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Borough of Harrogate

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

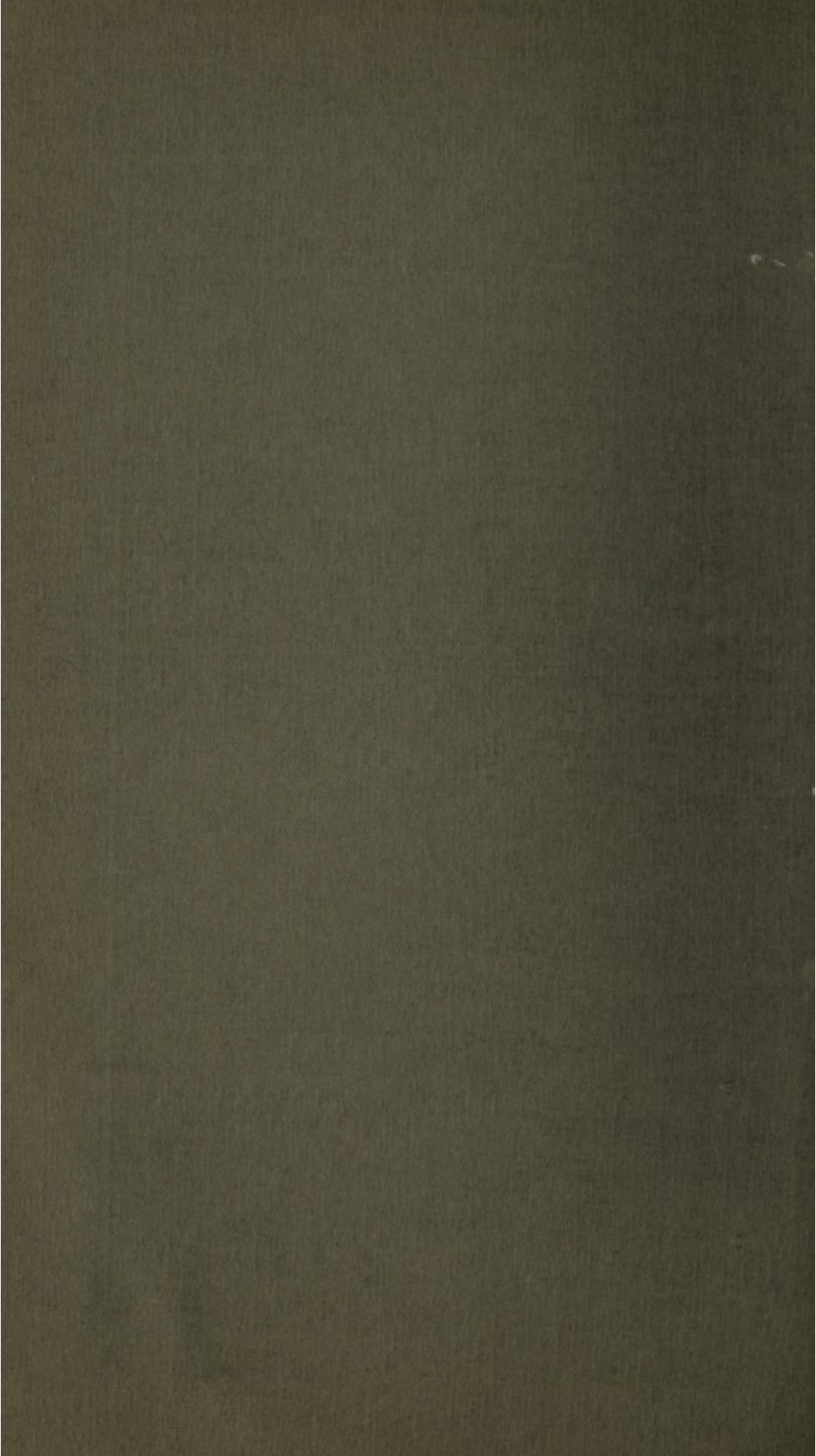
1957



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

Department of Health

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OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

1922

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Ottawa, Ontario

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## THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1957/58

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

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. WILKINSON

THE MAYOR (Councillor Miss A. WARDLE, J.P.)

Ald.	Mrs. FISHER, J.P.	Coun.	KIRBY
„	TENNANT	„	LENG
Coun.	ATKINSON	„	LOWE
„	BARKER	„	MORRELL
„	CHRISTELOW	„	PICKARD
„	FAGAN	„	SHILLITO
„	HITCH	„	Mrs. WILKINSON
„	JOHNSON		

### HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE :

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

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. WILKINSON

THE MAYOR (Councillor Miss A. WARDLE, J.P.)

Ald.	Mrs. FISHER, J.P.	Coun.	MORRELL
Coun.	HITCH	„	Mrs. WILKINSON
„	LENG		

**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 1957.

The notable event during the year in infectious disease was the epidemic of Asian Influenza. At a rough estimate it would seem that amongst Harrogate residents one in ten adults and one in two school children developed the illness. There is still speculation as to whether the lower incidence in older people was the result of immunity derived from previous attacks or whether these older people escaped since they were less exposed to infection. There is no doubt that in families without school children there were far fewer cases amongst adults. There was concern lest there might be further waves of influenza in the winter as occurred in the devastating epidemic in 1918-19 which started in June 1918, almost ceased after six weeks and recurred with great virulence in the late autumn and again early in 1919, killing some 200,000 people in England and Wales. This fortunately did not materialise and the epidemic as a whole was not severe in character.

Measles was prevalent during the year with 851 cases being notified. There were no fatal cases however. Measles is commonly a disease of the Spring reaching its maximum period of incidence in March or April. It tends to occur every two years when a fresh number of susceptible young children have grown up who have not previously had, or been exposed to, the disease. The important change in measles in recent years has been its decrease in severity. Whereas some fifty years ago the case-fatality rate was one death for every ten patients, now the rate is one death for every five thousand cases. It has, in fact, ceased to be a killing disease of infancy and many of the cases are now so trivial as to be difficult to diagnose. It is probable that improved standards of living and nutrition have played a considerable part in this lowering of the case-fatality rate.

I am pleased to report that there were no cases of poliomyelitis, dysentery or diphtheria in the Borough during the year.

I refer in this report to the establishment of a Child Guidance Clinic in the Borough in November. This clinic is already being widely used and appreciated by the child welfare and school medical services, the children's department and the juvenile court. The importance of the prevention of mental ill-health and maladjustment in children is becoming increasingly recognised. More emphasis is now being given to the mental health, psychology and emotional development of the child in the training of doctors and nurses, and refresher courses are being held for members of the public health staff in these subjects.

Increasing attention is also being paid to the subject of accidents in the home. Four-fifths of the fatalities from this cause occur in children under five years of age and in elderly people of 65 years or more, the number of deaths is greater than the deaths from road accidents. Burns and scalds are a common form of accident amongst pre-school children. The danger of the unguarded open fire cannot be too strongly stressed. It is hoped that research into flame resistant clothing, which is being actively carried out, will lead to cheaper production and more widespread use of these materials.

Reference is made in this report to the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to Harrogate in June. National statistics show that a fifth of the cases of tuberculosis notified in this country are brought to light by mass radiography. Many of these cases of respiratory tuberculosis are entirely unsuspected and as a consequence are a particular danger to people with whom they come daily into close contact. Their discovery and diagnosis is, therefore, an important factor in preventive medicine. In addition to finding cases of tuberculosis, other abnormal chest conditions such as cancer of the lung and heart disease are brought to light.

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.

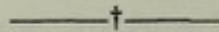
Public Health Department,

Municipal Offices,

HARROGATE.

May, 1958.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1957.



**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. D.P.H.

**Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :**  
E. DODSWORTH, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C. (a) (b)

**Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Deputy Cleansing  
Superintendent :**  
V. OVERSBY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., 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.A.P.H.I. (a)

### **Public Analysts :**

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

### **Clerical Staff as at 31-12-57 :**

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

L. R. WILKINSON (Chief Clerk)	D. R. J. ASHCROFT
J. E. BIELBY (Senior Clerk)	Miss P. MEDDINGS
Miss M. STARKEY (Senior Clerk)	Miss R. ALLANSON
Mrs. W. GLEDHILL	C. HORNER
K. W. DARLEY	Miss M. A. HODGSON
Mrs. A. FOX	Miss P. A. MELLON

### **Sanitary and Cleansing Sections Clerical Staff :**

H. M. WILEY, D.P.A. (Senior Clerk)	Miss M. M. ATKINSON
D. KEADY	G. TAYLOR

- (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, 1957

Area (acres)		8,320
Population (mid-summer, 1957, estimated by the Registrar General)		52,220
Number of Inhabited houses, March 31st, 1957		17,109
Rateable Value, March 31st, 1957		£877,806
Product of Penny Rate, March 31st, 1957		£3,458
<b>Births</b>		
	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
Live Births: Legitimate	380	328
Illegitimate	31	19
	} 411	} 347
		758
Birth Rate (Live births per 1,000 of the estimated population)		14.5
*Adjusted Birth Rate		15.1
	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
Still Births: Legitimate	10	12
Illegitimate	1	—
	} 11	} 12
		23
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births		29.4
<b>Deaths</b>		
Number of Deaths : Males 327, Females 393		720
Death Rate (Deaths per 1,000 of the estimated population)		13.8
*Adjusted Death Rate		11.0
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion		nil
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :		
	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
Legitimate	12	5
Illegitimate	1	—
	} 13	} 5
		18
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :		
All Infants per 1,000 live births		23.7
		Rate (per 1,000 population)
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (4)		0.08
Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases (1)		0.02
Deaths from Infective and parasitic diseases excluding Tuberculosis but including Syphilis and other Venereal Diseases (10)		0.19
Deaths from Vascular lesions of the nervous system (115)		2.20
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory diseases (287)		5.50
Deaths from Cancer (134)		2.57
Deaths from Respiratory diseases (59)		1.13
Mean Annual Temperature		48.3
Total Rainfall (in inches)		29.6
Hours of Bright Sunshine		1354.6

Adjusted by Area Comparability factors supplied by the Registrar General. The adjustment which for births is 1.04 and deaths 0.80 makes allowance for the changing age structure of the population.

**TABLE I.**  
**VITAL STATISTICS OF HARROGATE FOR 1957 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
1957	52,220	758	15.1	18	23.7	720	11.0

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. These factors are 0.80 and 1.04 respectively.

TABLE II.

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN HARROGATE BOROUGH, 1957.

Causes of Death		1957	
		Male	Female
<b>All Causes</b>		<b>327</b>	<b>393</b>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	3	1
2	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	1
3	Syphilitic disease ... ..	2	2
4	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5	Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	1
7	Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8	Measles ... ..	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	3	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	9	9
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	15	3
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	1	10
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	6
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	38	41
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	—	2
16	Diabetes ... ..	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	34	81
18	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	88	64
19	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	4	9
20	Other heart diseases ... ..	36	61
21	Other circulatory diseases ... ..	9	16
22	Influenza ... ..	4	4
23	Pneumonia ... ..	7	17
24	Bronchitis ... ..	13	8
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	5	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	6	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	3	5
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	7	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
31	Congenital malformations ... ..	2	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	24	34
33	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	4	2
34	All other accidents ... ..	5	5
35	Suicide ... ..	4	3
36	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>720</b>	



TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1956 and 1957.

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

Cause of Death.	1956	1957							Total Deaths under 1 yr			
		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	
1 Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Convulsions ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Bronchitis and Pneumonia	1	2	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	5
6 Gastro-enteritis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 Congenital Malformations	3	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
8 Immaturity ... ..	4	7	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>18</b>

TABLE IV.

AGE GROUPS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING DURING THE FIFTY TWO WEEKS ENDED 28th DECEMBER, 1957.

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 ... ..	40	—	3	6	23	6	2	—	6	—
Measles ... ..	851	23	177	225	407	9	3	7	12	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	30	2	4	4	18	2	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	32	—	—	1	3	2	1	25	9	7
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
Food Poisoning ... ..	11	—	—	1	—	3	3	4	1	—

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### 1. POPULATION.

The population estimated by the Registrar General at the end of June, 1957, was 52,220, which was 290 higher than the estimate for 1956.

### 2. UNEMPLOYMENT.

At the end of the year the number of persons registered as unemployed in Harrogate and surrounding districts was 498, 300 males and 198 females. This was an increase on the previous year when the total figure of unemployed persons was 423.

At the end of 1957 there were 5 boys and 5 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 1,255, 689 males and 566 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 758, 411 males and 347 females. This was an increase of 27 on the figure for 1956.

The birth rate when adjusted by the area comparability factor as given by the Registrar General was 15.1 live births per thousand of the population, as compared with 16.1 the rate for England and Wales.

There were 50 illegitimate live births, 31 males and 19 females, representing 6.6 per cent. of the live births.

#### (b) Still Births.

33 still-births, 17 males and 16 females, were registered during the year. The corrected figure supplied by the Registrar General and adjusted for inward and outward transfers was 23, 11 males and 12 females.

This gave a rate of 29.4 per thousand live and still births, compared with 22.4 for England and Wales.

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

The number of deaths registered during the year was 565, 269 males and 296 females, but the number of deaths of residents corrected for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar General was 720, 327 males and 393 females.

The crude death rate was 13.8 per thousand population, but when adjusted by the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General the rate was reduced to 11.0 per thousand as compared with 11.5 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 18, 13 males and 5 females, as compared with 17 during the previous year. Of the 18 infant deaths, 15 occurred during the first twenty-four hours after birth. The infant mortality rate was 23.7 per thousand live births, compared with 23.0 the rate for England and Wales.

The causes of death are given in the table on page 14.

#### **Cremations.**

During 1957, there were 565 cremations at the Stonefall Crematorium, of whom 325 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 is situated at Seacroft Hospital, Leeds. Specimens of milk and other food stuffs, including ice-cream, are taken there for examination.

The routine bacteriological examination of clinical material such as throat swabs is undertaken at the Hospital Laboratory at the Harrogate General Hospital, but any special investigation into outbreaks of infection is carried out at the Leeds Public Health Laboratory.

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	Knarborough Rd., Harrogate	Medical, Surgical and Maternity	226	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	Knarborough	Infectious Diseases	10	10
do	do	Paediatrics	—	12
do	do	Suitable Cases transferred from Harrogate General Hospital	22	—
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

Central Clinic 2, Dragon Parade, (*) Harrogate. Tel. 6332		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Minor Ailments	.. .. . (*)	† 10 a.m.	—	—	† 10 a.m.	—	—
"	(Starbeck Council School)	1-30 p.m.	—	—	—	—	—
General School Clinic	.. .. . (*)	—	—	† 2-30 p.m.	—	—	—
Ophthalmic Clinic	11, Ripon Road	—	—	—	—	(by appointment)	—
Orthopaedic Clinic	.. .. . (*)	—	§ (by appointment)	—	—	—	—
Immunisation and Vaccination	(*)	—	—	10 a.m. (by appointment)	—	—	—
Artificial Sunlight	.. .. . (*)	9-0 a.m. (by appointment)	—	2-0 p.m. (by appointment)	—	9-0 a.m. (by appointment)	—
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	.. .. . (*)	—	—	—	—	—	§ 9-30 a.m. (by appointment)
Dental Clinic	.. .. . (*)	8-45 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-20 p.m.	8-45 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-20 p.m.	8-45 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-20 p.m.	8-45 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-20 p.m.	8-45 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. 1-45 p.m. to 5-25 p.m.	—
Cardiac Clinic	.. .. . General Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	10 a.m. (by appointment)
Speech Therapy,	.. .. . (*)	1-30 p.m. (by appointment)	—	2 p.m. (by appointment)	—	—	—
Maternity and Child Welfare		—	—	—	—	—	—
Child Welfare Centre	.. .. . (*)	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—
Child Welfare Centre (Methodist 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	.. .. . (*)	—	2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.	11 a.m. to 12 noon	—	—	—

† School Medical Officer in attendance.

‡ Urgent Cases by Telephone appointment

§ As required

§ Second and Fourth Tuesday each month

# THE PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THEIR CONTROL

## (a) NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

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

### 1. Scarlet Fever.

40 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year as compared with 72 in 1956. All cases were very mild in character and no complications were reported.

34 of the cases were satisfactorily isolated at home and 6 patients were admitted to Thistle Hill Hospital, Knaresborough.

### 2. Measles.

1957 was an epidemic year for measles in the Borough. 851 cases were notified as compared with 35 during 1956. The increased prevalence was first noted in March and reached its maximum in April, 222 cases being notified during that month. These numbers gradually fell until the end of August when the epidemic came to an end. The greatest number of cases first occurred in children between five and seven years of age attending the infant classes at schools. From these school children infection was later introduced to pre-school children in their homes. The great majority of the cases were mild in character and there were no fatal cases attributable to measles.

### 3. Whooping Cough.

30 cases of whooping cough were notified as compared with 27 during the previous year. 13 of these cases had been immunised and all were mild in character with the exception of one, a boy aged seven years, who had been immunised when a few months old and whose immunity had diminished during the intervening time between the injections and the development of whooping cough. There were no fatal cases.

### 4. Acute Pneumonia.

32 cases of pneumonia were notified, 11 of these were acute primary pneumonia and 21 were influenzal pneumonia. Of 7 fatal cases, 6 were due to influenzal pneumonia and 1 to acute primary pneumonia.



### 5. Erysipelas.

2 cases of erysipelas were notified as compared with 4 cases in the preceding year. Both these cases were erysipelas of face and cleared rapidly with antibiotic treatment.

### 6. Puerperal Pyrexia.

3 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified compared with 7 during the preceding year. In 2 cases the rise in temperature was due to urinary infection and in 1 case no definite cause for the rise in temperature could be ascertained.

### 7. Food Poisoning.

11 cases of food poisoning were notified. 5 of these cases occurred in one family and clostridium welchii organisms were isolated from the affected persons. It was considered likely that the infection was derived from a pork pie but as no remains of the pie were available for examination this could not be proven. The symptoms of food poisoning developed four hours after eating the pie but only lasted a few hours.

A husband and wife were affected with food poisoning after eating slices of boiled ham. A specimen of ham sent for bacteriological examination showed a heavy growth of staphylococcus albus and a scanty growth of haemolytic streptococci. Whilst neither of these bacteria are recognised as food poisoning organisms, the probable cause of the symptoms was due to multiplication of bacteria on the slices of ham between time of purchase and consumption. The symptoms of food poisoning cleared up in approximately twelve hours.

2 children in another family developed symptoms of food poisoning and salmonella typhimurium was isolated from both children. A possible source of infection was chicken soup but this was never proven as none of the soup was available for examination. In spite of treatment with antibiotics the boy remained a carrier of this food poisoning organism for two months after the illness had cleared up.

A case of food poisoning was notified in an elderly woman who was admitted to hospital for treatment. Her illness had lasted for a fortnight before admission to hospital and was of septicaemic type. The organism isolated from blood culture

showed the presence of salmonella cholera-suis, variety Kunzendorf. This is an organism commonly found in pigs but it was not possible to trace back a food that might have given rise to this infection. The patient made a good recovery after four weeks treatment in hospital.

A girl aged four was notified as a case of food poisoning. The symptoms were mild in character and only lasted a short while. Salmonella typhimurium was isolated from this child but despite careful inquiries no food was found to be implicated in this infection.

#### **8. Meningococcal Infection.**

2 cases of meningococcal infection were notified during the year. The first case occurred in an elderly woman and was one of special difficulty in diagnosis. I was called by a general practitioner in the early morning to see this woman who had shortly before been found dead in bed. She had felt sick and had a raised temperature the previous day. On examination she had an extensive haemorrhagic rash of the skin. On the day prior to her illness she had returned to Harrogate after a touring holiday in Scotland with her husband. Whilst the cause of death was considered to be probably meningococcal septicaemia, the possibility of haemorrhagic smallpox could not be excluded. Full precautions for dealing with a possible case of smallpox were therefore put into operation, including the vaccination of direct contacts. By the following morning bacteriological confirmation had been obtained that the illness was due to the meningococcus and the virus tests from the Public Health Laboratory at Leeds excluded the possibility of smallpox infection.

A case of meningococcal septicaemia was notified in a two year old child who was admitted to the Harrogate General Hospital. She responded rather slowly to antibiotic treatment but made a good recovery.

#### **9. Acute Encephalitis.**

A case of acute infective encephalitis was notified in a child aged two years who was admitted to Harrogate General Hospital with convulsions and never regained consciousness. The illness lasted three months and terminated fatally.

## 10. Tuberculosis.

19 cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with 39 during 1956. 17 of the cases were pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 were non-pulmonary.

The following table gives details of the new cases notified and of the mortality for 1957:—

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 ....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-14 ,, ....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24 ,, ....	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-34 ,, ....	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-44 ,, ....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-54 ,, ....	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-64 ,, ....	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and upwards ....	2	-	-	1	2	1	-	-
<b>Totals</b> ....	13	4	1	1	3	1	-	-

82 cases were removed from the register. 60 of these patients recovered, 16 removed to other areas, 4 died, and 2 were found to be suffering from another condition. In 1956 there were 6 fatal cases of tuberculosis.

123 new contacts were examined at the Harrogate Chest Clinic during the year and none were found to be suffering from tuberculosis. There were 600 routine attendances of notified cases and 200 routine attendances of contacts at this clinic. All child contacts who were found to be "Mantoux negative" were referred for B.C.G. vaccination.

The figures given above show the continued fall of the death rate from tuberculosis and a decrease in the occurrence of new cases.

### Mass Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit carried out a survey at St. Mark's Church Parochial Hall, in June, 1957. A total of 3,089 people were examined of whom 1,337 were males and 1,752 were females. The main groups examined were:—

	Male	Female	Total
General Public .....	554	723	1,277
West Riding County Council .....	45	168	213
General Post Office .....	77	134	211
West Yorkshire Road Car Co.....	93	71	164
North Eastern Gas Board .....	115	32	147
North Eastern Electricity Board.....	128	12	140
Post Office Savings Department .....	9	91	100

Members of the staff of the West Riding County Council included health visitors, home nurses, home helps, school teachers, and other staff who come into contact with children.

44 persons were recalled for further examination and x-ray on a large film and 15 were clinically examined by the Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Unit. 2 cases of active tuberculosis were found and 8 cases of inactive tuberculosis where no further action was required. In addition 9 cases were found where there was some other non-tuberculous abnormality of the heart, chest, or lungs, of which 4 cases were referred for treatment or investigation.

### 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 36 Harrogate patients. In addition, 51 Harrogate patients, who had been recommended by the Chest Physician prior to the 1st January, 1957, continued to receive this grant of milk.

During 1957, 38 grants were discontinued and at the end of the year 49 patients were receiving this free milk.

### **Tuberculosis Care Committee.**

The Tuberculosis Care Committee consists of representatives of the Local Authority and of voluntary organisations, together with members of the staff of the Health Department. The Committee held four meetings during the year, and gave consideration to cases of need arising in the families of tuberculous patients which cannot be covered by the normal statutory powers. Examples of assistance given included publicity given to work undertaken by a tuberculous patient in his own home, payment of the cost of a television licence, the provision of floor covering, rubber pillows, a pair of pyjamas, and other clothing. In addition 28 Christmas parcels containing butter, eggs, fresh fruit, sweets, etc., were distributed to deserving tuberculous families. The funds to enable this committee to make these grants are derived in part from voluntary gifts. I would like to particularly thank Mr. T. W. Cale, the Welfare Officer of the Post Office Savings Department for his assistance, both on the Committee and for raising money from members of the staff of his department. An annual grant is also received from the West Riding County Council.

### **11. Preventive Inoculations.**

#### **(a) Diphtheria Immunisation.**

560 children under five years of age and 43 children of school age were immunised against diphtheria for the first time during 1957.

426 reinforcing inoculations were given during the year to children where the degree of immunity had fallen due to the length of time since their initial inoculation.

A clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Wednesday mornings 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 426.

(c) **Smallpox Vaccination.**

A vaccination clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Wednesday mornings. 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	<b>Total</b>
No. Vaccinated ...	444	23	28	25	48	568
No. Re-vaccinated	—	—	9	25	158	192

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 1957 was 58.6 per cent. of the number of live births.

(d) **Tuberculosis Vaccination.**

The parents of thirteen 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, 385 children received this preliminary Mantoux test and from the test it was shown that it was desirable for 276 children to receive the B.C.G. vaccination, all of whom were vaccinated during the year.

In addition to the vaccination of the thirteen 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. 87 B.C.G. vaccinations were carried out on such contacts, of whom 52 were males and 35 were females. Of these, 43 were pre-school children, 34 were of school age, and 10 were adults.

(e) **Poliomyelitis Vaccination.**

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was offered for the second year in this country, to children born between 1947 and 1956 inclusive. The vaccine is injected in 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 fully known. When infection does occur the illness developing is usually non-paralytic and the observed incidence of the paralytic condition in the vaccinated children is only about one fifth of that in the unvaccinated.

In the Borough of Harrogate 1,567 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.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis in the Borough during the year.

## (b) NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

### 1. Cancer.

134 deaths, 63 males and 71 females, were due to this cause. This gives a death rate of 2.6 compared with 2.09 for England and Wales.

15 of the deaths from cancer in males and 3 of the deaths in females were due to cancer of the lung. These figures are the same as in 1956. The deaths from cancer of the lung in England and Wales show a progressive increase in both men and women and I am satisfied that the relationship between this condition and heavy smoking is fully proven.

### 2. Influenza.

An epidemic of influenza which was commonly known as 'Asian 'flu' affected residents in the Borough of Harrogate mainly during the months of September and October. A world epidemic of influenza had been spreading from Asia and through Europe during the preceding six months, having started in South West China in February. The first cases in Harrogate of which I learnt, were 40 cases of this infection at the Police Training College, Pannal Ash, on September 9th. A virus investigation showed these cases were due to Influenza Virus A type of organism, the virus causing Asian Influenza. By the following week school children were affected in large numbers, Grove Road School being the first to be affected. By September 27th, of the 6,762 children attending West Riding County Council Schools and Church Schools in the Borough of Harrogate, 2,334, or 34.5 per cent., were absent from school, the large majority due to influenza.

At the end of September the sickness claims received by the Ministry of National Insurance Office in Harrogate were five times greater than normal, this increase being due to influenza. By October 15th, the number of children absent from school had fallen to normal proportions and the number of adults then affected showed a marked reduction. In most cases the illness was comparatively mild, lasting from five to six days, but as mentioned previously in this report, there were 21 cases of influenzal pneumonia of which 6 were fatal. One of the fatal cases was a pre-school child and one a school child. A characteristic of the fatal cases was that those who died from influenzal pneumonia did so rapidly after the development of pneumonia and did not respond to antibiotics.



### **Influenza Vaccination.**

Vaccination against influenza was offered to hospital staff, general practitioners, ambulance staff, and local authority staff who care for the sick in their homes, e.g. nurses, midwives, home helps. 63 people falling into these categories were vaccinated.

Recent national figures indicate that the attack rates of influenza, where the inoculation was given at least nine days before the individual had run the risk of infection, were significantly lowered. Only a quarter of those who received the injection developed influenza compared with the uninoculated.

## **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.

No action had to be taken under this Act during the year.

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

During the year 205 medical examinations of young persons were undertaken to determine their fitness for employment in factories. Of the number of examinations made 109 were boys and 96 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 3 such examinations were carried out during the year.

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

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

## STAFF

(Division No. 8 as at 31st December, 1957)

(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., D.P.H.  
Senior Assistant County Medical Officer.

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

W. Turner, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Assistant County Medical Officer.

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

(a) **Nursing and Technical Staff.**

Divisional Superintendent Health Visitor .....	1
Health Visitors who are also School Nurses .....	12
Health Visitor employed on Hospital Liaison duties .....	1
Tuberculosis Health Visitor .....	1
Home Nurses .....	9
Home Nurse Midwives .....	7
Midwife .....	1
Mental Health Social Worker .....	*1
Mental Health Home Teachers .....	*2
Speech Therapist .....	*1

\*Also employed in other Divisional Areas.

<b>(b) Administrative and Clerical Staff</b>	
(Also employed in part by Harrogate Corporation).	
Clerical Staff .....	12
<b>(c) Sale of Food Assistants</b>	
Full-time .....	1
Part-time .....	1
<b>(d) Day Nursery Staff</b>	
Albany Avenue Day Nursery .....	11
<b>(e) Home Helps</b>	
Part-time .....	98
<b>(f) Domestic Staff, etc.</b>	
Cleaners, part-time .....	6
Gardener/Handyman, part-time.....	1
Total Divisional Staff .....	<u>166</u>

## **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 and, besides dealing with accident cases, removes patients to and from hospitals, maternity homes and nursing homes. The service 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 were no maternal deaths amongst Harrogate residents during the year.

### **2. INFANT MORTALITY.**

The infant mortality rate was 23.7 per 1,000 live births as compared with 23.0 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 19.8 compared with 16.5 for England and Wales. Of the 15 neo-natal deaths, all died during the first twenty-four hours after birth.

### **3. CONFINEMENTS IN HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES.**

During 1957 a total of 675 births to Harrogate residents took place in hospitals or nursing homes and 116 babies were born in their own homes.

This shows that 85.3 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 116 confinements in the Borough of Harrogate which took place at home, 115 were attended by the midwives on the staff of the West Riding County Council and 1 by a midwife in private practice.

In 20 cases a doctor was present at the time of the delivery of the child.

## **5. GAS AND AIR ANALGESIA.**

Gas and Air Analgesia was used at 85 confinements attended by domiciliary midwives. Each midwife has a gas and air machine for use as required.

Pethidine was used at 55 of the domiciliary confinements which took place in the Borough of Harrogate.

## **6. OBSTETRIC FLYING SQUAD.**

The Obstetric Flying Squad was called out 3 times during the year, on 2 occasions to residents in Nidderdale and on 1 occasion to a resident in Boston Spa. In 2 cases the confinement was complicated by a retained placenta and in 1 case there was haemorrhage after delivery of the baby. In all 3 instances a blood transfusion was given and the patient made a satisfactory recovery.

## **7. ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.**

The Harrogate Ante-natal Clinic is held at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate, 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.

At the first attendance each patient is fully examined and a blood specimen is taken for routine tests. 136 expectant mothers made a total number of 346 attendances during the year.

## **8. POST-NATAL CLINIC.**

No special Post-natal Clinic is held in the Borough. The cases who are 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, showed an increased attendance over the previous year. 171 expectant mothers made 1,024 attendances. These classes give greater confidence to the mothers during the period of confinement and enable them to have an easier time during the delivery of their baby.

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

## 10. PREMATURE BIRTHS.

96 premature babies were born to mothers resident in Harrogate, 90 of these being born in hospital. 68 of the babies survived twenty-eight days or more. Of those who died, 3 lived between one to seven days and 11 survived for less than one day, and 14 were stillborn.

The Premature Baby Unit at the Harrogate General Hospital was in use during the year and 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, 50 Harrogate women gave birth to illegitimate live babies in 1957. 34 of these cases were known to the Health Department, the remaining 16 mothers were confined outside the district and the births were not notified as inward transfers. It is probable that most of these 16 babies were placed for adoption. Of the 34 cases known to the Health Department, in 18 instances the mother continued to look after her baby, 6 babies were adopted, 1 died in infancy, 3 were placed in foster homes until the mother could get a home together for her child, and in 6 cases the mother subsequently married. 4 of these mothers sought institutional care in the ante-natal period, 2 were accommodated in St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Home and 2 in Browning House, Leeds.

St. Monica's Moral Welfare Home is situated in the Borough of Harrogate but the 30 women admitted to this Home were all non-residents of Harrogate.

6.6 per cent. of the births to Harrogate residents were illegitimate. This is a greater percentage than that of the country as a whole, for which the last figure given was 4.7 per cent. in 1955.

**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
			1957	1956		1955-52	Under 1 yr.	1 but under 2	
2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate	8	271	228	189	164	2,528	411	194	3,133
New Park, Harrogate	4	104	98	90	144	1,423	309	301	2,033
Starbeck, Harrogate	4	113	97	103	141	1,525	221	403	2,149
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>5,476</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>7,315</b>

## 12. HEALTH VISITING.

Six health visitors, who are also school nurses, work entirely in the Borough of Harrogate and seven others spend a varying amount of time in other parts of the Division. One of the latter is the Superintendent Health Visitor. Another is the Tuberculosis Visitor who attends the sessions at the Chest Clinic, visits the patients to give both social and health advice and to persuade their contacts to attend the clinic for a check-up. Another health visitor arranges the admission of patients to the Knaresborough Hospital, where she works in close association with the Geriatrician, and helps the patients with their social problems. The remainder do general work, i.e. home visiting, staffing of child welfare, ante-natal, artificial sunlight, immunisation and consultant clinics, hygiene inspections, vision testing, etc. in schools, and health education.

It is sometimes stated that, because of a better educated public and the dissemination of knowledge by the radio, television, and the press, home visiting of the under-fives is no longer necessary. It is by the routine visiting of "normal" families, however, that a friendly relationship is built up which makes it easier for the mother to confide in her health visitor if the family breaks down or is in danger of doing so. Unfortunately an ever-decreasing amount of time remains for this side of the work.

An increasing number of family doctors ask the health visitors to help with social problems and problems connected with child care. This liaison has been helped by the installation of telephones in the health visitors' homes and by the delegation to them of the day to day running of the Home Help Service.

The Health Visitor is also a link between the Medical Officer of Health and the family. She amplifies and interprets his policy for the promotion of health. She also brings to his notice "problem" families, housing defects, and handicapped children, etc.

In an endeavour to keep health visitors abreast of developments in preventive medicine and social legislation, refresher courses are held from time to time. Three health visitors from this Division attended a short course on Health Education at Grantley Hall and all appreciated and derived benefit from the instruction.



### 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.

As the function of these clinics is preventive rather than curative, the aim is to attract as many mothers as possible to attend. Tradition dies hard and some still regard them as a weighing centre. A weight check is necessary, especially in the early weeks and for premature infants, but too frequent weighing of a baby can produce an anxious mother. One of the most useful contributions of the centre is the occasional thorough examination by a doctor specially trained in a knowledge of child development. It is also useful as a centre where the mother can regularly consult her health visitor on her day-to-day problems.

The attendances at welfare centres are shown in the table on page 36.

### 14. SUNLIGHT TREATMENT FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

During the year 15 children under school age were referred from the welfare centres for sunlight treatment. 10 were referred for frequent colds and bronchitis, 3 for boils or styes, and 2 for other reasons.

### 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 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.

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

During the year 44 expectant or nursing mothers attended the Dental Clinic, 2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate, of whom 38 required and received treatment. 18 general anaesthetics were given and treatment included extractions, fillings, and scaling and cleaning. 8 dentures were supplied.

66 children under the age of five years were inspected and 47 were found to require treatment and were treated. 23 general anaesthetics were given for extractions and 25 teeth were filled.

#### **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.

13,156 tins of National Dried Milk, 41,455 bottles of orange juice, 5,594 bottles of cod liver oil, and 2,830 packets of vitamins A and D tablets were issued.

## **SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES**

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

During 1957, 1,515 routine inspections were undertaken in schools in the Borough compared with 1,322 in 1956. 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 625.

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 a 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 392, of which 78 attended the Harrogate Clinic and 314 attended the clinic at Starbeck School.

Early treatment is often successful in preventing absence from school. The need for this treatment has shown a marked decrease in the years since the war, partly because of the improved cleanliness and hygiene in the home and partly because children are now taken more readily to the family doctor for treatment for these conditions now that treatment is free under the National Health Service Act.

### **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 447 school children obtained spectacles from this clinic.

The Orthoptic Clinic was also held at 11, Ripon Road, Harrogate. The work undertaken was greatly appreciated by the parents of the children who attended. The Orthoptist is Miss A. D. Gray and children who are suffering from squint are given eye exercises to help overcome this condition. 24 school children attended during the year.

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

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

35 school children and 5 pre-school children were seen at this clinic during the year by Mr. J. E. Rees, the Consultant Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, making a total number of 55 attendances.

The number of cases who were admitted to the Harrogate General Hospital for the removal of tonsils and adenoids was 17 in 1957. 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.

40 school children and 23 children under school age were seen during the year by Mr. Petty, the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, making a total number of 71 attendances.

1 school child was referred for operative treatment and 3 school children attended the Harrogate 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.

From time to time cases are referred to Mr. G. H. Wooler, the Thoracic Surgeon, for his opinion as to whether surgical treatment would be desirable at a later date in certain of the cardiac abnormalities.

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 85 children who attended during the year.—

Normal hearts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Congenital heart disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43
Rheumatic heart disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
For further investigation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
						<hr/> 85 <hr/>

The types of Congenital Heart Disease were:—

Ventricular septal defect	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Pulmonary stenosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Pulmonary stenosis with atrial septal defect	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Patent foramen ovale	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Co-arctation of aorta	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Dextrocardia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fallots tetralogy	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Patent ductus arteriosus	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Persistent truncus arteriosus	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Transposition of great vessels and atrial septal defect	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Aortic stenosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Auricular septal defect	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Anomalous left superior vena cava	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Partial auricular/ventricular heart block	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
						<hr/> 43 <hr/>

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

Cardiac Catheterisation was carried out on 5 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 22 new cases who attended during the year 8 were discharged with normal hearts. The total attendances at the clinic numbered 105, of whom 83 attended for review.

## 7. SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.

During the year 27 children resident in the Borough of Harrogate received speech therapy. An analysis of the cases treated is as follows:—

	Boys	Girls
Stammerers	11	—
Dyslalics	8	2
Sigmatism	1	2
Retarded speech development	3	—

9 boys and 3 girls were discharged with speech normal and 3 boys were discharged with speech improved.

Children from Harrogate usually attend for treatment at the Speech Clinic, 2 Dragon Parade, but this year the Speech Therapist, Miss M. P. Dunkley, decided, with my approval, that it might be a good idea, where there were several children in the same school requiring speech therapy, to treat them at school. This experiment has been tried out in two schools in the area and it has proved most satisfactory.

In these days when many mothers go out to work it is not always easy for them to take time off work each week to bring their children to the clinic, although most mothers have done this willingly enough. Treating the children at school has solved this difficulty. The pupils themselves lose less school time by being taken at their school. The Speech Therapist is able to contact the Head Teacher and class teachers regularly and discuss

with them the difficulties and progress of these children. This close relationship with those responsible for the education of the children is of great value to the Speech Therapist as she is able to accept advice and information from those who know the children well. In both schools where this experiment is being carried out, the Head Teacher finds time to visit for a short period during each weekly session and in so doing, the children feel that their speech therapy is all part of their normal school life, and it makes them less conscious of their being singled out for special speech training. This is indeed a very important psychological factor and it is found too that progress is often more rapid.

The idea of holding sessions in schools is only practicable when there are sufficient children in one school requiring treatment and where there is adequate suitable accommodation for the Therapist.

There appears to be an ever increasing interest on the part of teachers, parents and the general public in the subject of speech therapy. This is shown by the fact that the Speech Therapist is frequently being asked to give talks to organisations, including Parent-Teacher Associations. This gives her a valued opportunity of showing how much can be done by parents, in the prevention of speech disorders in the pre-school child.

## **8. SUNLIGHT CLINIC.**

In addition to the 15 pre-school children who were referred for treatment to the Sunlight Clinic, details of which are shown on page 38, there were 19 school children referred for sunlight treatment. 9 were suffering from recurrent colds and bronchitis, 7 were suffering from debility following recent illness and 3 were suffering from boils or styes.

## **9. DISEASES OF THE SKIN.**

The number of cases of skin disease which attended at the minor ailments clinics during 1957 totalled 8. In addition, 41 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 10,623 examinations were made in the Harrogate schools and 65 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. This figure of 65 is the lowest figure that has been recorded since records have been kept in the Borough of Harrogate. Seven years ago, in 1950, the figure was 265 and since that year there has been a progressive fall in uncleanness year by year.

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 46.

It will be noted that the biggest group of handicapped children are educationally sub-normal children who total 24. Of these, 11 are attending special schools and 13 children are in attendance at day schools until such time as places in special schools can be found for them.

## **12. CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.**

Until November, children referred for child guidance treatment attended the Child Guidance Clinic at Shipley. 14 children were seen at the Shipley Clinic during the year of whom 7 were cases who had also attended in 1956. The attendance at this clinic involved the parents in a lengthy journey which was time consuming. It is a pleasure to report that in November it was possible to open a Child Guidance Clinic at 2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate, and this is held at weekly intervals. Dr. J. H. Kahn is the Psychiatrist in charge and attached to this clinic is a Psychiatrist Social Worker and an Educational Psychologist. Cases previously attending at Shipley from this area were transferred to the newly opened clinic in Harrogate.



CATEGORIES OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE AS AT 31-12-57

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 ... ..	1	—	—	4	—	5
Partially Deaf ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educationally Sub Normal ..	13	—	7	4	—	24
Epileptic ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
Maladjusted ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Physically Handicapped	8	—	—	—	—	8
Delicate ... ..	3	—	4	1	—	8
TOTALS ..	26	—	11	11	1	49

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

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

During 1957 a total of 6,047 children were dentally inspected and 2,178 received treatment, the number of attendances being 6,085. 1,179 children received general anaesthetics for dental extractions and 3,424 fillings were done.

Harrogate school children receive excellent dental care. This is borne out by the fact that the School Medical Officers rarely come across children who require dental treatment at the routine medical examinations. Children are normally inspected at the schools by the School Dentists at least once a year.

### **14. 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.

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

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

53 boys and 5 girls, who attended Harrogate schools, were undertaking part-time employment as errand boys, shop assistants or in delivery of newspapers and were medically examined for this purpose.

## **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 1,535 patients were treated entailing a total number of 41,441 visits. 14,503 of these visits were for injections only. 34,781 of the visits were to 1,072 patients who had reached the age of sixty-five years, and 128 visits were to 22 children under the age of five years.

There is again a further increase in the number of injections that the home nurses have given at the request of general practitioners. These injections were mainly for the administration of antibiotics such as penicillin, other injections being given were insulin for diabetes and iron compounds for anaemia.

### **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. Besides providing assistance in the home, the service does much to dispel the loneliness which is one of the greatest fears of old age.

At the end of the year 69 home helps were employed in the Borough of Harrogate on a part-time basis. During 1957 assistance was granted to 451 cases: of these, 66 were of illness in the home, 141 to old age and illness, 185 to old age and infirmity, 6 to tuberculous patients. In 8 cases help was given to expectant mothers and in 4 cases help in the home was given where the mother was ill and the children required assistance. In addition 41 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 1957 was 71,113.

### 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	.....	.....	.....	25
Under Voluntary Supervision	.....	.....	.....	11
On Licence from Institutions	.....	.....	.....	3

There were 6 defectives in full-time employment in factory, hotel and domestic work.

66 defectives whose homes are in Harrogate were in institutions at the end of the year. 7 were awaiting admission, of whom 6 were under the age of sixteen.

During the year 8 patients were admitted to hospitals for short stay periods to give relief to their relatives.

8 cases of mental illness were visited at the request of the staff of the mental hospital or at the patient's request. One of these was receiving home teaching in handicrafts.

#### **Group Training and Home Teaching.**

The Group Training Class was held on Monday to Friday each week. The class met in the Clinic, 2 Dragon Parade, and at the end of the year 7 children were attending.

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.

Physical training was given which was found valuable in helping the children to co-ordinate their movements.

Home teaching was provided for 4 older patients who were taught rug-making, 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. Special apparatus provided included 2 nursing hoists, one for a young man who is severely crippled with spondylitis and arthritis and is unable to be raised in bed without the help of this apparatus. The second case was that of an elderly and heavy woman who has rheumatoid arthritis and had developed bed sores. A Levitt bath lift was also supplied to a patient who is suffering from severe arthritis and who is unable to take a bath without the aid of this apparatus.

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 is sought to the Knaresborough Hospital. She also arranges for home nursing and home help for 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 19 applications were received for recuperative home treatment but in one case the applicant withdrew the application leaving 18 cases to be dealt with.

Two men and a woman suffering from tuberculosis were sent to a convalescent home for this type of case at Seahouses, with excellent results.

3 mothers with one child each and a mother with two children were sent for convalescence at Heysham or Grange-over-Sands. In addition 8 women and a man were sent to one of the convalescent homes at St. Annes-on-Sea, Bridlington, Southport, or Grange-over-Sands.

2 schoolboys were sent to convalescent homes. One boy was suffering from malnutrition but after four weeks treatment his nutrition had improved and he was up to normal weight for his age. The second boy was suffering from debility and habit spasms and it was felt that an unsatisfactory background was partly responsible in this case. This boy settled down very well during his period of convalescence, sleeping well and enjoying his food during his three weeks stay.

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

At the end of 1957 there were 14 homes in Harrogate registered under the National Assistance Act as Disabled and Old Persons' Homes, 5 run by voluntary agencies and 9 privately owned. They are registered to accommodate a total of 160 residents. Two of these homes were registered for the first time during the year for the admission of 15 elderly persons.

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

At the end of 1957 there were 15 nursing homes on the register. This shows an increase of 1 during the year which was opened for the reception of 16 patients. There has been some variation in the number of beds in the nursing homes in the Borough giving an increase of 40 beds in all.

## **8. SOCIAL WORKERS' GROUP.**

The Social Workers' Group held 11 meetings at The Clinic, 2 Dragon Parade, during 1957.

Three of the meetings were addressed by outside speakers who gave the following talks:—

Mr. W. E. Woods, LL.B., Clerk to the Justices: "Juvenile Delinquency and the working of the Juvenile Court."

Miss A. D. Freeman-Archer. Area Youth Employment Officer:  
"The Work of the Youth Employment Officer."

Mr. John Heap, Psychiatric Social Worker: "The Psychiatric  
Social Worker and the Problem Family."

## 9. HEALTH EDUCATION.

The Mothercraft and Relaxation Classes for expectant mothers were again attended to full capacity and arrangements have been made to increase the number of weekly sessions. A gramophone record entitled "Natural Childbirth" was played to some fifteen groups who were enthusiastic in their appreciation, the last group requesting an evening session for their husbands. One of the midwives also attended one session with each group to demonstrate the gas and air machine and join in the discussion on the gramophone record. Apart from the information gained from the talks on child care and demonstrations on baby bathing, the informal discussions help to banish the fear of childbirth and enable many mothers to approach the birth of the baby in a care free spirit.

More elementary mothercraft classes are part of the curriculum at two secondary modern schools. The health visitors who take these have made such visual aids as a miniature "safety house," flannelgraph figures and wax model diets.

Several lectures were given during the year to voluntary organisations on different aspects of child welfare and on the various ways in which the health visitor can help the public. Sometimes film strips were shown. A talk on the Home Help Service to a large group of women was very well received and cleared up many misconceptions about this service. Informal talks are given at the Ante-natal clinic and wherever possible at the Child Welfare Clinics.

Posters and "hand-outs" are of less value than formerly, partly due to a more questioning attitude on the part of the public but they still have a place, chiefly to accentuate points made in talks and discussions.

The Superintendent Health Visitor and myself lecture to senior student nurses at the Harrogate General Hospital on the Social Aspects of Disease and the Local Authority Health Services.

# **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1957**

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit for your consideration my eleventh annual report of the work carried out by the sanitary and cleansing services of the department for the year 1957.

Rapid progress has been made with the slum clearance scheme and the majority of the occupiers of the properties have been rehoused. All the houses should be demolished by the end of 1958.

Despite a great deal of sickness caused by the influenza epidemic the cleansing department maintained a seven day service throughout most of the year. Cleansing costs were again low, and having regard to the excellent condition of the vehicles and the manner in which the refuse is disposed of, this is a very satisfactory state of affairs. As I pointed out in my notes on this service, a great deal of credit must go to the men for the conscientious way in which they carry out their duties and the careful manner in which they handle and maintain the equipment provided for them by the Council.

The inspection of meat and foods was maintained at a high level and the slaughterhouse fulfilled its purpose to the satisfaction of the Council and local butchers. Various improvements were made to the building and the financial position is sound.

A great deal of work was carried out under the Food Hygiene Regulations, and the utmost co-operation was received from the owners of food premises and food handlers.



I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees for their support and assistance, and to the Medical Officer of Health and officials of other Departments for their advice and co-operation during the year.

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.** 1,354.6 hours of sunshine were recorded during the year, 84 more hours than in 1956. The sunniest day being the 15th June, 1957, when 14.7 hours were recorded.

**Rainfall.** The total rainfall recorded during the year was 29.64 inches, the wettest day being the 31st December, 1957, when 1.51 inches of rain was recorded. The figure for 1956 was 32.17 inches.

**Temperatures.** The maximum temperature during the year was 84 degrees F. recorded on the 28th June, 1957, and the minimum temperature was 19 degrees F. recorded on the 3rd December, 1957.

**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 the information received from this Department the total amount of filtered water supplied during the year ending 31st December, 1957, was 1,042 million gallons, representing an increase of 59 million gallons over the previous year. The average daily consumption of water per head of the population is 40.80 gallons; an average of 11.48 gallons per head per day for industrial purposes and 29.32 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 1957.

Almsford Drive	Leadhall View
Beechwood Grove	Leadhall Way
Firs Road	Leyland Estate
Florence Road	Oakdale
Greenway	Off Fulwith Mill Lane
Hawes Road	Pannal Ash Close
Hill Top Close	St. Leonard's Close
Kingsley Park Road	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	.....	.....	.....	106
Being samples of water from:—				
Domestic supplies (town's mains)	.....	.....	.....	104
Domestic supplies (wells)	.....	.....	.....	2
Number of samples found upon examination to be satisfactory	.....	.....	.....	105
Number of samples found upon examination to be unsatisfactory	.....	.....	.....	1

This sample was taken from a shallow well supplying a bungalow. Subsequent follow-up samples were found to be satisfactory.

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. It has not been possible to connect these dwellings to the main water supply.



## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the number of pail closets, earth closets and cesspools, etc., in the Borough at the end of December, 1957.

Pail and tub closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Privies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Waste water-closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Cesspools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	61

All pail closets are emptied either once or twice weekly.

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

The conversion of waste water-closets to the standard type of fitting is proceeding very slowly and the figure this year was reduced from 19 to 17. The owners of the properties concerned have agreed to carry out the necessary work in the event of a defect occurring in the existing system.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

These come under the supervision of the Yorkshire Ouse River Board.

A systematic inspection of rivers and streams was carried out but no nuisances of a permanent character were discovered. Two streams were affected by stoppages in drainage systems but these were quickly and efficiently dealt with by the respective owners of the properties concerned.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

It will be seen from the tables given below that the duties carried out by the public health inspectors are exceedingly varied in character and cover a wide field in environmental hygiene. Some 15,040 inspections, etc., were made against a figure of 15,499 in 1956. A large number of visits were routine in character and were made in order to ascertain that buildings and equipment were being put to proper use and were up to the standards required by the various acts and regulations. The value of such visits cannot be over emphasised. It is remarkable how quickly

conditions can deteriorate if supervision is not maintained and how difficult it can be to remedy defects and practices which have been allowed to creep in without comment from the persons responsible for general maintenance and welfare of the business. The advice and guidance of the inspectors is being sought more and more each year and it is true to say that the outlook of the general public towards matters affecting public health is becoming one of appreciation and co-operation.

The figures given are more or less self-explanatory and require no other comment than that they are in numbers proportional to their importance from a health point of view.

<b>Complaints reported to the Public Health Department</b>	<b>570</b>
Where nuisances were found .....	488
Where complaint was received and no nuisance found .....	82
Under Housing Acts .....	831
Where infectious disease had occurred .....	58
Bakehouse (Power) .....	151
Bakehouse (No Power) .....	2
Farms .....	5
Dairies and Milkshops .....	315
Ice-cream .....	288
Fish frying premises .....	102
Fish shop (wet) .....	496
Food preparing premises .....	454
Food storage premises .....	848
Food inspection .....	471
Market .....	17
Shops .....	867
Restaurants .....	29
Kitchens .....	418
Slaughterhouse (Starbeck) .....	910
for meat inspection (West Park) .....	27
Butchers' Shops .....	415
Factories (Power) .....	101
Factories (No Power) .....	31
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act .....	245

Theatres and Cinemas .....	2
Sanitary conveniences—public .....	46
Sanitary conveniences—private .....	8
Schools .....	28
Tents and vans .....	249
Public cleansing .....	449
Refuse tips .....	330
Stables .....	1
Piggeries .....	63
Overcrowding .....	4
Outworkers .....	12
Workplaces .....	8
Merchandise Marks Act .....	16

#### Other Visits or Inspections

Drainage .....	855
Interviews .....	678
Investigation of Infestation of Insect Pests (excluding bugs) .....	179
Investigation of bug infestations .....	75
Smoke observations .....	35
Visits re water supplies and water samples .....	72
Visits under Food and Drugs Act for samples .....	423
Visits to laboratories .....	2
Visits to property under notice or work in progress .....	1,244
Installation of new sanitary fittings .....	273
Food poisoning investigations .....	6
Pet Animals Act, 1951 .....	11
Hairdressers and barbers .....	25
Old Metal and Marine Stores .....	2
Food hawkers .....	10
Miscellaneous .....	2,283
	15,040

## ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Drainage reconstructed .....	2
Drainage repaired, trapped, etc. ....	12
Drainage unstopped .....	14
Chambers repaired or new covers provided .....	1
Soil or vent pipes—new fixed .....	2
—repaired .....	3
Water-closets repaired or supplied with water .....	8
Water-closets—new pans or pedestals fixed .....	4
Water-closets—abolished .....	1
Water-closets (fresh) provided in lieu of waste water-closets .....	2
Waste pipes repaired or trapped .....	8
Waste pipes, rain-water pipes and eaves gutters repaired or renewed .....	78
Sinks provided or replaced .....	4
Accumulations of refuse removed .....	12
Brickwork or pointing repaired .....	29
Coppers repaired or renewed .....	1
Dampness remedied .....	26
Doors repaired, etc. ....	32
Dustbins supplied .....	310
Fireplaces, stoves and flues repaired .....	16
Fences and gates repaired .....	5
Flooring and other woodwork repaired or renewed .....	25
Floors—concrete or quarried, repaired or renewed .....	6
Plaster repaired .....	37
Rat and mice infestations abated .....	157
Rent books made to comply with Regulations of the Housing Act .....	13
Roofs made weathertight .....	26
Walls and ceilings cleansed .....	1
Water supplies reinstated or made sufficient .....	5
Windows—cords, fasteners and glass repaired or renewed .....	23
Ventilation improved .....	2
Yards and passages paved .....	18
Miscellaneous .....	5



## STATUTORY NOTICES.

There has been a considerable reduction in the number of legal notices served during the year, i.e 30 against a figure of 121 for 1956. This result is mainly due to the fact that no action was taken with regard to renewal of water services to houses, and notices requiring the provision of a dustbin were reduced to 3 as opposed to 44 in the previous year. It would appear that in Harrogate the question of responsibility re the provision of a dustbin has resolved itself in a satisfactory manner for all parties.

It was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings.

### Number of Legal Notices Issued for Abatement of Nuisances.

	Served 1957	Complied with during 1957	Served 1956	Complied with during 1956/57
Harrogate Corporation Act, 1935, Section 48	3	3	7	7
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39 ...	9	5	12	10
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45 ...	1	1	1	1
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 56 ...	1	1	1	1
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75 ...	3	3	44	44
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93 ...	13	11	19	16
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 138 and Water Act, 1945, Section 30 ...	—	—	37	33
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	30	24	121	112

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Premises inspected where notifiable diseases have occurred	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42
Articles destroyed by burning at request of owners						65
Total visits to infected premises	.....	.....	.....			58

## DISINFECTANT.

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

## LIBRARY BOOKS.

Fifty-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 47 chemical and 47 bacteriological samples of water were taken from these baths.

All these samples were satisfactory.

## DISINFESTATION.

There has been a considerable reduction in work carried out under this heading and once again beetles were the most prominent insects to be dealt with. Modern insecticides have undoubtedly been very successful in the eradication of vermin generally and one has only to compare the results achieved over the last twelve years to realise this fact. The beetle alone seems to maintain a steady fight for existence. The department destroyed eleven wasps nests. Some of these were exceedingly difficult to get at especially when sited in roofs.

Type of Premises	No.
Private Houses ... ..	13
Businesses ... ..	18
TOTAL ... ..	31

Classification	No.
Beetles ... ..	13
Crickets ... ..	1
Flies ... ..	1
Red Spider ... ..	1
Silverfish ... ..	1
Steamflies ... ..	3
Wasps ... ..	11

### RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

There was a slight rise in the number of complaints received of rat and mice infestation in private dwellings and business premises. The infestations were quickly and efficiently dealt with by the rodent operator. Since the advent of "Warfarin" mice have no longer proved difficult to eradicate and premises in the town which had been infested for years have been cleared of vermin. Having regard to the population of the town it is true to say that it is remarkably free from any general infestation by rats or mice. The credit for this must go to the public and the excellent services rendered by the rodent operator together with

the advice on vermin proofing of buildings provided by the public health inspectors.

All contracts were satisfactorily carried out. No rats were found on the controlled tips during the year.

The following gives details of the work carried out during 1957:—

		Com-plaints received	No. of premises involved	Total No. of visits	No. of complete treat-ments	Bodies
Private Dwellings	rats	71	210	616	27	14
	mice	44	86	336	32	—
Business Premises	rats	45	171	956	44	34
	mice	19	68	579	49	7
Agricultural Premises	rats	—	—	9	—	—
	mice	—	—	—	—	—
Local Authorities	rats	—	9	142	5	81
	mice	—	—	—	—	—
Total	rats	116	390	1,723	76	129
	mice	63	154	915	81	7

### DISINFESTATION OF SEWERS.

The infestation of the sewers only remains light in character and 59 manholes were poison baited against 49 last year.

In the past, two treatments were given using sausage rusk and zinc phosphide in the first instance and bread mash and arsenious oxide in the second.

This year a new bait comprising 85 per cent. pin-head oatmeal, 5 per cent. "Warfarin", 5 per cent. castor sugar and 5 per cent. "Risella" oil was used for both treatments with excellent results. .025 per cent. of parantrophol was added to preserve the bait. This remained palatable for a much longer period and is more attractive to the rats. I hope to see better results when the 10 per cent. test is carried out next year.

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	21	N.A.
First Maintenance Treatment ...	133	45	45
Second Maintenance Treatment ...	144	14	14

### INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

A hundred and forty premises were inspected during the year and fourteen were found to be in an unsatisfactory condition. Nine did not reach the standard of cleanliness required. Twelve had unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences, and nine were found to be defective from various causes.

It will be seen from the list of registered factories that they are varied in character.

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

Premises inspected .....	140
Premises inspected and found satisfactory .....	126
Premises inspected and found unsatisfactory .....	14
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 .....	9
Sanitary conveniences:—	
Unsuitable or defective .....	11
Not separate for sexes .....	1
Other defects .....	9

Registered Factories, Factories Act, 1937.

	Mechanical Power	No Mechanical Power
Aerated Water	2	—
Agricultural Machinery	1	—
Baking	32	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 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	1
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	—
Letter Press Printing	7	—
Malting	2	—
Metal Engraving	1	—
Milk Pasteurisation	2	—
Millinery	—	5
Monumental Engraving	1	—
Motor Spirit Storage	1	—
Motor Vehicle Repairs	39	1
Paper Baling	1	—
Pharmaceutical Products	1	—
Photography	3	2
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	4	—
Weighing Machine Repairs	1	—
Whitesmith	3	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	250	76
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## OUTWORKERS.

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

In each case conditions were satisfactory.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

Most of the complaints received by the department related to smoke nuisances from hotels. In previous years I have reported that though the equipment was in most cases satisfactory the working and control of it was not of the same standard. This year my observations are in the same vein. There is a dearth of experienced stokers in the town with the result that smoke nuisances are caused through lack of knowledge or careless abandon whilst handling equipment. The men do not stay at the job long enough to become efficient in boiler control.

Domestic smoke is the chief cause of pollution in Harrogate but owing to the many open spaces and parks together with the low density of houses per acre the atmosphere generally presents a clean and wholesome appearance. It would appear to me that the people of the town are creating their own smoke control areas as I understand the installation of oil fired boilers, electric and coke convector fires is increasing. It is true to say that coal consumption has gone down steadily over the past three years. Occupiers of properties are beginning to appreciate the amount of household work which can be saved by modern smokeless appliances and from a monetary point of view in the renewal of decorations. A new angle to approach the clean air problem but I feel an effective one.

## HOUSING

Three-hundred-and-ten houses were built by private enterprise and forty by the local authority during 1957.

Three orders embracing three areas containing eleven houses were confirmed by the Ministry. Steady progress was made in re-housing persons from clearance areas confirmed the previous year and the slum clearance scheme for the town should be completed with all the properties demolished by the end of 1958.



Two hundred and ninety-three houses were inspected upon receipt of complaints re unsatisfactory conditions and one-hundred-and-twenty-six rendered fit by service of informal notices upon the owners.

There was a considerable reduction in the number of formal notices served, i.e. thirteen against fifty-five in 1956. In nine instances the defects were remedied by the owners and no legal proceedings were necessary.

Twenty certificates of disrepair were granted and sixteen certificates revoked on the defects scheduled being remedied.

By a strange coincidence the number of requests for information re land charges numbered 1,648, being only seven less than the previous year.

One can say that the housing position in the town from the point of view of dilapidated property is a very satisfactory one taking into consideration the size of the Borough.

There are many houses without bathrooms and lacking various kinds of modern facilities that are still comfortably habitable. Many such houses have been purchased by the occupiers and brought up to modern standards with surprising results. Every house should possess a bathroom and an up-to-date kitchen to work in. Environmental hygiene is all important and every encouragement should be given to owners and occupiers to achieve a standard consistent with the development of civilisation in other less important fields.

### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses During Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts) .....	293
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	1,164
(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 .....	17
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	187

**11. 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 .....	126
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**111. Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year:—**

**A.—Proceedings under the Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957:—**

(1) Number of dwelling-housing in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(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 .....	13
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners .....	9
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners .....	—

**C.—Proceedings Under the Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957. (Demolition Orders).**

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation .....	4
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(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	4
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
(4)	Action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953	4

**D.—Proceedings Under the Housing Act, 1936 and 1957. (Closing Orders).**

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	nil
(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 the Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957, and the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. (Clearance Areas).**

(1)	Number of Clearance Areas represented during the year	3
(2)	Number of houses included in these areas	11
(3)	Number of persons to be displaced	23
(4)	Action taken during the year in respect of Clearance Areas:—	
	(a) by Clearance Orders, number made	3
	(b) by Compulsory Purchase Orders, number made	—
(5)	Number of houses in Clearance Areas demolished during the year	16
(6)	Number of persons re-housed from houses demolished during the year	nil

**F.—Housing Repairs and Repairs Act, 1954 and Rent Act 1957.**

(1) Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted during the year .....	20
(2) Number of Certificates of Disrepair revoked during the year .....	16

**Information re Land Charges.**

Requests for information were received and dealt with in respect of 1,648 properties.

**HARROGATE CORPORATION ACT, 1935, SECTION 46  
Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

There has been a considerable improvement in the sites for caravans and the requirements of the Harrogate Corporation Act, 1935, with regard to suitable standings, roads, sanitary accommodation and water supplies have been complied with. Two hundred and forty nine visits were made.

It has been obvious during the year that the sites available are not capable of dealing with the applications received. Caravans are becoming exceedingly popular and providing they are of modern construction they are entirely suitable for the purpose they are intended to fulfil. Retired people are finding that a caravan fully meets their naturally limited needs and provides a comfortable home with work and cost of running cut down to a minimum.

One therefore wonders if properly controlled and well organised sites, attractively planned and pleasing from an aesthetic point of view would not fulfil a need which is growing each year.

The following licences were issued:—

Part time occupation		Full time occupation	
Sheds	Vans	Sheds	Vans
39	13	—	28

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

### **Food Hawkers.**

There are now 38 registered food hawkers and 23 registrations of premises used by them for the storage of food.

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 by them. Some 10 inspections were made under this heading.

### **Hairdressers and Barbers.**

25 routine inspections of the 66 registered hairdressers and barbers were 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. In many instances the premises etc., more than fulfil what can legally be asked for under the bye-laws.

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

9 premises are registered under Section 2 of the above Act. and one visit was made to the premises.

## **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951**

There are now 9 premises licensed for the sale of pet animals. 11 inspections were made by the inspector. All the conditions laid down by the Act are being complied with and the general standard of the premises is satisfactory.

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

2 inspections were made of the premises of the 11 registered marine and old metal dealers.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

A considerable amount of work has been carried out by the department in the inspection and supervision of food. Steady progress has been made in an effort to bring all food premises up to the standard required by the Food Hygiene Regulations. Difficulties in the interpretation of the Regulations have been encountered but with the co-operation of the trade most of these have been overcome.

I am pleased to report that most of the fish shops have installed refrigerated display cabinets and the premises are a credit to the owners and I should think a source of satisfaction to the customers.

Various types of screens have been erected to prevent contamination of food by the customers and a considerable number of improvements have been carried out in the rear of premises not seen by the public.

The intent of the Regulations together with the necessity for hygiene in food handling has been explained to persons employed in the trade. This is very essential as the installation of modern equipment and easily cleansed and maintained premises is so much waste of money unless they are put to intelligent use.

The co-operation of the public is still urgently needed. One does not desire a series of trivial complaints or fastidious demands on persons who as a body are trying to do their best, but certain practices still exist which will only be stamped out by the co-operation of the public.

The problem of flies and bluebottles etc., still remains a difficult one, especially with regard to shops handling open food which is difficult to protect from this source of trouble.

It would not be true to say that conditions in Harrogate are now perfect, but a great deal of thought and labour has been given to the various problems by the inspectors and the trade and I can say that the results achieved will bear comparison with any other town.

## MILK SUPPLY: MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

There are now 118 registered milk distributors against 107 for 1956. 110 of these are resident in the Borough. Licences issued for special designations are similar in number to the previous year with the exception of sterilised milk which shows a reduction of 10 applications. This is rather interesting as consumption of this milk has increased steadily during the past few years. Strict supervision is kept on all premises but all have been well maintained and efficiently operated with one or two minor exceptions.

The figure for dairies has been increased by one.

Registered	On Register Dec. 31st, 1957
Dairies ... ..	22
Milk Distributors ... ..	118

Number of milk distributors resident in Borough 110.

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

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

The following licences were granted during 1957.

Type of Licence	Number
Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	70
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 ..... ..	48

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

All samples of milk successfully passed the phosphatase and methylene blue tests. Eighteen extra samples were taken, i.e. 130 against 112 in 1956. There has only been one failure in the last five years which must be very reassuring to the public using this type of milk. The machinery used is of the latest type and very reliable in operation. The dairymen of the town are very conscientious in their work and provide an excellent service.

Class of Milk	Numbers of samples tested	Appropriate Tests	Number of samples	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised ...	32	Phosphatase ...	32	—
	32	Methylene Blue ...	32	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	32	Phosphatase ...	32	—
	32	Methylene Blue ...	32	—
Tuberculin Tested	2	Methylene Blue ...	2	—
Total	130	Total	130	—

### Summary of Chemical Analysis of Milk Samples for 1957.

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

The average fat content for the quarter ending June 30th was very near the presumptive standard which I do not consider satisfactory. Milk is a valuable food and every effort should be made to reach a quality of production of the highest standard. As I said in my last report the presumptive standard, in my opinion, is too low.

Sampling by the department is widespread and systematic. The results are a fair criterion of the general standard of milk supplied in the town.



Period	No. of samples Examined	Averages	
		Fat %	Solids not Fat %
January ... ..	12	3.90	8.88
February ... ..	10	3.57	8.89
March ... ..	13	3.75	8.80
Quarter ending 31/3/57. ...	35	3.74	8.86
April ... ..	1	2.74	9.26
May ... ..	20	3.02	8.44
June ... ..	6	3.20	8.82
Quarter ending 30/6/57. ...	27	2.99	8.84
July ... ..	8	3.52	8.65
August ... ..	6	3.70	8.77
September ... ..	—	—	—
Quarter ending 30/9/57. ...	14	3.61	8.71
October ... ..	6	4.25	8.81
November ... ..	6	4.02	8.92
December ... ..	—	—	—
Quarter ending 31/12/57. ...	12	4.14	8.87
Year ending 31/12/57. ...	88	3.62	8.82
Year ending 31/12/56. ...	102	3.78	8.72

## 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.

An outbreak of brucella abortus occurred again in the same herd of cows affected in the previous year. Seven samples of milk were taken and three were found to be positive. A notice was served on the farmer under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, on the 16th May, and remained in force throughout 1957.

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

Premises used for the sale and storage of ice-cream increased in number by eight. It is interesting to note that in 1947 there were only 39 premises registered and the number had increased to 139 in 1952. Whether the amount consumed has increased pro rata to the number of premises or the sales have been spread more evenly throughout the Borough is a matter for conjecture. One point that has arisen during the year is the definition of what constitutes 'wrapped ice-cream'. This used to mean a totally wrapped article but the term has become somewhat elastic with the advent of partially wrapped sections which are placed in cones. In my opinion this particular product presents certain difficulties in handling.

	Premises on Register, 1956	Premises on Register, 1957
Sale and Storage of ice-cream ..	193	201
Manufacture of ice-cream ...	10	9
Manufacture of preserved food ...	45	43
Butter, margarine, wholesale dealers or factories ... ..	1	1

### EXAMINATION OF ICE-CREAM

Fifteen samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. All were satisfactory.

Provisional Grade					
	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
Produced in the Borough	8	—	—	—	8
Produced outside the Borough ... ..	7	—	—	—	7

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

One of the most important duties carried out by the department during the year was the inspection of meat and other foods in order to approve or condemn their use for human consumption. Once again a 100 per cent. examination of animals slaughtered in the Borough was carried out. The number killed being 19,725. The meat produced was generally of a high quality. Only nine cows were killed. 874 of the animals mentioned above were slaughtered at the West Park private slaughterhouse which was closed in April.

9,095 lbs. of meat was condemned for tuberculosis and 16,239 lbs. for other diseases making a total of 25,334 lbs.

There was an increase of 15 cwts. over the previous year in tinned and other foods found unfit for human consumption.

Detailed below is a table of unsound meat condemned during the year.

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) ... ..	1,610	270	245	—	5,248	13,863	7,103	14,133
Cows ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Calves ... ..	—	409	75	16	—	138	75	563
Sheep and Lambs ... ..	—	155	—	18	—	266	—	439
Pigs ... ..	140	159	—	8	1,777	937	1,917	1,104
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,750</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>7,025</b>	<b>15,204</b>	<b>9,095</b>	<b>16,239</b>

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	3,044	9	579	13,242	2,851
Number inspected ...	3,044	9	579	13,242	2,851
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	1	—	8	3	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1,511	—	6	77	194
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affec- ted with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	49.67%	—	2.42%	0.60%	6.91%
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	3	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	275	—	—	—	161
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis ... ..	9.13%	—	—	—	5.68%
<b>Cysticercosis</b>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	31	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by re- frigeration ... ..	31	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

### Cysticercus Bovis.

The incidence of cysticercus bovis followed the pattern of previous years, the figure of .85 per cent. affected being close to the average figure over the last nine years of .88 per cent. A detailed examination is carefully carried out by the inspectors.

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
1957	3,630	21	10	.85

### PARTICULARS OF OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1957

Description	No. of containers etc.	Weight	
		lb.	oz.
<b>Miscellaneous Tinned Food.</b>			
Fish	12	9	10
Fruit	1,077	2,885	10
Meat	724	3,321	7
Milk	87	89	3
Vegetables	738	745	6
<b>General.</b>			
Bacon Fat	1	311	—
Cheese	130	199	14
Coffee	1	—	4
Fish	123	392	9
Licorice Root	70	105	—
Marzipan	1	1	—
Rice	6	6	—
Sausage	2	14	—
Total weight.		3 tons. 11 cwt. 1 quarter 15 oz.	

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

There was a further reduction of three slaughtermen from last year's total.

I pointed out in my last report that new recruits were not being attracted to the trade and that some difficulty may be experienced in the future. The position is a little more hopeful this year as a number of boys are now being trained at the slaughterhouse and providing they do not change their minds and seek a fresh career, should develop into efficient slaughtermen.

Number of slaughtermen on register at 31/12/56	.....	30
Applications for licences considered during 1957	.....	27
Number of slaughtermen on register at 31/12/57	.....	27

## SLAUGHTERHOUSE

I am again pleased to report that work in the public slaughterhouse progressed smoothly and efficiently during the year.

It is a very old building and not easily adaptable to modern requirements, but improvements were steadily carried out and conditions improved both from a hygienic point of view and with regard to the facilities for the men carrying out slaughtering. All the old railings to the lairage accommodation have been removed and replaced by concrete walls which can be easily cleansed. The electric lighting has been considerably improved and most of the steelwork repainted.

The utmost co-operation was received from the butchers using the slaughterhouse and their help was greatly appreciated.

The financial results were satisfactory and the slaughterhouse is entirely self-supporting.

## WORK CARRIED OUT AT FOOD PREMISES

There has been a considerable increase in the amount of work carried out at food premises. The requests for improvements made by the inspectors have in most cases been readily agreed to by owners and occupiers. The provision of double sinks and personal washing facilities was very satisfactory as also was the attention given to table tops. To sum up one can say that the above work when completed gave satisfaction to the occupiers of the premises, this department, and of course, indirectly benefited the customer to a degree it is not possible to estimate.

Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., repaired	47
Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., cleansed	55
Ventilation provided or improved	7
Articles, apparatus, clothing, cleansed	36
Washing facilities provided (personal)	24
Washing facilities maintained (personal)	12
Food protected against flies, dust, etc.	12
Double sinks provided and washing facilities improved	14
Kitchen fittings re-sited	10
Sanitary accommodation provided, improved or cleansed	8
Lockers for storage of employees clothing	7
Table tops made impervious	17
First aid kits provided or maintained	4
Miscellaneous	18

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

During the year 119 samples were taken, 63 of these being formal and 56 informal.

Formal	Informal	Article
1		Beef Sausage
4		Beer
	1	Crab Meat
	6	Fresh Cream
	1	Glace Cherries
	3	Ground Almonds
4		Ice-cream
	2	Marzipan
47	41	Milk
	1	Mixed Fruit
	1	Oranges
7		Pork Sausage
63	56	Total

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Of the samples analysed thirteen 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
378	Formal	Pork Sausage	52.8% meat content. Price 3/0d. per lb.	At the Harrogate Magistrates Court on 9th April, 1957. The case was dismissed.
381	Formal	Pork Sausage	51.7% meat content. Price 2/7d. per lb.	No action taken in this case.
409	Formal	Channel Islands Milk	Contained 2.74% fat.	No action taken.
416 to 420	Formal	Milk	Contained 2.61% 2.77%, 2.51%, 2.87% & 2.98% fat respectively.	A warning letter was sent to the producer.
426 427 431	Informal Formal Formal	Milk	Contained 1.73% 2.74% and 2.87% fat respectively.	A warning letter was sent to the producer.
435	Formal	Milk	Contained 2.37% fat.	A warning letter was sent to the vendor. (One glass of milk purchased in cafe).
463	Formal	Pork Sausage	53.4% meat content. Price 2/6d. per lb.	No action taken.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING — HOUSEHOLD AND TRADE REFUSE

1st April, 1957 to 31st March, 1958

### Collection of Refuse.

Refuse was collected from 20,108 houses and other premises within the Borough, an increase of 473.

### Collecting Vehicles.

The collection of refuse was carried out by side and rear loading vehicles with a total carrying capacity of 130 cubic yards.

The Fordson vehicles are now in their tenth year and some of the Karriers in their ninth. One Fore and Aft tipper was added to the fleet making a total of two in operation. The old vehicles are being progressively replaced by this type of collector which is proving suitable for the districts in which they operate. They are powered by diesel engines. Running costs are still remarkably low and the increase this year is due to rising costs of replacements and increasing age of the vehicles generally. I would like to pay tribute to the foreman and drivers for the manner in which they have maintained and driven the vehicles. To them goes the credit for the town possessing a fleet of refuse collectors which despite the years of service they have performed still look clean and tidy and have cost the ratepayers so little to run.

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	6	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	0	11
1957 - 1958	544	11	6	—	—	—

Make	Method of loading	Year of make	Capacity (cubic yards)
Three 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
Two S.D. Fore and Aft Tippers .....	rear	1956	18
		1957	18
One Karrier .....	side	1953	2 Ton Tipper

### Trade Refuse.

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

10/0d. 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 2/0d. per load up to two tons and 2/6d. per load over two tons. During the year 675 loads of refuse were disposed of on this basis yielding a revenue of £69 16s. 0d.

### Tonnage.

The highest weekly tonnage of refuse was 490 tons which was collected during the week ending 4th January, 1958, and the lowest tonnage for the week ended 28th February, 1958, when 354 tons were collected. The figures for last year were 449 tons and 341 tons respectively.

20,282 tons of household and trade refuse were collected during the year as against 19,136 tons for 1956/57. 8,611 loads of refuse were removed against 8,316 in the previous year. The

density remains approximately the same. The problem of garden rubbish still remains and it is only by keeping a constant watch on the contents of the dustbin that it is kept within reasonable bounds. Without the co-operation of the public it could quickly become a question of whether garden refuse should have preference over domestic. The strain on the men of maintaining a weekly collection during the months when the garden is adding its quota to the refuse to be removed is a heavy and difficult one involving lengthy explanations which are not always gracefully received. The difference it makes can be judged from the fact that in some instances it takes two loads to clear a road instead of the usual one.

**Estimated Tonnage of Materials Handled by  
Cleansing Department, 1957/58.**

Type	Collection	Disposal
1. Household Refuse ... ..	19,352	19,352
2. Trade Refuse ... ..	930	930
3. Night Soil ... ..	12	12
4. Covering Materials ... ..	587	587
5. Road Sweepings ... ..	—	1,360
6. Street Gully Solids ... ..	—	1,421
7. Salvage ... ..	685	—
8. Trade Refuse (disposal only, not collected by Cleansing Dept.) ... ..	—	1,350
9. Materials delivered to tips by other departments ... ..	—	358
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,566</b>	<b>25,370</b>
Less covering materials ... ..	587	—
<b>Total refuse collected</b> ... ..	<b>20,979</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total refuse disposed of</b> ... ..	<b>—</b>	<b>25,370</b>

**Frequency of Collection.**

The struggle to maintain a seven day collection with the same number of gangs was continued during the year. More houses are being erected in the outlying districts, each with a reasonably long front garden and the dustbin sited at the rear of the property. The use of 18 cubic yard vehicles instead of 10 cubic yard ones enabled the department to keep on top of the job. Rear loading also reduced the fatigue factor and resulted in an increased output per man. Difficulties occurred following the Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntide, and August holidays when

the collection fell back one to two days. It takes approximately two weeks for the men to get back on to the regular routine of a seven day collection. Despite the appalling winter the men carried out their duties each day and no time was lost through the weather. Particularly commendable was the manner in which they struggled through deep snow with heavy bins on their shoulders.

### Hours Lost Through Sickness and Accidents.

The hours lost through sickness increased from 2,422 in 1956/57 to 6,492. This was largely brought about by the epidemic of influenza with support from a large number of cases of bronchitis and some long illnesses with peptic ulcers. Accidents accounted for an increase of 57 hours.

Week	Spring quarter		Summer quarter		Autumn quarter		Winter quarter	
	Sick	Accidents	Sick	Accidents	Sick	Accidents	Sick	Accidents
1	88	—	106	44	229	—	164	—
2	88	—	53	—	264	—	232	—
3	44	44	79	—	141	—	184	—
4	26	53	88	—	132	—	220	—
5	—	88	132	—	187	—	204	—
6	—	44	105	—	88	—	193	—
7	—	44	132	—	44	—	246	—
8	—	—	206	—	—	—	229	35
9	70	—	176	—	72	—	264	—
10	88	—	176	—	88	—	290	—
11	70	—	132	—	57	—	150	—
12	88	—	123	—	132	—	88	—
13	123	41	264	—	84	—	53	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1,518</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,517</b>	<b>35</b>

Summary :	Sickness	Accidents
Spring quarter	685	314
Summer quarter	1772	44
Autumn quarter	1518	—
Winter quarter	2517	35
	<hr/> 6492 <hr/>	<hr/> 393 <hr/>

### Disposal of Refuse.

All refuse in the Borough is disposed of by controlled tipping. Work proceeded steadily on the task of levelling the valley at the Yorkshire Showground. An interesting piece of reclamation was carried out on the same ground when a scheme for filling in a small ravine and extending the area of the flower show was commenced in the autumn. A considerable improvement has been brought about and the valuable use to which refuse can be utilised has again been demonstrated.

### Salvage.

Total figure for salvage receipts was £5,371 against £5,437 for 1956. The quantity of paper I could despatch to the Board Mills was fixed by a quota. Over 60 tons of tins were picked out of the tip and sold for the sum of £253. Salvaged non-ferrous metal also provided a useful sum. The rag market was not so good owing to falling prices.

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
1957-58	5,371	3	9
	<hr/>		
	49,644	10	2
	<hr/>		

The following table shows how the 1957-1958 amount was made up:—

Material	Tons	Cwts.	Qrts.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ...	619	7	2	0	4,995	1	9
Aluminium ...		5	2	25	30	0	11
Brass ...		1	3	22	12	3	4
Copper ...		1	0	2	8	16	5
Scrap Iron ...	1	14	3	0	13	10	0
Scrap Tins ...	60	13	1	0	253	11	11
String ...		13	1	6	6	13	0
Bagging ...		3	1	10	2	0	1
Soiled Rags ...		6	2	11	6	18	7
Clean Rags ...	1	6	1	27	42	7	9
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5,371</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>

### 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 September, 1957.

**PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTS FOR YEAR ENDING**  
**31st MARCH, 1958**

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
<b>1</b>	<b>Revenue Account</b>				
	<b>Gross Expenditure</b>				
	(i) Labour ..	19,143	3,206	22,349	60.39
	(ii) Transport ...	12,396	—	12,396	13.49
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	404	1,221	1,625	4.39
	(iv) Other items	426	213	639	1.73
	(v) Total gross expenditure ...	32,369	4,640	37,009	100
<b>2</b>	<b>Gross Income</b>	165	5,524	5,689	—
<b>3</b>	<b>Net Cost</b>	32,204	Cr. 884	31,320	—
<b>4</b>	Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above) ...	—	—	—	—
<b>5</b>	<b>Unit Costs</b>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
	Gross cost per ton, labour only ...	18 3	2 6	20 9	
<b>6</b>	Gross cost per ton, transport only ..	11 10	—	11 10	
<b>7</b>	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	30 9	Cr. 8	30 1	
		£	£	£	
<b>8</b>	Net cost per 1,000 population ..	617	Cr. 17	600	
<b>9</b>	Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	1,602	Cr. 44	1,558	

## OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

10. Area (statute acres)—land and inland water ..... 8,320 acres
11. Population at 30th June, 1957, (Registrar General's Estimate) ..... 52,220 persons
12. Total refuse collected (tons). Estimated from regular test weighings ..... 20,979 tons
13. Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day. (365 days to year) ..... 22.11 cwts.
14. Number of premises from which refuse is collected ..... 20,118 premises
15. Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly ..... 100 per cent. approx.
16. Average haul, single journey, to final disposal point ..... 3.8 miles
17. Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection ..... nil
18. Total refuse disposed of ..... 25,370 tons
19. Methods of disposal (salvage excluded):  
controlled tipping ..... 100 per cent.

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

	Income (Included in Item 2)	Tonnage Collected (Included in Item 12)
	£	Tons
(a) Raw Kitchen Waste .....	—	—
(b) Scrap Metal .....	318	63
(c) Waste Paper .....	4,995	619
(d) Other Salvage .....	58	3
(e) Totals .....	<u>5,371</u>	<u>685</u>

21. **Trade Refuse:**

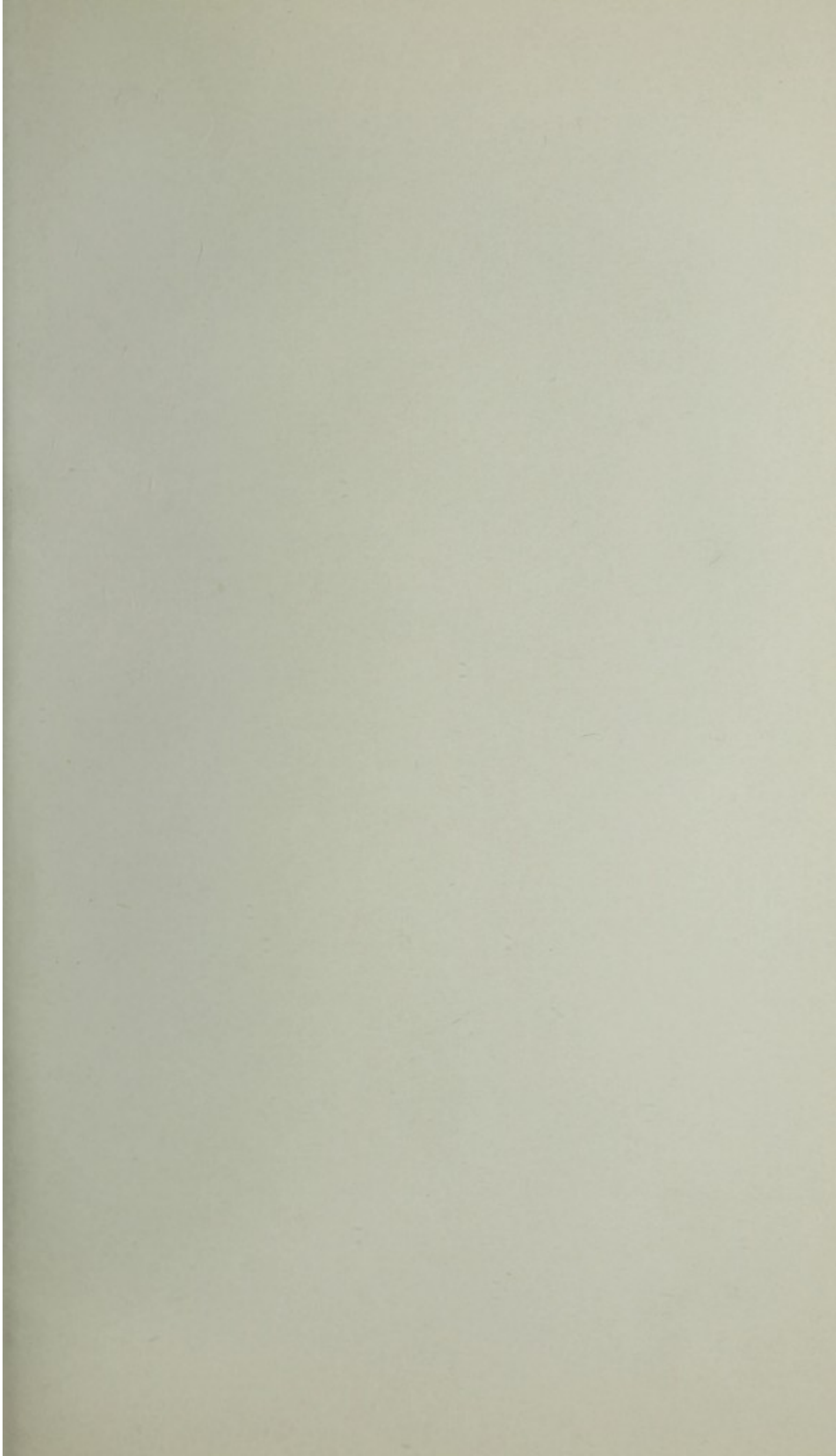
Rents and Miscellaneous Income		
Disposal .....	248	226



**EXTRACT FROM PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING  
RETURNS 1956/57**

Unit Costs	Average for Non-county Boroughs (179)	Harrogate
<b>Net Cost Per Ton</b>	s. d.	s. d.
Collection ... ..	34 11	30 8
Disposal ... ..	4 9	1 2 credit
Total ... ..	39 8	29 6
<b>Net Cost Per 1,000 Population</b>	£	£
Collection ... ..	537	566
Disposal ... ..	78	25 credit
Total ... ..	615	541
<b>Net Cost Per 1,000 Premises</b>	£	£
Collection ... ..	1,623	1,496
Disposal ... ..	235	67 credit
Total ... ..	1,858	1,429
<b>Gross Cost Per Ton</b>	s. d.	s. d.
Labour ... ..	26 2	20 10
Transport ... ..	16 2	11 8

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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