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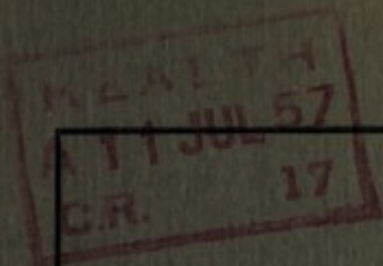
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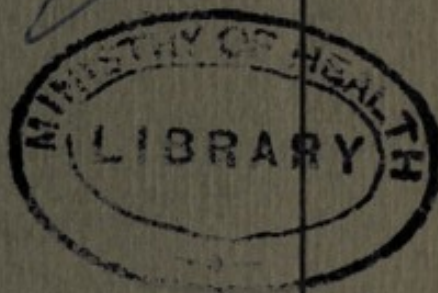
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Borough of Harrogate

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

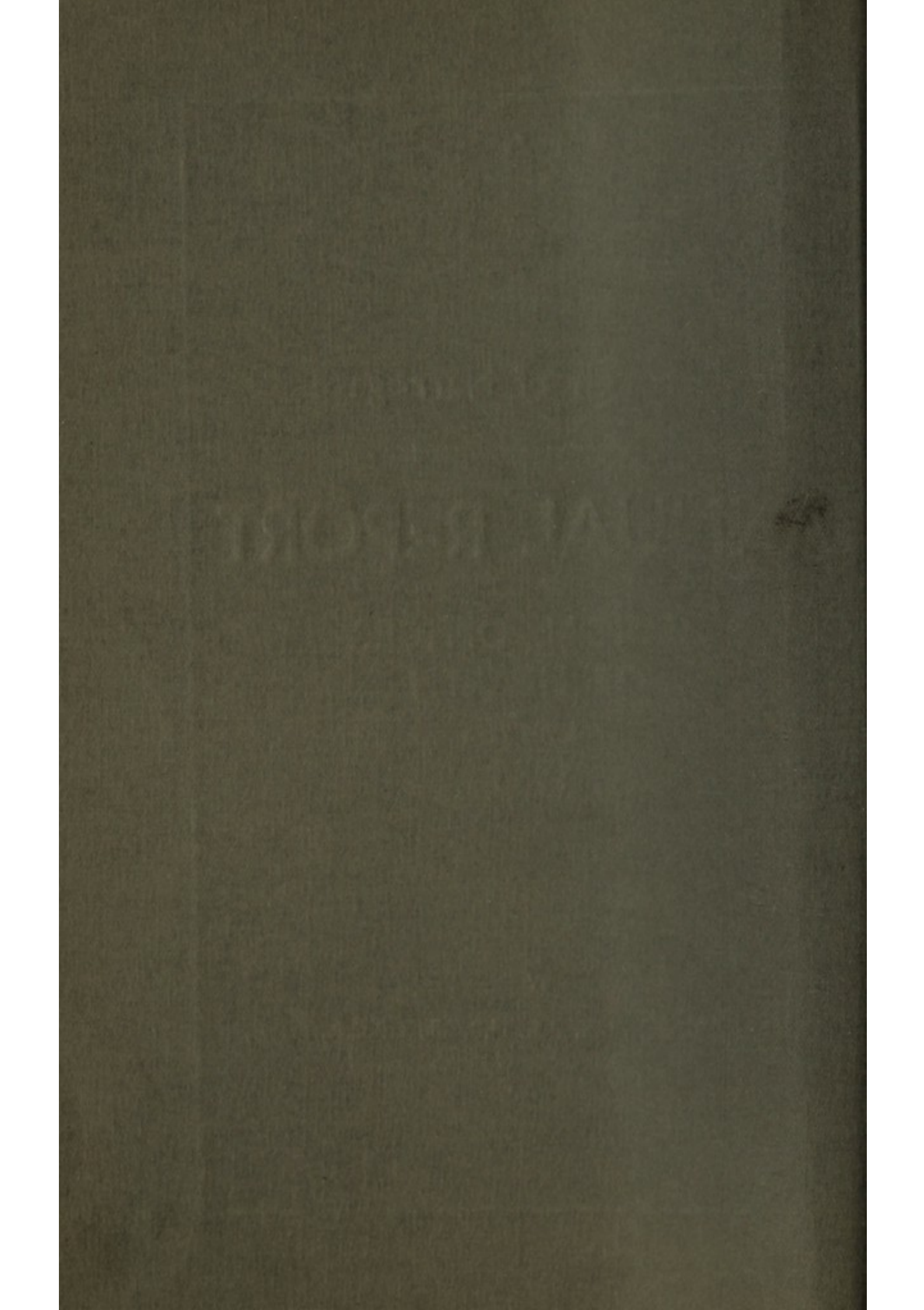
FOR THE YEAR

1956

BY

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

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Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF HEALTH

OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

1926

Printed by the City of Boston, 1926

INDEX

Ambulance Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Birth and Birth Rates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Cancer								
Graph	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Incidence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Caravan and Shed Licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Cardiac Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Care and After-care Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Care of the Unmarried Mother and her Child	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Chief Public Health Inspector's Letter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Children taking part in Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Cleanliness, verminous conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Clinics								
Table of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Ante-natal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Infant Welfare	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Minor Ailments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Post Natal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Closet Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Cremations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Day Nurseries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Deaths								
Causes of Death, Table II	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Death Rates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Dental Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	38 and	44
Diphtheria Immunisation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Disabled and Old Persons Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Diseases of the Skin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Disinfectant, Issue of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Distribution of Welfare Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Employment of School Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Factories Acts								
Inspection of and Defects found	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Medical Examination of Employees	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Food Hygiene Regulations 1955								
Storage Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Inspection and Supervision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Food and Drugs Act 1955, legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Gas and Air Analgesia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Handicapped Child, Care of the	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44

Health Committee, members of	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Health Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Health Visiting	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Home Help Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Home Nursing Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Housing							
Statistics	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Land Charge information	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Infant Mortality							
Table III	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Infant Mortality rates	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Infectious Disease, Notification and Incidence of							
Table IV	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Laboratory Facilities	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Library Books, Disinfection of	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Maternal Mortality	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Meat and other Foods, Inspection of	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Cysticercus Bovis	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Medical Inspection of School Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Medical Officer of Health's letter	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Mental Health Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Meteorological Information	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Midwifery							
Confinements in Hospitals and Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Domiciliary	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Milk and Dairies Regulations							
Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Test	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Chemical Analysis of Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Examination of Milk for Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Brucella Abortus	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Nuisances, Abatement of	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Obstetric Flying Squad	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Old Metal, Registration of dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Ophthalmic Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Orthopaedic Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Pet Shops, Licensing of	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Poliomyelitis							
Incidence	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Vaccination	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Premature Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	35

Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Recuperative Home Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Refuse Collection							
Costing Returns	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
Frequency of Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Operational Statistics	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Protective Clothing	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Tonnage	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Trade and Hotel Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Refuse Disposal							
Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Photographs, St. George's Road Cricket Ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Private Tipping	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Rivers and Streams	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Sanitary Inspection of the Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Slaughter of Animals Act 1933—1954, Licensing of Slaughtermen	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Smallpox Vaccination	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Social Workers Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Speech Therapy Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Staff	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 and 31
Statistics, General	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Still-births	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Sunlight Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	38 and 43
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Tonsillitis, Outbreak of in a School	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Tuberculosis							
Care Committee	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Graph	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Mass Radiography	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Notification of Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Provision of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Vaccination	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Unemployment	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951							
Food Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Hairdressers and Barbers	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Whooping Cough							
Incidence	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Immunisation	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Youth Employment Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	44

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1956

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

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. WILKINSON

THE MAYOR (Councillor EDWIN PICKARD, J.P.)

Ald.	Mrs. FISHER, J.P.	Coun.	LOWE
„	TENNANT	„	MABER
Coun.	ATKINSON	„	MORRELL
„	CHRISTELOW	„	SHILLITO
„	JOHNSON	„	STANSFIELD
„	KIRBY	„	Miss WARDLE
„	LENG	„	Mrs. WILKINSON

HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE :

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

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. WILKINSON

THE MAYOR (Councillor EDWIN PICKARD, J.P.)

Ald.	Mrs. FISHER, J.P.	Coun.	MORRELL
Coun.	LENG	„	Miss WARDLE
„	MABER	„	Mrs. WILKINSON

**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 1956.

There was little infectious disease in the Borough during the year. Compared with the previous year there was a marked decrease in the number of cases of measles and whooping cough. An account is given in the Report of the methods used in investigating and dealing with an outbreak of sore throats in a boys' boarding school, and of a shortlived, though widespread, outbreak of food poisoning in a girls' boarding school.

Increasing emphasis is being given to the care of the elderly who are forming an ever increasing proportion of the population, moreover it is now realised that more can be done for elderly people and their rehabilitation than was previously realised.

Old people prefer home life wherever possible and like to retain their independence in their own homes as long as they can. They can be helped in some cases by adapting their home to their needs, in others by providing easily managed small dwellings or flats on one floor level.

The health visitors can keep a friendly eye on their circumstances and can call on the services of a home help and arrange through the family doctor, when required, for the services of a home nurse. The health visitor can often enlist the co-operation and interest of relatives who may have lost touch with these aged persons and are not aware of their plight.

The work of voluntary organisations for the care of the elderly is of the greatest value, as for example the home visiting service carried out by voluntary visitors, the provision of meals on wheels and very many other social activities. There will always remain needs of the aged which are essentially personal and informal and which cannot be met by the state services.

Enforced retirement of the fit worker at a pre-determined age usually has a detrimental effect on his health and well-being. Many resent being served with notice that their services are no longer required. A recent investigation has shown that men aged 65 or

more who are working are significantly happier than those who are retired, especially when they have few outside interests apart from their employment. Guidance and advice both before, during and after retirement is required to assist with the adjustment necessary during the transition from work to retirement. The encouragement of hobbies and the provision of clubs for the elderly are most helpful. Sometimes part-time employment as watchmen, jobbing gardeners, doorkeepers, etc., may be forthcoming, but these posts are hard to find.

Accidents in the home are a common cause of injury and fatality to the elderly. Attention has recently been drawn to the increase in accidental coal gas poisoning which is most prevalent in persons aged 65 or over. Many elderly people cannot identify the smell of gas. The number of accidental deaths from coal gas in England and Wales has increased from less than 200 annually in the pre-war years to 745 in 1955, and for every hospital death from this cause there have been a further two or three recovered cases. In interpreting these figures account must be taken of the increased amount of gas used in the home, and the increase in the number of old people in the population. Nevertheless those visiting the homes of the elderly should notice the condition of the gas appliances and inform the Gas Board of any defect observed. The Gas Board will willingly correct any defects so found. The Chief Public Health Inspector and myself recently visited an elderly lady living alone and found the room smelling strongly of gas. The tap to the gas had been only partly turned off. She was quite unaware of this, and if it had not been for our visit the outcome might have been dangerous or even fatal.

I have mentioned in this Report the work I undertake as appointed factory doctor in the examination of young persons for fitness for employment in factories. Factories include such occupations for youths as garage apprentices or joiners, and in the case of girls laundry work and dressmaking. In my capacity as school medical officer I have access to the school medical records of these young persons at the time of their examination for entry to the factory, and in many cases I have already examined these young people previously either at school, at school clinics or prior to juvenile employment. Also as medical officer of health I often know their home background and the condition of the work places where these young people will be employed. It is comparatively rare for the school medical officer to be also the appointed factory doctor, but it is my opinion that this preventive medical service follows as a desirable extension of the experience and knowledge available from the school medical service.

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.
May, 1957.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1956.



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 :

J. A. G. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B. (Appointed 1-1-56).

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

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

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Deputy Cleansing Superintendent :

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

Public Health Inspectors :

F. COE, A.R.S.H., Cert. S.I.B. (a) (b)

A. HOWARD, M.R.S.H., Cert. S.I.B., A.I.P.E. (a) (c)

E. B. COOP, A.R.S.H., 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 as at 31-12-56 :

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

L. R. WILKINSON (Chief Clerk)

J. E. BIELBY (Senior Clerk)

Miss M. STARKEY (Senior Clerk)

Mrs. W. GLEDHILL

K. W. DARLEY

Miss A. LEGGETT

Miss P. ELLISON

C. C. WILSON

Mrs. J. A. TAYLOR

D. R. J. ASHCROFT

Miss P. MEDDINGS

Miss R. ALLANSON

Sanitary and Cleansing Sections Clerical Staff :

H. M. WILEY, D.P.A. (Senior Clerk)

H. K. PEARSON

Miss M. M. ATKINSON

B. V. O'NEILL

- (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.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1956.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,320
Population (mid-summer, 1956, estimated by the Registrar General)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51,930
Number of Inhabited houses, March 31st, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,939
Rateable Value, March 31st, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£643,933
Product of Penny Rate, March 31st, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2,535
Births	Males			Females				
Live Births:	Legitimate	364	} 392	Legitimate	314	} 339		731
	Illegitimate	28		Illegitimate	25			
Birth Rate (Live births per 1,000 of the estimated population)								14.1
*Adjusted Birth Rate	Males			Females				14.8
	Males			Females				
Still Births:	Legitimate	10	} 10	Legitimate	6	} 6		16
	Illegitimate	-		Illegitimate	-			
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births								21.4
Deaths								
Number of Deaths: Males 324, Females 409								733
Death Rate (Deaths per 1,000 of the estimated population)								14.1
*Adjusted Death Rate								11.4
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion								1
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:								
	Males			Females				
	Legitimate	11	} 11	Legitimate	5	} 6		17
	Illegitimate	-		Illegitimate	1			
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—								
All Infants per 1,000 live births								23.3
								Rate (per 1,000 population)
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (5)								0.10
Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases								nil
Deaths from Infective and parasitic diseases excluding Tuberculosis but including Syphilis and other Venereal Diseases (4)								0.08
Deaths from Vascular lesions of the nervous system (125)								2.41
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory diseases (265)								5.10
Deaths from Cancer (143)								2.75
Deaths from Respiratory diseases (66)								1.27
Mean Annual Temperature								46.7
Total Rainfall (in inches)								32.17
Hours of Bright Sunshine								1270.6

* Adjusted by Area Comparability factors supplied by the Registrar General. This adjustment makes allowance for the changing age structure of the population. (Births 1.05 and Deaths 0.81).

TABLE 1.
VITAL STATISTICS OF HARROGATE FOR 1956 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
1955	51,710	620	12.6	16	25.8	706	10.3
1956	51,930	731	14.8	17	23.3	733	11.4

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 adjusted since 1950 (0.81 and 1.05 respectively).

TABLE II.
CAUSES OF DEATH IN HARROGATE BOROUGH, 1956.

Causes of Death						1956	
						Male	Female
All Causes						324	409
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	2	3
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	1	1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	2	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	5	5
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	15	3
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	19
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	4
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	36	50
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	4	2
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	44	81
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	64	56
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	6	13
20	Other heart diseases	...	...	...	...	42	62
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	10	12
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	3
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	10	20
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	14	13
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	3	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	6	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	10	8
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	9	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	1
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	2	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	22	30
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	1	—
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	6	8
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	7	6
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—
Total						733	

TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1955 and 1956.

Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	1955	1956									
		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 Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4
6 Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 Congenital Malformations ...	3	2	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	4
8 Immaturity	4	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
9 Injury at Birth	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	4	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
11 Haemolytic Disease	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
12 Accidental Mechanical Suffocation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13 Other Causes	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	16	10	2	—	—	12	1	3	1	—	17

TABLE IV.
AGE GROUPS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING DURING THE FIFTY TWO WEEKS ENDED 29th DECEMBER, 1956.

Disease	Total Notified	Number of Cases Notified							No of Cases admit'd to Hospital	Total No of Deaths (Notified 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	72	—	1	13	33	19	4	2	28	—
Measles	35	—	4	—	17	13	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	27	1	11	4	11	—	—	—	3	—
Acute Pneumonia	8	1	—	—	—	1	—	6	1	1
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	7	—
Paratyphoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Dysentery	7	—	—	—	6	—	—	1	5	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	326	—	—	1	1	180	138	6	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
Non-Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. POPULATION.

The population estimated by the Registrar General at the end of June, 1956, was 51,930, which was 220 higher than the estimate for 1955.

2. UNEMPLOYMENT.

At the end of the year the number of persons registered as unemployed in Harrogate and surrounding districts was 423, 248 males and 175 females. This was an increase on the previous year when the total figure of unemployed persons was 352.

At the end of 1956 there were 3 boys and 2 girls in the Borough of Harrogate who were listed by the Youth Employment Bureau as unemployed.

3. BIRTHS.

(a) Live Births.

The number of live births registered during the year was 1,227, 644 males and 583 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 731, 392 males and 339 females. This was an increase of 111 on the figure for 1955.

The birth rate when adjusted by the area comparability factor as given by the Registrar General was 14.8 live births per thousand of the population, as compared with 15.7 the rate for England and Wales.

There were 53 illegitimate live births, 28 males and 25 females, representing 7.3 per cent. of the live births.

(b) Still Births.

32 still-births, 14 males and 18 females, were registered during the year. The corrected figure supplied by the Registrar General and adjusted for inward and outward transfers was 16, 10 males and 6 females.

This gave a rate of 21.4 per thousand live and still births, compared with 23.0 for England and Wales.

4. DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 770, 357 males and 413 females, but the number of deaths of residents corrected for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar General was 733, 324 males and 409 females.

The crude death rate was 14.1 per thousand population, but when adjusted by the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General the rate was reduced to 11.4 per thousand as compared with 11.7 for England and Wales.

The causes of death are shown in the table on page 13.

Infant Mortality.

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 17, 11 males and 6 females, as compared with 16 during the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 23.3 per thousand live births, compared with 23.8 the rate for England and Wales.

Cremations.

During 1956, 618 bodies were cremated at the Stonefall Crematorium, of whom 341 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 Public Health Laboratory situated at the Harrogate General Hospital closed on the 31st March, 1956, the work being transferred to the Public Health Laboratory at Seacroft Hospital, Leeds. Arrangements have been made for the transport of specimens of milk and other foodstuffs, including ice-cream, to be taken from the Harrogate General Hospital to the Laboratory at Seacroft, Leeds, for examination.

The routine bacteriological examination of clinical material such as throat swabs is undertaken at the Hospital Laboratory at the Harrogate General Hospital.

Dr. D. J. H. Payne, who was formerly the part-time Bacteriologist at the Harrogate Public Health Laboratory, is in charge of the Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton and is able to undertake any special investigations of outbreaks of infection or suspected cases of food poisoning when his services are so required.

The examination of water supplies for plumbo-solvent action is undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service at County Hall, Wakefield.

(b) Hospitals.

The names, purposes, etc., of the Hospitals and Convalescent Homes are set out in detail on page 19.

These institutions 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 under the Management of the Regional Hospital Board.

Name	Situation	Purpose	Beds	
			Adults	Children
Harrogate and Dist. General Hospital	Knaresborough Rd., Harrogate	Medical, Surgical and Maternity	73 males 153 females	27
Carlton Lodge	Leeds Road, Harrogate	Maternity	11	—
Royal Bath Hospital	Cornwall Road, Harrogate	Rheumatic Diseases	48 males 92 females	7
White Hart Hospital	Cold Bath Road, Harrogate	do	133	—
Thistle Hill, Hospital	Knaresborough	Infectious Diseases	8	10
do	do	Paediatrics	—	14
do	do	Suitable Cases transferred from Harrogate General Hospital	11	11
Yorkshire Home	Cornwall Road, Harrogate	Chronic Sick Cases	70	—
Heatherdene Convalescent Hospital	Wetherby Road, Harrogate	Convalescent Cases	38	—
Durham County Convalescent Hospital	Cornwall Road, Harrogate	Convalescent Cases and Rheumatic Diseases	22	—

SCHOOL AND MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

(a) Central Clinic 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate. Tel. 6332	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Minor Ailments (a)	†10 a.m. 1-30 p.m.	—	—	†10 a.m.	—	—
" " (Starbeck Council School)	—	—	—	—	—	—
General School Clinic (a)	—	—	†2-30 p.m.	—	—	—
Ophthalmic Clinic (a)	—	—	—	—	(by appointment)	—
Orthopaedic Clinic (a)	—	§ (by appointment)	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination (a)	—	—	10 a.m. (by appointment)	—	—	—
Artificial Sunlight (a)	9-0 a.m. (by appointment)	—	2-0 p.m. (by appointment)	—	9-0 a.m. (by appointment)	—
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic. (a)	—	§ 9-30 a.m. (by appointment)	—	—	—	—
Dental Clinic (by appointment) ‡	9-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-15 p.m.	9-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-15 p.m.	9-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-15 p.m.	9-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-15 p.m.	9-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-15 p.m.	9-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
Cardiac Clinic General Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	10 a.m. (by appointment)
Speech Therapy, (a)	1-30 p.m. (by appointment)	—	2 p.m. (by appointment)	—	—	—
Maternity and Child Welfare	—	—	—	—	—	—
Child Welfare Centre (a)	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—
Child Welfare Centre (Methodist Schoolroom, 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 (a)	—	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	11 a.m. to 12 noon	—	—	—

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

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

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.

72 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year as compared with 58 in 1955. Scarlet fever is now a very mild disease and complications rarely occur.

44 of the cases were isolated in their own homes and 28 patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

2. Measles.

35 cases of measles were notified as compared with 516 during 1955. There were no deaths and the illness in most instances was mild in character.

3. Whooping Cough.

27 cases of whooping cough had been notified as compared with 254 during the previous year. There were no fatal cases. Of the 23 cases of which I have records, 5 had been immunised, of whom 1 was stated to be a severe case.

4. Acute Pneumonia.

8 cases of pneumonia were notified, 7 of these were acute primary pneumonia and 1 was acute influenzal pneumonia. There was 1 fatal case.

5. Erysipelas.

4 cases of erysipelas were notified as compared with 5 cases in the preceding year. All these cases cleared very rapidly with antibiotic treatment.

6. Puerperal Pyrexia.

There was a marked decrease in the number of cases of puerperal pyrexia during the year. 7 cases occurred during 1956 compared with 31 during 1955.

7. Paratyphoid Fever.

A case of paratyphoid fever was notified in May, in a man aged 25 years. Despite careful investigation the cause of the infection was not ascertained. It is just possible that the infection was contracted from relatives who stayed at his home ten days before he was taken ill. It may be one of these relatives was a carrier of the infection, but there was, however, no evidence of this suggestion. The illness was mild in character and he was discharged from the Isolation Hospital free from infection.

8. Food Poisoning.

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred at a private boarding school at Harrogate in November. The illness commenced in the early hours of the morning and the symptoms lasted approximately for three hours. 322 pupils and members of the staff were affected. The illness was due to eating a "shepherd's pie" the previous evening. This had been cooked the day before it was eaten and an organism, which was found to be *Cl. welchii* A, had multiplied in the meat in this pie during the period between the time when it was cooked and when it was warmed up 24 hours later. It is most desirable that made up meat dishes should be eaten as soon as possible after cooking and re-heating avoided wherever possible.

4 other isolated cases of food poisoning were notified. In 3 of these salmonella typhimurium was isolated, whilst in the 4th case no organism was found, all made rapid recoveries.

9. Poliomyelitis.

3 cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified during the year as compared with 9 cases during 1955. One of these cases occurred in an expectant mother. The case was severe in character and for some days she was placed in an iron lung in Seacroft Hospital. After treatment in this hospital for four weeks she was transferred to Pinderfields Hospital for orthopaedic treatment. She was still in this hospital at the end of the year with weakness of both legs and weakness of the right shoulder. It seems probable that the infection was contracted while she was staying with relatives in Morley, her illness started shortly after she had returned to her home in Harrogate from this visit.

The other 2 cases were both non-residents who were admitted from outside the area to the Harrogate Hospital where the diagnosis of poliomyelitis was made. One of these cases was an adult who had some weakness of the legs. She was still being treated in Seacroft Hospital at the end of the year. The other case occurred in a boy aged 10 years who did not develop any paralysis.

10. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

A case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified in March. Ophthalmia neonatorum is defined as a purulent discharge from the eyes commencing within 21 days from the date of birth of a child. In this case the infection of the eyes was due to staphylococcus aureus. The condition cleared up in a week with antibiotic treatment and the vision of the child was unaffected.

11. Dysentery.

7 cases of sonne dysentery were notified during the year, 6 of these were young children attending school. In one case the infection occurred in a man aged 26 years. Two of the children were sisters living at home. All the cases were mild in character and cleared up quickly after treatment.

12. Meningococcal Meningitis.

A child aged 18 months was notified in May as a case of meningococcal meningitis. The child had come with its parents for a visit to Harrogate and two days after arrival was taken ill and admitted the following day to the Harrogate Hospital. The child made a rapid recovery and was fit for discharge to her own home after three weeks' treatment.

13. Tuberculosis.

39 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1956, of these, 28 were pulmonary tuberculosis and 11 were non-pulmonary.

The following table gives details of the new cases notified and of the mortality for 1956 :—

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 „	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
15-24 „	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
25-34 „	2	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
35-44 „	2	6	1	1	—	1	—	—
45-54 „	3	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
55-64 „	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	12	16	5	6	3	3	—	—

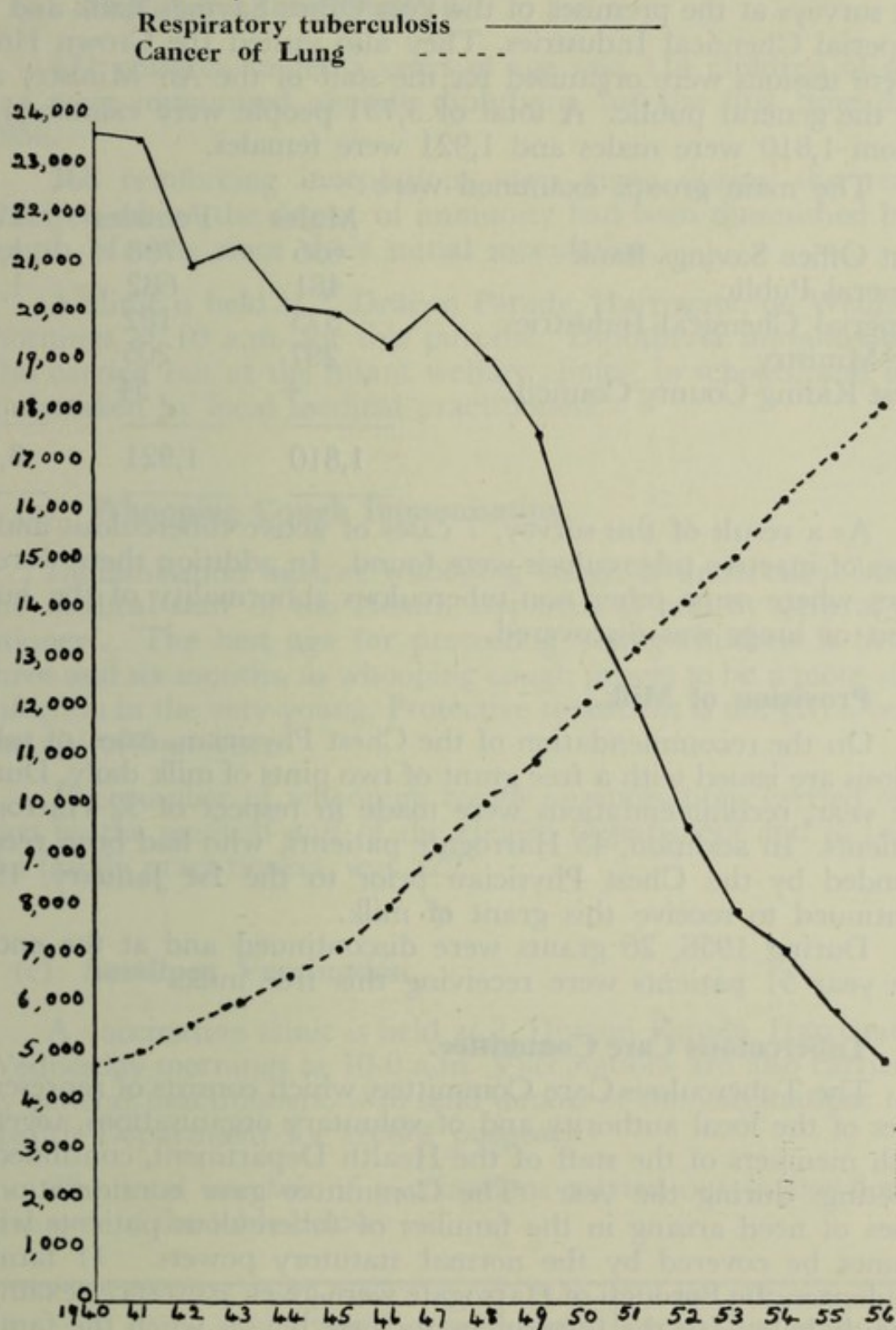
22 cases were removed from the Register, of these, 10 patients recovered, 6 removed to other areas, and 6 died.

198 new contacts were examined at the Harrogate Chest Clinic during the year, 3 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis and 25 remained under observation at the end of the year. There were 557 routine attendances of notified cases and 280 routine attendances of contacts at this Clinic. All child contacts who were found to be "Mantoux negative" were referred for B.C.G. vaccination.

Since 1947 the death rate from respiratory tuberculosis has fallen by more than 75 per cent., and deaths from respiratory tuberculosis in persons under the age of 25 years are now almost unknown.

The fall in numbers of deaths from tuberculosis is shown on the graph on page 25 which compares this fall with the rise in the deaths from cancer of the lung.

Comparison of the decrease in deaths from respiratory tuberculosis with the rise in deaths from cancer of the lung, for England and Wales, for the years 1940 to 1956.



Mass Radiography.

In April and May, 1956, the Mass Radiography Unit carried out surveys at the premises of the Post Office Savings Bank and the Imperial Chemical Industries. They also visited the Crown Hotel, where sessions were organised for the staff of the Air Ministry and for the general public. A total of 3,731 people were examined, of whom 1,810 were males and 1,921 were females.

The main groups examined were :—

	Males	Females	Total
Post Office Savings Bank	655	798	1,453
General Public	481	682	1,163
Imperial Chemical Industries	373	182	555
Air Ministry	297	205	502
West Riding County Council.....	4	54	58
	<hr/> 1,810	<hr/> 1,921	<hr/> 3,731

As a result of this survey, 7 cases of active tuberculosis and 12 cases of inactive tuberculosis were found. In addition there were 19 cases where some other non-tuberculous abnormality of the heart, chest or lungs was discovered.

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 in respect of 32 Harrogate patients. In addition, 45 Harrogate patients, who had been recommended by the Chest Physician prior to the 1st January, 1956, continued to receive this grant of milk.

During 1956, 26 grants were discontinued and at the end of the year 51 patients were receiving this free milk.

Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The Tuberculosis Care Committee, which consists of representatives of the local authority and of voluntary organisations, together with members of the staff of the Health Department, continued its meetings during the year. The Committee gave consideration to cases of need arising in the families of tuberculous patients which cannot be covered by the normal statutory powers. 11 families resident in the Borough of Harrogate were given assistance; examples include help with the furnishings for new houses when the families were re-housed, provision of materials for occupational therapy, and help in paying fares for holidays. In addition 22 Christmas parcels containing fruit, eggs and butter were distributed to tuberculous families.

14. Preventive Inoculations.

(a) Diphtheria Immunisation.

471 children under 5 years of age and 114 children of school age were immunised against diphtheria for the first time during 1956.

368 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.

A clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. for this purpose. Diphtheria immunisation is also carried out at the infant welfare clinics, in schools, and is also undertaken by local medical practitioners.

(b) 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 part by the medical staff of the Health Department and in part by the family practitioners, was 325.

(c) Smallpox Vaccination.

A vaccination clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Wednesday mornings at 10-0 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 is shown in the table below :—

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years and over	Total
No. Vaccinated ...	275	165	19	16	27	502
No. Re-vaccinated	—	—	4	18	125	147

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 1956 was 37.6 per cent. of the number of live births.

(d) Tuberculosis Vaccination.

The parents of 13 year old school children attending the council schools were given the opportunity of accepting vaccination with B.C.G. for their children. It is first necessary to find out which children need this vaccination and this is determined by a test, known as the Mantoux Test, which is a skin test showing whether the child has already acquired some natural resistance to tuberculosis, or whether vaccination is desirable.

In Harrogate, 337 children received this preliminary Mantoux test and from the test it was shown that it was desirable for 241 children to receive the B.C.G. vaccination, all of whom were vaccinated during the year.

In addition to the vaccination of the 13 year old school children, B.C.G. vaccinations were undertaken by the staff of the Consultant Chest Physician on children who were contacts of this disease and who, therefore, were exposed to special risk, as an example, the children in a home where one of the parents is suffering from tuberculosis. 92 B.C.G. vaccinations were carried out on such contacts, of whom 36 were males and 56 were females. Of these, 48 were pre-school children, 31 were of school age, and 13 were adults.

(e) Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was offered for the first time in this country to children born between 1947 and 1954 inclusive. The vaccine is injected into the upper arm in two doses at an interval of not less than three weeks. The degree of protection afforded by this vaccine is not yet fully known, but in Canada, where more than a million children were vaccinated in 1955, the attack rate for paralytic poliomyelitis was five times greater among the unvaccinated children in the same age group than among the vaccinated.

In the Borough of Harrogate 199 children were vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year. No unpleasant reactions or after-effects followed these injections and the health of the children did not appear to be in any way adversely affected by the vaccination.

(b) NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

1. Cancer.

143 deaths, 60 males and 83 females, were due to this cause. This shows a slight increase over the previous year when the number of deaths totalled 131. This gives a death rate of 2.75 compared with 2.07 for England and Wales.

15 of the deaths from cancer in males were due to cancer of the lung. In the whole country a third of the deaths from cancer in the male are due to lung cancer, which is progressively rising as shown in the graph on page 25.

2. Outbreak of Tonsillitis in a School.

An outbreak of tonsillitis occurred early in the year at a boarding school for boys which also admits day boys. Dr. D. J. H. Payne of the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton, was asked to assist by undertaking bacteriological investigations into the cause of the outbreak.

Sore throats and scarlet fever are caused by an organism known as streptococcus pyogenes, but there are many types of this organism to be found, some of which are comparatively harmless. It was, therefore, desirable to find out which type was present in the school and whether there was one type of the streptococcus causing the symptoms or whether there were several types of infection occurring concurrently. Investigation showed that streptococcus pyogenes, type 18, was the cause of the outbreak.

In the first place nose and throat swabs were taken from all new cases of sore throats and type 18 was isolated. Dust and bedding in the sanatorium and dormitories and dust in the common rooms all showed this streptococcus, type 18, to be present, thus the infection was widespread in the school.

During the Easter holidays floors and walls were washed with soap and water with Lysol added, and the blankets were treated with Lissapol N.A. and Cirrassol O.D.

On the resumption of school the pupils and staff were swabbed. Streptococcus pyogenes, type 18, was isolated from 65 out of 463 staff and boys, 21 of these had a large number of these bacteria present in the throat or nose or in both nose and throat, they were treated with penicillin by mouth. During the summer term only 3 boys and 2 members of the staff had sore throats.

Tests for streptococcus pyogenes were again taken during the summer holidays from dust and blankets in the school but the organism was no longer found to be present.

On return from holiday in September the staff and boys were again swabbed, on this occasion streptococcus, type 18, was isolated from 10 boys and staff but there were no heavy nasal carriers found. No further cases of tonsillitis or scarlet fever occurred during the autumn term. It seems apparent that the treatment of the carriers by penicillin, and the thorough disinfection of the rooms and bedding had been efficacious in bringing the outbreak to an end.

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

In urgent cases where removal to hospital is required without delay, action can be taken under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951, and an order may be made by a local Justice of the Peace requiring the individual to be taken to hospital. This action is only taken where there is a complete lack of home care and where the person refuses to go to hospital for care and attention.

One elderly woman who was suffering from incontinence was so removed to hospital. Despite the care of a home nurse and a home help it was impossible to keep her room clean. The patient also suffered from diabetes and arthritis of the hip. She was removed to Knaresborough Hospital and subsequently transferred to the chronic sick ward at that hospital.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS

During the year 229 medical examinations of young persons were undertaken to determine their fitness for employment in factories. Of the number of examinations made 132 were boys and 97 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 employees are either painters or apprentice painters, and 5 such examinations were carried out during the year.

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

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.

STAFF

(Division No. 8 as at 31st December, 1956)

(1) Medical Staff.

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

J. A. G. Graham, M.B., Ch.B., (appointed 1-1-56),
Senior Assistant County Medical Officer.

Mary Pullan, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.OBST., R.C.O.G.,
Assistant County Medical Officer.

W. Turner, M.B., Ch.B., 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	13
Tuberculosis Health Visitor	1
Home Nurses	9
Home Nurses Midwives	8
Midwife	1
Mental Health Social Worker	*1
Mental Health Home Teachers	*2
Speech Therapist	*1

*Also employed in other Divisional Areas

(b) Administrative and Clerical Staff							
(Also employed in part by Harrogate Corporation).							
Clerical Staff	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
(c) Sale of Food Assistants							
Full-time	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Part-time	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
(d) Day Nursery Staff							
Albany Avenue Day Nursery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
(e) Home Helps							
Part-time	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	86
(f) Domestic Staff, etc.							
Cleaners, part-time	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Gardener/Handyman, part-time	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Total Divisional Staff							155

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Local Ambulance Station 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 is provided free under the National Health Service Act and removes patients to and from hospitals, maternity homes and nursing homes. It also removes infectious disease cases to hospital.

The vehicles consist of 5 ambulances, all 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. The Station has its own transmitter, together with a monitor set which receives full information from the main control at Birkenshaw, near Bradford.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

1. MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was one maternal death amongst the residents of Harrogate during the year. This expectant mother received ante-natal care first from the clinic, subsequently from her own doctor and later from the Harrogate General Hospital. Signs of mild toxæmia were noted and she was admitted to hospital for her confinement, where a normal delivery took place though there was some hæmorrhage after the birth of the child. Ten days after the confinement some clotting of the vein of the leg occurred which responded to penicillin and heat treatment. She was discharged from hospital a fortnight later. Two days after returning home she suddenly collapsed and died shortly after admission to hospital. The cause of death was a clot of blood which had transferred from the vein of the leg into the lung. This patient had a careful, detailed examination before she left hospital and there was no evidence at that time of any contra-indication to her discharge from hospital.

2. INFANT MORTALITY.

The infant mortality rate was 23.3 per 1,000 live births as compared with 23.8 for England and Wales. Full details regarding infant mortality are given on pages 14 and 17.

The neo-natal mortality rate, which is the number of deaths of infants under one month of age per 1,000 live births, was 16.4 compared with 16.9 for England and Wales.

3. CONFINEMENTS IN HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES.

During 1956 a total of 654 births to Harrogate residents took place in hospitals or nursing homes and 112 babies were born in their own homes.

This shows that 85.4 per cent. of deliveries of mothers living in Harrogate 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.

4. DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

Of the 111 confinements in the Borough of Harrogate which took place at home, 108 were attended by the midwives on the staff

of the West Riding County Council, and 3 by midwives in private practice.

In 28 cases the doctor was present at the time of delivery of the child.

5. GAS AND AIR ANALGESIA.

Gas and Air Analgesia was used at 77 Harrogate confinements attended by domiciliary midwives. Three Gas and Air Machines were in use in the Borough at the end of the year.

Pethidine was used at 72 of the domiciliary confinements which took place in the Borough of Harrogate.

6. OBSTETRIC FLYING SQUAD.

The Obstetric Flying Squad was called out once during the year. This mother who was a Harrogate resident, had had a severe haemorrhage following the delivery of her baby and was very shocked. She was given an immediate transfusion of two pints of blood and made a rapid recovery. She was able to continue to be looked after in her own home.

7. ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

The Harrogate Ante-natal clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. Dr. Mary Pullan, who is a member of the whole-time staff of the Division and holds a Diploma in Obstetrics, undertakes the duties of this clinic.

The total number of attendances made during the year by 98 expectant mothers was 287.

8. POST-NATAL CLINIC.

No special Post-Natal Clinic is held in the Borough, but one post-natal case was 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.

9. RELAXATION AND MOTHERCRAFT CLASSES.

The Relaxation Classes for expectant mothers which are held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, were well attended during the year. 139 expectant mothers made 787 attendances. These classes enable mothers to have an easier time during the delivery of their babies.

Opportunity is also taken at these Relaxation Classes to give mothercraft instruction to the expectant mothers attending.

10. PREMATURE BIRTHS.

54 premature babies were born to mothers resident in Harrogate, of these, 53 were delivered in hospital. 37 of the babies survived for 28 days or more, three survived for two days, five survived one day or less, and nine were stillborn.

A Premature Baby Unit was opened at the Harrogate General Hospital by H.R.H. The Princess Royal on January 31st, 1956. This provides the most modern facilities for the skilled nursing of these premature infants.

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

11. CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD.

According to the Registrar General, 53 Harrogate women gave birth to illegitimate babies during 1956, in one case the baby was later legitimised by the marriage of his parents. 32 babies remained in the care of their mothers or grandparents and 4 were placed in foster homes. Of the remainder, 9 were known to have been adopted, 2 cases were unsettled but will probably end in adoption, and 5 were not known to this department.

Undoubtedly the happiest solution lies in the subsequent marriage of the parents, provided this is not a loveless match inspired by a mistaken sense of duty. Occasionally the mother marries someone other than the father who is willing to accept the baby and the couple may jointly adopt him, usually a satisfactory arrangement. In many cases the parents live together as man and wife, usually because one or the other has a legal partner living. As so many unmarried mothers themselves come from broken homes, one cannot help wondering whether this arrangement may not cause a repetition of illegitimacy in the next generation.

If marriage or the absorption of the baby into the family are not possible, adoption is almost always in the best interests of the baby although it may cause the mother emotional pain. By adoption the baby is assured from an early age of a stable and permanent home in which to fully develop.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Name and Address of Centre	No. of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per month	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.	No. of Children who attended during the year and who were born in —			Total number of Children who attended during the year	No. of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were—			Total attendances during the year
			1956	1955	1954-51		Under 1 yr.	1 but under 2	2 but under 5	
2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate	8	267	230	146	173	549	2,342	317	184	2,843
New Park, Harrogate	4	113	93	78	152	323	1,374	317	390	2,081
Starbeck, Harrogate	4	107	100	97	163	360	1,387	254	550	2,191
Total ..	16	487	423	321	488	1,232	5,103	888	1,124	7,115

12. HEALTH VISITING.

Six health visitors who are also school nurses are engaged in full-time work in the Borough of Harrogate and seven others spend a varying proportion of their time in other parts of the Divisional Area. Of the latter, one is the Divisional Superintendent Health Visitor, one is the Tuberculosis Visitor, and a third is chiefly employed in supplying reports on the home conditions of aged infirm patients who are awaiting admission to, or discharge from, Knaresborough Hospital. She also undertakes other social work at that hospital.

It has been felt that it is in the home that the health visitor can make her most valuable contribution to the work of the department but of necessity an increasing amount of time has to be spent in the clinic, the office and the school. This is due to many causes, such as the extension of the immunisation programme and of mothercraft classes for expectant mothers and for senior schoolgirls. Also there is much more clerical work as more reports are sought and as liaison improves with other workers.

The increase in the number of visits to elderly people referred to in my report for 1955 has been maintained and at the end of the year, 283 of these were being visited periodically.

It will be seen, therefore, that family visiting is becoming more selective from necessity as well as from choice. There are approximately 60 "unsatisfactory" families in the town and it is only by concentrated and patient work that one can hope to improve them. Unfortunately heavy case loads do not allow as much time as one would wish to be spent with these families.

13. INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

There are three infant welfare centres in the Borough of Harrogate. The main centre is based at the Harrogate Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade, two 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, New Park. At each of these centres National Dried Milk and Vitamins, as well as other welfare foods are available.

One of the main objects of these clinics is to give help and advice to the mothers, in order that they will bring up children healthy in body and mind. The emphasis is on help and instruction rather than on treatment. Health Education is assisted by the use of posters and leaflets supplied by the County Council, and in some instances, posters are made by the health visitors themselves.

The attendances at welfare centres are shown in the table on the previous page.

14. SUNLIGHT TREATMENT FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

During the year 28 children under school age were referred from the Welfare Centres for sunlight treatment. 19 were referred for frequent colds and bronchitis, 5 for debility and 4 for other reasons. It is found that sunlight treatment does have a beneficial effect on children suffering from these conditions.

15. DAY NURSERY.

The Day Nursery situated in Albany Avenue is open from 8-30 a.m. to 4-30 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays inclusive. The majority of children admitted to the nursery are those of mothers who are either widowed, divorced, or separated from their husbands, or of mothers who, because of the illness of their husbands, go out to work for the support of their families. In a certain number of cases, the children are illegitimate and the mother is going out to work to provide a home for her child.

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 the nursery and immunisations against diphtheria and whooping cough are usually carried out there.

During 1956, 2 student nurses from the Albany Avenue Day Nursery took the examination for the National Nursery Examination Board Certificate and both were successful.

16. DENTAL TREATMENT OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER FIVE.

During the year 56 expectant or nursing mothers attended the Dental Clinic at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, for dental examinations, of whom 48 required treatment. 41 patients were made dentally fit and 14 dentures were supplied.

82 children under the age of five years were dentally inspected and 60 received treatment. This treatment included 43 fillings, 56 extractions, and 42 general anaesthetics for extractions.

17. DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS.

The distribution of welfare foods continued throughout the year, the main centre in Harrogate for their distribution being the Municipal Offices. Welfare foods are also distributed at the infant welfare clinics. The foods comprise National Dried Milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamins A and D tablets.

15,403 tins of National Dried Milk, 39,681 bottles of orange juice, 6,205 bottles of cod liver oil, and 2,919 packets of vitamins A and D tablets were issued.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

1. SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

During 1956, 1,322 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 869.

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 600, of which 414 attended the Harrogate Clinic and 186 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 Service. Dr. T. Severs is the Consultant Ophthalmologist and the clinic is staffed by a school nurse, the records being maintained at the Municipal Offices. During the year 566 school children obtained spectacles from this clinic.

The Orthoptic Clinic was resumed in February, 1956, on the appointment of Miss A. D. Gray, who succeeded Miss Davey as the Orthoptist. This clinic is concerned with children who are suffering from squint, and eye exercises are given to help the children overcome this condition.

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.

47 school children and 4 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 number of 72 attendances.

The number of cases who were admitted to the Harrogate General Hospital for the removal of tonsils and adenoids was 25 in 1956. We are fortunate in this area that there is only a small waiting list of children recommended for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

5. ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

This clinic, which is held as required, 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.

64 school children and 19 children under school age were seen during the year by Mr. Petty, the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, making a total number of 106 attendances.

8 school children were referred for operative treatment as short-stay cases only.

4 school children 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. The children were seen by Dr. Curtis Bain, the Cardiologist, Dr. L. J. Prosser, the Consultant in Children's Diseases, and a Medical Officer from this Division.

The family doctor is asked for his observations before the case comes for examination 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 87 children who attended during the year :—

Normal Hearts	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Congenital Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
Rheumatic Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
For further investigation	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
					<hr/>
					87
					<hr/>

The types of Congenital Heart Disease were :—

Ventricular Septal Defect	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Pulmonary stenosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Patent foramen Ovale	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Co-arctation of aorta	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Dextrocardia	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Eisenmenger's Complex	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fallot's Tetralogy	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Patent Ductus Arteriosus	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Persistent Truncus Arteriosus	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Transposition of great vessels and atrial septal defect	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Aortic stenosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Auricular septal defect	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Anomalous left superior vena cava	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Partial Auricular/Ventricular heart block	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
					<hr/>
					37
					<hr/>

Arrangements were made for school children from other Divisions to be seen at this Clinic. 8 new cases from the Ripon Division and 3 new cases from the Wetherby Division attended during the year. In addition 1 case attended from the North Riding area.

Cardiac Catheterisation was carried out on 6 cases to assist in the diagnosis. In all these cases the presence of congenital heart disease was confirmed and the precise nature of the abnormalities was established.

Of the 20 new cases who attended during the year 8 were discharged with normal hearts. The total attendances at the clinic numbered 117, of whom 97 attended for review.

7. SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.

During the year 1956, 32 children received speech therapy, 21 of these children were suffering from a speech defect and 11 were stammerers. During the year 14 children were discharged having acquired normal speech and 4 with speech very much improved.

It is again interesting to note that all the children in the stammer group were boys and of children suffering from defects of articulation, there were 16 boys and 5 girls. In the latter group the severity of the cases varied from slight articulatory defects to gross substitutions and elisions.

The social value of speech cannot be over estimated, and children suffering from speech defects are hampered in one of the most natural forms of self expression. Thus any deviation from the normal, however slight, is bound to affect the personality of the child. He is so often not understood by his play-mates and grown ups and as a result he may become a poor mixer and lacking in self confidence. When the speech defect is very severe, he may find himself completely ostracised by his social group. As the speech improves, the change which takes place in the child is quite remarkable. He gradually becomes less aggressive and more self confident. In school he begins to take a more active part in class, and with the older children reading difficulties begin to disappear.

Wherever possible the mother of the child is encouraged to bring him to the clinic each week so that she can watch the treatment if necessary. Difficulties are discussed and exercises are given to the child for daily practise at home, under the mother's supervision. In this way a close link is made between the therapist, parent and child.

In the Harrogate area the parents and teachers have always been most co-operative.

Three sessions are held each week at the Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade, the total number of sessions held during the year being 113.

8. SUNLIGHT CLINIC.

In addition to the 28 children of pre-school age who were referred for treatment to the Sunlight Clinic, details of which are shown on page 38 under the heading of Maternity and Child Welfare, there were 25 school children referred for sunlight treatment.

The majority of school children who were sent for sunlight treatment were suffering from recurrent colds and bronchitis. Others were suffering from debility, failure to gain weight, lack of appetite, or sleeping badly. Other causes were recurrent septic conditions of the skin, asthma, and in two cases severe chilblains. Sunlight treatment does appear to give benefit in these and similar conditions.

9. DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

The number of cases of skin disease which attended at the minor ailments clinics during 1956 totalled 46. In addition, 17 cases of skin disease were found at school inspections and were either referred to, or were under the treatment of their own doctor.

There were no cases of scabies or ringworm of the scalp during the year.

10. CLEANLINESS — VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

During the year 11,214 examinations were made in the Harrogate schools and 84 individual pupils were found to be infested. The cases of infestation that were found during the year were slight in character consisting of a few nits in the hair. In most cases the families where these infestations occurred are well-known and are under constant supervision by the health visitors. but in certain cases a child from a normally clean family may become unexpectedly infested by contact with a child who has a dirty head.

Advice is given to the parents as to the best methods of dealing with the condition. A D.D.T. preparation and special fine tooth combs are supplied when required.

11. CARE OF THE HANDICAPPED CHILD.

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

Details of the number of handicapped children in Harrogate together with the categories in which they fall, are given on page 45.

It will be noted that the biggest group of handicapped children are educationally sub-normal children who total 17. Of these, 9 are attending special schools and 8 children are in attendance at day schools until such time as places in special schools can be found for them.

At the end of the year 4 children were attending the Child Guidance Clinic at Shipley. There is great pressure on the Child Guidance Clinic and need for extension of these facilities. At the present time there is a waiting list of three to four months between the time children are referred for investigation and the time they can be seen at the Clinic. Whilst the expert investigation of these cases is welcome there are obvious travelling difficulties for parents of children from Harrogate who attend this Clinic at Shipley.

12. SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

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

During 1956 a total of 5,674 Harrogate children were dentally inspected and 2,263 received treatment, the number of attendances being 6,176. 1,244 children received general anaesthetics for dental extractions and 3,944 fillings were done.

The dental care the Harrogate school children receive is at a very high level of efficiency. The School Medical Officers at the routine examinations of children attending the schools rarely come across children who are requiring dental treatment. This preventive service is of importance in achieving a high standard of health in the school children of the Borough.

13. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

There is close co-operation with the Youth Employment Officer. Medical reports are sent to this Officer on children who are about to leave school giving information as to any types of occupation that might be unsuitable on medical grounds for that particular child.

CATEGORIES OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE AS AT 31-12-56

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	—	—	—	—	2	2
Deaf	—	—	—	3	2	5
Partially Deaf	—	—	1	—	—	1
Educationally Sub Normal ..	8	—	6	3	—	17
Epileptic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maladjusted	4	—	—	—	—	4
Physically Handicapped . .	4	—	—	—	—	4
Delicate	1	—	2	—	—	3
TOTALS ..	17	—	9	6	4	36

14. 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.

47 boys and 11 girls who were undertaking part-time employment as errand boys, shop assistants or in the delivery of newspapers were medically examined during 1956 for this purpose.

15. CHILDREN TAKING PART IN PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

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

These children were taking part in a Harrogate pantomime and the examinations are carried out under Section 22 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933.

OTHER DIVISIONAL 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 1,732 patients were treated entailing a total number of 40,463 visits. 394 of these patients had 11,074 visits for injections only. 32,933 of the visits were to 1,190 patients who had reached the age of 65 years, and 180 visits were to 37 children under the age of five years.

There is an annual increase of the number of injections the home nurses are asked to undertake by the general practitioners. This is largely the result in advances in methods of medical treatment. Analysis of the figures shows that approximately half the injections given are antibiotic, i.e. penicillin, etc., and of the remaining injections the majority are cases of diabetes requiring insulin and persons suffering from anaemia requiring injections of iron compounds.

2. HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service together with the Home Nursing Service performs a most valuable function in so far as it enables ill or infirm persons to be kept at home, thus avoiding their costly maintenance in hospital. With constantly increasing demands for this service, it is difficult to keep within the permitted establishment of home helps. Applications for home helps should be made to the **staff at The Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate.**

At the end of the year 61 home helps were employed in the Borough of Harrogate on a part-time basis. During 1956 assistance was granted to 424 cases : of these, 69 were of illness in the home, 131 to old age and illness, 169 to old age and infirmity, 10 to tuberculous patients. In 5 cases help was given to expectant mothers and in 8 cases help in the home was given where the mother was ill and the children required assistance. In addition 32 maternity cases were supplied with home helps, thus assisting the mother in having the baby at home.

The total number of hours worked in the Borough of Harrogate by home helps during 1956 was 73,011 as compared with 63,800 in 1955.

3. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The Mental Health Social Worker is employed partly in Harrogate, the remainder of her time being given to the Knaresborough, Nidderdale, Ripon and Pateley Bridge areas. She visits those mental defectives who are living at home or who are in residential employment.

At the end of the year the number of defectives in Harrogate was as follows :—

Under Statutory Supervision	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Under Voluntary Supervision	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
On Licence from Institutions	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

There were 9 defectives in full-time employment and 1 in part-time employment at the end of the year. Their occupations were domestic work, errand boy, labouring and hotel work. One boy under Statutory Supervision travelled daily to the Leeds Training Centre where he worked in the joinery department.

The number of defectives in Institutions whose homes are in Harrogate number 64. At the end of the year the number awaiting admission was 6, against the previous year's figure of 10. Of these, 4 were under the age of 16.

During the year 3 patients were admitted to hospitals for short periods in order to give relief to the relatives.

Cases of mental illness visited at the request of the staff of the mental hospital or at the request of the patient numbered 8 during the year. One of these was receiving Home Teaching in Handicrafts.

Group Training and Home Teaching.

In October a second Home Teacher was appointed. This enabled the Group Training Classes to be held daily from Monday to Friday each week. The classes meet in the Clinic, 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, each morning, and each afternoon at the Clinic, Iles Lane, Knaresborough. The first Home Teacher continued to work 2 days weekly in the Ripon and Pateley Bridge areas.

At the end of the year, 7 defectives were attending the Harrogate Group.

The children attended very regularly. The response to discipline and training was good, and improvement in behaviour and performance continued. The older children learned to knit garments, sew, embroider, and make wool rugs. Younger ones were taught to use sense training apparatus, paints and crayons, and to model in plasticine.

During the year P.T. sessions were introduced, which were found valuable in helping the children to co-ordinate their movements.

Home Teaching was provided for 4 older patients who were taught rugmaking, embroidery, sewing, 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, commodes, 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.

Mrs. Spurr continued in her duties 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. She also arranges for home nursing and home helps to assist patients where necessary on their discharge from hospital.

When a diabetic patient is discharged from hospital the general practitioner may obtain the services of a home nurse for the administration of insulin injections, or the services of a health visitor to give explanation and advice on the diet recommended by the hospital physician and to advise on the method of administering insulin and the care and sterilisation of syringes. General practitioners desiring these services inform the Medical Officer of Health and, in certain more urgent cases, if the hospital physician feels that such services are imperative for the patient, he recommends in his letter to the general practitioner that unless he hears to the contrary, he will arrange for the Medical Officer of Health to provide this nursing assistance and advice.

5. RECUPERATIVE HOME TREATMENT.

During the year 12 applications were received for recuperative home treatment but in one case the applicant withdrew the application leaving 11 cases to be dealt with.

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

Three females, 1 suffering from shock after a double bereavement, 1 from arthritis, and 1 from general debility, were sent to a convalescent home at Bridlington and the change away from home was beneficial in all three cases.

One lady suffering from hypertension and right hemiplegia was admitted from Hunsingore to a convalescent home in Harrogate. Another lady suffering from pernicious anaemia went for convalescence to Grange-over-Sands, and a partially blind lady to Manchester. Arrangements were made for an almost blind man who had been receiving hospital treatment in London to spend two weeks' convalescence at Worthing before returning home to Knaresborough.

One schoolgirl, who was very run down after looking after the home whilst her mother was in hospital, was sent to Morecambe for four weeks' convalescence. She returned home in good health and the holiday did her a great deal of good.

6. REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF DISABLED AND OLD PERSONS' HOMES.

At the end of 1956 there were 12 homes in Harrogate registered under the National Assistance Act as Disabled and Old Persons' Homes, 5 run by voluntary agencies and 7 privately owned. They are registered to accommodate a total of 152 residents. One of these homes was registered for the first time during the year for the admission of 7 elderly persons.

7. REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES.

At the end of 1955 there were 16 registered nursing homes in Harrogate. During 1956 2 closed down, making a total of 14 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 1956 for maternity cases was 12 and for general purposes 116. This is a decrease of 13 beds, all of which were used for general purposes.

8. SOCIAL WORKERS' GROUP.

During 1956 the Social Workers' Group held 11 meetings at the Central Clinic in Dragon Parade, Harrogate.

The purpose of the Group is to bring Social Workers for both the voluntary and statutory organisations together so that they may pool their knowledge about social problems in the district, by this means a common policy is agreed on for each particular case and overlapping avoided.

At three of the meetings the Group was addressed by outside speakers who gave the following talks :—

Mr. T. W. Cale, Welfare Officer to the Post Office Savings Bank.

“Welfare Work amongst Post Office Savings Bank Employees.”

Dr. Robert Sutherland, Senior Lecturer in Preventive Medicine and Public Health at Leeds University.

“Problem Families.”

Dr. V. P. McDonagh, Deputy Medical Officer of Health for Bradford County Borough.

“The Practical Approach to Problem Families.”

9. HEALTH EDUCATION.

Lectures and talks on subjects connected with health were given by the medical and health visiting staff to youth organisations, parent-teacher associations, Church groups and others.

Mothercraft classes by Health Visitors continued in several senior girls' schools, as did those for expectant mothers at the clinic. The latter are combined with instruction in relaxation which gives the mothers a better chance of a relatively painless labour.

Displays were arranged at the clinics on such subjects as the Necessity for Vaccination and Immunisation, Safety in the Home, and The Importance of Correct Footwear.

Health Education is also the main function of the health visitor in her home visiting. The improvement in the standard of child care by present day mothers and the decrease in prevalence and severity of infectious diseases has unfortunately been accompanied by an increase in accidents in the home, in juvenile delinquency and in mental breakdown. There is no doubt that a large proportion of these accidents could have been prevented by care and fore-thought. Psychiatrists believe that mental breakdown can also often be prevented by calm discussion of problems with a medico social worker such as a health visitor. Safety in the home, the combating of behaviour problems by frank discussion and the formation of satisfactory family relationships therefore receive more attention.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1956

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit for your consideration my tenth annual report of the work carried out by the sanitary and cleansing services of the department for the year 1956.

It has been an exceptionally busy year due mostly to the introduction of the Food Hygiene Regulations, which placed considerable demands on the services of the public health inspectors. In order to bring about the standard required by the Regulations it will be necessary to visit all premises where food is prepared, stored or sold, and in a town of this nature it naturally follows that there are many such premises.

Another successful working year was achieved at the public slaughterhouse which is now considerably improved from the time it was taken over by the Council. A good standard of hygiene has been maintained, and for this and many other things I have to thank the local butchers for their co-operation.

Good progress was made with the small slum clearance scheme and the work should be completed of rehousing the occupiers and demolishing the properties within another year.

The cleansing service managed to maintain a seven day service throughout most of the year despite the increasing number of premises, with the exception of the period immediately following Bank Holidays. Two major schemes, i.e., the levelling of the valley at the Yorkshire Agricultural Show Ground, and building an embankment at the Cricket Ground, St. George's Road, progressed satisfactorily. I have nothing but praise for the men employed in this service.

Legislation was introduced to change to "Public Health Inspector" the designation of "Sanitary Inspector," and the operative date was the 2nd August, 1956. This change is greatly appreciated as it has been felt that the old title did not in any way convey to the general public the scope of our manifold duties which appear to be increasing as the years go by.

The public health inspectors and the clerical staff were ready at all times to shoulder additional work and carried out their various duties with energy and enthusiasm.

I would once again like to express my thanks to the Chairmen 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.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. DODSWORTH,

Chief Public Health Inspector.
Cleansing Superintendent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

GENERAL

Harrogate enjoys an open situation at the edge of the Yorkshire Moorlands on the watershed between the Nidd and the Wharfe. Most of the town is about 400 feet above sea level though the western outskirts rise to 600 feet and the Spa area at 350 feet is sheltered somewhat from north and east.

Geologically the town is surrounded by Millstone Grit beds with the Permian series some distance to the east. It lies on an anticline through which the lowest members of the Carboniferous are visible close to the surface as a result of denudation. The minerals present in this structure account for the numerous medicinal springs, some containing sulphur and some iron.

These have been used for treatment purposes since the 16th century and over the past 200 years they have formed the basis of Harrogate's increasing prosperity as a Spa and health resort. The mineral waters are collected and administered according to the best modern therapeutic standards.

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. 1,270.6 hours of sunshine were recorded during the year. The sunniest day being the 25th June, 1956, when 14 hours were recorded.

Rainfall. The total rainfall recorded during the year was 32.17 inches, the wettest day being the 2nd September, 1956, when 1.16 inches of rain was recorded.

Temperatures. The maximum temperature during the year was 75°F. recorded on the 21st August, 1956, and the minimum temperature was 8°F. recorded on the 2nd February, 1956.

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, 1956, was 983 million gallons. The average daily consumption of water per head of the population is 38.39 gallons, an average of 10.89 gallons per head per day for industrial purposes and 27.50 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 1956.

Almsford Drive	Leadhall View
Ash Road	Leadhall Way
Back Ashfield Road	Oakdale
Bilton Close	Olive Grove
Bogs Lane	Pannal Main
Burn Bridge Oval	Rydal Road
Derwent Road	St. John's Walk
Forest Rise	Off St. John's Walk
Hill Top Crescent	Wedderburn Avenue

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	62
Being samples of water from :—	
Domestic Supplies (Town's Mains)	60
Number of samples found upon examination	
to be satisfactory	62
Number of samples found upon examination	
to be unsatisfactory	None

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 15 houses which obtain their supply from wells and springs.

REPORT ON SAMPLES OF WATER

	No. 1157/8		No. 1158/9	
	Harlow Hill, Roundhill and Scargill		Irongate Bridge, Roundhill, Beaverdyke, Ten Acre and Tank Spring	
Date taken .. .				

Observations.—According to the above results, the condition of this water was satisfactory for public supply at the time of examination (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, 1956.

Pail and Tub Closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Privies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Waste Water-closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Cesspools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60

All pail closets are emptied either once or twice weekly.

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

Four privies were replaced by water-closets during the year. Progress in this direction is exceedingly slow owing to the fact that the houses are sited in rural areas which are not connected to the main drainage system.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

These come under the supervision of the Yorkshire Ouse River Board. No gross pollution occurred but a few minor incidents of industrial pollution were reported and quickly dealt with before they could develop into serious nuisances.

A routine examination of rivers and streams is carried out to see that they are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Complaints reported to the Public Health Department	606
Where nuisances were found	552
Where complaint was received and no nuisance found	54
Under Housing Acts	522
Where infectious disease had occurred	78
Bakehouse (Power)	156
Bakehouse (No Power)	20
Farms	8
Dairies and Milkshops	311
Ice-cream	265
Fish frying premises	134
Fish shops (wet)	434

Food preparing premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	396
Food storage premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	891
Food inspection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	344
Market	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	917
Restaurants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
Kitchens	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	380
Slaughterhouse (Starbeck)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	902
for meat inspection (West Park)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	284
Butchers' Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	241
Factories (Power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	158
Factories (No Power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	246
Sanitary conveniences—public	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Sanitary conveniences—private	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Schools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Tents and vans	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	136
Public Cleansing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	347
Refuse Tips	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	305
Stables	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Piggeries	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Overcrowding	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Outworkers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Workplaces	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9

Other Visits or Inspections

Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	788
Interviews	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	551
Investigation of Infestation of Insect Pests (excluding bugs)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	197
Investigation of bug infestations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	91
Smoke observations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Visits re water supplies and water samples	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	82
Visits under Food and Drugs Act for samples	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	357
Visits to Laboratories	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
Visits to properties under notice or work in progress	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,781
Installation of new sanitary fittings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	167
Food Poisoning investigations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Pet Animals Act, 1951	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Haidressers and barbers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Old Metal and Marine Stores	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11

Food Hawkers	18
Fireguard Regulations	34
Miscellaneous visits	3,041
	<hr/>
	15,499
	<hr/>

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Drainage repaired, trapped, etc.	2
Drainage unstopped	26
Chambers repaired or new covers provided	7
Soil or vent pipes — repaired	2
Water-closets — repaired or supplied with water	12
Water-closets — new pans or pedestals fixed	5
Water-closets — (fresh) provided in lieu of waste water-closets	1
Waste pipes — repaired or trapped	11
Waste pipes — rain-water pipes disconnected from drains	1
Waste pipes — rain-water pipes and eaves gutters	113
Sinks provided or replaced	21
Accumulation of refuse removed	8
Brickwork or pointing repaired	27
Coppers repaired or renewed	2
Dampness remedied	31
Doors repaired, etc.	36
Dustbins supplied	375
Fireplaces, stoves and flues repaired	42
Flooring and other woodwork, repaired or renewed	16
Floors — concrete or quarried, repaired or renewed	7
Gas fittings or services repaired	1
Overcrowding abated	2
Plaster repaired	45
Rat and mice infestations abated	159
Rent books made to comply with Regulations of Housing Act	3
Roofs made weathertight	75
Walls and ceilings cleansed	21
Water supplies reinstated or made sufficient	24
Windows — cords, fasteners and glass repaired or renewed	42
Ventilation improved	1
Yards and passages paved	11
Miscellaneous	1

STATUTORY NOTICES

The number of legal notices served was approximately twice the figure for 1955. Thirty-seven of the notices were for work in connection with the renewal of the water services to houses in the Ashfield Road district, and 44 required the provision of dustbins. In many instances there is now a marked reluctance on the part of owners of properties to supply dustbins to houses from which they consider they are not receiving an economic return in rent. I am of the opinion that the dustbin is an obsolete and costly piece of equipment which eventually will have to give way to paper or plastic bags which will be supported in a simple plastic frame complete with lid. Such bags used on an interchange system will cut journeys per house from four to two and save manpower and fatigue by reducing the weight to be carried by the dustman, i.e. 20 lb. metal bin.

Number of Legal Notices Issued for Abatement of Nuisances.

	Served 1956	Complied with during 1956	Served 1955	Complied with during 1955/56
Harrogate Corporation Act, 1935, Section 48	7	7	3	3
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39 ...	12	8	13	13
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45 ...	1	1	3	3
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 56 ...	1	—	2	2
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75 ...	44	42	10	10
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93 ..	19	14	30	30
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 138 and Water Act, 1945, Section 30 ...	37	33	—	—
TOTAL ...	121	105	61	61

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

It was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings during 1956.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Visits to infected premises only exceeded last year's number by 5.

Premises inspected where notifiable diseases have occurred	76
Articles destroyed by burning at request of owners	72
Total visits to infected premises	78

DISINFECTANT

During the year five 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

Eighty-one 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 32 chemical and 32 bacteriological samples of water were taken from these baths.

All these samples were satisfactory with the exception of one bacteriological sample. This was taken when the filtration and chlorination plants were closed down for repair.

DISINFESTATION

The work carried out in this connection remained in quantity and character similar to the previous year. It is interesting to note that there was only one case of bed-bugs and beetles still remain the main cause of infestation in premises. It may be that the public are more tolerant to the latter insect than the former. Undoubtedly beetles and steam-flies in certain business premises are not easily eradicated.

Insecticidal lacquer was tried out with satisfactory results in a few premises. The solution resembles varnish and was brushed on to various surfaces in bands 6" in width. Insects crossing this area picked up enough insecticide to cause death.

Type of Premises								No.
Corporation Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Businesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
TOTAL								71

Classification								No.
Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Bed Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Red Spider	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Steamflies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Precautionary measures where no evidence of vermin found but family moved to Corporation house								6

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The destruction of rats and mice was carried out in a satisfactory manner. Contracts are entered into with local firms to systematically inspect and keep free from vermin their respective premises. These contracts have proved to be exceedingly popular and very successful from every point of view. Advice on rat proofing forms an important part of the rodent operator's duties and a careful inspection is made for any structural defects or defective drainage system which will enable rats or mice to gain access to the premises.

A charge is made for work carried out in domestic as well as business premises. This is a controversial subject but I am of the opinion that a nominal charge does bring home to the occupier of infested premises his responsibility in the matter. I am pleased to report that no rats were found on the controlled tips during the year.

The following gives details of the work carried out during 1956 :—

		Com- plaints received	No. of involved premises	Total No. of visits	No. of complete treat- ments	Bodies
Private Dwellings	rats mice	69 31	169 66	353 178	16 18	25 —
Business Premises	rats mice	53 31	170 95	762 587	87 31	62 —
Agricultural Premises	rats mice	1 —	1 —	31 —	1 —	— —
Local Authorities	rats mice	— —	6 1	116 1	5 1	10 —
Total	rats mice	123 62	346 162	1,262 766	109 50	97 —

DISINFESTATION OF SEWERS

The disinfestation of sewers showed that there had been an increase in the rat population over the previous year. The infestation is only light in character and will, I think, remain so in years to come providing the sewers are systematically treated each year.

Two treatments were given and sausage rusk and zinc phosphide were used in the first instance and bread mash and arsenious oxide in the second.

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)	199	22	N.A.
First Maintenance Treatment ...	138	30	30
Second Maintenance Treatment ...	75	19	19

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

Two hundred and three factory premises were inspected last year, and 12 were found to be in an unsatisfactory condition. The main defects found were unsuitable defective sanitary conveniences which numbered 21. Most of the factories in the town are small businesses, though during the last few years larger firms are opening up premises and employing up to 800 persons. The town is also becoming an administrative centre for various Boards and businesses.

Factories, Factories (No Mechanical Power) and Workplaces.

Premises inspected	.....	203
Premises inspected and found satisfactory	.....	191
Premises inspected and found unsatisfactory	.....	12
Factories where defects were found and referred by H.M. Inspector	.....	None
Reports on action taken sent to H.M. Inspector	.....	None
Number of defects remedied as a result of H.M. Inspector's notification	.....	None

List of Defects Found in Factories, Factories (No Mechanical Power) and Workplaces.

Cleanliness, want of	.....	2
Inadequate ventilation	.....	1
Sanitary conveniences :—		
Unsuitable or defective	.....	21
Not separate for sexes	.....	2
Other defects	.....	2

REGISTERED FACTORIES, FACTORIES ACT, 1937

	Mechanical Power	No Mechanical Power
Aerated Water	2	—
Agricultural Machinery	1	—
Baking	33	10
Beer Bottling	1	—
Bicycle Repairs	2	—
Blacksmith	—	1
Boot and Shoe Repairs	14	6
Brickmaking	1	—
Burling and Mending	—	1
Chocolate and Sweet Manufacture	2	1
Chromium Plating	1	—
Coal and Gas Manufacture	1	—

Corn Milling	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Dentures	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Dress Making	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	14
Dry Cleaning	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
Egg Packing	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Electric Generating	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Electric and Radio Repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	1
Engineering	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
Fireguard Conversion	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Firewood Cutting	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
French Polishing	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
Furrier	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
Gas Fitting Repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Ham Boiling	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Ice and Ice-cream Manufacture	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Jam Manufacture	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Joinery, Cabinet Making	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	.....	3
Laundries	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	1
Leatherwork	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Lenses and Grinding	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Letterpress Printing	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	—
Malting	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Metal Engraving	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Milk Pasteurisation	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Millinery	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	5
Monumental Engraving	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Motor Spirit Storage	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Motor Vehicle Repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	.....	1
Paper Baling	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Perambulator Manufacture	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Pharmaceutical Products	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Photography	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	3
Picture Framing	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	2
Plumbing	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	4
Raincoat Manufacture	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Rubber Products	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Salt Packing	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	1
Sausage Making and Pies	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	.....	1
Shirt Making	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Signwriting	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Slipper Making	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	1
Soft Furnishings	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Stone Dressing and Breaking	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Tailoring	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	14
Tinsmith	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	—
Tyre Repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—

Upholstery	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	4
Watch Repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	1
Weaving	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
Weighing Machine Repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	—
Whitesmith	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
					<hr/> 253		<hr/> 77

OUTWORKERS

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

In each case the conditions were satisfactory.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

A number of complaints were received by the department re smoke nuisance from hotels in the town. On investigation it was usually discovered that the trouble was due to lack of experience on the part of the stokers concerned in firing the boilers. It is exceedingly difficult to get experienced men to do this work and the men employed do not stay long enough to acquire the knowledge which is so necessary if fuel is to be used to the best advantage for all concerned. In one or two instances the plant is not equal to the demands placed upon it and will have to be replaced with more modern equipment.

The Clean Air Act was introduced during the year and is certainly a great step forward in the work of air pollution abatement. Its effect on Harrogate will mainly be in the direction of "smoke control areas." Steady progress has been made by the citizens of the town on a voluntary basis by virtue of the installation of central heating in a large number of houses. The declaration of "smoke control areas" would undoubtedly improve the atmosphere but not to the same extent as the industrial towns with their many small houses emitting large quantities of smoke.

HOUSING

Four hundred and nine houses were built by private enterprise and 53 by the local authority during 1956. In addition a number of houses were converted into flats.

Two orders embracing five areas containing 29 houses were confirmed by the Minister.

Two hundred and seventy three houses were inspected upon receipt of complaints re their unsatisfactory condition and 178 rendered fit by the service of informal notices upon the owners. Fifty five houses required the service of formal notices and in 45 cases the defects were remedied without further action being taken. In no instance was it necessary for the local authority to carry out work in default of owners.

Seven dwelling houses were found to be unfit for habitation and demolition orders were made.

There was a definite reduction in the number of applications made by occupiers for certificates of disrepair for their respective houses, i.e. 15 against 39 for the previous year. Only two were revoked. It would appear to me that owners of property are not very keen to invoke the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, whereby they can increase rents of houses in a proper state of repair owing to the doubtful advantages they would gain after being involved in considerable expenditure.

It is interesting to note that 1,655 applications for information re land charges were dealt with by the department which involved the clerks in a considerable amount of additional work.

I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses During Year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts)	273
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,327
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations	nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose. Visits to the properties already recorded in (2) (a)	nil
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive to those referred to under the proceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	220

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	178
---	-----

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	nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	nil
(a) by owners	nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	55
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	45
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	nil

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	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	nil
(4) Action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953	1

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	3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	nil

E.—Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936 :-

(1) Number of Clearance Areas represented during the year	5
(2) Number of houses included in these areas	29
(3) Number of persons to be displaced	38

- (4) Action taken during the year in respect of Clearance Areas :—
- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) by Clearance Orders number made | 2 |
| (b) by Compulsory Purchase Orders number made | nil |
| (5) Number of houses in Clearance Areas demolished during the year | nil |
| (6) Number of persons re-housed from houses demolished during the year | 3 |

F.—Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 :—

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted during the year | 15 |
| (2) Number of Certificates of Disrepair revoked during the year | 2 |

Information re Land Charges.

Requests for information were received and dealt with in respect of 1,655 properties.

HARROGATE CORPORATION ACT, 1935, SECTION 46.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Steps were taken by the Council to enforce the provision of Section 46 of the Harrogate Corporation Act, 1935, with regard to tents, vans, sheds or similar structures. The Act prescribes that suitable concrete standings shall be provided together with roads, sanitary accommodation and water supply. I am pleased to report that the caravan sites situated within the Borough now comply with the requirements of the Act. Routine visits are made by the inspectors. With the growing popularity of caravans it is somewhat disturbing to note that an increasing number of owners are now laying up their caravans for the winter in their front or rear gardens and one wonders to what extent this will eventually develop to the detriment, from an aesthetic point of view, to the town generally.

The following licences were issued.

Part time occupation		Full time occupation	
Sheds	Vans	Sheds.	Vans
41	4	—	31

Inspections 136.

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL (General Powers) ACT, 1951.

Food Hawkers, Hairdressers and Barbers

There are now 37 registrations of food hawkers. Special attention has been given to the vehicles used by these persons with the result that they are now of a suitable hygienic standard in relation to the type of food purveyed from them.

A routine inspection of hairdressers and barbers was carried out during the year.

Bye-laws made on the 1st August, 1952, to secure the cleanliness of the premises, persons, instruments, etc., were generally complied with. The standard set is one which a person would reasonably expect to find in premises conducted in a proper manner and is not difficult to achieve.

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

Section 76—Registration of Food Hawkers.

Personal Registrations	.....	.....	37
Storage Accommodation	.....	.....	23
Inspections	.....	.....	18

Section 120—Hairdressers and Barbers.

Registered	.....	.....	66
Inspections	.....	.....	21

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Registered Premises 9 Inspections None

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

There are now six premises licensed for pet animals. All are well conducted and of suitable construction for the purpose they are used for and no contraventions of the Act were found on the visits which were made by the inspector.

Licensed Premises 6 Inspections 6

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT AMENDMENT ACT, 1907

The premises of marine and old metal dealers were visited on 11 occasions. One appreciates the difficulty of keeping scrap yards in a clean and tidy condition, but I feel that the discards and rubbish which accumulate from separation and breaking-up processes should be removed at more frequent intervals.

Marine and Old Metal Dealers

Registered 11 Inspections 11

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The coming into operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, created a great deal of extra work for the department. An effort was made by the North Eastern Centre of the Public Health Inspectors Association to bring about a uniform interpretation of the regulations by issuing a concise summary of the requirements of the various sections. Even so it has been found in practice that different views are held by food handlers and that difficulties exist from trade to trade. It has been claimed in many instances that methods which would bring about protection from all forms of contamination of the food would reduce the sales or that the keeping quality of the article itself would be badly affected. Many of the improvements carried out have been in rooms and kitchens at the rear of the premises and consequently not seen by the public. It is true to say that these remarks could be applied to the major portion of the work carried out by public health inspectors.

Food handlers generally have shown an intelligent and helpful interest and in the main have assisted the department in the task of making food safer for consumption.

Despite these difficulties excellent progress has been made though there still remains a considerable amount of work to be done before all the premises in the town comply with the standards laid down in the regulations.

MILK SUPPLY : MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

There are now 99 milk distributors resident in the borough as against 108 for 1955. The figure for dairies has been reduced by two and milk distributors by six. All the premises have been visited at frequent intervals and except for a few minor offences have been maintained in a satisfactory manner. Dealers in "Tuberculin Tested" milk have increased by ten and in "Pasteurised" milk by a similar number. It is interesting to note that the sale of "Sterilised" milk is increasing and that nine extra applications were received from persons wishing to deal in this type of milk.

Registered	(On Register 31st Dec., 1956)
Dairies 	21
Milk Distributors 	107

Number of milk distributors resident in the Borough 99.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954.

The following licences were granted during 1956.

Type of Licence	Number
Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk	71
Supplementary Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	1
Milk Pasteurisers H.T.S.T. (in respect of two plants)	4
Holder	1
Dealers Pasteurised Milk	62
Dealers Sterilised Milk	58
Supplementary Dealers Sterilised Milk	1

Examination of Milk by the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests.

All samples of milk successfully passed the phosphatase and methylene blue tests. I am pleased to report that only one failure, i.e. a methylene blue, has been recorded in the last four years and I feel that the dairymen can be very proud of this record.

Class of Milk	Numbers of samples tested	Appropriate Tests	Number of samples	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised ...	28	Phosphatase ...	28	—
	28	Methylene Blue ...	28	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	28	Phosphatase ...	28	—
	28	Methylene Blue ...	28	—
Total	112	Total	112	—

Summary of Chemical Analysis of Milk Samples for 1956

102 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for fat and solids not fat content, the presumptive standards being 3% and 8.5% respectively.

It will be seen from the table given below that 3.97% of fat and 9.01% solids not fat were the highest average figures obtained during the year. I am of the opinion that the presumptive standards are low ones and if the target cannot be raised it should at least be fixed as a legal one.

Over the last three years there has been .15% variation in the average figure for fat content and .04% for solids not fat.

Period	No. of samples Examined	Averages	
		Fat %	Solids not Fat %
January	4	4.10	8.92
February	7	3.93	9.01
March	12	3.54	8.66
Quarter ending 31/3/56. ...	23	3.86	8.86
April	14	3.79	8.82
May	14	3.45	8.79
June	5	3.65	8.86
Quarter ending 30/6/56. ...	33	3.63	8.81
July	—	—	—
August	—	—	—
September	7	3.85	8.67
Quarter ending 30/9/56. ...	7	3.85	8.67
October	23	3.71	8.22
November	8	3.70	8.65
December	8	3.97	8.75
Quarter ending 31/12/56. ...	39	3.79	8.54
Year ending 31/12/56. ...	102	3.78	8.72
Year ending 31/12/55. ...	115	3.69	8.70

EXAMINATION OF MILK

Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 31, and Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, Article 20.

Seven samples of milk were submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli. All were returned as negative.

Fifteen samples of milk were taken from one herd of cows and examined for brucella abortus. In three cases brucella abortus was isolated.

A notice was served on this farmer under Article 20, of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, on the 29th August, 1955, and continued in force throughout 1956.

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

Only five new applications were received for the sale and storage of ice-cream. It would appear that the number of premises selling ice-cream has reached saturation point though the demand does depend on the type of summer experienced. Most of the ice-cream sold is of the wrapped variety.

	Premises on Register, 1955	Premises on Register, 1956
Sale and Storage of ice-cream ..	188	193
Manufacture of ice-cream ...	10	10
Manufacture of preserved food ...	46	45
Butter, margarine, wholesale dealers or factories	1	1

EXAMINATION OF ICE-CREAM

Twenty-four samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination with the result that 18 were placed in Grade One, five in Grade Two and one in Grade Three. Failures were once again due to the equipment not being effectively sterilised.

Provisional Grade					
	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
Produced in the Borough	6	3	1	—	10
Produced outside the Borough	12	2	—	—	14

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Work in the public slaughterhouse progressed smoothly and efficiently during the year. The policy of gradually improving the premises in order that the maximum number of animals can be slaughtered with the minimum amount of effort was maintained. Lairage accommodation was improved and equipment re-sited to the best advantage. Painting was carried out throughout the year whenever possible with the result that the inside of the building now presents a clean and cheerful appearance. The financial results were again satisfactory and the slaughterhouse is entirely self-supporting.

A close watch was kept for any contravention of the bye-laws and all animals were handled in a humane manner. 23,269 animals were slaughtered in the borough as against 18,651 for 1955, and every one was examined by a public health inspector before being released for consumption. This entailed a certain amount of overtime being worked. 19,531 out of the total of 23,269 animals were slaughtered at the Starbeck slaughterhouse.

There is only one private slaughterhouse operating inside the borough and this was closed down for a short period during the year.

Detailed below is a table of unsound meat condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption. It is interesting to note that though more animals were slaughtered the figure for meat condemned for tuberculosis was down by approximately 3,500lbs.

Figures represent weight in pounds.

	Whole Carcases		Part Carcases		Offal		Total	
	T.B.	Other Causes	T.B.	Other Cause	T.B.	Other Causes	T.B.	Other Causes
Cattle (Excluding Cows)	2,760	—	264	411	6,087	15,679	9,111	16,090
Cows	—	500	—	—	—	150	—	650
Calves	—	332	—	—	4	92	4	424
Sheep and Lambs	—	55	—	—	—	262	—	317
Pigs	400	1,147	—	—	2,112	1,202	2,512	2,349
Totals	3,160	2,034	264	411	8,203	17,385	11,627	19,830

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	3,688	10	885	15,274	3,412
Number inspected ...	3,688	10	885	15,274	3,412
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	1	6	2	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1,775	1	2	93	303
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affec- ted with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	48.13%	20.00%	0.90%	0.66%	8.06%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	4	—	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	349	—	1	—	224
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis ...	9.57%	0.00%	0.11%	0.00%	6.62%
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	24	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by re- frigeration ...	24	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—

Cysticercus Bovis.

There was a rise in the incidence of cysticercus bovis as shown in the table below, though the figure is still well below the one for 1949, i.e. 1.21%. All infestations were light in character and not easily discovered. The systematic search for cysticercus bovis is important as it is the cystic form of taenia saginata, the adult tapeworm found in man. It would appear that this parasitic disease is still a long way from being eliminated from cattle though a considerable amount of knowledge on the subject has been accumulated during the last few years.

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
1955	3,662	11	—	.30
1956	4,583	22	2	.52

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 to 1954.

The number of slaughtermen on the register has been reduced to 30 which compares unfavourably with the figure of 54 in 1954.

It has been found locally that boys are not attracted to this trade and the position may become somewhat difficult in the future. The answer, like many other occupations, may be found in more and more mechanisation together with better all round facilities for carrying out what after all is not a very attractive job.

Number of slaughtermen on register at 31/12/1955 ...	34
Applications for licences considered during 1956 ...	30
Number of slaughtermen on register at 31/12/1956 ...	30

PARTICULARS OF OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1956.

The table below shows the amount and type of food found unfit for human consumption. Many requests are received by the department to inspect food which is suspected of being unsound, both from food handlers and persons who have purchased articles of food. Judgement is always given for or against condemnation. Sometimes a considerable amount of money is involved and the responsibility placed on the inspector is not a light one viewed from a monetary angle or the protection of the health of the public.

Description	No. of containers etc.	Weight	
		lb.	oz.
Miscellaneous Tinned Foods			
Beans	69	64	—
Fish	47	14	4
Fruit	555	1013	9
Fruit Juice	9	12	13
Jam	4	6	14
Marmalade	6	10	12
Meat	481	1859	11
Milk	131	117	3
Peas	175	210	14
Pickles	12	11	4
Pudding	1	1	—
Soup	18	17	8
Spaghetti	8	6	4
Syrup	11	11	—
Vegetables	282	356	10
General			
Bacon	1	10	—
Butter	2	4	4
Cheese	60	173	6
Coconut	1	1	8
Eggs (shell)	90	11	4
Eggs (frozen)	2	84	—
Fish	43	354	—
Milk (dried)	40	921	—
Oranges	11	228	—
Peanut butter	1	—	8
Poultry	9	41	8
Potatoes	1	56	—
Pears	683	683	—
Raisins	1	30	—
Sausage	50	63	8
Total weight.		2 Ton. 16 Cwt. 3 qrts. 19 lb. 8 oz.	

WORK CARRIED OUT AT FOOD PREMISES.

I have already mentioned the work involved by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. In each of my previous reports I stated that there had been a steady improvement in food premises and this year has proved to be no exception. More modern equipment is being installed not only to cut down costs but to improve hygienic conditions in food handling. One of the main difficulties is to get the persons concerned to use this equipment in the proper manner and the inspectors have spent a great deal of time in an effort to convey to food handlers the importance of observing the simple rules of hygiene.

All food premises are certainly not up to the standard I should like to see throughout the borough. Many occupiers of these premises would certainly like to do more to bring about these improvements but are handicapped by lack of capital. General cleanliness is not usually a costly thing to achieve but no one will dispute that the results will be more certain if premises and equipment are of modern design.

A potent factor towards progress is competition and a lead given by any particular trade will in most instances be quickly followed by others. A great deal of power lies in the hands of the general public. They are, I am afraid, too prone to accept second best.

Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., repaired	...	...	..	3
Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., cleansed	...	...	...	5
Articles, apparatus, clothing cleansed	...	...	...	10
Washing facilities provided (personal)		...	...	1
Washing facilities maintained (personal)		...	...	4
Kitchen fittings re-sited	...	...	...	3
Ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	11

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

During the year 116 samples were taken, 57 of these being formal and 59 informal samples.

Formal	Informal	Article
1 4 45 2 1 4	57 1 1	Beef sausage Ice cream Milk Molasses Pork sausage Shrimps Tomato sausage Whisky
57	59	Total

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Of the samples analysed seven 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
334 335 336 337	Informal Informal Formal Formal	Milk	Contained 30.8%, 20.3%, 36.8% and 26.8% added water respectively.	Case was heard at the Harrogate Borough on the 11th December, 1956, when the producer was fined £20.
340 344	Informal Formal	Milk	Contained 68.4% and 76.7% of the minimum amount of fat required.	Upon investigation there was an indication that the deficiency arose due to some defect in the animals producing the milk. The matter was referred to the West Riding of Yorkshire Agriculture Executive Committee.
345	Informal	Milk	Contained 96.0% of minimum amount of fat required.	This sample of Channel Island milk was produced in the sampling area of the West Riding County Council. Under a reciprocal agreement the details were passed to this authority for any action they wished to take.

PUBLIC CLEANSING — HOUSEHOLD AND TRADE REFUSE.

1st April, 1956, to 31st March, 1957.

Collection of Refuse.

Refuse was collected from 19,635 houses and other premises within the Borough, an increase of 625.

Collecting Vehicles.

The collection of refuse was carried out by ten side loading vehicles and one rear loading vehicle, with a total carrying capacity of 122 cubic yards.

The Fordson vehicles are now in their ninth year and some of the Karriers in their eighth. The total mileage of the fleet is now 538,344. I feel that I must once again report on the remarkable performance of the Karrier engines, some of which are now in their eighth year of continuous work. Only one engine has so far been decarbonised, the others maintaining a good compression on all cylinders with negligible oil consumption. Running costs of the fleet generally are still remarkably low and this I attribute to three things :—

- (1) Excellent driving and maintenance by the men concerned.
- (2) Immediate attention to any defect no matter how minor in character it may be.
- (3) Systematic de-rusting, repair and painting of body and chassis.

A fore and aft tipper was added to the fleet with a carrying capacity of 18 cubic yards. A gang of six loaders is employed with this machine. The advantages of this particular design are many and it is the department's intention to replace all the side loaders with this type of vehicle.

Year	Repairs	New Engines (Fords)
	£ 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 0	70 0 0
1954 - 1955	420 5 3	140 0 0
1955 - 1956	360 10 3	79 1 2
1956 - 1957	302 0 1	86 9 11

The policy with regard to the Ford V8 engines has been to replace them at standard intervals.

Make	Method of loading	Year of make	Capacity (cubic yards)
Four Fordsons ...	side	1948	10
		1948	10
		1948	10
		1948	10
Six Karriers ...	side	1949	12
		1949	12
		1950	10
		1950	10
		1950	10
		1953	10
One S.D. Fore and Aft tipper ...	rear	1956	18
One Karrier ...	side	1953	2 ton general duty tipper

Trade Refuse.

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

10s. 0d. per motor load.

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

Hotel Refuse.

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

Private Tipping.

The charges made for the private tipping of refuse by individuals are 2s. 0d. per load up to two tons and 2s. 6d. per load over two tons. During the year 560 loads of refuse were disposed of on this basis, yielding a revenue of £56 0s. 0d.

Tonnage.

The highest weekly tonnage of refuse was 449 tons which was collected during the week ended 5th January, 1957, and the lowest tonnage for the week ended 27th July, 1956, when 341 tons were collected. The figures for last year were 479 tons and 333 tons respectively.

19,136 tons of household and trade refuse were collected during the year as against 19,963 tons for 1955/56.

The fact that the tonnage of refuse collected has decreased by some 827 tons whilst 462 new houses and 163 other premises have been built may call for some comment.

After considering all the factors involved I am of the opinion that the extensive and popular use of paraffin oil stoves together with central heating is responsible to a large degree for the drop in tonnage. The mild winter also contributed its quota.

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

**Estimated Tonnage of Materials Handled by
Cleansing Department, 1956/57.**

Type	Collection	Disposal
1. Household Refuse	17,498	17,498
2. Trade Refuse	932	932
3. Night Soil	12	12
4. Covering Materials	606	606
5. Road Sweepings	—	1,369
6. Street Gully Solids	—	1,412
7. Salvage	694	—
8. Trade Refuse (disposal only, not collected by Cleansing Dept.)	—	1,120
9. Materials delivered to tips by other departments	—	278
Total	19,742	23,227
Less covering materials	606	—
Total refuse collected	19,136	—
Total refuse disposed of	—	23,227

Frequency of Collection.

A seven day collection was maintained with the exception of the weeks immediately following bank holidays. Within two weeks of such events the collection was back to seven days. New houses are rapidly being built all over the Borough and are of the type which necessitates long walks for the refuse collectors. Though the tonnage has been reduced mainly by density the number of dustbins has steadily increased. A further re-organisation with additional men is planned to take place during 1957. A lot of the building is taking place on the perimeter of the town with resultant longer hauls to the tip. These journeys will eventually be cut down by the new vehicles with their larger carrying capacity.

I cannot speak too highly of your employees who are a hard working conscientious body of men. Sufficient to say that I do know that the majority of the people in the town appreciate their services to a remarkable degree.

Hours lost through Sickness and Accidents.

The hours lost through sickness have been reduced from 4,232 in 1955 to 2,422 in 1956 and accidents from 1,384 to 336.

Week	Spring quarter		Summer quarter		Autumn quarter		Winter quarter	
	Sick	Accidents	Sick	Accidents	Sick	Accidents	Sick	Accidents
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	88	—
2	—	—	32	—	—	—	52	—
3	—	—	44	—	32	—	152	—
4	—	—	44	44	44	—	308	—
5	—	—	44	44	44	—	188	—
6	—	—	84	44	44	—	120	—
7	—	—	—	44	66	—	88	—
8	—	—	—	44	44	—	120	—
9	—	—	—	44	52	—	132	—
10	—	—	—	—	88	—	68	—
11	—	24	—	—	88	—	44	—
12	8	48	44	—	88	—	44	—
13	—	—	—	—	44	—	84	—
Total	8	72	292	264	634	—	1,488	—

Summary :—				Sickness	Accidents
Spring quarter	.....	.....	.....	8	72
Summer quarter	.....	.....	.....	292	264
Autumn quarter	.....	.....	.....	634	—
Winter quarter	.....	.....	.....	1488	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				2422	336
				<hr/>	<hr/>

Disposal of Refuse.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

The major portion of the year has been spent at the Yorkshire Showground and work has progressed satisfactorily in levelling up the valley. A large portion of ground has been finished and sown down with grass seed but the full scheme will take some years to complete.

In October I was asked to build an embankment for spectators at the Harrogate Cricket Ground, St. George's Road, Harrogate. This was to be some 247 feet in length, 81 feet in width and rise to a height of approximately 20 feet. The problems involved were difficult ones from a technical point of view owing to the steep slope on which the muleadozer and vehicles had to operate and the proximity of houses to the tip, i.e. 150 feet.

Levels were prepared for me by the Borough Engineer and the soil removed and formed into a barricade on which I erected my wire netting defences against paper blowing into the gardens of the houses.

Tipping commenced on the 5th November, 1956, and was completed on the 21st February, 1957. The operation lasted for a period of 16 weeks, comprised of a possible 86 working days, but due to adverse weather conditions work only took place on 63 days. 3,728 tons of refuse was deposited on the site and only two complaints of a minor character were received during the whole period. The embankment was finally re-soiled and sown down with grass after seats had been installed on the lower slope.

Salvage.

A salvage bonus scheme for waste paper was commenced in April and instantly proved successful. Unfortunately almost immediately afterwards, the stocks of paper at the Board Mills became too large to handle and we were placed on a quota tonnage per month.

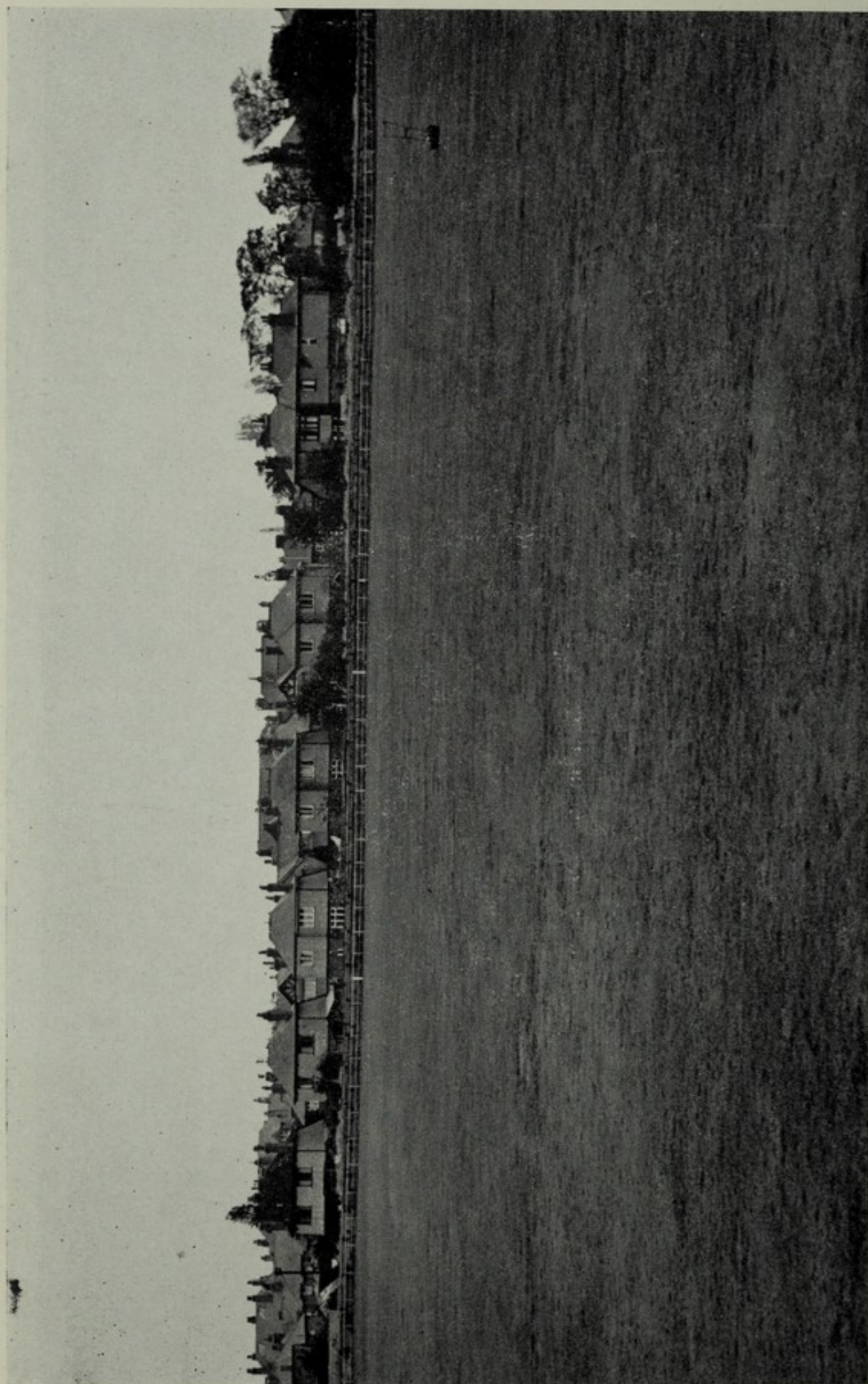
A bonus for salvage tins was initiated in January this year and the quantities of metal recovered from the tip has had the two-fold effect of increasing salvage revenue and bringing about better consolidation of the refuse.

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

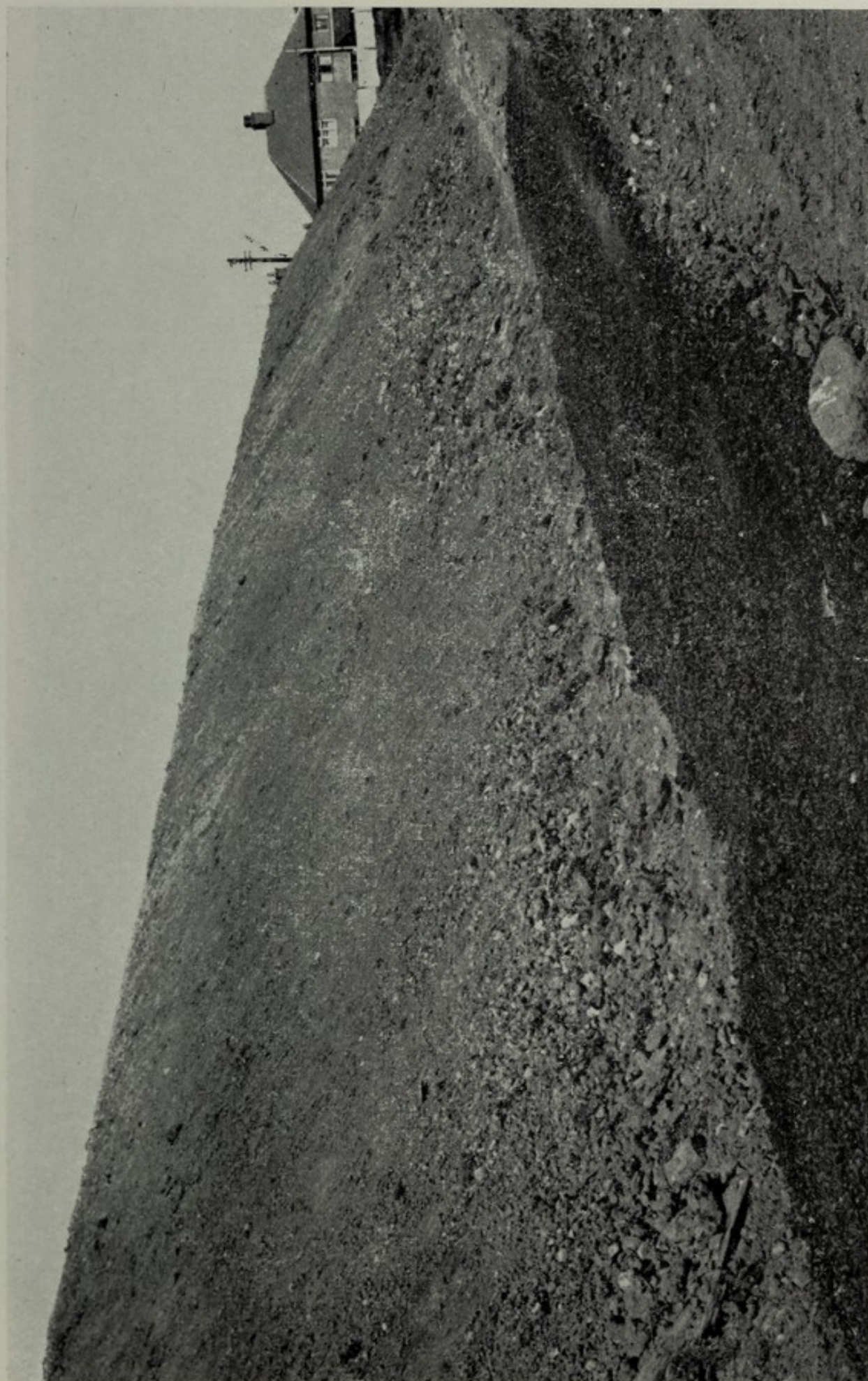
						£	s.	d.
1946-47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,665	18	7
1947-48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,091	14	4
1948-49	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,313	2	4
1949-50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,200	12	6
1950-51	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,639	15	11
1951-52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,353	8	10
1952-53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,035	12	7
1953-54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,933	6	7
1954-55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,534	2	2
1955-56	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,068	1	11
1956-57	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,437	10	8
						<hr/> £44,273	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 5



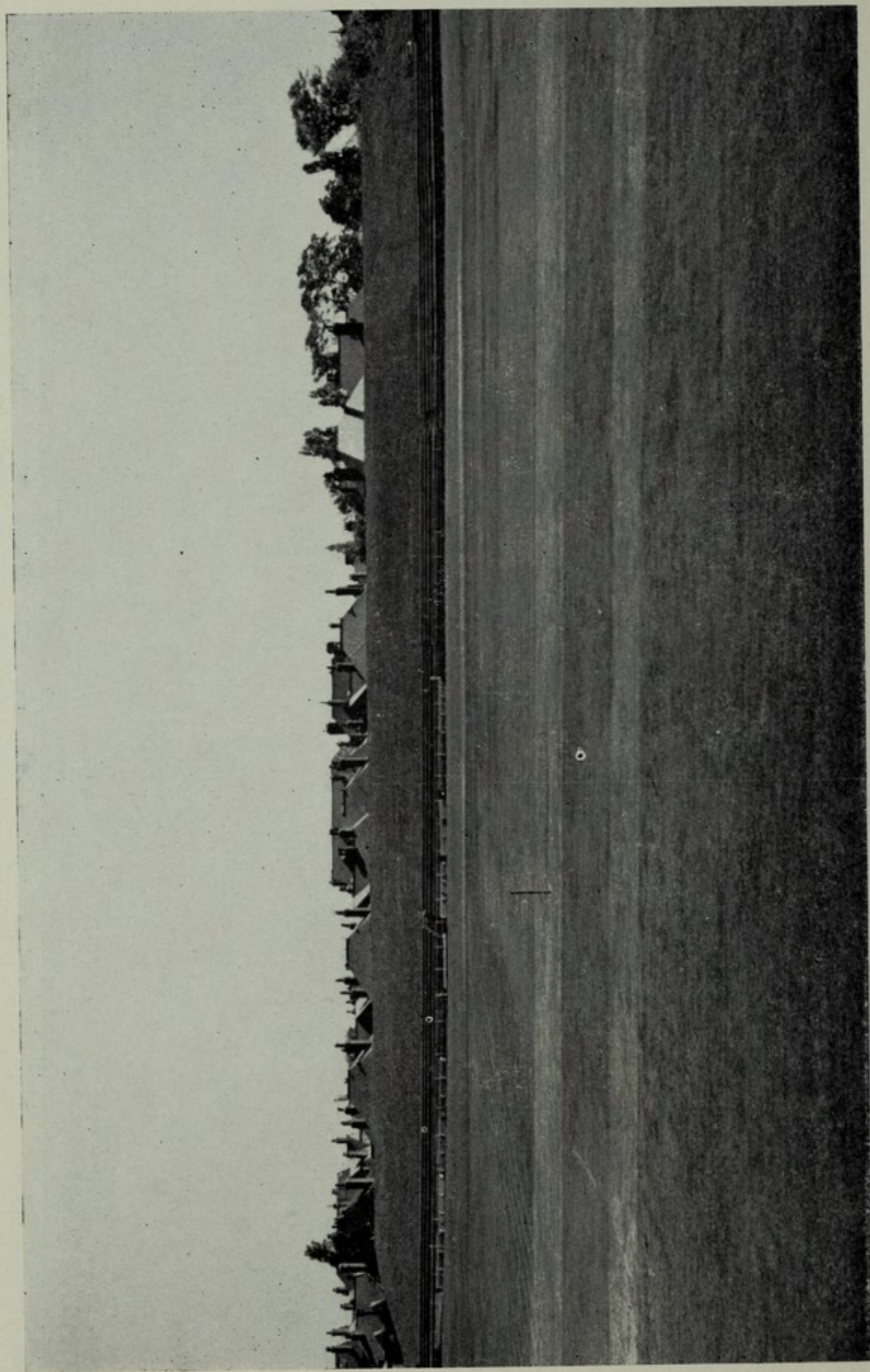
Site before tipping commenced at the Harrogate Cricket Ground, St. George's Road, Harrogate.



View of site from Pavilion before tipping commenced.



Rear of embankment showing angle of repose.



New embankment viewed from Pavilion.

The following table shows how the 1956-1957 amount was made up :—

Material	Tons	Cwts.	Qrts.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ...	627	12	2	0	5,141	14	0
Aluminium ...		4	1	0	20	3	9
Brass ...		2	2	10	16	3	8
Copper ...			2	0	4	13	6
Scrap Iron ...	2	15	2	0	18	16	0
Scrap Tins ...	60	18	2	0	184	7	6
String ...		6	3	3	2	14	2
Bagging ...		4	3	27	2	9	11
Soiled Rags ...		6	0	7	6	7	4
Clean Rags ...		18	3	3	30	0	10
Totals ...	693	8	1	22	5,437	10	8

The sum received from salvage is approximately £1,369 in excess of the amount received in the last financial 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 THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1957.

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
I	Revenue Account				
	Gross Expenditure				
	(i) Labour ...	17,449	3,023	20,472	60.43
	(ii) Transport ...	11,179	—	11,179	33.00
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	488	1,123	1,611	4.75
	(iv) Other items	413	206	619	1.82
	(v) Total gross expenditure ...	29,529	4,352	33,881	100
2	Gross Income	158	5,672	5,830	—
3	Net Cost	29,371	Cr. 1,320	28,051	—
4	Capital expenditure met from: revenue (included above) ...	—	—	—	—
5	Unit Costs	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
	Gross cost per ton, labour only ...	18 3	2 7	20 10	
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only ...	11 8	- -	11 8	
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	30 9	Cr. 1 2	29 7	
		£	£	£	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population ...	566	Cr. 25	541	
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	1,496	Cr. 67	1,429	

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS.

10. Area (statute acres)—land and inland water—8,320 acres.
11. Population at 30th June, 1956 (Registrar General's estimate—51,930 persons.
12. Total refuse collected (tons). Estimated from regular test weighings—19,136 tons.
13. Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)—20.69 cwts.
14. Number of premises from which refuse is collected—19,635 premises.
15. Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly—100% approx.
16. Average haul, single journey, to final disposal point—3.3 miles.
17. Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection—none%
18. Total refuse disposed of—23,227 tons.
19. Methods of disposal (salvage excluded): controlled tipping—100%.

20. **Salvage.** Analysis of income and tonnage :

			Income (income in Item 2). £	Tonnage Collected (included in Item 12). Tons
(a)	Raw Kitchen Waste	.....	—	—
(b)	Scrap Metal	.....	244	64
(c)	Waste Paper	.....	5151	628
(d)	Other Salvage	.....	41	2
			<hr/>	<hr/>
(e)	Totals	.....	5436	694
			<hr/>	<hr/>
21.	Trade Refuse	.....	237	229
	Rents and Miscellaneous Income Refuse Disposal			£267

EXTRACT FROM PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURNS, 1955/56.

Unit Costs	Average for Non-county Boroughs		Harrogate	
Net Cost Per Ton	s.	d.	s.	d.
Collection	32	2	26	0
Disposal	4	0	—	—
Total	36	2	26	0
Net Cost Per 1,000 Population	£		£	
Collection	489		503	
Disposal	65		—	
Total	554		503	
Net Cost Per 1,000 Premises	£		£	
Collection	1,505		1,368	
Disposal	200		2	
Total	1,705		1,370	
Gross Cost Per Ton	s.	d.	s.	d.
Labour	24	5	17	4
Transport	15	3	10	9

These figures do not include the fluctuating population of thousands of people visiting the town for holidays, conferences, etc., but are based on the permanent population of non-County Boroughs.

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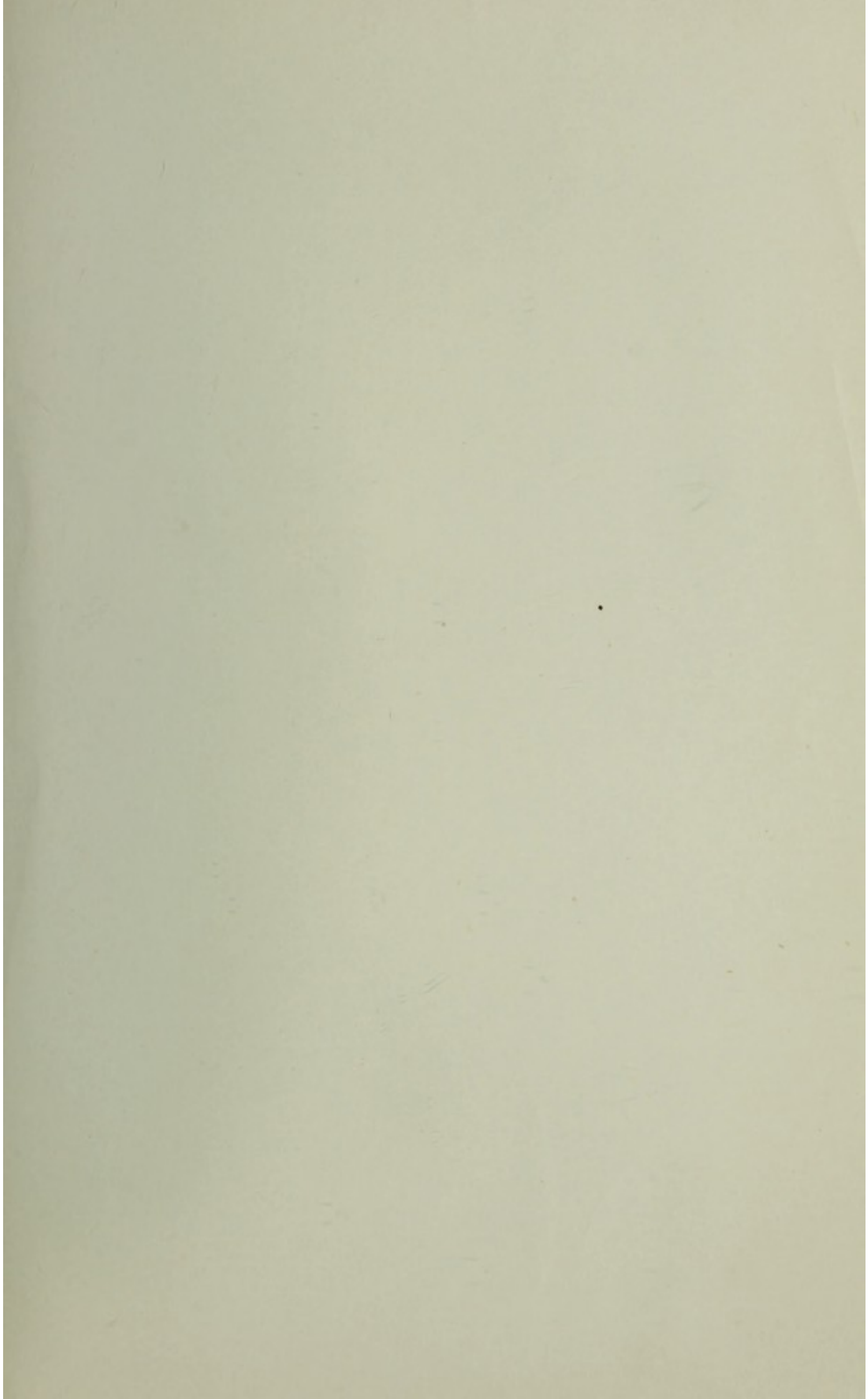
EXTRACT FROM PUBLIC CLEANING COSTING RETURNS, 1941/54

Plant Costs	Average of Household Boroughs	Percentage
Net Cost Per Ton Collection Disposal	4. 1 12 1/2	15 1/2 15 1/2
Total	16 1/2	31 1/2
Net Cost Per 1,000 Population Collection Disposal	1 1/2 4 1/2	1 1/2 9 1/2
Total	6 1/2	21 1/2
Net Cost Per 1,000 Families Collection Disposal	1 1/2 4 1/2	1 1/2 9 1/2
Total	6 1/2	21 1/2
Gross Cost Per Ton Collection Disposal	1 1/2 12 1/2 13 1/2	1 1/2 17 1/2 21 1/2

These figures do not include the following population of thousands of people living in the town for religious reasons, and are based on the permanent population of the County Borough.







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