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REPORT



OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT

OF

HOLMFIRTH

For 1925.



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Holmfirth Urban District.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1925.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,—

This being a Survey Report contains more details than the ordinary Annual Report, and is written according to Circular 648 of the Ministry of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Population, at census 1921, 10,500; at 1925, 10,430.

The area comprised in the HOLMFIRTH URBAN DISTRICT is situated on the northern slope of the Pennines, and consists of the townships of WOOLDALE, CARTWORTH, AUSTONLEY, UPPER THONG, and NETHER THONG. The general conformation of the country is very hilly, comprised of several ridges and their corresponding valleys, and varies in altitude from 400 feet (Thongs Bridge Bowling Club) to 1,615 feet above the sea level. Down the main valley flows the River Holme, which is fed by several streams, the largest of which is the Ribble. The district is wild and rugged, its upper reaches consisting largely of moorland. The climate is invigorating and stimulating, winds often boisterous, and the rainfall high. There is comparatively little fog. The soil is for the most part clay, but there are streaks of sand, sandy-clay, and rock. The roads are built to give the easiest gradients up the hills, and the houses take the outline of the roads, so that the general plan is irregular, and the houses often appear in terraces one above the other. This has led to very many houses being built with one or more outside walls against the soil. The houses are arranged in several groups, the largest being the town of HOLMFIRTH.

The staple industry is woollen, and, for the most part the inhabitants are employed in the various processes of cloth manufacture. There are also two foundries, a cotton mill, an engineering works, and several quarries. Farming chiefly consists of cattle keeping, the amount of land under cultivation being of second importance. There are comparatively few poor, and though the amount of money paid in relief is approximately the same as before the war, the number of recipients is not half.

1.

The extent of the Holmfirth Urban District Council's area is 7,892 acres 2 roods 23 poles. There are two thousand seven hundred and forty-five houses (2,745), with an estimated number of two thousand nine hundred (2,900) separate families. Two thousand five hundred and fifty-seven (2,557) houses are of the working class. The population of the area is ten thousand four hundred and thirty (10,430).

There has been a considerable amount of illness during all the year, except August and September. Chicken Pox has been present in the district during the whole of the year, and there has been a large number of cases of Measles.

During the last five years Holmfirth has undergone an almost entire re-organisation, and many Sanitary achievements have resulted

HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

Hospital accommodation has undergone a complete alteration during the period. Up to July, 1920, patients were treated in Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, but since then Holmfirth for the first time in its existence, has undertaken the maintenance, care and treatment of its own Hospital cases. On July 3rd, 1920, the Holme Valley Memorial Hospital was opened by Sir Berkeley Moynihan, the first patient was admitted on July 5th, the first operation on July 8th, and up to December 31st, 1925, 1,371 patients have been under treatment in the institution. This, to a certain extent, is accounted for by the fact that besides ordinary medical and surgical cases, maternity, orthopaedic, special work like eyes, ears, noses and throats, and X-rays are undertaken by specialists, and that the Hospital is available for paying as well as non-paying patients.

TOWNGATE IMPROVEMENT.

This improvement consists in the entire clearing away of the west side of Towngate, with the necessary purchase of property and the bridging over of the river, thereby replacing a narrow, dangerous, dark street with a large, light, airy square. The cost to the District of this improvement was £14,584.

RECONSTRUCTION OF SEWAGE WORKS.

The old sewage works had become ineffective, and worn out, and the Council were frequently receiving complaints from the Rivers' Board, and neighbouring District Councils. The old works were so reconstructed and enlarged by Messrs. Balfour and Sons, acting under the Council's instructions, that they are now more than capable of treating (and that successfully) the sewage of the whole district. The cost of this improvement to the District was £13,000.

2.

CONVERSION OF MIDDEN PRIVIES TO W.C.'s.

In 1920 there were 608 W.C.'s in the District, while at the end of 1925 there were 834. These figures include 174 to old property and 52 to new property. I ought to mention that during the very dear years of 1920 and 1921, only 59 W.C.'s were installed; while in the last three years 167 have been installed.

SURFACE WATER DRAINS.

Surface Water Drains have been laid at Cliffe, Nabb, South Lane, Holmfirth, Upperthong, Netherthong, etc., costing the District £4,000.

SEWERS.

Sewers have been extended at Long Walis and Long Bank, and an entirely separate sewage scheme has been installed at the Village of Boothhouse.

SCAVENGING.

In 1924 the method of Scavenging in the district was entirely altered. Previous to that date the work was done by Contractors, and complaints were frequent. Since then, however, the Council has purchased motor vans, and the work is now carried on in a very efficient manner by skilled men employed by the Council, and under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Complaints are now of rare occurrence. This change, though such a very great improvement, has not cost the District anything.

WATER PIPES.

Three miles of main water pipes have been cleaned out during the preceeding five years.

ELECTRICITY.

The system of Electricity has been changed in the period. Previous to 1920, Electricity was made in the area, but in February, 1923, the Council decided to purchase it from the Yorkshire Power Company. Though this meant alterations all over the district (for one was Continuous Current and the other Alternating Current) Electricity is now installed in a very satisfactory manner. All the wants of the district are now met, and besides lighting it is now used for power, heat and mill use. One mill in the district is entirely run by Electricity.

HOUSING.

Since 1920 quite a lot of houses have been built in the district, though overcrowding exists to a terrible extent, partly owing to the general shortage of houses, partly to the dilapidated condition of some of the property, and partly that we have so many houses built into the ground, and which cannot be made right without diverting main roads or other important structures.

Amongst these houses the Council have built 36, of which 12 are Stone and 24 are Concrete Blocks; 57 have been built by private enterprise, 30 are subsidised, and 27 are non-subsidised. In addition to these, Huts have been built for the navvies on the Waterworks, and various Wooden Bungalows.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Year.	No. of Births.	Birth Rate per 1000.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000	Deaths under 1 yr.	Rate per 1000 Births.
1921.....	192	19.11	148	14.09	13	67.7
1922.....	176	16.63	146	13.80	13	73.86
1923.....	160	15.16	128	12.13	6	37.5
1924.....	170	16.19	136	12.95	10	58.8
1925.....	163	15.62	145	13.90	17	104.29

Births.

One hundred and sixty-three births have been registered during the year, of which seventy-three were males and ninety were females. This gives a birth-rate of 15.62 per 1,000, which is less than that for the whole of England and Wales, which is 18.3.

There were seven Illegitimate Births during the year, four being males and three females. One illegitimate child died.

Deaths.

During the year one hundred and seventy-seven (177) deaths took place in the area, and nine inhabitants of Holmfirth died out of the district and were transferred thereto. This gives a gross total of one hundred and eighty-six deaths. Of these, forty-one were of people who belonged to other districts and were transferred away for burial. Thus the nett deaths of inhabitants of Holmfirth during the year were one hundred and forty-five, of whom seventy were males and seventy-five were females. The death-rate is thus 13.90 per 1,000; that for England and Wales for the year being 12.2 per 1,000.

Infant Mortality.

Seventeen deaths under one year of age have been registered during the year. One of the deaths occurred amongst the seven illegitimate children born during the year. The causes of death amongst the infants were: Prematurity and Congenital Debility 14, Bronchitis 1, Whooping Cough 1, Haemorrhage of the New Born 1.

The Infant Mortality is 104.29 per 1,000 births.

For comparative figures of the last five years see table above.

Causes of Death.

Of the gross total of deaths of the area, Organic Heart Disease again heads the list with twenty-two; Cancer comes second with seventeen cases, Bronchitis thirteen, and

Arterio Sclerosis with twelve. Only three deaths took place from Influenza, five from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption), and eleven from Pneumonia.

A detailed table of all the deaths at the specified ages is given in Appendix IV.

Place of Death.

Fifty-nine of the one hundred and eighty-six deaths took place in the various public institutions of the district.

Ages at Death.

On examination of Appendix IV., it will be noted that ninety-two or nearly half of the gross total deaths, occurred at over the age of sixty-five years, and forty-nine died at between the age of forty-five years and sixty-five years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

a—Notifiable Infectious Diseases

One hundred and eleven cases of Infectious Disease have been notified during the year; last year we had one hundred and eight cases. Of the 111 cases notified, thirty-eight were treated in Hospital. There were twenty-two deaths from Notifiable Infectious Disease.

Pneumonia

This is undoubtedly the more serious Notifiable Infectious Disease we have in the district. Fifty-two cases have been notified, in comparison with fifty-one for 1924. There were eleven deaths from Pneumonia.

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-eight cases of this disease have been notified during the year, twenty-seven of whom were treated in Hospital. There was no death. These cases did not form a small epidemic; they were of a sporadic nature, occurring in one's or two's, and generally throughout the year.

Diphtheria

There was only one case of Diphtheria notified, which was treated in Hospital. There was no death. The use of Antitoxin in the treatment of this disease is almost universal.

Tuberculosis.

Sixteen cases of this disease were notified during the year. Eleven were Pulmonary and five Non-pulmonary. There were nine deaths from Tuberculosis during the year—five from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and four from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Enteric Fever.

Of the nine cases of this disease notified up to May 16th, the first became known on March 5th, in the Cartworth Ward. As this disease is comparatively rare in this district, very great interest has been taken in it.

I have thoroughly investigated each case, have consulted with the local doctors, to whom I beg to express my thanks for their courtesy and valuable assistance, and have had a visit of inspection and investigation from an expert of the West Riding County Council.

Up to the present no cause or means of spreading of the disease has been discovered, for though very many insanitary conditions and habits are present in the area, there are not any of them present in a sufficient number of cases to justify one in concluding that any one or more of them provides the cause of the epidemic.

As already stated, the first case was at Dobb, in the Cartworth Ward, the next six at Banksville, or the immediate neighbourhood, and the last two at Woodhead Road and Ward Place. All cases gave a positive pathological reaction, either a positive Widal or Paratyphoid B.

Prevention.—Owing to the obscure source of the infection, the prevention of the disease has been exceedingly difficult. The means adopted consist of isolation of the patient, and thorough disinfection after removal. All the cases were sent to the Meltham Isolation Hospital, and all recovered except one.

b—Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease.

Chicken Pox has again been present during practically all the year. In the Spring some very severe cases occurred, and many children were incapacitated for a considerable time. There have also been many cases of Whooping Cough and Mumps, particularly in the months of June and July.

Measles.

This disease has been very prevalent, particularly in the last quarter of the year. All parts of the district have been affected, and in some places the attendance at schools has been very poor.

Influenza.

This disease, though present to some extent during the year, has been by no means of an epidemic nature. There were only three deaths from this disease.

WATER.

The Water Supply of the district during the year has been quite adequate to the needs of the inhabitants. There has been no restriction or shortage, but some has been purchased from neighbouring areas. Over 1,800 houses in the district are supplied with water from the Council's mains.

4,678,200 gallons of Water were purchased from Huddersfield Corporation at 2s. per 1,000 gallons. This occurred between 14th August and October 1st. There were 47 days of this purchase.

During the year the water supply has been extended by the addition of 100 yards of 2in. mains. The private supplies of water in the district are numerous; some are apparently quite satisfactory, and others are liable to contamination or shortage during a dry season, but all have the common defect, that they are not under proper supervision.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Owing to the installation of filter beds at all the mills, the pollution of the River Holme and its tributaries has much improved. A certain amount of pollution still takes place, for the most part through the surface drains being used for purposes other than those for which they were intended. Occasionally one can see dyes and scouring water in the river.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year certain work has been done in improving the drainage of the district. One thousand three hundred and fifty-four (1,354) yards of six inch sewers have been added. This is part of the large scheme of sewage disposal reconstruction being carried out in the district. In addition to these main sewers, there have been many repairs to others to obviate the leaking of the river or surface water into them.

During the year the reconstructed Sewage Works at Neilly were completed and formally opened. These works allow for the treatment of fifteen gallons of sewage per head of the population, and there is provision made for any reasonable extension or increase of the district. The system of sewage treatment consists of precipitation by Alumino ferric, followed by sedimentation, and finally by bacterial treatment on large filter beds, so that the final effluent is perfectly clear water, free from smell and any other objectionable feature.

SCAVENGING.

The method of Scavenging seems very satisfactory, and it is now a very rare occurrence to have a complaint of an over-full closet or ashpit. The fact that matters are now in skilled hands and under the supervision of the Inspector of Nuisances ensures that these important matters are attended to in a regular and efficient manner.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORK-PLACES.

During the year all the factories, workshops and work-places have been inspected, and found satisfactory. The sanitary accommoda-

tion was sufficient, and sexes divided. There was no evidence of overcrowding, and ventilation was found satisfactory. Copies of the Factory Act were hung in prominent places, and ambulance boxes in charge of a skilled person were installed. Sixty-three inspections of factories, one hundred and three of workshops, and seventy-five of work-places have been made during the year

5 - SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS and other Institutions available for the District.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

- (a) General.—These nurses are of two kinds:
- (1) Private, where the patient can afford one, and (2) the District Nurse, who is provided by voluntary subscription, and controlled by a Ladies' Committee of the Holme Valley Hospital. There is no subsidy from the County Council or other authority. She works under the direct orders of the doctors of the district, and the present Nurse carries out her orders in an eminently capable and efficient manner.
 - (b) During times of epidemic (such as measles), the County Council has provided a nurse to visit and help with infectious cases.

Midwives.

The District is provided with a Maternity Nurse, who in the past year has done most excellent work. She is supported by voluntary contributions to the Holme Valley Hospital, and is under the control and supervision of the Ladies' Committee of that institution. There is also one other certified Midwife in the district.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Maternity cases are received at the Holme Valley Hospital, there being two beds constantly devoted to such cases; but occasionally there have been as many as seven cases in the Hospital at one time. During the year forty-five women were confined in this institution. The West Riding County Council pays a proportion of the expense for necessitous cases; but paying and nursing home patients are provided for, and fully appreciate the luxuries of such a place in comparison with the best private houses.

Child Welfare Centres, School Clinics, Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Centres are all under the management of the West Riding County Council.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

(1) Tuberculosis. — Cases of Tuberculosis when sent away are treated in the various West Riding County Council Sanatoria. (2) Maternity as in above paragraph. (3) Children.—There is no special Children's Hospital in the district. (4) Fever.—Fever cases are treated in the Colne and Holme Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital at Meltham. This Hospital provides for the needs of the Colne and Holme Valleys, and is under the management of representatives of the various District Councils situate in these areas. (5) Small Pox cases are treated at Moor Top Hospital, Meltham, a branch of the previously mentioned isolation hospital. (6) Other Hospitals in the district are the Holme Valley Hospital at Thongs Bridge, with normal accommodation for 16 patients; and the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the district.

Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) For Infectious Cases, from the Colne and Holme Isolation Hospital;
- (b) For Non-infectious and Accident Cases, a horse ambulance is kept by the Holmfirth Urban District Council.

6—LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are carried out by the W.R.C.C. Laboratory at Wakefield. Full opportunity is taken of the facility, but postal delays, especially at week-ends, occasionally cause such advantage to be nullified.

The undermentioned is a list of the Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws, etc., in force in the District.

Bye-laws were made by the Local Board for the District of Holmfirth on 8th February, 1886, and confirmed by the Local Government Board on February 25th, 1886. Certain amending bye-laws were made by the Council on December 10th, 1917, and confirmed by the Local Government Board on February 12th, 1918. Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, adopted July 13th, 1891.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Part II., III., IV., V., and VI., and Section 95 Part VII., came into force in this district on March 5th, 1914.

Bye-laws for the regulation of Offensive Trades were made by the Council on June 15th, 1914, and allowed by the Local Government Board on August 17th, 1914.

Regulations were made by the Council under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, of 1885, on 24th May, 1909, to come into force on July 2nd, 1909.

7—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To Dr. Hy. W. Williams,
Medical Officer of Health,

Dear Sir,—

I herewith furnish statement of Sanitary work done, coming under my notice and supervision during 1925:—

Total inspections from all sources ... 2284

Dairies and Cowsheds Regulations:

No. of inspections made during 1925 ...	475
No. of Cowsheds found in all respects fit for registration ...	44
No. of Cowsheds found with defects ...	106
No. of Cowsheds registered at close of 1925 ...	44

Nuisances:—

No. of inspections during 1925 ...	763
No. reported during 1925 ...	55
No. abated during 1925 ...	52
Informal notices served during 1925 ...	22
Informal notices complied with, 1925 ...	22
Formal notices served during 1925 ...	57
Formal notices complied with, 1925 ...	11
No. in hand at close of 1924 ...	43
No. in hand at close of 1925 ...	46

Main Sewer Extensions:—

No. of yards of 6in. sewers laid during 1925 ...	1350
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Water Mains Extensions:—

No. of yards of 2in. main laid during 1925 ...	100
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Slaughter Houses:—

No. in district ...	11
No. of inspections made ...	132

Closet Accommodation:—

No. of Earth Privies at close of 1924 ...	1141
No. of Pail Closets at close of 1924 ...	49
No. of Water Closets at close of 1924 ...	781
No. of Earth Privies at close of 1925 ...	1121
No. of Pail Closets at close of 1925 ...	46
No. of Water Closets at close of 1925 ...	834
The increase of Water Closets during the year is ...	53
The reduction of Earth Privies during the year is ...	20
The reduction of Pail Closets during the year is ...	3

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,
SAM BRAY.

SCHOOLS.

There are eight elementary schools in the district, and one secondary school in the centre of Holmfirth. The elementary schools vary much in structure and condition of cleanliness. The newer buildings are naturally more easily kept clean, but some of the others leave much to be desired in this respect. All are supplied with water; seven of them from the Council's mains, one from New Mill Council's mains, and one from a private supply. All are provided with water closets, except Hade Edge, Field End, and Nether Thong schools.

All the Schools have been inspected during the year, and though there has been a lot of non-notifiable infectious disease during the year, the attendance has not gone down sufficient to warrant closing the Schools, especially as the Schools were not the source of the infection. In fact, having regard to the Memorandum on the Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1925, this matter has been left entirely with the School Medical Officer.

8—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Public Health Officers of the Council consist of a Medical Officer of Health, who is a part-time official, and a Sanitary Inspector, who is a whole-time official except that he holds a small appointment of a similar character to a neighbouring district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—No milk is brought into the district except the tinned variety, which is largely used. There are none of the "Grades" of Milk in the area, and even if we had a farmer with sufficient interest in the matter, we have no farm buildings at present suitable or easily adaptable for the production of the better classes of Milk. The ordinary milk, which varies in character with the farmer who produces it, may be considered rich and unadulterated, and though there are isolated examples of people who cannot get enough milk, the general adequacy of the arrangements for the supply is sufficient. The administration of the Acts has not caused any difficulty, and there have not been any prosecutions during the year. Four hundred and seventy-five (475) Inspections have been made, and forty-four cowsheds were found in all respects fit for registration.

(i) Action taken as to Tuberculous Milk and Tuberculous Cattle.—During the year frequent inspections have been made, and no tuberculous living cattle discovered.

(ii) Number of licences granted for the sale of milk under special designations, classified as in the Fourth Schedule to the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923; types of apparatus licensed for the Pasturisation of Milk.—None.

(iii) Refusal or revocation of the registration of retailers, or of licences for Graded Milk, with reasons for refusal or revocation.—None.

(iv) Summarized results of the bacteriological examination of samples and graded and other Milk.—During the presence of the cases of Typhoid Fever, the Milk from a farm was bacteriologically examined, and found to be clean milk, with only 3,000 microbes per cubic centimetre.

(b) MEAT.—(i) Meat inspection (including arrangements for inspection at the time of slaughter and for marking meat under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924); disease in meat and arrangements for the disposal of condemned meat.—The meat inspections during the year have been one hundred and thirty-two (132). There are eleven slaughter houses. Meat is not marked in this area. During the year two carcasses of beasts were condemned for Tuberculous, and then destroyed at the Gas Works, where all condemned meat is destroyed.

(ii) Administration of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores and vehicles.—There is a considerable improvement since the passing of the Act. All shops are now covered in, and meat is carried about in an improved manner.

(iii) The management of Public Slaughter House.—There are none.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

	In 1920.	In Jan. 1925.	In Dec. 1925.
Registered ...	0	10	11
Licensed ..	4	2	3
Total in use ...	4	10	11

(c) OTHER FOODS.—There has been a great improvement in the quality of food generally in the district during the year. It has been very noticeable in almost all articles of diet, but particularly bacon. There are eight bakehouses in the district, all of which have been inspected. Some of them require more care in their cleanliness and storage of food prepared. Bakers should be particularly careful to keep flies off their cakes or other produce.

(d) There have been no reported cases of food poisoning during the year.

9—HOUSING.

(I.) General Housing Conditions of the Area :

(1) General Housing Conditions : The houses in this district are mostly built of stone. Many were built before the days of damp courses, and some are built into the ground ;

(2) (a) Extent of shortage or excess of houses : Many of the houses (occupied) are unfit for human habitation, and the shortage may be estimated at about 400.

(b) Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage : The Urban District Council has already built 36 houses in the neighbourhood, and in the last five years fifty-seven houses have been built by private enterprise ;

(3) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review, or anticipated in the future :—None.

(II.) Overcrowding :—

1. Extent—Much.

2. Causes—Shortage of houses. More than one family living in a house.

3. Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding — When there is alternative accommodation the Urban District Council will no doubt abate this nuisance.

4. Principal causes of overcrowding during the year 1925, and action taken.—As no alternative accommodation exists the Council are powerless to deal with overcrowding beyond keeping lodgers and such like nuisances.

(III.) Fitness of Houses :—

1. (a) General standard in the area.—Below the average.

(b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses.—Built into the ground ; want of repairs ; defects in roofs, walls, drain-pipes, etc.

(c) How far defects are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners, or to acts of waste or neglect by tenants. — Impossible to say, but the price of repairs is a larger factor than either.

2. General action taken as regards Unfit Houses :—

(a) The Public Health Acts.—Houses are inspected and nuisances abated where possible.

(b) The Housing Acts.—Owners are interviewed by the Sanitary Inspector or M.O.H., and notices are served where necessary. Tables C. and D. submitted to the Ministry of Health, etc.

(3) Difficulties found in remedying unfitness, either under the Public Health Acts or under Section 3 of the Housing Acts (1925).—Beyond the difficulty of cost of repairs, we have poor people who own cottage property, but have only a life interest in it. Many are doing exceedingly well in carrying out gradual repairs.

(4) Conditions, so far as they affect housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation and refuse disposal, together with measures taken this year in these matters.—These matters are dealt with elsewhere in this report. Taking the district as a whole, eminently satisfactory.

(IV.) Unhealthy Areas :—

Information as to complaints received or representations made, and action taken, in regard to unhealthy areas.—None.

(V.) Bye-laws relating to houses, to houses let in lodgings, and to tents, vans, sheds, etc. :—

(1) As to working of existing Bye-laws.—Satisfactory.

(2) As to need for new Bye-laws, or revision of existing Bye-laws.—At present we have no difficulty.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total—18.

(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme—None.

1—Unfit Dwelling-Houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 444

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ... 444

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 237

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to in preceding sub-heading) ... 207

2—Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 41

3—*Action under Statutory Powers.*

(a) Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, Etc., Act, 1919:—

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 20
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit:
 - (a) By owners 9
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close 0

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 57
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied:—
 - (a) By owners 11
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owner 0

(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, Etc., Act, 1909:—

- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders 0
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made 0
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit 0
- (4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made 0
- (5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 0

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. WILLIAMS, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Holmfirth Urban District.

APPENDIX I.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	7,892a. 2r 23p.
Population	10,430
Physical Features and General Character of Area ...	Hilly
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	2,745
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921) ...	2,900
Rateable Value	£47,970
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£190

APPENDIX II

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS—	Legitimate	...	Total. 156	M. 69	F. 87	} Birth Rate ...	Per 1,000 ... 15.62
	Illegitimate	...	7	4	3		
DEATHS	145	70	75	Death Rate ...	13.90

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth—
 From Sepsis... 1. From other causes... 2.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age . 17. Per 1,000 births... 104.29

APPENDIX III

Holmfirth Urban District.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases during the Year 1925.

DISEASE.	Total cases notified.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2 years.	2 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.	4 to 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 to 15 years.	15 to 20 years.	20 to 35 years.	35 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	Over 65 years.	Cases admitted to Hospi'l.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	28		1		1	3	16	6	1					27	0
Diphtheria	1									1				1	0
Enteric Fever (Typhoid).....	9		1		1		1		1		1	4		9	1
Pneumonia.....	52	3	6	3	5	5	9	3		4	4	8	2	0	11
Erysipelas	4								1	1		2		0	0
Puerperal Fever	1										1			1	1
TOTALS... ..	95	3	8	3	7	8	26	9	3	6	6	14	2	38	13

Hospital for the treatment of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever—
The Colne and Holme Joint Isolation Hospital at Meltham.

APPENDIX III(A)

Holmfirth Urban District.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 „ ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 „ ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10 „ ...	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 „ ..	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0
20 „ ...	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
25 „ ...	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
35 „ ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 „ ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
55 „ ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards ...	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
TOTALS ...	5	6	1	4	3	2	1	3

APPENDIX IV.

Holmfirth Urban District.**Causes of, and ages at Death during the Year 1925.**

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages, whether occurring within or without the District.													
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2 years.	2 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.	4 to 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 to 15 years.	15 to 20 years.	20 to 35 years.	35 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	Over 65 years.	
Influenza	3									1		1	1	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	5									2		1	2	
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	4						1			1		1	1	
Cancer—Malignant Disease ..	17										1	5	11	
Organic Heart Disease	22									2	1	8	11	
Bronchitis	13	1										2	10	
Pneumonia... ..	11										2	6	3	
Arterio-Sclerosis	12											1	11	
Appendicitis	1							1						
Nephritis—Bright's Disease ..	4									1		1	2	
Congenital Debility, &c.	14	14												
Suicide	2									1		1		
Violence (not Suicide)	7									2		2	3	
Other Defined Causes	64	1	1		1	1			1	1	2	20	36	
Parturition... ..	3									1	2			
Pertussis—Whooping Cough..	3	1			2									
Typhoid Fever	1										1			
TOTALS	186	17	1	0	3	1	1	1	1	12	9	49	91	

59 Died in Public Institutions.

29 Died in Deanhouse Institution. 15 Died in Holme Valley Hospital.

41 Transferred away. 9 Transferred to District.

Nett Deaths 145. Death Rate 13·90 per 1,000 per annum.

