

**[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Holmfirth U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Holmfirth (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1956

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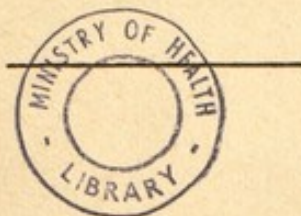


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**URBAN DISTRICT  
OF HOLMFIRTH**



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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
  
OF THE  
  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
  
**For the Year 1956**

BY  
  
**ERIC WARD**


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

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A. T. GREEN & CO. (Printers) LTD., CARR LANE

1957



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# Holmfirth Urban District

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for the year 1956/57

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All the Members of the Council constitute the Health and Planning Committee

\*Chairman of the Health and Planning Committee

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

**Medical Officer of Health:**

ERIC WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Deputy Medical Officer of Health:**

K. M. C. HAIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., C.P.H.

**Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:**

I. HAIGH

**Additional Public Health Inspectors:**

W. HARGREAVES

J. T. GREEN



Divisional Health Office,  
Woodville,  
Scar Lane,  
GOLCAR,  
Nr. Huddersfield.  
October, 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Holmfirth Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my 10th Annual Report on the health of the Holmfirth Urban District and the work of the Public Health Department during 1956. The report is in the usual form and is the 19th in the series since the formation of the enlarged Urban District in 1938.

As in previous years, Sections III, IV and V have been compiled by your Chief Public Health Inspector and form his Annual Report for the year.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the district at mid-1956 was 18,840, an increase of 140 on the 1955 figure. The number of births was 54 more than in the previous year. Perhaps the most notable feature about the vital statistics is the new comparability factor for deaths supplied by the Registrar-General. This is now 0.65 as compared with 0.87. The reduction in this factor would seem to indicate that the Registrar-General is now taking cognisance of the presence in the district of a chronic hospital which inevitably increases the number of deaths occurring in the district.

As the number of deaths was only 43 less than last year, the new comparability factor is responsible for much of the reduction in the adjusted Death Rate from 17.77 to 11.69. This figure for the district can now be reasonably compared with those for other areas.

Particulars are again given in Part VII of the report of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as the Local Health and Education Authority.

In conclusion, I once again wish to thank you, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen for your help and interest and to express my appreciation for the assistance and co-operation received from the Clerk and other officers of the Council. In particular my thanks are due to your Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. I. Haigh and his assistant, Mr. W. Hargreaves for their loyal service.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ERIC WARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

### 1. General Statistics

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	17,565
Enumerated Population (Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	19,073
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1955)	...	...	...	...	18,700
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1956)	...	...	...	...	18,840
Area Comparability Factors: Births 1.09; Deaths 0.65					
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1956	...	...	...	...	6,743
Rateable Value (31st March, 1957)	...	...	...	...	£161,964
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1957)	...	...	...	...	£634

### 2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

<b>Live Births:</b>		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	139	129	268
Illegitimate	...	7	5	12
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		146	134	280
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population				14.86
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population				16.20

<b>Still Births:</b>		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		3	1	4
Rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births				14.08
<b>Deaths:</b> (Males 166, Females 173)				339
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population				17.99
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population				11.69
Deaths from Puerperal Causes				1

#### Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	4	—	4
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		4	—	4

#### Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	14.29
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	14.93
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil

#### Death Rate per 1,000 population from:

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	0.11
All forms of Tuberculosis	...	0.11
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	1.33
Cancer	...	2.34
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis but including Syphilis and other V.D.)	...	0.16

## VITAL STATISTICS

## Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-1956 was 18,840 as compared with 18,700 at mid-1955.

## Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births, a net total of 280 live births (146 male, 134 female) was registered in the District during the year, an increase of 54 compared with the previous year.

The ADJUSTED BIRTH RATE is 16.20 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13.17 for the previous year.

There were 12 illegitimate live births (4.29% of the total live births) as compared with one for the previous year.

## Stillbirths

After adjustments for transfers, 4 stillbirths were registered during the year, as compared with 10 in the previous year. This figure gives a rate of 14.08 per 1,000 live and stillbirths, and 0.21 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 42.37 and 0.53 respectively for 1955.

## Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the District was 339 (166 male, 173 female), a decrease of 43 compared with the year 1955. Of these deaths 110 (44 male, 66 female) occurred in Deanhouse Hospital.

The ADJUSTED DEATH RATE is 11.69 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 17.77 for the previous year.

The following were the principal causes of death in order of frequency.

(i)	Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System ...	140
(ii)	Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	68
(iii)	Malignant Neoplasms ... ..	44
(iv)	Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	25

These four causes accounted for 81.71% of the total deaths. Particulars of the various causes of death and of the age and sex distribution are given in the following table.



Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages		0-	1-	2-	5-15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
All Causes	M	166	4				2	2	1	10	24	54	69
	F	173					1		5	9	24	38	96
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	2									1		1
	F												
2 Tuberculosis, other	M												
	F												
3 Syphilitic disease	M	2										2	
	F												
4 Diphtheria	M												
	F												
5 Whooping Cough	M												
	F												
6 Meningococcal infections	M												
	F												
7 Acute poliomyelitis	M												
	F												
8 Measles	M												
	F												
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	1					1						
	F												
10 Malignant neoplasm — stomach	M	3										2	1
	F	4									2		2
11 Malignant neoplasm — lung, bronchus	M	4								2	1	1	
	F												
12 Malignant neoplasm — breast	M												
	F	2								1		1	
13 Malignant neoplasm — uterus	M												
	F	4							1		1	2	
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	14								1	1	6	6
	F	13								1	5	1	6
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	M												
	F												
16 Diabetes	M												
	F	5								1	1	2	1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	34								1	7	9	17
	F	34							1	4	4	9	16
18 Coronary disease, angina	M	29							1	4	6	12	6
	F	8							1		1	1	5
19 Hypertension with heart disease	M												
	F	3									1	2	
20 Other heart disease	M	25								2	1	5	17
	F	33								1		3	29
21 Other circulatory disease	M	16									2	3	11
	F	26									2	6	18
22 Influenza	M												
	F	3									1	2	
23 Pneumonia	M	3										2	1
	F	1										1	
24 Bronchitis	M	12									1	5	6
	F	4										2	2
25 Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1										1	
	F	1								1			
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	2										1	1
	F	3											3
27 Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	M	1									1		
	F												
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	M	3									1	2	
	F	1											1
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	M	3										1	2
	F												
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	M												
	F	1							1				
31 Congenital malformations	M												
	F												
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	8	4					1			1	2	
	F	17							1		3	5	8
33 Motor vehicle accidents	M	1					1						
	F	1											
34 All other accidents	M	1						1					
	F	6									1	1	4
35 Suicide	M	1									1		
	F	3									2		1
36 Homicide and operations of war	M												
	F												

## Maternal Deaths and Mortality

There was one maternal death during the year, this being due to toxic myocarditis and heart failure, the result of electrolyte imbalance and Caesarean section.

This death gives the District a mortality rate of 3.52 per 1,000 live and still births.

## Infant Mortality

After correction for transferable deaths there were 4 deaths (all male) of infants under 1 year of age, a decrease of one compared with the previous year. All these infants were under 4 weeks of age at the time of death.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 14.29 per 1,000 live births as compared with 22.12 for the previous year.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births is 14.93 as compared with 22.22 for the previous year.

There were no deaths of illegitimate children under one year of age.

## Comparative Statistics

	Holmfirth Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (provisional figures)
<b>BIRTH RATE</b>				
Per 1,000 estimated population ... (crude)	14.86	15.8	16.4	15.7
do. (adjusted)	16.20	16.0	16.5	—
<b>DEATH RATES</b>				
All per 1,000 estimated population				
All Causes (Crude) ...	17.99	12.6	11.8	11.7
All Causes (Adjusted) ...	11.69	13.1	12.9	—
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (excl. T.B.) ...	0.16	0.07	0.07	*
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11
Other forms of Tuberculosis	Nil	0.01	0.02	0.01
Respiratory Diseases (ex- cluding Tuberculosis of respiratory system) ...	1.33	1.37	1.29	*
Cancer ...	2.34	2.05	1.89	2.08
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ...	7.43	4.76	4.47	*
<b>INFANT MORTALITY</b> ...	14.29	25.9	27.1	23.8
<b>DIARRHOEA</b>				
Deaths of infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births ...	Nil	*	*	*
<b>MATERNAL MORTALITY</b>				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	*	*	*
Other Causes ...	3.52	*	*	*
<b>Total</b> ...	3.52	0.69	0.52	0.56

\* Figures not available.



## Section II

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### Staff

The Medical Officer of Health is a part time officer of the Council, but is engaged whole-time on public health work, being also Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Colne Valley, Denby Dale, Kirkburton, Meltham and Saddleworth and Divisional Medical Officer of Division 20 of the West Riding, which is composed of the 6 Urban Districts of which he is Medical Officer of Health.

By arrangement with the County Council one of the Senior Assistant County Medical Officers holds the appointment of Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

In addition there is a Chief Public Health Inspector, who is also Cleansing Superintendent and Salvage Officer, an Additional Public Health Inspector, a temporary Additional Public Health Inspector and a Clerk.

#### Laboratory Facilities

All the bacteriological laboratory work required to be undertaken by the Health Department and by General Practitioners is carried out at the Wakefield Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service, whilst samples of water for chemical examination are sent to the laboratories of Messrs. Richardson and Jaffe, Public Analysts, Bradford.

#### Ambulance Facilities

##### (a) Cases of Infectious Diseases

The ambulance of the Isolation Hospital to which the patient is admitted is used for the removal of the patient.

##### (b) Cases of Sickness and Accident

An Ambulance Service is operated by the West Riding County Council, the depot for the area being situated at Banney Royd, Halifax Road, Huddersfield (Tel. No. Huddersfield 1255/6).

#### Professional Nursing in the Home

**General:** Home Nursing is undertaken by 3 Home Nurses employed by the West Riding County Council and resident at Holmfirth, Honley and New Mill.

**Midwifery:** There are 2 full-time midwives employed by the West Riding County Council and resident at Holmfirth and New Mill. The Home Nurse resident at Honley is also a practising midwife.

Further details of the nursing services provided in the area will be found in Section VII of this report.



## Treatment Centres, Clinics and Hospitals

### Infant Welfare Centres

Held weekly on Wednesday afternoon at New Mill, on Thursday afternoon at Holmfirth, and on Friday afternoon at Honley.

### Ante-Natal Clinics

There are no separate Ante-Natal clinics in the district but expectant mothers may be seen at Holmfirth prior to the Infant Welfare session on the 4th Thursday afternoon in the month. They may also be seen at the Honley and New Mill Infant Welfare Centres by prior arrangement.

### School Clinics

Held weekly on Thursday morning at Holmfirth. School children may be seen, if necessary, at the Honley and New Mill Infant Welfare Centres.

All these clinics are held in the following premises:—

**Holmfirth:** Wesley Methodist Church, Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth.

**Honley:** Methodist Sunday School, Southgate, Honley.

**New Mill:** Council Offices, New Mill.

### Chest Clinic

Held daily at 1 Peel Street, Huddersfield, but a prior appointment is necessary.

### Venereal Diseases Clinics

Held at York Place, New North Road, Huddersfield; Clayton Hospital, Wakefield; and the General Infirmary, Dewsbury.

### Hospitals

- (a) **Infectious Diseases:** Under the National Health Service Act, Holmfirth is placed in the Leeds Regional Hospital Area, and cases of Infectious Diseases, other than Smallpox, are admitted to the Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield.

Accommodation for cases of Smallpox is provided by the Leeds Regional Hospital Board at the Oakwell Smallpox Hospital, Birstall.

- (b) **General Hospitals:**

Holme Valley Memorial Hospital.

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

Deanhouse Hospital, Thongsbridge, Holmfirth.

- (c) **Maternity:** Arrangements are made for the admission of patients to the Holme Valley Memorial Hospital, the Princess Royal Maternity Home, Huddersfield, and various general hospitals.

### Section III

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

Water is supplied in the District by 3 statutory water undertakings, Holmfirth Urban District Council, Huddersfield Corporation and Batley Corporation.

No changes have been made in the sources of supply which were detailed in the report for 1948.

Of the 6,743 houses in the District, 6,058 are supplied from Public mains. Most of the water supplied is chlorinated before distribution, and except during periods of drought the quantity available is sufficient to meet the needs of the area.

Regular sampling of public water supplies has continued and during the year 106 samples have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Wakefield, for bacteriological examination. The results classified in accordance with the standards set by the Ministry of Health for non-chlorinated piped supplies are given below:—

Date of Sampling	Greave	Holme Styes (Chlorinated)	Bradshaw (Temporarily Chlorinated)	Holme (Chlorinated)	Snape	Netherthong (Chlorinated)	Batley (Chlorinated)	Huddersfield (Chlorinated)
	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class
25-1-56	II*	I	I	II	I	I	I	I
23-2-56	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
14-3-56	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	II
24-4-56	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
24-5-56	II	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
21-6-56	I	I	III*	I	I	I	I	I
9-7-56	—	—	IV*	—	—	—	—	—
17-7-56	II*	III*	III*	III*	IV*	I	I	I
23-8-56	IV*	III*	I	I	I	I	I	I
3-9-56	III* IV* IV*	IV* I —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
25-9-56	I —	I I	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —
23-10-56	I —	I I	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —
22-11-56	I —	I I	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —
12-12-56	I —	I I	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —	I —

\*Faecal contamination present



	Presumptive Coliform Count per 100 ml.
Class I: Highly Satisfactory	less than 1
Class II: Satisfactory	1 to 2
Class III: Suspicious	3 to 10
Class IV: Unsatisfactory	greater than 10

Throughout the year 50% should fall into Class I, 80% should not fall below Class II, and the remainder should not fall below Class III. Efficient chlorination should yield a water having Class I grading.

Fifteen samples of domestic water from private supplies were taken from 8 premises and examined bacteriologically at the Public Health Laboratory, Wakefield. Of these samples, 4 were reported as highly satisfactory, 5 as satisfactory and 6 as unsatisfactory.

A total of 26 samples of water from service pipes supplied from the Council's reservoirs were submitted for analysis to determine the plumbo-solvency of supplies. There is no recognised standard for lead content in water supplies. The County Public Health Department gives a standard of not more than  $\frac{1}{10}$  grain per gallon (1.43 parts per million). Other sources give a standard of not more than 0.1 parts per million. 4 of the samples showed lead content varying from  $\frac{1}{25}$  to  $\frac{2}{25}$  grains per gallon but on the County standard all were satisfactory.

### Drainage and Sewerage

The Council's sewer was extended up Greenfield Road, Holmfirth for a distance of 280 yards for the development of a housing site.

No alterations have been made in the arrangements for sewage disposal during the year but a scheme is under consideration for closing the New Mill Sewage Works and extending the Neiley Sewage Works.

The populous parts of the District are fairly adequately sewered but improved means of disposal are required in some of the outlying parts, particularly Hade Edge, Moorcock, Snowgate Head, and Syke Bottom.

### Rivers and Streams

Precautions are taken when new drainage works are carried out to prevent any further contamination of rivers and streams with sewage. Existing known cases of pollution of water courses are dealt with as local circumstances permit.

### Closet Accommodation

The number of closets estimated to be in the district in connection with all types of premises at the end of 1956 was as follows:—

Privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	857
Pail or tub closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,353
Chemical Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
							<hr/>
							7,393
							<hr/>



Particulars of new Water Closets installed and conversions carried out are as follows:—

(a) In new houses:—

(i) Council houses ... ..	68
(ii) Private enterprise ... ..	28
	<hr/>
	96

(b) In Existing premises:—

	Existing Houses	Other Premises
No. of privies reconstructed as water closets...	3	—
No. of tubs or pail closets reconstructed as water closets ... ..	—	8
No. of water closets installed in replacement of dismantled privies, tubs, etc. ... ..	1	—
No. of water closets installed as additional accommodation to existing closets ...	16	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20	10

No. of closets other than water closets, converted, dismantled or demolished ... ..	20
--	----

The Council continued to make a grant of £7 10s. 0d. (or one-half the cost, if less) to owners towards the expense incurred in providing a water closet in substitution for a privy, tub, or pail closet. During the year, applications were received from owners in respect of 9 privies and 6 pail or tub closets, and a grant was made in each case.

A detailed analysis of water supply and closet accommodation is given in the table on page 16.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

This has continued to be carried out under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

About 25% of the refuse collected is destroyed at the Honley destructor and about 75% is dealt with by controlled tipping at 4 tips situated at Foster Place and Syke Bottom (New Mill), Berry Banks (Holmfirth), and Scotgate Road (Honley).

The following figures kindly supplied by Mr. Haigh relate to the year ended 31st March, 1957:—

Berry Banks Tip ... ..	4,250 tons
New Mill Tips... ..	1,375 tons
Honley Destructor and Tip ... ..	1,765 tons
	<hr/>
Total ...	7,390 tons

Salvage collected and sold during the same period:—

	tons	cwts	qrs	£	s.	d.
Cartons .....	—	—	—	32	12	0
Waste Paper .....	208	5	1	1702	0	11
Metals and Textiles.....	30	10	1	116	12	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	238	15	2	1851	5	4

### Pet Animals Act, 1951

Two premises in the District are licensed as Pet Shops.

## **Shops Acts**

No visits were made under the Shops Act during 1956.

### **West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951 Registration of Hairdressers**

Sixteen premises are registered for carrying on the trade of hairdresser or barber. There are no byelaws in operation in connection with these businesses.

## **Smoke Abatement**

A soot deposit gauge is installed at the Neiley Sewage Works. Analysis of the deposits shows that the average monthly deposit of total solids is 9.43 tons per square mile as compared with 13.28 tons per square mile in 1955. Whilst this figure is somewhat less than that recorded at deposit gauges situated in neighbouring districts it is an indication of the need in the District for an active policy of smoke abatement. Although industry is usually blamed for the smoke nuisance it is now generally agreed by competent authorities that at least half of the pollution is due to domestic chimneys.

One smoke observation was carried out during the year, but this did not show any excessive emission of black smoke.

Byelaws regulating the emission of smoke are not in force in the District.

## **Tents, Vans and Sheds**

There are no sites in the area licensed under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, but 3 licences granted to persons authorising them to station and use a moveable dwelling in the District were renewed during the year.

### **Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

There are no premises in the District licensed to manufacture or store rag flock, but one is registered for upholstery. No samples of filling materials were submitted for analysis during the year.

## **Eradication of Bed Bugs, etc.**

There were no instances of houses being infested with bed bugs or fleas but two filthy houses were cleansed by employees of the Health Department during the year.



## Factories Act, 1937 and 1948

The following is an extract from a separate report submitted to the Director of Statistics of the Ministry of Labour on Form 572 (Revised).

### 1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

Premises	No. on Register	Insp'tions	Written Notices	Owners Prosec'ted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	167	12	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	6	—	—	—
Total	176	12	—	—

### 2. Cases in which Defects were Found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness:	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	4	4	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total	4	4	2	—

### 3. Outworkers

There are 116 outworkers in the District, employed as menders and burlers for various textile firms.

## The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Rodent work is carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and close liaison exists between the Sanitary Inspector and the Officers of the Ministry.



As the Council's rodent operative is engaged only part-time on this work the amount of time he has available for the work of rodent destruction is limited. The following is a summary of disinfection work carried out during the 12 months ended 31st March, 1957.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Others (incl. Business)	Total	Agri- cultural
Number of properties in- spected by L.A. as a result of :—					
(a) notification	4	39	10	53	—
(b) survey	1	5	—	6	—
Total Inspections and re-inspections	21	128	33	182	—
Number of properties found to be infested by rats	4	33	9	46	—
Number of properties found to be infested by mice	1	11	1	13	—
Number of infested pro- perties treated by L.A. (first treatment)	5	44	10	59	—
Total treatments carried out including retreat- ments	5	45	11	61	—

### Schools

There are in the District 16 schools, 12 being County Schools, including one Secondary Modern School and one Grammar School, and 4 being Voluntary Schools. No schools were closed on account of infectious diseases during the year.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

#### 1. Notices served for abatement of Nuisances (excluding Housing and Smoke)

No notices for the abatement of nuisances were outstanding on the 31st December, 1955 and no notices were served during 1956.

#### 2. Inspections and Visits during 1956:—

General Public Health	...	...	...	...	...	73
Housing Inspections (including housing nuisances)	...	...	...	...	...	2119
Nuisances (excluding housing and smoke nuisances)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	1
Factories — Health Provisions — Factories Act...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Factories — Fire escapes	...	...	...	...	...	53
Cleansing Section administration and refuse disposal	...	...	...	...	...	1054

Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Building Byelaws (new drainage and new sanitary fittings)							141
Infectious Disease and Disinfection	...	...	...				526
Inspections of meat and other foods	...	...	...				912
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Public Water Supply — sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Total number of inspections and visits	...	...	...				5222

### 3. Sanitary Improvements Effected following Action by the Public Health Inspectors

Repair or renewals carried out to:—

Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eaves spouting	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drains (cleared only)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of:—							
Closets repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ashpits demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Septic Tanks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water service pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	1



**PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION IN DWELLING HOUSES AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1956**

Ward	Austonley	Cartworth	Fulstone	Hepworth	Holme	Honley Central	Honley East (includes part Magdale)	Honley South	Honley West (includes part Magdale)	Neatherthong	North Central	Scholes	South Central	Thurstonland	Upperthong	Wooldale	Total
Number of Dwelling Houses:—																	
In District ...	422	291	599	219	111	864	365	211	325	471	503	468	469	250	490	685	6743
On Public Water Supply ...	374	98	518	148	107	863	350	211	280	434	481	415	412	235	457	675	6058
Having One W.C.	217	69	348	119	89	503	269	177	234	306	345	233	287	168	334	485	89.8%
Having 2 or more W.C.'s ...	40	1	19	13	4	78	10	3	7	12	8	70	3	27	8	27	4183
Not having a W.C. or sharing Accdn. ...	165	221	232	87	13	283	86	31	84	153	150	165	179	55	148	173	62.0%
																	330
																	4.9%
																	2230
																	33.1%
Estimated Closet Accommodation in Dwelling Houses:—																	
No. of W.C.'s ...	339	76	414	153	105	777	317	195	252	370	407	395	332	234	376	596	5338
No. of Privies ...	57	131	133	60	5	1	7	—	28	62	29	92	66	17	66	29	85.3%
No. of Pails or Tubs ...	1	11	3	2	—	28	14	5	28	3	5	—	—	4	5	16	783
No. of Chemical Closets ...	3	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	12.5%
% of Privies, Tubs, to Total Closets ...	15.3	66.1	24.7	29.5	4.5	3.6	6.2	2.5	18.2	14.9	7.7	18.9	17.0	8.2	16.1	7.0	125
																	2.0%
																	14
																	0.2%
																	14.7

## HOUSING

Housing remains one of the most difficult problems of the district. In spite of the increased number of houses provided by the Council, a long list of applicants still remains. Medical Certificates recommending priority in re-housing, support many of the applications.

Details of the Council's proposals for dealing with unfit houses in the area were given in my Annual Report for 1955.

**Provision of New Houses**

Additional dwelling houses provided during the year were as follows:—

(a) By the Local Authority—New permanent type	...	68
(b) By private enterprise—New houses	...	25
(c) By private enterprise—Conversion of existing buildings	...	5
Total	...	98

**Housing Statistics**

Number of dwelling-houses in the District	...	6743
Number of back-to-back houses included in the above	...	Not known

**1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	725
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	2119
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	...	559
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	1457
(3) Number of dwelling-houses needing further action:—		
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	39
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	194

**2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—**

(a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	Nil
(b) Number of defective dwelling-houses (excluding those shown in (a) above) in which defects were remedied in consequence of informal action	...	65



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

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts ... ..	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
	(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation... ..	36
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	24
	(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	2
	(4) Any action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953	Nil
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	Nil
(e)	Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936:	Nil

### 4. Housing Act, 1936 — Part IV. Overcrowding

(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year... ..	5
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	7
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein... ..	35
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	2
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	4
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	18

### 5. Housing Act, 1949

During the year one application was received under Section 4 of this Act for an advance for the purpose of increasing housing accommodation. This was approved. In addition 19 applications were received under Section 20 for grants for improvement of housing accommodation. Fourteen of these were approved and grants made.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

The Urban District Council is only responsible for the registration and supervision of retailers and their premises, and for the issue of dealers' and supplementary licences to retail designated milk. Sampling is limited to milk in the course of delivery and when special enquiries are necessary.

There are 7 persons registered with this authority as milk distributors, but no premises registered as dairies. The milk is purchased from dairy farms direct and sold in the District. The remainder of the milk purveyed in the District is distributed direct from the dairy farms.

The licences in force during the year under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) and (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953 were:—

- (a) 3 supplementary licences authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised."
- (b) 3 dealers' licences and 2 supplementary licences authorising the use of the special designation "Sterilised."
- (c) 3 supplementary licences and one dealers' licence in relation to "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

In March, 1956 an enquiry was made to ascertain the number of producer/retailers of non-designated, non-pasteurised milk in the district. There were 137 farmers in the district registered with the Ministry of Agriculture as dairy farmers (i.e. milk producers) of whom 53 held current producer licences from the Ministry to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested." Of the 84 not holding such licences 16 were found to be retailers of non-designated, non-pasteurised milk, who milked from 2 to 6 cows each and in some instances only supplied one customer.

During the year 15 samples of undesignated milk and 24 samples of tuberculin tested milk were taken for bacteriological examination for cleanliness or keeping quality. Results showed that 4 of the samples of undesignated milk and 3 of the samples of tuberculin tested milk were unsatisfactory.

The number of samples taken for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli was 16 all of which were reported negative.

### Ice Cream

At the end of 1956 there were 2 premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, and 50 registered for sale only.

No samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year.

### Meat

Regular meat inspection has taken place at 7 of the 8 licensed slaughterhouses in the District.

Four of the slaughterhouses are accepted Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Deadweight Certification Centres under the Fatstock Guarantee scheme for pigs, and the Public Health Inspectors are authorised to carry out the duties of Certifying Officers.



Particulars of carcasses inspected by the Public Health Inspectors and condemned are shown below:—

	Cattle ex'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known),	395	11	15	1550	2349
Carcasses Inspected	395	11	15	1550	2349
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	1	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	67	1	—	10	42
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci	17	9.1	6.6	0.64	1.7
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	24	2	—	—	36
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6	18.2	—	—	1.5
Cysticercosis only					
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	2	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of meat or organs condemned: 2165 lbs.

#### Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Fatstock Guarantee Scheme

No. of Pigs certified during 1956 ... 762  
No. of payment certificates made out ... 189

There are 8 slaughterhouses in the District all being licensed.

The number of butchers' shops in the District is 29, whilst the number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the manufacture of sausages, potted meat, etc., is 26.

During the year 10 visits were made to food preparing premises.

#### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

One new licence was issued during the year and the number of slaughtermen licensed at the end of the year was 55.

#### Bread

There are 17 bakehouses in the district, 1 of which is underground.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The West Riding County Council is the Authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Section of the Act. The following particulars of

samples taken during the year have been supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures:—

					Genuine	Adulterated
Milk samples examined	...	...	...	...	50	3
Drugs examined	...	...	...	...	5	—
Other Foods examined	...	...	...	...	11	1
Proceedings instituted	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cautions issued	...	...	...	...	—	3

With regard to the milk samples shown as “Adulterated,” these contained less than 3% fat and warnings were sent by the Clerk of the County Council to the persons from whom the samples were procured.

### Other Foods

At retail shops the following other foods were found to be unfit for human consumption:—

Canned fruit	...	...	...	...	...	69 lbs.
Canned meat	...	...	...	...	...	59 lbs.
Canned milk	...	...	...	...	...	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Canned fish	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Canned soup	...	...	...	...	...	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Canned vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Sago	...	...	...	...	...	14 lbs.
Milk Powder	...	...	...	...	...	56 lbs.
						<hr/> 242 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. <hr/>

### Food Byelaws

The Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, concerning the handling, wrapping, and delivery of food, and sale of food in the open air, were in operation throughout the year.



## Section VI

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

During the year 33 cases of dysentery occurred but apart from this there was no unusual prevalence of infectious or other diseases in the District during 1956.

#### Diphtheria

No cases of this disease were notified during the year.

The immunisation campaign continued during the year, the inoculations being carried out by medical practitioners and officers of the County Health Department. Some 11 children of school age and 120 children under 5 years of age received a complete course of injections whilst 55 children who had been inoculated some years ago received "booster" doses.

#### Scarlet Fever

During the year 4 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, 3 of which were confirmed, as compared with 6 cases in 1955. All of the patients were admitted to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital.

#### Whooping Cough

Cases of Whooping Cough notified during 1956 numbered 98 as compared with 38 in the previous year.

The distribution of cases is given in the following table:—

Ward	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tot'l
Austonley	—	6	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	18
Cartworth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fulstone	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hepworth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Holme	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Honley	2	1	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Netherthong	—	4	2	9	2	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	24
Scholes	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
N'th Central	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
S'th Central	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Thurstonland	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Upperthong	2	1	6	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Wooldale	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Totals ...	21	19	19	23	5	4	6	—	—	—	1	—	98

#### Measles

Cases of Measles notified during 1956 numbered 3 as compared with 179 cases in the previous year.

#### Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia

No cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia or Acute Influenzal Pneumonia were notified during the year. Deaths registered during 1956 as due to all forms of Pneumonia total 4, as compared with 2 in 1955.

## **Enteric Fever and Dysentery**

During the year 33 cases of dysentery occurred in the district, the majority of them in the months of April and May in the Scholes area.

Of these cases 21 were children of school age, most of whom attended Scholes County School.

No cases of enteric fever were notified.

## **Meningococcal Infections**

One case of Meningococcal Infection was notified during the year but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

## **Food Poisoning**

One case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year, the patient being a female aged 24 years resident in the Upperthong Ward. This was an isolated case which came to notice through a routine investigation of a case of dysentery. The patient was ill with vomiting and diarrhoea of moderate severity for a period of 72 hours and salmonella worthington was isolated from a faecal specimen sent to the Laboratory.

The origin of the food poisoning was not determined.

In August an outbreak of sickness affecting 13 scholars and teachers occurred at Wooldale School. Investigations were carried out but the findings did not identify the outbreak as one of food poisoning.

In investigating the outbreak of Sonne Dysentery and Food Poisoning a total of 566 faeces specimens were collected and submitted to the Wakefield Public Health Laboratory.

## **Erysipelas**

During the year 2 cases of Erysipelas were notified.

## **Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis and Acute Polioencephalitis**

No cases were notified during the year.

## **Cancer**

The number of deaths attributable to Cancer during the year totalled 44 (21 male, 23 female), as compared with 48 in 1955. The Cancer death rate for the year is 2.34 per 1,000 of the estimated population, compared with a rate of 2.57 for the previous year. The corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the Urban Districts are 1.89 and 2.05 respectively.

## **Tuberculosis**

A total of 11 new cases were added to the Notification Register during the year, as compared with 10 in the previous year.

There were two deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, the same number as in the previous year.



The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year:—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
(a) Number of cases on Register at commencement of year	38	21	4	11
(b) Number of cases notified first time during the year	7	3	1	—
(c) Number of cases restored to Register ....	—	—	—	—
(d) Number of cases added to Register otherwise than by notification ....	2	—	—	—
(e) Number of cases removed from the Register ....	6	2	1	5
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register ....	41	22	4	9

Age (years)	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	7	3	1	—	2	—	—	—



Disease	Total Number of cases Notified	Number of cases in which Diagno- sis con- firmed	Number of cases Admitted Mill Hill Isolation Hospital	Deaths	Age distribution of confirmed cases.																						
					Under 1		1-2		2-3		3-4		4-5		5-10		10-15		15-20		20-35		35-45		45-65		Over 65
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Measles ... ..	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough .. ..	98	98	—	—	3	2	2	4	4	8	11	11	10	5	22	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	4 (a)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Influen- zal Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever ..	4	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ...	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery ...	52	33 (b)	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	5	5	7	4	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infections ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Poisoning	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

(a) Deaths from all forms of pneumonia.

(b) Includes 5 cases (1 male, 4 female) whose ages are unknown.





SECTION VII

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
OF THE  
**WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE**

---

**DIVISION 20**

---

URBAN DISTRICTS OF:—

COLNE VALLEY	KIRKBURTON
DENBY DALE	MELTHAM
HOLMFIRTH	SADDLEWORTH

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**Divisional Medical Officer**  
**1956**

BY  
**ERIC WARD**  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Divisional Staff:**

**Divisional Medical Officer:**

E. WARD., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Senior Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers:**

K. M. C. HAIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., C.P.H.

W. P. B. STONEHOUSE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers:**

B. R. ELLIS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

E. D. SHAW, M.B., Ch.B.

**Clinic Medical Officers: (Part time)**

H. MERCER, M.B., Ch.B.

A. HAND, M.B., Ch.B.

J. G. WALLER, M.B., Ch.B.

H. C. PICKERING, M.R.C.S.

L.R.C.P.

P. B. WOOD, M.B., Ch.B.

**Superintendent Health Visitor: Mrs. A. CORLESS**

**Health Visitors and School Nurses:**

Miss B. BAINES

Miss D. BROOKE

Miss A. COLEMAN

Miss M. J. DAWKINS

\*Mrs. E. FISCHER

Miss M. FLINTOFF

Miss B. HIGTON

Mrs. E. M. HURLEY

Miss C. INCHBOARD

Miss D. MELLOR

Miss E. C. MORLEY

(Appointed 2-7-56)

Miss M. I. MORRIS

Miss B. I. OWNSWORTH

Mrs. A. ROYSTON

\*Mrs. M. WARD

Mrs. E. WILLIAMS

Miss D. WOOD

(Retired 30-9-56)

**Midwives:**

Mrs. J. CAPES

Miss A. CHARLESWORTH

Mrs. J. COOK

Mrs. E. GRAHAM

**Nurse/Midwives:**

Miss A. ASPINALL

Miss A. BEAUMONT

Miss M. BROOK

†Mrs. B. M. COOPER

(Resigned 1-3-56)

Miss F. B. EMMOTT

Miss R. L. GIBSON

(Appointed 17-2-56)

Mrs. M. HANKS

(Appointed 25-8-56)

Miss S. JONES

Mrs. K. M. KAYE

Miss L. KAYE

Miss M. J. LAKING

Mrs. E. L. B. LYTHE

Miss K. M. PURDON

(Transferred to Div. 16 30-6-56)

Miss D. P. SMITH

(Appointed 1-7-56)

Miss M. P. SPRING

**Home Nurses:**

Mrs. M. CLEMENTS

Mrs. N. EARL

†Mrs. M. HART

Mrs. J. HALSTEAD

Miss C. LATIMER

(Transferred to Div. 17, 31-3-56)

Mrs. J. LAUDER

Miss A. LODGE

(Transferred to Div. 17, 20-2-56)

Mrs. N. PLATT

Mrs. H. M. STURGEON

Miss S. WADSWORTH

**Mental Health Social Worker:**

Mrs. M. MOORE

**Mental Health Home Teachers:**

Miss E. BALL

Mrs. V. M. E. DUNCOMBE

**Speech Therapist:**

Mrs. M. J. CARTER

**Duly Authorised Officer: Mr. R. G. RACE**

**Senior Clerk: Mr. G. A. BEATSON**

\*Part time

†Temporary



## WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL—SERVICES

### INTRODUCTION.

In this Section an account is given of the services provided by the West Riding County Council in the Division.

The Division, which consists of the Urban Districts of Colne Valley, Denby Dale, Holmfirth, Kirkburton, Meltham and Saddleworth, has a population of 89,130 and an area of 82,750 acres. Although the population is only slightly more than one person per acre on average, owing to the wild moorland nature of much of the Division the majority of the inhabitants live in small urban communities in the various valleys.

### STAFF.

The Medical Staff consists of a Divisional Medical Officer who is also Medical Officer of Health for the six County Districts in the Division and two Senior Assistant County Medical Officers (one of whom is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health for all the County Districts apart from Saddleworth, whilst the other is Deputy Medical Officer of Health for Saddleworth only). In addition there are two full-time Assistant County Medical Officers and 5 part-time Medical Officers who undertake sessional duties at Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics.

Medical auxiliary staff employed wholly in the Division are one Mental Health Social Worker and two Mental Health Home Teachers whilst the Speech Therapist is shared with Division 19.

Details of the Health-Visiting, Home Nursing and Midwifery Staffs will be found later in this report.

The statistics given in this Section relate to the whole Division but where practicable they are sub-divided into those for the various districts.

# COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1956

	Colne Valley U.D.	Denby Dale U.D.	Holm- firth U.D.	Kirk- burton U.D.	Mel- tham U.D.	Saddle worth U.D.	Division No. 20	Aggregate West Riding U.D.'s.	West Riding Admin. County	Eng- land & Wales prov. figures
Area (Acres) .....	16,052	10,165	17,565	14,577	5,906	18,485	82,750	380,334	1,609,759	*
Population .....	21,460	9,570	18,840	17,540	5,140	16,580	89,130	1,169,600	1,618,300	*
Live Births .....	324	102	280	217	63	203	1189	18,525	26,468	*
Still Births .....	2	—	4	6	—	5	17	445	625	*
Deaths .....	312	120	339	400	68	228	1467	14,718	19,105	*
Deaths under 1 year of age .....	9	3	4	1	2	4	23	480	718	*
<b>Birth Rate</b> Per 1,000 estimated population (Crude)	15.10	10.66	14.86	12.37	12.26	12.24	13.34	15.8	16.4	15.7
„ (Adjusted)	16.15	11.83	16.20	14.10	12.87	13.59	*	16.0	16.5	15.7
<b>Death Rates</b> All per 1,000 est- imated population All Causes (Crude)	14.54	12.54	17.99	22.81	13.23	13.69	16.45	12.6	11.8	11.7
„ „ (Adjusted)	14.83	12.54	11.69	11.40	13.23	13.01	*	13.1	12.9	11.7
Infective and Para- sitic diseases ex- cluding T.B. but including Syphilis and other V.D. ...	0.09	—	0.16	0.23	—	0.24	0.15	0.07	0.07	*
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	0.19	0.10	0.11	0.46	0.19	0.06	0.19	0.11	0.11	0.11
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	—	0.11	—	0.06	0.19	—	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.01
Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuber- culosis of respir- atory system) .....	1.03	0.94	1.33	2.22	0.58	1.57	1.39	1.37	1.29	*
Cancer .....	2.66	1.88	2.34	2.05	2.53	1.75	2.21	2.05	1.89	2.08
Heart and Circul- atory Diseases .....	5.36	5.54	7.43	9.29	5.84	6.27	6.80	4.76	4.47	*
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous Sys- tem ... ..	2.38	1.99	3.61	4.10	1.36	1.57	2.73	2.05	1.86	*
<b>Infant Mortality</b> .....	27.77	29.41	14.29	4.61	31.75	19.70	19.34	25.9	27.1	23.8
<b>Maternal Mortality</b>	—	—	3.52	—	—	—	0.83	0.69	0.52	0.56

\* Figures not available.



## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1956 was 1189 (634 males, 555 females), an increase of 106 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE was 13.34 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 12.17 for 1955.

The illegitimate live births numbered 38 or 3.20% of the total live births, an increase of 9 compared with the previous year.

### Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 1467 (702 male, and 765 female), a decrease of 36 on the total for 1955.

THE CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 16.45 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 16.89 for the previous year.

The following were the principal causes of death in order of frequency:—

(i) Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System ...	606
(ii) Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	243
(iii) Malignant Neoplasms ... ..	197
(iv) Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	124

These 4 causes accounted for 79.75% of the total deaths.

### Infant Mortality.

In 1956 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 23 a decrease of 8 on the previous year. Of these deaths 22 infants were under 4 weeks of age at the time of death.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE was 19.34 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 28.62 for 1955.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births was 19.11 as compared with 27.51 for 1955.

The death rate amongst illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births was 26.32 as compared with 68.97 for 1955.

The following table gives the causes of death of all infants at various ages under one year:—



# DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of Death	Under 1 day	1-2 days	2-5 days	5-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
1. Toxaemia due to Staphylococcal Meningitis and bilateral otitis media ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
2. Asphyxia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
3. Congenital Malformations ...	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
4. Premature Birth ...	9	1	—	1	11	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	11
5. Atelectasis ...	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
6. Intra-Cranial Injury ...	—	2	—	1	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
7. Rhesus Incompatibility	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	12	4	2	2	20	1	1	22	1	—	—	—	23

## EPIDEMIOLOGY

### Smallpox.

No cases of Smallpox were reported during the year.

received during the year was 583 and 48 as compared with 463 and 59 respectively in the previous year.

Details of the various age groups vaccinated and re-vaccinated are given below.

District	VACCINATIONS					RE-VACCINATIONS		
	Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 +	Total	0—15	15 +	Total
Colne Valley ...	167	21	2	4	194	1	12	13
Denby Dale ...	41	2	—	—	43	—	1	1
Holmfirth ...	106	9	9	4	128	2	12	14
Kirkburton ...	82	11	3	1	97	1	3	4
Meltham ...	23	2	—	2	27	1	5	6
Saddleworth ...	73	9	2	10	94	2	8	10
Grand Totals ...	492	54	16	21	583	7	41	48

No cases of Generalised Vaccinia or Post-Vaccinal Encephalomyelitis were reported, and no deaths from any complications of vaccination occurred during the year.

### Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.

No cases of Typhoid or Paratyphoid Fever occurred in the area during the year.

### Diphtheria.

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

Arrangements for immunisation have continued as in previous years, the inoculations being given at Infant Welfare Centres or by private medical practitioners, and in addition special immunisation sessions have been held in various schools. The response has been reasonably satisfactory and no special mobile campaigns have been held.

According to records available, only 48.89% of the children under 5 are at present protected. Whilst this figure is probably lower owing to lack of records, than it should be in reality, it is a very disappointing figure and energetic steps should be taken to secure a much higher acceptance rate for young children.

### Number of Children Immunised in 1956.

Urban District	Full Courses			
	Age at date of Final injection			
	Under 1	1—4	5—14	Total
Colne Valley ...	97	132	55	284
Denby Dale ...	43	44	33	120
Holmfirth ...	45	75	11	131
Kirkburton ...	35	69	15	119
Meltham ...	29	44	—	73
Saddleworth ...	67	58	16	141
Total ...	316	422	130	868

Secondary Booster Injection				
Age at date of injection				
	Under 1	1—4	5—14	Total
Colne Valley ...	—	30	428	458
Denby Dale ...	—	19	174	193
Holmfirth ...	—	8	47	55
Kirkburton ...	—	17	122	139
Meltham ...	—	18	134	152
Saddleworth ...	—	4	254	258
Total ...	—	96	1159	1255

Records of the immunisation state of children in the Divisional area as at the 31st December, 1956, are shown below.

Age at 31-12-56 i.e., Born in Year	Under 1 1956	1 to 4 1952-55	5 to 9 1947-51	10 to 14 1942-46	Total Under 15
Number immunised ....	56	2633	6,694	6,286	15,669
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <span>Children under 5</span> <span>Children 5-14</span> </div>					
Estimated mid-year child population 1956.	5,500		13,800		19,300
Percentage of child population immunised ....	48.89		94.06		81.19

### Whooping Cough.

The restricted scheme for the immunisation of children against Whooping Cough has continued throughout the year. Supplies of vaccine can be obtained by medical practitioners on application to the Divisional Medical Officer and children up to the age of 4 years may be immunised.

The inoculations have been carried out by private medical practitioners and at Infant Welfare Centres and during the year 386 children received protective treatment as follows:—

District	Age at date of final injection					Total
	under 6/12	6/12-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	
Colne Valley	11	86	42	5	9	153
Denby Dale	1	12	21	1	—	35
Holmfirth	1	45	29	5	4	84
Kirkburton	2	42	23	3	2	72
Meltham	—	2	9	4	—	15
Saddleworth	3	12	12	—	—	27
Total	18	199	136	18	15	386



## Dysentery.

During this year 505 cases of sonne dysentery occurred in the Division. This is more than twice the largest number previously recorded which was 237 in 1955. The incidence of this disease since 1950 is shown below:—

1950	—	100 cases	1953	—	11 cases
1951	—	216 cases	1954	—	47 cases
1952	—	125 cases	1955	—	237 cases
1956 — 505 cases					

As in previous years, the cases occurring in 1956 tended to be grouped around certain schools where the infection persisted for several months. The majority of cases were school children but a fair number of pre-school children and adults were also affected.

Colne Valley and Kirkburton Urban Districts were the areas with the most cases, the majority of which occurred in the second and fourth quarters of the year.

Quarter	Colne Valley	Denby Dale	Holmfirth	Kirkburton	Meltham	Saddleworth	Total
1st	4	1	—	64	—	4	73
2nd	—	—	31	124	—	35	190
3rd	16	—	1	11	—	11	39
4th	156	—	1	—	41	5	203
Total	176	1	33	199	41	55	505

In the Colne Valley, the schools principally affected were Go'car C.E., Knowl Bank County and Scammonden C.E., in Holmfirth, Scholes County School, in Kirkburton, Kirkheaton C.E., Upper Whitley County and Lepton County, in Meltham, Meltham C.E. School and in Saddleworth, Saddleworth Parochial School.

The age distribution in the various districts is shown below:—

Age	Colne Valley	Denby Dale	Holmfirth	Kirkburton	Meltham	Saddleworth	Total
Pre-School	29	—	4	35	15	14	97
School	105	—	21	100	16	17	259
Adult	42	1	8	64	10	24	149

The illness in the majority of cases was comparatively mild but was more severe in the case of some of the younger children and in a few adults.

Opinions differ as to what action should be taken when an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurs in a school community. Some authorities insist on the exclusion from school of all cases and home contacts until two or three negative samples of faeces have been obtained from each member of the family. As the organism is very resistant to treatment once the active stage of the illness is over, many patients become convalescent carriers and sometimes continue to excrete the organisms for several weeks. Therefore, to carry out a rigid exclusion policy may entail absence from school for considerable periods with disastrous results to educational progress. On the other hand, not to exclude the affected children may lead to extensive spread by direct hand to hand infection and through food handlers. A middle course, therefore, seems desirable and the policy followed has been a compromise between the two extremes.

As each outbreak comes to notice, samples of faeces are collected from the affected children who, if proved positive, are excluded from school along with home contacts. Contacts are allowed to return to school when negative samples are obtained.

Discussions are held with the Head Teachers concerned and the need of hand washing after visiting the toilet and before meals is stressed.

Unfortunately, the washing facilities in some schools are still hopelessly inadequate and it is rather a pious hope to suggest that 60 children washing before lunch at two wash hand basins fitted only with cold water and drying their hands on two roller towels will do anything but spread the infection throughout the school.

Recently paper towels have become more readily available and portable bowls have been provided to supplement fixed basins where necessary.

In spite of the difficulties, one feels that the only solution to the Dysentery problem will be through health education and the practice of a more strict hygienic code by all sections of the community.

## FOOD POISONING

During the year 72 cases of food poisoning were notified, 19 of which were confirmed. The majority of the remainder proved to be cases of Sonne Dysentery. Of the confirmed cases 7 occurred in the Colne Valley Urban District, 6 in the Saddleworth Urban District, 5 in the Kirkburton Urban District and one in the Holmfirth Urban District.

### Colne Valley Urban District.

An outbreak occurred between the 10th and 19th August when 5 cases were involved. Meat paste was suspected of causing the outbreak but no samples could be obtained for submission to the laboratory.

The interval from ingestion to onset was 18-24 hours and the main symptoms were vomiting and diarrhoea of moderate severity.

Salmonella typhi-murium was isolated from faecal specimens taken from all 5 cases and from 3 family contacts thought to be carriers. It was also isolated from a specimen taken from a food handler in the shop from which the meat paste was bought.

Two further cases were reported, one in September and one in December and Salmonella typhi-murium was isolated from the patient in each case. These were isolated cases and in neither case was the origin determined.

### Holmfirth Urban District.

This was an isolated case of food poisoning which came to notice through a routine investigation of a case of dysentery. The patient was ill with vomiting and diarrhoea of moderate severity for a period of 72 hours and salmonella worthington was isolated from a faecal specimen sent to the laboratory.

The origin of the food poisoning was not determined.



### **Kirkburton Urban District.**

An outbreak occurred from 22nd to the 28th July when 3 cases were involved. Meat paste and pork pies were suspected of causing the outbreak, these having been purchased from a shop in a neighbouring district in which other cases of salmonella food poisoning occurred which were associated with products from the same shop.

The average interval ingestion to onset was 48 hours and the main symptoms were vomiting and diarrhoea of moderate severity.

Salmonella typhi-murium was isolated from faecal specimens taken from all 3 cases and one other family contact was also found to be excreting salmonella typhi-murium.

The origin was suspected to be the meat paste and pork pies but this was not proved.

Two further isolated cases were reported in October and in each case Salmonella typhi-murium was isolated from the patient. In the first case cream filled Jap Cakes obtained from a shop in a neighbouring district were suspected but not proved to be the cause. In the second case the origin could not be determined.

### **Saddleworth Urban District.**

The first case occurred in May and Salmon Mayonnaise was suspected but not proved to have caused the infection.

The patient and her husband partook of a meal at an Hotel but the husband did not eat any of the Mayonnaise. The patient had severe vomiting and diarrhoea for from 12 to 24 hours but no pathogenic organisms were isolated from faecal specimens submitted to the Laboratory.

In July there was an outbreak involving 3 cases, who had vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pain lasting from 3 to 4 days. Salmonella typhi-murium was isolated in all cases.

Russian vanilla sandwiches were suspected of causing the outbreak. These were bought from a shop in a neighbouring district where many other cases of food poisoning occurred.

A further outbreak occurred in September involving 2 cases, who had vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pain lasting for 12 hours. No pathogenic organisms were isolated from specimens submitted to the Laboratory.

Vanilla slices were suspected of causing the infection but this was not proved.

### **Acute Poliomyelitis.**

During the year 12 cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified 11 of which were confirmed. Of these cases 9 (4 paralytic, 5 non-paralytic) occurred in the Saddleworth U.D. and 2 (paralytic) in the Colne Valley U.D.



Arrangements were made during May and June for children resident in the area to receive protective treatment against Poliomyelitis.

Registration for vaccination was restricted to children born during the years 1947-1954 inclusive and of the 10,000 who were eligible, applications for protective treatment were received in respect of 2893 children.

In view of the limited amount of vaccine available, registered children born only in selected months of the year could be vaccinated and a total of 274 children received a complete course of vaccination, whilst 13 children received one injection.

The children who received only one injection completed their course when the next batch of vaccine was received.

The sub-division of the children receiving a complete course of vaccination was as follows:—Colne Valley—82, Denby Dale—20, Holmfirth—56, Kirkburton—44, Meltham 29 and Saddleworth—43.

### Mass Radiography Service.

Details of the Surveys carried out in the Divisional area during the year are as follows:—

Survey undertaken at (1)	Number Ex'min'd (2)	Abnormalities Discovered			
		Tuberculosis		Other (5)	Total (6)
		Active (3)	Inactive (4)		
David Brown Industries, Scholes, Holmfirth U.D.	244	—	2	1	3
The Drill Hall, Thongsbridge, Holmfirth U.D.	1924	2	5	14	21
Storches Hall Hospital, Kirkburton U.D.	2557	15	54	34	103
TOTALS	4725	17	61	49	127

## MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

### Domiciliary Midwifery.

The number of cases attended by the domiciliary midwives during the year was 330, the same number as in 1955.

At the commencement of the year, 5 whole-time midwives, 8 nurse/midwives and 2 relief nurse/midwives were engaged in the Division. During the year 2 nurse/midwives resigned their appointments whilst 3 nurse/midwives were appointed ; one full time midwife and one home nurse became nurse/midwives and one relief nurse/midwife became a district nurse/midwife.

The position regarding the nursing and midwifery services at the end of the year was as follows:—

Urban District	Establishment		Staff at 31st December, 1956		
	Midwives	Home Nurses	Midwives	Nurse/ Midwives	Home Nurses
Colne Valley	3	3	1	1	3
Denby Dale	2	2	—	3	—
Holmfirth	2	2	2	1	3
Kirkburton	2	3	—	4	—
Meltham	1	1	—	1	—
Saddleworth	2	3	1	2	2
Relief	2	1	—	1	—
Division 26	14	15	4	13	8

Four independent midwives signified their intention to practice in the area.

Of the 1195 births notified and attributed to the Division, 329 occurred at home. The following table shows the number of cases attended. :—

MIDWIFE	CONFINEMENTS		HOME VISITS	
	As Midwife	As Mat. Nurse	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
<b>Whole-time County Midwives.</b>				
Capes ... ..	39	8	449	950
Charlesworth ... ..	38	2	752	1006
Cook ... ..	26	—	441	761
Graham ... ..	38	1	465	802
	141	11	2107	3519
<b>Nurse/Midwives.</b>				
Aspinall ... ..	4	—	85	216
Beaumont ... ..	10	1	173	339
Brook ... ..	14	1	122	299
*Cooper ... ..	2	—	14	29
(Resigned 1-3-56)				
Emmott ... ..	9	1	104	261
Gibson ... ..	7	3	58	195
(Appointed 17-2-56)				
Hanks ... ..	6	—	34	145
(Appointed 25-8-56)				
Jones ... ..	26	—	187	408
Kaye, K. M. ... ..	2	—	25	41
(comm. mid. 1-9-56)				
Kaye, L. ... ..	2	2	166	289
Laking ... ..	18	2	176	509
Lythe ... ..	18	2	171	424
Purdon ... ..	18	—	138	294
(Resigned 30-6-56)				
Smith ... ..	1	—	5	63
(Appointed 1-7-56)				
Spring ... ..	6	1	25	120
	143	13	1483	3632
<b>Independent Midwives.</b>	15	7	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3590</b>	<b>7151</b>

\* temporary appointment



Of the cases attended 3 were twin births, 6 were patients who normally resided outside the Division (outward transfers) and 4 cases were attended on behalf of a neighbouring Division. Thus 323 of the births attended were attributed to the Division. Of the remaining 6 births attributed to the Division, 3 were attended by medical practitioners and transferred immediately to hospital, and 3 were inward transfers.

In addition 11 miscarriages were also attended by domiciliary midwives.

The services of the domiciliary midwives are offered to all patients who are confined in hospitals or maternity homes but are discharged home before the 14th day of puerperium. During the year 307 such patients received nursing care, 1,222 individual visits being paid to them.

#### Notifications:—

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Division:—

Death of Child	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Artificial Feeding	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Laying out the Dead	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Liability to be a source of infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

#### Medical Assistance :

Medical aid forms sent in by midwives during 1956 numbered 156 (85 domiciliary, 71 institutional). The following table summarises the cases for which medical aid was sought:—

PREGNANCY			LYING-IN		
	Dom.	Inst.		Dom.	Inst.
Ante Natal examination	1	—	Breast Conditions	5	—
Ante Partum haemorrhage	2	1	Phlebitis	2	—
Miscarriage	2	—	Post-Partum Haemorrhage	2	2
Post Maturity	1	—	Toxaemias:—		
Toxaemias—			Albuminuria	1	—
High Blood Pressure	1	—	Varicose Veins	1	—
	7	1		11	2
LABOUR			THE CHILD		
Episiotomy	1	6	Asphyxia	4	—
Foetal distress	—	1	Congenital defects	2	—
Free loss	1	—	Cyanosis	1	—
Hyperpiesis	1	—	Eye Conditions	3	—
Labour:—			German Measles	1	—
Premature	—	2	Prematurity	—	1
Prolonged	6	8	Thrush	1	—
Laceration:—			Tongue Tie	1	—
Perineal	40	47		13	1
Malpresentation	—	1			
Prolapsed Cord	1	—			
Retained Placenta	4	1			
Uterine Inertia	—	1			
	54	67			

#### Gas and Air Analgesia :

At the end of 1956, all the 17 midwives in domiciliary practice held the certificate in Gas and Air Analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.



Analgesics were administered by domiciliary midwives to 237 cases, or 71.82% of the cases attended, as compared with 201 cases in 1955.

Pethidine was administered by domiciliary midwives to 185 cases, or 56.06% of the cases attended, as compared with 183 cases in 1955.

Trilene was administered in 3 cases by a domiciliary midwife under the supervision of the general practitioner.

### Ante-Natal Clinics

In the Division there are 3 separate Ante-Natal Clinics and 6 Clinics which are combined with the Infant Welfare Clinics. In addition occasional patients are seen at the Infant Welfare Clinics.

During the year 106 patients made 332 attendances at the various clinics, details of which are given in the following table:—

Clinic	No. of sessions	No. of patients	No. of attendances	Average attendance per session
Meltham ... ..	12	25	76	6.33
Springhead ... ..	12	19	69	5.75
Uppermill ... ..	12	27	80	6.66
*Denby Dale ... ..	12	5	18	1.50
*Golcar ... ..	12	—	—	—
*Holmfirth ... ..	12	—	—	—
*Lepton ... ..	40	18	64	1.60
†New Mill ... ..	4	5	5	1.25
*Skelmanthorpe ... ..	11	7	20	1.82
*Slaithwaite ... ..	12	—	—	—
Total ... ..	139	106	332	2.39

\*Combined with Infant Welfare Clinics.

†Patients seen at Infant Welfare Clinics.

The attendance figures have remained at the same low level as in the previous year when 107 patients made 286 attendances.

In view of the fact that 90% of expectant mothers now engage their family doctors for ante-natal care irrespective of whether their confinement is to be at home or in hospital the need for medical ante-natal clinics appears to be over.

Ante-natal classes run by midwives however serve a useful purpose. At these classes expectant mothers are taught the principles of relaxation and whenever possible the classes are attended by a Health Visitor who gives instruction in mothercraft. This gives opportunities for the midwife and the Health Visitor to work together and thus afford continuity of advice and service for the mother. During the year new classes were commenced at Kirkburton and Uppermill. Details of attendance are as follows:—

Clinic	No. of Sessions	No. of Patients	No. of attendances	Average attendance per session
Denby Dale ... ..	23	14	57	2.43
Holmfirth ... ..	46	12	93	2.02
Kirkburton ... ..	22	14	84	3.82
Lepton ... ..	45	25	227	5.04
Meltham ... ..	44	24	190	4.32
New Mill ... ..	21	2	14	0.67
Slaithwaite ... ..	48	108	474	9.88
Uppermill ... ..	8	10	41	5.13
Total ...	257	209	1180	4.59

### Flying Squad Arrangements.

There have been no changes in the arrangements for "Flying Squads" based on the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary and the Oldham and District General Hospital. No calls were made on the squads to attend patients in the Division during the year.

### Institutional Midwifery.

Little difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation, the majority of expectant mothers being able to secure admission to the institution of their own choice.

Of the 1195 births attributed to the Division, only 329, or 27.53% took place at home, as compared with 334 or 30.12% for the previous year.

A summary of the cases for which medical aid was sought by midwives in institutions is given on page 14a.

Many patients are discharged from hospital before the 14th day. The Divisional Medical Officer is informed by the hospital authorities when these early discharges are to take place and arrangements are made for patients to be attended at home by one of the domiciliary midwives until the 14th day of the puerperium.

During the year 1222 nursing visits were paid to 307 patients.

### Premature Babies.

During the year 75 babies weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lb. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division and 17 were born at home. All those born at home survived at the end of one month.

At the end of the year there were 4 midwives who had special training in the care of premature babies, having attended a course at the Sorrento Hospital, Birmingham.

Two premature baby outfits are available in the Division and one was called into use on one occasion during the year.



# **ADMISSIONS TO MATERNITY HOSPITALS**

Place of Confinement	Colne Valley	Denby Dale	Holmfirth	Kirkburton	Meltham	Saddleworth	Total
Princess Royal Maternity Home	104	40	46	119	27	1	337
Woodfield Maternity Home	—	—	—	—	—	30	30
Holme Valley Memorial Hospital	—	—	147	—	—	—	147
St. Luke's Hospital, Huddersfield	109	6	7	31	20	1	174
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary	23	3	10	19	7	—	62
Oldham and District General Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	76	76
Lakes Hospital, Ashton-U-Lyne	—	—	—	—	—	16	16
Other Maternity Hospitals	1	1	—	1	—	2	5
Other General Hospitals	—	2	1	2	—	6	11
Private Nursing Homes	5	—	1	1	1	—	8
<b>Total Institutional</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>866</b>
Domiciliary	76	53	69	51	9	71	329
<b>Total Confinements</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>1195</b>



# THE FATE OF PREMATURE BABIES BORN IN THE DIVISIONAL AREA

Weight Group lbs.	Number of Premature Births					Number Dying (days of survival).														Over 14 up to 28 days	Number Surviving Over 28 Days					Percent- age Survival in 1956	Percent- age Survival in 1955	
	Born Alive					Born Dead	First Week							Second Week							A	B1	B2	C	T			
	A	B1	B2	C	T		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13									14
5-5½	8	-	11	15	34	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	10	15	33	97.03	85.18	
4½-5	4	-	5	11	20	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	5	10	19	95.0	91.6	
4-4½	5	-	4	12	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	4	12	21	100.0	71.43	
3½-4	-	-	-	4	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	100.0	75.0	
3-3½	-	-	1	4	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	60.0	28.57	
2½-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.0	
2-2½	-	-	2	3	5	2	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	00.0	00.0	
1½-2	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	00.0	-	
½-1	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	00.0	-	
	17	-	23	52	92	6	5	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	20	43	80	86.96	70.31	

A: Born at home and attended by a midwife.  
 B1: Born in a Private Nursing Home.  
 B2: Born in a Maternity Home.  
 C: Born in a General Hospital.  
 T: Total.

Total adjusted live births ..... 1178  
 Number of live premature births ..... 92  
 Percentage of total live births ..... 7.81  
 Number born dead ..... 6

## CHILD WELFARE.

### Distribution of Welfare Foods

There has been no change in the arrangements for the distribution of Welfare Foods which are as detailed in my report for 1955.

At the 21 distribution centres in this Division the welfare foods distributed during the year, and the comparative figures for 1955, are as follows:—

	1956	1955
National Dried Milk (tins) ...	16,832	15,568
Orange Juice (bottles) ...	51,468	48,467
Cod Liver Oil (bottles) ...	9,695	10,490
Vitamin A. & D. Tablets (packets)	3,641	3,173

It is interesting to note that of the total amount of orange juice which could have been distributed to eligible children only 42% was distributed. The figure for Cod Liver Oil is 21%. These figures do not however, present a true picture as the orange juice and Cod Liver Oil for some children resident in the area will no doubt have been collected from distribution points in other areas.

### Infant Welfare Clinics.

There has been no change in the arrangements at the 16 Infant Welfare Clinics in the Division.

During the year 2526 children were seen and a total of 21,977 attendances were made, details of which are shown in the following table, as compared with 2250 children and a total of 20,553 visits in the previous year.

Clinic	No. of sessions	No. of children who attended and who were born in:—				No. of attendances by children who at date of attendance were:—				Average attendance per Session		
		1956	1955	-54	Total	—1	1—2	2—5	Total	—1	1—2	2—5
				1951		yrs.	yrs.	yrs.		yr.	yrs.	yrs.
Delph ...	49	18	21	33	72	558	230	444	1232	11.31	4.69	9.06
Golcar ...	50	63	48	89	200	928	313	204	1445	18.56	6.26	4.08
Greenfield ...	50	25	33	52	110	628	195	578	1455	12.56	3.90	11.56
Holmfirth ...	52	101	74	113	288	1468	342	261	2071	28.23	6.58	5.02
Honley ...	51	53	43	76	172	625	207	283	1115	12.25	4.06	5.55
Kirkburton ...	50	48	73	46	167	746	300	106	1152	14.92	6.00	2.12
Lepton ...	51	65	41	47	153	816	175	197	1188	16.00	3.43	3.86
Linthwaite ...	48	33	40	45	118	753	169	143	1065	15.69	3.52	2.98
Marsden ...	51	54	48	128	230	873	431	520	1824	17.12	8.45	10.20
Meltham ...	48	47	50	90	187	810	281	281	1372	16.88	5.85	5.85
New Mill ...	51	40	63	90	193	669	385	428	1482	13.12	7.55	8.39
Slaithwaite ...	51	63	59	82	204	1266	404	362	2032	24.82	7.92	7.10
Springhead ...	49	57	41	36	134	1067	390	541	1998	21.78	7.96	11.04
Denby Dale ...	24	49	37	25	111	438	181	167	786	18.25	7.54	6.60
Skelmanthorpe	23	20	10	16	46	349	107	53	509	15.17	4.65	2.34
Uppermill ...	51	44	50	47	141	690	267	294	1251	13.53	5.24	5.76
Total ...	749	780	731	1015	2526	12738	4377	4862	21977	17.01	5.84	6.49

The monthly sessions of the Weighing Centre at Emley have continued, 16 individual children having made 110 attendances, as compared with 14 children making 87 attendances in 1955.



## Nurseries and Child Minders' Regulations Act, 1948

One person in the Division is registered as a child minder. She is the proprietress of a small kindergarten school in Saddleworth and the permitted number of children under 5 years of age she may mind is 10. At the end of the year 14 children were in attendance, 6 of them being under 5 years of age.

The proprietress is establishing what is virtually a small kindergarten school and has applied to the Ministry of Education for registration as an Independent School. This application had not been granted at the end of the year.

There are no day nurseries in the Division provided by the County Council and although the private industrial nursery at Thornleigh Hall, Grotton, Saddleworth, was still registered at the end of the year it remained closed throughout the year.

### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

#### Introduction

This account of the School Health Service is a Divisional report and is a combination of the reports already presented to the Upper Agbrigg Divisional Executive and the Saddleworth District Sub-Committee. The statistics relate to the whole Division.

#### Schools in the Area

There are in the Division 78 schools or separate departments, which include the Royd Edge Special School, Meltham. This is a reduction of one on last years figure, this being due to the closing of Lingards C.E. School in December. The Marsden Secondary Modern School was amalgamated with the new Colne Valley High School which was opened in January, 1956.

The approximate number of pupils on the registers in December, 1956, was 12,405 (an increase of 410 as compared with the previous year) and was composed of:—

Infants	Juniors	Seniors
2,945	5,455	4,005

Of the 71 Primary and "Through" Schools 35 are Voluntary and 36 are County Schools.

The distribution is as follows:—

Type of School	Colne Valley		Denby Dale		Holmfirth		Kirkburton		Meltham		Saddleworth		Total	
	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils
Primary ... ..	17	2297	9	951	14	1654	13	1415	5	538	11	1278	69	8133
Secondary Modern ...	—	—	1	750	1	581	1	283	—	—	1	386	4	2000
Through ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	287	—	—	1	186	2	473
Grammar ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	672	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	672
Comprehensive	1	1073	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1073
Special ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	54	—	—	1	54
All Types ... ..	18	3370	10	1701	16	2907	15	1985	6	592	13	1850	78	12405

Pupils from Saddleworth attend Hulme, Oldham and Manchester Grammar Schools, but so far as the School Health Service is concerned they are the responsibility of the Oldham County Borough Council, and of the Medical Officers of the Independent Schools.

Some pupils from outlying parts of the Division attend Grammar Schools at Mirfield, Penistone, etc.

### Medical Inspections

The periodic medical examinations have continued as detailed in previous reports. In all 172 separate inspections were carried out at the 78 schools in the Division.

#### Periodic Medical Inspections

During the year 4939 periodic inspections were carried out as compared with 5130 in 1955.

The number of children inspected in the various age groups is as follows:—

Prescribed age groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	1154
7 to 8 year group	...	...	...	...	...	1503
Last year primary	...	...	...	...	...	948
First year secondary	...	...	...	...	...	299
Last year secondary	...	...	...	...	...	729
Other periodics	...	...	...	...	...	306
Total	...	...	...	...	...	4939

#### Findings of Medical Inspections

The following figures show the incidence of certain defects in the 4939 children who were examined at the periodic inspections:—

Defect or Disease	No. of Children Treatment	Requiring Observation
Nose or Throat	19	324
Speech	6	52
Lymphatic Glands	6	126
Heart and Circulation	14	66
Lungs	8	116
Orthopædic	109	249
Eyes	59	907

Further details will be found in the table on Page 22a.

Particulars of the age grouping of children found at periodic medical inspections to require treatment are given below:—

Groups	For Defective Vision (excluding Squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in table of defects	Total Individual Pupils
Entrants	2	78	77
7 to 8 year group	8	72	75
Last year primary	10	44	52
First year secondary	6	10	16
Last year secondary	14	24	36
Other Periodics	7	8	15
TOTAL	47	236	271



## Defects Found at Medical Inspections

The following table gives details of all defects noted at both periodic and special examinations. All defects noted at medical inspections as requiring treatment are included, whether or not this treatment was begun before the date of inspection.

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects.			
	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation but not treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation but not treatment
Skin .....	11	47	3	24
Eyes: (a) Vision .....	47	788	254	657
(b) Squint .....	6	112	15	46
(c) Other.....	6	7	1	10
Ears: (a) Hearing .....	3	45	1	30
(b) Otitis Media .....	3	40	—	28
(c) Other....	2	23	4	11
Nose or Throat .....	19	324	104	266
Speech .....	6	52	19	52
Lymphatic Glands .....	6	126	1	71
Heart and Circulation .....	14	66	2	51
Lungs .....	8	116	3	109
Developmental (a) Hernia .....	1	6	1	11
(b) Other .....	2	69	4	58
Orthopaedic (a) Posture .....	3	30	2	7
(b) Feet .....	64	79	86	59
(c) Other .....	42	140	35	107
Nervous System (a) Epilepsy .....	—	4	2	7
(b) Other .....	20	24	1	23
Psychological (a) Development .....	1	181	2	64
(b) Stability .....	1	87	2	28
Abdomen .....	3	7	—	3
Other .....	15	55	2	87
TOTAL .....	283	2428	544	1809

### Physical Condition of Children

As from the 1st January, 1956 the classification of "general condition" was replaced by "physical condition." All pupils at routine medical inspections are now classified as to their physical condition at the time of the inspection. The classifications are "Satisfactory" and "Unsatisfactory."

Details of children inspected during the year are as follows:—

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	Satisfactor		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
Entrants .....	1154	1136	98.4	18	1.6
7 to 8 year group .....	1503	1468	97.7	35	2.3
Last year primary .....	948	923	97.4	25	2.6
First year secondary .....	299	293	98.0	6	2.0
Last year secondary .....	729	722	99.0	7	1.0
Other periodics .....	306	305	99.7	1	0.3
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>4939</b>	<b>4847</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1.9</b>

### Other Examinations

In addition to routine, special and follow-up examinations of children at school medical inspections, a total of 581 children were examined at home or at school for various reasons. These include non-attendance at school, children returning to special schools, fitness to attend school camps, and also those examined with a view to providing special educational treatment.

### Uncleanliness

The total number of inspections made during the year was 34,856 and 359 instances of infestation were found as compared with 37,097 and 454 respectively in 1955. There were 237 individual children (1.91% of the school population) found to be infested on at least one occasion, a decrease of 71 as compared with the previous year.

Statistics relating to these inspections are as follows:—

Total number of warning letters sent ... ..	178
Total number of exclusion notices served ... ..	1
Total number of home visits paid ... ..	205
Total number of individual children found to be verminous	237
Total number of Cleansing Notices issued ... ..	3
Total number of Cleansing Orders issued ... ..	3

### Arrangements for Treatment

#### School Clinics

There are no special school clinics set up in this Division but minor ailments receive attention and "booster" doses of diphtheria prophylactic are given at 16 Infant Welfare Clinics in the area. During the year a total of 630 attendances were made by school children at such clinics.

#### Special Clinics

##### Ophthalmic Clinics

The arrangements detailed in my report for the year 1950 have continued, Dr. J. V. Kirkwood devoting two sessions per week to clinics in this Division. Additional sessions are arranged when necessary.

During the year 102 special clinic sessions were arranged and these were attended by 998 children who made 1233 attendances. Spectacles were prescribed for 312 children, 442 were found not to require any change, and 244 did not require spectacles.



Cases requiring orthoptic treatment may obtain this either through the hospital service or, if in the Saddleworth Area, they may attend the Orthoptic Clinic, Scottfield, Oldham, which is provided by the Oldham Education Committee. A charge of 5/- per attendance is paid by the West Riding Education Committee.

### Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics

The special Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics for West Riding children conducted by the staff of the Ear, Nose and Throat Department have continued at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. During the year 5 sessions were held and 77 individual children were seen, 55 being referred for operative treatment.

Children from the Saddleworth area are referred to a special clinic arranged by the Hospital Management Committee at the Oldham and District General Hospital. Of the 21 cases referred 19 were recommended for operative treatment.

### Orthopædic Clinics

The special fortnightly session for West Riding children has continued at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. The following report has been received from Mr. J. Hunter Annan, F.R.C.S., Consultant Orthopædic Surgeon, who conducts the Clinic:—

"The orthopædic clinics have been very well attended. School children and pre-school infants with orthopædic defects are better seen at these clinics than at Out Patient sessions of the Hospital. Recently, owing to the number attending, we have had to increase the number of clinics.

Children requiring operative treatment, seldom have to wait long for admission to hospital. Physiotherapy treatment of major disabilities can be carried out in the H.R.I. but one of our main problems is physiotherapy treatment for the minor, chiefly postural, ailments. I rate the importance of this side of the work very high; it is essentially the preventative aspect of orthopædics. I hope the Local Authority will continue every effort to obtain their own Physiotherapist to travel about in the Division and hold treatment sessions in the larger schools and centres.

My thanks are due to the Divisional Medical Officer, the Health Visitor, Miss Flintoff, and the clerks to the clinic, for their keen interest in the work; their help has been invaluable."

At the 20 sessions held during the year 295 individual children made a total of 485 attendances.

In addition 8 children from the Saddleworth area were referred to the Gainsborough Avenue Clinic, Oldham.

The conditions for which they were referred were as follows:—

Flat Foot	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Club Foot	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Knock Knee	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Hallux Valgus	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Other Deformities of Toes	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Fractures	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Postural Deformities	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Other Deformities	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Congenital Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Perthes Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Tubercular Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	29



## Child Guidance Treatment

In January, 1956, Mr. D. G. Pickles was appointed County Psychologist.

Dr. S. M. Leese, the County Psychiatrist, along with Mr. Pickles, continued to hold clinics at Mirfield and Wakefield and during the year 14 individual children received treatment.

## Ultra-Violet Ray Treatment

Facilities are available for treatment by Ultra-Violet Radiation at Golcar, Holmfirth, Denby Dale and Uppermill. Cases for treatment are referred by School and Infant Welfare Medical Officers and by General Practitioners. During the year 98 children received courses of treatment.

## Speech Therapy

Sessions for Speech Therapy have continued throughout the year, these being held at the Divisional Education Office, Huddersfield, the Divisional Health Office, Golcar; The Mechanics' Institute, Uppermill; Council Offices, Honley; Civic Hall, Slaithwaite; Scholes County School and Kirkburton C. of E. School. In June the sessions held at the Kirkburton C.E. School were transferred to a permanent clinic arranged at the Drill Hall, Kirkburton and in July the sessions held in the Divisional Education Office, Huddersfield were transferred to the Town Hall, Meltham. Sessions were also commenced at Friezland County School. During the year 265 sessions were held at the various centres. The total number of attendances made by the 118 children was 1540.

The establishment of treatment centres in various parts of the Division enabled children to attend with less loss of time from school than was the case with most of them when they had to attend the Divisional Education Office in Huddersfield. Unfortunately, most of the clinics are only held fortnightly whilst many of the children should have weekly, and some with severe defects twice weekly, treatment.

During the year a considerable waiting list has accumulated and it is not unusual for a child to wait six months before treatment can be arranged. In view of this, poor attendance cannot be tolerated when it is due to indifference, lack of interest and co-operation.

Details of the children treated are shown in the following table:—

No. of new cases treated during the year...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
No. of cases already attending for treatment from previous year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Total number of cases treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
No. of cases discharged during the year:—								
Speech Normal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Speech improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Unsuitable for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Non-co-operation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Left School	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Left District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of cases awaiting treatment at the end of the year...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
No. of visits made to schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
No. of home visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4



## Treatment Tables

The following tables give details of treatment given to school-children under the Authority's schemes and otherwise. The treatment provided otherwise than by the Authority includes all treatment known by the Authority to have been so provided, including treatment undertaken in school clinics by the Regional Hospital Board.

### 1. Diseases of the Skin

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority
Ringworm: (i) Scalp ... ..	—
(ii) Body ... ..	—
Scabies ... ..	—
Impetigo ... * ... ..	2
Other Skin Diseases ... ..	18
Total ... ..	20

### 2. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision, and Squint.

	Number of cases dealt with.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and Other, excluding Errors of Refraction and Squint ... ..	—	48
Errors of Refraction, including Squint ...	—	978
Total ... ..	—	1026
Number of Pupils for whom Spectacles were prescribed ... ..	—	506

### 3. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose, and Throat.

	Number of cases treated.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Received Operative Treatment:—		
(a) For diseases of the Ear ... ..	—	2
(b) For Adenoids and chronic Ton-sillitis ... ..	—	191
(c) For other Nose and Throat con-ditions ... ..	—	6
Received other forms of treatment ...	24	12
Total ... ..	24	211
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids:—		
(a) in 1956 ... ..	—	1
(b) in previous years ... ..	—	1

#### 4. Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Number of pupils known to have been treated in Clinics or Out-Patient Departments	By the Authority	Otherwise
	—	45

#### 5. Child Guidance Treatment

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics under arrangements made by the Authority ... .. 14

#### 6. Speech Therapy

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapist under arrangements made by the Authority ... .. 118

#### 7. Other Treatment Given

(a) Number of cases of miscellaneous minor ailments treated by the Authority ... .. 218

(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements ... .. 2

(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination ... .. 272

(d) Pupils who received Ultra-Violet Light treatment ... .. 61

#### 8. Tonsillectomy

The following table shows the number of pupils examined at routine medical inspections who were found to have undergone tonsillectomy during 1956 or previously:—

Age Group Inspected	Number inspected	Found to have undergone Tonsillectomy	
		Number	Percentage
Entrants ... ..	1154	31	2.7
7—8 year group ...	1503	170	11.3
Last year primary ...	948	150	15.8
First year secondary	299	32	10.7
Last year secondary	729	107	14.7
Total ... ..	4633	490	10.6

#### Dental Treatment

I am indebted to Mr. B. R. Townend, F.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), Dip. Orth. R.C.S. (Eng.), L.D.S., Chief Dental Officer, Principal School Dental Officer and Orthodontic Consultant, for the following report on the Dental Services in the Division:—

The Dental Services in Division No. 20 are carried out in clinics situated at Slaithwaite, Honley, Uppermill and Kirkburton. The first three clinics are well equipped with every modern convenience, particularly the one at Slaithwaite where we have two surgeries and facilities for dental radiography. The clinic at Kirkburton is at present a somewhat makeshift affair in the Drill Hall where we cannot, owing to insecurity of tenure, establish and equip a surgery on the lines we would wish. Work is carried out in these clinics by three whole-time dental officers who in addition to devoting the larger proportion of their time to school children, also give a certain amount of treatment to expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age. In other words, all their energies are devoted to the treatment of the so-called priority classes.



It has been our aim to provide a scheme which in facilities and scope can compare with the best available through other branches of dental service and anyone visiting any of our clinics will agree that we have achieved this, particularly in the treatment of children which is a very specialised and exacting branch of dentistry. In addition to the routine work of filling and extracting teeth we carry out a considerable amount of orthodontics, that is the science and art of straightening crooked teeth. We lay great store by this service because we believe that ugly misshapen teeth and jaws can be and often are a great psychological handicap to a child and a twisted tooth may create a twisted mind.

We also make every endeavour to educate our young patients in pride in their teeth and so give them the desire to look after them after we have put their mouths into good order.

In short we feel that we are performing a function in the health service of the Country greater than the commonly accepted concept of the dentist as a man to whom one goes when driven by the goad of pain or for purely cosmetic reasons. We are doing what little we can to make our patients tooth conscious and to remove the indictment that the British have the worst teeth in the world.

No. of Inspections: Routine	8830.	Casual	441.	Total	9271
No. found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	5095
No. offered treatment	...	...	...	...	3722
No. treated	...	...	...	...	3169
No. of attendances	...	...	...	...	7461
Half days devoted to: Inspections	107.	Treatment	1338.	Total	1445
No. of:					
Teeth filled:					
Permanent	3505.	Temporary	623.	Total	4128
Fillings:					
Permanent	3520.	Temporary	631.	Total	4151
Extractions:					
Permanent teeth	1428.	Temporary teeth	4293.	Total	5272
General Anaesthetics	...	...	...	...	1461

### Orthodontics

(a) Cases commenced during the year	...	...	119
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	...	...	95
(c) Cases completed during year	...	...	39
(d) Cases discontinued during year	...	...	6
(e) Pupils treated with appliances...	...	...	131
(f) Removable appliances fitted	...	...	110
(g) Fixed appliances fitted	...	...	27
(h) Total Attendances	...	...	870
No. of pupils supplied with artificial dentures	...	...	18
Other operations: Permanent	2303.	Temporary	56.
		Total	2359

### Analysis of Work carried out during the Year

The information concerning dental treatment provided for school children in the above table gives a very limited picture of the actual work done and the following implementations and refinements to the table may be of interest.

The total of 4,293 temporary teeth and 1,428 permanent teeth extracted does not represent, as might be thought, so many teeth which it has been found impossible to save. No less than 790 temporary teeth and 287 permanent teeth have been extracted with a view to making room for the other teeth or to ensure in various ways that succeeding



teeth shall grow in regular order. Approximately 1 tooth in 5 is extracted with the object of preventing irregularity and ensuring the satisfactory future of the dentition.

623 temporary teeth were conserved by the following means:—109 cement fillings, 266 amalgam fillings, 256 combined cement and amalgam fillings. 1,888 first permanent molars and 1,617 other teeth, a total of 3,505 permanent teeth were conserved by the following means: 25 cement fillings, 125 amalgam fillings, 2,871 combined cement and amalgam fillings, 499 silicate (porcelain) fillings. Other treatments of a varied nature include 12 root fillings, 237 dressings, 9 crowns, inlays, etc., 70 scaling and gum treatments. Dentures were provided in 18 cases to replace teeth lost by accident or disease, 133 attendances being made for the necessary work incurred in the fitting of these dentures.

The very large figure of 2,359 other operations which appears in the table merits some explanation. It represents an omnibus classification of all cases which receive dental attention of various kinds other than those falling into the categories specifically mentioned.

It includes such things as 870 attendances for orthodontic treatment, 133 attendances for prosthetic treatment, 70 scalings and gum treatments, 237 dressings, etc.

### Hospital Schools

Children requiring prolonged hospital treatment are now often admitted to special "long-stay" hospitals, many of which have educational facilities which are recognised by the Ministry of Education. They are known as Hospital Schools.

The number of children away at these schools, together with the details of admissions and discharges during the year, is as follows:—

Name of Hospital School	No. of children from this Division	Diagnosis	Date Admitted	Date Discharged
Pinderfields Hospital School, Wakefield	(J.L.)	Perthes Disease	15-7-55	9-56
	3 (T.G.)	Perthes Disease	13-6-56	—
	(D.L.)	Perthes Disease	29-9-56	—
Leasowe Children's Hospital School, Wallasey	1 (M.K.)	Cerebral Palsy	11-1-46	—
Heritage Craft School, Chailey	(C.P.)	Paresis	26-4-50	—
	2 (S.R.)	Congenital Paraplegia	6-1-54	—
Adela Shaw Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoorside	(H.N.)	Congenital Spina Bifida	8-10-55	—
	2 (A.H.)	Muscular Dystrophy	1-6-55	13-9-56 (deceased)
Fielden Long-stay Hospital, Todmorden	(J.F.)	T.B. Meningitis	23-3-56	7-56
	(A.R.)	Bronchitis	10-56	—
	4 (M.S.)	Tuberculosis	31-12-56	—
	(S.R.L.)	General Debility	6-56	—



## Convalescent Home Treatment

During the year 2 children were sent to the following convalescent homes at the expense of the Education Committee:—

St. Joseph's Convalescent Home, Freshfield, near Liverpool	...	...	...	1
Taxal Edge Convalescent Home, Whaley Bridge	...	...	...	1

## Infectious Diseases

The table on page 31a shows the number of confined cases of infectious diseases occurring in school children.

There was an increased incidence of whooping cough during the year when 181 cases occurred as compared with 66 cases in 1955.

Of the 259 cases of dysentery which occurred in school children, 105 were in the Colne Valley U.D., 21 in Holmfirth U.D., 100 in Kirkburton U.D., 16 in Meltham U.D. and 17 in Saddleworth U.D.

All the 6 cases of acute poliomyelitis were children resident in the Saddleworth U.D.

In addition the following cases of other infectious diseases were reported by various Head Teachers.

German Measles	...	...	683	Chicken Pox	...	...	...	210
Impetigo	...	...	2	Mumps	...	...	...	265
Jaundice	...	...	4	Measles	...	...	...	14
Scarlet Fever	...	...	31	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	190
Dysentery	...	...	127	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	2
Ringworm	...	...	1					

Of the 683 cases of german measles notified 485 occurred in children attending schools in the Colne Valley U.D. The majority of the notifications of mumps and chicken pox were also from the Head Teachers of the Colne Valley schools, for of the 265 cases of mumps and 210 cases of chicken pox notified, 129 and 95 respectively were from this area.

## Diphtheria Immunisation

The previous arrangements for diphtheria immunisation have continued, the injections being given by private practitioners and at the welfare Centres, and special immunisation sessions have been held at various schools.

The majority of children are now immunised before entering school. This should always be the case and the importance of immunisation in infancy cannot be over emphasised. Children protected in infancy should have booster injections when they commence school and five years later.

SCHOOL	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	Pneumonia	Acute Poliomyelitis
Clough Head County .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Golcar C. of E. ....	1	—	6	31	1	—	—	—
Knowl Bank County .....	—	—	1	30	—	—	—	—
Knowl Bank County Infants ...	—	1	5	27	—	—	—	—
Linthwaite C. of E. ....	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Linthwaite County Infants .....	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Marsden County Infants .....	2	—	18	—	—	—	—	—
Marsden C. of E. ....	1	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
Nields County .....	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—
Scammonden C. of E. ....	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
Scapegoat Hill County.....	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Slaithwaite C. of E. ....	—	1	4	—	—	1	—	—
Slaithwaite C. of E. Infants .....	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Colne Valley High .....	1	—	2	7	—	—	—	—
Wellhouse County .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Birdsedge County .....	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denby C. of E. ....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denby Dale County .....	—	1	7	—	—	—	—	—
Emley County .....	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Scissett C. of E. ....	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skelmanthorpe Secondary Modern ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skelmanthorpe C. of E. ....	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Skelmanthorpe County .....	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Brockholes C. of E. ....	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
Hade Edge County .....	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Hepworth County .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hinchliffe Mill County .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Holmbridge C. of E. ....	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Holme Valley Grammar .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Holmfirth County .....	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
Holmfirth Secondary Modern ...	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Honley C. of E. ....	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Netherthong County .....	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Scholes County .....	—	—	1	13	—	—	—	—
Upperthong County .....	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Wooldale County .....	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Kirkburton C. of E. ....	—	—	9	2	—	—	—	—
Kirkburton Secondary Modern ...	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
Kirkheaton C. of E. ....	—	—	—	36	—	—	—	—
Kirkheaton C. of E. Infants .....	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
Lepton C. of E. ....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Lepton County Infants .....	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—
Upper Whitley County .....	—	—	—	29	—	—	—	—
Helme C. of E. ....	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meltham C. of E. ....	—	—	13	13	—	—	—	—
Meltham C. of E. Infants .....	—	9	32	3	—	—	1	—
Wilshaw C. of E. ....	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Delph County Primary .....	—	5	1	2	—	—	—	3
Friezland County .....	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—
Greenfield St. Mary's .....	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	2
Greenfield County .....	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	—
Saddleworth Parochial .....	—	1	—	11	—	—	—	1
Springhead County Infants .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .....	10	44	181	259	4	1	1	6



The following figures indicate the number of children who received primary immunisation after entering school and also the number receiving re-inforcement injections:—

				Primary Immunisations	Re-Inforcement Injections
Colne Valley	...	...	...	55	428
Denby Dale	...	...	...	33	174
Holmfirth	...	...	...	11	47
Kirkburton	...	...	...	15	122
Meltham	...	...	...	—	134
Saddleworth	...	...	...	16	254
				<hr/> 130	<hr/> 1159

#### **B.C.G. Vaccination**

In accordance with the County Council's scheme for the prevention of Tuberculosis, arrangements were made to offer B.C.G. Vaccination to all children aged 13-14 years. Vaccinations were carried out during June and December, and in all 272 were vaccinated.

Details are given below of the work undertaken during the year:

No. of children offered B.C.G.	...	...	...	884
No. of acceptances	...	...	...	511
No. completing skin testing	...	...	...	503
No. Positive	...	...	...	212
% Positive	...	...	...	42
No. Negative	...	...	...	278
No. Vaccinated	...	...	...	272

#### **Protection of Children against Tuberculosis**

The arrangements for the X-ray examination of the chests of all new entrants to the teaching profession and non-teaching staff of schools has continued. Likewise have those for re-examination when the Mass Radiography Unit is available in the area. Fortunately, no cases of Tuberculosis have been discovered as a result of these examinations.

In May, notification was received that the Head Teacher of one of the Junior County Schools was suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Arrangements were made for all the children in the school to be tested for infection by Mantoux Test and to be examined by the Mass Radiography Service. No radiological evidence of chest disease was found in any child but 15 of the 143 Mantoux tested were strongly positive. The parents of the positive children were interviewed and the significance of the test explained to them. In 7 cases, there was a history of possible importance, i.e. cough, loss of weight, lassitude, etc., and these children were referred to the local Chest Physician whilst the rest of the children were advised to consult their Family Doctor immediately they were suspicious of anything amiss.

No clinical evidence of infection was found in the group referred to the Chest Physician and all of them have been discharged apart from two who were already being followed up as previous contacts. All the Mantoux Positive children are being kept under observation at routine medical inspections.

## Deaths in School Children

During the year 7 deaths were registered amongst school children (3 boys and 4 girls) aged 5 to 16 years. The following are brief details.

Sex and Age	Area	Cause of Death
1. Girl aged 8	Holmfirth	Multiple fractures of the skull with extensive lacerations of the brain sustained when run over by a lorry.
2. Boy aged 16	Holmfirth	Shock and extradural haemorrhage the result of fractures of the skull accidentally sustained whilst riding his motor cycle on the highway.
3. Girl aged 5	Kirkburton	Anoxaemia from carbon monoxide poisoning due to inhaling carbon monoxide.
4. Boy aged 12	Kirkburton	Hypostatic pneumonia due to pseudo-hypertrophic muscular dystrophy.
5. Girl aged 6	Saddleworth	Drowning accidentally caused.
6. Boy aged 12	Saddleworth	1 (a) Generalised peritonitis. (b) Perforated ileum. (c) Intussusception.
7. Girl aged 12	Saddleworth	1 (a) Cushings Syndrome. (b) Bilateral Adrenalectomy. (c) Cardiac Arrest.

## School Meals Service

There has been little change in this service apart from the improvements which have been made in some of the school kitchens.

At the end of the year 312 children (2.5% of the school population) were receiving meals at the expense of the Education Committee as compared with 345 (2.9%) in 1955. The number of children taking school meals was 7548 (60.8% of the school population) compared with 7291 (60.8%) in 1955. A total of 7895 (63.6%) were having school milk compared with 8245 (68.7%) in 1955.

In order to supplement the diet of infants Vitamin A and D capsules are offered in schools to children of 7 years and under, and orange juice is offered to children under 5 years of age.

New entrants to the staffs of school canteens are examined by the Department's Medical staff. During the year 43 new entrants were examined and in each case a certificate to the effect that the examinee was fit to work in the School Meals Service was forwarded to the Divisional Education Officer.

## Youth Employment Service

There is close co-operation between the School Health and Youth Employment Services. The medical records of all school leavers are considered by the School Medical Officer before the pupils are interviewed by the Youth Employment Officer and types of work for which any child is, in the opinion of the Medical Officer, unsuited, are pointed out.



During the year recommendations were made that 57 children should not be employed in one or more of the following categories of work.

1.	Heavy manual work	...	...	...	...	...	16
2.	Work in dusty atmosphere	...	...	...	...	...	4
3.	Work involving normally acute vision...	...	...	...	...	...	13
4.	Work involving normal colour vision	...	...	...	...	...	11
5.	Work at heights	...	...	...	...	...	4
6.	Work near moving machinery or moving vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	8
7.	Work involving prolonged standing, much walking or quick movement from place to place	...	...	...	...	...	10
8.	Work requiring freedom from damp hands or skin defects	...	...	...	...	...	2
9.	Work in a damp atmosphere	...	...	...	...	...	4
10.	Work involving normal hearing	...	...	...	...	...	5
11.	Work involving exposure to bad weather	...	...	...	...	...	7
12.	Work indoors	...	...	...	...	...	1
13.	Work involving wide changes in temperature	...	...	...	...	...	2
14.	Work involving the handling or preparation of food	...	...	...	...	...	1

The more seriously handicapped children are recommended to the Youth Employment Officer for inclusion in the Disabled Persons Register.

In connection with the Employment of Children Bye-Laws 22 children were examined as regards their suitability for employment outside school hours. Certificates were granted for employment as follows:—

Newspaper Delivery	...	...	...	...	19
Shop Assistants	...	...	...	...	2
Entertainment	...	...	...	...	1

### Handicapped Pupils

Facilities for the special educational treatment of all classes of handicapped pupils requiring residential care, except those classed as Educationally Sub-normal, are now fairly readily available.

During the year 86 pupils have been examined with reference to their need of special educational treatment, and recommendations for the provision of same were made in 60 cases. During the year 47 children were removed from the register as no longer requiring special educational treatment, or because they were over school age.

At the end of the year 248 pupils were included in the register, the sub-division into the various classes being as follows: —

Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	...	7
Partially Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	2
Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	11
Delicate	...	...	...	...	...	10
Speech	...	...	...	...	...	61
Partially Sighted	...	...	...	...	...	4
Blind	...	...	...	...	...	1
Physically Handicapped	...	...	...	...	...	25
Educationally Sub-normal	...	...	...	...	...	126
Epileptic	...	...	...	...	...	1

At the beginning of the year 58 children were in attendance at Special Schools and 16 children (4 educationally sub-normal, 4 delicate, 4 physically handicapped, 1 deaf, 3 maladjusted) were admitted during the year. There were 21 discharges (5 delicate, 4 physically handicapped, 10 educationally sub-normal, 2 maladjusted) leaving a total of 53 children in attendance at Special Schools at the end of the year, the details being as follows:—

Category	No. Away	Location of Special School
Blind	1	Yorkshire School for the Blind, York.
Maladjusted	4	1 at Nortonthorpe Hall, Scissett. 3 at Hooper House School, Wentworth, near Rotherham.
Partially Sighted	3	3 at School for Partially Sighted Children, Fulwood, Preston.
Deaf	9	1 at Lawns House School, Leeds. 2 at Royal Residential School for the Deaf, Manchester. 2 at Odsal House School for the Deaf, Bradford 3 at Yorkshire Residential School for the Deaf, Doncaster.
Delicate	4	1 at Beever Street Day School, Oldham. 3 at Netherside Hall School, Grassington.
Educationally Sub-normal	19	1 at Children's Convalescent Home, West Kirby 4 at Royd Edge, Meltham. 1 at Baliol School Sedbergh. 2 at Springfield Special School, Horsforth. 1 at Etton Pasture School, Beverley. 1 at Beechwood Boarding School for Senior Girls, Liverpool. 1 at Maghull Home for Epileptics, Liverpool. 8 at Chaucer Street Special School, Oldham.
Physically Handicapped	13	1 at East Hill House School, Colchester. 4 at Holly Bank School, Huddersfield. 1 at Leasowe Children's Hospital School. 2 at Heritage Craft School, Chailey, Sussex. 1 at National Children's Home, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire. 1 at Pinderfields Hospital School, Wakefield. 1 at Welburn Hall School, Kirbymoorside. 1 at Adela Shaw Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoorside. 1 at Derwen Cripples Training College, Oswestry. 1 at Langley School, Baildon.

There were 12 physically handicapped children who were receiving special educational treatment in ordinary schools, where they were considered to be suitably placed.

At the end of the year 38 pupils in the following groups were awaiting placement in Special Schools or Hostels:—

Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	...	1
Delicate	...	...	...	...	...	3
Educationally Sub-normal	...	...	...	...	...	30
Partially Sighted	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	2
Partially Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	1



## **The Children's Home, The Leas, Scholes**

Owing to the provision of larger beds the accommodation at the Home has been reduced from 97 to 82 places.

During the year, the difficulty of obtaining staff has continued, and three of the cottages have remained closed. At the end of the year 53 children were in residence.

Arrangements for the medical care of the children have continued as described in previous reports.

For various reasons, a higher proportion of the children than is normally found, are educationally retarded and 12 are classified on examination as Handicapped Pupils (Educationally Sub-normal). During the year two of these reached school leaving age and were notified to the Local Health Authority under Section 57 (5) of the Education Act, 1944, as requiring supervision after leaving school.

### **Nortonthorpe Hostel for Maladjusted Boys**

The purpose of the Hostel is to provide a stable and pleasant background for socially insecure children and so enable them to mature and eventually return to their homes without breaking down.

At the end of the year, 20 boys were in residence at the Hostel.

### **Reports to the Local Health Authority: Education Act, 1944, Section 57**

During the year 5 children were reported to the Local Health Authority as "ineducable" under Section 57(3). In addition 10 children were notified to the Local Health Authority under Section 57(5) as requiring care and supervision after leaving school.

### **Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Courses of Training**

During the year, 51 candidates (9 male and 42 female) for entry into Teachers Training Colleges were examined and reports submitted to the appropriate College Authority. In addition, 9 reports on Form 28 R.Q. regarding the new entrants to the profession were forwarded to the Ministry of Education.

### **Liaison with Hospitals and General Practitioners**

Cordial relations exist between the staffs of the School Health Service, the Hospital Service and the General Practitioners. Information is passed and mutual assistance is given to the general benefit of the children of the area.

### **Improvements to School Buildings**

Although many schools are still without satisfactory sanitary accommodation and washing facilities, considerable progress has been made during recent years. During the financial year 1956/1957, the following improvements were carried out or were in progress:—

Flockton C.E. School.	Rebuilding of classroom.
Scammonden C.E. School.	Improvements to water supply.
Honley C.E. School.	Additional classrooms provided.
Holmfirth Secondary School.	Additional classrooms provided.
Slaithwaite C.E. School.	Re-roofing and installation of new washbowls. Improvements to natural lighting and ventilation. Improved water supply to school and W.Cs.



Kirkheaton C.E. School.	Improvements to conveniences.
Highburton C.E. School.	Improvements urinals (started — not completed).
Emley County School.	Installed porcelain fittings in urinals (started—not completed).
Kirkburton Secondary School.	Renewal of washbasins.

The programme for the general provision of additional wash basins with hot and cold water for use of school meals service staff in kitchens and sculleries has also begun to be implemented.

### **Cigarette Smoking in School Children**

In view of the recent report by the Medical Research Council into the relationship between cigarette smoking and Lung Cancer, a note on this subject has been included in this report. The need for explaining to young adolescents the possible consequences of cigarette smoking cannot be too strongly emphasised and it is hoped that all those whose work brings them in contact with older school children will, by explanation and example, do all in their power to bring the potential dangers before the young people most concerned.

The death rate from Lung Cancer has increased tremendously during recent years so that by 1955 the rate in England and Wales was more than double that recorded only 10 years previously. Among males it is now responsible for about 1 in 18 of all deaths.

About eight years ago, when the death rate was a great deal less than it is now, an investigation into the causes of this phenomenal increase suggested very strongly that the culprit was the cigarette. Cigarette smokers suffered from the disease more often than non-smokers; and heavy smokers more often than light smokers.

Since that date, many investigations have been carried out in many different countries—in the United Kingdom, the U.S.A., Finland, Germany, Holland, Norway and Switzerland — and the results of 19 such tests have been published which agree in showing more smokers and fewer non-smokers among patients with lung cancer.

The Medical Research Council in their recently published Annual Report made a statement on the relationship of tobacco smoking and cancer of the lung.

They concluded:

1. A very great increase has occurred during the past 25 years in the death rate from lung cancer in Great Britain and other countries.
2. A relatively small number of the total cases can be attributed to specific industrial hazards.
3. A proportion of cases, the exact extent of which cannot yet be defined, may be due to atmospheric pollution.
4. Evidence from many investigations in different countries indicates that a major part of the increase is associated with tobacco smoking, particularly in the form of cigarettes. In the opinion of the Council, the most reasonable interpretation of this evidence is that the relationship is one of direct cause and effect.
5. The identification of several carcinogenic substances in tobacco smoke provides a rational basis for such a casual relationship.



This is no trivial matter—last year no less than 18,000 people died in England and Wales of cancer of the lung and it seems probable that most of these deaths were preventable.

Under these circumstances, it is disquieting to read the report of Mr. W. Emrys Davies, the Headmaster of Yew Tree Secondary School, Wythenshawe, which he made to the 64th Health Congress of the Royal Society of Health on the 1st May, 1957, in which he described some of the results obtained from detailed questioning of 1,100 boys and girls attending the school. These appeared to show that at least a quarter of the boys in the age group 13.6—14.5 years had already begun to smoke and that in another group of older children, aged from 14.6—15.5 years, nearly half the boys and a fifth of the girls had acquired a taste for smoking. The headmaster stated that "in some instances, the taste may already have developed into a habit."

Cigarette smoking is a very difficult habit to break and it would appear that every possible effort should be made to bring the possible dangers to the notice of all concerned.

### **HEALTH VISITING**

The staff remains numerically the same as for the previous year, being 3 below the authorised establishment.

One new health visitor commenced duty in July and one retired in November after 27 years service with the County Council. Three students from Manchester University and two from Leeds came to the Division for practical experience. Two health visitors attended refresher courses, one in Manchester and one in Edinburgh, whilst five attended the Annual Two Day Refresher Course at Grantley Hall on "Human Relationships."

#### **Toddlers Clinics**

These clinics are increasingly popular and although it is usually the "three year old" who is invited, mothers of the younger age group anxiously enquire about appointments. A number of defects are found and treatment commenced and whilst statistics are not available, the number of children entering school suffering from defects must be affected.

#### **Relaxation Classes**

These clinics, which vary in popularity from district to district, generally speaking, are quite well attended. The health visitor and the midwife usually work together, the health visitor concentrating on the health teaching and the midwife on the exercises.

#### **Hospital Liaison**

It is pleasing to note that more use is being made by the Almoner and hospital staff of the valuable information which can often be given by the health visitor. While there are many gaps to be filled in this service, undoubtedly progress, if slow, is being made.

#### **Diabetic After Care**

An interesting experiment was started in December. At the request of Dr. J. Walker Hirst, Consultant Physician at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, a health visitor attends weekly the Diabetic Clinic at the hospital. After receiving instructions from the Consultant, the health visitor visits patients in their own homes and supervises diet, insulin intake, etc. In this way the patients are stabilised at home thus saving hospital beds.



The Aged still remain a very big problem and whilst in the majority of cases the health visitor's contact is through the home help service, her advice and assistance is being more and more sought after on behalf of this section of the population.

The Battle of Loneliness is still being waged and one cannot make too strong a plea on behalf of the many lonely people who are largely confined to their own homes. Much is now being done for old people but the help tends to be concentrated on those who can get about and to some extent look after themselves. If more time were spent in visiting the house-bound it would be much appreciated.

Excellent liaison exists between the various Old Peoples Committees and this Department.

Special mention should be made of one such Committee, who on being informed that an old lady was about to be discharged from hospital and that her relatives had sold up her home, contacted local organisations, friends and neighbours and completely refurnished the home, even to the provision of a wireless set.

## Problem Families

The number of families in this category or under supervision as "potential problem families" does not appear to decrease. Every effort is made to avoid official action being taken where this will result in the splitting up of the family.

Much rehabilitation work has been carried out both by the combined efforts of the health visitors themselves and in co-operation with other official and voluntary bodies. Mention must be made to those who have assisted in this work, whether by personal efforts or the giving of furniture, bedding and utensils. The Housing Committees of the various districts have also helped regarding re-housing, repairs, etc.

One mother and two children spent 17 weeks at Brentwood Recuperative Centre, Marple, Cheshire. She has since expressed her appreciation for the help and training she received during her stay.

## Voluntary Committees

No report on health visiting would be complete without mentioning the invaluable services rendered by members of the Voluntary Committees. Not only do they attend the welfare centres regularly week by week but also assist the health visitor frequently in their other and many varied activities.

The following table shows particulars of the visits made by Health Visitors during the year.

District	Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children Between Ages		Other Cases	Total Visits
	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	1—2	2—5	Total Visits	
Colne Valley	44	109	309	2961	1323	2040	2188	8621
Denby Dale	7	10	96	635	203	380	780	2008
Holmfirth	7	26	296	1897	696	968	1386	4973
Kirkburton	46	82	187	1518	616	832	1948	4996
Meltham	55	76	59	509	156	276	595	1612
Saddleworth	33	77	139	1956	1039	1076	1749	5897
Division 20	192	380	1086	9476	4033	5572	8646	28107



In addition 1,492 home visits were paid to school children in connection with follow-up work from routine medical inspections, hygiene inspections, handicapped pupils, etc.

The visits shown in the above table include 8,952 of a non routine nature, an analysis of which is as follows:—

Premature Babies	...	...	...	...	...	26
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	9
Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	2
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	108
Care and after care:—						
Tuberculosis Patients	...	...	...	...	...	1028
Tuberculosis Contacts	...	...	...	...	...	684
Discharged from Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	41
Others	...	...	...	...	...	239
Post Natal	...	...	...	...	...	21
					—	2013
Home Help Service	...	...	...	...	...	3103
Aged	...	...	...	...	...	1992
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	...	886
Special Visits (not homes)	...	...	...	...	...	813
						<hr/> 8952 <hr/>

## HOME NURSING

At the commencement of the year 11 home nurses, 8 nurse-midwives, and 2 relief nurse-midwives were engaged in the Division. During the year, 2 nurse-midwives resigned their appointments whilst 3 nurse-midwives were appointed; one full time midwife, and one home nurse were re-designated nurse-midwives and one relief nurse-midwife was re-designated district nurse-midwife. Two of the home nurses were transferred to another division.

The staff position at the end of the year is shown in the table on page 13a.

Particulars of the work done in the various districts by the home nurses and nurse-midwives are shown in the following table. The amount of work done by the home nurses still varies considerably and further readjustment of districts is required as soon as this can be arranged.

	Home Nursing			Midwifery	
	Transfers	New Patients	Visits Paid	Confinements	Visits Paid
<b>COLNE VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Golcar .....	28	165	3,105	5	96
Marsden .....	25	136	2,520	11	547
Linthwaite and Slaithwaite .....	72	308	5,829	11	160
	125	609	11,454	27	803
<b>DENBY DALE URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Denby Dale and Cumberworth .....	15	27	1,459	27	777
Clayton West and Emley .....	24	75	2,104	10	427
Skelmanthorpe and Scissett .....	13	45	1,301	17	442
	52	157	4,864	54	1,646
<b>HOLMFIRTH URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Holmfirth .....	32	137	3,012	—	—
New Mill .....	19	99	2,318	—	—
Honley .....	21	103	2,455	—	28
	72	339	7,785	—	28
<b>KIRKBURTON URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Kirkheaton, Lepton & Flockton .....	43	211	5,217	22	742
Kirkburton .....	14	50	2,202	15	455
Shelley and Shepley .....	23	49	1,568	10	438
	80	310	8,987	47	1635
<b>MELTHAM URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Meltham .....	16	98	2,262	6	342
<b>SADDLEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Delph, Dobcross, Denshaw, Scouthead .....	18	69	2,063	9	321
Springhead, Lydgate, Austerlands, Grotton .....	18	103	4,433	11	280
Greenfield, Diggle, Grasscroft, Uppermill .....	19	77	2,310	2	60
	55	249	8,806	22	661
<b>Total for Division</b> .....	400	1762	44,158	156	5,115



## Types of Cases Attended

The cases attended and the total visits paid have, as last year, been analysed .

Type of Case	Transferred	New Cases	Visits Paid
Infectious .....	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	5	21	771
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	—	13	464
Influenza .....	—	3	29
Pneumonia .....	4	50	658
Bronchitis .....	6	104	1853
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	—	20	630
Cancer of Uterus .....	—	7	257
Cancer of Stomach and Intestines .....	1	30	531
Cancer of Breast .....	2	6	353
Cancer of Other Sites .....	8	59	1,616
Diabetes .....	7	44	1,963
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	18	103	3,463
Diseases of Heart and Circulation .....	29	117	4,068
Post-Operative Dressings .....	9	79	2,261
Injuries .....	4	55	921
Burns and Scalds .....	3	45	543
Septic Conditions (Boils, Abscesses Carbuncles) .....	19	104	2,907
Uterine Prolapse .....	70	107	974
Other Gynaecological Cases .....	—	5	50
Male Genito-urinary Conditions .....	5	19	1,654
Rheumatic and Arthritic Conditions .....	24	54	2,628
Ear and Eye Conditions .....	11	52	745
Varicose Ulcers .....	16	33	1,032
Impetigo .....	—	1	36
Other Skin Diseases .....	—	8	103
Chronic Diseases of Nervous System .....	—	12	1,402
Mastitis .....	—	27	274
Acute Abdominal Conditions .....	1	16	106
Constipation .....	1	71	302
Thrombosis .....	15	49	1,991
Infantile Disorders .....	—	1	2
Circumcision .....	1	38	266
Senility .....	34	118	4,327
Other Conditions .....	107	291	4,978
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>400</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>44,158</b>

It will be seen that Senility has provided the largest number of new cases (118.) Diseases of the Heart and Circulation (117) were the next most frequent, followed by Uterine Prolapse (107), Septic Conditions (104), Bronchitis (104) and Cerebral Haemorrhage (103).

New cases of Pneumonia numbered 50.

Patients suffering from the following conditions received the largest number of visits:—

Senility	4327	visits
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	4068	„
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3463	„
Septic Conditions	2907	„
Cancer (all sites)	2757	„
Rheumatic and Arthritic Conditions	2628	„
Post-Operative Dressings	2261	„

## Cases Discharged

Of the 1381 cases the nurses ceased to attend during the year 957 were discharged as recovered, 181 were transferred to hospital, and 243 died.

The tables given below show the duration of treatment and the number of visits paid to patients in each group.

Patients under Treatment	Patients.		
	Recovered	Transferred	Died
Less than 1 week ... ..	316	63	83
1—2 weeks ... ..	285	23	53
2—4 weeks ... ..	146	15	36
4—13 weeks ... ..	125	32	27
3—6 months ... ..	60	32	24
Over 6 months ... ..	25	16	20
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>243</b>

Number of Visits Paid	To Patients Who		
	Recovered	Transferred	Died
3 or less ... ..	86	24	28
4—7 ... ..	306	43	54
8—15 ... ..	324	40	62
16—30 ... ..	157	32	51
31—50 ... ..	62	22	22
51—75 ... ..	15	12	10
76—100 ... ..	3	3	4
Over 100 ... ..	4	5	12
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>243</b>

### THE HOME HELP SERVICE

There has been no change in the organisation of the Home Help Service or in the conditions whereby the services of a home help can be allocated to a household, full details of which were given in my report for 1954.

It is to be regretted that the number of home helps employed throughout the year fell short of the authorised establishment, this being due to the difficulty in recruiting suitable women to the service. The authorised establishment of home helps was increased from 27 to 30 giving an average establishment for the year of 27.50, whilst in terms of full-time home helps the number employed averaged 25.17.

Despite this difficulty 415 cases were provided with home helps as compared with 404 in the previous year, although the time which could be devoted to any particular case was sometimes less than was actually required. Every effort has been made, however, to allocate the services available where they were most urgently needed.

The duration of assistance provided was as follows:—

No. of cases provided with the services of a Home Help for:—					
Under 1 Month	1—3 Months	3—6 Months	6—9 Months	Over 9 Months	Total
88	68	54	51	154	415

Details of the assistance given to the 415 patients in the various categories are shown in the following table: —



Category	Colne Valley		Denby Dale		Hornfirth		Kirkburton		Meltham		Saddleworth		Total	
	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient
Maternity (including Expectant Mothers) ...	22	78.25	3	58.00	7	49.93	11	123.07	5	50.80	12	64.33	60	77.08
Tuberculosis ...	1	114.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	312.50	3	246.33
Chronic Sick (over 65) ...	69	124.28	23	163.71	54	129.83	48	178.55	22	92.74	57	191.65	273	149.76
(under 65) ...	13	163.93	3	149.08	6	322.08	7	162.25	4	105.81	3	107.33	36	177.55
Others ...	10	116.31	2	18.12	8	76.87	9	210.58	—	—	14	88.07	43	114.94
Total ...	115	119.17	31	142.67	75	132.10	75	172.74	31	87.66	88	157.68	415	138.76

## National Assistance Acts, 1948—1951

Under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, a local authority may take action to secure removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No action was taken under this section during the year.

### Ambulance Service

During the year close co-operation has been maintained with the Superintendent of the Huddersfield Depot and any difficulties of a medical nature arising have been discussed.

The service has worked smoothly throughout the year and complaints have been negligible.

During the year the ambulances from the Huddersfield Depot made 4,149 journeys involving 139,497 miles, and carried 18,663 patients 2,736 of these being stretcher patients. Included in the 18,663 patients carried were 15,440 hospital out-patients. Particulars of the cases carried are given below:—

Accident	...	...	...	...	...	435
Urgent	...	...	...	...	...	525
Mental	...	...	...	...	...	34
Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	154
Infectious	...	...	...	...	...	25
General	...	...	...	...	...	2050
Out Patients	...	...	...	...	...	15440
						<hr/> 18663

In the Saddleworth Area arrangements with the Oldham County Borough Ambulance Service have continued.

During the year ambulances of the Oldham Service made journeys involving 12,253 miles and carried 1,329 patients and in addition journeys involving 22,270 miles were made by Sitting Case Cars on behalf of 2,203 patients. Of the patients carried 120 were classed as accident cases, 188 emergency cases and 3,224 others.

### MENTAL HEALTH

The mental health work in the Division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under voluntary and statutory supervision and under guardianship orders, and in the provision of reports about the home conditions of defectives, for the information of Hospital Management Committees, when applications for leave of absence or renewal of licence are under consideration. Training in handicrafts of various sorts is also given to suitable patients.

The work is done mainly by the Mental Health Social Worker and by 2 Home Teachers.

There is great difficulty in securing institutional accommodation for those patients whose mental, physical or social conditions make this desirable. As the Local Health Authority no longer provides residential accommodation all that can be done is to make recommendations to the Regional Hospital Board.



During the year 4 children were reported by the Local Education Authority under Section 57(3) as ineducable and 10 under Section 57 (5) as requiring supervision after leaving school. All were placed under statutory supervision. Three adults and two children were admitted to institutions during the year and in addition three children were accepted for temporary short stay vacancies.

At the end of the year the number of patients under supervision was as follows:—

	Male	Female	Total
Under Guardianship... ..	—	1	1
Under Statutory Supervision ...	67	61	128
On Licence from Institutions ...	—	1	1
Under Voluntary Supervision and Observation ... ..	12	5	17

Of these patients 9 were in need of institutional care at the end of the year as follows:—

	Male	Female	Total
In urgent need ... ..	3	3	6
Not in urgent need ... ..	2	1	3
Total	5	4	9

Through the kind co-operation of the Huddersfield and Oldham County Borough Authorities a few vacancies at centres run by these Authorities have been made available for West Riding patients and at the end of the year 4 patients were in attendance at the Scarleigh Occupation Centre, Milnsbridge and 4 at the Oldham Occupation Centre. In addition, 2 patients were attending the Oldham Industrial Centre.

The training of smaller groups at the Centre at Linthwaite has continued and the group training class previously held at Skelmanthorpe was transferred to the Drill Hall, Kirkburton on the 13th August, 1956. This training is given under the supervision of the Home Teachers and the number of patients who attended and the number of attendances made were as follows:—

Centre	No. of Sessions	No. of Patients	No. of Attendances	Average No. of Attendances per Session
Linthwaite ...	266	11	1209	4.55
Skelmanthorpe	172	22	1310	7.62
Kirkburton ...	113	26	949	8.40
Total ... ..	551	29	3468	6.29

The social activities during the year have included a Christmas party at the Kirkburton Centre and a visit to the pantomime. These were well attended by patients and their parents from all parts of the Division and were very much appreciated.

#### **Medical Examination for Superannuation Purposes**

New entrants to the County Service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and these examinations have continued to be carried out by the Department's medical staff. During the year 61 such examinations (32 male, 29 female) were carried out.

In addition 4 members of the County staff (2 male, 2 female) were examined to ascertain whether or not they were incapable of discharging with efficiency the duties of their employment by reason of permanent ill-health.









