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HORSFORTH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THAT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

AND

Cleansing Superintendent

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,

1936.



HORSFORTH:

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Horsforth Urban District Council.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending December 31st, 1936.

To the Chairman and Councillors.

Gentlemen,

The Ministry of Health require for this year the "minimum requirements" and not a survey report.

The area of the district has been lessened by the recent West Riding County Council redistribution to the extent only of the Rodley Sewage Works, which has now become incorporated with the City of Leeds. Suggestions made to include the districts of Rawdon and Calverley failed.

The work of the Health Committee during the past year has been chiefly concentrated on the receiving of reports relating to Housing. Most of the houses in question have now been inspected and recommendations made, those for reconditioning and those for demolition having been determined.

In addition, the overcrowding survey has been completed and has resulted, as one expected, in the disclosure of many overcrowded houses. Unfortunately, the remedying of defects is not easily in view, for the programme of the building of new houses is very belated, and it appears unlikely that a solution can be found in the near future—in fact, I think it may take years to bring up the district to modern requirements.

Tenants are still in occupation of most of the houses to be demolished by the Clearance Area Schemes of 1935. In dealing with defective houses, especially those requiring demolition, it is very unfortunate that recommendation should be

made much in advance of the suggested requirements, for at once the ordinary repair work ceases and such houses rapidly deteriorate, to the detriment of the tenants' interests.

I therefore recommend to the Housing Committee that priority should be given to all tenants from overcrowded houses and from those condemned for demolition on the letting of any vacant Council houses.

Advisedly I put the overcrowded cases first, for the tenants of such are a menace not only to themselves but to their neighbours.

In order to relieve the situation—again particularly for overcrowding—I think the powers which the Council now possess of buying some of the better class and commodious three-storied cottages might well be taken into consideration.

The population continues to increase, the Ministry of Health estimate being now 12,260.

Building of new houses is taking place in almost all directions, the site of greatest activity during the past year being off Station Road. Most of the new houses built are for sale, but a few are built to let.

The extensive improvement to the Waterworks is now nearing completion, and the reservoirs, after nearly two years, are almost full to their new capacity.

Vital Statistics:—

The Ministry of Health estimate the population to be now 12,260. This, I think, is underestimated.

The number of inhabited houses is 4,041.

The rateable value is £70,712, and a penny in the £ produces £268.

Unemployment continues to decrease.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births ...	160	80	80	Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 13.0.
Legitimate		77	76	
Illegitimate		3	4	
Still Births ...	5			Rate per 1,000 total live and still births is .8.
Legitimate		5		
Deaths	145	59	86	Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 11.8.



The corresponding birth and death rates for England and Wales are 14.8 and 12.1 respectively.

The birth rate is slightly lower than that for the previous year.

The death rate is about the normal for this district. Curiously, for 25 years past it has only varied a point or two above or below this figure.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Death rate of infants under one year:—There were five such, three being due to congenital causes. The infantile mortality rate is again low, being 37 per 1,000 children born alive, compared to 58 for England and Wales. There was no mortality amongst the illegitimate children.

Deaths from Cancer numbered 20—nine males, 11 females. There is no diminution as yet in this mortality. Among the deaths are a few victims well under middle age.

There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Diarrhoea (under two years of age).

HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA. —

Beyond the fact that better Ambulance service is now possible, there is nothing new to report. Applicants for such should apply at the Council Offices or from the Secretary of the local Medical Charities Committee.

I am indebted to Mr. Aldersley for the following report on the Water Supply and Drainage and Sewerage.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year the various works mentioned in the last Annual Report have been practically completed.

The three Reservoirs, viz., the Lower or Compensation Reservoir and the Middle and Upper Reservoirs, used for the gravitation supply, have been cleaned out, supplied with new Draw-off and Scour Valves, and made safe under the provisions of the Reservoirs (Safety Provisions) Act, 1930.

The Filtration Works have been re-modelled. The six old slow sand filters with open clear water tanks have been replaced by a Rapid Gravity Filtration Plant, followed by sand filters and covered clear water tanks.

The rapid gravity plant, which is housed in a Filtration House, consists of three Paterson's Rapid Gravity Filters, where chemical treatment by the addition of alumina solution, proportioned according to the flow, takes place. The pH value of the water is corrected by adding to the filtered water hydrated lime cream. After leaving the rapid gravity plant, the water is finally treated over sand filters, chlorinated, and passed to the clear water tanks for distribution to the consumers. The plant is treating 324,000 gallons per day, and is capable of extension to 480,000 gallons per day.

The water from the Scotland Lane Pumping Station is now settled in a separate tank and added direct to the clear water tanks, and can be chlorinated if required.

The new Borehole at Scotland Lane has been sunk to a depth of 852 feet, and a preliminary pumping test has proved satisfactory, but the 14 days' pumping test has not yet been made, and until this is complete the High Level Scheme mentioned in the last Report cannot be proceeded with.

During the year the Ministry of Health sanctioned a loan of £7,750 for the laying of a Trunk Main. The work is in hand, and consists of laying a new 12in. main from the Clear Water Tanks via Scotland Lane and New Cut to the top of Lee Lane, and from this point a 9in. branch is laid to Town Street and Lane Head, and a further 9in. branch to Broadway, via Church Road and Fink Hill, continuing along Broadway to Calverley Lane at 6in. diameter.

A feature of the new main is that it is lined with concrete, incrustation and growth of crenothrix being thereby eliminated. The main will give an increase of pressure over the whole area of supply and considerably improve the distribution to consumers.

Frequent analyses of water have been made during the year, both chemical and bacteriological, and these have been satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The work of reconstruction at the Sewage Disposal Works, as mentioned in the last Report, has been completed.

The lower filtration area has been reconditioned, and additional distributors provided. The total cost of £2,375 has been met by loan sanctions from the Ministry of Health.

The Schemes of Sewerage and Surface Water Drainage sanctioned by the Ministry of Health have been completed during the year, and are as follows:—

Extension of Sewer, Sussex Avenue	£500
Extension of Sewer, Springfield Mount	£65
Surface Water Drain, Broadgate Lane	£900
Relief Surface Water Sewer, Victoria Gardens ...	£345

Owing to difficulties in the negotiations with the Railway Company, it has not been possible to proceed with the Sewer to the L.N.E.R. Station Area sanctioned by the Ministry of Health at an estimated cost of £390. It has, however, been possible to connect the Station Premises and the Station Master's House and Cottage to the existing sewer.

In Victoria Gardens the existing 9in. sewer has been substituted by a 12in. sewer where on a flat grade, and has thereby eliminated the flooding in that area.

A scheme for the sewerage of the upper section of Brown-berrie Lane has been prepared and approved by the Council, and is now being formulated for submission to the Ministry of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Nuisances inspections made for nuisances only in 1936	722
Nuisances found in 1936	562
Nuisances in hand, 1935	29
Notices served, informal	147
Notices served, statutory	15
Tot. needing abatement	591
Abated during 1936	576
Outstanding, 1936	16
Complied with	142
Outstanding, 1936	22

Offensive Trades.—No action was necessary in regard to these. Eighty-six inspections were made.

Closet Accommodation.—Forty-one new closets were constructed for new houses and 11 additional w.c.s were provided for old property. The number of water closets is now 3,706. There are some water closets serving two and occasionally three houses—I think the time has arrived when there

should be a w.c. for each house. I would suggest that wherever possible this should be the standard. The types of closets at the end of 1936 are:—

Pail or tub	12
Privies with covered middens	55
Water closets	3706
Waste water closets	7

For several years past I have commended the work of the cleansing department, but during the past year this work has not been well done. I have heard many complaints, and have myself seen evidences of neglect in relation to the emptying of ashbins.

From time to time during the past two years there have been discussions on the need of more public lavatories. I hope something will come from suggestions already made, for the district is now sufficiently populated as to make these a public necessity.

Smoke Observation.—Fourteen were made and two cautions given. I feel that more strenuous measures should still be taken to modify the amount of smoke that is poured out into the district. Regard to the stoking of the domestic fire is also necessary—one has only to watch the early morning smoke of the district from Tinshill Lane on Sunday morning to realise the enormity of the smoke pollution.

Housing Statistics.

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) ...	211
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	261
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	149
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	170
(3) Number of dwelling-houses needing further action	106
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	88
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	18

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	18
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—	
(a)—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18, 23, Housing Act, 1930.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	Nil
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	40
(a) By owners	40
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c)—Proceedings under sections 19 & 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:	
(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation	88
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners—Section 19 (2)	16
(a) To render houses fit for human habitation ...	16
(b) As to usage other than for human habitation	Nil
(d)—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930, or Section 84, Housing Act, 1935:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms closed in pursuance of Closing Orders	Nil
(3) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
4. Housing Act, 1935.—Overcrowding:—	
(a)—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	55
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	57
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	359
(b)—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	8
(c)—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	12
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	71

I have made observations on housing in the opening part of this Report. There is, however, one other aspect of this work which I should like to raise—that is the urgent necessity of remedying smaller defects in otherwise good houses, particularly attention towards making windows to open, providing suitable keeping places for food, repair of fall pipes, etc., etc., and supervision of the drains. It appears that this work cannot be done with the present staff, and I regret that an attempt to increase the staff last Summer by appointing an Assistant Sanitary Inspector failed.

Milk.—The cowsheds in the district have been visited by the Veterinary Inspector of the W.R.C.C. each quarter, who reports favourably both with regard to the condition of the cows and the cowsheds.

There is as yet only one accredited milk producer in the district, and none for tubercular tested milk. Three samples of accredited milk supplied to schoolchildren were analysed and found to be satisfactory.

Schools.—The long-standing difficulty regarding the insanitary condition of the Woodside Infants' School yard has now been rectified.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever cases were notified in different parts of the district throughout the year. Most of the cases were traced to outside sources. With few exceptions, all cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital.

Similarly, but to a much less extent, cases of Diphtheria occurred—they were usually in workers from Leeds. Neither disease became epidemic, and there was one death from Diphtheria. The minor infectious diseases continued from the previous year, continued to spread, all parts of the area being more or less involved.

The following notifications were received:—

Scarlet Fever	20
Diphtheria	7
Puerperal pyrexia	3
Erysipelas	5
Pneumonia	25
Chicken Pox	47
Measles	98
German Measles	58
Mumps	100
Whooping Cough	7

There has been no school closure in consequence of these diseases.

Tuberculosis.

Eleven respiratory and two of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
35	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0
65 and up.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

From tubercular diseases there were three deaths—one from pulmonary and two from non-pulmonary diseases.

Yours faithfully,

HENRY BAILEY.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year ended December 31st, 1936.

To the Chairman and Members of the Horsforth Urban
District Council.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report, giving details of the work carried out during the year ended December 31st, 1936.

The work of the department continues to increase with the development of the district and the continuous introduction of legislation, imposing many more additional duties on your very limited staff.

Early in the year I was without any assistance for two months owing to the resignation of Mr. A. B. Hutchinson, Pupil Assistant, who had been appointed Sanitary Inspector to the Urban District of Baildon. Mr. J. Flitton was appointed as Clerical Assistant in his place.

In addition to the ordinary routine work, the outstanding points of the year's activities were the re-survey of housing conditions of the district as suggested by the General Inspector of the Ministry of Health, and the overcrowding survey imposed by the Housing Act, 1935, the details of which are appended and grouped under appropriate headings.

Nuisance Inspections.

Total inspections made for nuisances only	722
The number of nuisances found requiring abatement during the year 1936 was	562
The number of nuisances outstanding, Dec. 31st, 1935	29
<hr/>	
Total nuisances needing abatement during 1936	591
Nuisances abated during the year 1936	575
<hr/>	
Nuisances outstanding at the close of 1936	16

Service of Notices.

Informal Notices served during the year 1936	147
Informal Notices outstanding Dec. 31st, 1935	0
	147
Informal Notices complied with during 1936	142
	5
Informal Notices outstanding at the close of 1936	5
Statutory Notices served during the year 1936	15
Statutory Notices outstanding Dec. 31st, 1935	7
	22
Statutory Notices complied with during 1936	22
	0
Statutory Notices outstanding at the close of 1936	0

The following is a summary of Visits Paid, Nuisances Abated, etc.

Visits paid to Medical Officer of Health	65
Number of cases of infectious disease removed to hospital	24
Number of cases of infectious disease treated at home ...	8
Number of visits paid to infected houses	44
Premises disinfected following infectious disease	29
Schools disinfected	2
Reports on Zymotic Diseases furnished to Medical Officer of Health	24
Bedding removed for disinfection following infectious disease	24
Premises disinfected for miscellaneous causes	16
Bedding disinfected for miscellaneous causes	3
Bedding destroyed for miscellaneous causes	18
Visits paid re nuisances	722
Visits paid to works in progress	57
,, Dairies and Milk Shops	73
,, Cowsheds	84
,, Slaughterhouses	295
,, Factories and Workshops	101
,, Fried Fish Shops	86
,, Shops	22
,, Bakehouses	49

Smoke observations taken for emission of black smoke	14
Drains in connection with existing property inspected ...	101
Drains in connection with existing property tested	61
New drains laid	3
Drains relaid	8
Drains liberated and cleansed	109
Drains repaired	24
House drains connected to sewer	3
Drains provided with ventilating shafts	2
Water samples taken for analyses	6
Meat and food seizures	35
Appointments with property owners, etc.	212
Streams inspected re pollution	3
Additional Water Closets provided to existing property	11
Water Closets reconstructed	4
Waste Water Closets converted into Fresh Water Closets	1
Privies converted into Water Closets	2
Cesspool abolished	1
Blocked W.C. drains liberated	19
New W.C. pedestals provided	2
Defective Water Closets repaired	5
Public Urinals, visits for cleansing and disinfecting	556
Public Urinals liberated	5
New drain inspection chambers provided	3
Drain ventilation shafts repaired	1
New inspection chamber covers provided	2
Manhole covers provided	1
Defective soil-pipes repaired	2
New sinks provided	3
New sink wastes provided	2
Stoppages removed from waste pipes	3
Waste pipes repaired	8
Sink gullies liberated	16
Eaves-spouts repaired or renewed	17
Roofs made water-tight	5
House yards paved and drained	3
Schoolyards paved and drained	1
Defective ashes bins replaced	180
Additional bins provided to existing property	10
Defective offal bins replaced	1

Nuisance from deposit of offensive matter in ashes bins abated	9
Accumulations of refuse removed	11
Nuisance from domestic smoke abated	2
Nuisance from water in cellar abated	14
Fallpipes repaired or renewed	3
Fallpipes disconnected from drains	2
Defective chimneys remedied	3
Separate bathrooms provided to existing property	1
Dirty houses cleansed	2
Verminous houses disinfested	4
Nuisance from animals abated	3
Septic tanks cleansed and media renewed	1
Other nuisances, etc. abated	14

Sanitary Accommodation.

- 2 Privies were converted into Water Closets.
- 11 Additional Water Closets were provided for existing property.
- 10 Additional Ashes Bins were provided for existing property.
- 180 Defective Ashes Bins were replaced.
- 41 Water Closets were provided for houses erected during the year.
- 41 Ashes Bins were provided for houses erected during the year.

The following summary shows the number and type of sanitary accommodation in use in the town on December 31st, 1936.

Water Closets	3706
Waste Water Closets	7
Trough Closets	8
Pail Closets	13
Privy Middens	55
Dry Ashpits	10
Ashes Bins	3888

There is only a difference of two in the number of privies as compared with my last Annual Report. Two privies have been converted at the North Eastern Station property, where

I had hoped to report the conversion of several others, but although the Council had agreed to lay the sewer necessary to drain the whole of this property, the Railway Co. have adopted an attitude which has been the means of suspending the work.

The remaining privies are situated in the scattered outskirts of the district, where water supply and/or sewers are not available.

There were also hopes of developments in the vicinity of the Cemetery and Swaine Wood, with the possibility of the provision of sewers which would also have been accessible to existing property, but so far this has not matured.

Public Conveniences.

In my last Annual Report, I stated that the question of the provision of public conveniences had received the earnest consideration of the Committee and Council, and there was every likelihood of some provision being made in conjunction with the new County Road scheme at Woodside. The Council was apparently agreed in principle, but the road scheme has not progressed sufficiently to warrant any definite steps being taken during the year, neither have there been any developments in connection with the proposed accommodation at the new entrance to Horsforth Hall Park.

Consideration has on several occasions been given to the necessity of some provision being made at the Bus Terminus, Stanhope Drive, but the selection of a suitable site appeared to be an obstacle when the matter was considered, coupled perhaps with the possibility of any change of bus routes.

It is the general opinion, nevertheless, that there is a lack of public conveniences in the township, and complaints to this effect are quite frequent.

Housing.

On February 1st this year the Ministry of Health issued Orders confirming clearance orders made under Part 1 of the Housing Act, 1930, as follows:—

1. Horsforth Urban (Garden Street and New Street) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.
2. Horsforth Urban (Bachelor Lane No. 1) Housing Confirmation Order, 1936.

A period of nine months from the date on which the Orders became operative was allowed within which the buildings were to be vacated.

The necessary notices were served on owners and occupiers, and in the case of the latter an accompanying letter was sent to the effect that tenants would not be disturbed until the Council had provided alternative accommodation, or other premises suitable to their requirements were obtained.

The notices to quit expired on January 20th, 1937, but practically the whole of the houses are still in occupation on account of there being, as yet, no alternative accommodation available.

A scheme for the provision of 99 houses has been provisionally approved by the Ministry, on land in South Broadgate Lane, almost abutting the Cragg Hill Housing Estate, the necessary plans for which are in course of preparation, but until this scheme forms shape, little progress is likely to be made as regards clearance of the houses affected by the Orders.

During the year a re-survey of the housing conditions of the district has been carried out, which resulted in representations being made by the Medical Officer of Health of a further 88 houses as being unfit for human habitation.

Housing Statistics.

A Statistical Table of Housing Work carried out during the year is given in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Housing Improvements Works carried out during 1936.

Defects remedied:—

New sinks provided	3
New sink waste pipes provided	4
Dampness remedied	10
Separate ventilated food stores provided	3
Number of houses made into through houses ...	3
Yards paved and drained	3
Drains re-laid	8

Defective roofs repaired	5
Walls pointed and repaired	10
New cooking ranges provided	2
Defective cooking ranges repaired	6
New washing coppers provided	8
Defective washing coppers repaired	2
Defective plastering remedied	12
Additional ventilation provided	16
Additional lighting provided	2
Defective floors remedied	6
New eaves-spouts provided	17
Defective eaves-spouts repaired	5
New fallpipes provided	2
Defective Water Closets remedied	7
Fallpipes disconnected from drains	2

Housing Act, 1935.

The Prevention and Abatement of Overcrowding.

The above Act came into operation on August 2nd, 1936, and one of its main objects was to open the attack upon the evil of overcrowding. The Act did not prescribe any particular method in which a survey should be carried out, local authorities being at liberty to use the methods they considered most suitable, to be done in the shortest possible time.

The standard upon which overcrowding was to be calculated was laid down in Memorandum B issued by the Ministry at a later date, and is the first attempt of its kind to lay down a statutory arithmetical basis on which to measure overcrowding, but is not a bedroom standard, living rooms also being taken into account.

Two enumerators were appointed from the ranks of the unemployed for the purpose of the survey, which revealed the following figures in the table below.

	Total houses recorded.	Number overcrowded.	Per- centage overcrowded.	No. of families housed at minimum standard.
All dwellings	2588	55	2.1	46
Council houses	530	12	2.3	5

Re-housing.

As a result of the Housing re-survey and overcrowding survey, the question of alternative accommodation was taken into consideration, and a site of approximately 8 acres was purchased in South Broadgate Lane, as previously referred to.

The types of houses designed are:—

6 Bungalows with a floor area of	384 sq. ft.
3 Bungalows with a floor area of	382 sq. ft.
18 two bedroom houses with a floor area of	661 sq. ft.
20 three bedroom houses with a floor area of ...	759 sq. ft.
22 three bedroom houses with a floor area of ...	850 sq. ft.
10 four bedroom houses with a floor area of	1050 sq. ft.
10 four bedroom houses with a floor area of	1127 sq. ft.
10 four bedroom houses with a floor area of	1154 sq. ft.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

During the year, 2,800 loads of refuse were collected and disposed of. 2,165 loads, or 77.3% of the total, were incinerated at the refuse destructor; and 635 loads, or 22.7%, disposed of by tipping at Crag Hill Quarries.

The refuse destructor plant was overhauled and the furnaces reconstructed early in the year, the burning of refuse recommencing in April.

The installation of a power-driven press, which compresses tins deposited in the house refuse into bales 16ins. by 12ins. by 5ins., weighing about 28lbs., appears to have been a good investment. Not only has the systematic baling been a means of abolishing the unsightly accumulation of tins of all descriptions, but it has been a source of revenue over the financial year of approximately £50. The larger containers, such as drums, etc., have still to be stored for periodical removal, the press being capable of dealing with the smaller tins only, but with our present market little difficulty is being experienced in this connection.

In my last Annual Report I expressed the opinion that the work had outgrown the capabilities of the existing refuse collection vehicles, and the provision of more modern methods was a matter needing attention.

The present equipment comprises:—

1. An "Albion" commercial motor vehicle chassis with a covered-in wooden body with hinged loading doors, etc., which has been in use seven years.
2. A four-wheeled horse-drawn covered-in wagon, which has been in service close upon 20 years.

These two vehicles are regularly employed on refuse removal, but are not capable of getting through the whole of the district with a weekly collection, consequently a horse and cart with a tarpaulin cover has to be used on two or three days per week during the Winter months, and possibly one day per week at other times.

The population at December 31st, 1936, was estimated at 13,500.

Area in acres, 2,801.

Estimated Weights.

Weight of refuse collected ...	3,361 tons, 11 cwts., 2 qrs.
Weight of refuse per 1,000 persons p.a.	249 tons.
Weight of refuse per head per annum	4.98 cwts.
Weight per 1,000 population per day	13.64 cwts.
Weight per head per day	1.52 lbs.
Weight per house per annum	16.63 cwts.
Weight per house per day	5.1 lbs.
Average weight per weekly call	35.81 lbs.

The above weights include trade or shop refuse, which is collected to a reasonable amount free of charge, in the ordinary course of the weekly routes of collection, subject to the provision of suitable and sufficient receptacles.

Method of Collection.

Petrol driven motor vehicle 58%.

Horse-drawn vehicles 42%.

Method of Disposal.

Incineration 77.3%; Tipping 22.7%.

Average haul $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Percentage of wet refuse .5%.

Average interval between collection of refuse 7 to 8 days.

Offensive Trades.

There are 12 Fish Friers and one Soap Boiler in the area. The premises are usually well kept and free from complaint.

In one case, discarded fish papers in the vicinity of the premises became somewhat prevalent, but on the matter being brought to the notice of the trader, the nuisance was abated. Most of the Fish Shops have modern ranges, although several are coal-fired, and in two cases it was found necessary to complain of the emission of bursts of smoke. The number of visits paid to these establishments during the year was 86.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

There are 38 cowsheds in the district and approximately 440 dairy cows. The number of inspections made was 84.

The customary bi-annual inspection of dairy cows was made by the County Veterinary Department. There has been a change of Inspectors during the year, Mr. W. T. MacGregor, M.R.C.V.S., having taken over the district formerly covered by Mr. R. S. Smyth, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

There are 25 Milk Producers, 11 of whom are retailers, and there is also one producer of "Accredited" milk in the district.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, which came into operation June 1st, 1936, revoked the Milk (Special Designations) Orders of 1923 and 1934, and prescribes the following special designations for milk, viz.:—

"Tuberculin Tested," "Accredited" and "Pasteurised."

The previous designations of the grades of milk, known as "Certified" and "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)" are abolished and replaced by the new designation "Tuberculin Tested," and the previous "Grade A" is replaced by the designation "Accredited." The designation "Pasteurised" is retained.

Three licenses were issued to retailers for "Tuberculin Tested."

One licence was issued to retailers for "Pasteurised."

One licence was issued to retailers for "Accredited."

Slaughterhouses.

There are seven registered and three licensed slaughterhouses in use. 295 inspections were made as far as possible during the progress of slaughtering, and no case of the contravention of the Slaughter of Animals Act came to my notice.

There were no further applications or renewals for slaughtermen's licenses. 22 were issued last year for a period of three years.

Diseased conditions were found to exist in 35 cases, and the meat affected was condemned, voluntarily surrendered, and destroyed.

In four cases tinned meat was also found to be unsound and unfit for food, viz.:—two tins of ham, one tin of liver, and one tin of tongue, which were condemned, voluntarily surrendered, and destroyed.

Factories and Workshops.

Thirty-seven visits were paid to Factories, 59 to Workshops, and five to Workplaces. Three unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation, and two other nuisances under the Public Health Acts were found, and all the defects were remedied.

There has not been the opportunity to devote as much time to the taking of observations of smoke emission as previously, on account of pressure of other work. 14 observations were taken during the year, and two cautions were issued, but no statutory action was taken.

Bakehouses.

There are 14 Bakehouses in the district. Of this number two are underground, and hold certificates of fitness.

The Bakehouses are generally kept clean and satisfactory. 49 inspections were made during the year.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation of the support given me by the Health Committee, the Chairman and staff generally, in carrying out the work of the Department during the past year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

L. GRIMSHAW, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.





