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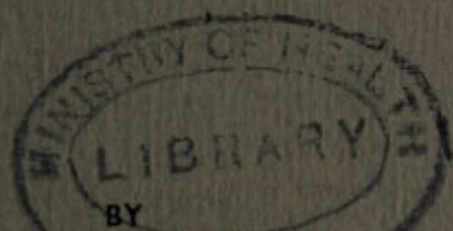
Borough of Harrogate

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

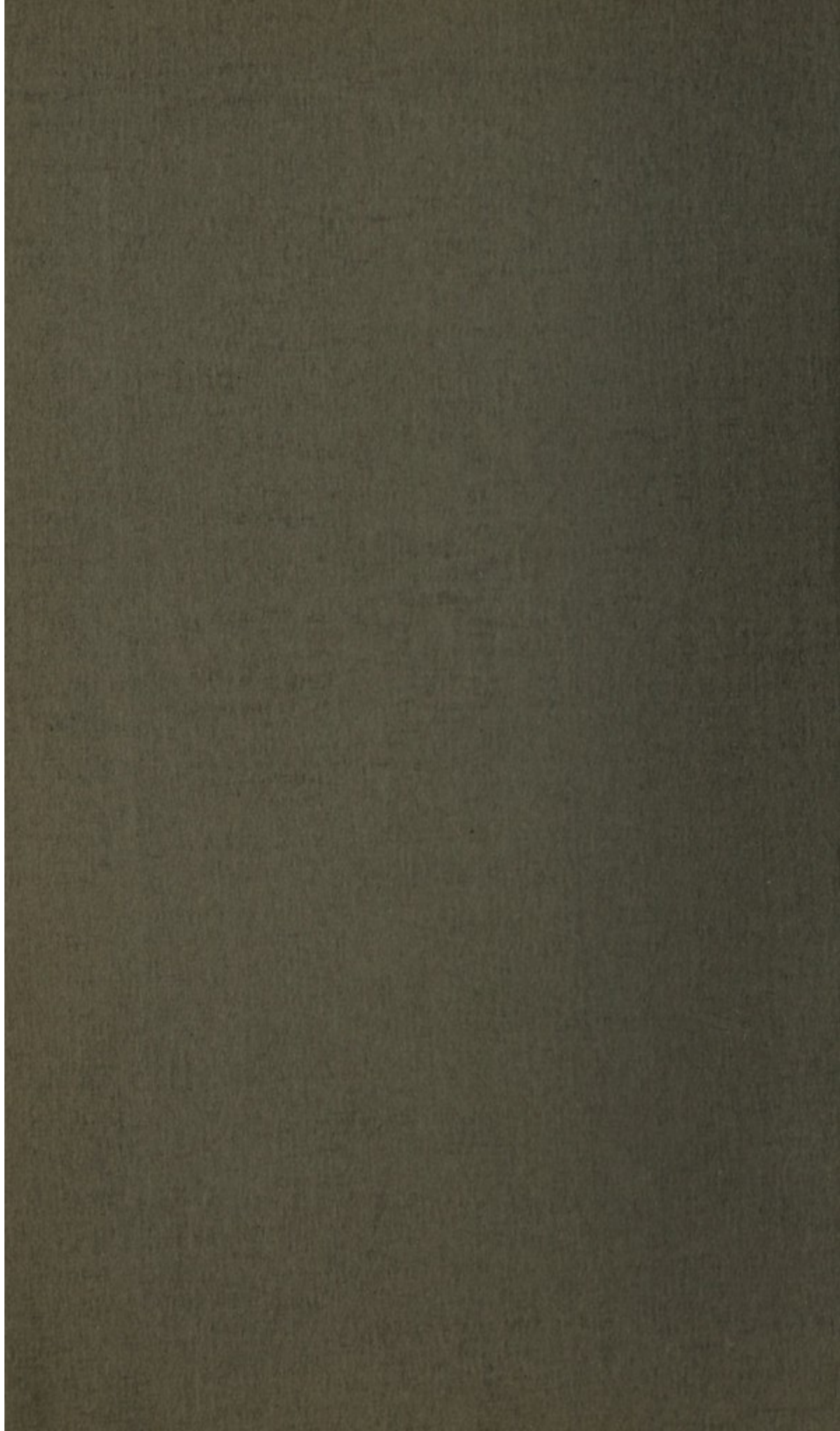
FOR THE YEAR

1954



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

Medical Officer of Health







BOROUGH OF HARROGATE

*With the  
Medical Officer of Health's  
Compliments*

*Public Health Office  
Harrogate.*





BOROUGH OF HARRINGTON

THE  
MEDICAL OFFICE OF HEALTH  
COMMISSIONERS

Public Health Officer  
Harrington



Borough of Harrogate

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## THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1954

---

Chairman : Alderman Mrs. M. FISHER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor H. LENG

THE MAYOR (Councillor Don. M. CHRISTELOW, J. P.)

Ald.	Mrs. FISHER, J.P.	Coun.	MABER
„	TENNANT	„	MORRELL
Coun.	BARKER	„	POUNDER
„	CRADDOCK	„	POWELL
„	HITCHEN	„	ROGERS
„	HOLROYD	„	SCHOFIELD
„	KIRBY	„	SHILLITO
„	LENG	„	Miss WARDLE
„	LOWE	„	WEBSTER

### HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE :

Chairman: Alderman Mrs. FISHER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor H. LENG

THE MAYOR (Councillor Don. M. Christelow, J.P.)

Ald.	Mrs. FISHER, J.P.	Coun.	MORRELL
Coun.	BARKER	„	POWELL
„	LENG	„	Miss WARDLE



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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for 1954.

It is gratifying to note the decrease in the incidence of cases of tuberculosis in this Borough. Ten years ago there were 70 new cases notified with 23 deaths, whilst in 1954 there were 33 new cases notified with 12 deaths. This downward trend has been general throughout the country since the war and is in part due to improved housing conditions and better nutrition, to the efforts of the health services in making an early diagnosis of cases, to the modern methods of treatment and to the prevention of the spread of infection.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are the centres for the advisory and educational health work in the area. Through the clinic medical officer and health visitor information may be obtained about the personal health services of the local authority. During recent years there has been throughout the country a fall in attendance at local authority ante-natal clinics. This in part has been due to the increasing number of mothers who have their confinements in hospitals and who attend the hospital ante-natal clinics to make application for admission and for subsequent supervision. This may mean that expectant mothers do not receive the group health teaching and advice which is so valuable in the ante-natal period. To overcome this difficulty, health instruction is given in conjunction with the relaxation clinic and mothercraft classes have been instituted.

At the Child Welfare Clinics the primary object is the promotion and maintenance of the health of the children. When the child is being medically examined, advice is often sought by the mother, there is sometimes a failure to gain weight or feeding difficulties, not infrequently there is a history of colds or coughs, sometimes minor orthopaedic defects, and in the



toddlers age group behaviour difficulties are met with. The importance of preventive work in dealing with early emotional problems in young children is not always realised. During the first four years of a child's life the relationship with the mother is of paramount importance, disturbance in this relationship may in a proportion of cases harden into a serious problem and possibly sow the seeds of future delinquency. Following the sympathetic and patient hearing of the problem, in most cases the mother's anxiety may be relieved and she may be shown a line of action which will resolve the maladjustment. In rare instances only, is it necessary to refer cases for psychiatric or child guidance advice.

The shortage of accommodation in hospitals for mental defectives is widespread throughout the country. In order to compensate in a small way for this shortage, short term vacancies have been provided at these hospitals during recent years. This scheme enables mental defectives to be admitted for a limited period, usually from three to eight weeks, during the time of a domestic crisis, such as the illness of the mother or to relieve the prolonged strain on the relatives of attending to the defective and enable them perhaps to take a short holiday on their own.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and assistance and to record my appreciation of the loyal work of the staff of the Department.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

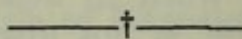
D. D. PAYNE

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
Municipal Offices,  
HARROGATE.  
June, 1955.



## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1954



### Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer:

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

### Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior Assistant County Medical Officer:

P. S. R. BURRELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

E. DODSWORTH, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C. (a) (b)

### Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector and Deputy Cleansing Superintendent :

V. OVERSBY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst.P.C. (a) (b)

### Sanitary Inspectors :

- F. COE, A.R.S.I. Cert S.I.B. (a) (b)  
A. HOWARD, M.R.S.I., Cert.S.I.B., A.I.S.E., (a) (c)  
(1) R. HULLAH, A.R.S.I., Cert. S.I.B., A.R.I.P.H. and H: (a)  
(2) E. B. COOP, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (a)

### Public Analysts :

FRED W. M. JAFFÉ, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.  
J. C. HARRAL, F.R.I.C.

### Clerical Staff :

(also Clerical Staff of Division No. 8 under the scheme of Divisional Administration of the Preventive Medical Service).

R. W. LEEMING (Chief Clerk)	J. E. BIELBY
Retired 30-6-54.	Miss M. WRAY
L. R. WILKINSON (Chief Clerk)	Miss M. UNSWORTH
Appointed 19-7-54.	Mrs. W. GLEDHILL
G. W. N. GRAHAM (Senior Clerk)	K. W. DARLEY
Resigned 17-7-54.	R. BENTLEY
W. FOX, D.P.A. (Senior Clerk)	Mrs. K. MORRIS
Promoted 19-7-54.	Miss A. LEGGETT
Miss M. STARKEY (Senior Clerk)	

### Sanitary and Cleansing Sections :

H. M. WILEY, D.P.A. (Senior Clerk)	Miss M. M. ATKINSON
H. K. PEARSON	(3) J. G. ORD

- (a) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Meat and Other Foods Inspector.  
(b) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applies to Buildings and Public Works.  
(c) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.  
(1) Resigned 30-9-54.  
(2) Commenced 1-12-54  
(3) Resigned 31-10-54



# GENERAL STATISTICS, 1954.

Area (acres) ... ..	8,320
Population (mid-summer, 1954, estimated by the Registrar General) ... ..	51,690
Number of Inhabited houses (Rate Books, March 31st, 1954) ...	16,105
Rateable Value, March, 1954 ... ..	£617,813
Product of Penny Rate, March, 1954 ... ..	£2,474
<b>Births</b>	
Males	Females
Live Births : Legitimate 322 } 348    Legitimate 258 } 273	621
Illegitimate 26 }                    Illegitimate 15 }	
Birth Rate (Live births per 1,000 of the estimated populaton)	12.0
*Corrected Birth Rate                    "                    "                    "	12.6
Males	Females
Still Births : Legitimate 6 } 6    Legitimate 9 } 9	15
Illegitimate - }                    Illegitimate - }	
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	23.6
<b>Deaths</b>	
Number of deaths: Males 326, Females 369 ... ..	695
Crude Death Rate ... ..	13.4
*Corrected Death Rate ... ..	10.1
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ... ..	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:	
Males	Females
Legitimate 5 } 5    Legitimate 2 } 2	7
Illegitimate - }                    Illegitimate - }	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	11.3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	12.1
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	0.0
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea (1) rate per 1,000 population ... ..	0.02
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (5) rate per 1,000 population ... ..	0.10
Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases (2) rate per 1,000 ... ..	0.04
Deaths from Infective and parasitic diseases excluding Tuberculosis but including Syphilis and other Venereal Diseases (2) rate per 1,000 population ...	0.04
Deaths from Vascular lesions of the nervous system (123) rate per 1,000 population ... ..	2.38
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory diseases (281) rate per 1,000 population ... ..	5.44
Deaths from Cancer (126) rate per 1,000 population ... ..	2.44
Deaths from Respiratory diseases (58) rate per 1,000 population ... ..	1.12
Mean Annual Temperature ... ..	47.3°F
Total Rainfall (in inches) ... ..	32.49
Hours of Bright Sunshine ... ..	1,116.1
* Adjusted by Area Comparability Factor supplied by the Registrar General	
Deaths	0.75
Births	1.05

**TABLE I. VITAL STATISTICS OF HARROGATE FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.**

	Estimated Population	Nett Live Births		Nett Deaths			
				Under 1 year of age		At all ages	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate per 1,000 live Births	No.	Rate
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
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	52	48.6	647	15.1
1939	46,020	579	12.6	25	43.0	646	14.0
1940	52,200	583	11.2	35	59.2	737	14.1
1941	54,790	594	10.8	30	48.6	706	12.9
1942	52,180	724	13.9	27	37.3	654	12.5
1943	50,180	625	12.5	22	35.2	702	14.0
1944	49,740	736	14.8	20	27.2	676	13.6
1945	48,730	679	13.9	25	36.8	682	13.9
1946	49,300	818	16.6	24	29.3	684	13.9
1947	49,660	906	18.2	32	35.3	724	14.6
1948	52,300	795	15.2	18	22.6	665	12.7
1949	51,930	690	13.3	25	36.0	771	12.5
1950	51,920	649	11.9	33	51.0	776	12.4
1951	51,210	663	12.3	19	28.7	774	12.5
1952	51,050	667	12.4	13	19.5	720	11.7
1953	51,290	678	12.6	18	26.5	609	9.9
1954	51,690	621	12.6	7	11.3	695	10.1

The deaths from the year 1949 have been adjusted by an Area Comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General and the births have been similarly corrected since 1950 (0.75 and 1.05 respectively).



**TABLE II**  
**CAUSES OF DEATH IN HARROGATE BOROUGH, 1954**

Causes of Death						1954	
						Male	Female
All Causes						326	369
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	3	2
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	1	1
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	2	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	8	12
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	19	5
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	9
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	10
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	28	32
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	2	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	2	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	47	76
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	69	53
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	5	11
20	Other heart diseases	...	...	...	...	45	66
21	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	16	16
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	10	14
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	21	7
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	3	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	4
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	5	6
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	6	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	2	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	20	29
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	4	1
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	1	7
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	4	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—
<b>Total</b>						<b>695</b>	

TABLE III.

## INFANT MORTALITY, 1953 and 1954.

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

Cause of Death.	1953	1954									
		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks.	4 wks. & under 3 mths.	3 and under 6 months.	6 and under 9 months.	9 and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 yr
1 Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Abdominal Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8 Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9 Convulsions ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11 Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12 Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
13 Diarrhoea, Enteritis & Gastritis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14 Syphilis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 Asphyxia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16 Injury at birth ... ..	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
17 Atelectasis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18 Congenital Malformations ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19 Premature Birth ... ..	7	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
20 Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21 Other Causes ... ..	3	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Totals ... ..	18	5	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	7



TABLE IV.

AGE GROUPS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING DURING THE  
52 WEEKS ENDED 25th DECEMBER, 1954

Disease	Total Notified	Number of Cases Notified							No of Cases admit'd to Hospital	Total No of Deaths (Noti- fied Cases)
		At Ages—Years								
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25 and over		
Scarlet Fever	33	—	3	10	15	3	1	1	16	—
Pneumonia	27	—	—	—	1	3	5	18	4	3
Dysentery	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
Measles	639	14	137	183	297	3	1	4	4	—
Whooping Cough	17	1	6	6	4	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	9	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Food Poisoning	11	1	1	—	—	—	3	6	1	—
Poliomyelitis	4	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	3	—
	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### 1. POPULATION.

The population estimated by the Registrar General at the end of June, 1954, was 51,690, which was 400 higher than his estimate for 1953.

### 2. UNEMPLOYMENT.

The number of unemployed persons on the Register of the Employment Exchange in the district, at the end of the year was 277, 168 males and 109 females. This was a decrease on the previous year when the total figure of unemployed persons was 356.

At the end of 1954 there were 8 boys and 24 girls listed by the Youth Employment Bureau as unemployed.

### 3. BIRTHS.

#### (a) Live Births.

The number of live births registered during the year was 1102, 598 males and 504 females, but the corrected figure supplied by the Registrar General which is used for the calculations below and which takes into account inward and outward transfers was 621, 348 males and 273 females. This was a decrease of 57 on the figure for 1953. The birth rate (adjusted by the area comparability factor) was 12.6 live births per thousand of the estimated population, this was 2.6 below the rate for England and Wales (15.2).

There were 41 illegitimate live births, 26 males and 15 females, representing approximately 6.6 per cent. of the live births.

#### (b) Still Births.

22 still-births, 11 males and 11 females were registered during the year. The corrected figure supplied by the Registrar General and adjusted for inward and outward transfers was 15, 6 males and 9 females, which is 1 less than last year.

This gave a rate of 23.6 per thousand (live and still) births as compared with 23.4 for England and Wales.



#### **4. DEATHS.**

The number of deaths registered during 1954 in the Borough was 696, 342 males and 354 females, but the number of deaths given by the Registrar General corrected for inward and outward transfers was 695, 326 males and 369 females. The crude death rate was 13.4 per thousand, but when adjusted by the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General, the rate was reduced to 10.1 per thousand, as compared with 11.3 for England and Wales.

#### **Infant Mortality.**

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 7, 5 males and 2 females, as compared with 18, 11 males and 7 females during the preceding year. The infant mortality rate was 11.3 per thousand live births as compared with 26.5 for 1953, and a rate of 25.5 for England and Wales.

#### **Cremations.**

During 1954, 397 bodies were cremated at the Stonefall Crematorium, and 61 at Lawnswood Crematorium, Leeds, whilst repairs were being carried out at Stonefall Crematorium. Of the total number of 458 cremations, 268 had been residents of the Borough of Harrogate.

### **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 10.

#### **2. HEALTH SERVICES.**

##### **(a) Laboratory Facilities.**

##### **(1) Chemical**

The chemical analysis of milk, foodstuffs, spring and well water is carried out by Messrs. Richardson and Jaffé. 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 from cases or suspected cases of infectious disease, food poisoning, etc., is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at the Harrogate and District General Hospital.

The laboratory also carries out the bacteriological examination of well and spring water, and milk, together with methylene blue tests on milk and ice cream, and phosphatase tests on milk.

Examinations to ascertain infection of milk with tubercle bacilli are sent through the Public Health Laboratory in Harrogate to the Northallerton Public Health Laboratory. The examination of water supplies for plumbo solvent action has been undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service situated at County Hall, Wakefield.

Harrogate is fortunate in having a Public Health Laboratory Service situated at the Harrogate General Hospital.

Dr. D. J. H. Payne, the Bacteriologist in charge of the Laboratory, co-operates fully with the Medical Officer of Health and his staff. The services of the Laboratory have been particularly valuable when an outbreak of infection has occurred in a boarding school, a nursing home, or other institution, or where there have been suspected cases of food poisoning.

### **(b) Hospitals**

The names, purposes, etc., of the Hospitals principally used are set out in detail on page 19.

These Hospitals are under the management of the Regional Hospital Board.

### **(c) Local Authority Clinics**

The Local Authority Clinics held in Harrogate are listed on page 20.



## HOSPITALS

Name	Situation	Purpose	Beds			Management
			Males	Females	Children	
Isolation Hospital	Thistle Hill, Knaresborough	Infectious Diseases	11	11	10	Regional Hospital Board
do do	do	Two Wards for Non- Infectious Children	—	—	22	
Harrogate and Dist. General Hospital	Knaresborough Rd., Harrogate	Medical, Surgical and Maternity	73	153	27	
Carlton Lodge	Leeds Road Harrogate	Maternity	—	11	—	do
Royal Bath Hospital	Cornwall Road, Harrogate	Rheumatic Diseases	48	92	7	do
White Hart Hospital	Cold Bath Road, Harrogate	do	133 interchangeable beds			do

# SCHOOL, MATERNITY, AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

(a) Central Clinic 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate. Tel. 6332	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Minor Ailments	† 10 a.m. 2-30 p.m.	—	—	† 10 a.m.	—	—
" (Starbeck Council School)	—	—	—	—	—	—
General School Clinic	—	—	† 2-30 p.m.	—	—	—
Ophthalmic Clinic	—	—	—	—	(by appointment)	—
Orthopaedic Clinic	—	§ (by appointment)	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination	—	—	—	—	10 a.m. (by appointment)	—
Artificial Sunlight	9-0 a.m. (by appointment)	—	2-0 p.m. (by appointment)	—	9-0 a.m. (by appointment)	—
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	—	§ 9-30 a.m. (by appointment)	—	—	—	—
Dental Clinic (by appointment only)	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon
Cardiac Clinic	—	—	—	—	—	10 a.m. (by appointment)
Speech Therapy	1-30 p.m. (by appointment)	9-0 a.m. (by appointment)	2 p.m. (by appointment)	—	—	—
Maternity and Child Welfare	—	—	—	—	—	—
Child Welfare Centre	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—
Child Welfare Centre (Methodist School, High St., Starbeck)	—	—	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—	—
Child Welfare Centre (St. Joseph's R.C. Schoolroom, Skipton Road)	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—	—	—	—
Ante-Natal Clinic	—	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	10 a.m. to 12 noon	—	—	—

† School Medical Officer in attendance  
§ Second and Fourth Tuesday each month

† Urgent Cases by Telephone appointment  
§ First and third Tuesday each month



# THE PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THEIR CONTROL

## (a) NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The number of cases notified and the number of deaths from notifiable infectious disease are set out in Table IV on page 15.

### 1. Scarlet Fever.

33 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year as compared with 229 in 1953. The cases notified were very mild in character and no complications occurred. The tendency is now, when the cases are mild, for them to be nursed at home, if the home conditions are satisfactory.

17 of the above cases were isolated in their own homes and 16 patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

### 2. Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

485 children under five years of age and 87 children of school age were immunised against Diphtheria for the first time during 1954.

731 reinforcing inoculations were given during the year to children where the degree of immunity had been diminished by the length of time since their initial inoculation.

Individual persuasion by the family doctor and the health visitor on the value of immunisation against Diphtheria is the best way of obtaining co-operation from the parent.

A clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Friday mornings at 10 a.m. for the purpose of Diphtheria immunisation. Diphtheria immunisation is also carried out at the Infant Welfare Clinics, in schools, and is also undertaken by local medical practitioners.

### **3. Pneumonia.**

27 cases of Pneumonia were notified, of these, 20 were acute primary pneumonia, and 7 were influenzal pneumonia, 3 of the cases were fatal.

### **4. Dysentery.**

2 cases of sonne dysentery were notified, both of the cases were children from the same family, both made rapid recoveries. It was thought that the infection arose from a domestic servant who had acted as a carrier between these two cases in Harrogate and a case of sonne dysentery which had arisen in another Division.

### **5. Erysipelas.**

8 cases of Erysipelas were notified as compared with 12 in the preceding year. All these cases cleared very rapidly with antibiotic treatment.

### **6. Poliomyelitis.**

5 cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year as compared with 4 during 1953. Of these 5 cases, 3 made complete recoveries without any residual paralysis. In 1 case there was some weakness remaining in the left shoulder and left arm and in the other case there was some weakness in both legs.

One of the children attended a private boarding school and developed symptoms of poliomyelitis two days after leaving her home in Gosforth and there is no doubt the infection was contracted in her home town.



## **7. Enteric Fever.**

No case of Typhoid Fever was notified.

## **8. Meningococcal Infection.**

2 cases of meningococcal infection were treated in the Harrogate General Hospital. One was a baby of four months admitted from Pateley Bridge and the second a child aged nine months, admitted from Knaresborough. Both children made good recoveries.

## **9. Measles.**

639 cases of measles were notified as compared with 365 during 1953. There were no deaths, and the illness in most cases was mild in character. The majority of the cases were in young children who had recently entered primary schools at the age of five years.

## **10. Whooping Cough.**

17 cases of Whooping Cough have been notified as compared with 189 during 1953. There were no fatal cases.

### **WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.**

Immunisation against Whooping Cough is undertaken both by the Medical Staff of the Health Department and by general practitioners. The best age for protecting young children is between three and six months, as Whooping Cough proves to be a more serious infection in the very young. Protective treatment is not given beyond the age of four years.

The number of Whooping Cough immunisations carried out in 1954 was 262.

## 11. Puerperal Pyrexia.

9 cases of puerperal pyrexia in maternity cases confined in the Harrogate General Hospital occurred in 1954 as compared with 13 during the preceding year. In 4 cases the raised temperature was due to mild uterine infection, 1 case was due to urinary infection, 1 case to catarrhal infection and in 3 cases no definite cause for the raised temperature could be found. All these cases cleared up satisfactorily and in each case the baby was alive and well.

Of these 9 cases, the homes of 4 were outside the Harrogate Borough.

## 12. Smallpox.

No case of Smallpox occurred in the Borough.

### SMALLPOX VACCINATION.

A vaccination clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Friday mornings at 11 a.m. Vaccinations are also carried out by general practitioners who send details of the vaccinations to the Health Department for record purposes.

The total number of vaccinations carried out in the Borough are shown in the column below:—

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years and over	Total
No. Vaccinated ...	393	25	14	23	36	491
No. Re-vaccinated	—	—	2	13	100	115

The most important argument in favour of the routine primary vaccination of healthy children in infancy is that complications are fewer and less troublesome when primary vaccination is done at this age. The best age for primary vaccination is considered to be four months.

The number of children under one year of age vaccinated in this Borough in 1954 was 63.3 per cent. of the number of live births registered during the year, and this is a very satisfactory percentage.



### 13. Ophthalmia Neonatorum .

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year.

### 14. Tuberculosis.

33 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1954, of these 26 were pulmonary tuberculosis and 7 were non-pulmonary.

The following table gives details of the new cases notified and of the mortality for 1954 :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 4 years ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 „ ....	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—
15-24 „ ....	3	7	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-34 „ ....	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
35-44 „ ....	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—
45-54 „ ....	4	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
55-64 „ ....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
65 and upwards ....	3	1	—	—	4	1	—	—
<b>Totals</b> ....	12	14	3	4	7	3	1	1

50 cases were removed from the Register, 12 of whom died and 18 recovered, the remaining 20 were transferred to other areas or the diagnosis was revised.

101 new contacts were examined at the Harrogate Chest Clinic during the year, none of whom were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis, but 5 remained under observation at the end of the year. There were 560 routine attendances of notified cases and 244 routine attendances of contacts at this Clinic.

All child contacts who were found to be "Mantoux negative" were referred for B.C.G. vaccination.



The provision of Home Helps for tuberculous families has been greatly appreciated by the patients.

#### **B. C. G. VACCINATIONS.**

B.C.G. Vaccinations were carried out by the Staff of the Chest Physician in the district, in close co-operation with the Medical Officer of Health.

B.C.G. vaccination is given to children who may run a special risk in coming into contact with this disease, for example, those who have a parent suffering from Tuberculosis. This vaccination increases the resistance of the child to the infection.

82 B.C.G. vaccinations were carried out on Harrogate residents during the year, 42 males and 40 females, of these 40 were pre-school children, 29 were of school age, and 13 were adults.

#### **Mass Radiography.**

The Mass Radiography Unit did not undertake a survey in Harrogate during 1954, but will be doing so in 1955.

#### **Provision of Milk.**

On the recommendation of the Chest Physician cases of Tuberculosis are issued with a free grant of two pints of milk daily. During the year, recommendations were made by the Chest Physician in respect of 37 Harrogate patients. In addition, 42 Harrogate patients who had been recommended by the Chest Physician prior to the 1st January, 1954, continued to receive this grant of milk.

During the year 26 grants were discontinued and at the 31st December, 1954, 53 patients were receiving this free milk.

#### **15. Food Poisoning.**

11 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. 9 of the persons affected were Harrogate residents, 1 was admitted from Wetherby to the Harrogate General Hospital and the other was an officer in the Mercantile Marine who was taken ill in the train on the way to Harrogate.



In 5 cases the ~~remained~~ organism giving rise to the food poisoning was salmonella typhi-murium, in 1 case salmonella Thompson, in 2 cases staphylococcus aureus and in 3 cases no organism was isolated.

3 of these cases of food poisoning occurred in one household, despite careful investigation no infected article of diet was found to account for the illness.

2 adults were taken ill in another household, the infection being due in both cases to staphylococci. Although not definitely proven the outbreak was probably due to a steak pie. Phage typing of the staphylococcus was undertaken but though the type was the same for both the persons affected, the report on the pie was that the phage pattern was untypeable.

The remaining 6 cases were isolated cases having no connection one with the other. In 5 of these cases the cause of infection could not be traced but in the sixth, who was the officer in the Mercantile Marine, fish eaten on the ship was strongly suspected.

#### **(b) NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.**

##### **1. Cancer.**

126 deaths, 57 males and 69 females, were due to this cause, This shows a slight decrease over the previous year when the number of deaths totalled 129. This gives a death rate of 2.44 compared with 2.04 for England and Wales.

##### **2. Scabies.**

No case of scabies was diagnosed during the year.

##### **3. Influenza and allied Virus Infection.**

At the end of the first week in October an epidemic started at Woodlands School and St. Peter's School in Harrogate. By the middle of the month, cases were occurring in most of the schools in Harrogate and approximately five hundred to six hundred school children were affected out of a school population of 6,224 in the Local Authority schools in the Borough.



The outstanding features of the illness were headache, raised temperature, nausea and abdominal pain. In some cases the nausea was followed by vomiting. About 10 per cent. of the cases had severe nose bleeding. The illness lasted only a few days, the children were off school for an average period of a week and the illness was almost entirely confined to children.

The symptoms did not suggest either influenza or epidemic vomiting disease and complement fixation tests proved negative for Influenza A and B. At the end of the year the virus was still being investigated by the Virus Reference Laboratory in London.

By the end of October this epidemic had practically come to an end but on November 10th an outbreak with typical influenzal symptoms commenced at Ashville College, a private school which takes 250 boarders and approximately 80 day boys.

140 of the boys and 10 members of the staff were affected, the symptoms being a raised temperature, headache, pain behind the eyes, slight sore throat and in some cases giddiness.

On November 11th this outbreak of influenza commenced in Grove Road Primary and Infants School and the following week there was a total of 306 children absent from this school.

Further outbreaks of this influenzal epidemic occurred in other schools and there were approximately 800 school children affected attending Local Authority schools. There were two further outbreaks of this influenza in two private boarding schools for girls, 360 girls and 3 members of the staff were affected during the first week in December.

In this outbreak of infection complement fixation tests were diagnostic of infection with influenza virus B. In only 1 case was there the complication of influenzal pneumonia.

A number of cases of influenza virus B occurred in adults during the month of November and December. By the end of the year this epidemic was rapidly declining.



## **REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION**

Under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948 application can be made to the local Magistrates' Court for an Order for the removal of a person in need of care and attention, to suitable premises.

This action is only taken as a last resource in cases where there is a complete lack of home care and where the individual refuses to go to Hospital or Part III Accommodation.

In addition, in urgent cases where removal is required without delay, action can be taken under the National Assistance Amendment Act 1951, an Order being made by a local Justice of the Peace.

4 cases were dealt with during the year. 1 case was dealt with under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948 and 3 under the National Assistance Amendment Act 1951.

Application was made to the Magistrates' Court for the compulsory removal of an elderly man to Part III Accommodation at Knaresborough Hospital. Despite the fact that his wife was living in the same house and a home help was supplied he was not getting sufficient care and attention and his condition was deteriorating. The bedclothes were filthy and he was incontinent, he was also a certified blind person.

3 elderly women were admitted as urgent cases under the National Assistance Amendment Act. 2 were seriously ill, 1 with cancer and 1 with heart failure, and required urgent hospital treatment. The third case was living in very insanitary conditions and was removed to Part III Accommodation at Knaresborough Hospital.

# WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES IN OPERATION IN THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE

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The following is a brief summary of the work of the medical services of the West Riding County Council which are undertaken in the Borough of Harrogate.

A more detailed report has been circulated to all members of the Council.

## 1. STAFF, Division No. 8, as at 31st December, 1954.

### (1) Medical Staff

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

Divisional Medical Officer.

P. S. R. Burrell, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer.

Mary Pullan, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.OBST. R.C.O.G.,

Assistant County Medical Officer.



(2) **Other Officers on Divisional Establishment**

(a) **Professional and Technical Staff**

Health Visitor employed on Hospital Liaison duties...	1
Health Visitors who are also School Nurses .....	11
Tuberculosis Health Visitor .....	1
School Nurse .....	1
Home Nurses .....	8
Home Nurse Midwives .....	8
Midwives .....	1
Mental Health Social Worker .....	1*
Mental Health Home Teacher .....	1*
Speech Therapist .....	1*

\* Also employed in other Divisional Areas

(b) **Administrative and Clerical Staff**

Clerical Staff .....	13†
----------------------	-----

(c) **Sale of Food Assistant .....** 1

† Includes one part-time clerk (Welfare Foods).

(d) **Day Nursery Staff**

(i) Albany Avenue Day Nursery .....	15
(ii) Station Avenue Day Nursery .....	12

(e) **Home Helps**

Part-time .....	67
-----------------	----

(f) **Cleaners**

Part-time .....	6
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Total Divisional Staff... 151

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**2. AMBULANCE SERVICE.**

The Local Depot of the West Riding County Council Ambulance Service is under the charge of the Superintendent Ambulance Officer and is situated at the Parade Garage, Harrogate.

The Service removes patients free of charge to and from hospitals, maternity homes, and nursing homes. The vehicles consist of 4 ambulances, all of which are equipped with short wave wireless transmission and reception apparatus, enabling



information to be passed to and from central control. This enables ambulances to be diverted to accidents and other emergencies and can save life and time.

In addition there is one ambulance which removes infectious disease cases to hospital.

### **3. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

#### **(a) Maternal Mortality.**

There was no maternal mortality amongst the residents of the Borough during the year.

#### **(b) Infant Mortality.**

Full details regarding infant mortality are given on page 17. The infant mortality rate was 11.3 per 1,000 live births as compared with 25.5 for England and Wales. As will be seen from the table on page 12 the infant mortality rate of 11.3 is by far the lowest rate ever recorded in this Borough.

The neo-natal mortality rate, which is the number of deaths of infants under one month of age per 1,000 live births was 8.1 compared with 17.7 for England and Wales.

#### **(c) Confinements in Hospitals and Nursing Homes.**

During 1954 a total of 554 births to Harrogate residents took place in Hospitals or Nursing Homes.

This shows that 85.9 per cent. of deliveries of Harrogate mothers took place in maternity wards of hospitals and maternity beds at nursing homes. This percentage is far higher than for the country as a whole.

#### **(d) Domiciliary Midwifery.**

The following return gives the number of maternity cases in the Borough of Harrogate attended by midwives during the year :—

	Domiciliary Confinements	
	Doctor present at time of delivery of child	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child
Midwives employed by the Authority :	12	76
Midwives in Private Practice	3	—
	15	76



(e) **Gas and Air Analgesia.**

Gas and Air Analgesia was used at 55 Harrogate confinements attended by domiciliary midwives. Three Gas and Air Machines were in use in the Borough at the end of the year.

Pethedine was used at 49 of the domiciliary confinements which took place in the Borough of Harrogate.

(f) **Obstetric Flying Squad.**

The Flying Squad was called out on one occasion during 1954 to a Harrogate patient who was suffering from postpartum haemorrhage and who urgently needed a blood transfusion. The patient remained at her own home after a blood transfusion had been given by the Flying Squad and made a good recovery.

(g) **Ante-natal Clinic.**

The Harrogate Ante-natal Clinic is held at 2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. The medical officer to this clinic is Dr. G. O. Rosenvinge.

The following table shows in statistical form the work done at this Clinic:—

Number of sessions held per month .....	8
Total number of attendances made in 1954 .....	765
Number of individual mothers who attended ...	188
Average attendance per session .....	8

(h) **Post-natal Clinic.**

No special Post-Natal Clinic is held in the Borough, but 10 post-natal cases were seen at the Ante-natal Clinic.

Many cases confined at the Harrogate General Hospital attend the Post-natal Clinic at the Hospital and cases who are delivered at home have a post-natal examination by their own doctor.

(i) **Relaxation Classes.**

The Relaxation Classes for expectant mothers which are held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, continued to be well attended.

During the year 111 expectant mothers attended the classes making a total of 754 attendances.



**(j) Premature Births.**

42 premature babies were born to mothers resident in Harrogate, of whom 32 survived for twenty-eight days or more, 3 survived one day or less and 7 were still-born.

The Harrogate General Hospital does not possess a Premature Baby Unit at the present time although it is hoped that such a Unit will be set up in the near future. The Hospital at the present time, has certain special apparatus including an incubator for the care of premature babies.

The Sorrento Cot which is kept at the Ambulance Station was not put into use during the year.

**(k) Care of the Unmarried Mother and her Child.**

After adjustment for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar General, it was ascertained that there had been a slight increase in the number of illegitimate births in Harrogate, the number for 1954 being 41 as compared with 36 for 1953. The percentage of illegitimate births to total births was 6.6 per cent. in 1954 as compared with 5.3 per cent. in 1953.

St. Monica's Home is a voluntary home for unmarried mothers and their babies and is administered by the Harrogate and Knaresborough Association for Moral Welfare. Expectant mothers are admitted from the area administered by the West Riding County Council and also from the area of other local health authorities. The work carried out at this Home is most valuable. Whilst in residence, most of the women attend the Harrogate Ante-Natal Clinic.

At the beginning of the year there were 7 women in the Home. 23 women were admitted during the year and there were 5 women in residence at the end of the year.

11 of the babies were kept by their mothers, 2 of these at their grandparents, 2 babies went to children's homes and 2 to foster parents. 8 babies were adopted.



There is full co-operation between the Diocesan Moral Welfare Worker and the Superintendent Health Visitor, and the Medical Officer of Health is on the Advisory Committee of the Harrogate and Knaresborough Moral Welfare Association.

**(l) Health Visiting.**

In the Borough of Harrogate there are 5 Health Visitors employed full-time and 6 who are employed part-time. The latter are also employed as Health Visitors in the Divisional Area outside the Borough. Of these, one is the Divisional Superintendent Health Visitor, one visits cases of tuberculosis, and another is mainly employed in supplying reports on home conditions of chronic sick cases awaiting admission to, or discharge from, Knaresborough Hospital.

The most valuable part of the health visitor's duties is done in the homes where individual health teaching is given and families helped with their many problems.

Visits paid include those to expectant mothers, to families where there are children under five, to cases of tuberculosis, and in connection with the care of the aged and the home help service.

**(m) Infant Welfare Centres.**

There are 3 Infant Welfare Centres in the Borough of Harrogate. The main centre is based at the Harrogate Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade, 2 sessions being held each week. One session per week is held at the Methodist Church Hall, Starbeck and one session per week is held at St. Joseph's Church Hall, Bilton. At each of these centres National Dried Milk and Vitamins, as well as other welfare foods are available.

The attendances at these centres are given on the following page.

# **INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.**

Name and Address of Centre (1)	No. of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per month (2)	No. of Children who first attended a centre of this Local Authority during the year, and who at their first attendance were under 1 yr. of age. (3)	No. of Children who attended during the year and who were born in —			Total No of Children who attended during the year. (7)	No. of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were—			Total attendance during the year (11)
			1954 (4)	1953 (5)	1952-49 (6)		Under 1 yr. (8)	1 but Under 2 (9)	2 but Under 5 (10)	
2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate	8	248	238	184	212	634	2,512	396	236	3,144
New Park, Harrogate	4	89	89	105	143	337	1,441	429	408	2,278
Starbeck, Harrogate	4	93	90	73	146	309	1,310	194	462	1,966
Total ..	16	430	417	362	501	1,280	5,263	1,019	1,106	7,388



(n) **Sunlight Treatment for Pre-School Children.**

During the year, 29 children under school age were referred from the welfare centres for sunlight treatment.

The reasons for which this treatment was recommended is shown below:--

Frequent colds and bronchitis .....	17
Debility .....	6
Following recent illness or infection .....	3
Pink Disease .....	1
Chilblains .....	1
Skin infection .....	1

(o) **Day Nurseries.**

The two Day Nurseries in Harrogate which were both open during the year had 40 places of which 28 were for children from 2—5 years and 12 for children from 0—2 years.

At the end of November the West Riding County Council changed their policy for the type of cases to be admitted to Day Nurseries. The present categories of cases for admission are as shown in the table below, and children of parents who could not find suitable homes or who were living in overcrowded and/or insanitary dwellings and who were previously admitted, were now excluded from the Nursery unless there were special health grounds, which required the approval of the responsible Sub-Committee of the County Council. For this reason the total number of children attending the Nurseries in Harrogate showed a considerable fall at the end of the year compared with the end of 1953 when there were 83 children on the register:—

	0—2	2—5	Total
(a) The young child whose mother is ill or lying-in .....	3	13	16
(b) The illegitimate child whose mother is seeking work .....	5	5	10
(c) The child of the widow, and the mother who is divorced or separated from her husband, who is without adequate financial resources and must work for the support of her family .....	8	13	21
(d) The child of the widower .....	—	—	—
(e) Other reasons .....	2	6	8
	18	37	55



The children are medically examined at approximately six monthly intervals and all children who are admitted are examined as soon as possible after admission. A Medical Officer attends at least once a month at each Nursery, and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough is usually carried out at the Nursery.

During 1954, 5 student nurses from the Harrogate Day Nurseries took the examination for the National Nursery Examination Board Certificate and all were successful.

**(p) Dental Treatment of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children under Five.**

During the year, 57 expectant or nursing mothers attended the Dental Clinic at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, for dental examination, of whom 44 received treatment. Dentures were supplied in 11 cases.

77 children under the age of five years also received treatment at this Dental Clinic, making 118 attendances.

The following are the details of the treatment given to the pre-school children:—

Extractions .....	92
Fillings .....	22
Dental dressings .....	32
General anaesthetics .....	60

In September, 1954, the new Dental Clinic was opened in Chain Lane, Knaresborough. This clinic is fully equipped for the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers, school children and children under five years.

During 1954, mainly school children were treated, but in addition 3 expectant mothers attended for dental examination of whom 2 received treatment at this clinic.

**(q) Distribution of Welfare Foods.**

The distribution of welfare foods was transferred from the Ministry of Food at the end of June, 1954. The Ministry ceased to distribute welfare foods on July 14th and distribution of these foods was administered from the Municipal Offices through various centres in the Divisional Area. Distribution commenced on June 28th.



The welfare foods distributed are National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamins A and D Tablets.

Since the Local Authority has been responsible for this distribution, over 13,000 tins of National Dried Milk have been distributed and over 21,000 bottles of orange juice.

There are 3 main distribution centres, i.e., the Municipal Offices, Harrogate, the Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, and the Clinic, Iles Lane, Knaresborough. In addition, there are 16 smaller distribution centres of which 3 are in the Borough of Harrogate, 1 in Knaresborough and 12 in various parts of the Nidderdale Rural District. Included amongst these smaller distribution centres are the Infant Welfare Centres, at all of which these welfare foods are available for distribution.



## **SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES**

### **1. SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.**

During 1954, 1,987 routine school medical inspections were undertaken. Children are examined as soon as possible after entry to the primary schools, again at the age of seven to eight years, as soon as possible after admission to secondary schools and during the last year of attendance at secondary schools.

In addition, children who are found to be delicate or to have some defect at a previous routine examination are re-inspected when the doctor visits the school and at any time the parents or teachers may request a special inspection of a school child. The number of special inspections and re-inspections totalled 1,383.

These medical inspections form the basis of the School Health Service and are in the nature of a consultation between the School Medical Officer, the Head Teacher and the parent.

### **2. MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.**

Minor Ailments Clinics are held at Harrogate and Starbeck. The latter is a treatment centre attended by the school nurse only. In the case of the Clinic in Harrogate, a school doctor is also in attendance.

The total attendances during the year numbered 606 of which 477 attended the Harrogate Clinic and 129 attended the Clinic at Starbeck School.

Minor Ailments when treated early and under medical supervision respond rapidly to treatment and are thus instrumental in preventing any absence from school.

### **3. OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.**

The Ophthalmic Clinic is held twice weekly at the premises of the Regional Hospital Board at 11, Ripon Road, Harrogate. Appointments for this eye clinic are made through the School Health Department. All the children attending are examined by Dr. Jane Shepherd, the consultant ophthalmologist and the clinic is staffed by the school nurse, the records being maintained at the Municipal Offices. During the year 450 school children obtained spectacles from this clinic.

The Orthoptic Clinic at 11, Ripon Road, which had commenced in 1953 was greatly appreciated. This clinic deals mainly with children who are suffering from squint and various eye exercises are given which help to clear up the condition. 75 children were treated at this clinic during the year.



#### **4. EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.**

An Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist Clinic is held once a fortnight at the Harrogate Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade.

119 school children and 5 pre-school children were seen at this clinic during the year by Mr. J. E. Rees, the consultant ear, nose and throat surgeon, making a total attendance of 124.

The number of cases who were admitted to the Harrogate General Hospital for the removal of tonsils and adenoids was 75 in 1954. We are fortunate in this area that there is only a small waiting list of children recommended for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

The main indication for the removal of tonsils and adenoids is a history of frequent sore throats or ear-ache. In certain cases of nasal obstruction it is only necessary for the adenoids to be removed. The removal of tonsils and adenoids has no effect in reducing the frequency of the common cold.

#### **5. ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.**

This clinic, which is held at fortnightly intervals, is valuable in ascertaining early cases of postural and other orthopaedic defects, and by instituting treatment such as remedial exercises. It includes both school children and pre-school children.

69 school children and 15 children under school age were seen during the year by Mr. Petty, the consultant orthopaedic surgeon, making a total number of 128 attendances.

4 school children and 1 pre-school child were referred for operative treatment as short-stay cases only.

11 school children and 1 pre-school child attended the Harrogate and District General Hospital for physiotherapy.

#### **6. CARDIAC CLINIC.**

This Clinic was held throughout the year at the Harrogate General Hospital. The reason for holding the clinic at the Hospital being that it enables the initial examination of the child, the X-ray screening of the heart and electrocardiograms to be made at one attendance of the patient at the Hospital. The children were seen by Dr. Curtis Bain, the Cardiologist, Dr. Prosser, the Children's Specialist and a Medical Officer from this Division.



The family doctor is asked before the case comes for examination for his observations and he is informed of the diagnosis and clinical findings after the investigation is completed.

Advice is given to parents, to Head Teachers and to the School Dentists, and on occasion to the Youth Employment Officer.

The following is a classification of the cardiac conditions found in the 105 children who attended during the year:—

Normal Hearts .....	38
Congenital Heart Disease .....	32
Rheumatic Heart Disease .....	19
For further investigation .....	16
	<hr/>
	105
	<hr/>

The types of Congenital Heart Disease were:—

Transposition of Great Vessels and	
Septal Defects .....	1
Ventricular Septal Defect .....	8
Congenital Aortic Disease .....	6
Fallots Tetrad .....	5
Patent Ductus Arteriosus .....	4
Coarctation of the Aorta .....	3
Dextrocardia .....	1
Pulmonary Stenosis .....	2
Anomalous left superior vena cava .....	1
Persistent truncus arteriosus .....	1
	<hr/>
	32
	<hr/>

Arrangements were made for school children from other Divisions to be seen at this Clinic. Five new cases from the Ripon Division, eight new cases from the Wetherby Division and 1 from the Selby Division attended during the year. In addition 4 cases attended from the North Riding area.

Cardiac Catheterisation was carried out on 5 cases to assist in the diagnosis. In one case it established that there was no heart disease and the case was discharged from the Clinic. In the other four cases the presence of Congenital Heart Disease was confirmed and the precise nature of the abnormalities was established.



Of the 47 new cases who attended during the year 22 were discharged with normal hearts; two girls were restricted in their school activities, one being excluded from winter games and the other from all competitive games. The total attendances at the Clinic numbered 127 of whom 80 attended for review.

## **7. SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.**

Speech defects are more common in boys than in girls, 17 boys and 1 girl suffering from stammering and 7 boys and 10 girls suffering from other types of speech defects attended the speech therapy clinic during 1954. It is very satisfactory to be able to report that during the year 15 children were discharged with normal speech and 2 with speech greatly improved.

Three sessions are held each week at the Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade Harrogate, the total number of sessions held during the year being 139.

## **8. SUNLIGHT CLINIC.**

In addition to the 29 children of pre-school age who were referred for treatment to the Sunlight Clinic, details of which are shown on page 37 under the heading of Child Welfare, there were 94 school children referred for sunlight treatment.

I am satisfied that this form of treatment gives considerable benefit to delicate children, it appears to raise their resistance to infection.

The reasons for which these school children were sent for sunlight treatment were as follows:—

Frequent colds and bronchitis .....	37
Debility .....	26
Skin infection including boils and styes .....	19
Following recent illness or infection .....	11
Asthma .....	1

## **9. CHILD GUIDANCE.**

During the year 3 new cases, 2 boys and 1 girl, were referred to Dr. MacTaggart for behaviour difficulties and 3 boys and 2 girls continued in attendance from the previous year.

The total number of attendances from this Borough of these cases was 29, 13 were individual interviews and 16 for group therapy.



After investigation, 3 of these children, 2 boys and 1 girl were recommended for admission to a Hostel for maladjusted children.

While the expert advice and investigation of these cases is welcome, Dr. MacTaggart's Clinic is held at Shipley and of necessity there are travelling difficulties for parents and children attending this Clinic from Harrogate.

#### **10. DISEASES OF THE SKIN.**

The number of cases of skin diseases which attended at the Minor Ailments Clinics in 1954 totalled 254. In addition, 8 cases of skin diseases were found at school inspections and were either referred to, or were under treatment by, their own doctor.

#### **11. CLEANLINESS — VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

The school nurses undertake during the course of their school inspections, the examination of the children's heads for infestation with vermin.

During the year 11,421 examinations were made in the schools and 119 pupils were found to be infested.

It is by constant supervision by the School Nurses and visits to, and discussions with, parents that the raised standard of cleanliness in school children is achieved. In many cases the infestation is a chance one and does not recur, but in the few families where there is neglect or lack of care, the problem becomes a very real one.

In cases of severe infestation with nits or lice, children are treated at the Harrogate or Knaresborough Clinic with a D.D.T. preparation and special fine tooth combs are supplied for cleansing the children's heads of nits. There is full co-operation on the part of the teachers and advice is given to parents and children as to the best methods of dealing with the condition.

#### **12. HANDICAPPED PUPILS.**

Handicapped pupils are children who have some form of mental or physical defect and for whom special educational treatment is desirable.

Details of the number of handicapped pupils in Harrogate, together with the categories in which they fall, are given on page 46.



It will be noted the biggest group of handicapped children are educationally sub normal children who total 10. Of these, 5 are attending special schools and 5 children are in attendance at day schools until such time as places in special schools can be found for them. It is gratifying that this number of 5 children awaiting special schools compares favourably with the number of 8 at the beginning of the year.

### **13. SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.**

There are two full-time dentists who inspect and treat children attending schools in the Borough of Harrogate.

During 1954, a total of 4,798 Harrogate children were dentally inspected and 2,560 received treatment, the number of attendances being 7,009. 1,534 children received general anaesthetics for dental extractions and 3,587 fillings were done.

### **14. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.**

There is close co-operation with the Youth Employment Officer. Medical reports are sent to the Youth Employment Officer on children who are about to leave school.

### **15. EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.**

The County Council has Byelaws relating to the employment of children of compulsory school age. Under these byelaws, children are required to be medically examined by the School Medical Officer within two weeks of the date when employment begins, in order to ascertain that such employment will not be prejudicial to the child's health.

59 boys and 15 girls who were undertaking part-time employment as errand boys, shop assistants or in the delivery of newspapers were medically examined during 1954 for this purpose.

### **16. CHILDREN TAKING PART IN PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT**

20 school children were medically examined to determine their fitness for taking part in stage productions.

The majority of these children were taking part in displays of dancing and such examinations are carried out under Section 22 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933.



# CATEGORIES OF HANDICAPPED PUPILS IN THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE

Categories	No. in attendance at Day Schools or Classes.		No. in Special Residential Schools		No. not attending school	TOTAL
	Within the Area of the Local Education Authority	Outside the Area of the Local Education Authority	Within the Area of the Local Education Authority	Outside the Area of the Local Education Authority		
Blind ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Partially Sighted ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Deaf ... ..	—	—	—	3	1	4
Partially Deaf ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	1
Educationally Sub Normal ... ..	5	—	4	1	—	10
Epileptic Pupils ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Maladjusted Pupils ... ..	7	—	—	—	—	7
Physically Handicapped	8	—	—	1	—	9
Delicate Pupils ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	2
TOTALS ..	22	—	5	7	1	35



# MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1954

TABLE I

## MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

### A.—Period Medical Inspections

Entrants .....	1075
7 to 8 year group .....	751
Last year primary .....	153
First year secondary .....	496
Last year secondary .....	557
Other periods .....	—
Total.....	3032

### B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections .....	1090
Number of Re-Inspections .....	927
Total.....	2017

### C.—Pupils found to require Treatment.

Number of Individual Pupils found at periodic Medical Inspections to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin) :—

Group (1)	For Defec- tive Vision (exclud- ing squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA (3)	Total in- dividual pupils (4)
Entrants ... ..	22	137	152
7 to 8 year group ... ..	30	66	91
Last year primary ... ..	7	13	15
First year secondary ... ..	28	49	74
Last year secondary ... ..	17	46	54
Other Periodic ... ..	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	104	311	386

**TABLE II**

**A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1954.**

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease  (1)	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment (5)
4	Skin ... ..	53	19	254	14
5	Eyes-a. Vision ...	104	166	19	11
	b. Squint ...	11	54	4	—
	c. Other ...	18	36	59	6
6	Ears-a. Hearing ...	1	15	8	—
	b. Otitis Media ...	7	19	14	—
	c. Other ...	3	2	17	—
7	Nose or Throat ...	45	90	12	4
8	Speech ... ..	14	19	10	—
9	Cervical Glands ...	1	14	4	—
10	Heart and Circulation ...	17	75	2	—
11	Lungs ... ..	16	49	13	—
12	Developmental—				
	a. Hernia ...	7	8	1	—
	b. Other ...	3	35	—	—
13	Orthopaedic—				
	a. Posture ..	6	9	1	—
	b. Flat Foot ...	12	15	2	—
	c. Other ... ..	17	59	14	3
14	Nervous System—				
	a. Epilepsy ...	5	7	7	—
	b. Other ... ..	—	3	45	5
15	Psychological—				
	a. Development ...	—	27	6	1
	b. Stability ...	7	9	—	1
16	Other .. ...	74	17	148	9



**B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the year in the Age Groups.**

Age Groups (1)	Number of Pupils Inspected (2)	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No. (3)	% of Col. 2 (4)	No. (5)	% of Col. 2 (6)	No. (7)	% of Col. 2 (8)
Entrants ...	1,075	261	24.28	792	73.68	22	2.04
7 to 8 year group	751	158	21.04	574	76.43	19	2.53
Last year primary...	153	39	25.49	112	73.21	2	1.30
First year secondary	496	154	31.05	327	65.92	15	3.03
Last year secondary	557	184	33.04	355	63.73	18	3.23
Other Periodic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>3,032</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>26.25</b>	<b>2160</b>	<b>71.24</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>2.51</b>

**TABLE III.**

**INFESTATION WITH VERMIN**

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons .....	26,907
(ii)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested .....	106
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) .....	—
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) .....	—

**This return relates to individual pupils and not to instances of infestation.**

**TABLE IV**

**TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY  
AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)**

**GROUP 1.— DISEASES OF THE SKIN** (excluding uncleanness,  
for which see Table III).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	By the authority	Otherwise
Ringworm—(i) Scalp ... ..	—	—
(ii) Body ... ..	7	—
Scabies ... ..	4	—
Impetigo ... ..	61	—
Other skin diseases ... ..	109	8
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>8</b>

**GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.**

	Number of cases dealt with	
	By the authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ...	72	25
Errors of refraction (including squint) ... ..	—	584
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>609</b>
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were—		
(a) prescribed ... ..	—	430
(b) obtained ... ..	—	450*
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>880</b>

\* Includes 29 children whose glasses were prescribed in 1953 and obtained in 1954.



**GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.**

	Number of cases treated	
	By the authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear ...	—	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ... ..	—	75
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ... ..	—	20
Received other forms of treatment	93	14
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>109</b>

**GROUP. 4—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.**

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals ... ..	—	4
	By the authority	Otherwise
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments ...	11	69

**GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.**

	Number of cases treated	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics ...	14	—

**GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY.**

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapist ... ..	52	—

## GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	279	108
(b) Other (specify)		
1. Verminous heads ...	16	—
2. Ultra Violet Light ...	94	—
3. Heart and Circulation ...	—	124
TOTAL ...	389	232

## CONSULTANT EAR, NOSE AND THROAT SERVICE

### Consultant Clinic.

	Pre-School Children	School Children
1. No. of sessions held during the year...21.		
2. No. of individual children seen by consultant, including those continuing attendance from previous year.....	5	119
3. No. of (2) above referred for operative treatment .....	3	69
4. No. of children—		
(a) Who obtain operative treatment during the year .....	3	75 (11 referred 1953)
(b) Treated at School Clinics .....	—	5
5. Total number of attendances at Consultant Clinic .....	10	182



## CONSULTANT ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICE

### A. Consultant Clinic.

1. No. of sessions held during the year...16.		
	Pre- School Children	School Children
2. No. of individual patients seen by consultant, including those continuing attendance from previous year .....	15	69
3. No. of (2) above—		
(a) Referred for operative treatment as short-stay cases only .....	1	4
(b) Recommended long-stay hospital school .....	—	—
(c) Recommended treatment by orthopaedic nurse or physiotherapist		
(i) at treatment centres .....	1	11
(ii) domiciliary .....	1	2
4. No. of children who obtained operative treatment during the year .....	1	4
5. Total number of attendances at consultant Clinic .....	20	108

### B. Treatment Centres.

1. No. of sessions held during the year—Nil.		
	Pre- School Children	School Children
2. Total number of patients treated (including cases continuing treatment from previous year) .....	—	—
3. Total number of attendances .....	—	—

### C. Domiciliary Treatment.

1. Total number treated .....	—	—
2. Total number of visits to patients' homes	—	—

### D. Appliances.

Number of Appliances—		
(a) recommended .....	7	14
(b) obtained .....	7	14



## OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

### 1. HOME NURSING SERVICE.

In this Division, the equivalent of 13 full-time nurses undertake nursing in the home.

During the year 1,776 patients were treated, entailing in all a total number of 39,912 visits. 29,674 of these visits were to 1,011 patients who were aged sixty-five years or over, and 420 visits were to 62 children under the age of five years.

As these figures show, the majority of the work is amongst the elderly, particularly those who have crippling defects or are bedridden owing to chronic illness.

### 2. HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is used to its full capacity chiefly in cases where there is illness or infirmity in the home and the provision of such assistance often enables ill and infirm persons to be cared for at home, thus avoiding their very costly maintenance in hospital. In a few cases help is provided at home when the mother is in hospital and this avoids the necessity for children to go into residential institutions.

In little more than half the calls upon the service is it possible, or even necessary, to provide a home help. In many cases the health visitors put the applicant into touch with private help, voluntary helpers, or ask friends and neighbours to render assistance. In spite of this and of the greatest possible care to allow only the minimum amount of help required by each household it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep within the permitted establishment. This is due chiefly to the large number of old people in the area. 1 in 6 of the residents of Harrogate are over sixty-five years of age.

At the end of the year 46 Home Helps were being employed part-time in the Borough as compared with 43 at the end of 1953. Of 307 cases to which assistance was given, 66 were to cases of illness in the home, excluding illness of aged persons, 191 related to illness or infirmity of the aged, 8 to children of school age and under, 6 to tuberculous cases and 1 to a mental defective case.

In 32 cases Home Helps were supplied to mothers during the lying-in period and in 3 cases to expectant mothers.



The Home Help Service shows a continued expansion, the hours worked in 1954 totalled 56,311 as compared with over 44,000 during 1953 and 32,500 in 1952.

### 3. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The Mental Health Social Worker visits mental defectives in Harrogate who are cared for by their parents or who are working under supervision in various occupations. The Social Worker is employed in a part-time capacity in the Borough the remainder of her work being in the Knaresborough, Nidderdale, Ripon and Pateley Bridge areas.

The number of mental defectives in Harrogate at the end of the year was as follows:—

Under Statutory Supervision .....	29
Under Voluntary Supervision .....	10
On licence from Institutions .....	2

In addition, the Social Worker visits, at the request of relatives, 4 defectives who are not subject to be dealt with, and have not been certified, under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

During the year the parents of 2 boys were assisted in placing them in the Leeds Training Centre for boys over 16. These are exceptions as the daily travelling distance is considered too great for the majority of cases.

The number of defectives in Institutions whose homes are in Harrogate was 53.

At the end of the year 11 cases were in need of institutional care. Of these, 10 were under the age of sixteen, 6 being urgent cases

Cases of Mental Illness are visited on request of patients or relatives. At the year end there were 3 after-care cases and 4 pre-hospital cases.

#### Group Training.

Classes at the Harrogate and Knaresborough Clinics continued under the supervision of the Home Teacher. At the end of the year 5 children were attending the Harrogate Group, 2 children having left during the year. Each child attends two sessions per week.



The classes are much appreciated by the parents. The children are taught, within their limitations, colours, numbers, simple money values, raffia work, clay modelling, picture making, painting and drawing. The 2 girls in the Group over school age are happy embroidering and knitting.

The children learn to sing and play together and soon find they have a circle of friends. Several children have had birthday parties at home to which the other children have been invited and parents have found to their surprise that it is possible to manage half a dozen children for an hour or two

The mothers appreciate the few hours of relief from the constant strain of caring for the children and also the opportunity of contact with other parents.

The Home Teacher also visits 3 older Harrogate defectives in their homes. Subjects taught include rug-making, embroidery, knitting and raffia-work.

#### **4. CARE AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE.**

Under the National Health Service Act the Local Authority may make arrangements for the care and after-care of persons suffering from illness. One of the ways in which the Local Authority assists is by making arrangements for the loan of nursing equipment such as wheel chairs, bed pans, urinals rubber bed sheets, air rings, bed rests, etc., to persons in their own homes. A stock of this equipment is held in various centres in the Division.

In August, Mrs. Spurr replaced Miss Smith as the Health Visitor who is mainly employed in supplying reports on the home conditions of aged patients whose admission to the Knaresborough Hospital is sought. 521 reports on the home conditions of these patients were made during the year. She also endeavours to make appropriate arrangements for these elderly patients so that on their discharge from hospital, home care and nursing may be provided where necessary.

At the request of the Medical Registrar at the Harrogate and District General Hospital, Health Visitors now call upon certain diabetic patients who have some difficulty in arranging their diets and this has been found to be of great assistance.



## **5. RECUPERATIVE HOME TREATMENT.**

During the year 9 applications were received for recuperative home treatment but in 3 cases the applicant subsequently withdrew the application leaving 6 cases to be dealt with.

Two men who were suffering from tuberculosis were sent to a convalescent home in Northumberland for this type of case, with excellent results.

A schoolgirl, aged eight years, was given a month's convalescence at the Ormerod Convalescent Home, St. Annes-on-Sea. She gained weight whilst she was there and her general nervous and medical condition was considerably improved by the care she received.

A housewife suffering from chronic bronchiectasis went to the West Hill Convalescent Home, Southport. Arrangements were also made for a sixteen year old girl to have three week's convalescence at the Valda Convalescent Home, Bridlington, after a severe attack of pneumonia and a recurrence of pleural pain. Both these patients benefited by the change away from home.

A mother was admitted, with her youngest child, aged sixteen months, to the Spofforth Hall Recuperative Centre. In spite of the fact that she had been taken previously to look round the Centre, she discharged herself after five days. It is regrettable that although obviously badly in need of training in mothercraft and homecraft, she refused to take advantage of the instruction this Centre offers.

## **6. REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF DISABLED AND OLD PERSON'S HOMES.**

At the end of 1954, there were 8 homes in Harrogate registered under the National Assistance Act as Disabled and Old Persons' Homes, 4 are run by voluntary agencies and 4 are privately owned.

They are registered to accommodate a total of 107 residents.

## **7. REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES.**

At the end of 1953 there were 16 Registered Nursing Homes in Harrogate. During 1954, 2 more Homes were registered and 1 closed down, making a total of 17 Homes on the Register at the end of the year. These homes were all inspected during the year by the Medical staff of the Division.



The total number of beds in these Nursing Homes at the end of 1954 for maternity cases was 12 and for general purposes 135. This is an increase of 11 beds, all of which are used for general purposes.

#### **8. AGENCY FOR THE SUPPLY OF NURSES.**

1 Nursing Home in the Borough was registered until November, 1954, as an Agency for the supply of nurses. The Agency closed on this date.

#### **9. SOCIAL WORKERS' GROUP.**

The Social Workers Group held 11 meetings during the year. The object of this Group is to co-ordinate the work of the statutory and voluntary agencies concerned with social welfare in the district.

The activities fall into two groups, firstly, Open Meetings where social workers of the Divisional Area are invited to hear talks by their colleagues working in the various branches of the social services. These are valuable in giving the social workers knowledge of the scope of each others work. There were 3 of these Open Meetings at which the following gave talks:—

Miss J. Haw, Warden, Spofforth Hall—"The Work of Spofforth Hall Recuperative Centre."

Dr. M. M. MacTaggart, County Psychologist—"The Work of the Child Guidance Clinic."

Miss E. F. Rutledge, Divisional Superintendent Health Visitor—"Co-operation of health visitors with other statutory and voluntary workers."

Secondly, 8 meetings of the Social Workers Committee were also held at which individual cases of problem families were discussed and information known to the various members of this Committee was pooled, thus avoiding overlapping.

#### **10. HEALTH EDUCATION.**

It is felt that one of the main and most effective methods of health education in this Division is through the home visits and personal talks to the mother in her own home by the district health visitor. She is able to inform the family of the various health services which operate in the area and gives advice on mothercraft, the running of the home, the precautions to be taken in cases of infectious disease and is able to answer questions from the mother on the upbringing of the children.



Mothercraft classes are combined with the relaxation classes and are conducted by a health visitor. They give an opportunity of presenting rules for maintaining health to expectant mothers who form the most receptive of audiences.

Leaflets and posters dealing with health matters are displayed at the Welfare Centres and on a display board in the gardens adjoining the Harrogate Public Library. This board takes posters of the size which were formerly displayed on the Empire Marketing Boards.

Leaflets and posters dealing with accidents in the home are displayed in the various Child Welfare and School Medical Clinics in the area. These are obtained from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Attention is drawn to the necessity to guard fires and other methods for preventing accidents in the home, by health visitors during their home visits.

Talks and courses of lectures were given during the year to clubs and youth organisations on health matters by the medical officers and health visitors.

3 courses were given to food handlers in the Borough of Harrogate during the year. These courses consisted of 3 lectures followed by an oral examination. The first lecture was given by the Medical Officer of Health, the second by the Bacteriologist of the Public Health Laboratory and the third by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

These lectures covered the causes and symptoms of food poisoning, brief details of the habits of the bacteria and how they may be destroyed, and a practical lecture on the clean handling of food and the importance of clean premises and utensils.

The first course in the year was especially designed for the managers of food shops where food is prepared or sold to the public.

The total attendances at these 3 courses was approximately 160.

## **11. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS.**

During the year 215 medical examinations of young persons were undertaken to determine their fitness for employment in factories.

Young persons, that is those between school leaving age and eighteen years of age, are examined within a fortnight of entry to a factory and subsequently at yearly intervals until they attain the age of eighteen years, to ascertain if they are medically fit to undertake such work. Of the number of examinations made, 136 were boys and 79 were girls.

Special examinations, undertaken at three monthly intervals, are carried out in the case of women and young persons who work in processes involving the use of lead compound. In Harrogate such cases are either painters or apprentice painters and 8 such examinations were carried out during the year.



# **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1954.**

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit for your consideration my eighth annual report of the work carried out by the sanitary and cleansing services of the department for the year 1954.

The work of the department followed very closely the pattern of the previous year and the results obtained were extremely satisfactory.

In July the Council took over control of the Starbeck Slaughterhouse. The initial difficulties encountered due to new conditions of slaughtering were quickly ironed out and I am pleased to report that both the building and equipment are proving capable of meeting the demands made upon them by the butchers.

It will be seen from the table showing details of unsound food dealt with by the department that approximately one third less was condemned than in 1953. Whether this was due to better food processing, storage methods or the cold summer it is difficult to say.

Preparations were put in hand for the survey of unfit houses under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. Work in connection with complaints re housing defects were dealt with as expeditiously as possible and again full co-operation was received from owners and agents.

The cleansing services again had a rather difficult year due to the ever increasing numbers of houses and flats which are being erected in the Borough. The siting of dustbins on these new properties is not always satisfactory and it usually requires a considerable amount of walking on the part of the dustmen to carry out the task of emptying the bin into the vehicle with the result that much time is lost in this operation. The cost of the service compared more than favourably with towns of similar size and character and the running costs of the vehicles were again very satisfactory.



I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees for their support and assistance, and to the Medical Officer of Health and officials of other Departments for their advice and co-operation during the year. To the Sanitary Inspectors, clerical staff, foremen and men of the Health and Cleansing staffs, I can only tender my sincere praise for a year of wholehearted and skilful endeavour on behalf of the department.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. DODSWORTH,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Cleansing Superintendent.



# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## GENERAL

Harrogate, which has an area of 8,320 acres, enjoys an open situation on top of the Yorkshire Moorlands at 350 to 600 feet above sea level. It lies on an anti-cline or ridge of disturbance caused by a volcanic upheaval which was not sufficiently powerful to make an active crater.

This geological upheaval, however, has led to the exposing of strata usually lying at a deep level and is responsible for one of the most amazing collections of mineral springs ever discovered. Some 88 springs all differing in mineral content arise within a small area in the centre of the town. As a result of the valuable medicinal properties of these springs, Harrogate has grown within the past 100 years from two small hamlets to one of the largest and most important spas and holiday centres in Europe.

**Meteorology.**—The Harrogate Meteorological Station, which is under the control of the Borough Engineer is situated at the Northern Sewage Disposal Works, Bilton, from which the following observations were taken :—

**Sunshine.**—1,116.1 hours of sunshine were recorded during the year. The sunniest day being 26th June when 14 hours was recorded.

**Rainfall.**—The total rainfall recorded during the year was 32.49 inches, the wettest days being the 28th May and 5th November when 1.62 and 1.28 inches of rain were recorded respectively.

**Temperatures.**—The maximum temperatures during the year was 80 degrees F. recorded on the 1st September and the minimum temperature 12 degrees F. was recorded on the 2nd February.

**Wind.**—The prevailing wind during the year was westerly.

## WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of Harrogate and the surrounding district is impounded in reservoirs on two moorland gathering areas. The supply is abundant, pure and wholesome, distribution being undertaken by the Corporation Water Department.



From information received from this Department the total amount of filtered water supplied during the year ending 31st December, 1954, was 929 million gallons. The average daily consumption of water per head of the population is 36.4 gallons, an average of 9.4 gallons per head per day for industrial purposes and 27.0 gallons per head per day for domestic purposes.

Extensions to the mains have been carried out in the following districts and roads during the year 1954.

Beechwood Grove.	Hookstone Wood Road.
Firs Drive.	Lancaster Park Road.
Greenfields Road.	Leadhall Road.
Harlow Crescent.	Westminister Drive.
Harlow Park Road.	

Samples of water are taken regularly from the town's mains at various points within the Borough for chemical and bacteriological examination.

Number of samples examined .....	248
Being samples of water from:—	
Domestic Supplies (Town's Mains) .....	238
Wells and Springs .....	10
Number of samples found upon examination to be satisfactory .....	242
Number of samples found upon examination to be unsatisfactory. (All from wells and springs) .....	6

In the new portions of the Borough, which were incorporated on the 1st April, 1938, from the Wetherby Rural District and the Knaresborough Rural District Councils, there are still seventeen houses which obtain their supply from wells and springs.



## REPORT ON SAMPLES OF WATER

	No. 631 Harlow Hill, Roundhill and Scargill		No. 632 Irongate Bridge, Ten Acre, Beaverdyke, Round hill	
Date taken .. .. .	6.5.54		6.5.54	
Appearance .. .. .	Clear and bright		Clear and bright	
Odour on warming .. .. .	None		None	
Colour of 2ft. column (Lovibond Units)	1.2 yellow + 0.3 blue		1.0 yellow + 0.1 blue	
Sediment .. .. .	None		None	
Reaction .. .. .	pH = 7.2		pH = 7.2	
Action on bright surface lead during 12 hrs.	Very slight		Very slight	
This sample contains —	Grains per Gall.	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gall.	Parts per 100,000
Total solids dried at 100°C .. .. .	7.28	10.40	8.12	11.60
Chlorides, equivalent to chlorine .. .. .	1.02	1.45	1.12	1.60
Nitrates, equivalent to nitrogen .. .. .	0.007	0.010	0.00	0.00
Nitrites, equivalent to nitrogen .. .. .	nil	nil	nil	nil
Free and saline ammonia .. .. .	0.0003	0.0004	0.0123	0.0176
Albuminoid ammonia .. .. .	0.0020	0.0028	0.0045	0.0064
Oxidation demand during 4 hours at 26.7°C from potassium permanganate .. .. .	0.057	0.082	0.081	0.116
from sodium hypochlorite .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Metallic contamination .. .. .	nil	nil	nil	nil
Hardness (Clark Degrees) —				
Temporary, removal by boiling .. .. .	2.0	2.8	1.7	2.4
Permanent, after boiling .. .. .	1.4	2.1	1.9	2.8
Total	3.4	4.9	3.6	5.2
	Sample No. 628. 3/5/54.		Sample No. 632. 3/5/54.	
Average number of bacteria growing on agar after 72 hours incubation at 20°C per 1 ml. .. .. .	98		8	
Average number of bacteria growing on agar after 72 hours incubation at 37°C per 1 ml. .. .. .	10		2	
Coliform bacteria after 48 hours incubation at 37°C per 100 ml. .. .. .	0		0	

**Observations** :—According to the above results, the present condition of this water is satisfactory for public supply (Class 1).

### Plumbo-Solvency of Water Supplies.

Four samples of water were submitted for analysis under the above heading and found to be satisfactory.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the number of pail closets, earth closets and cesspools, etc., in the Borough at the end of December, 1954 :—

Pail or Tub Closets .....	31
Privies without Ash Pits .....	4
Privies with Open Middens .....	3
Privies with Covered Middens .....	17
Waste Water Closets ..	21
Cesspools .....	52

All pail closets are emptied either once or twice weekly.

Cesspools are emptied by means of a cesspool emptier as and when required.

The conversion of waste water-closets was proceeded with during the year and five of these were replaced with modern closets. Most of the pail and privies are in the rural area of the Borough and are not served by a drainage scheme.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS

These come under the supervision of the Yorkshire Ouse River Board, and are also kept under observation by the department.

No serious case of pollution was reported and the few minor complaints received were quickly dealt with.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

<b>Complaints reported to the Public Health Department.</b>	692
Where nuisances were found .....	648
Where complaint was received and no nuisance found	44
Under Housing Acts .....	606
Where infectious disease had occurred.....	45
Bakehouse (Power) .....	141
Bakehouse (No Power) .....	4
Farms .....	10
Dairies and Milkshops .....	241
Ice-Cream .....	235
Fish Frying Premises .....	85
Fish shops (Wet) .....	365



Food preparing premises .....	545
Food storage premises .....	949
Food inspection .....	358
Market .....	25
Shops .....	714
Restaurants ... ..	104
Kitchens .....	253
Slaughterhouses (Starbeck) .....	1,049
for meat inspection (West Park) .....	353
Butchers' Shops .....	233
Factories (Power) .....	140
Factories (No Power) .....	33
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act .....	128
Theatres and Cinemas .....	2
Sanitary Conveniences — public .....	60
Sanitary Conveniences — private .....	30
Schools .....	33
Tents and Vans .....	144
Public Cleansing .....	157
Refuse Tips .....	448
Stables .....	1
Piggeries .....	9
Outworkers .....	1
Offices .....	6

### Other Visits or Inspections

Drainage .....	640
Interviews .....	528
Investigations of infestation of insect pests (excluding bugs) .....	165
Investigation of bug infestations .....	148
Smoke observations .....	47
Visits re water supplies and water samples .....	24
Visits under Food and Drugs Act for samples.....	338
Visits to Laboratories .....	45
Visits to property under notice or work in progress.....	1,251
Installation of new sanitary fittings.....	223
Food poisoning investigations .....	11
River pollution .....	12
Rag Flock, etc., Act, 1951 .....	4
Old Metal and Marine Stores .....	2
Hairdressers and Barbers .....	4
Pet Animals Act, 1951 .....	22



Food Hawkers .....	50
Fireguard Regulations .....	2
Miscellaneous visits .....	1,980
	<hr/>
	13,695
	<hr/>

The figures given above are slightly below those for 1953 but the work carried out was very similar in character.

### ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Drainage reconstructed .....	1
Drainage, repaired, trapped, etc. ....	1
Drainage unstopped .....	12
Soil or vent pipes—new fixed .....	2
Soil or vent pipes—repaired .....	5
Water-Closets — repaired or supplied with water.....	19
Water-Closets — new pans or pedestals fixed .....	8
Water-Closets — additional constructed .....	5
Water-Closets — abolished .....	1
Water-Closets — (fresh) provided in lieu of waste-water-closets .....	5
Waste pipes — repaired or trapped .....	12
Waste pipes — or rain-water pipes disconnected from drains .....	5
Waste pipes — rain-water pipes and eaves gutters.....	69
Sinks provided or replaced .....	2
Accumulations of refuse removed .....	10
Animals, fowls, etc. removed .....	3
Brickwork or pointing repaired .....	22
Coppers repaired or renewed .....	3
Dampness remedied .....	34
Doors repaired, etc. ....	26
Dustbins supplied .....	319
Fireplace, stoves and flues repaired .....	37
Flooring and other woodwork repaired or renewed .....	19
Floors—concrete or quarried, repaired or renewed.....	6
Gullies in street unstopped .....	1
Plaster repaired .....	37
Rat infestation abated .....	204
Rent books made to comply with Regulations of Housing Act .....	1
Roofs made watertight .....	49
Stagnant water removed .....	3
Walls and ceilings cleansed .....	9
Water supplies reinstated or made sufficient .....	8



Windows—cords, fasteners and glass repaired or re- newed .....	34
Ventilation improved .....	4
Ventilation—sub-floor provided .....	1
Verminous rooms disinfested .....	6
Yards and passages paved .....	24
Miscellaneous .....	17

### STATUTORY NOTICES

Number of Legal Notices Issued for Abatement of Nuisances				
	Served 1954	Complied with during 1954	Served 1953	Complied with during 1953/54
Harrogate Corporation Act, 1935, Section 48	10	10	6	6
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39 ...	18	10	16	15
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 44 ...			1	1
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45 ...			2	2
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 56 ...	10	7	5	4
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75 ...	13	13	11	11
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93 ..	31	17	27	26
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	<b>82</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>

### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Two cases were taken before the Court during the year. One dealt with the non-registration of a dealer in old metal under Section 86, Public Health Act Amendment Act 1907. A conditional discharge was given subject to :—

- (1) Not to deal in or have scrap metal premises, unless application for registration is made.
- (2) To remove all scrap metal from premises.

The other case was failure to comply with a statutory notice under the Public Health Act, 1936. The defendant was fined £5 plus 8/0d. costs.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Premises inspected where notifiable diseases have occurred .....	41
Articles destroyed by burning at request of owners.....	42
Total visits paid to infected premises .....	45

## DISINFECTANT

During the year eight gallons of disinfectant fluid were supplied to the public, free of charge, for use in premises where cases of infectious disease, etc., had occurred.

## LIBRARY BOOKS

Fifty-three books which had been in contact with cases of infectious diseases were withdrawn from circulation and disinfected before being returned to the library.

## PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two public indoor swimming baths in the Borough, both owned by the Corporation, each being equipped with continuous filtration and chlorination plants.

During the season from April to September a total of forty chemical and forty bacteriological samples of water were taken from these baths.

All these samples were satisfactory.

## DISINFESTATION

Once again there was a considerable reduction in the figures for this type of complaint, the number of premises dealt with being eighty-five less than last year.

It is an interesting thought that the efficiency of insecticides is increasing to such a degree that wasps are becoming the departments' best customer in this particular field of operation.

Type of Premises							No.
Corporation Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Businesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
TOTAL							108



Classification									No.
Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Bed Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Flies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Steamflies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Woodworm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Precautionary measures when no evidence of vermin found but family moved to Corporation house									17

## RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The department can claim another very successful year in dealing with infestations of rats and mice. Most of the complaints on investigation were found to be of a minor character and were quickly cleared up. No large reservoirs of rats were found and for a town of its size Harrogate can claim to be remarkably free from vermin in any large numbers.

The following gives the details of the work carried out during 1954 :—

		Com- plaints received	No. of premises involved	Total No. of visits	No. of complete treat- ments	Bodies found
Private Dwellings	rats mice	85 30	131 43	450 245	38 40	54 6
Business Premises	rats mice	28 24	96 90	689 741	66 41	49 20
Agricultural Premises	rats mice	— —	27 —	40 —	— —	12 —
Local Authorities	rats mice	2 1	5 —	101 1	7 —	15 —
Total	rats mice	115 55	259 133	1280 987	111 81	130 26

### DISINFESTATION OF SEWERS

The systematic treatment of sewers was again carried out during the year. Poison baits are laid in manholes which have become rat infested and an interval of six months is allowed to lapse between first and second treatment. The infestation was on a slightly greater scale than the previous year. Details are given below :—

Type of Treatment	No. of man- holes pre- baited	No. of takes	No. of man- holes poison baited
10% Test (1 in 10 manholes on the foul water system tested) ...	197	22	N.A.
First Maintenance Treatment ...	189	36	36
Second Maintenance Treatment ...	108	21	21

### INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

Harrogate does not possess a large number of factories, but the ones we have are well maintained and any unsatisfactory conditions found were mainly of a minor character.

The harmonious working arrangements with H. M. Inspector of Factories were continued during the year.



## Factories, Factories (No Mechanical Power) and Workplaces

Premises inspected .....	173
Premises inspected and found satisfactory.....	160
Premises inspected and found unsatisfactory.....	13
Factories where defects were found and referred by H. M. Inspector .....	4
Reports on action taken sent to H. M. Inspector .....	4
Number of defects remedied as a result of H. M. In- spector's notification .....	4

## List of Defects found in Factories, Factories (No mechanical power) and Workplaces

Cleanliness, want of .....	6
Sanitary Conveniences :—	
Insufficient .....	1
Unsuitable or defective .....	7
Not separate for sexes .....	2
Other defects .....	1

## REGISTERED FACTORIES, FACTORIES ACT, 1937

	Power	No Mechanical Power
Aerated Water .....	2	
Agricultural Machinery .....	1	
Baking .....	37	6
Beer Bottling .....	2	
Bicycle Repairs .....		1
Blacksmith .....		1
Boot and Shoe Repairs .....	13	5
Brickmaking .....	1	
Burling and Mending .....	1	
Chocolate and Sweet Manufacture .....	2	2
Chromium Plating .....	1	
Coal and Gas Manufacture .....	1	
Corn Milling .....	1	
Dentures .....	1	
Dress Making .....	12	11
Dry Cleaning .....	1	2
Egg Packing .....	1	
Electric and Radio Repairs .....	6	
Electrical Generating .....	1	
Engineering .....	3	
Firegrate Conversion .....	1	



Firewood Cutting .....	2	
French Polishing .....	2	1
Furrier .....	2	1
Gas Fitting Repairs .....	1	
Ham Boiling .....	1	
Ice and Ice Cream Manufacture .....	1	
Jam Manufacturer .....	1	
Joinery, Cabinet Making .....	38	3
Laundries .....	11	1
Leatherwork .....	1	
Lenses and Grinding .....	1	
Letter Press Printing .....	7	
Malting .....	2	
Metal Engraving .....	1	
Milk Pasteurisation .....	2	
Millinery .....		4
Monumental Engraving .....	1	
Motor Spirit Storage .....	1	
Motor Vehicle Repairs .....	39	1
Paper Baling .....	1	
Perambulator Manufacture .....	3	
Photography .....	2	2
Picture Framing .....	1	1
Plumbing .....	1	3
Raincoat Manufacture .....	1	
Rubber Products .....	1	
Salt Packing .....		1
Sausage making and Pies .....	11	1
Shirt making .....	1	
Signwriting .....	1	2
Slipper Making .....		1
Soft Furnishing .....	1	
Stone Dressing and Breaking .....	2	
Tailoring .....	6	14
Tinsmith .....	4	
Tyre Repairs .....	1	
Upholstery .....	5	2
Watch Repairs .....	4	1
Weaving .....	2	
Weighing Machine Repairs .....	1	
Whitesmith .....	3	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	254	66
	<hr/>	<hr/>



## OUTWORKERS

Notifications received from employers and other authorities show that there were two outworkers engaged in making wearing apparel in the Borough.

In each case the conditions were satisfactory.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

A number of complaints were received concerning smoke nuisances. Once again the hotels were the chief offenders. On investigation it was usually found that the trouble was caused by inexperienced stoking. The labour problem in this direction is acute and very often a man after receiving careful training in the art of stoking decides to seek another type of job and the same routine has to be gone through again with a person having no knowledge of the subject.

A chimney discharging black smoke in Harrogate is instantly noticed against the clear skies, whereas the same chimney in many industrial towns would be unobserved.

The recording Station has been re-sited from the Valley Gardens to the roof of the Municipal Offices. It is equipped with a deposit gauge and lead peroxide candle. A volumetric apparatus for recording sulphur dioxide and suspended matter is operated at the Royal Baths.

## HOUSING

The figures for work carried out in connection with housing are a little above those for 1953. Owners of properties were very co-operative and a considerable number of defects were remedied on the service of informal notices.

The major portion of the Smithy Hill and Chatsworth Road Re-development Area was demolished and the site is rapidly taking on a tidy appearance and will soon be ready for fresh development.

A start was made in the survey of unfit houses under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.



1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts) .....	341
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	1,266
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations. ....	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. Visits to the properties already recorded in (2) (a) .....	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	5
(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 .....	292

## II. 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 .....	240
---	-----

## III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(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...	—



**B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	34
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners .....	22
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

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

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation.....	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition Orders were made .....	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. ....	—

**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 .....	4
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	1

**Information re Land Charges.**

Requests for information were received and dealt with in respect of 1,618 properties.

## **HARROGATE CORPORATION ACT, 1935, SECTION 46.**

There are four sites at present in use for the accommodation of tents, vans and sheds. Routine inspections are carried out and a careful check kept on the movement of caravans.

Part time occupation		Full time occupation	
Sheds	Vans	Sheds	Vans
38	5	—	29

Inspections 144.

## **WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL (General Powers) ACT, 1951**

Section 75—Slaughter of Animals otherwise than for human consumption.

Section 76—Registration of Food Hawkers.

Personal Registration .....	36
Storage Accommodation .....	19
Inspections .....	50

Section 120—Hairdressers and Barbers.

Registered .....	64
Inspections .....	4

## **RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951**

Registered Premises .....	9
Inspections .....	4

## **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951**

Licensed Premises .....	6
Inspections .....	22

## **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT AMENDMENT ACT, 1907**

**Marine and Old Metal Dealers**

Registered .....	9
Inspections .....	2



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The routine inspection of all food premises was steadily maintained and every effort was made to keep up the standard of previous years.

Alterations to shops, stores, etc., continued to be carried out and advantage was taken to use the latest type of equipment and fittings. Plastics for covering table tops etc., are paying an important part in the hygienic handling of food.

Complaints received by the department re handling of food were exceedingly few.

A series of lectures were given during the year and details of these will be found in the report of the Medical Officer.

### MILK SUPPLY : MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

Registered	On Register Dec. 31st, 1954
Dairies ... ..	20
Milk Distributors ... ..	99

Number of milk distributors resident in the Borough 92.

### The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The following licences were granted during 1954 :—

Type of Licence	Number
Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	60
Supplementary Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	1
Dealers Accredited Milk (to 30.9.1954) ... ..	1
Milk Pasteurisers H.T.S.T. (in respect of two plants) ... ..	3
Holder ... ..	1
Dealers Pasteurised Milk ... ..	47
Dealers Sterilised Milk ..... ..	47
Supplementary Dealers Sterilised Milk ... ..	1

## Examination of Milk by the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests.

All the samples examined at the Public Health Laboratory passed either the methylene blue or phosphatase tests. It is now over two years since a failure occurred and I feel that this is a record which reflects credit on the persons handling and treating milk.

Class of Milk	Numbers of samples tested	Appropriate Tests	Number of samples	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised ...	37	Phosphatase ...	37	—
	37	Methylene Blue ...	37	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	37	Phosphatase ...	37	—
	37	Methylene Blue ...	37	—
Totals ...	148		148	—

### Summary of Chemical Analysis of Milk Samples for 1954.

Ninety-eight samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination for the fat and solids not fat content. The presumptive standard for milk is not less than 3% fat and 8.5% solids not fat.

The following table shows to what extent the milk sampled complied with these standards.



Period	No. of samples Examined	Averages	
		Fat %	Solids not Fat %
January ... ..	6	4.08	8.85
February ... ..	12	3.60	8.74
March ... ..	12	3.85	8.63
Quarter ending 31/3/54 ...	30	3.84	8.74
April ... ..	12	3.63	8.63
May ... ..	6	3.50	8.57
June ... ..	—	—	—
Quarter ending 30/6/54 ...	18	3.57	8.60
July ... ..	6	3.47	8.69
August ... ..	14	3.71	8.67
September ... ..	12	4.36	8.86
Quarter ending 30/9/54 ...	32	3.85	8.74
October ... ..	6	4.20	8.98
November ... ..	6	4.11	8.81
December ... ..	6	3.99	8.81
Quarter ending 31/12/54 ...	18	4.10	8.87
Year ending 31/12/54 ... ..	98	3.84	8.74
Year ending 31/12/53 ... ..	119	3.67	8.68

### EXAMINATION OF MILK

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 25 and Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, Article 20.

Twenty-four samples of milk were submitted for examination for brucella abortus and fifteen for tubercle bacilli. Of these samples, fourteen that were examined for tubercle bacilli were returned as negative and one positive. This was referred to the appropriate authority as the farm is situated outside the Borough.

Of the twenty-four samples of milk examined for brucella abortus one was positive and a notice was served on the farmer under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, on the 5th July, 1954, requiring the farmer to arrange for the milk to be heat treated before being supplied to the public. The notice was withdrawn on the 2nd September, 1954, when the milk from this farm was found to be free from infection.



## Registration of Premises Used for the Manufacture, Storage or Sale of Food.

Only thirteen new applications were received for the sale and storage of ice-cream. It would appear that the town is now well served with premises of this nature.

	Premises on Register, 1953	Premises on Register, 1954
Sale and Storage of ice-cream ..	160	173
Manufacture of ice-cream ...	10	10
Manufacture of preserved food ...	42	45
Butter, margarine, wholesale dealers or factories ... ..	1	1

### ICE-CREAM

Twenty-seven samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. The results of these samples are divided into four grades the interpretation of which is briefly as follows :—

Grade One samples meet with all the requirements for a clean and hygienic ice-cream.

A number of Grade Two or Three samples show that greater bacteriological cleanliness in production, storage and sale is required.

Any samples falling in Grade Four are most unsatisfactory.

The results this year were not satisfactory. Investigation usually showed that the cause of the bad samples was due to careless handling of the ice-cream or the equipment used in the manufacture of same.

Provisional Grade					
	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
Produced in the Borough	7	1	2	1	11
Produced outside the Borough ... ..	11	3	2	—	16



## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOOD

There has been a steady increase in the number of animals killed during the past three years. The figures are as follows :— 1954 — 25,725; 1953 — 23,160 and 1952 — 18,824. It is interesting to note that despite this fact the totals for condemned meat have gone down :—

1953	43,795 lb. tuberculosis.	112,865 total condemned.
1954	32,227 „ „	70,899 „ „

This decrease is no doubt due to the fact that from the 1st July, 1954, the butchers commenced to buy their own animals and better quality meat appeared in the slaughterhouses.

On the 1st July the Government relinquished their control over the West Park and Starbeck slaughterhouses. The former reverted back to its owners who resumed their own slaughtering again.

The Council decided to take over the control of the Starbeck slaughterhouse which prior to being requisitioned by the Government had been privately owned and operated. Management is carried out by the department and any butcher on payment of the appropriate fees is entitled to slaughter his animals at this establishment. The bulk of the town's meat supply is killed at Starbeck.

A certain amount of reorganisation was necessary together with re-arrangement of equipment, but within three weeks of opening as a public abattoir the new system was functioning very smoothly.

Despite the building being old and badly designed for its present purpose, the standard of hygiene maintained is very satisfactory and the animals are killed in a humane manner. 100% meat inspection is carried out. I would like to pay tribute to the skilful and efficient manner in which the Sanitary Inspectors carry out this work and to deprecate the fact that the service they give is not generally known and therefore cannot be appreciated by the public.



Detailed below is a table of unsound meat condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption.

Type	Weight in Pounds		
	Tuberculosis	Other diseases than tuberculosis.	Total condemned
Beef ... ..	14,865	9,874	24,739
Veal ... ..	35	1,188	1,223
Mutton ... ..	—	1,505	1,505
Pork ... ..	6,496	5,725	12,221
Offals ... ..	10,831	20,380	31,211
Totals ... ..	32,227	38,672	70,899

Carcases Inspected and Condemned					
	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ..	3,211	382	1,139	15,122	5,871
Number inspected ...	3,211	382	1,139	15,122	5,871
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	10	15	22	30	48
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	990	105	11	468	643
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ... ..	31.14%	31.41%	2.90%	3.29%	11.77%
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	15	8	1	—	15
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	567	82	—	—	364
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	18.13%	23.62%	0.09%	0.0%	6.46%



### Cysticercus Bovis.

The percentage of animals affected with cysticercus bovis is on a par with previous years. Once again the infection in carcasses was of a light nature.

Year	Animals Slaughtered	Number Affected		Percentage affected
		English and Scotch origin	Irish Origin	
1949	4,203	40	11	1.21
1950	5,334	33	19	.98
1951	5,175	29	30	1.14
1952	4,793	31	14	.93
1953	4,906	46	5	1.04
1954	4,732	36	10	.97

### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

The increase in applications for licences to slaughter is due to the fact that many butchers are now doing this work themselves.

Number of slaughtermen on register at 31/12/53	...	33
Applications for licences considered during 1954	...	21
Number of slaughtermen on register at 31/12/54	...	54

# PARTICULARS OF OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1954.

The quantity of food condemned was approximately one third less than in 1953. It is difficult to give a reason for this as it must be presumed that the same quantity of food entered the town during the year. The low figure may be due to the rather cold summer which we experienced.

Miscellaneous Tinned Foods	Tins	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Oz.
Artificial Cream . . . . .	7		2		4	
Baby Food . . . . .	12				3	7
Cream . . . . .	6				2	4
Fish . . . . .	86			3	10	9
Fish Paste . . . . .	1				1	
Fruit . . . . .	609		9	3	9	5
Fruit Juice . . . . .	7				7	11
Jam . . . . .	12			1	6	8
Marmalade . . . . .	1				1	4
Meat . . . . .	352		14	1	1	12
Milk . . . . .	190		1	2	17	8
Soup . . . . .	28			1	2	9
Syrup . . . . .	1				2	
Vegetables . . . . .	421		5		19	15
<b>Flour and Cereals</b>						
Flour . . . . .	5				18	
Lentils . . . . .	1				8	8
Rice . . . . .	1				15	
<b>General</b>						
Bacon . . . . .	1				20	
Butter . . . . .	5				9	14
Cheese . . . . .	30		2		24	9
Fish . . . . .	11		4		18	4
Fish Paste . . . . .	1					4
Lard . . . . .				2	3	
Meat . . . . .	1		2		11	
Meat Paste . . . . .	1					4
Pickles . . . . .	10				8	12
Poultry . . . . .	5				21	
Sausages . . . . .	11			3	4	13
Suet . . . . .	1					4
Sugar . . . . .	1				16	
Yeast . . . . .	3				2	8
Total . . . . .	1,821	2	5	1	19	12



## WORK CARRIED OUT AT FOOD PREMISES

The work required to be carried out in food premises was considerably lower than the previous year and this is an indication that the general structure of rooms and buildings is reaching a satisfactory level. The main target which is constantly being aimed at is to produce conditions which lend themselves to the maintenance of a hygienic standard which requires the minimum effort on the part of staff. Nothing is more likely to daunt the most intrepid food handler or cleaner than the hopeless task of trying to clean premises which are so antiquated that they defeat every effort put forward towards this end.

The psychological effect of smooth easily cleansed walls, floors and equipment cannot be over estimated.

Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., repaired	...	...	..	10
Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., cleansed	...	...	...	12
Articles, apparatus, clothing cleansed	...	...	...	16
Washing facilities provided (personal)	...	...	...	4
Washing facilities maintained (personal)	...	...	...	1
Double sinks provided and washing facilities improved (utensils and crockery)	...	...	...	1
Kitchen fittings re-sited	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	16

## HYGIENE IN HOSPITAL CATERING DEPARTMENTS

The hospital authorities were asked in a circular from the Ministry of Health to enlist the help of the Medical Officer of Health and his staff in order to ensure that the inspection of hospital catering hygiene was fully and effectively carried out in order to prevent outbreaks of food poisoning or illness that can be transmitted by food.

The Cross Infection Committee of the Hospital Management Committee of which the Medical Officer of Health is Chairman, asked the Harrogate Health Department to inspect the catering departments of the Harrogate General Hospital, Royal Bath Hospital and the White Hart Hospital. The Catering Department of the Harrogate General Hospital was inspected in 1953 and those of the Royal Bath Hospital and the White Hart Hospital were inspected during 1954. Various minor recommendations were submitted to the hospitals concerned, these were approved by the Hospital Management Committee and have now been implemented.



## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

During the year 123 samples were taken, 103 of these being formal and 20 informal samples.

Formal	Informal	Article
2	1	Arrowroot
1	5	Beef Sausage
		Beef Sausage Meat
1	1	Desiccated Coco-nut
		Fruit and Cream
1	1	Ground Almonds
1		Grape Fruit Crush
1		Ice-cream Soda
		Limeade
	1	Lemonade Crystals
2		Lemonade
	1	Lard
92	6	Milk
	1	Peel
	1	Peanuts, Chocolate Covered
1	1	Pork Sausage
	1	Sage and Onion Stuffing
1		Soda Water
103	20	

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Of the samples analysed, two of those taken were reported to be not genuine, details of which, and the action in regard thereto are as follows :—

Sample No.	Formal or Informal	Article	Adulteration or Other Irregularity	Action Taken
52	Formal	Milk	Contained 95.4% of the minimum amount of fat required.	None
80	Formal	Milk	Contained 98.7% of the minimum amount of fat required.	None



# PUBLIC CLEANSING — HOUSEHOLD AND TRADE REFUSE

1st April, 1954 to 31st March, 1955

## Collection of Refuse.

Refuse was collected from 18,854 houses and other premises within the Borough, an increase of 853.

## Collecting Vehicles.

The collection of refuse is carried out by side loading vehicles with a total capacity of 111 cubic yards.

The Fordson vehicles are now in their seventh year and some of the C. K. Karriers in their sixth. The engines of the latter vehicles are still running in an efficient manner and have not yet been taken down or decarbonised. Tests carried out have shown that the compression is still excellent. The Fordsons have given particularly good service and though the repair figure was above that for 1953 it is still exceedingly low for a fleet of twelve vehicles with many years of hard work behind them. The total mileage of the fleet is 435,132.

A certain amount of wear is naturally beginning to take place in the bodies of the vehicles and this matter will have to be dealt within the next two years. Every effort has been made to counteract the effects of rust which is the greatest enemy of the all steel body. The routine painting programme was continued throughout the year.

Year	Repairs			New Engines		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1950 - 1951	188	11	3	52	16	6
1951 - 1952	295	17	4	108	7	2
1952 - 1953	286	2	3	70	0	0
1953 - 1954	282	5	6	70	0	0
1954 - 1955	420	5	3	140	0	0

Make	Method of loading	Year of make	Capacity (cubic yards)
Four Fordsons ...	side	1948	10
		1948	10
		1948	10
		1948	10
Seven Karriers ...	side	1943	7
		1949	12
		1949	12
		1950	10
		1950	10
		1950	10
		1953	10
One Karrier ... ..	side	1953	2 ton general duty tipper

### Trade Refuse.

The following are the charges made for the collection of trade refuse :—

10/- per motor load.

4d. per bin in excess of one per week.

### Hotel Refuse.

One free collection is made per week. For each extra weekly collection in addition to the former the sum of £1-1-0 per annum is charged.

### Private Tipping.

The charges made for the private tipping of refuse by individuals are 2/- per load up to two tons and 2/6 per load over two tons. During the year 455 loads of refuse were disposed of on this basis, yielding a revenue of £45 10s. 0d.

### Tonnage.

The highest weekly tonnage of refuse was 413 tons which was collected during the week ended 8th January, 1955, and the lowest tonnage for the week ended 25th February, 1955, when 336 tons were collected. The figures for last year were 454 and 315 tons respectively.



20,685 tons of household and trade refuse were collected during the year as against 20,662 tons for 1953/54. Though the tonnages are similar the character of the refuse is changing and is becoming lighter and more bulkier. This means that the vehicles carry a load which represents the contents of a smaller number of dustbins than when the refuse was of more dense nature.

The following shows the classification and tonnage of refuse collected and disposed of during the year :—

**Estimated Tonnage of Materials Handled by Cleansing  
Department 1954/55.**

Type	Collection	Disposal
1. Household Refuse ... ..	19,322	19,322
2. Trade Refuse ... ..	743	743
3. Night Soil ... ..	12	12
4. Covering Material ... ..	397	397
5. Road Sweepings ... ..	98	1,248
6. Street Gully Solids ... ..	—	1,300
7. Salvage ... ..	510	—
8. Trade Refuse (disposal only, not collected) ... ..	—	910
9. Materials delivered to tips by other departments ... ..	—	178
	21,082	24,110
Less covering materials ... ..	397	—
Total refuse collected ... ..	20,685	—
Total refuse disposed of ... ..	—	24,110

**Frequency of Collection.**

Many difficulties have been encountered during the year in the endeavour to maintain a weekly collection of refuse. Briefly they have been as follows :— (1) Increasing number of new houses and flats. (2) High rate of sickness amongst the men. (3) The large quantities of waste paper thrown away by householders which results in a considerable increase in bulk.

Item (1) can only be remedied by reorganisation of the department. This can be brought about by the gradual replacement of the present side-loading vehicles by ones carrying a larger cubic capacity of refuse and capable of compressing the material by mechanical or other means.



Sickness amongst the men is difficult to combat as the very nature of their work exposes them to every type of weather and in this respect 1954 had nothing to boast about.

The waste paper problem really demands intensive propaganda. If all the clean paper were tied into bundles for separate collection and all the dirty and greasy paper burnt there would be a considerable saving to the rates and the frequency of collection would not be such a problem to the Cleansing Department.

### Disposal of Refuse.

All refuse in the Borough is disposed of by controlled tipping. Four tips were used during the year, i.e. Grange, Stonerings, Howe Hill and Yorkshire Showfield.

Grange and Howe Hill are now completed. The latter tip is to be planted with conifers and some thousands of trees have already been planted.

### Salvage.

The table below shows the value of salvage sold since the cessation of hostilities :—

	£	s.	d.
1946/47 .....	2,665	18	7
1947/48 .....	3,091	14	4
1948/49 .....	3,313	2	4
1949/50 .....	3,200	12	6
1950/51 .....	3,639	15	11
1951/52 .....	7,353	8	10
1952/53 .....	4,035	12	7
1953/54 .....	3,933	6	7
1954/55 .....	3,534	2	2
Total.....	34,767	13	10



The following table shows how the 1954/55 amount was made up :—

Material	Tons	Cwts.	Qrts.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ...	45 <sup>1</sup>	10	1	0	3,336	8	3
Textiles ...	1	12	3	0	43	1	6
Bagging ...		8	2	0	4	5	0
Strings ...		7	2	0	3	0	0
Aluminium ...		7	0	19	26	15	4
Brass ...		1	3	21	14	9	4
Copper ...		1	3	8	14	9	0
Scrap Iron ...	6	16	3	0	30	15	4
Scrap Tins ...	48	14	2	0	60	18	5
Totals ...	510	1	0	20	3,534	2	2

The sum received from salvage is approximately £399 under the amount received last year.

### Protective Clothing.

Each man employed in the collection and disposal of refuse is equipped as follows :—

1 overall jacket and 2 bib and brace trousers (annual issue).

1 three-quarter length waterproof coat and 1 pair waterproof leggings triennial issue).

New waterproof clothing was issued in October, 1954.

**PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH,  
1955.**

The table below gives the costing return which has to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government every financial year end. The cost of refuse collection and disposal in Harrogate is below the average for similar towns in England and Wales.

Item	Particulars	Collection £	Disposal £	Total £	Percentage of total gross expenditure
1	<b>Revenue Account</b>				
	<b>Gross Expenditure</b>				
	(i) Labour ...	13,727	3,720	17,447	60.39
	(ii) Transport ...	9,762	—	9,762	33.79
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	530	615	1,145	3.96
	(iv) Other items (including £. paid to other local authorities) ...	357	179	536	1.86
	(v) Total gross expenditure ...	24,376	4,514	28,890	100.00
2	<b>Gross Income</b> (including £. received from other local authorities) ...	158	3,659	3,817	
3	<b>Net Cost</b>	24,218	855	25,073	
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above) ...	—	—	—	
	<b>Unit Costs</b>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only ...	13 3	3 1	16 4	
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only ..	9 5	- -	9 5	
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	23 5	8	24 1	
		£	£	£	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population ...	469	17	486	
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	1,285	45	1,330	



## OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Area (statute acres)—land and inland water—8,320 acres.

Population at 30th June, 1954—51,690 persons.

Total refuse collected (tons). Estimated from regular test weighings—20,685 tons.

Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day 365 days to year —21.80 cwts.

Number of premises from which refuse is collected—18,854 premises

Average haul (miles) by collection vehicle to disposal point —3 miles.

Frequency of collection—7 days.

Kerbside collection, if practised, expressed as estimated percentage of total collection—None.

Total refuse disposed of (tons)—24,110 tons.

Methods of disposal: Controlled tipping—100 per cent.

Salvage and Trade Refuse. Analysis of income and tonnage

	Income (included in Item 2)	Tonnage Collected
<b>Salvage.</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Tons</b>
(a) Kitchen Waste .....	—	—
(b) Scrap Metal .....	147	56
(c) Waste Paper .....	3,337	452
(d) Other Salvage .....	97	2
Total.....	3,581	510
Trade Refuse .....	236	212

Report on the Survey of the Fish and Game Resources of the State of New York

By J. J. H. Smith, Chief of the Division of Fish and Game

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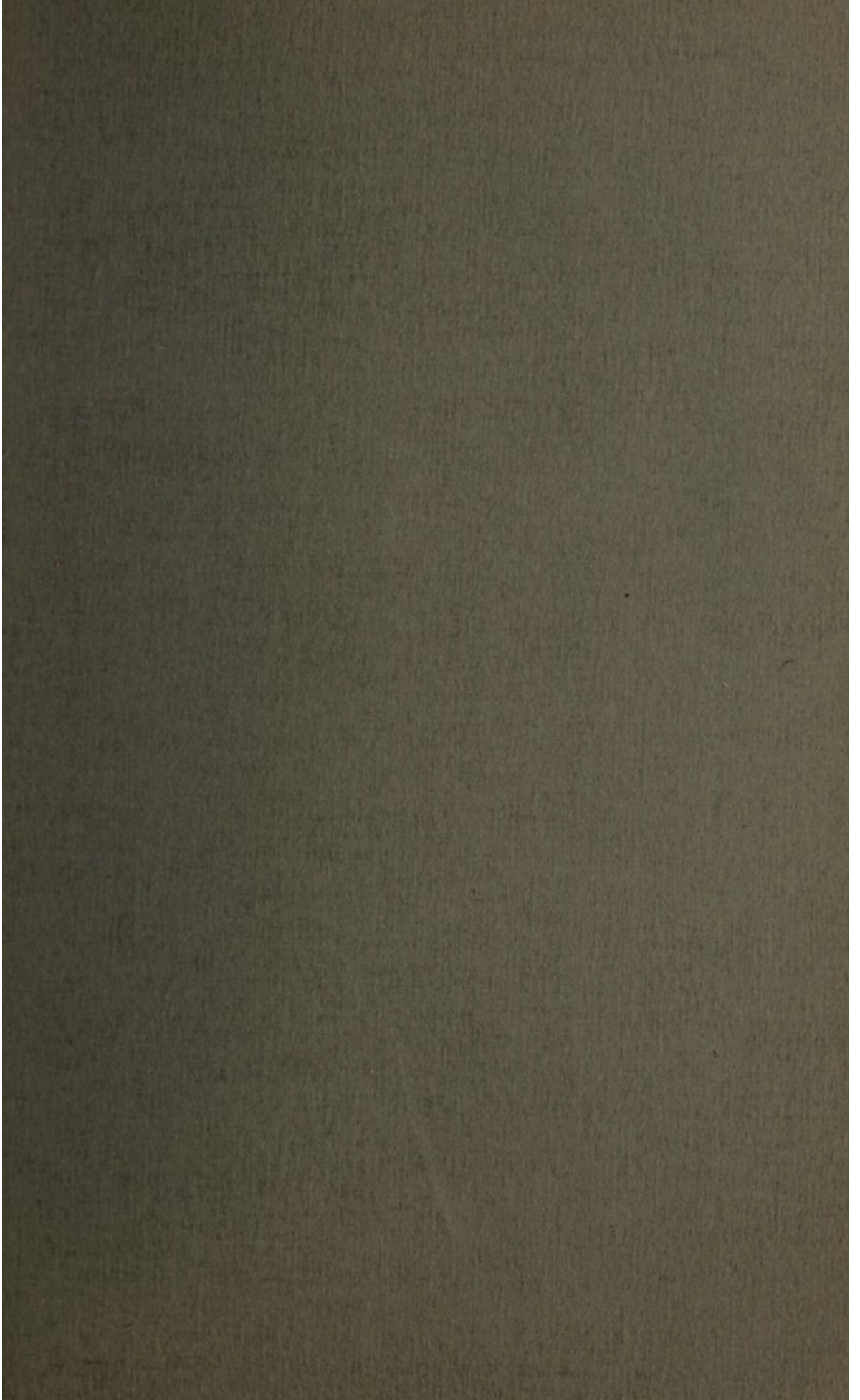
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