Borough of Harrogate

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1959



BY

D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

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# THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

## as at 31.12.59

---

Chairman : Councillor H. S. HITCHEN, M.A.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman Mrs. M. FISHER, M.B.E., J.P.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ald. | CHRISTELOW | Coun. | HITCHEN |
| ,, | Mrs. FISHER, M.B.E., J.P. | ,, | LENG |
| ,, | PICKARD | ,, | MAIS |
| ,, | TENNANT M.A., C.C. | ,, | MORELAND |
| Coun. | ATKINSON | ,, | SCOTT |
| ,, | BARKER | ,, | SHILLITO |
| ,, | FAGAN | ,, | Miss WARDLE |
| ,, | HITCH | | |

### Ex-OFFICIO MEMBERS

THE MAYOR (Councillor GEORGE H. HOLROYD, J.P.)

Chairman of Finance Committee (Alderman H.Bolland, O.B.E., C.A.)

### HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor H. S. HITCHEN, M.A.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman Mrs. M. FISHER, M.B.E., J.P.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ald. | Mrs. FISHER, M.B.E., J.P. | Coun. | LENG |
| Coun. | HITCH | ,, | Miss WARDLE |
| ,, | HITCHEN | | |

Telephone Number
Harrogate 5031.

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
Harrogate.

May, 1960.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This is the twenty-first Annual Report which I have made on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough. Although I did not take up my appointment as Medical Officer of Health until early in 1940, I was responsible for the Report for the year 1939. An opportunity thus arises to note some of the principal changes that have taken place during this period.

In the field of infectious diseases there has been a marked decrease in mortality. In some instances this has been due to a decrease in occurrence, in others to a decrease in severity. Diphtheria and tuberculosis fall into the former category. There has not been a case of diphtheria reported in the Borough since 1950 whereas in 1939 there were 14 cases with 2 deaths. Similarly the incidence of tuberculosis in England and Wales has fallen by almost a half and the death rate by six times. Scarlet fever, measles, and whooping cough are now comparatively mild and innocuous illnesses. To take the example of scarlet fever, the death rate in England and Wales has fallen from 23 per 10,000 notifications in 1939 to 1 per 10,000 in 1959.

There was no case of poliomyelitis notified in the Borough in 1959 whereas in 1940, when there was admittedly an undue prevalence in Harrogate, there were 77 cases with 5 deaths. Immunisation against poliomyelitis appears to be proving most successful and in the country as a whole there has been a sharp decrease in the occurrence of cases. Cases notified in 1959 were only half the number of those notified in 1958 and a quarter of those in 1957.

Infant care has improved, babies have a greater birth weight than was the case twenty-one years ago and they are certainly healthier as shown by the reduction, by more than half, of the infant mortality rate during this period.

School children are taller and heavier and more sturdily built than before the last war. They are far less liable to septic sores, boils and skin diseases such as impetigo. This improvement in nutrition and health has been achieved largely by the welfare foods scheme, milk in schools, school meals, and a more varied and higher protein diet in the home. The standard of cleanliness has also improved, verminous conditions are exceptional, and clothing is more sensible and attractive. It is interesting to note that boys and girls mature sooner and adolescence develops a year earlier, this again is thought to be due to improved nutrition. There have been many developments and improvements in the School Medical Service, two examples being the establishment of the cardiac clinic and the child guidance clinic. Details of these clinics are given in the body of this report.

With the increased longevity of the population, there has been a marked expansion in the services provided for the elderly, the infirm and the chronic sick. The Home Nursing Service is now administered by the Local Authority, the home helps, who are mainly part-time employees, now total 77 in the Borough of Harrogate, and the loan of home nursing equipment is still increasing with a wider range of the type of equipment being loaned.

The introduction of the National Health Service although constantly criticised on detail has proved on balance a marked success. One remembers only too well before the service was introduced that parents in the lower wage earning groups would delay seeking medical advice and treatment for their children because of the expense involved. Another example of the advantage of this service is the sight testing and provision of correct glasses for those who require them. Prior to the National Health Service many members of the public bought spectacles from shop counters or stalls without any adequate vision test, often with dire results.

There are some points on the debit side. Cancer of the lung has increased fivefold in males during the past twenty-one years. One hears much of the scandal of deaths from road traffic accidents but the number of people who die from cancer of the lung is four times greater than those who are killed on the road. The main villain of the piece is excessive cigarette smoking. Another disturbing feature is the increasing deterioration found in children's teeth, due, without doubt,

to the larger consumption of sweets and cakes which has accompanied the advent of more prosperous times. When the efficacy and harmlessness of fluoridation of water supplies have been fully established, serious consideration must be given to the introduction of this measure as a means of securing a reduction of dental caries. Lastly, with the increased number of elderly people in the community there is still a real need for the further provision of housing accommodation for this age group, the need being most marked in the case of the spinster and the widow.

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 STAFF, 1959

—†—

**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. (Resigned 15.3.59)

SHEILA F. SCHOFIELD, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H. (Appointed 8.6.59)

**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 31.12.59**

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

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

**Public Health and Cleansing Sections Clerical Staff**

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

(a) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Meat and Other Foods Inspector.
(b) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.
(c) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.

# GENERAL STATISTICS, 1959

| | |
|---|---|
| Area (acres) | 8,320 |
| Population (mid-summer, 1959, estimated by the Registrar General) | 52,890 |
| Number of inhabited houses, March 31st, 1959 | 17,805 |
| Rateable Value, March 31st, 1959 | £865,698 |
| Product of Penny Rate, March 31st, 1959 | £3,278 |
| Live Births | 773 |
| Live birth rate per 1,000 population | 14.6 |
| Still-births | 16 |
| Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still births | 20.3 |
| Total live and still-births | 789 |
| Infant deaths | 20 |
| Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total | 25.9 |
| ,, ,, ,, ,, legitimate | 20.4 |
| ,, ,, ,, ,, illegitimate | 128.2 |
| Neo Natal ,, ,, ,, (first four weeks) | 19.4 |
| Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births | 5.0 |
| Maternal deaths (including abortion) | Nil |
| Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births | Nil |
| Deaths | 712 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population | 13.5 |
| Deaths from heart and circulatory diseases (255) | 4.82 |
| Deaths from vascular lesions of the nervous system (124) | 2.34 |
| Deaths from cancer (148) | 2.80 |
| Deaths from respiratory diseases (63) | 1.19 |
| *Adjusted birth rate | 15.2 |
| *Adjusted death rate | 10.8 |

*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 1959 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. |
| 1956 | 51,930 | 731 | 14.8 | 17 | 23.3 | 733 | 11.4 |
| 1957 | 52,220 | 758 | 15.1 | 18 | 23.7 | 720 | 11.0 |
| 1958 | 52,420 | 782 | 15.5 | 19 | 24.3 | 784 | 12.1 |
| 1959 | 52,890 | 773 | 15.2 | 20 | 25.9 | 712 | 10.8 |

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, 1959

| | Causes of Death | 1959 Male | 1959 Female |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **All Causes** | 326 | 386 |
| 1 | Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| 2 | Tuberculosis, other ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| 3 | Syphilitic disease ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| 4 | Diphtheria ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| 5 | Whooping Cough ... ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| 6 | Meningococcal infections ... ... ... | — | — |
| 7 | Acute poliomyelitis ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| 8 | Measles ... ... ... ... ... .. | — | — |
| 9 | Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ... | — | — |
| 10 | Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ... .. | 4 | 5 |
| 11 | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... | 30 | 8 |
| 12 | Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ... ... | — | 15 |
| 13 | Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ... . | — | 4 |
| 14 | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... | 45 | 34 |
| 15 | Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ... ... .. | 1 | 2 |
| 16 | Diabetes ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| 17 | Vascular lesions of nervous system ... .. | 48 | 76 |
| 18 | Coronary disease, angina ... ... ... ... | 69 | 69 |
| 19 | Hypertension with heart disease ... ... | 5 | 12 |
| 20 | Other heart diseases ... ... ... | 32 | 54 |
| 21 | Other circulatory diseases ... ... ... .. | 3 | 11 |
| 22 | Influenza ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 | 5 |
| 23 | Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... | 19 | 13 |
| 24 | Bronchitis ... ... ... ... ... | 14 | 5 |
| 25 | Other diseases of respiratory system ... ... | 4 | — |
| 26 | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ... | 3 | 5 |
| 27 | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ... | 2 | 5 |
| 28 | Nephritis and nephrosis ... ... ... ... | — | 2 |
| 29 | Hyperplasia of prostate ... ... ... ... | 4 | — |
| 30 | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ... ... | — | — |
| 31 | Congenital malformations ... ... ... | — | 4 |
| 32 | Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ... | 26 | 37 |
| 33 | Motor vehicle accidents ... ... ... ... | 4 | 1 |
| 34 | All other accidents ... ... ... ... | 4 | 16 |
| 35 | Suicide ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 | 3 |
| 36 | Homicide and operations of war ... ... ... | — | — |
| | **Total** | **712** | |

## TABLE III.

### INFANT MORTALITY, 1958 and 1959.

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

| Cause of Death. | 1958 | 1959 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Under 1 week. | 1-2 weeks. | 2-3 weeks. | 3-4 weeks | Total under 4 weeks. | 4 wks. & under 3 mths. | 3 and under 6 months. | 6 and under 9 months. | 9 and under 12 months | Total Deaths under 1 yr |
| 1 Whooping Cough ... ... | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 2 Tuberculosis ... ... ... | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 3 Measles ... ... ... | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 4 Convulsions ... ... ... | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 5 Bronchitis and Pneumonia ... | 7 | 1 | – | 1 | – | 2 | – | 2 | 1 | – | 5 |
| 6 Gastro-enteritis ... ... | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| 7 Congenital Malformations ... | 6 | 2 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| 8 Immaturity ... ... ... | 2 | 6 | – | – | – | 6 | – | – | – | – | 6 |
| 9 Injury at Birth ... ... | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 10 Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis ... ... ... | – | 2 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| 11 Haemolytic Disease ... ... | 1 | 2 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| 12 Accidental Mechanical Suffocation ... ... ... | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 13 Other Causes ... ... ... | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | 2 |
| **Totals** .... ... .... | 19 | 14 | – | 1 | – | 15 | 1 | 3 | 1 | – | 20 |

## TABLE IV.

### AGE GROUPS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING DURING THE FIFTY TWO WEEKS ENDED 26th DECEMBER, 1959.

| Disease | Total Notified | Number of Cases Notified At Ages-Years | | | | | | | No of Cases admit'd to Hospital | Total No of Deaths (Notified Cases) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Under 1 year | 1-2 years | 3-4 years | 5-9 years | 10-14 years | 15-24 years | 25 and over | | |
| Scarlet Fever ... ... .. | 55 | — | 5 | 12 | 28 | 9 | 1 | — | 7 | — |
| Measles ... ... .. ... | 1,225 | 47 | 253 | 306 | 591 | 23 | 1 | 4 | — | — |
| Whooping Cough .. ... | 61 | 6 | 11 | 21 | 21 | 2 | — | — | 3 | — |
| Acute Pneumonia ... ... | 12 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 2 |
| Erysipelas ... ... ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — |
| Dysentery ... ... ... .. | 14 | — | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | — | 5 | 1 | — |
| Typhoid Fever ... ... .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| Meningococcal Infection ... ... | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Food Poisoning ... ... ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

## 1. POPULATION.

The population estimated by the Registrar General at the end of June, 1959 was 52,890 which was 470 higher than the estimate for 1958.

## 2. UNEMPLOYMENT.

At the end of the year the number of persons registered as unemployed in Harrogate and surrounding districts was 441, of whom 278 were males and 163 were females. This was a decrease from the previous year when the total figure of unemployed persons was 547.

At the end of 1959 there were 21 boys and 11 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 1,288, 656 males and 632 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 773, 393 males and 380 females.

The birth rate when adjusted by the area comparability factor as given by the Registrar General was 15.2 live births per thousand of the population, as compared with 16.5 the rate for England and Wales.

There were 39 illegitimate live births, 19 males and 20 females, representing 5.0 per cent of the live births.

### (b) Still Births.

26 still-births, 14 males and 12 females, were registered during the year. The corrected figure supplied by the Registrar General and adjusted for inward and outward transfers was 16, 9 males and 7 females.

This gave a rate of 20.3 per thousand live and still births, compared with 20.7 for England and Wales.

## 4. DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 742, 337 males and 405 females, but the number of deaths of residents corrected for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar General was 712, 326 males and 386 females.

The crude death rate was 13.5 per thousand population, but when adjusted by the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General the rate was reduced to 10.8 per thousand as compared with 11.6 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 20, 10 males and 10 females, as compared with 19 during the previous year. Of the 20 infant deaths, 14 occured during the first seven days after birth. The infant mortality rate was 25.9 per thousand live births, compared with 22.0 the rate for England and Wales.

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

### Cremations.

During 1959 there were 706 cremations at the Stonefall Crematorium, of whom 374 had been residents of the Borough of Harrogate.

# GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

## 1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

### (a) Chemical.

The chemical analysis of milk, foodstuffs, spring and well water is carried out by Messrs. Richardson and Jaffé. The chemical analysis of the public water supply is also carried out by this firm for the Claro Water Board.

The examination of the public water supply for plumbosolvent action is undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory at County Hall, Wakefield.

(b) **Bacteriological.**

Specimens of milk and other food stuffs, including ice-cream, are taken for examination to the Public Health Laboratory situated at Seacroft, Leeds. This laboratory also undertakes the bacteriological examination of the public water supply for the Claro Water Board.

Any special investigation into outbreaks of infection is undertaken at this laboratory as well as the isolation and typing of poliomyelitis virus in cases suspected to be suffering from this infection. This is of particular value in cases where there is no paralysis, as without such confirmation it is often impossible to make an accurate diagnosis.

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

## 2. 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.

## 3. LOCAL AUTHORITY CLINICS.

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

**HOSPITALS under the Management of the Regional Hospital Board.**

| Name | Situation | Purpose | Beds | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Adults | Children |
| Harrogate and Dist. General Hospital | Knaresborough Rd., Harrogate | Medical, Surgical and Maternity | 226 | 27 |
| Carlton Lodge | Leeds Road, Harrogate | Maternity | 11 | — |
| Royal Bath Hospital | Cornwall Road, Harrogate | Rheumatic Diseases | 147 | — |
| White Hart Hospital | Cold Bath Road, Harrogate | do | 133 | — |
| Thistle Hill, Hospital | Knaresborough | 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 Females | — |
| Dunelm Hospital | Cornwall Road, Harrogate | 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) | 2-30 p.m. | | | | | |
| General School Clinic .. .. (*) .. .. .. | | | †2-30 p.m. | | | |
| Ophthalmic Clinic .. 11, Ripon Road .. .. | | | | | (by appointm't) | |
| Orthopaedic Clinic .. .. (*) .. .. .. | | § 11-30a.m. (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 .. (*) .. .. .. (by appointment) ‡ | 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, .. .. .. (*) .. .. .. | 9-0 a.m. (by appointment) | 9-0 a.m. (by appointment) | 9-0 a.m. (by appointment) | | | |
| Child Guidance Clinic .. .. (*) .. .. .. | | | | 10 a.m. (by appointment) | 10 a.m. (by appointment) | |
| Child Welfare Centre .. .. (*) .. .. .. | 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. | | | 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. | | |
| Child Welfare Centre, St. John Ambulance Headquarters, Spa Lane, Starbeck | | | 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. | | | |
| Child Welfare Centre, Bar Methodist Church Hall, Skipton Road, Bilton | 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

# 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.

55 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year as compared with 36 in 1958. All the cases were very mild in character and no complications were reported. 48 of the cases were satisfactorily isolated at home and 7 patients were admitted to Thistle Hill Hospital, Knaresborough.

### 2. Measles.

1,225 cases of measles were notified as compared with 74 during 1958. This epidemic occurred during the months of February and March and by the end of April the outbreak had practically finished. The ages of those affected are shown in the table on page 15. There were no fatal cases, most of the cases being mild in character, although some children had an associated bronchitis.

### 3. Whooping Cough.

61 cases of whooping cough were notified of whom 2 were admitted to Thistle Hill Hospital, Knaresborough, and 1 to Seacroft Hospital Leeds. The infection was most prevalent in August when 33 cases were notified.

### 4. Acute Pneumonia.

10 cases of acute primary and 2 cases of acute influenzal pneumonia were notified. 2 of the cases of acute primary pneumonia proved fatal, both in elderly women, one aged seventy-four and the other aged eighty-two.

### 5. Erysipelas.

2 cases of erysipelas were notified during the year, the infection in both cases being on the face. The condition cleared up quickly with antibiotic treatment.

6. **Dysentery.**

14 cases of Sonne dysentery were notified, 9 of these cases occurred in three family outbreaks, the remainder being individual cases. The illness in each case only lasted a few days and was mild in character, the majority of cases being in young children. One boy aged five was admitted to hospital with abdominal pain, the diagnosis of Sonne dysentery being made when he was an in-patient.

7. **Typhoid Fever.**

One case of typhoid fever was notified in November in a woman aged fifty-five. She was admitted to a nursing home in Leeds where the diagnosis was made. She was found to have a positive blood culture, typhoid bacillus phage type E.1. was isolated. The patient was transferred to Seacroft Hospital on the 16th November, being discharged from hospital free from infection on the 29th February, 1960. Despite most careful investigation the source of infection was not discovered.

8. **Meningococcal Infection.**

One case of meningococcal meningitis was notified in a boy aged one year who was admitted with this illness to the Harrogate General Hospital from Ripon. He was discharged from hospital three weeks later fully recovered.

9. **Food Poisoning.**

A housewife aged forty-four years was admitted to Harrogate General Hospital with Food Poisoning. Her symptoms were severe and her treatment in hospital lasted ten days. The food poisoning organism which was isolated was Salmonella blackpool but the source of infection was never found.

10. **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified in a seven days old baby who was born in the Harrogate General Hospital. The infection of the eyes was due to staphylococcus aureus, and the condition cleared up after a week's treatment in hospital.

11. **Poliomyelitis.**

No case of poliomyelitis was notified during the year.

## 12. Tuberculosis.

11 cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, of whom 9 were pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 were non-pulmonary tuberculosis. 38 cases were removed from the tuberculosis register, and of these 24 patients had recovered, 10 had removed to other areas, 3 patients had died, and 1 was lost sight of.

At the end of December 1959, 291 cases, of whom 245 were pulmonary and 46 non-pulmonary, remained on the tuberculosis register.

During the year the Tuberculosis Health Visitors paid visits to persons who required follow-up owing to the fact that they were found to have been in contact with persons suffering from tuberculosis.

254 cases, some of whom came from outside the Borough of Harrogate, were referred for investigation to the Chest Clinic, mainly by General Practitioners. 7 of these cases were found to be suffering from tuberculosis, and 35 remained under observation at the end of the year. Attendances of previously notified cases of tuberculosis totalled 538. In addition 534 contacts were seen at the Chest Clinic, of whom 229 had previously attended, and 305 were cases attending for the first time. The latter were mainly children and adolescents and 270 of them were given B.C.G. vaccination.

Home Helps were provided for tuberculous families as required.

Three school investigations took place during the year. In each case a pupil at a private school in Harrogate was diagnosed as suffering from tuberculosis, and whilst it appeared almost certain that in each case the infection had been acquired from an outside source it was considered desirable that investigations should be undertaken. The details of the investigations in these three schools are as follows:—

School A. Mass radiography of the pupils over the age of 14 and the staff of the school was undertaken. Mantoux testing of the pupils under 14 was also carried out. 57 boys were Mantoux tested, 47 were Mantoux negative and given

B.C.G., the other 10 boys were x-rayed and had clear chest films, except in two cases where there was evidence of a primary tuberculous complex. In both cases the primary complex was well calcified and had been present, therefore, for some considerable time. It would appear that this infection was not acquired from the case in the school as his lesion was of recent origin.

School B. The teaching and domestic staff and pupils from the age of 12 upwards were x-rayed by the Mass Radiography Uuit, but no further active cases were brought to light.

School C. A girl in the school developed tuberculous meningitis. All the girls in this school were offered Mantoux testing, and those who were positive were x-rayed, and those who were negative were given B.C.G. No fresh cases were brought to light as a result of this investigation.

**Mass Radiography.**

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Harrogate from May 19th to June 6th 1959, the unit being stationed for the Public Sessions in the Annexe of the Royal Hall. In addition to Harrogate residents a considerable number of people living in the surrounding district were also x-rayed. The details of those examined, and the results of the examinations are as follows:—

Groups Examined.

| | Males | Females | Totals |
|---|---|---|---|
| General Public | 1,137 | 1,660 | 2,797 |
| Civil Servants | 750 | 768 | 1,518 |
| Contacts | 236 | 232 | 468 |
| Hospital Staffs | 61 | 60 | 121 |
| Local Government Employees | 7 | 60 | 67 |
| Totals | 2,191 | 2,780 | 4,971 |

The contacts listed above comprised children attending two schools in each of which a case of tuberculosis had been notified. No further cases were brought to light in the contacts so examined.

19 cases of tuberculosis, 9 males and 10 females, were found by the mass x-ray examinations. After full investigation at the Chest Clinic, 3 of these patients were found to be active cases of tuberculosis requiring treatment.

21 cases, 12 males and 9 females, were shown to have other abnormalities of the chest. These included 6 cases of pneumonitis, 4 of bronchiectasis, 3 of heart disease and 1 of cancer of the lung.

In recent years there have been considerable alterations in the occurrence, age groups affected, and mortality from tuberculosis and a brief statement of these changes may be of interest.

In 1949 the notifications of new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs in England and Wales numbered 43,971; new cases notified in 1958 had dropped to 26,391. During the same period the proportion of new cases of tuberculosis discovered in the population by mass radiography has halved. (3.7 per 1,000 people x-rayed to 1.8 per 1,000 x-rayed).

Thus it is becoming clear that the occurrence of tuberculosis amongst the population is no longer high enough to justify the mass x-ray of the general public at frequent intervals, and an endeavour is being made to select special groups where the incidence of tuberculosis or the risk of spread of the infection is likely to be greatest; for example, cases referred by general practitioners and those in contact with young children.

In 1957, of the new cases of tuberculosis notified in this country, one fifth had been brought to light by mass radiography.

In part due to improved hygiene and safer milk, the occurrence of non-respiratory tuberculosis, such as tuberculosis of glands of neck, and of bones and joints, has shown an even greater decline. The death rate from this condition has fallen during the past ten years to one sixth of what it was.

This decline in tuberculosis has meant a great saving in hospital beds; for example in 1954 the number of hospital beds allocated to tuberculosis was 35,069 but by 1958 it had fallen to 24,666. A local example of this is Scotton Banks Hospital which is now admitting, as well as cases of tuberculosis, other chest conditions such as asthma and bronchitis. Two wards are being used for the nursing of young chronic sick patients and in the near future beds are to be allocated for gynaecological and general surgical cases and 24 beds for pay-bed accommodation.

Tuberculosis has recently been described as a disease of old men and young women. There is no doubt that the illness and the death rate from respiratory tuberculosis is highest at the present time in the elderly age groups in males and the early middle age groups in females. In countries where the standard of living is good and the food rich in protein, the disease becomes more chronic and the symptoms less severe so that the discovery of the "active" case becomes more difficult.

The number of deaths from tuberculosis is less than a quarter of that of ten years ago; this is largely due to improved methods of treatment, accompanied by the decline in incidence.

Great strides are being taken towards the control and eradication of tuberculosis, and the future appears promising.

**Provision of Free Milk.**

On the recommendation of the Chest Physician cases of tuberculosis are supplied daily with a grant of free milk. During the year recommendations were made in respect of 18 patients. In addition, 49 patients who had been recommended by the Chest Physician prior to the 1st January, 1959, continued to receive this grant of milk. During 1959, 19 grants were discontinued and at the end of the year 48 patients were receiving free milk.

**Tuberculosis Care Committee.**

The Tuberculosis Care Committee which covers cases arising in the Borough of Harrogate, the City of Ripon, and the surrounding rural areas, includes representatives of the Local Authority and of voluntary organisations. The Committee meets as required and an Emergency Committee of three members deals with matters which arise between the full meetings of committee. It is financed in part by an annual grant from the West Riding County Council and in part by monies raised by local efforts and donations.

Grants were made by the Committee to 8 Harrogate families. Assistance was given towards the cost of repairing a patient's electric washing machine and in another case towards the cost of the provision of a home help. In three cases patients and their families were assisted with railway fares to enable them to stay with relatives for a holiday, in two cases replacement bedding was provided, and in one case extra nourishment was supplied.

30 Christmas parcels were issued to needy tuberculous families. These parcels contained groceries, including butter, eggs, tea, and fresh fruit.

The work of the Tuberculosis Care Committee is much appreciated by the patients as is shown by the letters of thanks received by the Committee.

## 13. Preventive Inoculations.

### (a) Diphtheria Immunisation.

657 children under five years of age and 33 children of school age were immunised against diphtheria for the first time during 1959. 352 reinforcing inoculations were given during the year to children where the degree of immunity had been diminished by the length of time since their initial inoculation.

A clinic is held at 2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Wednesdays at 10-0 a.m. for this purpose. Diphtheria immunisation is also carried out at the infant welfare clinics, in schools, and is undertaken by local medical practitioners.

### (b) Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Immunisation against whooping cough is undertaken by the medical staff of the Health Department and by general practitioners. The best age for protecting young children is between two 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.

Whooping cough immunisations carried out in 1959 totalled 631. A number of the pre-school children received the combined diphtheria and whooping cough immunisation through their private practitioners.

### (c) Tetanus Immunisation.

642 children received primary immunisation against tetanus. The combination of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus into a single preparation for inoculation has led to its widespread acceptance as an immunising agent and accounts for the immunisation of 604 of these children. The remaining 38 children had a combined diphtheria and tetanus injection or tetanus only. Tetanus is not notifiable but it is estimated that there are about 200 cases yearly in the country of which about 40% are fatal. It is with these figures in mind that immunisation against tetanus is considered desirable.

### (d) Smallpox Vaccination.

A vaccination clinic is held at 2 Dragon Parade, on Wednesdays at 10-0 a.m. Vaccinations are also carried out by general practitioners who send records of the vaccination to the Health Department.

The total number of vaccinations carried out in 1959 amounted to 549 and 45 re-vaccinations were also carried out. The number of children under one year of age vaccinated in 1959 was 464, which was 60% of the number of live births notified during the year. This compares favourably with the percentage of children vaccinated in the country as a whole. It is important that the population should be adequately protected against an epidemic of smallpox, as, with travel by aircraft, persons who are incubating the disease may enter this country before any symptoms have developed and so start an outbreak of this serious illness.

### (e) Tuberculosis Vaccination.

Vaccination with B.C.G. against tuberculosis has been practised for a number of years in this country on known contacts of cases of tuberculosis, but it is only since 1955 that school children between their thirteenth and fourteenth birthdays have been offered this protection.

In addition, in 1959, B.C.G. vaccination was offered to school children aged fourteen years and over, and to students attending Further Education Establishments.

Before B.C.G. vaccination is given, the school child is given a test known as the Mantoux Test which is a tuberculin test to ascertain whether or not the child has developed a resistance or immunity to tuberculosis; if this is the case the child is said to be tuberculin positive and the vaccine is not given.

This tuberculin test, when positive, does in fact show that the child has at some time been in contact with a case of tuberculosis, has had a very mild and usually undetected attack of the illness and made a recovery, and in so doing the child has developed a resistance to the infection.

771 school children over thirteen years of age received a preliminary tuberculin test, and from the test it was shown that it was desirable for 586 of these children to receive B.C.G. vaccination, of whom 566 were vaccinated.

Of the 138 children of all age groups who were found positive following their preliminary test, 85 were x-rayed on large film at the Harrogate General Hospital. 3 of these were referred to the Assistant Chest Physician for further investigation. None of these showed any active disease but two are being kept under observation.

300 children were given B.C.G. vaccination in 1958, and 238 of these children were given a second tuberculin test in 1959. Of the 199 tests that were read, 193 were found to be positive. This showed a conversion rate of 97% indicating that this percentage of children had gained protection against tuberculosis.

5 students attending Further Education Establishments were also tested, 2 of whom were found positive, and 3 were found negative and given B.C.G.

B.C.G. vaccinations wese also undertaken by the staff of the Consultant Chest Physician of children who were contacts of cases of tuberculosis and who were therefore exposed to special risk. 330 contacts received a tuberculin test and 274 were given B.C.G. vaccination. Of these, 105 were males and 169 were females; 54 were pre-school children, 209 were of school age and 9 were adults.

### (f) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

Throughout the year, vaccination against poliomyelitis was offered to persons over six months of age and under twenty-six years and to expectant mothers, and also to general practitioners, hospital staffs, ambulance staffs, and the families of these groups.

Supplies of British vaccine became readily available during the year and the following vaccinations were carried out:—

**A. Completed two injections.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Children aged 6 months to those under 16 years. | 2,689 |
| Young persons and adults aged 16 to those under 26 years. | 2,480 |
| Expectant mothers. | 265 |
| General medical practitioners and families. | 5 |
| Hospital staffs and families. | 82 |

**B. Received a third injection.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Children aged 6 months to those under 16 years. | 5,588 |
| All other groups. | 620 |

Sessions were held at County Council Clinics and also at several of the larger places of employment. Evening sessions were introduced for persons in the age group 16 to 25 inclusive. At the first of these sessions, which was an 'open session', 736 people attended. 4 further evening sessions, but by appointment, were held in Harrogate during the year.

General medical practitioners continued to give their support to the scheme. New applications for vaccination continued to come in steadily and the programme for third injections was brought up to date as quickly as possible.

In September, publicity material supplied by Messrs. Pfizer Ltd., was used. Film strips were shown at the Cinemas and a special gramophone record was played at dances and at the Opera House. Small posters were distributed to chemists, clubs and places of employment, and large posters were placed on public boards. Advertisements were again placed in the local press, but the response to this campaign was rather poor.

The number of completed vaccinations in all groups is satisfactory, but the scheme does need constant publicity to keep it in the public eye.

## (B) NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

### 1. Cancer.

148 deaths, 80 males and 68 females, were due to this cause. 30 of the deaths from cancer in males and 8 of the deaths in females were due to cancer of the lung, a total of 38 compared with 21 in 1958. Cancer of the lung was by far the highest cause of death from cancer in males. This cause of death is showing a progressive increase and the evidence relating to cigarette smoking as being a definite cause of cancer of the lung is extensive, international and, in most respects, consistent. The Medical Research Council have stated that the most reasonable interpretation of all the evidence is that the relationship with cigarette smoking is one of direct cause and effect and that the identification of several carcinogenic substances in tobacco smoke provides a rational basis for such a relationship.

## 2. Scabies.

One case of scabies was diagnosed in a Harrogate school boy aged ten. The case cleared up quickly with treatment with Benzyl Benzoate emulsion.

## 3. Influenza.

Influenza is not a notifiable disease although acute influenzal pneumonia is notifiable. There was a minor epidemic at the end of February. Influenza occurring amongst school children was generally mild and was mainly due to influenza "B" virus, some of the cases amongst older people were more severe, and were due to the Asian variety of influenza "A" virus. Two cases of influenzal pneumonia notified occurred in an adult aged fifty-four and a youth aged sixteen. Both cases made a rapid recovery.

## 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 can be made by a local Justice of the Peace requiring the patient to be taken to hospital. This action is only taken where there is complete lack of home care and where the person refuses to go to hospital for care and attention.

A general practitioner reported to me that a woman aged seventy-nine was not receiving the necessary care and attention and was incapable of looking after herself. She was living alone in a small terrace house; she was blind, incontinent, and somewhat delusional. She was also stated by her practitioner to be suffering from heart failure. The house was cold and there was no heating available. There was no food, and the house itself was in a dirty condition. She was lying on a soiled bed, and was obviously incapable of looking after herself.

Arrangements were made for her removal to the Knaresborough Hospital Chronic Sick Ward by ambulance the following day. At the end of the year she was still in the Chronic Sick Ward, being confused, senile, and blind. She is not likely to be fit for discharge.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS

During the year 258 medical examinations of young persons were undertaken to determine their fitness for employment in factories. The term factories covers a fairly wide range of employment including laundries, garages, and dressmaking establishments.

Young persons, that is those between school leaving age and eighteen years, are examined within a fortnight of entry to a factory to acertain if they are medically fit to undertake such work. They are subsequently examined at yearly intervals until they reach the age of eighteen years. Of the number of examinations made, 152 were boys and 106 were girls.

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

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The following is a brief summary of 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, 1959)**

(1) **Medical Staff.**

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

Sheila F. Schofield, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., 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.

Jean M. W. Bolt, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., 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 ... ... ... ... ... ... | 10 |
| Home Nurse Midwives ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| Midwife ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Mental Health Social Worker ... ... ... | *1 |
| Mental Health Group Training and Home Teachers | *2 |
| Speech Therapist ... ... ... ... ... | *1 |

*Also employed in other Divisional Areas.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (b) | **Administrative and Clerical Staff.** | |
| | (Also employed in part by Harrogate Corporation). | |
| | Clerical Staff ... ... ... ... ... ... | 12 |
| (c) | **Sale of Food Assistants.** | |
| | Full-time ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| | Part-time ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| (d) | **Day Nursery Staff.** | |
| | Albany Avenue Day Nursery ... ... ... | 9 |
| (e) | **Home Helps.** | |
| | Whole-time ... ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| | Part-time ... ... ... ... ... ... | 97 |
| (f) | **Domestic Staff, etc.** | |
| | Cleaners, part-time ... ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| | Gardener/Handyman, part-time ... ... ... | 1 |
| | Meals Assistant, Mental Health Group Training ... | 1 |
| | Bus Escort, Mental Health Group Training ... | 1 |
| | Total Divisional Staff ... | 175 |

## 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.

## 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 Health 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 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1959 | 1958 | 1957-54 | | Under 1 yr. | 1 but under 2 | 2 but under 5 | |
| 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate | 8 | 281 | 229 | 194 | 151 | 574 | 2,350 | 355 | 177 | 2,882 |
| New Park, Harrogate | 4 | 113 | 103 | 106 | 133 | 342 | 1,524 | 267 | 188 | 1,979 |
| Starbeck, Harrogate | 4 | 123 | 114 | 105 | 118 | 337 | 1,134 | 197 | 103 | 1,434 |
| **Total ..** | 16 | 517 | 446 | 405 | 402 | 1,253 | 5,008 | 819 | 468 | 6,295 |

# 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 25.9 per 1,000 live births as compared with 22.0 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 19.4 compared with 15.8 for England and Wales. Of the 15 neo-natal deaths, 14 died during the first seven days after birth.

## 3. CONFINEMENTS IN HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES.

During 1959 a total of 695 births to Harrogate residents took place in hospitals or nursing homes and 117 babies, including one set of twins, were born in their own homes.

This shows that 85.6% of deliveries of mothers living in Harrogate occurred in institutions which is a far higher percentage 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 15 cases a doctor was present at the time of the delivery of the child.

Gas and Air Analgesia was used at 88 confinements attended by domiciliary midwives. Each midwife has a gas and air machine for use as required.

Pethidine was used at 74 of the domiciliary confinements which took place in the Borough of Harrogate.

## 5. OBSTETRIC FLYING SQUAD.

The Obstetric Flying Squad is based on the Harrogate General Hospital. The doctors, staff and emergency apparatus are sent out immediately on request to provide urgent medical treatment whenever this is required for a mother being confined at home. It was called out 5 times in 1959, on 2 occasions to patients in Harrogate. One of the Harrogate patients had a post-partum haemorrhage, she was given a blood transfusion and improved so rapidly that it was possible to continue her post-natal care at home. The second Harrogate patient had a retained placenta, she also was given a blood transfusion but it was found desirable to admit her to hospital. Both these patients made good recoveries.

## 6. ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

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

At the first attendance each patient has a full examination and a specimen of blood is taken for routine tests. Arrangements are made in appropriate cases for patients to have their confinements in hospital. 142 expectant mothers made a total number of 270 attendances during the year.

## 7. RELAXATION AND MOTHERCRAFT CLASSES.

The relaxation and mothercraft classes for expectant mothers which are held at 2 Dragon Parade, continued to be well attended during the year. 217 expectant mothers made 1,230 attendances

The knowledge gained at these classes is of great help in reducing fear and consequently the majority of the mothers anticipate their labour with confidence. Demonstrations and discussions are held on infant feeding and general care. A midwife is frequently invited to demonstrate and discuss the correct use of Trilene and Gas and Air analgesia. The various prophylactic treatments now available for babies are brought to the notice of the mothers, and whenever possible the mothers introduced to their particular health visitor.

## 8. PREMATURE BIRTHS.

54 premature babies were born to mothers resident in Harrogate, of whom 51 were born in hospital. 33 of the babies survived twenty-eight days or more, 12 were still-born, and 9 died, all of them within the first four weeks.

The Premature Baby Unit at the Harrogate General Hospital provides the most modern facilities for the skilled nursing of premature infants.

The Sorrento Premature Baby Cot which is kept at the Ambulance Station was put into use twice during the year. On one occasion it was used to transfer premature twins born in Harrogate to hospital. In the second case the cot was used in the Nidderdale Rural District.

## 9. CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD.

There were 39 illegitimate live births to Harrogate residents during 1959. 33 of these cases came to the knowledge of this Department, of whom 16 mothers continued to look after their babies, 7 babies were adopted, 2 died in infancy, 4 were placed in foster homes, and 4 cases were not settled at the end of the year.

7 of the mothers sought institutional care in the ante-natal period. 3 were accommodated in Browning House, Leeds, 2 in Heworth Moor House, York, 1 in St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Home, Leeds, and 1 in St. Monica's Home, Harrogate.

St. Monica's Moral Welfare Home is situated in the Borough of Harrogate but with one exception, the 46 girls admitted to this Home were all non-residents of Harrogate.

## 10. HEALTH VISITING.

At the end of the year 6 health visitors were employed on full-time duties in the Borough of Harrogate and 4 health visitors were employed partly within the Borough and partly within the surrounding areas. The Superintendent Health Visitor who covers the work of the whole of the Division is based on the Central Clinic at 2 Dragon Parade.

The duties of the health visitor include the visiting of families with children under five. They advise the parents on general health, matters affecting the family and on the mental, physical and emotional health of their children, this includes advice on parentcraft and household management. This visiting has been, of necessity, selective rather than routine. An important duty of the health visitor is that of the care of the expectant mother, she attends the ante-natal clinics to give advice and talks on health education and mothercraft in conjunction with the midwives. An increasing amount of time has been taken up visiting the aged, and this continues to extend beyond the supervision of home helps because in some instances the health visitor has co-operated, not only with the home help service, but with voluntary associations and family doctors, in an endeavour to keep the elderly in their own homes as long as possible. Co-operation with the family doctor and other statutory and voluntary agencies is most important, this particularly applies in the cases where assistance is required by patients who are being nursed at home.

In addition, the health visitor has played a part in the prevention of broken homes, if only in her role of 'therapeutic listener' and being able to refer cases early to the Marriage Guidance Council and other agencies, with the full co-operation of the persons concerned. If separation has taken place, she has been able to give support to the remaining partner sometimes through the home help service, in an effort to keep the family together, and in the hope of bringing about a reconciliation. This did occur in two instances.

The rehabilitation of problem, and potential problem families, absorbed many hours of the health visitors' time. In one instance, with the full co-operation of voluntary agencies, voluntary workers, and the home help service, the case-work done was comparable to that of a "family service unit" on a small scale. As a result of this effort an eviction order was withdrawn. This is a contradiction to any idea that the health visitor is a 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. worker, because it is impossible to give support or receive the co-operation of both parents without considerable evening visiting.

The health visitor in her role of family visitor may well be the person first to observe the onset of mental stress or early mental disorder, and in co-operation with the family doctor be able to give advice and render assistance.

As in the past, assistance was given with the practical training of health visitor students and third-year student nurses at the Harrogate General Hospital.

Four health visitors attended residential refresher courses, and two attended an in-service course at Grantley Hall.

Two meetings of the health visitors' discussion group were held with Dr. J. H. Kahn, Consultant Psychiatrist, in the chair. These have been most helpful, for not only did Dr. Kahn get the health visitors talking, but also thinking about the root cause of many behaviour problems.

## 11. INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

There are three infant welfare centres in the Borough of Harrogate, the main centre is at 2, Dragon Parade, where two infant welfare sessions are held each week. One session per week is held at present in the premises of the St. John Ambulance Headquarters, Spa Lane, Starbeck, the other being held in the schoolrooms attached to Bar Methodist Chapel, Skipton Road. These latter clinics had previously been held in the schoolrooms of the Methodist Chapel, High Street, Starbeck, and St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, New Park, respectively.

During the year voluntary helpers were recruited to help with the weighing of babies at the centres and so relieve the health visitor of a routine task. The Department is most grateful for their help. This enables the health visitor to devote more of her time to individual mothers. Health Education material is on view at the centres and is frequently changed. Short informal talks are given if time permits.

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

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

During the year 4 children under school age were referred from the welfare centres for sunlight treatment. 2 of these were referred because of debility and frequent colds, 1 because of bronchitis and 1 for skin infection.

## 13. ALBANY AVENUE DAY NURSERY.

Mothers who are the principal bread winners of their families, such as widows or women who are separated from their husbands, can leave their children who are under five years of age at the Albany Avenue Day Nursery where they are looked after by qualified and experienced staff. The Nursery is open from 8-30 a.m. to 4-30 p.m. each week from Monday to Friday throughout the year with the exception of Bank Holidays. With carefully balanced meals, quiet after lunch rest, correct toilet training, high standard of hygiene and medical examinations twice a year, the health of the children is given every consideration. They are kept occupied and trained with equipment and toys which help to encourage co-operation with other children and also assists them when they enter school.

## 14. INSPECTION OF CHILDREN AT RESIDENTIAL NURSERIES.

A routine inspection is made twice a year of all children resident in the Leadhall Grange and Harlow Court Residential Nurseries, Harrogate. A report is furnished to the County Medical Officer and to the Children's Department in which details are given regarding the children's health, the staffing, and on any environmetal condition which may affect the health of the children.

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

42 expectant or nursing mothers attended the Dental Clinic at 2, Dragon Parade, for dental examination of whom 30 received treatment. Dentures were supplied in 13 cases. 87 children under the age of five years were inspected and 55 were given treatment.

## 16. DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS.

The distribution of welfare foods continued throughout the year, the main centre for their distribution being the Municipal Offices, Harrogate. They are also distributed at the infant welfare clinics.

7,604 tins of National Dried Milk, 26,202 bottles of orange juice, 3,566 bottles of cod liver oil, and 3,235 packets of vitamins A and D tablets were issued in Harrogate during the year.

# SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

## 1. SCHOOL MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

During 1959, 1,884 routine school medical examinations were undertaken in the Borough. 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 535.

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.

Minor Ailment 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 401 of whom 185 attended the Harrogate Clinic and 216 attended the Clinic at Starbeck School.

Minor ailments when treated early and under medical supervision respond rapidly to treatment and are thus instrumental in preventing absence from school. The most usual reason for children attending this clinic is minor skin infections. Other causes are cuts and bruises and discharging ears.

It is satisfactory to report that every year there is a progressive decrease in the number of children requiring treatment for minor ailments, which reflects the fact that the occurrence of skin infections such as impetigo are becoming less common amongst these children.

## 3. GENERAL SCHOOL CLINIC.

On Wednesday afternoons a General School Clinic is held at 2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate, where parents can bring school children for medical advice. The parents and children are seen by the Divisional Medical Officer, and children who require a more detailed examination than can be given at a routine medical examination are not infrequently referred to this clinic by the school doctors and head teachers.

Children suffering from debility, failure to gain weight, defective vision, defective speech, minor orthopaedic abnormalities or behaviour difficulties were seen. In addition, advice was sometimes sought in cases of deafness or enlarged tonsils and adenoids and in certain of these cases the children were referred to the specialist clinics mentioned below.

## 4. OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

The Ophthalmic Clinic is held every Friday morning and afternoon. On one Friday of each month this clinic is held at Iles Lane, Knaresborough, and on the remaining Fridays it is held at the premises of the Regional Hospital Board, 11 Ripon Road, Harrogate. Appointments for these eye clinics are made through the School Health Department.

Dr. T. Severs is the Consultant Ophthalmologist and the clinics are attended by a school nurse, the records being filed at the Municipal Offices. 691 school children attended at 11 Ripon Road, and 357 children obtained spectacles.

An Orthoptic Clinic is held at 11 Ripon Road, Harrogate, the Orthoptist being Miss M. Atherton. This clinic is concerned with children who are suffering from squint, they are given eye exercises to help overcome this condition. 30 school children made 540 attendances during the year.

## 5. EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.

A clinic for children suffering from Ear, Nose and Throat disorders is held at approximately fortnightly intervals at 2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate.

103 school children and 18 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 121 attendances.

37 children who were seen at the school clinic were admitted to the Harrogate General Hospital for removal of tonsils and adenoids.

## 6. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

This clinic, which is held as required, is valuable in ascertaining early cases of postural and orthopaedic defects. It includes both school children and pre-school children.

70 school children and 10 children under school age were seen during the year by Mr. Petty, the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, making a total of 87 attendances. 3 school children were referred for operative treatment to the Harrogate General Hospital, and 4 school children attended the Harrogate General Hospital for physiotherapy.

## 7. CARDIAC CLINIC.

Following Dr. Curtis Bain's retirement in September, 1958, the Cardiac Clinic was re-commenced on the 12th January, 1959, and has been held at approximately weekly intervals throughout the year at the Harrogate General Hospital.

Children who attend the clinic are seen by Dr. W. S. Suffern, who is the Cardiologist, Dr. L. J. Prosser, the Consultant in Children's Diseases, and a medical officer from this Division. The family doctor is informed of the diagnosis and clinical findings of cases referred for investigation.

A number of children referred for investigation were shown to have normal hearts and, in other cases, the defect was so slight that no restriction of activity was necessary. It is most important that children should not be limiteed in physical training and school activities unless there are sufficient grounds for so doing, and it is by the careful investigations which are undertaken at the Cardiac Clinic that it is possible to give competent advice and reassurance in these cases. In cases where there is established heart disease the parents are informed and head teachers notified of any restrictions necessary. Such advice is also available to dental officers who may be undertaking dental extractions and occasionally to the Youth Employment Officer regarding placement in suitable work. The advances in heart surgery have been so great in recent years

that the clinic serves a useful purpose in making accurate diagnosis possible and indicating to family doctors and parents whether there is a good chance of operative cure.

106 children attended during the year of whom 41 resided in the Borough of Harrogate, the remainder being from homes in surrounding areas.

The following is a classification of the cardiac conditions found :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Normal hearts ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Congenital Heart Disease ... ... ... ... | 44 |
| Rheumatic Heart Disease ... ... ... | 4 |
| Incomplete auriculo-ventricular heart block ... | 2 |
| For further investigation ... ... ... ... | 52 |
| | 106 |

The types of congential Heart Disease were :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Pulmonary stenosis ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| Aortic stenosis ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Patent ductus arteriosus ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Persistent truncus arteriosus ... ... ... | 1 |
| Ventricular septal defect ... ... ... ... | 13 |
| Transposition of great vessels and atrial septal defect ... | 1 |
| Pulmonary stenosis and atrial septal defect ... | 1 |
| Fallots Tetralogy ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Dextrocardia ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Coarctation of Aorta ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Atrial septal defect ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| | 44 |

Arrangements were made for children from other Divisions to be seen at this Clinic. Of the 35 new cases who attended during the year, 5 were from the Otley and Horsforth Division, 6 were from the Ripon Division, and 4 were from the Wetherby Division. 3 of the new cases were discharged with normal hearts. The total attendances at the clinic numbered 143.

Cardiac Catheterisation was carried out in 7 cases to assist in the diagnosis. In 6 cases, the presence of congential heart disease was confirmed and the precise nature of the abnormalities was established. In the other case, further investigation will be necessary.

Mr. G. H. Wooler, Consultant Thoracic Surgeon to the Leeds Regional Hospital Board visited the Harrogate General Hospital periodically and special clinics were arranged on three occasions. Of the 9 cases seen by Mr. Wooler, 8 have been placed on his waiting list for admission to Leeds General Infirmary for operation.

5 cases were admitted to Leeds General Infirmary during the year, under Mr. Wooler's care. 4 of these cases underwent operation and made an uneventful post-operative recovery :

a. Patent ductus arteriosus ligated.
b. Closure of auricular septal defect (3½cms. x 2cms.).
c. Closure of ventricular septal defect (1.7cms. x 1.2cms.).
d. Division of large thick walled patent ductus arteriosus.

1 case was admitted for investigation and a cardiac catheterisation and a selective angio-cardiograph were carried out. The result confirmed a mild degree of pulmonary stenosis. This case does not require surgery at the present time, but Mr. Wooler will see the case again in two years time.

## 8. SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.

In October 1959, the number of sessions in this Division was increased from four to six per week. This allows more time for home and school visits, a very necessary part of a Speech Therapist's work. During the year 67 school children attended the Speech Therapy Clinic. Of these, 26 had been attending in 1958 and treatment was carried over into 1959. 37 children were discharged from the clinic during the year, of whom 30 had normal speech, and 7 had improved with treatment.

The analysis of the cases treated is as follows, and shows that boys predominated :—

| | Boys | Girls |
|---|---|---|
| Stammerers ... ... ... ... | 15 | 2 |
| Defects of Articulation — | | |
| (a) Dyslalia ... ... ... ... | 19 | 5 |
| (b) Sigmatism ... ... ... ... | 4 | 4 |
| (c) Rhinolalia, due to nasal obstruction | — | 1 |
| Defective speech due to deafness ... ... | — | 1 |
| Retarded speech development ... ... | 4 | 2 |

Children suffering from Dyslalia are those who have difficulty in pronouncing certain words and consonants. Children suffering from Sigmatism have difficulty with the letter "s" and in some cases have a marked lisp.

A tape recorder has also been added to the speech therapy equipment. This has proved to be of great value. A recording of the child's speech is taken at the beginning of his treatment, and again at regular intervals throughout the course. The child is thus able to follow his progress. Some children are unaware of their speech defect, and to hear their own speech recorded is often an unpleasant surprise for them. It does, however, help them to adopt a positive attitude towards their speech defect, and it gives them a very real desire to overcome their difficulty.

## 9. SUNLIGHT CLINIC.

10 school children were referred for sunlight treatment. 5 of these children were suffering from recurrent colds or bronchitis, 3 were suffering from debility, and 2 from skin infections. Sunlight treatment does appear to act as a tonic in these cases and to raise the children's resistance to infection.

## 10. DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

The number of cases of skin disease who attended at the minor ailments clinics during 1959, totalled 58. In addition, 42 cases of skin disease were found at school inspections and were either referred to, or were under treatment of, their own doctor. 1 of these was a school boy who had a mild attack of scabies, and who responded quickly to treatment.

## 11. CLEANLINESS — VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

During the year, 12,868 examinations of children's heads were made in the schools in the Division, and 70 individual pupils were found to be infested.

Whilst there has been a marked reduction in uncleanliness during the post-war years, there are a number of families who are persistent offenders, and from time to time accidental infestation spreads from children of these families to the well cared for child.

D.D.T. preparations are supplied free, and metal tooth combs are sold or lent, but in these unsatisfactory families re-infestation tends to occur, and is in many cases due to parents of the family being infested. In these instances there are often difficulties in dealing with the situation.

## 12. HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

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

Details of the number of handicapped pupils in Harrogate together with the categories in which they fall are given on page 52.

Of the physically handicapped children, many only have minor disability which, however, precludes them from taking full part in the activities of a normal school such as physical training, swimming, etc., but apart from this they are quite able to benefit by the education they receive in the normal school curriculum.

There is still some shortage of accommodation for those children in the upper age groups who are educationally sub-normal, and who would benefit by special schooling.

## 13. CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

A Child Guidance Clinic is held at 2 Dragon Parade, Harrogate, on Thursday and Friday each week.

Dr. J. H. Kahn has been the Psychiatrist in charge of this clinic. The staff also includes a Psychiatric Social Worker, an Educational Psychologist, and an additional Social Worker.

At the end of the year Dr. Kahn resigned in order to take up a fresh appointment in the London area. I am very sorry to lose his services, which have been greatly valued.

I am indebted to Dr. Kahn for his report for 1959 on the work of the Child Guidance Clinic.

"The year ending 31st December, 1959, is the second complete year of the existence of the Harrogate Child Guidance Clinic, and the end of the year marks the end of my appointment there as part-time Consultant Child Psychiatrist. While moving to another area where I shall devote the whole of my time to Child Psychiatry and Community Mental Health, I would like to place on record my regret at leaving the Harrogate Clinic. I feel that the clinic has become an integral part of the Health and Welfare services in this area, and this has taken

place because of the ready co-operation with the clinic that has been met with on all sides. A relationship has been established with the School Medical Officers in all three Divisions covered by the clinic, and there has been contact with the Health Visitors, Probation Officers, Children's Department, and voluntary agencies. Referrals of patients to this clinic have also been made by the Consultant Paediatrician, and by family practitioners in the area. Sometimes these contacts have been carried out informally, and it has been the practice of the clinic staff to be "at home" during the lunch hour to professional workers in other fields.

Mention should also be made of the work of the clinic in connection with the Juvenile Court. No fewer than 27 cases have been referred during the two years. Together with the Psychiatric Social Worker, and Psychologist, an examination of these cases has been made with a view to a publication on the relationship of the Child Guidance Clinic to the Juvenile Court. The purpose of this paper was the study in retrospect of the clinic procedure, leading to the preparation of the report to the Court, and it is felt that some valuable conclusions may be drawn.

75 new cases were seen during 1959. This has been a heavy load to undertake, in addition to undertaking the treatment of suitable cases, in one day (2 sessions) of psychiatric time available to the clinic each week. The Psychologist and Psychiatric Social Worker each give two days a week. The caseload has been steadily growing, and it is evident that it would be likely to continue to grow as the clinic becomes better known, and as it becomes appreciated that the existing needs of the children in the area have a prospect of being met. In order to cope with the increasing use made of the clinic, it became apparent that long term treatment could not be carried out by the Psychiatrist alone. Some cases, therefore, were selected for treatment, under psychiatric supervision, by the Psychologist and Psychiatric Social Worker. The further development of the clinic has also been assisted by the appointment of Miss Day as Social Worker to the West Riding Authority, and two days of her time were allowed to the Harrogate clinic.

Considerable concern had previously been shown by the Child Guidance Clinics generally in the area regarding the insufficiency of places available in Residential Schools for Maladjusted Pupils, and also to the need for the provision of a Day School for Maladjusted Pupils. It was decided at a meeting of Psychiatrists at County Hall with the County Medical Officer and the Chief Education Officer and other officials, that in the interval before any new Day School could be inaugurated, a pilot experiment be made. It was decided that a teacher should be attached to a Child Guidance Clinic in order to deal with a small number of maladjusted pupils in conjunction with the clinic staff. Harrogate was selected for this experiment, and Miss Blackburn has been appointed to the post, and arrangements have been made for her to begin this work in the coming year. 56 of the 75 new cases seen during the year came from Harrogate, Knaresborough, and Nidderdale.

The sources of referral were classified as follows :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Divisional Medical Officer ... ... ... ... | 13 |
| Juvenile Court ... ... ... ... ... | 12 |
| General Practitioners ... ... ... ... | 11 |
| Consultant Paediatrician ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Parents ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Youth Employment Officer ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Children's Officer ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| School Welfare Officer ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Special assessment including 3 North Riding Children | 9 |
| | 56 |

**Cases carried over from 1959 to 1960.** (All Divisions).

| | |
|---|---|
| Treatment cases ... ... ... ... ... | 19 |
| Special tuition (Miss Blackburn) ... ... ... | 7 |
| Diagnostic service awaiting completion ... ... | 3 |
| | 29 |

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks and appreciation to colleagues working with me at the clinic, and in the area generally, and to add my good wishes for the clinic's future."

## CATEGORIES OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE AS AT 31-12-59

| 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 ... .. | | | | 3 | | 3 |
| Deaf ... ... ... .. | | | | 3 | | 3 |
| Partially Deaf ... .. | | | | | | |
| Educationally Sub Normal .. | 12 | | 9 | 8 | | 29 |
| Epileptic .. .. | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Maladjusted ... | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Physically Handicapped . | 4 | | | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Delicate ... ... . | 3 | | 2 | | | 5 |
| TOTALS .. | 21 | | 11 | 15 | 2 | 49 |

## 14. SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

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

A total of 6,460 children were dentally inspected and 2,000 received treatment, the number of attendances being 6,219. 938 children received general anaesthetics for dental extractions and 195 temporary and 3,342 permanent fillings were done.

Orthodontic treatment is given to children who have such conditions as protruding teeth or crowded mouths.

## 15. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

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

## 16. 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.

39 boys and 7 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, 18 nurses are employed who undertake nursing in the patients' homes. 10 of the nurses are employed full-time on home nursing, and 8 only part-time, the remainder of their time being spent on midwifery duties.

During the year 1,480 patients were treated entailing a total number of 38,879 visits. 11,120 of these visits were for injections only. 32,576 of the visits were to 1,057 patients who had reached the age of sixty-five years, and 212 were to 30 children under the age of five years.

Home nursing is an important part of the Health Service but it is suprising that many members of the public still do not know of its existence. Some members of the public also do not appreciate that in Harrogate the home nurses are fully trained nurses who, in addition to being State Registered Nurses, also hold the Queen's District Training Certificate.

Much of the work is concerned with the elderly and infirm case, sometimes permanently confined to bed. In certain instances time has to be given by the home nurses to encouraging and giving moral support to the relatives who have chronic sick patients living with them in their own homes. Student nurses from the Harrogate General Hospital, as part of their training, are taken out by the home nurses in order to demonstrate to them the technique and work of the home nurse. This practical demonstation is included in the General Nursing Syllabus. In addition student Queen's nurses come to stay with some of the home nurses for about four days at a time to gain practical experience on the district.

## 2. HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service continues to expand. The health visitors are responsible for the assessment of need and for the supervision in the homes. There is no doubt that many of the elderly and infirm have been able to remain in their own homes because of this service.

Certain of the home helps have given of their best in assisting the health visitors in their rehabilitation efforts on behalf of problem and potential problem families. Not only have they done household duties but they have taken on the role of educator in training the mothers in household management. In the care of the aged, many of the home helps show an appreciation of their needs and handle difficult and slightly confused old persons with tact and understanding.

At the end of the year 6 home helps were employed in Harrogate on a whole-time basis and 71 on a part-time basis. They worked a total number of 74,701 hours during 1959.

Assistance was given to 505 cases. 46 of these cases were due to illness in the home, 108 to old age and illness, and 253 to old age and infirmity. Home helps were supplied to 37 chronic sick people under the age of sixty-five, to 43 maternity cases, to 9 expectant mothers, and to 6 cases of tuberculosis. In addition help in the home was given in 3 cases where the mother was ill and the children needed care.

## 3. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

### (a) Mental Health Social Worker.

The Mental Health Social Worker is employed partly in this Division and partly in the Ripon and Pateley Bridge areas. She visits the mental defectives who live at home or who are in residential employment in the Division.

At the end of the year the number of mental defectives whose homes are in Harrogate was as follows :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Under Statutory Supervision ... ... ... | 34 |
| Under Voluntary Supervision ... ... ... | 12 |
| In Institutional Care ... ... ... ... | 62 |

Those under Statutory and Voluntary Supervision are visited, and 6 people who are not certified under the Mental Deficiency Acts are also visited at the request of relatives.

11 defectives under Statutory or Voluntary Supervision were in full-time employment at the end of the year.

Admissions to hospital continue to be on an informal basis wherever possible. All admissions from this area during the year were on this basis. Of the 62 defectives in hospitals, 30 are now informal patients.

Hospitals continue to help parents by giving short periods of hospital care. 7 children were admitted as short-stay cases during the year. At the end of 1959 3 cases were awaiting admission to hospital, all of whom were under sixteen years.

Care and after-care cases of mental illness are visited at the request of the patients or their relatives. During the year 6 pre-hospital, and 9 after-care cases were visited.

### (b) Group Training.

The number of children attending the Group Training Class at the Theosophical Hall, Harrogate, has shown continued increase since its opening in 1958. At the end of the year 26 children attended of whom 9 were resident in Harrogate. The class is open on Monday to Friday each week and a mid-day meal is provided through the School Meals Service.

The training given is a great help to the children, and there is a marked improvement in their behaviour and social attitude after they have been attending the class. Physical exercises, music and movement, and country dancing assist in developing these children physically, and instruction in handicrafts, rug making, knitting, basket making, and raffia work is also provided.

### (c) Home Teaching.

One of the teachers is available one day per week to give Home Training to those unsuitable for the Group Training Class. These patients are all over school age. This training consists of handicrafts, rug-making being very popular. Knitting, embroidery and raffia work is also taught. 2 mental defectives and 4 cases of mental illness received training during the year. At the end of the year 2 of the cases of mental illness ceased home tuition.

## 4. CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

Under the arrangements for the care and after-care of persons suffering from illness, nursing equipment is loaned to patients in their own homes. The main items of equipment loaned in this way are wheel chairs, bedpans, urinals, rubber sheets, air rings, and chair commodes.

The demand for the loan of equipment continued throughout the year, with an increased demand for chair commodes and tripod walking aids. Total issues of all items of equipment in 1959 was over 850.

Special equipment obtained in 1958 was still in use by the persons for whom it was obtained and several new items were obtained during the year.

Adult cot beds were supplied to two Harrogate patients, enabling them to be nursed at home. A nursing hoist was obtained for a woman suffering from disseminated sclerosis. A special chair was supplied to a family with a spastic child. A folding carrying chair was provided for a patient with rheumatoid arthritis in her legs. She was unable to negotiate stairs and is now carried up the stairs. A special chair was obtained for a patient who was discharged from hospital and was severely disabled. She had used this type of chair in hospital with some success.

## 5. RECUPERATIVE HOME TREATMENT.

During the year 22 Harrogate residents were recommended for recuperative home treatment by their medical practitioner but in 2 cases the applicants did not feel fit enough to proceed with the convalescence and the applications were withdrawn.

A man and a woman suffering from tuberculosis were sent to a convalescent home at Seahouses for this type of case. 6 of the remaining patients went to a convalescent home at St. Annes-on-Sea, 3 to Grange-over-Sands, 3 to Bridlington, and 1 to a home in Hunstanton. 2 school boys were sent to a convalescent home in Colwyn Bay owing to the break up of their home, their father having been urgently removed to a mental hospital. The children's nerves were in a bad state on admission but they were eating and sleeping well on discharge. Convalescence was arranged for a ten year old boy and his two younger sisters at St. Annes-on-Sea as the children had all been ill. They all gained weight at the home and came back looking fit and brown.

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

At the end of 1959 there were 17 homes in Harrogate registered under the National Assistance Act as Disabled and Old Persons' Homes, 5 run by voluntary agencies and 12 privately owned. They are now registered to accommodate a total of 253 residents. One of these homes was registered for the first time during the year for the admission of 5 elderly persons. All these homes are inspected not less than once a year by the Divisional Medical Officer and the Divisional Welfare Officer.

## 7. REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES.

At the end of 1958 there were 12 nursing homes on the register. 2 new nursing homes were opened during the year providing 13 extra beds. At the end of 1959 the 14 nursing homes were registered for the reception of 139 patients. None of the nursing homes are registered for the reception of maternity patients at the present time. All the nursing homes are inspected annually by the Divisional Medical Staff and on other occasions as required.

## 8. SOCIAL WORKERS' GROUP.

There were 11 meetings of the Harrogate Social Workers' Group held in 1959. Three of these were Open Meetings at which addresses were given on the following subjects :—

"The Proposed New Mental Health Legislation" by Dr. J. M. W. Bolt, Assistant County Medical Officer.

"Problems of Treatment in Child Guidance" by Dr. J. H. Kahn, Consultant Psychiatrist.

"The Work of the National Assistance Board" by Mr. G. Fowler, Area Officer, National Assistance Board.

The attendance at the Open Meetings numbers approximately 30, and includes representatives from the Welfare, Children's, and Housing Departments; Probation Officers, the Youth Employment Officer, School Welfare Officers, the Mental Health Social Worker; representatives from the N.S.P.C.C., the Ripon Diocesan Moral Welfare Association, the Guild of Help; the Almoner of the Harrogate General Hospital, the Health Visitors, and the Divisional Medical Officer and his Medical Staff.

At the meetings of the smaller committee, individual cases of problem families or potential problem families are discussed and information known to the various members of this committee is pooled to avoid overlapping.

At the beginning of the year, 13 families were listed as being in need of help and support. 11 families were added to the list during the year, although 3 of these only required supervision for a short period, and 5 other families ceased to require help, at least for the time being, during 1959.

Many of the fathers of the problem families are unemployed intermittently or permanently, and effort is directed into approaching employers on their behalf, ensuring that all available allowances are claimed during periods off work, arranging, and when necessary, for medical assessment and estimate of capacity for work.

The mothers, only too often are burdened with poor physique, poor health, modest intelligence, insufficient money, alcoholic husbands, and more children than they can posssibly handle, to say nothing of taking in lodgers as well. Home helps are sent in to assist as needed. Convalescence, and occasionally training in housecraft can be arranged. Assistance, mainly in kind, is supplied, often over a period of years. The house itself may be cleaned up and decorated from time to time.

Many of the children are completely unruly, are poor attenders at school, often in mischief, or in the hands of the police. Some require admission to Special Schools, either because of backwardness, physical frailty, or as being the only way to ensure a minimum of education. There are several young women with illegitimate babies for whom all manner of arrangements have to be made. On one occasion, a petition from the inhabitants of one street was submitted to the Town Council complaining of the behaviour of the children, 29 in all, of three families rehoused in adjoining properties in the same street by the Harrogate Corporation. This posed a very difficult problem.

One of the objects of the Social Workers' Group is to prevent the need for eviction of tenants from their homes. In certain cases, through the efforts of the statutory and voluntary welfare agencies, it has been possible to rehabilitate the family, clean up the house, and thus prevent eviction and break up of the home life.

## 9. HEALTH EDUCATION.

Talks by the Divisional Medical Officer were given to the Senior Apprentices at the Army Apprentices School, Harrogate. These talks covered information on the Local Health Services, and on the subject of smoking and lung cancer. In connection with the latter a film entitled "1 in 20,000" was shown. Lectures were also given by the Divisional Medical Officer on the Public Health Services to student nurses at the Harrogate General Hospital.

Booklets and leaflets have been distributed, and posters displayed, at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics in the Division. Booklets have included "You and Your Baby" published by the British Medical Association, a Home Safety Handbook issued bv the West Riding County Council, and "Advice to Mothers and Fathers" issued by the National Association for Maternity and Child Welfare.

A special Health Service display formed part of the exhibition held at the Royal Hall, in connection with the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Borough of Harrogate. This was open for one week in 1959 and included a display on the Control of Infectious Diseases, the Maternity and Child Welfare Services, and on the work of the Home Nurses and the Health Visitors. A section of the display also demonstrated the work of the Public Health Inspectors, including their duties under the Housing Acts, the disposal of refuse, and rodent control.

As in the past, visual aids in the form of flannelgraphs, film strips and models have been used by the health visitors for talks in welfare centres and schools. Evening talks have been given to outside organisations such as the British Red Cross Cadets, Young Wives' Clubs and the Over Sixty Clubs. The health visitor has always had an important part to play in health education but there is no doubt that more use could be made of her abilities as an educator. A stock of flannelgraphs is gradually accumulating at the Central Clinic and these are borrowed by members of the staff as required.

Mothercraft talks have been given to the leavers at the Starbeck Secondary Modern School and Wheatlands School. It is hoped to start a course at St. Peter's School in the New Year.

The Mothers' Club has held a monthly meeting at 2 Dragon Parade, throughout the year. This club is now run entirely by the young mothers with a health visitor co-opted on to the working committee. The meeting has usually taken the form of a talk, followed by discussion, and the highlight of the year was a most successful "Brains Trust", which 35 mothers attended. This has been a most successful venture, with small beginnings, and is now at the end of its second year. At the mothers' request it is hoped to hold fortnightly meetings next year with a discussion group alternating with a talk. Thanks are due to the young husbands who have ably coped with children under five in order that their wives might attend and enjoy a get-together.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1959

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit for your consideration my thirteenth annual report of the work carried out by the sanitary and cleansing services of the department for the year 1959.

The year under review has been one in which excellent progress has been made in all sections of these services.

Work at the slaughterhouse has proceeded smoothly and various improvements have been carried out to the building and equipment. The report under the Slaughterhouse Act, 1958, was submitted to the Ministry and if approved will mean that the building can rapidly be brought up to the required standard.

The cleansing section has carried out its work efficiently despite the many technical problems which have arisen in connection with both collection and disposal of refuse. The weather very often made the removal of the contents of approximately 24,000 dustbins per week a difficult task, but apart from an extended period of collection following Bank Holidays a weekly schedule was maintained.

The results achieved by the public health inspectors in carrying out their manifold duties were again satisfactory. The value of their work can only be assessed by the contribution it makes to the health and welfare of the community.

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 would like in particular to thank the clerical staff under the leadership of Mr. H. M. Wiley. The manner in which the records have been compiled and kept and the efficient way in which the clerical work has been carried out has been of great assistance to everyone in the department.

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.** 1,429.9 hours of sunshine were recorded during the year, 234.6 more than in 1958. The sunniest day being the 6th July, 1959, when 14.4 hours were recorded.

**Rainfall.** The total rainfall recorded during the year was 24.51 inches, the wettest day being the 26th October, 1959, when 1.06 inches of rain was recorded. The figure for 1958 was 34.98 inches.

**Temperatures.** The maximum temperature during the year was 85 degrees F. recorded on the 4th July, 1959, and the minimum temperature was 16 degrees F. recorded on the 15th January, 1959.

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

## WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of Harrogate and the surrounding districts is impounded in reservoirs on two moorland gathering areas. The supply is abundant, pure and wholesome, distribution being undertaken by the Claro Water Board which was formed on the 1st April, 1959, and includes in addition to Harrogate the following authorities :—

Ripon City.
Knaresborough U.D.C.
Nidderdale R.D.C.
Wetherby R.D.C.
Ripon and Pateley Bridge R.D.C.

Extensions to the mains have been carried out in the following districts and roads during the year 1959 :—

Almsford Grove.
Burnbridge Oval.
Crimple Meadows.
Crossways.
Greenway.
Grosvenor Road.
Hall Lane Estate.
Oakdale.
Plompton Drive.
Rydal Road.
St. John's New Estate.
Walnut Grove.

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 ... ... ... | 70 |
| Being samples of water from :— | |
| Domestic supplies (town's mains) ... ... | 64 |
| Domestic supplies (wells, etc.) ... ... | 6 |
| Number of samples found upon examination to be satisfactory. ... ... ... ... | 67 |
| Number of samples found upon examination to be unsatisfactory. (All from wells, etc.) ... | 3 |

In the portions of the Borough, which were incorporated on the 1st April, 1938, from the Wetherby Rural District and the former Knaresborough Rural District, 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.

**Report on Two Samples of Water Taken on the 3rd November, 1959.**

| Parts per Million | Irongate Bridge 1381 | Harlow Hill 1382 |
|---|---|---|
| Total Solids ..... ..... ..... ..... | 100 | 100 |
| Chloride ..... ..... ..... ..... | 13 | 13 |
| Total Hardness ..... ..... ..... | 55 | 55 |
| Lead, Copper, Zinc ..... ..... | Nil | Nil |
| Iron ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Free Ammonia ..... ..... ..... | 0.05 | 0.01 |
| Albuminoid Ammonia ..... ..... | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Nitrous Nitrogen ..... ..... ..... | Nil | Nil |
| Nitric Nitrogen ..... ..... ..... | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| | pH 7.2 | pH 7.0 |

Observations :— These waters are of good organic purity.

Bacteriological samples of water taken during the year proved to be satisfactory.

**Plumbo-Solvency of Water Supplies.**

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

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the number of pail closets, earth closets and cesspools, etc., in the Borough at the end of December, 1959.

| | |
|---|---|
| Pail and tub closets ... ... ... | 21 |
| Privies ... ... ... ... ... | 15 |
| Waste water-closets ... ... ... | 15 |
| 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.

It is interesting to note that ten years ago there were 145 privies, pail and waste-water closets against a total of 51 today. The elimination of these unhygienic fittings has been at the unsatisfactory rate of just over 9 per year, due in the main, to the difficulty of providing a suitable substitute.

On the other hand cesspools have increased in number by 3. The growth of the town and extension of the sewerage system will eventually absorb this method of disposal.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

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

The year has been remarkably free from any serious pollution of rivers and streams. The exceptional summer reduced many to a mere trickle of water and others simply dried up. A sharp watch was constantly maintained for any pockets of pollution which under the circumstances might have been seriously aggravated by the lack of a natural flow of water.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number of inspections carried out during the year by the public health inspectors increased by 1,500 over the previous year. This increase in work was undoubtedly brought about by the continuing expansion of the town's activities and its growing attraction for shoppers from the surrounding areas.

The supervision of food shops, food preparation rooms and cafes and hotels is of great importance in maintaining the welfare and goodwill of not only the local citizens but also of the large army of visiting week-end shoppers.

The preservation of the town's amenities from the public health point of view is also of equal importance.

I have repeatedly stressed in my annual reports the necessity for strictly maintaining routine inspections. No matter how highly trained the employees are, and despite modern machinery and hygienic conditions provided for them, there is a tendency for a gradual falling off in the maintenance of the statutory standards required from them unless they are subject to supervision by the department from time to time. The majority of owners and occupiers of premises where labour is employed welcome the visits of the inspectors and constantly seek their advice and guidance on many matters. From a departmental point of view the difficulty of visiting these premises a reasonable number of times per year is increased as the town builds up to its boundaries. Much time is lost by lack of travelling facilities. Each district inspector is in charge of an area with a population of approximately 13,000.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Complaints reported to the Public Health Department** | **440** |
| Where nuisances were found ... ... ... ... | 376 |
| Where complaint was received and no nuisance found | 64 |
| Under Housing Acts ... ... ... ... ... | 324 |
| Where infectious disease had occurred ... ... ... | 64 |
| Bakehouse (Power) ... ... ... ... ... ... | 173 |
| Bakehouse (No Power) ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Farms ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Dairies and Milkshops ... ... ... ... ... | 387 |
| Ice-cream ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 635 |
| Fish frying premises ... ... ... ... ... ... | 171 |
| Fish shops (wet) ... ... ... ... ... ... | 373 |
| Food preparing premises ... ... ... ... ... | 977 |
| Food storage premises ... ... ... ... ... | 941 |
| Food inspection ... ... ... ... ... ... | 220 |
| Market ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 104 |
| Shops ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1,886 |
| Restaurants ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 232 |
| Kitchens ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 819 |
| Slaughterhouse (Starbeck) ... ... ... ... ... | 803 |
| Butchers shops ... ... ... ... ... ... | 699 |
| Factories (Power) ... ... ... ... ... ... | 316 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Factories (No Power) ... ... ... ... ... ... | 36 |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act ... ... ... | 209 |
| Theatres and Cinemas ... ... ... ... ... | 7 |
| Sanitary conveniences—public ... ... ... ... | 37 |
| Sanitary conveniences—private ... ... ... ... | 26 |
| Schools ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 46 |
| Tents and vans ... ... ... ... ... ... | 133 |
| Public cleansing ... ... ... ... ... ... | 290 |
| Refuse tips ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 200 |
| Piggeries ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 12 |
| Overcrowding ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Outworkers ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 7 |
| Workplaces ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 25 |
| Merchandise Marks Act ... ... ... ... ... | 17 |

## Other Visits or Inspections.

| | |
|---|---|
| Drainage ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 770 |
| Interviews ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 410 |
| Investigation of infestation of insect pests (excluding bugs) ... ... ... ... ... ... | 210 |
| Clean Air Act ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 69 |
| Visits re water supplies and water samples ... ... | 59 |
| Visits under Food and Drugs Act for samples ... ... | 370 |
| Visits to properties under notice or work in progress ... | 1,085 |
| Installation of new sanitary fittings ... ... ... | 222 |
| Food poisoning investigations ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Pet Animals Act, 1951 ... ... ... ... ... | 20 |
| Hairdressers and Barbers ... ... ... ... ... | 198 |
| Old Metal and Marine Stores ... ... ... ... | 7 |
| Food hawkers ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 78 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1,906 |
| Total | 16,027 |

## ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Drainage repaired, trapped, etc. ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Drainage unstopped ... ... ... ... ... ... | 16 |
| Drainage repaired ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Water-closets repaired or supplied with water ... ... | 9 |
| Water-closets new pans or pedestals fixed ... ... | 3 |
| Waste pipes repaired or trapped ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Waste pipes, rain-water pipes and eaves gutters repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... ... | 36 |
| Sinks provided or replaced ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Accumulations of refuse removed ... ... ... ... | 7 |
| Brickwork or pointing repaired ... ... ... ... | 30 |
| D.P.C. inserted ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Dampness remedied ... ... ... ... ... ... | 19 |
| Doors repaired, etc. ... ... ... ... ... ... | 14 |
| Dustbins supplied ... ... ... ... ... ... | 263 |
| Fireplaces, stoves and flues repaired ... ... ... | 20 |
| Flooring and other woodwork repaired or renewed ... | 11 |
| Floors—concrete or quarried, repaired or renewed ... | 1 |
| Plaster repaired ... ... ... ... ... ... | 14 |
| Rat and mice infestations abated ... ... ... ... | 166 |
| Rent books made to comply with Regulations of the Housing Act ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Roofs made watertight ... ... ... ... ... | 27 |
| Water-supplies reinstated or made sufficient ... ... | 11 |
| Window-cords, fasteners and glass repaired or renewed ... | 17 |
| Ventilation improved ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Yards and passages paved ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |

## STATUTORY NOTICES.

The number of legal notices served during the year dropped to the exceedingly low figure of 8. The service of an informal notice in the shape of a printed form or letter is usually sufficient for the necessary work to be carried out. In some instances a follow-up letter or phone call is essential to speed up the work. It is indeed noticeable that the pendulum is swinging to the other extreme and a verbal request by the inspector is all that is needed to remedy a defect or nuisance. People today are more knowledgeable about local government and their obligations as citizens of an authority. They appreciate the fact, in the majority of cases, that compliance with certain acts and regulations is ultimately to their advantage. Difficulty only arises where the necessary money to carry out work is not available. This factor rather than the one of principle is usually the prelude to the service of a statutory notice.

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

| | Served 1959 | Complied with during 1959 | Served 1958 | Complied with during 1958/59 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harrogate Corporation Act, 1935, Section 48 | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39 ... | 2 | 1 | 9 | 7 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45 ... | — | — | — | — |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Section 56 ... | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75 ... | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93 .. | 5 | 3 | 9 | 7 |
| TOTAL ... | 8 | 5 | 25 | 21 |

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Premises inspected where notifiable diseases have occurred ... ... ... ... ... | 57 |
| Articles destroyed by burning at request of Owners ... ... ... ... ... ... | 16 |
| Total visits to infected premises ... ... ... | 64 |

## DISINFECTANT.

During the year 2 gallons of disinfectant fluid were supplied to the public, free of charge, for use in premises where cases of infectious diseases, etc., had occurred. Twelve years ago 30 gallons of disinfectant were given away each year. This is one of the obvious results of the steady progress made in the elimination of infectious diseases and points to the fact that this particular service is now no longer required.

## LIBRARY BOOKS.

Nineteen books which had been in contact with cases of infectious diseases were withdrawn from circulation and disinfected before being returned to the library. My remarks re disinfectant fluid could apply equally well to library books.

## 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 51 chemical and bacteriological samples of water were taken from these baths.

All these samples were satisfactory.

## DISINFESTATION.

No case of bedbugs has been reported to the department since 1956. In considering this fact two alternative answers are available. One would suggest that there are no bedbugs in the town and the other that persons suffering in this respect are treating the infested premises themselves with insecticides purchased at a shop. Whatever the reason, complaints of insect pests, with the exception of beetles, are few and far between. The position with regard to beetles is unchanged. In some instances we fail entirely to rid the premises of this type of vermin and in other cases only persistent spraying of liquids and the use of powders over several months brings

ultimate success. I have frequently referred to the resistance of this insect to insecticides and to the way in which infestations appear to be increasing despite the constant efforts which are being made to eradicate them.

Once again wasps proved very troublesome and 47 cases were dealt with. The department only destroys nests at ground level or within easy reach of the operator and are unable to treat roof infestations.

| Type of Premises | No. |
|---|---|
| Council houses | 2 |
| Private houses | 75 |
| Businesses | 16 |
| TOTAL | 93 |

| Classification | No. |
|---|---|
| Beetles | 32 |
| Flies | 5 |
| Hornets | 1 |
| Moths | 1 |
| Red Spider | 1 |
| Silver fish | 1 |
| Steamflies | 1 |
| Wasps | 47 |
| Woodworm | 1 |
| Pre-cautionary spraying | 3 |

## RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Once again there was a steady reduction in the number of infestations by rats and mice. 548 premises were involved against a total of 694 in the previous year. The effectiveness of the modern methods of extermination which are employed today is becoming more and more apparent as the years go by. One realises of course that the average person is not so tolerant towards vermin as they used to be and quickly demand that some action be taken to rid their premises of these disease-carrying animals. Advice about vermin-proofing buildings is given by the rodent operator, and the adjoining premises are inspected to ascertain if there is a block infestation. A large number of contracts for the systematic inspection of business premises were again renewed in the undoubted belief that prevention is better than cure. Damage caused by rats can be a costly business, especially where fur coats and expensive furnishings and fittings are the subject of their attention. The contracts definitely minimise this risk.

Close supervision of the controlled tips was maintained with the result that no infestations occurred on those in use for disposal purposes.

The following gives details of the work carried out during 1959 :—

| | | Complaints received | No. of premises involved | Total No. of visits | No. of complete treatments | Bodies |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Private Dwellings | rats | 60 | 221 | 674 | 33 | 15 |
| | mice | 20 | 55 | 192 | 16 | — |
| Business Premises | rats | 35 | 152 | 978 | 90 | 15 |
| | mice | 22 | 62 | 550 | 20 | — |
| Agricultural Premises | rats | 1 | 54 | 85 | 1 | 21 |
| | mice | — | — | — | — | — |
| Local Authorities | rats | 2 | 4 | 128 | 6 | 26 |
| | mice | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | rats | 98 | 431 | 1865 | 130 | 77 |
| | mice | 42 | 117 | 742 | 36 | — |

## DISINFESTATION OF SEWERS.

The efforts made by the department to exterminate rats from the town's sewerage system have succeeded to a remarkable degree since "Warfarin" was first used as a bait in manholes three years ago. In 1957, 59 manholes were treated for infestations. This figure last year was reduced to 6. If these results can be maintained in the future the position with regard to the sewerage system will be very satisfactory.

| Type of Treatment | No. of manholes pre-baited | No. of takes | No. of manholes poison baited |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10% Test (1 in 10 manholes on the foul water system tested) ... ... | 199 | 7 | — |
| First Maintenance Treatment ... | 40 | 2 | 2 |
| Second Maintenance Treatment ... | 25 | 3 | 3 |

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

A closer supervision of factories was maintained during the year and 377 inspections were made by the public health inspectors against a total of 150 in 1958. Only 14 defects were found and generally speaking the conditions were satisfactory and a reasonable standard maintained. Despite the modern facilities which are provided by the owners of factories it is extremely difficult in certain instances to persuade the employees to use and keep them in a hygienic manner. Careless handling of equipment and sometimes deliberate sabotage are mainly responsible for the bad conditions which are discovered on inspection.

## Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

## PART I OF THE ACT.

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..... | 75 | 36 | — | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..... ... | 237 | 316 | 14 | — |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..... ..... | 10 | 25 | 1 | — |
| Total..... | 322 | 377 | 15 | — |

## 2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | Referred by H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..... | 3 | 2 | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) .... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..... ..... .... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..... .... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)..... | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient .... | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective ..... ..... | 10 | 8 | — | 3 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes ..... .... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total..... | 14 | 11 | — | 3 | — |

## PART VIII OF THE ACT.

### Outwork.

(Sections 110 and 111).

| Nature of Work | Section 110 | | | Section 111 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
| Wearing apparel—Making, etc. | 5 | — | — | — | — | — |

### Registered Factories, Factories Act, 1937.

The total number of factories has been reduced by 7 during the year.

| | Mechanical Power | No Mechanical Power |
|---|---|---|
| Aerated Water ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Agricultural Machinery ... ... | 1 | — |
| Baking ... ... ... ... ... | 27 | 10 |
| Bicycle Repairs ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Blacksmith ... ... ... ... | — | 1 |
| Boot and Shoe Repairs ... ... | 11 | 6 |
| Brickmaking ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Burling and Mending ... ... ... | — | 1 |
| Chocolate and Sweet Manufacture ... | 2 | 1 |
| Coal Gas Manufacture ... ... | 1 | — |
| Corn Milling ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Dentures ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Display Material ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Dress Making ... ... ... ... | 8 | 13 |
| Dry Cleaning ... ... ... ... | 3 | — |
| Egg Packing ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Electric Generating ... ... ... | 1 | — |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Electric, Television and Radio Repairs | 8 | 1 |
| Engineering ... ... ... ... | 4 | — |
| Firegrate Conversion ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Firewood Cutting ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| French Polishing ... ... ... | 1 | 1 |
| Furrier ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Gas Fitting Repairs ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Ham Boiling ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Ice and Ice-cream Manufacture ... | 2 | — |
| Jam Manufacture ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Joinery, Cabinet Making .. ... | 41 | 3 |
| Laundries ... ... ... ... | 10 | 1 |
| Leatherwork ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Letterpress Printing ... ... ... | 7 | — |
| Malting ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Metal Engraving ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Milk Pasteurisation ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Millinery ... ... ... ... | — | 5 |
| Monumental Engraving ... ... | 1 | — |
| Motor Spirit Storage ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Motor Vehicle Repairs ... ... | 42 | 1 |
| Paint Thinning ... ... ... ... | — | 1 |
| Paper Baling ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Pharmaceutical Products ... ... | 1 | — |
| Photography ... ... ... ... | 3 | 2 |
| Picture Framing ... ... ... | — | 2 |
| Plumbing ... ... ... ... | — | 4 |
| Raincoat Manufacture ... ... | 1 | — |
| Rubber Products ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Sausage Making and Pies ... ... | 9 | 1 |
| Shirt Making ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Soft Furnishings ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Spectacles ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Stone Dressing and Breaking ... | 2 | — |
| Tailoring ... ... ... ... | 4 | 16 |
| Tinsmith ... ... ... ... | 4 | — |
| Tyre Repairs ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Upholstery ... ... ... ... | 1 | 4 |
| Watch Repairs ... ... ... ... | 3 | 1 |
| Weaving ... ... ... ... | 6 | — |
| Weighing Machine Repairs ... ... | 1 | — |
| Whitesmith ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| | 237 | 75 |

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Steady progress has been made in smoke abatement on a voluntary basis during the past twelve months.

The local brickworks chimney has been felled and a new one erected which has completely abated the nuisance from fumes.

The introduction of diesel railway engines has had a marked effect in reducing pollution at Starbeck and Harrogate. Trouble is still being experienced from steam engines of through trains standing just outside the station which is adjacent to the shopping centre. Strong representations have been made to the railway officials concerned. The Starbeck Motive Power Depot closed down in September, 1959.

A number of hotels which were responsible for nuisances in the residential areas have changed over to oil fired boilers.

The local electricity power station was closed down on the 6th December, 1959. A great deal of trouble had been caused by boilers of this plant owing to the demands placed upon it at different times.

The conversion of domestic heating to oil fired boilers is moving with great impetus. In addition a large number of coke burning and electric fires are being installed. This all adds up to a much cleaner atmosphere and the hope that the air we breathe will soon be as pure as the water we drink and the food we eat. It is a target to be aimed at in the future and one which will eventually prove very worthwhile to the town and the people who live in it.

Approval in accordance with Section 3(2) Clean Air Act, 1956, was granted in the case of two applications for new furnace installations.

## HOUSING.

Three hundred and thirty-four houses were built by private enterprise. The various small sites in the town are rapidly being filled in with houses and the spread continues round the perimeter.

The slum clearance scheme was completed with the exception of three houses, and the tenants re-housed. Demolition of the properties followed and the sites have been used for re-building, car parks, or just left in a derelict and unsightly condition, in many respects a scar on the neighbourhood.

Owners have taken advantage of the various new Acts to effectively repair their properties and there has been a steady diminuation of complaints received by the department. The tendency of owners of rented properties to sell their houses as soon as they become vacant continues and the transformation brought about by the new owner/occupiers is somewhat amazing. Areas of the town which had a somewhat drab and dilapidated appearance now appear in a bright and cheerful guise brought about by the addition of new doors and windows, freshly pointed walls and sparkling paintwork.

195 houses were inspected upon receipt of complaints re unsatisfactory conditions and 884 inspections were made in connection with the work. 80 defective dwelling-houses were rendered fit on service of an informal notice and 7 required the stimulant of a legal notice.

Though all the known bad property has been demolished or re-conditioned, individual houses unfit for human habitation will be brought to the attention of the department from time-to-time and dealt with under the Housing Act.

The standards laid down under the Act still fall far short of what public health inspectors desire and comparison between the facilities provided in old and new houses is rather painful when one considers the degree of civilisation we live in today. A bath, inside toilet and constant hot water are no longer luxuries for those who can afford them but necessities where there are children in the house or old people to nurse and look after.

Requests for information re land charges reached the record total of 1,990. The time involved was considerable and imposed a lot of extra work on the clerks of the department.

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts) ... | 195 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 884 |

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations ... ... ... ... ... —

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. Visits to the properties already recorded in (2) (a) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... —

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... 9

(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 ... ... ... ... 154

**II. Remedy the 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 ... ... 80

**Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year :—**

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

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices

(a) by owners ... ... ... ... ... —

(b) by local authority in default of owners ... —

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

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... ... ... ... 13

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) by owners ... ... ... ... ... 7

(b) by local authority in default of owners ... —

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

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation | 9 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... | 5 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... | 5 |

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

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

**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 ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| (2) Number of houses included in these areas ... | — |
| (3) Number of persons to be displaced ... ... | — |
| (4) Action taken during the year in respect of Clearance Areas | |
| (a) by Clearance Orders number made ... | — |
| (b) by Compulsory Purchase Orders number made ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| (5) Number of houses in Clearance Areas demolished during the year ... ... ... | 26 |
| (6) Number of persons re-housed from houses demolished during the year ... ... ... | 73 |

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

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted during the year ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| (2) Number of Cerificates of Disrepair revoked during the year ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |

## HARROGATE CORPORATION ACT, 1935, SECTION 46.

### Tents, Vans and Sheds.

There was a reduction of about 30% in the number of vans used for full time occupation which was somewhat surprising in view of the demands for accommodation throughout 1958. One must presume that the applicants became despondent at the lack of permanent standings and took their caravans elsewhere.

The existing sites are well maintained and no complaints were received. The caravan problem does not exist in Harrogate and the situation generally is under control.

The following licences were issued :—

| Part time occupation | | Full time occupation | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sheds | Vans | Sheds | Vans |
| 33 | 10 | — | 23 |

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

### Food Hawkers.

There are now 42 registered food hawkers and 23 registrations of premises used by them for the storage of food.

Contrary to expectations food hawkers only increased by one. The reason for this is undoubtedly due to the high standard the Council has insisted upon for this type of vehicle. The walk-in mobile shop with modern fittings and equipment presents a different picture to the open flat cart or even standard motor van which have been so prominent in retailing food in the streets in the past.

Close supervision is carried out by the inspectors and I am satisfied that the food sold by food hawkers in the Borough is of good standard and hygienically protected from contamination.

**Hairdressers and Barbers.**

198 routine inspections of the 73 registered hairdressers and barbers were carried out during the year.

These establishments increased by 3 and all are well maintained. No complaints were received from customers and no infringements of the bye-laws with regard to cleanliness of premises, persons, instruments, etc., were discovered during the routine inspections.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

7 premises are registered under Section 2 of the above Act and 10 visits were made to the premises.

All were found to be satisfactory.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

There are now 7 premises licensed for the sale of pet animals. 20 inspections were made by the inspector.

Every care and attention is given to the animals kept or displayed in these premises.

There has been some criticism of conditions generally throughout the country in a section of the national press, but the shops in Harrogate comply with all the conditions laid down under the Act and perhaps go a little further on the personal side of the business.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1907.

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

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## MILK SUPPLY : MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

There are 114 registered milk distributors and 17 dairies, 106 of these being resident in the Borough. Constant supervision has been maintained over both dairies and distributors and the results have been very satisfactory. The department meets with the utmost co-operation from the trade and the most trivial complaint receives instant attention and if justified is dealt with promptly. Milk is a very important food and one which can quickly become contaminated or infected on its journey from cow to customer unless it is handled in a hygienic and careful manner.

I can say that the milk supply was so handled in Harrogate.

| Registered | On Register Dec. 31st, 1959 |
|---|---|
| Milk Distributors ... ... | 114 |
| Dairies ... ... ... ... | 17 |

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

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

The following licences were granted during 1959.

| Type of Licence | Number |
|---|---|
| Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ... ... | 86 |
| Supplementary Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk ... | 5 |
| Milk Pasteurisers H.T.S.T. (in respect of two plants) ... ... ... ... ... .. | 3 |
| Dealers Pasteurised Milk ... ... ... ... | 80 |
| Supplementary Dealers Pasteurised Milk | 4 |
| Dealers Sterilised Milk ..... ... ... | 64 |
| Supplementary Dealers Sterilised Milk | 2 |

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

The number of samples taken were increased by 17 over the previous year. Two failures were recorded of the methylene blue test, one pasteurised and one tuberculin tested milk. There have only been two failures of pasteurised milk over the past seven years.

The methylene blue test denotes the standard of the milk, which can be classified as satisfactory, fairly satisfactory, or unsatisfactory and the phosphatase test shows whether the milk has been sufficiently heat treated.

| Class of Milk | Numbers of samples tested | Appropriate Tests | Number of samples Passed | Failed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pasteurised ... | 38 | Phosphatase ... | 38 | — |
| | 38 | Methylene Blue ... | 37 | 1 |
| Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) | 38 | Phosphatase ... | 38 | — |
| | 38 | Methylene Blue ... | 38 | — |
| Tuberculin Tested | 2 | Methylene Blue ... | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 154 | Total | 152 | 2 |

**Summary of Chemical Analysis of Milk Samples for 1959.**

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

The average fat content was a little below the figure returned in the previous year by .20% but was still well above the presumptive standard. I have repeatedly protested against the present standard of 3% which should be substituted by a more realistic one preferably with a legal backing. The attention given to breeding and the all-round improvement in the dairy herds surely merits a more ambitious target than the one now in operation.

| Period | No. of samples Examined | Averages | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Fat % | Solids not Fat % |
| January ... ... ... | 11 | 4.07 | 8.91 |
| February ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| March ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Quarter ending 31.3.59 | 11 | 4.07 | 8.91 |
| April ... ... ... ... | 14 | 3.90 | 8.60 |
| May ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| June ... ... ... ... | 9 | 3.57 | 8.98 |
| Quarter ending 30.6.59 | 23 | 3.73 | 8.79 |
| July ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| August ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| September ... ... ... | 7 | 3.81 | 8.67 |
| Quarter ending 30.9.59 | 7 | 3.81 | 8.67 |
| October ... ... ... | 11 | 3.77 | 8.64 |
| November ... ... ... | 6 | 3.73 | 8.84 |
| December ... ... ... | 4 | 3.55 | 8.71 |
| Quarter ending 31.12.59 | 21 | 3.66 | 8.73 |
| Year ending 31.12.59 | 62 | 3.77 | 8.76 |
| Year ending 31.12.58 | 68 | 3.97 | 8.88 |

## EXAMINATION OF MILK

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

Only two samples of milk were submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli and these were found to be negative.

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

The number of registered premises for the sale of ice-cream increased by 11, due no doubt to the excellent summer wtih resultant increase in demand for this very popular food.

We now have one retailer for every 255 of the population. These figures give a good indication of the quantity of ice-cream consumed on a very warm day and the fact that no trouble in the shape of food poisoning was recorded from this

source indicates the tremendous advance made by the industry in the preparation, storage and sale of this product over the last few years.

The 43 premises engaged in the manufacture of preserved food were frequently inspected and only minor infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were found.

| | Premises on Register, 1958 | Premises on Register, 1959 |
|---|---|---|
| Sale and Storage of ice-cream .. | 197 | 208 |
| Manufacture of ice-cream ... | 9 | 9 |
| Manufacture of preserved food ... | 42 | 43 |
| Butter, margarine, wholesale dealers or factories ... ... | 1 | 1 |

## EXAMINATION OF ICE-CREAM

Thirty-one samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. All were satisfactory with the exception of four samples which had unfortunately melted during transit to the laboratory.

| | Provisional Grade | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | One | Two | Three | Four | Total |
| **Produced in the Borough** | 12 | 3* | — | — | 15 |
| Produced outside the Borough ... ... | 15 | 1* | — | — | 15 |

* These samples had melted on arrival at the laboratory.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Another busy year was again experienced at the slaughterhouse where 23,048 animals were killed against a figure of 19,808 in 1958.

A 100% meat inspection was again achieved.

The decline in the quantity of meat condemned continued and I give below a table showing how steadily progressive this movement has been and will continue to be in the future.

| | Tuberculosis and Other Diseases | Tuberculosis |
|---|---|---|
| 1957 | 25,334 lbs. | 9,095 lbs. |
| 1958 | 18,743 lbs. | 6,609 lbs. |
| 1959 | 16,544 lbs. | 3,199 lbs. |

It is estimated that in three years time tuberculosis will have been eradicated from cattle, thus proving the outstanding success of the plan for eliminating the disease which was inaugurated in 1950 when the whole country was divided into areas and a systematic testing scheme for cattle commenced which finally culminated in areas being declared an "attested" one free from tuberculosis.

A large quantity of beef liver was lost to the local butchers due to fascioliasis—a parasitic condition commonly known as liver fluke.

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) ... ... | — | 250 | 19 | 44 | 1,282 | 11,851 | 1,301 | 12,145 |
| Cows ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Calves ... ... | — | 93 | — | — | — | 34 | — | 132 |
| Sheep and Lambs ... ... | — | 30 | — | 44 | — | 237 | — | 311 |
| Pigs ... ... | — | — | — | 14 | 1,898 | 743 | 1,898 | 757 |
| Totals | — | 378 | 19 | 102 | 3,180 | 12,865 | 3,199 | 13,345 |

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number killed ... | 2,556 | — | 306 | 17,558 | 2,628 |
| Number inspected ... | 2,556 | — | 306 | 17,558 | 2,628 |
| **All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci** | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned ... ... | 1 | — | 2 | 1 | — |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 1,408 | — | — | 107 | 216 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 55.13% | — | 0.65% | 0.62% | 8.22% |
| **Tuberculosis only** | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 79 | — | — | — | 162 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ... | 3.09% | — | — | — | 6.16% |
| **Cysticercosis** | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcases sumitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ... | 20 | — | — | — | — |
| Generalised and totally condemned ... | — | — | — | — | — |

## Cysticercus Bovis.

By a strange coincidence the number of animals found to be affected with the larval stage of the human tapeworm Taenia Saginata was the same as in the previous year, though the percentage affected was slightly higher at .70% against .62%.

Great emphasis is placed upon the necessity for thorough and systematic examination for cysticercus bovis by the department.

The figures shown above prove that the condition is now fairly well established and despite the long and careful investigations which have taken place and the conclusions reached about our means and methods of sewage disposal, one would have thought that some action would by now have been taken to eradicate its dissemination on the land and into streams by these services.

| Year | Animals Slaughtered | Number Affected | | Percentage affected |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | English and Scottish 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 |
| 1958 | 3,219 | 14 | 6 | .62 |
| 1959 | 2,862 | 14 | 6 | .70 |

## PARTICULARS OF OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1959.

There was a marked improvement in the quantity of foods condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption, the total weight being reduced to half of the previous year.

The quantities of cheese trimmings and vegetables were considerably reduced though the decrease in tinned foods was not so marked. It is difficult to arrive at any conclusions about the latter product as it is not possible to obtain a percentage and it is obvious that the scope, varieties and quantities of tinned foods are increasing each year. One has only to visit the refuse tip to become aware of this fact.

| Description | No. of containers etc. | Weight | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | lb. | oz. |
| **Miscellaneous Tinned Food.** | | | |
| Meat ..... ..... ..... ..... | 581 | 2,101 | 14 |
| Fruit ..... ..... ..... ..... | 739 | 1,613 | 10 |
| Vegetables ..... ..... ..... | 344 | 385 | 1 |
| Fish ... ..... ..... ..... | 89 | 46 | 13 |
| Milk ..... ..... ..... ..... | 45 | 45 | 15 |
| Rice ..... ..... ..... ..... | 11 | 11 | |
| Coffee ..... ..... ..... ..... | 8 | | 8 |
| **General.** | | | |
| Cheese Trimmings ..... ..... | 64 | 63 | 8 |
| Meat ..... ..... ..... ..... | 7 | 227 | |
| Vegetables ..... ..... ..... | 13 | 325 | |
| Fish ..... ..... ..... ..... | 13 | 169 | 12 |
| Chinese Egg ..... ..... ..... | 2 | 44 | |
| Frozen Egg ..... ..... ..... | 1 | 28 | |
| Total weight 2 tons, 5 cwts., 22 lbs., 1 oz. | | | |

## SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

I am pleased to report that the slaughterhouse continued to function in a satisfactory manner and to meet the needs of the town as far as home-killed meat was concerned.

The necessary report under "The Slaughterhouse Act, 1958" was prepared, approved and submitted to the Ministry. Some major structural work is required to bring the premises up to the standard and to improve the smooth flow of killing and dressing animals.

Minor improvements to the building were carried out throughout the year and the equipment improved. Arrangements have been made to install a stunning pen and to fix electric motors to the hoists early in the New Year.

Strict attention was paid to cleanliness in the building, the equipment and personal clothing of the men. The humane treatment of all the animals was the first care of the staff, the slaughtermen and the butchers.

The co-operation of all concerned to produce meat under humane, clean and hygienic conditions was greatly appreciated by myself.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

There are now 23 licensed slaughtermen on the register and this number proved capable of dealing with the throughput of 23,048 animals.

Their work proved to be very satisfactory and was carried out methodically and without friction. The youths who had been trained over the past two years are now competent slaughtermen. The wiping down of carcases is still not satisfactory from my point of view though several new ideas have been put into practice. Every effort has been made to reduce the amount of manual labour necessary by streamlining operations as much as possible.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of slaughtermen on register 31.12.58 ..... ..... | 27 |
| Applications for licences during 1959 ..... ..... ..... | 23 |
| Number of slaughtermen on register at 31.12.59 ..... ..... | 23 |

## WORK CARRIED OUT AT FOOD PREMISES.

Most of the structural work and new equipment required under the Food Hygiene Regulations has been carried out or installed and the standard throughout the town with one or two exceptions is a very high one.

The screening of food displayed in shop windows and on counters and other exposed places has practically been completed and fixtures and fittings have been streamlined to facilitate cleaning.

The emphasis is now on the correct use of the facilities provided and the personal habits and cleanliness of the employees in the food trade. One point has definitely emerged from the efforts of the department to implement the Regulations during the past years and that is the important one that in no way can the routine inspection of food premises be relaxed. It is very disappointing to find that careless habits soon return and equipment and premises become neglected and dirty. I am speaking generally on this matter. The high standard set and maintained by a number of firms is most commendable. Like every other business, employees leave and are being replaced by others whose knowledge of food handling and hygiene is elementary to say the least about it. The inspectors are always willing to offer advice and guidance to these newcomers and to help them to attain a proficiency that will safeguard the town's food supply.

| | |
|---|---|
| Articles, apparatus, clothing, cleansed | 8 |
| Double sinks provided and washing facilities improved | 5 |
| First aid kits provided or maintained | 1 |
| Food protected against flies, dust, etc. | 10 |
| Kitchen fittings re-sited | 3 |
| Lighting improved | 1 |
| Lockers for storage of employees clothing | 4 |
| No smoking notices provided | 3 |
| Sanitary accommodation provided, improved or cleansed | 4 |
| Table tops made impervious | 7 |
| Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., cleansed | 27 |
| Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., repaired | 39 |
| Washing facilities maintained (personal) | 4 |
| Washing facilities provided (personal) | 8 |
| Ventilation provided or improved | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | 10 |

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

During the year 104 samples were taken, 56 of these being formal and 48 informal.

No cases of adulteration were found and it would appear that progress in this direction has been extremely satisfactory. Sampling of foods is still necessary mainly as a deterrent, but I believe that it could perhaps be better organised on a national scale to prevent the overlapping of samples. The problem is a difficult one and it will require a lot of thought to bring about a system of unification between local authorities in order to prevent this duplication of sampling.

The labelling of food is assuming increasing importance and more time was given to this item this year by the district inspectors. The usual number of foreign bodies again appeared in various types of food. Some were due to accidents, others to carelessness, suspected sabotage or remained just plain mysteries.

| Formal | Informal | Article |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | | Biscoids |
| | 1 | Blackcurrant Jam |
| | 2 | Cordials (peppermint and orange) |
| | 2 | Cream of Tartar |
| | 2 | Dressed Crab |
| | 1 | Golden Eye Ointment |
| | 1 | Glucose Powder |
| | 1 | Horseraddish Sauce |
| 4 | | Ice-Cream |
| | 4 | Margarine |
| | 1 | Marzipan Fruits |
| 41 | 22 | Milk |
| | 1 | Plain Flour |
| | 1 | Red Coughs |
| | 1 | Rutlin — T |
| 6 | 1 | Sausage |
| | 1 | Seidlitz Powder |
| | 1 | Slimming Bath Salts |
| | 1 | Slimming Tablets |
| | 3 | Steak |
| | 1 | Wheat Germ Oil Capsules |
| 4 | | Whisky |
| 56 | 48 | Total |

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

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

| Sample No. | Formal or Informal | Article | Adulteration or Other Irregularity | | Action Taken |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Fat | Solids not Fat | |
| 609 | Informal | Channel | 3.73 | 8.63 | This case was heard by the Borough Magistrates on the 23.6.59 when the producers were given a conditional discharge for 12 months. |
| 610 | Informal | Island | 3.62 | 8.66 | |
| 615 | Formal | Milk | 3.12 | 8.56 | |
| 616 | | | 3.53 | 8.77 | |
| 617 | | | 3.48 | 8.64 | |
| 619 | | | 3.83 | 8.91 | |
| 620 | | | 3.78 | 8.92 | |
| 624 | Formal | Milk | Contained 2.84% fat | | Health Committee resolved that the producer be advised re mixing of milk. |
| 654 | Formal | Milk | Contained 2.53% fat | | Case heard by Borough Magistrates 15.12.59 when producer was fined £5. This sample was from the same producer as No. 624. |

Legal action was taken about a piece of glass in a loaf of bread and a fine of £5 was imposed.

The case of a bicycle chain in a bottle of mineral water was dismissed.

I give below a list of food offences which were investigated by the department.

| Food | Action Taken |
|---|---|
| Fish Batter Powder | Label not in accordance with Regulation 3 Labelling of Food Order 1953. Ingredients not shown in the descending order of quantity. Letter sent to manufacturer. |
| Bananas (Merchandise Marks Act, 1887) | Sold as Canary bananas, but alleged to be of Jamacian origin. Warning letter to vendor. |
| Bottle of Grape Fruit Crush | Contaminated with paraffin. A warning letter sent to manufacturer. |
| Bun | Containing wasp. Verbal warning to baker. |
| Loaf of Bread | Mouldy. Verbal warning to vendor. |
| Coconut Mushrooms | Rancidity of desiccated coconut. Warning letter to manufacturers. |
| Chocolate Peanut Crunch | Worm infested. Warning letter to manufacturers. |
| Tinned Beans in Tomato Sauce | Metallic taste. Not proved. |

## PUBLIC CLEANSING — HOUSEHOLD AND TRADE REFUSE

**1st April, 1959 to 31st March, 1960.**

### Collection of Refuse.

Refuse was collected from 20,874 houses and other premises within the Borough, an increase of 397.

### Collecting Vehicles.

The collection of refuse was carried out by side and rear loading vehicles with a total carrying capacity of 154 cubic yards.

The policy of re-equipping the fleet with Fore and Aft tippers was continued during the year. The easier method of loading achieved by tipping into a rear hopper is very much appreciated by the men, especially those past middle age. The progressive factor of fatigue which increases considerably towards the end of the day has been reduced.

The maintenance of the fleet has again been of a high order and I would like to record the excellent work carried out by my foreman, Mr. Brown, who is mainly responsible for the low cost of repairs given in the table below.

The drivers, who are responsible for greasing, oil changes, etc., have carried out this work meticulously and in addition have driven the vehicles with every care and consideration. No defects or breakdowns have been due to bad driving. It has been the endeavour of the department to keep the vehicles clean and well painted.

| 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 | 9 | 11 |
| 1957 - 1958 | 544 | 11 | 6 | — | — | — |
| 1958 - 1959 | 299 | 0 | 3 | — | — | — |
| 1959 - 1960 | 291 | 12 | 0 | — | — | — |

| Make | Method of loading | Year of make | Capacity (cubic yards) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Six Karriers ..... | side | 1949<br>1949<br>1950<br>1950<br>1950<br>1953 | 12<br>12<br>10<br>10<br>10<br>10 |
| Five S.D. Fore and Aft Tippers ..... | rear | 1956<br>1957<br>1958<br>1959<br>1959 | 18<br>18<br>18<br>18<br>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 886 loads of refuse were disposed of on this basis, yielding a revenue of £94 6s. 0d.

**Tonnage.**

The highest weekly tonnage of refuse was 590 tons which was collected during the week ending 2nd January, 1960, and the lowest tonnage for the week ended 14th August, 1959, when 432 tons were collected. The figures for last year were 575 tons and 387 tons respectively.

20,777 tons of household and trade refuse were collected during the year against 21,917 tons for 1958/59. 8,168 loads of refuse were removed as against 8,294 in the previous year. The reduction in the number of loads is due to the use of the larger capacity vehicles i.e., 18 cubic yards instead of 10 cubic yards.

## Estimated Tonnage of Materials Handled by Cleansing Department, 1959/60.

| Type | Collection | Disposal |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Household Refuse ... ... | 20,165 | 20,165 |
| 2. Trade Refuse ... ... | 612 | 612 |
| 3. Night Soil ... ... ... | 8 | 8 |
| 4. Covering Materials ... .. | 275 | 275 |
| 5. Road Sweepings ... ... | — | 1,421 |
| 6. Street Gulley Solids ... | — | 1,480 |
| 7. Salvage ... ... ... | 888 | — |
| 8. Trade Refuse (disposal only, not collected by Cleansing Dept.) ... ... ... | — | 1,772 |
| 9. Materials delivered to tips by other departments ... | — | 498 |
| Total | 21,948 | 26,231 |
| Less covering materials ... | 275 | — |
| Total refuse collected ... | 21,673 | — |
| Total refuse disposed of ... | — | 26,231 |

### Frequency of Collection.

Some 24,000 dustbins are emptied every week within the borough. To cope with this number every seven days with the existing staff has been a difficult task. When the gangs have been depleted by sickness, accidents and holidays the period of collection has been extended by a day or two until things returned to normal. Under these circumstances a few complaints have been received, but the majority of the public appreciate the position and the regularity of the service they receive over the major portion of the year.

The emptying of refuse bins is the one personal service carried out by a local authority in the ratepayers homes. The efficiency of a Council is often judged on the regularity and manner in which this work is performed, or so it would seem when things go wrong.

Replacement of men leaving the service becomes more difficult, and the engagement of labour on a casual basis at times is impossible. Men, on this particular job, cannot be replaced by machines and in a time of full employment more lucrative and attractive work will be given preference by those seeking employment.

The increase in the bulk of refuse with resultant fall in density has been incredible this year and during the summer months the refuse contained nothing more than paper, cartons, tins and vegetable matter. The vehicles were carrying half the weight they were designed for and due to the rapid way in which they filled up were increasing their journeys to the tip. The ash content in the winter did not reach the amount of the previous year due to the methods now employed for heating homes, factories, shops etc. The tendency for refuse to increase in bulk has not yet reached its maximum and vehicles with some internal means of compaction will be more necessary than ever.

I cannot speak too highly of the men. They worked conscientiously during long periods of heavy rainfalls and the weather for their work was not just right in most of the seasons. The volume of refuse they removed and above all the manner in which they removed it must commend them to the people they serve.

**Hours Lost Through Sickness and Accidents.**

There was a reduction of 1,000 hours in the time lost through sickness last year. The total of 3,665 hours is approximately half of the 1957 figure when the department was badly hit by the influenza epidemic.

The number of accidents remain fairly constant and are mostly injuries to arms, backs and legs. In many instances the men carry on working despite a limp or injured back.

| Week | Spring quarter | | Summer quarter | | Autumn quarter | | Winter quarter | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sick | Accidents | Sick | Accidents | Sick | Accidents | Sick | Accidents |
| 1 | 78¾ | — | 87¾ | — | — | — | 4 | — |
| 2 | 114½ | — | 52¾ | — | — | — | 44 | — |
| 3 | 70½ | — | 44 | 44 | — | — | 48 | — |
| 4 | — | — | 79 | — | 70¼ | — | 88 | 20 |
| 5 | — | — | 114¼ | — | 132 | — | 152 | 72 |
| 6 | — | — | 70 | — | 105¾ | — | 132 | 88 |
| 7 | — | — | 88 | — | 88 | — | 255 | — |
| 8 | — | — | 44¼ | — | 48 | — | 299 | — |
| 9 | — | — | — | — | 88 | — | 220 | — |
| 10 | — | — | — | — | 132 | 20 | 132¼ | — |
| 11 | — | — | — | — | 92 | 44 | 158¼ | — |
| 12 | 26¼ | — | 35 | — | 120 | 44 | 193½ | — |
| 13 | 61¾ | — | — | — | — | — | 97 | — |
| Total | 351¾ | — | 615 | 44 | 876 | 108 | 1,823 | 180 |

Summary :—

| | Sickness | Accidents |
|---|---|---|
| Spring Quarter ... ... ... | 351¾ | — |
| Summer Quarter ... ... ... | 615 | 44 |
| Autumn Quarter ... ... ... | 876 | 108 |
| Winter Quarter ... ... ... | 1,823 | 180 |
| | 3,665¾ | 332 |

**Disposal of Refuse.**

The refuse continued to be disposed of by means of controlled tipping and approximately 94,559 tons of it has been used in the long term scheme of levelling the valley at the Yorkshire Showground. The work proceeded smoothly over the year and a further 'lift' of 6ft. 0in. was carried out over a considerable area of land.

The "Muledozer" again demonstrated the saving in costs that can be achieved by a machine of this description. It has manipulated about 120,000 tons of material since it was purchased, and saved the wages of three men. A new machine is scheduled for 1960 with the present one going into reserve.

In my last report I pointed out that the increasing bulk of refuse is making it rather difficult to handle on the tip especially during the summer months. This tendency has increased in a remarkable way in 1959 and is perhaps an indication of the nation's prosperity and a higher standard of living. It is making the problem of calculating the settlement in each layer of refuse a difficult one in view of the fact that this is a most important factor when working to prescribed levels.

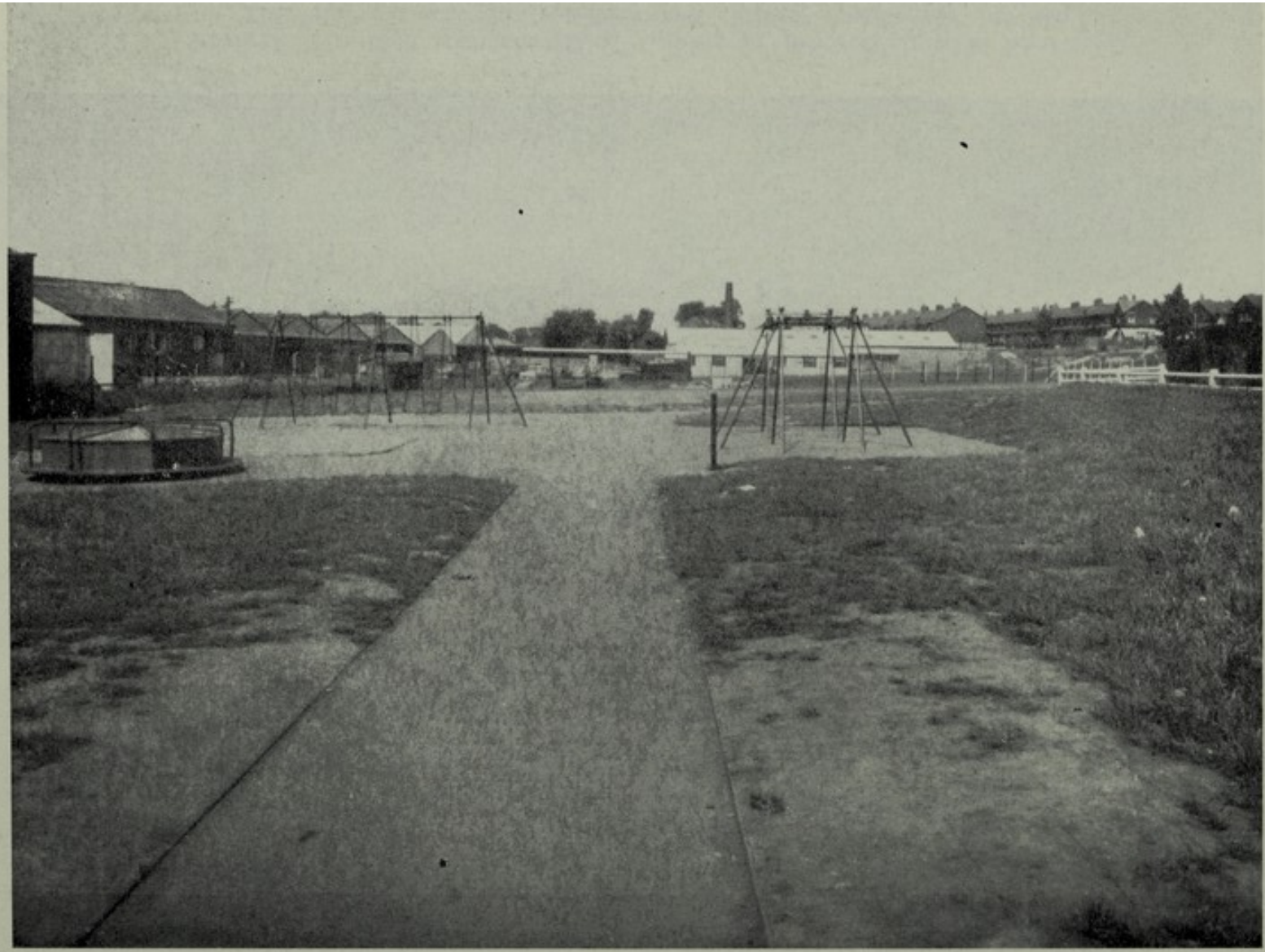
**Salvage.**

The sum for salvage receipts again increased this year with a figure of £6,907 against £5,733 in the previous year.

Working conditions have proved somewhat difficult due to the restricted area of the paper shed where the material is baled and the cramped conditions under which the men have to work. If the output continues to rise a new building together with an additional mechanical baling machine will be necessary in 1961.


Starbeck Tip 1950 with controlled tipping in progress showing final layer
This clay pit was 76 feet deep and tipping commenced in 1938

Photo: R. Ackrill



Starbeck Tip 1960 showing development as a factory colony together with playground for children

The sale of scrap tins was resumed again following the falling off in the demand for scrap metal. Consolidation in the tip is vastly improved by the sale of these articles.

The picture as far as salvage is concerned is still a rosy one and the receipts in 1960 should at least equal those quoted above.

The following table shows how the 1959-1960 amount was made up :—

| Material | Tons | Cwts. | Qrts. | Lbs. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Waste Paper ..... ..... | 867 | 4 | — | — | 6,809 | 14 | 2 |
| Scrap Iron ..... .... | — | 14 | — | — | 4 | 18 | 0 |
| Scrap Tins ..... ..... | 15 | 18 | 1 | 7 | 33 | 15 | 0 |
| String .. ..... .... | 1 | 15 | — | — | 12 | 5 | 0 |
| Bagging ..... ..... .... | — | 7 | — | — | 4 | 18 | 0 |
| Soiled Rags ..... .... | — | 6 | 2 | — | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| Clean Rags ..... .... | 1 | 10 | 2 | — | 36 | 12 | 0 |
| Totals ... | 887 | 15 | 1 | 7 | 6,907 | 6 | 2 |

**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.

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 ... ... ... ... ... | 5,427 | 10 | 8 |
| 1957-58 ... ... ... ... ... | 5,371 | 3 | 9 |
| 1958-59 ... ... ... ... ... | 5,733 | 10 | 3 |
| 1959-60 ... ... ... ... ... | 6,907 | 6 | 2 |
| | £62,275 | 6 | 7 |

## PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1960.

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

| Item | Particulars | Collection | Disposal | Total | Percentage of total gross expenditure |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | **Revenue Account** | £ | £ | £ | % |
| 1 | **Gross Expenditure** | | | | |
| | (i) Labour ... | 21,460 | 3,938 | 25,398 | 62.29 |
| | (ii) Transport ... | 13,177 | — | 13,177 | 32.32 |
| | (iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings | 316 | 1,143 | 1,459 | 3.58 |
| | (iv) Other items | 492 | 246 | 738 | 1.81 |
| | (v) Total gross expenditure ... | 35,445 | 5,327 | 40,772 | 100 |
| 2 | **Gross Income** | 184 | 7,089 | 7,273 | |
| 3 | **Net Cost** | 35,261 | Cr 1,762 | 33,499 | |
| 4 | Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above) ... | — | — | — | |
| | | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | |
| | **Unit Costs** | | | | |
| 5 | Gross cost per ton, labour only ... | 19 10 | 3 2 | 23 0 | |
| 6 | Gross cost per ton, transport only ... | 12 2 | — | 12 2 | |
| 7 | Net cost (all expenditure) per ton | 32 6 | Cr. 1 4 | 31 2 | |
| | | £ | £ | £ | |
| 8 | Net cost per 1,000 population ... | 666 | Cr. 33 | 633 | |
| 9 | Net cost per 1,000 premises ... ... | 1,689 | Cr. 84 | 1,605 | |

## OPERATIONAL STATISTICS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10. | Area (statute acres)—land and inland water ... | 8,320 |
| 11. | Population at 30th June, 1959, (Registrar General's Estimate) ... ... ... ... ... ... | 52,890 |
| 12. | Total refuse collected (tons). Estimated regular test weighings ... ... ... ... ... ... | 21,673 |
| 13. | Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day. 365 days to year ... ... ... ... ... ... | 22.40 |
| 14. | Number of premises from which refuse is collected | 20,874 |
| 15. | Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly ... ... ... ... ... ... | 100% |
| 16. | Average haul, single journey, to final disposal point ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3.9 |
| 17. | Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection ... ... ... ... | None |
| 18. | Total refuse disposed of (tons) ... ... ... | 26,231 |
| 19. | Methods of disposal (salvage excluded) controlled tipping ... ... ... ... ... | 100% |

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

| | | Income (Included in Item 2) | Tonnage Collected (Included in Item12) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | Tons |
| (a) | Raw Kitchen Waste .. | — | — |
| (b) | Scrap Metal ... ... | 39 | 17 |
| (c) | Waste Paper ... ... | 6,810 | 867 |
| (d) | Other Salvage ... ... | 59 | 4 |
| (e) | Totals ... ... ... | 6,908 | 888 |

21. **Trade Refuse :—**

Rents and Miscellaneous Income
Refuse Disposal ... ... ... ... ... £276

## EXTRACT FROM PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURNS 1957/58.

| Unit Costs | Average for Non-county Boroughs (172 authorities) | Harrogate |
|---|---|---|
| **Net Cost Per Ton** | s. d. | s. d. |
| Collection ..... ..... ..... | 36 5 | 30 9 |
| Disposal ..... ..... ..... | 5 5 | 8 credit |
| Total ..... ..... ..... | 41 10 | 30 1 |
| **Net Cost Per 1,000 Population** | £ | £ |
| Collection ..... ..... ..... | 562 | 617 |
| Disposal ..... ..... ..... | 88 | 17 credit |
| Total ..... ..... ..... | 650 | 600 |
| **Net Cost Per 1,000 Premises** | | |
| Collection ..... ..... ..... | 1,682 | 1,602 |
| Disposal ..... ..... ..... | 264 | 44 credit |
| Total ..... ..... ..... | 1,946 | 1,558 |
| **Gross Cost Per Ton** | s. d. | s. d. |
| Labour ..... ..... ..... ..... | 27 5 | 20 9 |
| Transport ..... ..... ..... | 17 3 | 11 10 |

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.