

[Report 1938] / Medical Officer of Health, Harrogate Borough.

Contributors

Harrogate (England). Borough Council. nb2014025795

Publication/Creation

1938

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Borough of Harrogate

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1938

BY

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

Medical Officer of Health.





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Medical Officer of Health.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1938.

CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR RHODES.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN WEBSTER.

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN J. BOEHRER CHARLES).

ALD. FOSTER	COUN. HOLMES	COUN. RHODES
" STOTT	" MAIL	" RICHARDSON
" WEBSTER	" MIDDLEBROOK	" SCHOFIELD
COUN. CARTWRIGHT	" MORRIS	" SPENCELEY
" DAWSON	" MYERS	" TOPHAM
" HESSELWOOD	" NEWSOME	" WOOD

HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE :

CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR RHODES.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN WEBSTER.

THE MAYOR	ALD. WEBSTER	COUN. NEWSOME
ALD. FOSTER	COUN. CARTWRIGHT	" RHODES
" STOTT	" HESSELWOOD	" SCHOFIELD
	" MORRIS	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE :

CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR RHODES.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN WEBSTER.

THE MAYOR	COUN. HOLMES	COUN. RHODES
ALD. WEBSTER	" MYERS	" RICHARDSON
COUN. CARTWRIGHT	" NEWSOME	" TOPHAM †
" HESSELWOOD	" PHILLIPS *	

Co-opted Members.

MRS. BOLLAND
MRS. IMESON
MRS. LAWN

MRS. THOMPSON
MRS. WEBSTER

* Appointed April, 1938

† Resigned April, 1938

**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 1938.

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.

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices, Harrogate,
July, 1939.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1938.

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

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

*** Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare (part time) :**

GLADYS KAY, B.Sc., M.D., M.B., B.S., Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*** Chief Sanitary Inspector :**

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

*** Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Inspector :**

V. OVERSBY, M.R.S.I. (Certified Meat Inspector)

*** Sanitary Inspectors :**

† W. BLACK, M.S.I.A. (Certified Meat Inspector)

‡ J. F. ASPINALL, M.S.I.A. (Certified Meat Inspector)

*** Health Visitors and School Nurses :**

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

Miss M. NIBLETT, C.M.B.

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

Miss N. GREEN, C.M.B.

Miss M. LANGTON, C.M.B., Cert. of
Ministry of Health.

§ Miss C. B. RAMSAY, C.M.B., Cert. of
Ministry of Health.

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

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

Clerical Staff :

Chief Clerk :

R. W. LEEMING.

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

† Commenced duty 17th January, 1938.

‡ Commenced duty 15th August, 1938.

§ Commenced duty 3rd October, 1938.

Area (acres)				8,315
Population (Census, 1931)				39,770
Population (mid-summer, 1938, estimated by the Registrar-General)—				
(a) mid-year estimate of population for the Area as now constituted				44,170
(b) modified estimate				42,885
Number of Inhabited houses (Census, 1931)				9,340
Number of Inhabited houses (Rate Books, Oct. 1st, 1938)..				12,792
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1931) ..				9,846
Rateable Value, 1938				£584,678
Produce of a Penny Rate, 1938.....				£2,008
	Males.		Females.	
Live Births : Legitimate, 229 } 247 Legitimate, 241 }				267 514
Illegitimate, 18 }			Illegitimate, 26 }	
Birth Rate (Live births per 1,000 of the estimated resident Population)				12.0
	Males.		Females.	
Still Births : Legitimate, 9 } 10 Legitimate, 6 }				6 16
Illegitimate 1 }			Illegitimate, 0 }	
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births				30.2
Number of deaths : Males 281, Females 366				647
Death Rate				15.1
Corrected Death Rate.....				12.8
Deaths from Puerperal causes				Nil
		Rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) Births		
Puerperal Sepsis Nil) 0 " " 0.0 }				0.00
Other Puerperal causes Nil) " " " 0.0 }				
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :		Legitimate 22 }		25
		Illegitimate 3 }		
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—				
All infants per 1,000 live births				48.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...				47.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				68.1
Death Rate from Phthisis				0.4
Death Rate from other Tuberculous Diseases				0.09
Zymotic Deaths (8)			Rate	0.19
Deaths from Measles (1)			"	0.02
Deaths from Whooping Cough (0).....			"	0.00
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) (2).....			"	0.04
Deaths from Cancer			"	2.3
Primary Vaccinations				145
Exemption Certificates granted				260
Number of Marriages				234
Mean Annual Temperature				49.1°F.
Total Rainfall (in inches)				35.50
Hours of Bright Sunshine				1,410.7

TABLE I. VITAL STATISTICS OF HARROGATE FOR 1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

	Estimated Population.	Nett Births.		Nett Deaths.			
		No.	Rate.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
				No.	Rate per 1000 Live 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 <small>Death rate Birth rate</small>	530	14.7	42	79.2	412	12.4
1917	36,127 <small>Death rate Birth rate</small>	415	11.5	26	62.6	397	11.9
1918	33,204 <small>Death rate Birth rate</small>	398	10.7	37	93.0	461	13.9
1919	33,245 <small>Death rate Birth rate</small>	431	11.4	22	51.0	391	10.8
1920	37,240 <small>Death rate Birth rate</small>	619	16.4	36	58.2	422	11.2
1921	37,742 <small>Death rate Birth rate</small>	482	14.0	35	72.6	387	11.2
1922	34,440	485	14.1	30	62.0	419	12.1
1923	34,490	480	14.0	30	62.5	364	10.6
1924	34,280	485	14.1	31	63.9	440	12.8
1925	34,300	469	13.7	30	64.0	456	13.3
1926	34,160	474	13.4	34	71.7	471	13.3
1927	35,500	448	12.4	18	40.2	460	12.8
1928	36,070	445	12.1	30	67.4	466	12.6
1929	36,880	441	11.7	17	38.5	551	14.7
1930	37,590	464	12.3	21	45.3	513	13.6
1931	37,590	460	11.9	35	76.1	529	13.7
1932	38,600	471	12.2	16	34.0	510	13.2
1933	38,590	452	11.6	21	46.5	565	14.5
1934	39,210	442	11.3	21	47.5	573	14.6
1935	39,270	457	11.6	28	61.2	544	13.8
1936	39,210	460	11.7	30	65.2	550	14.0
1937	39,110	470	12.0	24	51.1	559	14.3
1938	42,885	514	12.0	25	48.6	647	15.1

	M.	F.	Total.	
Leg. ..	229	241	514	Birth Rate 12.0
Live Births		
Illeg. ..	18	26	647	Death Rate 15.1
Deaths	281	366		
No. of Women dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth ...				Nil
Death rates of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births: Legitimate, 47.0, Illegitimate, 68.1				
All Infants.....				48.6
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				0.02
do. Whooping Cough (all ages)				Nil.
do. Diarrhoea (under two years)				0.04

TABLE II.
CAUSES OF DEATH IN HARROGATE BOROUGH, 1937 & 1938.

Causes of Death.		1937		1938	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
(Civilians only)	All Causes	239	320	281	366
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	1
2	Measles	—	—	—	1
3	Scarlet Fever	2	—	1	—
4	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria	2	—	2	1
6	Influenza	4	11	2	4
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	1	2	—	1
8	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	1
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7	13	14	3
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	2	4	—
11	Syphilis	—	1	—	1
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	—	—	1	—
13	Cancer, Malignant Disease	23	48	37	63
14	Diabetes	6	8	3	7
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	13	29	21	37
16	Heart Disease	73	78	78	98
17	Aneurysm	2	1	—	2
18	Other Circulatory Diseases	13	28	19	31
19	Bronchitis	12	11	8	7
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	11	9	9	11
21	Other Respiratory Diseases	2	2	2	3
22	Peptic Ulcer	2	1	5	—
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—	1	1
24	Appendicitis	0	1	2	—
25	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1	2	—
26	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	2	1	2	8
27	Other Digestive Diseases	7	9	5	9
28	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	10	16	7
29	Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—
30	Other Puerperal Causes	—	—	—	—
31	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	11	6	9	9
32	Senility	3	9	2	9
33	Suicide	3	2	6	4
34	Other Violence	13	15	5	11
35	Other Defined Diseases	21	22	25	36
36	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	—	—	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—					
	Small-pox	—	—	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
	Policencephalitis	—	—	—	—

TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1937 and 1938.

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	1937	1938									
		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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (overlying)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	5
Premature Birth	11	8	2	—	—	10	1	—	—	—	11
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Totals	24	13	2	—	—	15	3	4	2	1	25

TABLE IV.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, and CASE-RATES for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.

(England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.)
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County.
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births—				
Live	15. 1	15. 0	15. 4	13. 4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
Deaths—				
All Causes	11. 6	11. 7	11. 0	11. 4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
Notifications—				
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas.....	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age.....	5. 5	7. 8	3. 6	13. 1
Maternal Mortality—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	Not available		
Others	2.19			
Total	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).				
Maternal Mortality—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	Not available		
Others	2.11			
Total	2.97			
Notifications—				
Puerperal fever	14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53 15.46
Puerperal pyrexia.....				

BOROUGH OF HARROGATE.—NOT

(These figures refer to cases actually notified in
differ slightly from the figures su

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Number of Cases Notified.									
		At Ages—Years.									
		U'd'r 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.	35-4 yrs.
Diphtheria (including Mem- braneous Croup)	20			1	2		10	3	1	2	
Scarlet Fever	76	2	3	3	5	5	23	13	6	8	5
Enteric Fever (including Para- Typhoid)	Nil										
Puerperal Pyrexia	9								1	7	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil										
Small Pox	Nil										
Pneumonia	68	5	3	6	5	2	7	2	1	11	5
Erysipelas	21						1	1		4	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3									
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1									1	

*Thi

E V.

E DISEASES during Calendar Year 1938.

ough, and include non-residents, and they therefore
y the Registrar General).

No. of Cases admitted to Hospit'l.	Total No. of Deaths.	Number of Deaths.											
		At Ages—Years.											
		U'd'r 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
20	3						2					1	
70	1										1		
1	1*												1
7	1									1			
18	14		1		1					2		2	8
1	1									1			

not notified.

(A) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. POPULATION.

The population at the middle of 1938 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 44,170. This includes 4,400 in the Added Area, but as this area was not brought into the Borough until April 1st, 1938, this figure has to be modified for the calculation of the mortality rates. The modified figure used for this purpose by the Registrar-General is 42,885.

2. SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The redistribution of County districts resulted in the addition to the Borough of some 5,038 acres with a population of 4,400. The Added Area is entirely residential and agricultural in character and includes no factories or works of any importance. This addition has in no way altered the character of the Borough, which still remains a health resort and residential town.

Unemployment.

The working class population is comparatively small and there is always a good deal of seasonable unemployment during the winter months.

The Employment Exchange informs me that at the end of the year there were 1,682 unemployed persons in the district (which includes neighbouring areas). The figure for 1937 was 1,618.

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

3. BIRTHS.

The number of live births registered in Harrogate during the year was 574—270 males and 304 females, but the corrected number supplied by the Registrar-General is 514—247 males and 267 females. The birth rate is 12.0 per 1,000, which is one of the highest recorded since 1932 when the rate was 12.2. It is still 3.1 below the rate for England and Wales, and 3.4 below that for the 148 smaller towns.

There were 44 illegitimate births, 18 males and 26 females; representing 4.6 per cent of the live births, and an illegitimate birth rate of 1.0 per 1,000; the corresponding figures for 1937 were 5.5 per cent and 0.7 per 1,000.

Still-Births.

There has been a considerable decrease in the number of still-births, 23 (16 males and 7 females) were registered as compared with 33 in the previous year, but the corrected figure supplied by the Registrar-General is 16 (10 males and 6 female) as compared with 20 for the preceding year. This gives a rate of 30.2 per 1,000 total births and a still-birth rate of 0.37 per 1,000 of the population. This is lower than the rate for the previous year which was 0.51, and is well below that for England and Wales (0.60)

4. DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 684 (299 males and 385 females), but the corrected number supplied by the Registrar General is 647 (281 males and 366 females). The death rate is 15.1, which is 0.8 above the rate for 1937 and 3.5 above that for England and Wales.

Institution Deaths.

Of the 684 deaths which occurred in the Borough, 185 occurred in public institutions, representing 27 per cent of the whole number.

5. INFANT MORTALITY.

See section on Maternity and Child Welfare. Page 46.

(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.

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.) and of milk for tubercle 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 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 Committee 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 District Nursing Association, which is maintained by voluntary subscriptions, and which, receives no financial aid from the Local Authority. The staff of the Association consists of a superintendent and 5 nurses, and during 1938 they paid 9,212 visits to cases of sickness, and attended 156 maternity cases, of which 119 were attended as midwives and 37 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. The only change during the year has been the opening of an additional ante-natal clinic at the Welfare Centre, Dragon Parade. This was opened on the 19th October, and is held at 6-30 p.m. on Monday evenings.

(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.

‡ Also 2 Isolation Beds.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Situation.	Accommodation.	By whom provided.	When open.	1938 Average Attendance.
Harrogate Child Welfare Centre	2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate.	Waiting, Weighing, and Consulting Rooms.	Harrogate Corporation.	Mondays 2-30 p.m.	{ 68 mothers 75 children
do.	do.	do.	do.	Thursdays 2-30 p.m.	{ 100 mothers 117 children
Ante-natal and Post-natal	do.	Waiting and Consulting Rooms.	do.	Tuesdays 2-30 p.m. Mondays 6-30 p.m.*	17
Starbeck Child Welfare Centre	Methodist Church Schoolroom.	do.	do.	Mondays 2-30 p.m.	{ 71 mothers 77 children
School Clinic	2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate.	do.	do.	Wednesdays 2-30 p.m.	20
Tuberculosis Dispensary	10 North Park Rd., Harrogate.	do.	West Riding County Council	Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 p.m.	—
Venereal Clinic			None provided		

*Commenced 19/10/38

(C) SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

All houses in the old Borough are supplied with Corporation water except some 20 houses in an outlying district which obtain their supply from two wells. Samples from these wells have been regularly analysed and the water has always been found pure and suitable for use. The majority of the houses in the Added Area are supplied with Corporation water ; of the remainder, some twenty-five houses obtain their supply from a deep well belonging to the Wetherby Rural District Council, and approximately 40 houses derive their supply from fourteen different wells or springs. Samples of water from these wells have been regularly analysed and in one case the supply was found to be grossly polluted and the owner was asked to provide Corporation supply and this he has undertaken to do. In nine others the reports showed the water to be of very doubtful purity and these are being kept under close observation, and if necessary the owners will be required to take steps to provide a wholesome water supply.

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 reports, is a pure and wholesome water.

Report on Sample of Water marked " Harlow Hill—Roundhill." received from Corporation Waterworks Department, Harrogate, on 24th January, 1938.

Appearance	Clear and bright
Odour on warming (37°C)	None
Colour of 2ft. column (Lovibond Units)	—
Sediment	None
Reaction :—pH—	7.0	

Action on bright lead surface during 12 hours—

Solvent	Very slight
Erosive	None

The Sample contains :	Grains	
	per gallon	per 100,000
Total solids, dried at 100°C	7.56	10.80
Chlorides, equivalent to chlorine	0.84	1.20
Nitrates, equivalent to nitrogen	0.00	0.00
Nitrites, equivalent to nitrogen	nil	nil
Free and saline ammonia	0.0000	0.0000
Albuminoid ammonia	0.0039	0.0056

Injurious metals (Lead and Copper) ..	nil	nil
Hardness (Clark degrees)—		
Temporary, removable by boiling	1.1°	1.6
Permanent, after boiling	3.2°	4.5
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	4.3°	6.1
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Average number of bacteria growing on agar after 72 hours incubation at 20°C, per cc	91
Average number of bacteria growing on agar after 72 hours incubation at 37°C, per cc	3
Coliform bacilli after 48 hours incubation at 37°C, per 100cc	0

Observations—

In my opinion, the present condition of this water is excellent for public supply.

(Signed) J. FIRTH.

35, Park Square, Leeds 1.
2nd February, 1938

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The only extension during the year was the laying of approximately 2,258 yards of foul and surface water sewers.

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.

4. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Excrement disposal is almost entirely by water carriage, there being in the old Borough approximately 20,056 water closets and 88 waste water closets.

In the Added Area there are approximately 1,330 water closets, and 75 privies or pail closets. It is intended in due course to convert the latter to water carriage where this is feasible.

5. REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE, 1938.

Collection.

The removal of house refuse is carried out entirely by the Corporation staff, 7 motor vehicles, 3 horse drawn vehicles, and 39 men being employed in the work.

Practically every house is provided with a sanitary dustbin, the approximate number of receptacles of various types in use at the end of the year being :—

Sanitary dustbins	17,890
Ashpits	19
Pail Closets	57
Privies	27

Refuse is collected weekly from private houses, and from hotels and boarding houses as frequently as is necessary.

Trade refuse is collected upon payment, one bin per week being allowed free, over this amount a charge of 2d. per bin, 3/6 per horse cart load, or 7/- per motor load is made. These charges were, however, amended, and as from the 1st October, the charges now are one bin free, all other bins at the rate of 4d. per bin, 5/- per horse cart load, or 10/- per motor load. The income derived from this source during the year was £309 5s. 8d., as compared with £308 6s. 9d. for the previous year.

The following table shows the number of receptacles emptied, loads collected, and tonnage.

Dustbins	930,280
Ashpits	988
Pail Closets	2,964
Privy Middens	1,404

Loads :—

Horse cart loads	2,753	
Motor loads	6,139	Total 8,892 loads.

Weight in tons :—

Horse carts	3,441	
Motors	12,278	Total 15,719 tons.

Disposal.

Disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping in two disused clay pits; one situated at Oatlands and one at Starbeck.

Six men are employed at these two tips.

This method of disposal has proved quite satisfactory and no real occasion for complaint has arisen.

6. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

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

Notices Served.

During the year 783 notices for the abatement of nuisances, etc., were served, 743 of these were preliminary, of which 720 were complied with and 40 were legal notices, all of which were complied with, leaving 23 informal notices uncomplied with at the end of the year.

Total number of visits and inspections made	15,174
Total number of nuisances reported by Inspectors, 1938	1,787
Total number of nuisances left over at the close of 1937	20
Total number of nuisances left over at the close of 1938	26
Total number of nuisances abated during 1938	1,781
Number of complaints received and investigated during 1938	287

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

Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	4
Additional W.C.'s provided	24
Bedroom floors repaired	17
Blocked drains unstopped or opened out, cleansed and put into proper working order	221
Baths provided (additional)	7
Broken manhole covers renewed	3
Broken sash cords of windows replaced with new cords	88
Chimneys repaired and made safe	45
Closet cisterns repaired or renewed	7
Dampness dealt with	121
Dilapidated outbuildings repaired or taken down	50
Doors repaired or renewed	45
Dilapidated dust bins replaced with new ones	564
Dirty houses cleansed	1
Dirty closets cleansed or limewashed out	37
Drains (defective) repaired	41
Drains provided	2
Drainage or sanitary arrangements of houses dealt with ..	190
Drainage systems ventilated	11
External house walls repaired	87
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	62
Handrails provided or repaired	25
House drains disconnected from sewer	5
Houses re-drained	19
Internal house walls repaired	18
Inspection chambers built on house drains	18
Kitchen, room, passage or scullery floors re-laid or repaired	42
Miscellaneous	109
Offensive accumulations removed	4

Pedestal closets fixed in place of boxed-in ones	14
Plastering made good	99
Rainwater pipes repaired and renewed	27
Rainwater pipes disconnected and made to discharge over gullies	46
Roofs repaired	55
Sanitary sinks or lavatory basins provided (additional) ..	110
Soil pipes ventilated with 4 in. shafts	1
Soil pipes or vent shafts repaired	14
Sink pipes trapped	6
Sinks (insanitary) removed and sanitary sinks provided ..	10
Spouting of eaves of buildings repaired or renewed	74
Stairs (defective) repaired	2
Under floors ventilated	11
Ventilated food stores provided	5
Ventilation improved by fixing additional windows or ventilators	30
Waste pipes from sink, bath or lavatory basins repaired ..	16
Water supply of houses dealt with	26
Windows repaired and made to open	59
Workshops cleansed or limewashed	11
Yards paved, whole surface	32
Yard paving repaired	42
Yard gates repaired or renewed	8
Washing boilers provided.. .. .	6
Washing boilers repaired or renewed	4
Washing accommodation provided in shops (Shops Act, 1934)	1
Sanitary accommodation provided in shops (Shops Act, 1934)	1

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 several complaints were received and 114 observations were made. On six occasions nuisance was caused. On four occasions offenders who had been previously warned were served with a notice requiring them to abate the nuisance and to provide against a recurrence. In one case the offender was warned, and in another the offender was prosecuted, when an order for the abatement of the nuisance and costs were granted.

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 figures for 1938).

	Total Solids.	Insoluble Matter (Grit).	Sulphate.	Chloride.
Harrogate Observatory	302	36	34	32
London (S. Kensington)	731	231	91	44
Bourneville	466	116	52	35
Cheltenham	495	—	—	—
Hove	520	194	241	334
Leeds : Headingley	446	126	45	64
Park Square	1277	565	101	103
Templenessam	433	112	44	53
Rothamsted	318	73	—	—
Southport	382	60	46	95
Southampton	595	226	56	64

8. SWIMMING BATHS.

There are two Corporation owned Swimming Baths in the district, one situated in Harrogate and one at Starbeck. Both are provided with continuous filtration plants. Samples of bath water are examined weekly and the bacillus coli has always been found to be absent in 40 c.c. There are in the area no privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public.

9. SCHOOLS.

There are eleven elementary schools—7 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.

10. SHOPS ACTS, 1912-34.

During the year 421 inspections were made under the provisions of the above Acts.

Washing accommodation for the use of persons employed in or about the business of the shop has been provided in two cases and ventilation and heating in one case each. In addition, dirty and defective w.c.'s. were remedied in two cases.

(D) HOUSING.

1. HOUSING STATISTICS, 1938.

Number of new houses erected during 1938	227
(1) By the Local Authority	38
(2) By Private Enterprise	189
Of the above 183 houses were for the use of the working class.	

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

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	305
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	1,034
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	142
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	662
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	27*
(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	183

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	175†
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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	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	—
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

*Includes three houses represented by the Medical Officer of Health, but not accepted as a Clearance Area by the Local Authority.

†Includes 38 left over from 1936-37.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.. ..	1
(a) By owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3

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	5
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	—

4. Housing Act, 1936.—Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	18
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ..	18
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..	128
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	10
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	13
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	85
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

UNFIT HOUSES.

Ten individual houses, one underground room and four parts of buildings were represented during the year as being unfit for habitation and Closing Orders were made in respect of the underground room and four parts of buildings. As regards the houses, undertakings that they would not be used for human habitation were accepted in five instances; in two instances the Council accepted undertakings to make the houses fit for habitation and one Demolition Order was made and has been complied with; in two, represented at the end of the year, no action has yet been taken.

Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

At the beginning of the year there were 20 houses which were known to be overcrowded, and during the year 11 other cases of overcrowding came to notice, so that the total number under review was 31. By the end of the year the overcrowding had been relieved in 13 cases, leaving 18 which were still overcrowded.

RE-HOUSING.

Thirty-eight houses which were commenced during 1937 were completed in the latter half of the year 1938, and all have now been occupied by persons from unfit houses.

RE-DEVELOPMENT AREA.

As stated in the reports for 1936 and 1937 an Area comprising Smithy Hill and part of Chatsworth Road, containing 96 working class houses, with a population of 299 persons, has been declared a re-development area. An inquiry was held by the Minister of Health on 15th September, 1937, and the Re-development Plan has been approved by him. No further action has yet been taken.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

The following table shows the number of unhealthy areas dealt with up to the end of 1938.

Area	Date of Represent- ation	No. of Houses	Popu- lation
Victoria Place	31.10.36	12	33
Primrose Hill, Skipton Road (New Park)	31.10.36	8	21
Tower Street and Belford Square	24.9.36	14	42
Skipton Road (No. 2)	16.12.36	5	16
Kings Road	16.12.36	6	9
Esplanade	14.1.37	3	11
Wellington Square	14.1.37	2	9
Westmoreland Passage	22.2.37	9	25
Thompson's Yard	5.3.37	2	3
Providence Place (Bilton)	18.1.37	3	10
Crab Lane	14.1.37 28.3.38	3	5
Montpellier Street	9.3.38	2	4
Montpellier Square	9.3.38	3	8
Cheltenham Road....	25.3.38	5	12
Crab Lane	25.3.38	3	4
Two Cottages, Knox Lane	25.3.38	2	4
Cold Bath Road and Cottage adjoining known as 1 Harlow Cottage	25.3.38	3	7
Albert Cottages	25.3.38	2	5

* To be taken out of Clearance Area and dealt w

† One house (No. 2) " " " " "

AREAS

Date when order confirmed	Date demolished	Results			
		Accepted		Excluded	
		Houses	Other Buildings	Houses	Other Buildings
No order made, purchased by agreement	19.1.39	12	1	—	—
	6.5.39	8	—	—	—
22.9.37	—	14	—	—	—
22.9.37	6.5.39	5	—	—	—
22.9.37	—	6	—	—	1 lock-up shop, 2 w.c.'s
Withdrawn by Ministry of Health	—	—	—	3	—
12.9.37	—	2	—	—	—
31.12.37	—	—	—	—	—
31.12.37	—	—	—	—	—
31.12.37	—	—	—	—	—
29.11.38	—	3	—	—	—
*Order not confirmed	—	—	—	2	—
29.11.38	—	3	—	—	—
29.11.38	—	5	—	†1	—
capable of repair by committee, 25.4.38	—	—	—	—	—
29.11.38	—	2	—	—	—
capable of repair by committee, 25.4.38	—	—	—	—	—
29.11.38	—	2	—	—	—

dual Unfit Houses, according to Ministry's letter, 29.11.38.

premises,

" " " " "

(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 42 cow-keepers, occupying 73 sheds, with approximately 721 cows. (Of these, 34 cow-keepers and 63 sheds are situated in the added area). There were also on the Register, 45 wholesale and retail purveyors, 85 retail purveyors only, and 27 wholesale traders.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 236 visits to farms, and 364 to dairies during the year, and on the whole found the premises to be kept in a cleanly condition although some of the dairies in the added area are not structurally satisfactory.

2. Graded Milks.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936, 1938.

One licence for the production, 3 for the sale of "Pasteurised" milk and 9 licences for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested" milk were issued by the Council during the year. Two supplementary licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk were also granted.

The whole of the "Tuberculin Tested" milk is obtained from 5 producers, only one of whom has his premises in the Borough. Five cow-keepers in the district are licensed by the West Riding County Council to produce "Accredited" milk.

3. Milk and Tuberculosis.

During the year 79 samples of milk were submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination, and in only three of these was the tubercle bacilli found to be present. In each case the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture was at once notified, so that he could take the necessary steps to deal with the offending cows, and in two instances he was successful in finding the diseased cow, and these animals were slaughtered.

4. Ice Cream.

The Harrogate Corporation Act, 1935, requires any person being a manufacturer or vendor, or merchant, or dealer in, ice cream or similar commodity, and any premises used or proposed to be used in the manufacture or sale of ice cream, or other similar commodities, to be registered with the Corporation, and at the end of the year 26 manufacturers and vendors, and 25 vendors only, were registered.

The number of premises used for the manufacture or sale of ice cream registered was 51.

Fourteen samples of ice cream were bacteriologically examined during the year with varying results. The best sample was found to contain 4,000 bacteria in a cubic centimetre, and the worst sample contained over 8 million bacteria in a cubic centimetre.

The best sample bacteriologically was a sample of ice cream supplied by a large wholesale dealer outside the district, whilst the worst samples came from cafes and dairies where it is manufactured on the premises; samples taken from itinerant street vendors were intermediate in bacteriological purity.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

1. Slaughterhouses.

There are now seven private slaughterhouses in the Borough, and although these are always kept in a cleanly condition, none of them can be considered quite satisfactory. I am still very strongly of the opinion that a Public Abattoir should be provided, and I am glad to be able to report that the Council have decided, subject to the approval of the Minister of Health, to acquire land on which an Abattoir can be erected.

2. Humane Slaughtering.

The provision of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, has been extended to require that all animals slaughtered in the Borough must be effectively stunned by a mechanically operated instrument.

There has been no attempt to evade this provision during the year.

3. Licensing of Slaughtermen.

During the year five applications for licences and 45 for renewal of licences to slaughter were received, and all were granted.

4. 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.

During the year the Inspectors paid 1,512 visits to Slaughterhouses and 2,477 to other premises where food is sold or prepared for sale.

The following tables show the number of carcasses inspected and the amount of food condemned during the year.

	Cattle Exclud. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep or Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,784	5	1,096	16,772	2,365
Number inspected	2,784	5	1,096	16,772	2,365
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	5	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	228	3	5	128	51
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	8.19	60	0.46	0.79	2.16
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	2	3	—	15
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	320	—	11	—	396
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	11.67	40	1.28	—	17.38

The unsound meat destroyed during the year was :—

Beef.....	7,938 lbs.
Pork	5,267 lbs.
Veal.....	386 lbs.
Mutton	129 lbs.
Offals.....	12,313 lbs.

26,033 lbs.

—11 tons, 12 cwts., 1 qr., 1 stone, 7 lbs.

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

Beef.....	7,637 lbs.
Pork	5,249 lbs.
Veal.....	341 lbs.
Offals.....	7,259 lbs.
	<hr/>
	20,486 lbs.

—9 tons, 2 cwts., 3 qrs., 1 stone, 4 lbs.

Other foods destroyed were :—

55 tins of Meat.	2 jars of Meat Paste.
47 tins of Fish.	2 bottles of Cordials.
55 tins of Vegetables.	2 Pheasants.
144 tins of Fruit.	12 Ducks.
1 lb. of Butter.	25 Chickens.
1 jar of Honey.	14 miscellaneous Game.
65 tins of Milk and Cream.	

The total amount of butchers' meat destroyed this year is 3 qrs., 1 stone, 11 lbs. more than last year, and that destroyed for tuberculous disease is 9 cwts. less.

5. Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

Upon the whole, these regulations are adhered to by the butchers, and there are few, if any, attempts at evasion, on the contrary, the great majority of the butchers, recognising that these and other regulations are for the public good, co-operate cordially with the Department in carrying them out.

(c) OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Two offensive trades—one tripe boiling and one gut scraping—are carried on in connection with one of the Slaughterhouses. These were visited 164 times during the year, and always found in a satisfactory condition.

(d) BAKEHOUSES.

There are 54 Bakehouses in the Borough. During the year the Sanitary Inspectors have paid 232 visits to these premises and have, as a rule, found them in a cleanly and satisfactory condition.

Underground Bakehouses.

When the Factory Act, 1937, came into operation on 1st July, 1938, there were six of these bakehouses on the Register. Three of these had been disused for a considerable time and their certificates have been cancelled; two others which were in use were in many respects unsatisfactory and notice was given that their certificates would cease to have effect after the expiration of six months; the remaining one was considered satisfactory and was permitted to continue.

(e) ADULTERATION.

During the year 219 samples of foods were submitted to the County Analyst for analysis, 194 formal and 25 informal. 19 were not of the nature and substance demanded by the purchasers. In six cases proceedings were taken.

The number and nature of the samples are set out below :—

Nature of Sample	Adul- terated	Genuine	Informal	Formal	Total
Milk	19	175	—	194	194
Cream	—	1	1	—	1
Butter	—	9	9	—	9
Margarine	—	4	4	—	4
Tea	—	3	3	—	3
Coffee	—	1	1	—	1
Cocoa	—	1	1	—	1
Lemonade Crystals	—	1	1	—	1
Sausages	—	1	1	—	1
Strawberry Jam	—	2	2	—	2
Borax	—	1	1	—	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	—	1	1	—	1
Totals	19	200	25	194	219

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
7	New Milk	Added Water 2.8%	Vendor warned
16	" "	Added Water 2.3%	Vendor warned
19	" "	Added Water 4.2%	Vendor warned
24	" "	Sample deprived of 13.4% of natural fat	Prosecuted and fined £2 and £1-11-6 costs
37	" "	Sample deprived of 2.7% natural fat	No action taken
53	" "	Added Water 18.1%	Prosecuted and fined £2 and £1-11-6 costs
62	" "	Sample deprived of 12% natural fat	Prosecuted and fined £1 and £1-1-0 costs
86	"Accredited " Milk	Sample deprived of 19.3% natural fat	Prosecuted—Case dismissed
95	New Milk	Sample deprived of 2% natural fat	Vendor warned
96	" "	Sample deprived of 11% natural fat	Vendor warned
97	" "	Sample deprived of 6.3% natural fat	Vendor warned
98	" "	Sample deprived of 2% natural fat	Vendor warned
108	" "	Sample deprived of 13.3% natural fat	Prosecuted and fined £1 and £1-11-6 costs
120	" "	Sample deprived of 8% natural fat	"Appeal to Cow" sample taken by West Riding C.C. proved unsatisfactory and the matter was taken up by them
126	" "	Sample deprived of 12% natural fat	Prosecuted—Case dismissed
133	" "	Sample deprived of 5.3% natural fat	Vendor warned
139	" "	Sample deprived of 2.3% natural fat	Vendor warned
157	" "	Sample deprived of 4.7% natural fat	Vendor warned
159	" "	Sample deprived of 10% natural fat	Vendor warned

(e) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF FOOD.

Chemical examinations 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.

(f) NUTRITION—DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE.

No special work has been done in this connection.

(g) RAG FLOCK ACT.

Two samples of Rag Flock were examined, and both were found to be satisfactory.

(F) PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS 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.

Scarlet Fever was slightly less prevalent than in the previous year. The number of notifications was 76, as compared with 86. The attack rate is 1.7 per 1,000, which is, with the exception of 1932 and 1933, the lowest rate recorded since 1928. There was one death, that of a male aged thirty-five years.

The age and sex distribution is shown 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	1	1	3	4	4	16	3	—	3	1	—	36
Females	1	2	—	1	1	19	6	6	2	1	1	40
Totals	2	3	3	5	5	35	9	6	5	2	1	76

Return Cases.

Four cases were classed as "return" cases. This is about 7 per cent of the number admitted to Hospital, as compared with 9 per cent last year.

3. Diphtheria.

Diphtheria was somewhat less prevalent during the year, 20 cases having been notified as compared with 28 during 1937, giving an attack rate of 0.47 per 1,000 as against 0.7.

There were three deaths, giving a case mortality of 15 per cent and a death rate of 0.07 per 1,000, the same as the rate for England and Wales.

The age and sex distribution is shown in the following table :—

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-15	15-25	25 and up- wards
Male	-	-	1	-	-	8	-	-
Female	-	-	-	2	-	5	2	2
Totals	-	-	1	2	-	13	2	2

The incidence was almost entirely confined to the latter part of the year, 13 of the cases being notified in the last quarter. Five of these were in attendance at an elementary school, but the infection appears to have been spread not by school contact, but by two carriers of the virulent bacillus who were discovered in the household of one of the cases. No further cases occurred after the removal of these carriers to hospital. Altogether 7 carriers were discovered among contacts; in 5 the bacillus was typed; 4 were "gravis" and one was avirulent.

In six instances the affected child had received an immunising dose of T.A.F. at intervals varying from 2 months to 4 years before the onset. One child who unfortunately died had received two doses, the last one only a fortnight before the onset, so that there had not been time for immunity to develop.

Immunisation.

This has been carried out on the same lines as before. The following table shows the number immunised during the year; although larger than in the previous year, it is still disappointingly small, especially among the younger children.

Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	Over 20 years
-	19	23	20	23	128	14	-	-

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

The arrangements for the supply of free antitoxin continued in force, and during the year 88,000 units were supplied to 7 cases at an approximate cost of £5 15s. 3d.

4. Enteric Fever.

No cases were notified, there was, however, 1 death, that of a female aged 76, who died in the General Hospital. In this case, death was certified as being due to Broncho-pneumonia secondary to Enteritis due to Para-Typhoid and the existence of Para-Typhoid was only discovered post-mortem.

5. Pneumonia.

There was a slight decrease in the prevalence of pneumonia; 68 cases being notified, as compared with 76 during 1937.

6. Encephalitis Lethargica.

No cases were notified.

7. Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.

One case was notified during the year. The patient, a female aged 20 years who was employed as a probationer nurse in a home for babies, became ill about a fortnight after her arrival in Harrogate. She was removed to the General Hospital on the fourth day of illness, when the diagnosis was bacteriologically confirmed. Under treatment with serum administered intrathecally and prontosil intramuscularly, she at first improved rapidly, but this improvement was not maintained, and she died three weeks after admission. The other members of the staff of the home were swabbed and one was found to be a "carrier." She was removed to the Isolation Hospital and remained there until the bacteriologist was satisfied that she was no longer infective.

No further cases occurred.

8. Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES & MORTALITY during 1938.

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	-	-	-	-
5-15 „	-	-	2	2	1	-	1	-
15-25 „	-	2	-	3	-	-	1	-
25-35 „	2	6	-	3	3	-	-	-
35-45 „	2	3	1	1	4	1	-	-
45-55 „	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	-
55-65 „	4	1	1	-	3	1	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	10	14	5	12	14	3	4	-

There were 21 deaths from tuberculosis during the year as compared with 23 in 1937. The death rate is 0.49 per 1,000, which is somewhat lower than that of the preceding year (0.59).

In 17 cases death was due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and in 4 to Tuberculosis of other organs.

In nine of the fatal cases notification had been received more than 1 year; in one, more than 6 months; and in 7, less than 6 months before death. In 4 instances—14.4 per cent of the total number of deaths—the case had not been notified before death.

9. Puerperal Pyrexia.

During the year 9 cases were notified, including 2 cases notified from the General Hospital after admission from other districts. In 3 of the local cases the pyrexia appeared to be definitely due to causes other than sepsis; in one it was due to some burns caused by clothing catching fire and this case proved fatal. The others all made good recoveries.

10. Food Poisoning.

No case came to notice during the year.

(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 (including German Measles).

Measles was prevalent to a considerable extent during the year. 106 notifications were received from the schools, as compared with 260 during the previous year.

There was one death.

2. Whooping Cough.

There was a decrease in the prevalence of Whooping Cough; 10 cases being notified, as compared with 83 during the previous year.

3. Mumps.

Eight cases of Mumps came to notice during the year as compared with 114 during 1937.

4. Influenza.

Influenza appears to have been less prevalent than in the previous year; 6 deaths, 2 males and 4 females were registered, as compared with 15 during 1937. The death rate is, therefore, 0.13 per 1,000, which is slightly above that for England and Wales (0.11).

5. Cancer.

According to the Registrar-General 100 deaths—37 males and 63 females—were due to cancer, but the local records show that only 96—34 males and 62 females—were due to this cause. Using the Registrar-General's figure, the death rate is 2.33; this is the highest rate on record with the exception of 1934, when the rate was 2.5.

The following tables compiled from the local returns show the age and sex distribution and the organs affected.

	AGE GROUPS.					Total
	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 and over	
Males	—	3	12	16	3	34
Females	2	6	13	22	19	62
Totals	2	9	25	38	22	96

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

Organs affected.	AGE GROUPS.					
	Males.	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 and over. All Ages.
Stomach and Intestines	-	-	4	9	1	14
Liver and Gall Bladder	-	2	1	2	1	6
Pancreas	-	-	-	1	-	1
Lungs and Trachea	-	-	2	-	-	2
Prostate	-	-	1	1	-	2
Jaw	-	-	-	-	1	1
Spine	-	-	-	2	-	2
Oesophagus	-	-	2	1	-	3
Bladder....	-	1	-	-	-	1
Females.						
		35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 and over. All Ages.
Stomach and Intestines	-	-	4	9	11	24
Genital Organs	2	-	1	3	1	7
Breast	-	4	5	4	4	17
Pancreas	-	1	-	2	-	3
Lungs, &c.	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bone	-	-	-	1	-	1
Other Organs	-	-	-	-	1	1

(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:—

Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	21
Swabs for B. Diphtheriæ	506
Sera for Widal Reaction	2
Milks for Tubercle Bacilli	79
Urines for Tubercle Bacilli and General Examination	11
Other Examinations	9
Blood Films.....	12
Fæces for B. Typhosus.....	1
Water for Bacteriological Examination.....	35

(d) **DISINFECTION.**

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

Vermineous 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:—

Houses	141
Hotels	5
Nursing Homes.....	5
Schools	1

Beds	121
Mattresses	175
Blankets	618
Quilts	291
Sheets	371
Pillows	342
Pillow Slips.....	391
Outer Garments	325
Underclothing	420
Carpets	44
Bolsters.....	119
Rugs	133
Curtains	198
Valances	12
Towels	229
Toilet Covers.....	91
Cushions	70
Miscellaneous	475

4,425

(e) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(1) Number of houses found to be infested :—

(a) Council Houses	Nil
(b) Other Houses	7

Number of houses disinfested :—

(a) Council Houses	Nil
(b) Other Houses	7

- (2) Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs. Spraying with "Zaldecide."
- (3) The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses. Furniture subjected to "Cimex" process. Bedding steam disinfested.
- (4) Disinfestation is carried out by Contractor, Bedding steam disinfested by Local Authority.
- (5) The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing. Lectures and demonstrations given to parents and school-children at Health Exhibition.

(f) 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.**(a) MATERNAL MORTALITY.**

There were no maternal deaths during the year, and the death rate was, therefore "nil," as compared with a rate for England and Wales of 2.97 per 1,000 total births.

(b) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.**1. Municipal Midwives.**

During the year the three Municipal Midwives attended 265 confinements ; 141 as midwives, and 124 as maternity nurses, and they paid 1,076 ante-natal and 3,315 post-natal visits during the same period.

In addition, the Harrogate and District Nursing Association and the Pannal District Nursing Association, both of which are subsidised by the West Riding County Council, attended 164 confinements, 121 as midwives and 43 as maternity nurses. During the same period they have paid 1,248 ante-natal visits, and 2,954 post-natal visits.

2. Maternity Services.

The arrangements for the admission of complicated maternity cases to the General Hospital remain in operation.

The new Maternity Block at the Hospital was opened by H.R.H. The Princess Royal on the 24th September, 1938, and has been fully occupied ever since.

The extent to which these services are utilised is set out below.

1. **Normal Maternity Cases**—applications for admission to Nursing Home.

No. of applications received	12
No. granted	8
No. withdrawn by applicant	1
No. refused	3

2. **Complicated Maternity Cases**—applications for admission to the General Hospital.

No. of applications received	66
No. granted	56
No. refused	8
Consideration not completed at end of year.....	2

3. **Grant in Aid of Midwife's Fee.**

No. of applications received	48
No. granted	40
(38 mid. cases, 2 mat. cases)	
No. refused	7
No. cancelled.....	1

4. **Puerperal Pyrexia.**

No. of applications received	3
No. granted	2
No. refused	1

5. **Blood Transfusions**

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(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 which, while primarily a rescue home, admits a certain number of unmarried mothers both before and after confinement.

(d) ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Owing to the large numbers attending this clinic—frequently over 20 per session—it was found necessary to make further provision and since October 19th, an additional session has been held every Monday evening at 6-30 p.m. An evening session was decided upon with some misgiving, but in fact the evening session has proved quite successful and the attendance at the two sessions is now approximately equal.

The following table shows in statistical form the work done at this clinic.

	1937	1938
(a) Total attendances	814	969
(b) Average attendance per session	16.9	17
(c) Number of individual mothers	†259	*300
Percentage of notified births (live and still) represented by the total numbers of women shown under (c)	53	55
Number referred for treatment.....	81	‡67

	1938	
To Hospital for confinement	38	} 67
For Dental treatment.....	17	
For miscellaneous reasons.....	12	

* Includes 21 from County Areas.

†	9	„	„	„
‡	4	„	„	„

(e) COMPENSATION TO MIDWIVES.

Where a midwife brings or sends a patient to the Ante-Natal Clinic and that patient is sent to hospital for her confinement the Council pays to the Midwife the sum of 15s. as compensation.

Fourteen applications for compensation were received during the year, nine of which were granted, four were refused and the consideration of one was not completed at the end of the year.

(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 two were supplied during the year, both of which were given free.

(2) CHILD WELFARE.**(a) Infant Mortality.**

During the year 25 infants, 10 male and 15 female, died before reaching their first birthday. The infant mortality is, therefore, 48.6 per 1,000 live births, which is below the rate for the previous year (51.1) and is also below that of the whole of the Country.

As is nearly always the case, the mortality was mainly among newly born infants; in 15 instances, 60 per cent of the total number, the infant survived its birth for less than 4 weeks, and in 13 instances for less than one week. The neo-natal mortality, i.e., the deaths of infants under one month of age is 29.2 per 1,000 live births, which is less than for the previous year (42.6).

ILLEGITIMATE MORTALITY.

As is always the case, and as is indeed to be expected, the mortality among illegitimate infants was higher than among legitimate infants: 68.1 per 1,000 illegitimate live births as compared with 47.0 per 1,000 legitimate live births. The corresponding figures for 1937 were 307.7 and 36.0.

(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 4 patients in the hospital and 78 were admitted during the year. The average duration of stay was 18 days.

The conditions for which admission was sought were:—

Malnutrition and improper feeding	35
Digestive Disorders	13
Skin Diseases	11
Prematurity	8
Other conditions	11

72 patients were discharged during the year : 66 in good health ; 2 improved and in 4 there was no improvement. There were 8 deaths during the year.

(2) ST. AGNES' HOME.

Maintained by voluntary subscriptions and a grant from the Ministry of Health ; has accommodation for 14 infants, aged 1—18 months, only illegitimate infants are received, and a charge of 10s. 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.....	431
Subsequent visits to Infants	2,552
Visits to Children aged 1—5 years.....	3,925
Enquiries into Infant Deaths	19
Visits to Cases of Measles under 5 years	20
Visits to Whooping Cough under 5 years	5
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Visits to Expectant Mothers	171
Miscellaneous Visits	421
	<hr/>
	7,545

(d) **Welfare Centres.**

The three Welfare Centres continued to function during the year.

The attendances at the Centres are set out in the following table :—

(a) Total attendances by children under 1 year of age	6,205
(b) Total attendances by children between 1 and 5 years of age.....	6,659
(c) Total number of children who have 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	370
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	73
Total number of children who attended the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year were :	
(1) Under 1 year of age	339

(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	964
Percentage of notified live births represented by number in (c) (1)	76

In addition 41 Children from other districts attended the Centres.

It has long been recognised that the existing premises are quite unsuitable for the work which is carried on there, and as was stated in my report for 1937, it is suggested that the Observation Ward, which is in the same building as the Centres, be transferred to the General Hospital and that the whole of the building be adapted for use as a Welfare Centre and School Clinic at a cost of about £1,000. It is also suggested that the Council should purchase land—a suitable site is now available—with the intention of erecting thereon at some future date an entirely new Centre. Both suggestions are being submitted to the Minister for his decision.

(e) Supply of Milk.

The supply of free milk to necessitous infants and mothers continued during the year. The only alteration to the existing scheme being that at the end of the year the Committee decided to allow milk in necessitous cases to infants up to the age of 5 years.

During 1938 the total number of recipients was 199, of whom 78 were new cases. The cost of the milk supplied was approximately £556, as compared with 144 recipients during 1937, and a cost of approximately £363.

(f) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Three cases were notified during the year, 2 of which were treated at home and 1, a non-resident, was admitted to a Nursing Home in the Borough.

In all 3 instances no impairment of vision resulted.

No. Notified.	Treated.		Vision Unim- paired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	At Nsg. Home				
3	2	1	3	—	—	—

(g) Infant Life Protection.

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

Children on the Register at beginning of year	35
New notifications received during the year	*98
Children removed from the Register	76
Children on the Register at end of the year.....	57

* Includes 29 taken over on the extension of the Borough, 1/4/39.

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

Transferred to the care of relations	42
Adopted	4
Removed to Institutions	4
Transferred to other districts	21
Died	2
Over age	3

Foster Parents.

Number on Register at the beginning of the year.....	22
New applications received	*18
Removed from Register.....	17
On Register at end of year	23

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

Ceased to have nurse child	13
Children over age	3
Died	1

* Includes 4 taken over on the extension of the Borough, 1/4/39.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the YEAR
1938 for the BOROUGH OF HARROGATE in the
County of York, West Riding**

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories
Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to Health.
(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	184	3	—
Factories without mechanical power	146	8	—
*Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
* Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			
Total	330	11	—

2—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1)	11	11	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)	insufficient	1	—	—
	unsuitable or defective	1	—	—
	not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Other Offences (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)	—	—	—	—
Total	13	12	—	—



