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	1933	1934									
		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 wks. and under 3 mths.	3 and under 6 months	6 and under 9 months	9 and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 yr.
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Rickets ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation (overlying) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at birth	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	2	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	3
Premature Birth	5	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	4	1	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Other Causes	5	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	1	1	5
Totals	21	8	5	...	2	15	...	3	1	2	21

TABLE IV.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, and ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the year 1934.

England and Wales, 121 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 135 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1934, but those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1933.

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION,		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION										RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years)	Total Deaths under One year	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Certified by Coroner after P.M.	No Inquest	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales ..	14.8	0.62	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.14	0.54	5.5	59	90.4	6.5	2.1		1.0
121 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.7	0.66	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.06	0.11	0.12	0.47	7.4	63	90.5	6.1	2.9		0.5
135 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resi- dent Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931).	15.0	0.67	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.14	0.42	3.6	53	91.2	6.1	1.6		1.1
London	13.2	0.50	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.02	0.07	0.11	0.12	0.56	12.6	67	87.7	6.3	6.0		0.0

The Maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows : {

Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total.
per 1,000 Live Births ... 2.03	2.57	4.60
„ „ Total Births ... 1.95	2.46	4.41

V.

ARROGATE.

ES DURING 1934.

5 and over.	No. of Cases Admit- ted to Hosp.	Total No. of Deaths	NUMBER OF DEATHS.												
			AT AGES—YEARS.												
			Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 and over	
1	13	1	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	....	...	....
1	249	<i>f</i> 8	....	....	3	1	....	1	....	....	....	2	....	1
....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	4	<i>g</i> 2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	....	....
....	5	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	
....	
....	
12	8	36	....	2	....	...	....	....	....	1	3	7	8	15
....	
....	2	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	<i>h</i> 1	....	....	....	....	....
2	4	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
3	6	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

om other districts, and (g) one of which died.

om another district.

Borough from another district.

om other districts.

Leeds.

(A) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. Population.

The Registrar-General estimates the population at the middle of 1934 at 39,210, an increase of 360 as compared with his estimate for the previous year. This is the eighth successive year in which the deaths have exceeded the births; it is evident therefore that any increase in population is to be attributed entirely to immigration.

2. Social Conditions.

Harrogate is a health resort and residential town. There are no factories or works of any importance, and the only industries are those incidental to a residential town. It need hardly be added that none of these are detrimental to health.

The working class population is comparatively small and there is always a good deal of seasonal unemployment during the winter months. Although the financial depression is said to be passing there has been little alteration in the number of unemployed persons during the year.

I learn from the Employment Exchange that the number of unemployed persons in the district (which includes neighbouring area) at the end of December, 1934, was 1,490, exactly the same as at the end of December, 1933.

There is no evidence to show that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health of children or adults.

3. Births.

The number of live births registered in Harrogate during the year was 463—242 males and 221 females; but the corrected number supplied by the Registrar-General is 442—235 males and 207 females. The birth rate is 11.3 per 1,000, which is, with the exception of 1918 when the rate was 10.7, the lowest rate on record. It is 0.3 below the rate for the previous year; 3.5 below the rate for England and Wales; and 3.7 below that for the 135 Smaller Towns.

There were 35 illegitimate births, 18 males and 17 females; representing 4.8 per cent. of the live births, and an illegitimate birth rate of 0.9 per 1,000; the corresponding figures for 1933 were 4.6 per cent. and 0.5 per 1,000.

Still-Births.

33 still-births—16 males and 17 females—were registered during the year, but the corrected figure supplied by the Registrar-General is 29—14 males and 15 females. Of these 26 were legitimate and 3 were illegitimate. This is nearly twice as many as in the previous year and gives a rate of 61.6 per 1,000 (live and still births) and a still-birth rate of 0.74 per 1,000 population, which is considerably above that for 1933 (0.31) and also somewhat higher than that for England and Wales (0.62).

4. Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in Harrogate was 590—275 males and 315 females; but the corrected number supplied by the Registrar-General is 573—247 males and 326 females. The death rate is 14.6, which is 0.1 above the rate for the previous year, and 2.8 above the rate for England and Wales.

The age and sex distribution of the Harrogate population differs considerably from that of the country generally and it is necessary to correct for this in order to make the rate fairly comparable with that for other areas. When this is done the corrected death rate is reduced to 12.3, which is practically the same as that for the previous year (12.2) and 0.5 above the rate for England and Wales.

As compared with 1933 there was an increase of 8 in the number of deaths; mainly in the deaths registered as due to Cancer, Pneumonia and Scarlet Fever. On the other hand, there was a decrease in the deaths caused by Influenza, Digestive Diseases and Diabetes.

Institution Deaths.

Of the 590 deaths which occurred in the Borough, 128 occurred in public institutions, representing 21.7 per cent. of the whole number.

5. Infant Mortality.

See section on Maternity and Child Welfare.

(B) GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority.

The names and qualifications of these are set out on page 4.

About the end of August, 1933, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Walls, met with an accident while on duty which renders him still incapable of carrying on his duties. On the 4th September, 1933, Mr. T. Roberts was appointed temporarily to assist in the supervision of drainage works, housing repairs, etc.

2. Health Services.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

(1) CHEMICAL.

The chemical analysis of milk and foodstuffs is carried out by the County Analysts, Messrs. F. W. Richardson and A. Jaffé, and the chemical and bacteriological analysis of the Corporation water is carried out for the Water Committee by Mr. J. Firth (Messrs. Fairley and Partner), Leeds.

(2) BACTERIOLOGICAL.

The bacteriological examination of clinical material (sputum, swabs, etc.) is, as a rule, carried out at the laboratory of the West Riding County Council at Wakefield, but in urgent cases it is done locally by Dr. Sinclair Miller at the Harrogate Clinical Laboratory. The bacteriological examination of milk for bacterial content or tubercle is also carried out at this latter laboratory.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

An ambulance is maintained by the Local Authority, which is available for the removal of accidents and non-infectious cases. A charge is made for the use of this ambulance, but in the case of poor persons this charge may be reduced or entirely remitted.

The Joint Isolation Hospital maintains an ambulance for the removal of infectious cases to the hospital, and for this no charge is made.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

(1) GENERAL.

Harrogate is well provided with Nursing Homes, which, however, only cater for the comparatively well-to-do. Nursing for the poorer section of the community is almost entirely provided by the Harrogate and District Nursing Association, which is maintained by voluntary subscriptions, and which, with the exception of a small donation, receives no financial aid from the Local Authority. There are 6 nurses on the staff of the Association, and during 1934 they paid 13,342 visits to cases of sickness, and attended 107 maternity cases, of which 74 were attended as midwives and 34 as maternity nurses.

The Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Advisory Board of the Association, and in this way a certain amount of co-operation is secured.

(2) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The District Nurses visit the homes and help as much as possible, but do not actually nurse the case. The Health Visitors also assist and advise so far as they can.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These are set out in tabular form on Page 17. There has been no change during the year.

(e) Hospitals.

The names, purposes, etc., of the hospitals principally used are set out in detail on Page 16

In addition to these, the General and Special Hospitals in neighbouring cities are utilised to some extent.

(3) Midwifery and Maternity Services, etc.

See section on Maternity and Child Welfare.

HOSPITALS.

Name	Situation	Purpose	Beds			Management
			Males	Females	Children	
Isolation Hospital	Thistle Hill, Knaresborough	Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Enteric Fever	28	36	14	Joint Hospital Committee
Smallpox Hospital	Skipton Road, Harrogate	Smallpox	8	8	—	do.
Babies' Hospital	2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate	Medical	—	—	8	Health Committee
Harrogate & District General Hospital *	Knaresborough Rd., Harrogate	Medical, Surgical † and Maternity	46	62	20	Voluntary
Royal Bath Hospital	Cornwall Road, Harrogate	Rheumatic Diseases	75	75	—	do.

* Harrogate Infirmary closed June 1932 and all services transferred to new General Hospital.

† Also 2 Isolation Beds.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name	Situation	Accommodation	By whom provided	When open	Average Attendance
Harrogate Child Welfare Centre	2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate	Waiting, Weighing and Consulting Room	Harrogate Corporation	Mondays 2-30 p.m.	{ 65 mothers 71 children
do.	do.	do.	do.	Thursdays 2-30 p.m.	{ 104 mothers 114 children
Ante-natal	do.	Waiting and Consulting Rooms	do.	2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month, 3 p.m.	19
Ultra-Violet Clinic	do.	do.	do.	Monday and Friday 10 a.m.	5
Starbeck Child Welfare Centre	Starbeck Council School	do.	do.	Tuesdays 2-30 p.m.	{ 38 mothers 41 children
School Clinic	2 Dragon Parade,	do.	do.	Wednesdays 2-30 p.m.	20
Tuberculosis Dispensary	10 North Park Rd.	do.	West Riding County Council	Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 p.m.	—
Venereal Clinic	None provided				—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

All the houses in the Borough are supplied with Corporation water, with the exception of some 20 houses in an outlying district which receive their supply from two wells.

Samples from these two wells are regularly submitted to analysis and have always been found pure and suitable for use.

The Corporation Water, which is obtained from Upland sources, is ample in quantity and pure in quality. It is analysed regularly throughout the year, and as can be seen from the following report, is a pure and wholesome water.

Report on a Sample of Water marked "No. 99, Harlow Hill, Roundhill," received from Corporation Waterworks Department, Harrogate, on 10th July, 1934.

Appearance	Clear and Bright
Odour on warming (37°C.)	None
Colour of 2ft. column (Lovibond Units)	1.0 yellow
Sediment	None
Action on bright lead surface during 12 hours:—	
Solvent	None
Erosive	None
The sample contains:—	Grains per gallon.
Total solids, dried at 100°C.	7.28
Chlorides, equivalent to chlorine	0.98
Nitrates, equivalent to nitrogen	0.00
Nitrites, equivalent to nitrogen	nil
Free and saline ammonia	0.0000
Albuminoid ammonia	0.0003
Oxygen absorbed at 80°F. in 15 minutes	nil
Oxygen absorbed at 80°F. in 4 hours	0.021
Injurious metals (Lead and Copper)	nil
Hardness (Clark Degrees):—	
Temporary, removable by boiling	1.8°
Permanent, after boiling	2.4°
<hr/>	
Total	4.2°
<hr/>	

Total micro-organisms growing on gelatine after 24 hours incubation at 20°C.	Plates Melted
Total micro-organisms growing on agar after 72 hours incubation at 37°C.	2 per c.c.
Coliform bacillus after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.:—	
Positive in	— c.c.
Negative in	100 c.c.

Observations.

In my opinion, this water is in excellent condition for drinking and general domestic purposes.

(Signed) J. FIRTH.

35, Park Square, Leeds.
18th July, 1934.

In spite of the prolonged drought there has never been any shortage, and it has not at any time been necessary to curtail the supply. The Water Engineer informs me that at the time of writing the reservoirs contain 212 days' supply.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

Two new filter beds with humus tank have been provided at the South Disposal Works and new Recording apparatus has been installed at both North and South works.

In addition, some 900 yards of new surface water sewers were laid in Wedderburn Road and Ripon Road—mainly converting open ditches which were receiving considerable quantities of surface water.

3. Rivers and Streams.

These come under the supervision of the West Riding Rivers Board, and I am not aware that any of the streams in the area are polluted to any extent. Occasional complaints are made that some of the smaller becks are polluted by surface water. These becks receive the discharge from the surface water sewers, and in these circumstances a certain amount of pollution is, of course, unavoidable in wet weather.

They are, however, regularly inspected by the Borough Engineer and his staff; they are cleaned out as often as seems necessary, and every precaution is taken to prevent any avoidable pollution.

4. Closet Accommodation.

Excrement disposal is almost entirely by water carriage, there being approximately 17,518 water closets and 86 waste water closets in the area.

5. Cleansing.

The removal of house refuse is carried out entirely by the Corporation Staff: 4 motor lorries; 3 horse drawn vehicles, and some 35 men being employed in the work.

Sanitary dustbins are almost universally used, there being only some 32 ashpits still in use at the end of the year.

Refuse from private houses is collected weekly; from hotels and large boarding houses as frequently as is considered necessary; in some instances a daily collection is made.

During the year, 6,223 motor loads and 2,632 horse cart loads were removed.

With the exception of a small amount of cesspool refuse which is disposed of by tipping on land, etc., and about 205 loads of fish refuse which is collected by the Corporation and sold to a manufacturer of artificial manure, the whole of the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on two tips, both situated in the Borough. This method has proved quite satisfactory and no real cause for complaint has arisen, although at times there has been considerable difficulty in obtaining suitable material for covering the refuse.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following table, prepared by the Sanitary Inspector, shows so far as it is possible to do so in tabular form, the work done during the year.

Notices Served.

During the year 948 notices for the abatement of nuisances, etc., were served: 864 of these were preliminary, of which 836 were complied with, and 84 were legal notices, 82 of which

were complied with, leaving 28 informal and 2 legal notices uncomplied with at the end of the year.

Total number of visits and inspections made	9,350
Total number of nuisances reported by Inspectors, 1934	1,680
Total number of nuisances left over at the close of 1933	31
Total number of nuisances left over at the close of 1934	20
Total number of nuisances abated during 1934	1,691
Number of complaints received and investigated during 1934	175

The following list shows the varied nature of the nuisances, etc., dealt with and remedied:—

Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	5
Additional baths or lavatory basins provided	125
Additional w.c.'s provided	22
Bedroom floors repaired	3
Blocked drains opened out, cleansed and put into proper working order	38
Broken manhole covers renewed	3
Broken sash cords of windows replaced with new ones	124
Ceilings underdrawn or defective plastering repaired	30
Dampness dealt with	138
Defective drains repaired	54
Defective spouting of eaves of building repaired or renewed	105
Defective closet cisterns repaired or renewed	13
Defective roofs repaired	98
Defective plastering made good	156
Defective soil-pipes or vent-shafts repaired	27
Defective kitchen, room, passage or scullery floors re- paired or re-laid	66
Defective fireplaces repaired or new ones provided ...	62
Defective or dangerous chimneys repaired and made safe	25
Defective stairs repaired	9
Defective washing boilers repaired or renewed	12
Defective w.c.'s repaired or renewed	29
Defective dust bins replaced with new ones	587

Dirty or defective closets repaired, cleansed or lime-washed out	4
Dirty or defective waste water closets cleansed or repaired	1
Dirty houses cleaned out	5
Dirty yards cleansed	1
Doors repaired or renewed.....	45
Drainage or sanitary arrangements of houses dealt with	275
Drainage systems ventilated	1
Drains provided	1
Dwellings made into through houses	1
Dust bins substituted for ashpits	4
External house walls repaired	40
Handrails provided	15
House drains disconnected from sewer	3
Houses re-drained	27
Inspection chambers built on house drains	8
Insanitary ashpits removed	3
Insanitary sinks removed and sanitary ones substituted	7
Manure bins provided	2
Offensive accumulations removed	9
Overcrowding dealt with	4
Privies abolished	1
Pedestal closets fixed in place of boxed-in ones	2
Privies converted into water closets	1
Privies converted into pail closets	1
Pail closets converted into water closets	2
Pail closets abolished	1
Rain-water pipes disconnected and made to discharge over gullies	3
Rain-water pipes repaired or renewed	24
Using a cellar dwelling contrary to the Public Health Act	4
Ventilation improved by fixing additional windows or ventilators	2
Ventilation provided under floors	18
Washing boilers provided	2
Waste pipes from sink, bath or lavatory basins repaired	22

Waste water closets converted into ordinary ones	2
Water supply of houses dealt with	5
W.C.'s lighted or ventilated	1
Windows repaired or made to open	152
Workshops cleansed or limewashed	6
Workshops provided with sanitary conveniences	2
Yards paved whole surface	21
Yard paving repaired	30
Yard gates repaired or renewed	7
Miscellaneous	302

In addition to the above, the two men engaged in testing drains and disinfecting have let off 217 blocked drains or gullies, 42 intercepting traps, 46 blocked w.c.'s and 41 inspection chambers.

7. Smoke Abatement.

Harrogate is a residential town with practically no factories, and smoke nuisance exists only to a very small extent. During the year, however, several complaints were received and 53 observations were made. On 2 occasions nuisance was caused and the offenders were warned.

The following table, for which I am indebted to Mr. Woodmansey, M.Sc., Chemist to the Royal Baths, shows that the amount of atmospheric impurity is small.

ATMOSPHERIC IMPURITIES.

(Average figure for 1934).

	Total Solids	Soluble (Ash)	Oily Matters	Sulphate	Chloride
Harrogate	256	66	3.2	19	21.8
London (South Kensington)	629	173	22	75	32
Bournville	407	121	5	53	38
Cheltenham	568	...	...	...	..
Leeds (Park Sq.) ...	1,108	219	12	112	77
Rothamsted	294	93	..	...	...
Southport	369	117	5	51	61

8. Schools.

There are 10 elementary schools—6 provided and 4 non-provided—in the Borough. Generally speaking, they are in a satisfactory hygienic condition. All are provided with Corporation water and in each excrement disposal is by water carriage.

The action taken in relation to the health of the scholars and for preventing the spread of infectious disease is set out in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer, to which reference should be made.

(D) HOUSING.

1. Housing Statistics, 1934.

Number of new houses erected during 1934	399
(1) By the Local Authority	10
(2) By private enterprise	389

Of the above 358 houses were for use of the working class.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	232
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	668
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	96
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	412
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	132

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	112
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
A.—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices...	4
(a) By owners	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
C.—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

The nine houses considered to be unfit for human habitation were dealt with as follows:—

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 4 houses, but have not yet become operative (in one the order was made in the beginning of this year). Undertakings were accepted in respect of 4 houses that they would not be used for human habitation and 1 house was voluntarily demolished by the owner. In addition, two houses were demolished during the year in accordance with demolition orders made in 1931 and two houses represented as unfit for habitation in 1931 and not used since were converted into one house and accepted as fit for occupation.

In the report for 1933 it was stated that undertakings had been accepted in respect of 22 houses and that the Corporation were building 10 houses for re-housing purposes. These houses were completed during the year and were all occupied by tenants of the condemned houses; 7 of the 22 houses are, however, still occupied, and the Council has resolved to build an additional 22 houses to re-house the occupants of these and of other houses which it is intended to deal with in the near future.

2. Underground Sleeping Rooms.

Four such came to knowledge during the year and in each case a notice under Section 72 of the Public Health Acts was served upon the owners, and occupiers, requiring them to discontinue occupation of the basement as a separate dwelling. In each instance the notice had been complied with at the end of the year.

3. Overcrowding.

Although much less common than a few years ago, overcrowding still occurs to some extent: 14 cases were brought

to notice during the year and of these 8 had been abated at the end of the year. In one case, legal proceedings were taken and an order for abatement obtained.

(E) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

(a) Milk Supply.

(1) Farms and Dairies.

At the end of the year the register contained the names of 10 cow-keepers, occupying 16 sheds with approximately 125 cows. There were also on the Register 116 retail purveyors and 48 wholesale traders; of the former 61, and the latter 32, had their premises outside the Borough.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 77 visits to the farms and 221 visits to dairies during the year, and, as a rule, found the premises in a satisfactory condition. The farms were also inspected four times during the year by the County Veterinary Officer, who was able to report that with few exceptions, the cleanliness of the cows and premises was satisfactory.

(2) Graded Milks.

One licence for the production of "Pasteurised" milk; seven licences for the sale of "Certified"; and one for the sale of "Grade A. T.T." milk were issued by the Council during the year.

The whole of the "Certified" milk is obtained from one producer, whose premises are situated outside the Borough, and who also sells "Grade A. T.T." milk by retail in the Borough.

Twelve samples of "Certified," twelve of "Grade A. Tuberculin Tested," and three of "Grade A." milks have been examined during the year, and, with the exception of two samples of "Certified" and one "Grade A. Tuberculin Tested" milks, these were all within the required standard.

(3) Bacterial Content of Milk.

During the year 45 samples have been examined by Dr. Sinclair Miller, and the results are set out underneath.

Total Bacteria		Bacillus Coli.	
Number of Samples	Bacteria per c.c.	Number of Samples	Smallest quantity containing B. Coli
...	Under 10,000	9	Absent in 1 cc.
13	„ 30,000	6	Present in 1 cc.
12	„ 100,000	12	„ 0.1 cc.
6	„ 200,000	7	„ 0.01 cc.
14	Over 200,000	8	„ 0.001 cc.
		3	„ 0.0001 cc.

From the above it will be seen that as regards total bacterial content 13 of the samples or 29 per cent. were up to "Certified" standard (30,000 per c.c.) and 18 of the remainder or 40 per cent. were up to "Grade A." standard (200,000 per c.c.). These results are an improvement on the previous year, when the corresponding figures were 13 per cent. and 50 per cent. respectively.

As regards bacillus coli, 15 samples (33 per cent.) were up to "Certified" standard (no bacillus coli in 1/10 c.c.) and 12 samples (26 per cent.) were up to "Grade A." standard (no bacillus coli in 1/100 c.c.).

These results show that so far as bacterial content is concerned the bulk of the milk supply reaches a fairly satisfactory standard.

(4) Milk and Tuberculosis.

The County Veterinary Officer inspected the cows and cowsheds in the Borough on four occasions during the year and it is satisfactory to know that on each occasion he was able to report that the cleanliness of the cows and sheds was satisfactory.

He took 7 samples of milk and 8 of expectorate for bacteriological examination and found the tubercle bacillus in 3 samples of milk and 4 samples of expectorate. The cows responsible were destroyed, as were two others found to be obviously affected with tubercle.

In addition to this inspection, 42 samples were purchased by the Sanitary Inspector and submitted to bacteriological examination. Two samples were found to contain the tubercle bacillus and as both samples were from producers outside the Borough the facts were reported to the County Veterinary Officer. In one instance the offending cow was discovered and destroyed; in the other the responsible cow could not be discovered.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

(1) Slaughterhouses, etc.

There are four registered slaughterhouses in the Borough; one is a small and not very satisfactory building; the others are fairly satisfactory, but two are more closely surrounded by dwelling-houses than is desirable.

During the year 921 visits to slaughterhouses and 2,161 to other premises where food is sold or prepared for sale were made by the Sanitary Inspector. Very little cause for complaint was found and any defects discovered were at once remedied.

In previous reports it has been pointed out that some of the slaughterhouses are overcrowded and it has been suggested that a public abattoir should be provided. Conditions do not improve; on the contrary they tend to get worse, and it is again urged that the question of providing a public abattoir be given early and favourable consideration.

Upon the coming into operation of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, the Council passed a resolution extending the provisions of that Act to Sheep, etc. The effect of this is that all animals slaughtered in Harrogate must be effectually stunned by a mechanically operated instrument. It is satisfactory to be able to report that there have been no attempts

at evading this provision and that no complaints regarding the working have been received.

Licensing of Slaughtermen.

The Slaughter of Animals Act prohibits the slaughter or stunning of any animal in a slaughterhouse by a person who is not the holder of a licence granted by a local authority; and it authorises a local authority to grant licences to suitable persons.

61 Applications for licenses were received; 60 were granted and 1 was refused; the reason for refusal being that the applicant was crippled.

(2) Inspection of Meat.

This is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and the services of a Veterinary Surgeon are available in doubtful cases. So far as is possible the Inspector arranges to be present at the slaughterhouse during or shortly after slaughter, and particular attention is paid to the shops of those butchers who slaughter in other areas.

The unsound food destroyed during the year was:—

Beef	4095 lbs.
Pork	3203 lbs.
Veal	290 lbs.
Mutton	368 lbs.
Offals	6609 lbs.

14565 lbs. = 6 tons
10 cwts. 5 lbs.

Of the above the following amount was destroyed for tuberculous disease:—

Beef	3661 lbs.
Pork	3054 lbs.
Veal	114 lbs.
Offals	3613 lbs.

10442 lbs. = 4 tons
13 cwts. 26 lbs.

Other foods destroyed were:—

141 tins of Fruit.

64 tins of Vegetables.

60 tins of Fish.

24 tins of Meat.

23 tins of Milk.

12 tins of Soup.

6 stone of Dabs.

14 boxes of Smelts.

100 lbs. Frozen Newfoundland Salmon.

With one exception surrender of this unsound food by the owners was accepted as there was no reason to believe that it was intended for sale. In practically every instance where the food was inspected elsewhere than at a slaughterhouse the examination was made at the request of the owner.

In one instance, however, where the Inspector found an unsound carcase exposed for sale in a butcher's shop, the carcase was seized and proceedings taken against the butcher. He was convicted and fined £5/1/-, including costs.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

On the whole these Regulations are strictly carried out by the butchers and there are few attempts at evasion. In one instance, however, a butcher failed to notify emergency slaughter of a pig and also failed to notify diseased conditions in the carcase of the same animal. As he had been previously warned, he was prosecuted for both offences and fined £1/11/- in each case.

(3) Offensive Trades.

Two offensive trades—one tripe boiling and one gut scraping—are carried out in connection with one of the slaughterhouses. 121 visits were paid to these during the year, and on no occasion was there any cause for complaint.

(c) Adulteration.

During the year, 200 samples of foods were submitted to the County Analyst for analysis; 179 formal and 21 informal. 21 were not of the nature and substance demanded by the purchasers, and in 4 cases proceedings were taken.

The number and nature of the samples submitted to the County Analyst is set out below.

Nature of Sample	Adulterated	Genuine	Informal	Formal	Total
Milk	19	155	...	174	174
Machine-skimmed Milk	1	...	1	1
Dairy Cream	4	4	...	4
Curry	1	1	...	1
Honey	1	1	...	1
Lemon Cheese	1	1	...	1
Mustard	1	1	...	1
Potted Meat	3	...	3	3
Cheese	1	1	...	1
Empire Sausage	1	1	...	1
Tinned Peas	1	1	...	1
Polony	1	1	...	1
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	2	...	1	1	2
Cocoa	1	1	...	1
Ground Ginger	1	1	...	1
Coffee	2	2	...	2
Butter	2	2	...	2
Malt Vinegar	1	1	...	1
Sweets	1	1	...	1
Totals	21	179	21	179	200

The following table gives details of the adulterated samples and of the action taken in each case.

No.	Nature of Sample	Analyst's Report	Action taken
1	New Milk	Sample deprived of 2% natural fat	Two further samples were taken from the retailer and the Analyst reported that these were genuine. No further action taken
3	" "	Sample deprived of 8% natural fat	Further sample taken in transit (No. 4).
4	" "	Added water 5.1 pts. %	Producer summoned before the Borough Court and penalty of £4 including costs imposed.
38	" "	Sample deprived of 16.7% natural fat	Vendor-Producer written to by Town Clerk.
41	" "	Sample deprived of 15.3% natural fat	Vendor written to by Town Clerk.
59	" "	Added water, 2.3 pts. % also deprived of 1% natural fat	Further sample taken in transit (No. 61).
61	" "	Sample deprived of 9.3% natural fat	Vendor written to by Town Clerk.
61	" "	Sample deprived of 5.4% natural fat	Producer written to by Town Clerk.

No.	Nature of Sample.	Analyst's Report.	Action taken.
65	New Milk	Sample deprived of 4% natural fat	Further sample taken in transit (No. 69).
69	" "	Sample deprived of 9.3% natural fat	Producer written to by Town Clerk.
88	" "	Sample deprived of 8% natural fat	No action taken.
89	" "	Sample deprived of 3.3% natural fat	No action taken.
92	" "	Sample deprived of 2.7% natural fat	Further sample taken (No. 99).
99		Sample deprived of 3.3% natural fat	Vendor-Producer written to by Town Clerk.
100	" "	Sample deprived of 10% natural fat	Vendor summoned before the Borough Court and penalty of £1/0/6 including costs imposed.
106	" "	Sample deprived of 5.3% natural fat	Vendor-Producer summoned before the Borough Court and penalty of £1/0/6 including costs imposed.
110	" "	Sample deprived of 1.3% natural fat	Vendor written to by Town Clerk.

No.	Nature of Sample.	Analyst's Report.	Action taken.
139	Sweet Spirit of Nitre	Sample contained less than 1/12th of minimum amount of Nitrous Ether required	Informal sample. Formal sample taken (No. 145).
145	" "	ditto	Vendor written to by Town Clerk.
157	New Milk	Sample deprived of 14.7% natural fat	Vendor summoned before the Borough Court and penalty of £1/0/6 including costs imposed.
171	" "	Sample deprived of 24% natural fat.	A further sample was taken from the Vendor-Producer, three from vendors retailing his milk, & two "Appeal-to-Cow" samples. The Analyst reported that these were all genuine.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

Chemical examination of foodstuffs is carried out by Mr. F. W. Richardson, County Analyst, at his laboratory at Bradford. Bacteriological examination of milk is carried out by Dr. Sinclair Miller, at the Clinical Laboratory, Harrogate.

(e) Nutrition—Dissemination of Knowledge.

No special work has been done in this connection.

(f) Rag Flock Act.

3 samples of Rag Flock were examined; all were within the standard.

(F) PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**(a) Notifiable Diseases.**

The number of cases notified and the number of deaths which occurred are set out in Table V. on Pages 10 and 11.

(1) Smallpox.

No case of smallpox was notified during the year and no vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health.

(2) Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases notified during the year was 305, much the largest number of which there is any record, and the attack rate, 7.7 per 1,000, is also the highest on record and is more than twice as high as that for England and Wales (3.76).

The age and sex distribution is shewn on the table underneath.

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 up- wards	Totals
Males ....	....	2	9	6	9	67	15	16	5	1	....	130
Females	1	3	8	8	13	88	20	22	6	5	1	175
Totals	1	5	17	14	22	155	35	38	11	6	1	305

The disease first began to be prevalent about the middle of March and the peak was reached in the week ended April 14th, during which week 24 cases were notified. From this time the number of cases gradually fell, although there were occasional exacerbations, and by the end of the year the epidemic appeared to be at an end, although the number of cases occurring in the beginning of the present year is still somewhat above normal.

The disease varied considerably in type. A number of the cases were very mild, so much so that in a considerable number it was only on the appearance of desquamation that a diagnosis was made, and there is no doubt that cases of this type were largely responsible for the continuance of the outbreak. On the other hand, a number of the cases were very severe and there were eight deaths giving a case mortality of 2.6 per cent., which is the highest recorded since 1920, when the figure was 3.0.

The age and sex distribution of the fatal cases is set out underneath.

No. of deaths—Scarlet Fever.

Sex.	1-2	2-3	3-4	5-10	35-45	65 and over	Total.
Males ...	1	1	..	...	1	....	3
Females ...	..	1	1	1	1	*1	5

* Non-Resident.

Return Cases.

10 cases were classed as "return" cases. This is about 4 per cent. of the number admitted to hospital and is about the usual proportion.

(3) Diphtheria.

Diphtheria was less prevalent than in the previous year: 18 cases were notified, but one case, which proved not to be diphtheria, was withdrawn, so that the actual number of cases occurring is 17. This is just under half the number in 1933 (35) and gives a case rate of 0.43 per 1,000 population, only about a quarter of the rate for England and Wales, which is 1.70.

Cases cropped up fairly regularly throughout the year, though the incidence was greatest in the first quarter with 7 cases; in the second quarter there were 5; and in the last six months also 5 cases.

Upon the whole the disease was mild, but there was one death, that of a child, aged 5 years, in whom the condition was not recognised until a post mortem examination was made and who, of course, received no antitoxin.

IMMUNISATION.

In December, 1933, the Council resolved to make arrangements for the immunisation of children, and the Education Committee agreed to allow their staff and the school premises to be utilised so far as was necessary. In the beginning of March a circular letter was, through the agency of the Head Teachers, sent to the parents of every elementary school child in Harrogate. The letter drew attention to the danger of diphtheria; described in simple language what was meant by immunisation and urged parents to sign and return the accompanying acceptance form. The response to this circular was immediate and almost overwhelming, as within a fortnight over 1,000 acceptances were received, and by the end of the year 2,050 children, practically all of school age, had been immunised.

The work was done on the school premises by Dr. Sinclair Miller, with the assistance of the teachers and school nurses. The immunising agent was T.A.F. given in three doses of 0.5 c.c.; 1 c.c.; and 1.5 c.c.; the second dose was given a week after the first, and the third about three weeks after the second. The number of reactions was negligible, and those which did occur were trifling, amounting in no case to more than slight redness and swelling of the arm which disappeared within 48 hours. No Schick testing was done.

The cost of immunising these children was approximately £500.

One child developed a mild attack of diphtheria about three weeks after the second injection and, of course, before there had been time for complete immunity to develop.

During the greater part of 1934 diphtheria was markedly prevalent in a number of neighbouring districts and that only 17 cases occurred in Harrogate can, I think, be reasonably

contributed to the fact that so large a proportion of the child population had been immunised.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

The arrangements for the supply of free antitoxin continue in force, and during the year 6,000 units were supplied for one case.

(4) Enteric Fever.

Two cases of Paratyphoid Fever, both of which recovered, were notified. The cases had no connection with each other and in neither could the source of infection be discovered.

(5) Pneumonia.

There was a decrease in the prevalence of pneumonia, 65 cases being notified, as compared with 84 in 1933. These figures, however, are not very reliable, as there is reason to believe that a number of cases are not notified, probably because medical practitioners have considerable doubt as to what constitutes "Primary" Pneumonia.

(6) Cerebro Spinal Fever.

Two cases were notified, and there was in addition a fatal case which had not been notified. Both of the notified cases—one of which had been admitted to the General Hospital from another district—recovered without paralysis.

(7) Tuberculosis.

TABLE VI.—TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality during 1934.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5 years	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
5-15 „	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
15-25 „	2	3	...	...	1	3	...	...
25-35 „	2	3	1	...	2	3	..	...
35-45 „	2	2	1	...	1	1	...	...
45-55 „	4	3	...	...	2	3	...	...
55-65 „	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
65 & upwards	1	1	.	...	...	1	...	...
TOTALS ...	13	14	4	3	6	11	...	...

There were 17 deaths, giving a death rate of 0.43 per 1,000, which is the lowest on record, the nearest approach being 1931, when the rate was 0.44. All these deaths were due to pulmonary tuberculosis, none being attributed to tuberculosis of other organs.

In five of the fatal cases notification had been received more than 1 year; in four more than six months, and in five less than six months before death. In 3 instances—18 per cent. of the total number of deaths—the case had not been notified before death.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

(8) Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Four cases of Puerperal Fever and six of Puerperal Pyrexia have been notified. In two instances (1 Fever and 1 Pyrexia) the confinement had taken place in another district and the patients were admitted to the General Hospital on account of the rise of temperature. In three of the cases notified as Pyrexia the rise of temperature was due not to sepsis, but to tubercle, bronchitis, and thrombosis respectively, but in the remaining three it was definitely caused by sepsis, so that altogether there were seven cases of puerperal sepsis. Five of these cases were notified from the General Hospital during the last fortnight in November. The first of them had been confined at home and was admitted to hospital on account of pyrexia; one was due to Gonococcal Salpingitis; in two the *Staphylococcus Aureus* was found; and in only one, which proved fatal, was a streptococcus found. Although the infection did not appear to be streptococcal, swabs from the staff engaged in the ward were examined, and two nurses who were found to be harbouring the streptococcus hæmolyticus in their throats were transferred to other wards. As soon as possible the ward was cleared for several days and thoroughly disinfected.

The fatal case mentioned above was admitted to hospital from another district, and the death does not appear in the local returns, but a Harrogate woman died from sepsis in another town, so the number of deaths from this cause was one, giving a death rate of 2.1 per 1,000 total births.

(9) Dysentery.

20 cases of dysentery were notified during the year: in one the diagnosis was very doubtful and the case was almost certainly not dysentery, but the remaining 19 appeared to be quite definitely dysentery and in 7 (3 males and 4 females) the diagnosis was confirmed either bacteriologically or serologically. The bacillus present was of the Flexner type.

Of the 19 definite cases, 8 were males and 11 females, and the ages varied from 3 to 71 years; 6 were children of school age. In 16 instances the patient resided in Harrogate; 3 had been admitted to the hospital from neighbouring districts. On the whole, the disease was mild, but there was one death, that of a male, aged 71.

The first intimation of the outbreak was received about the end of November, when 5 patients (3 from Harrogate and 2 from neighbouring areas) who were under treatment in the General Hospital for colitis were found to be suffering from bacillary (Flexner) dysentery. Upon receipt of this information all practitioners were notified of the occurrence and reminded of their obligation to notify any case under their care, and 19 cases were notified within the next month.

The first known case was that of a girl aged 17 years, who became ill about the middle of October and was admitted to hospital on November 9th with a tentative diagnosis of abdominal tuberculosis, but who about the end of November was found to be suffering from dysentery. Of the other Harrogate cases, 8 became ill between the 20th and 27th November, but these had no ascertainable connection with each other or with the first case, and in none of them could the source of infection be discovered.

The remaining 11 cases were either relatives of or had been in contact with a previous case.

The last case to occur became ill about December 15th, and since that time the district has been free from the disease.

(b) Non-Notifiable Diseases.

Information concerning these is derived from the returns of deaths and from the weekly notifications received from the schools, and is consequently less accurate than in the case of notifiable diseases.

(1) Measles.

Measles was considerably more prevalent than in the previous year, 177 cases being notified from the schools as compared with 17. It was almost entirely confined to four schools,

viz., Starbeck (57 cases); Western (35); Bilton Grange (32), and Grove Road (24).

Practically all the cases occurred during the months of June and July; during the last quarter there were very few cases.

There was one death, giving a death rate of 0.03 per 1,000. The corresponding rate for England and Wales is 0.09.

(2) Whooping Cough.

Whooping Cough was slightly less prevalent than in 1933; the number of cases notified being 63, as compared with 80.

There was one death, giving a death rate of 0.03 per 1,000, compared with 0.05 for England and Wales.

(3) Influenza.

Influenza was prevalent to some extent in the beginning of the year and there were 8 deaths—all in the first four months—giving a death rate of 0.20 per 1,000, compared with 0.14 for England and Wales.

(4) Cancer.

97 deaths—32 males and 65 females—were registered as being caused by some form of malignant disease; this is the highest number of which I have any record, and the death rate, 2.5, is also the highest on record.

The age and sex distribution of the deaths was as follows:—

	AGE GROUPS.							
	0-1	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 and over	Total
Males	...	1	...	4	12	10	5	32
Females	1	1	3	11	14	19	16	65
Totals	1	2	3	15	26	29	21	97

The organs most commonly affected, shown by sex and age, are set out underneath.

Organs affected.	AGE GROUPS.							
MALES.	0-1	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 and over	All Ages
Stomach & Intestines	...	1	...	2	3	6	3	15
Liver & Gall Bladder	1	3	...	1	5
Pancreas	1	1	..	2
Urinary Organs	1	1	2	1	5
Other Organs	4	1	...	5
	...	1	...	4	12	10	5	32
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FEMALES.								
Stomach & Intestines	1	3	2	9	8	23
Genital Organs	2	1	5	3	2	13
Breast	3	2	4	1	10
Pancreas ...	...	...	..	1	...	...	2	3
Other Organs ...	1	1	..	3	5	3	3	16
	1	1	3	11	14	19	16	65

(c) Bacteriological Work.

The examination of clinical material is, as a rule, carried out at the County Laboratory at Wakefield, but in urgent cases the examination is done by Dr. Sinclair Miller at the Harrogate Clinical Laboratory.

I learn from Dr. Potts, County Medical Officer, that the number of specimens sent from this area during the year was:

Blood for Widal Reaction	1
Sputa for Tubercle	16
Swabs for B.Diphtheriæ	134
Hairs for Ringworm	1
Faeces for B.Dysenteriae	17
Milk for Tuberculosis	1
Miscellaneous specimens	4
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(d) **Disinfection.**

Disinfection of infected premises is carried out by the Council's Staff; infected clothing, etc., is disinfected at the Joint Isolation Hospital.

Verminous clothing, etc., is also disinfected at the Isolation Hospital, but it is seldom that the necessity arises.

The following work was done during the year:—

Infectious bedding, etc., disinfected.

Beds	173
Mattresses	378
Blankets	975
Quilts	380
Sheets	680
Pillows	751
Pillow Slips.....	359
Outer Garments.....	477
Under Clothing	509
Carpets	106
Bolsters	219
Rugs	247
Curtains	453
Valances	13
Towels	240
Toilet Covers	255
Cushions	143
Miscellaneous	431
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Vermin.

One house and one Nursing Home were sprayed after two cases of Scabies, and 15 houses were sprayed for bugs.

(e) Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness, etc.

(G) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(1) Maternal Welfare.

(a) Maternal Mortality.

There were 4 maternal deaths during the year: 1 from sepsis; 1 from ruptured ectopic gestation, and 2 from eclampsia. The maternal mortality is 8.5 per 1,000 total births (live and still). This is a very high rate, but it must be remembered that a rate based, as this is, on comparatively small figures, is liable to large annual fluctuations and a more accurate figure is obtained by taking the average of a number of years. When this is done it is found that the average maternal mortality rate for the past four years is 3.7 per 1,000 total births; a figure which compares favourably with that of the country as a whole.

(b) Midwifery and Maternity Services.

The arrangements made with the Harrogate and District General Hospital for the admission of complicated maternity cases and cases of puerperal sepsis and pyrexia continued in operation during the year.

The provision made by the Hospital has been somewhat improved during the year by the provision of isolation accommodation for septic cases, but it cannot yet be considered satisfactory in-as-much as maternity cases are still treated in the same ward as other surgical and medical cases. This is recognised by the Hospital Board, but lack of funds has so far prevented them from proceeding with the erection of a separate maternity block, but there is good reason for believing that this difficulty will soon be overcome by the joint action of the County Council, and the Town Council, and that

the Board will shortly be in a position to proceed with the erection of a maternity block.

The extent to which these services were utilised is set out below:—

1. Normal Maternity Cases —applications for admission to Nursing Home or General Hospital.	
No. of applications received	2
No. granted	0
No. refused	2
2. Complicated Maternity Cases —applications for admission to the General Hospital.	
No. of applications received	35
No. granted	28
No. refused	6
Found not to be necessary to be admitted to Hospital	1
3. Grant in Aid of Midwife's Fee.	
No. of applications received	29
No. granted	24
No. refused	5
4. Puerperal Fever.	
No. of applications received	1
No granted	1
5. Puerperal Pyrexia.	
No. of applications received	1
No. granted	0
No. refused	1

(c) Institutional Provision for Mothers.

Apart from the hospital provision mentioned above, the only provision is the St. Monica's Home, which is maintained by voluntary subscriptions, and while primarily a rescue home, admits a certain number of unmarried mothers both before and after confinement.

(d) Ante-Natal Clinic.

This was continued on the same lines as in former years and the following table shows the number attending:—

	1933	1934
Total attendances	391	442
Average attendance per session	18	19
Number of individual mothers	161	154*
Percentage of individual mothers to total notified births.....	32.6	31.5
Number referred for treatment	21	11

* Includes 13 from County areas.

The slight decrease in the number of individual mothers who attended is accounted for by the fact that the clinic was only held on 23 sessions, instead of 24 as during the preceding year. In spite of this, however, there is an increase in both the total attendances, and the average attendance per session. It is evident from these figures that the Clinic is being more appreciated, and it is also evident that the numbers attending are much too large to permit of the best results being obtained.

The obvious remedy is to provide for additional sessions, but the available accommodation is already overtaxed, so that this is a matter of considerable difficulty.

In previous reports, attention has been drawn to the unsuitability and insufficiency of the existing accommodation, and I must again urge upon the Council that additional and more suitable accommodation must be provided if the work carried on at this Clinic and at the Welfare Centres is not to deteriorate.

(e) Compensation to Midwives.

In the beginning of the year the Council decided that where a midwife brought or sent a patient to the Ante-Natal Clinic, and that patient was sent by the Medical Officer of the Clinic to the Hospital for her confinement, they would pay the midwife a sum of 15/- as compensation for the loss of her case.

During the year three applications for compensation were received from midwives and all were granted.

(f) **Sterilised Maternity Outfits.**

A supply of these is kept at the Ante-Natal Clinic and sold at cost price or, in necessitous cases, given free.

The demand is small; only 3 were supplied during the year, all of which were given free.

(2) Child Welfare.

(a) **Infant Mortality.**

During the year 21 infants—14 male and 7 female—died before completing their first year of life. The infant mortality is, therefore, 47.5 per 1,000 live births, which, although slightly above the rate for the previous year, is nevertheless one of the lowest recorded, and is considerably below the rate for the whole of the country (59).

The mortality was mainly among newly born babies: in 15 instances, two-thirds of the total, the infant survived its birth for less than four weeks and in 8 instances less than one week. The neo-natal mortality, i.e., the mortality of infants under one month of age, is 33.9 per 1,000 live births, which is considerably above that for the previous year (24.3) and slightly higher than the average for the previous five years (31.3).

Illegitimate Mortality.

As is always the case, and as indeed is to be expected, the mortality among illegitimate was much higher than among legitimate infants; 142.9 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 39.3. The corresponding figures for 1933 were 143 and 41.8.

(b) **Institutional Provision.**

(1) **MUNICIPAL BABIES' HOSPITAL.**

This Hospital, maintained by the Council, has accommodation for 6-8 infants, and is intended mainly for infants suffering from digestive and nutritional disorders. At the beginning of the year there were 3 patients in the hospital, and 68 were admitted during the year. The average duration of stay was 26 days.

The conditions for which admission was sought were:—

Malnutrition and improper feeding	33
Digestive Disorders	14
Skin diseases	3
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	6
Prematurity	2
Other Conditions	10
	<hr/>
	68
	<hr/>

66 patients were discharged during the year: 55 in good health; 7 improved; and in 4 there was no improvement. There were 4 deaths during the year.

(2) **ST. AGNES' HOME.**

Maintained by voluntary subscriptions and a grant from the Ministry of Health; has accommodation for 12 infants. Only illegitimate infants are received, and a charge of 10/- per week is made.

(c) **Health Visiting.**

The work of the Health Visitors has continued on the lines set out in former reports.

The following table shows the work done during the year.

First visits to Infants	450
Subsequent visits to Infants	2391
Visits to children aged 1—5 years	3814
Enquiries into Infant Deaths	12
Visits to cases of Measles under 5 years	56
Visits to cases of Whooping Cough under 5 years	48
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8
First visits to Expectant Mothers	104
Subsequent visits to Expectant Mothers	88
Miscellaneous visits	489
	<hr/>
	7465

(d) **Welfare Centres.**

The three Welfare Centres continued in operation throughout the year, and have been well attended.

The work at the Harrogate Centres is greatly handicapped on account of the insufficient accommodation, and as has already been stated, additional and more suitable accommodation is essential if the work is to be carried on in anything like a satisfactory manner.

The following table shows the attendances at the Centres.

(a) Total attendance by children under 1 year of age	5249
(b) Total attendances by children between 1 and 5 years of age	6505
(c) Total number of children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year, and who, at the date of their first attendance, were:—	
(1) Under 1 year of age	365
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years ...	61
Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were:—	
(1) Under 1 year of age	310
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years ...	840
Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (c) (1)	79.8

Welfare Centres Exhibition.

The second annual Exhibition of articles made by parents of children attending the Welfare Centres was held in the Art Gallery on December 4th—8th, and proved very successful.

The exhibits, of which there were 500—nearly twice as many as in the previous year—were of a high standard of merit, so much so that the judges had great difficulty in arriving at a decision.

The Exhibition was visited by over 2,700 persons and has, I am sure, been of distinct value in directing attention to the work which is being done towards safeguarding the health of mothers and children.

The Mayoress presented the prizes to the successful exhibitors on the Saturday afternoon, when about 200 mothers were present.

In connection with the Exhibition, an evening meeting for women was held in St. Paul's Church Hall on Wednesday, December 5th. Dr. Laura Veale presided, and Dr. Rhoda Adamson, of Leeds, gave an interesting and instructive address on the need for ante-natal care, which was followed with great interest by an audience of about 200.

(e) **Supply of Milk.**

The supply of free milk to necessitous mothers continued during the year. The total number of recipients was 167, of whom 67 were new cases, and the cost of the milk supplied was approximately £330, as compared with 170 recipients during 1933 and a cost of £321.

(f) **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

Four cases were notified during the year: three were slight and were treated at home; one was more severe and was admitted to Hospital. In this last case there was slight impairment of vision in one eye.

No. Notified.	Treated,		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	At Hospital				
4	3	1	3	1	—	—

(g) **Infant Life Protection.**

This work has continued on the same lines as in former years.

Children on the Register at beginning of year	32
New notifications received during the year	23
Children removed from the Register	25
Children on Register at end of the year	30

Reasons for the removal of children's names from the Register were as follows:—

Transferred to the care of relations	5
Adopted	2
Removed to Institutions	5
Transferred to other districts	11
Over age	2

Foster Parents.

Number on Register at the beginning of the year	18
New applications received	14
Removed from Register	17
On Register at end of year	15

Reasons for the removal of foster parents' names from the Register.

Left District	1
Unsuitable Home	1
Adopted nurse child	2
Taking no payment	1
Ceased to have nurse child	12

Factory and Workshop Acts.

The work done under these Acts is shewn in the following Tables.

1—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, and WORKPLACES.

(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	96	8	...
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	116	5	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	...	...	...
Total	212	13	...

2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, and WORKPLACES.

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	6	6	...	...
Want of Ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other Nuisances	5	5	...	...
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	2	2	...	...
{ unsuitable or defective ..	..	...	...	...
{ not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..	...	...	...	..
Other Offences ... ..	...	...	..	...
Total	13	13	...	...



