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URBAN DISTRICT OF HORSFORTH

1949

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

G. P. HOLDERNESS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

E. M. BIRTWISLE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.



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HORSFORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1949

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor J. SHEARER.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor C. HINDLE.

Chairman of the Council: Councillor C. M. WILSON, J.P.

Councillor E. A. BRAITHWAITE.

„ J. CROSSLAND.

„ E. MOSEY.

„ F. PHILLIPS.

„ W. WALKER, M.B.E.

HORSFORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health, Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer—

G. P. HOLDERNESS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Deputy Divisional Medical Officer and Deputy Divisional School Medical Officer—

T. M. LENNOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 3.1.49, Resigned 6.8.49).

J. R. MURDOCK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 10.10.49).

Sainitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—

E. M. BIRTWISLE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Certs. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B., R.S.I. Meat and other foods).

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

J. FLITTON, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H. (Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.) Appointed 1.8.49.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector—

G. HOLMES.

Clerical Staff, Divisional Public Health Office—

ALTON HARTLEY (Senior Clerk).

G. K. MILNER.

H. DOBSON.

Mrs. L. HODGSON.

E. J. SUTTON (Resigned 22.8.49).

Mrs. K. BOOTH.

Miss E. CLARKSON.

M. M. WATSON (Appointed 9.5.49).

F. ATKINSON (Appointed 9.5.49).

Miss S. WHITEHEAD (Appointed 29.8.49).

Clerical Staff, Sanitary Inspector's Department—

Miss D. DUDLEY (Resigned 6.5.49).

Miss J. E. WATSON (Appointed 10.6.49).

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL DIVISIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF WORKING IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

Assistant County Medical Officer—

H. M. MITCHELL, M.B., Ch.B. (Appointed 3.1.49).

Dental Officer—

S. LEVINSON, L.D.S.

Health Visitors and School Nurses—

Miss A. J. MOVERLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. M. A. BURGoyNE, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.P.A.

Midwives—

Miss R. RICHARDSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. G. M. WOODHALL, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Home Nurses—

Mrs. A. L. PARNHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss N. M. ROBSON, S.R.N.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor—

Mrs. V. HARTLEY, S.R.N.

Horsforth Day Nursery—

Matron: Miss K. M. MOORE, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mental Health Social Worker—

Miss E. BUCK.

Mental Health Home Teacher—

Miss M. MOXON.

V.D. Social Worker—

Miss E. M. SENIOR, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

CONSULTANT STAFF AT SPECIALIST SCHOOL CLINICS

(Provided by the Leeds Regional Hospital Board)

Consultant Ophthalmologist—

Dr. R. BURNS, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O.

Consultant Aural Surgeon—

Mr. S. KAVANAGH.

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon—

Mr. IAN LAWSON DICK.

Divisional Public Health Office,
The Green,
Horsforth.

To the Chairman and Members of the Horsforth Urban District Council.
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1949.

The birth rate at 14.7 continued to fall in common with the rest of the country, from the high level of 17.4 attained in 1947. The death rate was 11.9, compared with 11.1 in the previous year, diseases of the heart and circulatory system accounting for 43 per cent. of the total deaths. The infant mortality figure of 43 was high, five of the nine infant deaths occurring in the first week of life. There were no maternal deaths.

Measles was the most prevalent infectious disease. There were 104 cases, all of which were notified in the first seven months of the year. The disease was mild in character and there were no deaths. Only one case of poliomyelitis was notified, which was an abortive attack.

Housing continues to be a grave problem. Apart from the effects on health of insanitary overcrowding, we know only too well the dissatisfaction, frustration and despair which arise from the compulsory and interminable sharing of households, and manifest themselves in family squabbles, broken marriages, anti-social behaviour and mental illness.

The National Health Service has now completed its first year of operation. The division of administrative responsibility between Executive Councils, Regional Hospital Boards and Local Health Authorities, and the separation of preventive and curative medicine have given rise to considerable difficulties, especially in relation to the tuberculosis and maternity services. Liaison and co-operation between the separate administrative bodies will need to be very close if the standard of the various services is to be maintained and improved.

The Council agreed to adopt the model byelaws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food, and sale of food in the open air. Valuable and necessary, however, as legislation may be in regard to the hygiene of food, a higher standard can best be attained by education—education of the food traders in personal hygiene and education of the public to appreciate and demand clean food.

As it is thought that the Council would like to have at its disposal information on all the health services in the District, reference has been made in the report to certain services which, though not the responsibility of the Council, are administered locally by your Medical Officer of Health as Divisional Medical Officer of the County Council.

In conclusion, I wish to record my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration accorded me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and of their support in the work of the Department. I would also thank the officers of the Council and the staff of the Health Department for their co-operation and assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. P. HOLDERNESS,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of the District (acres)	2,706.434
Estimated population	14,320
Population at 1931 Census	11,776
Area comparability factor	1.01
Estimated number of inhabited houses	4,478
Rateable Value	£80,908
Sum represented by a penny rate	£325 0s. 10d.

The District is divided into 5 wards.

BIRTHS

	Total	Male	Female
Live, legitimate	198	100	98
illegitimate	12	6	6
Totals	210	106	104
Still, legitimate	5	3	2
illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	5	3	2
Total births	215	109	106

BIRTH RATES

	1948	1949
Live births (per 1,000 estimated population) ...	16.0	14.7
Still births (per 1,000 live and still births)	29.66	23.26

DEATHS

	Total	Male	Female
All causes	170	79	91
Deaths of infants under one year—			
legitimate	7	7	—
illegitimate	2	1	1
Deaths from puerperal causes	—	—	—

DEATH RATES

(per 1,000 estimated population)

	1948	1949
All causes (crude)	11.1	11.9
All causes (adjusted)	Not available	12.0
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	0.56	0.56
Other forms of tuberculosis	0.14	Nil
Respiratory diseases	0.42	0.91
Cancer	1.54	1.89
Heart and circulatory diseases	4.13	5.1

Death rate of infants under one year of age

	1948	1949
All infants (per 1,000 live births)	31	43
Legitimate infants (per 1,000 legitimate live births)	32.11	35.0
Illegitimate infants (per 1,000 illegitimate live births)	Nil	166.6

Diarrhoea

Deaths of infants under 2 years (per 1,000 live births)	Nil	Nil
--	-----	-----

Maternal Mortality

(per 1,000 live and still births)

Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Nil	Nil
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URBAN DISTRICT OF HORSFORTH

COMPARABLE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949

Based on the Registrar-General's Figures

	Urban District of Horsforth.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provis- ional figures).
BIRTH RATE : (Per 1,000 estimated population)	14.7	16.8	17.2	16.7
DEATH RATES : (Per 1,000 estimated population)				
All causes	11.9	12.5	12.1	11.7
Zymotic Diseases (7 principal)*	Nil	0.08	0.08	**
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	0.56	0.32	0.32	0.40
Other forms of tuberculosis	Nil	0.05	0.05	0.05
Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)†	0.91	1.48	1.44	**
Cancer	1.89	1.88	1.81	1.87
Heart and Circulatory Diseases‡	5.1	4.36	4.19	**
INFANT MORTALITY : Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births	43	37	38	32
DIARRHOEA : (Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	Nil	3.01	3.27	3.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY : Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births.				
Puerperal sepsis	Nil	0.15	0.15	0.22
Other causes	Nil	0.60	0.68	0.76
Total	Nil	0.75	0.83	0.98

* Combined death rate from smallpox (if any), scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, also diarrhoea in infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined death rate from bronchitis, pneumonia, and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system.

‡ Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system.

** Figures not available.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF HORSFORTH RESIDENTS

DISEASE	1948			1949		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	2	8	6	2	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	—	2	—	—	—
Syphilitic diseases	—	—	—	1	—	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Inf. Encephalitis	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cancer of the buc. cav. and oesoph. (M) ; uterus (F)	—	—	—	1	1	2
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2	4	2	6
Cancer of the breast	—	1	1	—	5	5
Cancer of all other sites	9	10	19	5	9	14
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	2	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	11	22	33	9	16	25
Heart diseases	20	30	50	28	38	66
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	6	9	2	5	7
Bronchitis	2	—	2	4	2	6
Pneumonia	2	2	4	4	2	6
Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	—	1	—	—	—
Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other digestive diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis	1	3	4	—	3	3
Puer. and post abort. sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth	1	—	1	2	—	2
Congenital Malformations, birth injury, infant diseases	5	—	5	3	1	4
Suicide	—	1	1	—	—	—
Road traffic accidents	1	—	1	1	—	1
Other violent causes	3	2	5	1	1	2
All other causes	7	4	11	5	2	7
ALL CAUSES	75	84	159	79	91	170

AGES AT DEATH OF HORSFORTH RESIDENTS

(Based on Local Registrar's Returns as adjusted for Inward and Outward Transfers)

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 1	8	1	9
1	—	—	—
2 to 4	—	—	—
5 to 9	1	—	1
10 to 14	—	—	—
15 to 19	—	—	—
20 to 29	1	—	1
30 to 39	1	2	3
40 to 49	3	2	5
50 to 59	16	11	27
60 to 69	16	21	37
70 to 79	27	36	63
80 to 89	9	16	25
90 & over	—	1	1
TOTALS	82	90	172

INFANTILE MORTALITY

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total Deaths under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Prolonged Labour	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Anoxia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Placenta Praevia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Broncho-pneumonia	—	2	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	4
TOTALS	5	2	—	—	7	—	2	—	—	9

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. STAFF

Full details of the staff of the Department are given at the beginning of this report.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Wakefield undertakes the bacteriological examination of clinical specimens, milk, water, etc., and certain biochemical tests on milk and ice cream.

Facilities exist in the Sanitary Inspector's office for carrying out routine colour reduction tests on milk.

The chemical analysis of milk, foodstuffs, water, etc., is carried out by Messrs. Richardson and Jaffe, Bradford.

3. AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is administered by the West Riding County Council, the District being served by the depôt at White Cross, Guiseley.

4. NURSING IN THE HOME

The Home Nursing Service in the District is provided by the County Council. There are two full-time Home Nurses and relief duties are undertaken by a Relief Nurse who serves the Divisional Area. This service, together with the provision of Home Helps, is a most valuable service, in many cases making it possible for cases of illness to be nursed satisfactorily at home instead of in hospital, thus considerably relieving the already overloaded hospital service.

During the year the Home Nurses made 5,577 visits to 299 patients in the Urban District.

5. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

The following table gives details of the various clinics serving the Urban District:—

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Name	Situation	When Held
School (Minor Ailments Clinic)	St. Margaret's Hall, Horsforth.	Wed. 10-12 a.m.
Infant Welfare Clinic	do.	Wed. 2-4 p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	do.	1st and 3rd Mon. 2-4 p.m.
Special Clinics (for school and pre-school children)		
Dental	Richardshaw Lane, Pudsey.	Daily 9-5.
Ear nose and throat.	School clinic, Richardshaw Lane, Pudsey.	By arrangement.
Ophthalmic	Featherbank School, Horsforth.	By arrangement.
Orthopaedic	St. Lawrence House, Crawshaw Road, Pudsey.	Every third Friday, 9-30 a.m.
Remedial Exercises	St. Lawrence House, Crawshaw Road, Pudsey.	Tues. and Thurs. 8-45—10-45 a.m.
Artificial sunlight	St. Lawrence House, Crawshaw Road, Pudsey.	Mon. 1-30 p.m. Tues. Wed. and Thurs. 8-45 a.m.

6. HOSPITALS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE

On the 1st October, 1949, the Wharfedale Isolation Hospital at Menston became a long-stay children's hospital and ceased to admit cases of infectious disease. Cases are now admitted mainly to the Leeds Road Hospital, Bradford. A few cases are also admitted to the Seacroft Hospital, Leeds.

7. MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

(1) Domiciliary Midwifery

The services of two full-time domiciliary midwives are available in the District, and relief duties are undertaken by a Relief Midwife, who serves the Divisional area.

All the midwives are qualified to administer Gas and Air analgesia, and are equipped with the necessary apparatus.

The County Council is the Local Supervising Authority for the area.

Work of Domiciliary Midwives

Total number of confinements attended:—	
(a) As Midwives	50
(b) As Maternity Nurses	17
(c) Total	67
Ante-natal visits	579
Post-Natal visits	1,193
The number of cases in which gas and air was administered	18

(2) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

These are held at St. Margaret's Hall, Horsforth. The following attendances were made during the year:—

Total attendances	227
Number of individual mothers	90
Number of sessions	24
Average attendance per session	9

(3) Institutional Confinements

Normal maternity cases are booked through the Central Booking Bureau at County Hall, Wakefield, which is now operated by the County Council as agents of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board, and allocates the cases to beds in former County Hospitals. In view of the scarcity of hospital beds, it has been necessary to give priority to first confinements, and to cases where the environmental conditions are unsuitable for a home confinement.

It should be noted that these arrangements relate only to normal confinements. Emergency maternity cases are sent direct to the nearest appropriate hospital by the doctor concerned. Abnormal cases are referred to the consultant clinic at Leeds Maternity Hospital, and the consultant then arranges for their admission to hospital if required.

The births notified during the year assignable to the District numbered 225. Of these 28 were born in Four Gables Nursing Home, and 129 were born outside the district in Hospitals, Nursing Homes and at private addresses as indicated below:—

Hospitals (R.H.B.)

Hazlewood Maternity Home, Tadcaster	36
Maternity Hospital, Leeds	26
General Hospital, Otley	18
St. John's Hospital, Keighley	3
Others	20

Private Nursing Homes

Tower Wood Nursing Home, Leeds	9
The Willows, Bramley	7
Others	9
Private Addresses	1

(4) Dental Treatment for Expectant Mothers

Facilities are available for expectant and nursing mothers to receive priority dental treatment through the County Council's Scheme either at the County's Dental Clinic, Richardshaw Lane, Pudsey, or from their own dentist.

8. CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

(1) Infant Welfare Clinic

This is held at St. Margaret's Hall, Horsforth, and has been very well attended.

The following attendances were made during the year:—

Total attendances under 1 year	2,145
Total attendances 1—5 years	837
New patients under 1 year	130
New patients 1—5 years	11
Number of individual children who attended during the year	304
Total number of Clinic Sessions	53
Average attendance per session	56

(2) Day Nurseries

The Horsforth Day Nursery at Sunnybank Avenue continues to be fully utilized and has a considerable waiting list. Children in the age range 0—5 are admitted and the following categories are eligible for admission:—

The child whose mother is ill or having a baby.

The illegitimate child whose mother is seeking work.

Children of parents who cannot find suitable homes or are living in overcrowded and/or insanitary dwellings.

The child of the widow who must educate and support her family.

Children of mothers engaged in essential industries.

The Nursery is recognised by the Ministries of Health and Education as a centre for training students in the care of children aged 0—2, for the certificate of the National Nursery Examination Board.

During the year 2,188 attendances were made by children aged 0—2 and 5,107 aged 2—5, an average daily attendance of 9 and 21 in these age groups.

(3) Premature Infants

During the year progress was made in the arrangements for the care of the premature infant nursed at home. Special equipment is stationed at the Guiseley Ambulance Depot from which it can be delivered to the home at any time day or night. Towards the end of the year the relief Midwife attended the course of instruction in the care of premature babies at the Sorrento Maternity Home, and arrangements have been made for her to be notified of all premature babies in order that she can advise and assist the domiciliary midwives as to their care.

Provision is made on the notification of birth card for the birth weight of the infant to be stated if 5½lbs. or less.

PREMATURE BABIES BORN DURING 1949

Born at home 3

Born in hospital or nursing home 14

	Died in first 24 hrs.			Died on 2nd to 7th day			Died on 8th to 28th day			Survived 28 days			Total		Transferred to hospital		
	U N D E R 3 lb.	3 lb. 4 lb.	4 lb. 5½ lb.	U N D E R 3 lb.	3 lb. 4 lb.	4 lb. 5½ lb.	U N D E R 3 lb.	3 lb. 4 lb.	4 lb. 5½ lb.	U N D E R 3 lb.	3 lb. 4 lb.	4 lb. 5½ lb.	U N D E R 3 lb.	3 lb. 4 lb.	4 lb. 5½ lb.	U N D E R 3 lb.	3 lb. 4 lb.
Born at home.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
Born in Nursing Home.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	3	—	—	—
Born in hospital.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—	1	8	—	—	—

(4) Illegitimate Children

The Health Visitors visit all unmarried mothers and their children and give any necessary help and advice.

The County Council accept financial responsibility, within prescribed limits, for unmarried mothers admitted to Moral Welfare Homes.

There were 12 illegitimate live births in the District during the year, which represents 5.7 per cent. of the total live births.

9. HEALTH VISITING

Under Section 24 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, health visiting became for the first time in its history a statutory duty. The relevant section says: "It shall be a duty of every local health authority to make provision in their area for the visiting of persons in their homes by visitors, to be called 'health visitors', for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant or nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection." Previously the Health Visitor was mainly concerned with the welfare of mothers and young children under five years. She is now concerned with the care of the family as a unit and the scope of her work has consequently been very considerably extended and broadened.

One full-time fully qualified health visitor undertakes health visiting in the District.

Details of the Health Visitor's work are given below:—

Visits to infants—

Under 1 year (new cases)	238
Under 1 year (others)	324
Visits to children 1—5 years	412
Visits to expectant mothers	60
Other visits	522

10. HOME HELPS SERVICE

There has been a steadily increasing demand on this service during the year.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, the County Council provide domestic help for households "where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age."

During the year home helps were provided for 51 cases in the District.

11. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Miss Buck, one of the County Council's Mental Health Social Workers, undertakes duties in connection with the supervision and training of mentally defective persons in the area who are under statutory supervision, guardianship or on licence from Institutions. She is also concerned with the after-care of persons discharged from Mental Hospitals. Miss Moxon, Home Teacher, undertakes the training of defectives in their homes.

Arrangements have been made with the Leeds Mental Health Service for children who have been reported to the Local Health Authority as ineducable and who are living at home, to attend daily at the West Leeds Occupation Centre, Armley Grange, Stanningley Road, Leeds.

The Duly Authorised Officer whose duty it is to take initial proceedings for the care and treatment of persons of unsound mind under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, is Mr. J. Rollisson, Divisional Welfare Office, Bradford.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

SECTION 47

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, provides that where a Medical Officer of Health of a county district certifies that a person is suffering from grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, is living in insanitary conditions and is unable to devote to himself, and is not receiving from other persons proper care and attention, the County District Council may apply to a court of summary jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable hospital or other place and his detention and maintenance there.

Details of the cases in which action was taken in Horsforth during 1949 are given below:—

Case No. 1.—An elderly, infirm spinster, aged 73, showing evidence of mental deterioration, was found to be living alone in grossly insanitary conditions. The house was in a filthy condition and showed signs of gross neglect. She was verminous and dirty in her habits, and was quite incapable of looking after herself. Although she had relatives in the district, none was prepared to undertake her care. She was committed to Local Authority accommodation (Clayton Institution, Bradford), by an Order of the Court for a period of three months on the 17th March, 1949, but was transferred to Regional Hospital Board accommodation (Thornton View, Clayton), on the 18th March, 1949. The patient subsequently further deteriorated mentally and became bedridden and a renewal of the Order was not considered to be necessary to ensure her remaining in hospital.

Case No. 2.—An elderly man, aged 78, was found to be living alone in a modern Council Old People's bungalow. The house was in a filthy condition, and showed evidence of gross neglect. He was mentally peculiar, deaf, filthy in his person and habits, and incapable of looking after himself. His wife, aged 76, had recently been admitted to hospital suffering from cardiac failure, and the living conditions, although not previously good, had deteriorated rapidly in his wife's absence. An Order of the Court was obtained committing him to Local Authority accommodation (Clayton Institution, Bradford), for a period of three months on the 31st May, 1949. He was subsequently certified under Section 16 of the Lunacy Act and transferred to Regional Hospital Board accommodation (Lynfield Mount, Bradford), on the 28th June, 1949, and the Order under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act was, therefore, not renewed. His wife was discharged home from hospital on the 17th July, after the house had been cleansed and re-decorated by the Council and a Home Help provided, but she was re-admitted to hospital on the 18th August and died on the 21st.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
DISEASES

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (CORRECTED)
RECEIVED DURING 1949

Smallpox	—
Diphtheria	—
Erysipelas	1
Scarlet fever	33
Typhoid	—
Paratyphoid	—
Measles	104
Whooping cough	26
Cerebro-spinal fever	—
Acute poliomyelitis	1
Dysentery	—
Pneumonia	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Puerperal pyrexia	1
Tuberculosis (a) Respiratory	16
Tuberculosis (b) Other forms	6
Food poisoning	—

Incidence of Infectious Disease

Rates per 1,000 of Civilian Population

	Horsforth U.D.	England & Wales
Typhoid fever	Nil	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	Nil	0.01
Cerebro-spinal fever	Nil	0.02
Scarlet fever	2.30	1.63
Whooping cough	1.82	2.39
Diphtheria	Nil	0.04
Erysipelas	0.07	0.19
Smallpox	Nil	0.00
Measles	7.26	8.95
Pneumonia	0.90	0.80
Acute poliomyelitis	0.07	0.13
Acute polioencephalitis	Nil	0.01
Food poisoning	Nil	0.14

AGE INCIDENCE OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1949

Disease Notified	Under 1 year	Age Group (yrs.)										65 yrs. and over	Age unknown	Total Notified	Cases admitted to hospital	
		1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.					
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever	—	2	—	8	16	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	14
Measles	—	14	23	11	40	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	104	—
Whooping Cough	2	7	6	2	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	13	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	4	21	31	13	22	63	10	3	3	3	3	2	3	1	179	17

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)—MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFICATIONS

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	4	12	10	33
Measles	6	6	9	8	26	30	19	—	—	—	—	—	104
Whooping Cough	2	3	—	1	2	1	2	—	3	1	—	11	26
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	3	1	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	13
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	12	11	12	10	28	32	22	3	4	5	14	26	179

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria immunisation is the responsibility of the West Riding County Council as Local Health Authority, and is carried out free of charge at the Infant Welfare Clinic, at special sessions held in the schools, or by private medical practitioners.

Number of children at 31st December, 1949, who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1935).								
Age at 31.12.49	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total under
i.e. born in year	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1940-4	1935-39	15
Number immunised	1	81	135	119	140	839	856	2171

Estimated mid-year child population — 1949. As supplied by the Registrar-General.	Children under 5	Children 5—14
	1098	1674

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO COMPLETED A FULL COURSE OF PRIMARY IMMUNISATION IN THE U.D. OF HORSFORTH (including temporary residents) during 1949.			TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO WERE GIVEN A SECONDARY OR REINFORCING INJECTION.
Age at date of Final Injection		Total	During 1949
Under 5	5 to 14		
118	33	151	65

VACCINATION

Vaccination in the District is the responsibility of the West Riding County Council as Local Health Authority and is carried out free of charge at the Infant Welfare Clinic or by private medical practitioners.

NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (or re-vaccinated) DURING 1949					
AGE at 31st DEC., 1949 i.e., born in years	Under 1 1949	1 to 4 1945 to 1948	5 to 14 1935 to 1944	15 or over before 1935	Total
NUMBER VACCINATED	25	33	3	4	65
NUMBER RE-VACCINATED	Nil	Nil	Nil	25	25

TUBERCULOSIS

Cases of tuberculosis were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, 95, Town Street, Horsforth, which was open on Thursday afternoons at 2 p.m.

TUBERCULOSIS AND MORTALITY DURING 1949

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—	3	3	1	1	1	—	—	—
35—	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
45—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	11	7	1	3	6	2	—	—

FOOD POISONING

No cases were notified during the year. It is probable, however, that many individual and family cases do not come to the notice of the Health Department.

SCABIES

The arrangement whereby the Leeds City Council treat cases of scabies from the District at their treatment centre at Stanley Road, Leeds, 9, was continued.

No cases have been treated under this arrangement during the year.

DISINFECTION

On the 1st October, 1949, the Wharfedale Isolation Hospital ceased to be used as an infectious diseases hospital and the District Council was informed that the disinfection of bedding, etc., on behalf of the Council would cease on the 1st October, 1949. Arrangements were therefore made for any necessary disinfection to be carried out at the Calverley Hospital.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year ended 31st December, 1949

Sanitary and Cleansing Department,
Horsforth Hall,
Horsforth.

August, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Horsforth Urban District Council.
Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to place before you my seventh Annual Report, in which is given a brief review of the work carried out by my Department and the sanitary condition of your District during the year 1949.

OFFICE STAFF

At the commencement of the year the establishment of the Department in addition to myself was one general assistant, one pupil assistant, one typist. In May Miss D. Dudley, who occupied the position of typist, resigned to take up an appointment with the Norton Rural District Council, and in June Miss F. J. Watson took up this position. As from the 1st August, with the approval of the Minister of Health, Mr. J. Flitton, who previously occupied the position of general assistant and who in May obtained the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board, was appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector. This appointment has considerably improved the work of the Department and enabled a greatly increased amount of technical work to be done, although the loss of the clerical assistance given by the general assistant has been felt and has placed considerable clerical duties on the pupil assistant.

HOUSING

Early in the year the Council asked that a report be compiled of the housing position in the District so as to indicate the premises which required action to secure their demolition. Later in the year, with the coming into force of the Housing Act, 1949, it was suggested that this report should be extended to cover premises where reconditioning work was necessary, so as to indicate houses which might become the subject of grants under the provisions of this Act.

The Housing Act, 1949, which came into force on the 30th July, covers a number of different aspects of housing work. Administration for which I am responsible was chiefly affected by the removal of previous limitations in the existing Housing Act by deleting references to the working classes, except in certain sections, and the new power to make grants to encourage the owners of suitable dwellings to carry out complete reconditioning work. In these cases it was envisaged that the resultant dwellings should provide satisfactory accommodation for not less than 30 years and should conform to the standard of a fit house laid down in the report of the Standards of Fitness for Habitation Subcommittee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee.

The work of preparing the report referred to above was continued as other work permitted and a report dated 7th December was submitted to the Members of the Health Committee. It should be appreciated that any attempt to report on the general housing condition within this comparatively short time, without the opportunity of devoting one's whole time to the work, considerably limited the amount of time that could be devoted to the judging of the fitness of each individual dwelling. The report therefore only dealt with the position in a general way and will be subject to amendment as the Council's housing programme proceeds, depending on the length of time which elapses before remedial action is taken and on work which owners may have carried out to premises in the interval.

I have previously pointed out that the houses in this District fall generally into two distinct categories, the first being nineteenth century cottage property, the second category, which includes more than half the dwellings in the District, being houses erected since the 1914-18 War. My report was confined to premises included in the first category.

In the absence of any definite proposals as to how soon new houses could be made available so that a proper housing programme could be drawn up, it was suggested that demolition and reconditioning should be considered in three stages and the premises reported upon were classified as follows:—

For demolition—1st stage	78
2nd stage	278
3rd stage	196
	552
For reconditioning—1st stage	74
2nd stage	350
3rd stage	363
	787

In the process of reconditioning, 97 houses would be lost by the conversion of back-to-back houses to through houses. In four cases it was recommended that living accommodation forming part of a commercial building be closed.

Of the dwelling houses in the District, 329 houses are of back-to-back type and with minor exceptions these would all be dealt with by either demolition or conversion to through houses.

During the year four houses were reported to the Health Committee as requiring action to secure their demolition and in three cases Demolition Orders were made. In the fourth case, where the property was owned by the Council, it was decided that the house, which forms part of a block, would not again be used for human habitation. At the close of the year two of the houses on which Demolition Orders had been made were still occupied.

It is not possible to give any detailed report on the position with regard to overcrowding, but it is obvious that a considerable amount of overcrowding does exist. Difficulties in dealing with these cases when they are known makes it not worth while to carry out any special

investigations at the present time, unless special factors present themselves. In three cases which came to our knowledge during the year, overcrowding was abated in two.

In reporting generally on housing conditions in my last report, I was fairly optimistic as to the position, in view of the steady, although small, flow of new houses erected both by the Council and by private enterprise. This steady flow has not been maintained and at the close of the year the position, far from maintaining an improvement, seemed to have worsened. Appreciation must be recorded of the way the Housing (Administrative) Sub-Committee have endeavoured to assist in serious cases of overcrowding and in cases where Tuberculous persons formed part of a family, but owing to the lack of houses at their disposal for allocation, it has not been possible to rehouse many deserving cases.

The high cost of building repair, to which I referred last year, continues to deter many property owners from carrying out maintenance work, and much of the older property is steadily declining into a serious condition.

BUILDING LICENSING

During the year under review it has been possible for work up to a limit of £100 to be carried out on dwelling houses without the necessity of applying for a Building Licence. This has made the execution of this work much easier for all concerned. The number of Licences issued during the year was 21, authorising the carrying out of work valued at £3,875.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

I referred in my last report to two applications for Licences to erect or station moveable dwellings in the District, which were refused by the Council in November, 1948. In both these cases the applicants appealed against the Council's decision, the appeals being heard during 1949. In each case the Magistrates intimated that the appeal had failed.

Four new applications were dealt with during the year, three to erect or station moveable dwellings, and of these one was refused and two were granted, subject to a number of conditions. The fourth application was for a site licence and referred to a small site on which small week-end sheds had been in existence for at least twenty years, but had not previously been made the subject of action under the Public Health Act or of Town Planning control. After considerable consideration of the position it was decided to grant a licence under the Public Health Act for this site, the number of moveable dwellings to use the site being limited to 12, and a number of other conditions being imposed. Approval was also given to this site by the Town Planning Committee. At the close of the year two site licences were in force and one licence to erect or station a moveable dwelling.

DRAINAGE

I have in previous years drawn the attention of the Council to difficulties which arise in dealing with surface water drainage in certain portions of the District. Difficulties of executing any major works at this time have prevented any detailed consideration of this problem.

There are 93 houses in the District which are not served by the Council's sewers. These are mainly in the more agricultural parts of the District, but it is becoming urgently necessary that sewerage facilities should be provided for houses in the Calverley Lane area. Sewage from these houses is dealt with chiefly by means of cesspools, most of which have overflows to neighbouring water courses and very unsatisfactory conditions result. Six of the houses not served by this Council's sewers are connected to the sewers of the Aireborough Urban District Council, and six to the sewers of Leeds Corporation; these facilities are very much appreciated. In the case of one large house near the Waterworks Gathering Grounds, where house drainage had previously been dealt with by means of a poor type of cesspool, a new owner intimated that he was about to instal w.c.s and other additional apparatus which would result in a considerable increase in the amount of sewage to be disposed of. It was felt that this would seriously imperil the safety of the water collected from the gathering grounds and at the close of the year arrangements were being made for the extension of the Council's sewer to serve these premises.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

As far as practicable the usual observations have been continued so as to deal with known cases of pollution, but as I pointed out before, a number of cases of minor pollution still exist where drains remain connected to the old culverts which would originally be part of the sewerage system of the District. The Council's storm water overflows have been kept under observation and the attention of the appropriate Department has been called to instances where these overflows have tended to come into operation at other times than in storms.

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied from the Council's mains to 4,479 houses. Seven other houses are supplied from the mains of the Yeadon Waterworks Company and the remaining 19 from wells and spring supplies.

The approximate populations so served are as follows:—

Horsforth U.D.C. water mains	14,204
Yeadon Waterworks Company	24
Private wells and springs	92

An amount of water is purchased in bulk from Leeds Corporation and distributed through the Council's own mains to supplement the supply from our own works.

Bacteriological and Chemical sampling has continued. Of four Bacteriological samples, two taken before the water had received treatment were found to be unsatisfactory; of five Chemical samples taken, four were found to be satisfactory and one to be unsatisfactory.

FACTORIES, BAKEHOUSES AND SHOPS

I have referred in previous reports to lack of proper attention to these premises, but with the re-organisation of the office staff referred to above, and the provision of additional technical assistance, much more attention has been given to this side of the work.

(a) **Factories**

Twenty-six inspections were carried out under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the following defects found. An indication is given of those that were remedied:—

		Remedied
Factories without sanitary accommodation	3	2
Inadequate flushing arrangements to sanitary accommodation	1	1
Inadequate ventilation of intervening ventilated space	1	1
Want of cleanliness	2	2

A block of additional sanitary accommodation was erected at one of the factories in the Woodbottom area. This factory is partly in this Urban District and partly in Aireborough Urban District and the drainage in this case was connected to the Aireborough sewer.

(b) **Basement Bakehouses**

The condition of the three basement bakehouses in the District was reviewed, as required under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937. After receiving detailed reports on the conditions in these premises the Council decided to order the closure of two of the basement bakehouses and in the third case a Certificate was granted authorising the use of the bakehouse for a further five years.

(c) **Shops**

Sixty-eight inspections were carried out under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934. The following unsatisfactory conditions were found. The number abated is indicated:—

		Abated
Inadequate sanitary accommodation	2	—
Unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation ...	1	1
Obstruction of natural lighting	1	—
Insufficient ventilation	1	—
Other defects	3	3

(d) **Food Premises**

Two hundred and sixteen inspections were carried out of food premises, including 66 detailed inspections at which the conditions of the premises were fully recorded.

As a result of these inspections the following unsatisfactory conditions were found to exist. The number abated is indicated:—

		Abated
Inadequate washing facilities	26	19
Unsatisfactory siting of w.c.	3	3
Unsatisfactory preparation rooms	1	1
Defective ceilings	1	1
Painting, cleansing, etc., required	1	1
Other conditions	2	—

In one case the registration of a room used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages was cancelled and registration was granted in respect of another room on the same premises after satisfactory alterations had been carried out.

(c) **Work Places**

Inspections were carried out at seven work places. There were no conditions on which it was deemed desirable to take action at the present time.

(f) **Outworkers**

There is very little tendency for residents in this District to accept this type of work. Two persons were on the register of outworkers at the close of the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) **Milk supply**

The year 1949 will long be notable in the work of supervising the milk supply of the country. On 1st October the powers of local authorities with regard to the production of milk passed from them to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries as a result of the coming into operation of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944. Considerable changes in control of the distribution of milk resulted from the operation of the Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, and of Regulations made under both these Acts. The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926-43 were revoked and replaced by the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. Whilst these new Regulations in many respects follow the lines of previous Regulations, there is considerable alteration in some aspects of administration, new definitions to adapt and new powers (probably designed to deal with the situation when the distribution of undesignated milk is prohibited) to apply to present-day conditions. It is much too early to make any comment on the situation as it affects this District. I hope to report on this matter in greater detail next year.

It is pleasing to note the considerable increase in the amount of graded milk now available to consumers and it is hoped that the public will show their appreciation of those who are endeavouring to raise the standard of milk production by pressing their retailers to obtain supplies of graded milk for them. Apart from receiving a high grade of milk, there is the added advantage of the milk being delivered in a container which will do much to ensure its being received in the best possible condition.

(b) **Meat**

The restrictions imposed by the Ministry of Food on the use of local private slaughterhouses by butchers continues, and the only occasions on which these buildings are used is the occasional slaughter of pigs for private owners. The Council has continued its policy of keeping in force Licences to occupy these slaughterhouses under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, but the majority fall far below a reasonable standard for such buildings, and in many cases deterioration has taken place due to their lack of use as slaughterhouses and to their being used for numerous other purposes. If the local butchers are in the future to undertake private slaughtering, the Council would do well to consider the erection of a public slaughterhouse properly sited and conforming to modern standards, which are not available on the present sites.

The meat received for distribution in Horsforth comes from the Leeds Distribution Centre and is allocated by the Horsforth Butchers' Association, and delivered to the butchers' shops. The methods of distribution leave much to be desired.

(c) Ice-Cream

There has been little alteration to the position as reported last year. At the close of 1949 28 premises were registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of Ice-Cream or the storage of Ice-Cream intended for sale; three of these premises are also registered for the manufacture of Ice-Cream for the purpose of sale.

The conditions of the premises registered within the last year or two are good, but attention will have to be given in the near future to some of the premises registered soon after the above-mentioned Act came into force.

The registration of one premises for the storage and sale of Ice-Cream was cancelled on the occupier ceasing to sell Ice-Cream and utilising his premises for other purposes.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The standard soot deposit gauge has been continued in the same position in the garden at the rear of No. 78, Broadgate Walk, a site as near as possible to the centre of the built-up residential area of the District. Our thanks are due to the occupier of this house, Mr. B. Holmes, for his permission to use a portion of his garden for this purpose. The information provided by the Analyst's Reports on the material collected month by month is set out in a table below, from which it will be seen that there has been no appreciable change in the total rate of pollution, but the gradual increase shown in previous years continued. The amount of tar deposited to the square mile was 2.11 tons, compared with 4.30 tons during 1948, the total deposit being at the rate of 183 tons compared with 171 tons per square mile during 1948.

Whilst the existing gauge is useful for indicating the pollution arising in a residential area, it would be helpful to have additional gauges in portions of the District containing a different development, so that a comparison could be made.

The West Riding County Council informed us that they were prepared to supply an instrument for estimating the Sulphur pollution of the atmosphere and asked that this instrument might be installed adjacent to our soot deposit gauge. This was agreed to, but at the close of the year the instrument had not been fixed.

Twenty-one 30-minute smoke observations were made of chimneys connected with industrial steam-raising plants. In six cases the observations showed excessive emission of black smoke and the attention of the occupiers was drawn to the position. Difficulties of occupiers in obtaining appropriate fuel continue to interfere with the proper administration of this work.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION FOR 1949—MONTHLY ANALYSES

Month	Rainfall inches	Total solids	Undissolved matter	Dissolved matter	Tar	Sulphate as SO ₄	Chlorine as Cl.	Lime as Ca.
January	1.4	13.5	4.94	8.53	.29	1.15	1.68	.53
February	2.7	18.55	4.41	14.13	.29	1.82	.83	.10*
March	1.1	13.1	8.76	4.35	.33	1.32	1.15	—
April	2.5	22.7	6.32	16.47	.26	1.58	.43	.66
May	2.1	14.5	8.26	6.26	.10	1.81	1.12	.26
June	0.4	6.26	4.58	1.68	.06	.56	.33	—
July	2.7	7.18	3.56	3.62	.13	1.15	1.28	.36
August	2.4	10.97	3.39	7.58	.16	1.74	1.25	—
September	1.1	6.39	2.63	3.76	.10	1.75	.59	.07
October	3.1	18.25	8.30	9.95	.07	3.33	1.84	.82
November	4.0	36.83	22.99	13.84	.23	5.80	2.64	.53
December	3.5	15.65	6.42	9.23	.09	3.62	2.50	.46
Totals	27.0	183.88	84.56	99.40	2.11	25.63	15.64	3.79

* Container broken by frost—average for previous 3 years.

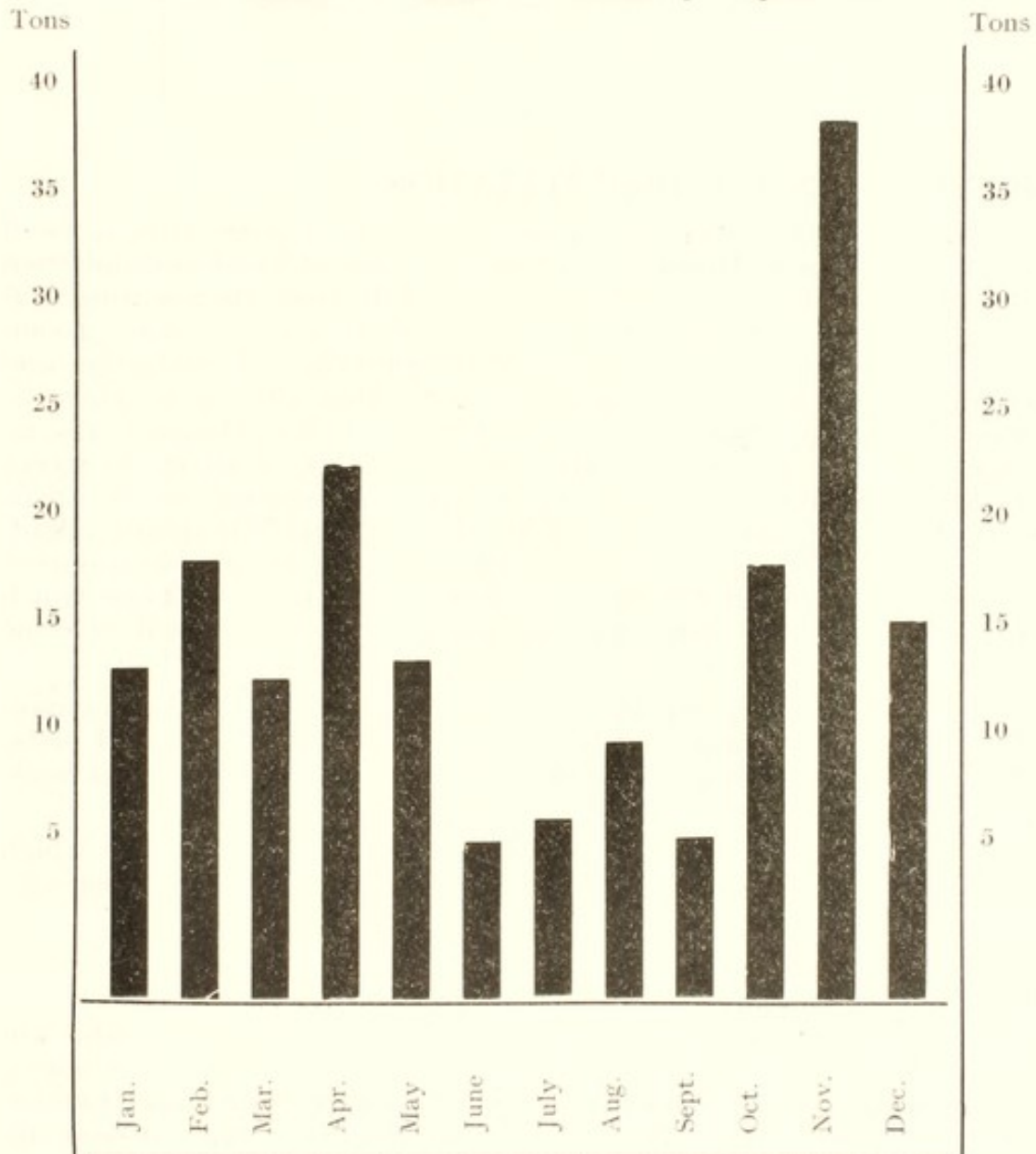
Annual Sootfall during the last four years

	Tons per square mile
1946	161.00
1947	165.63
1948	171.66
1949	183.88

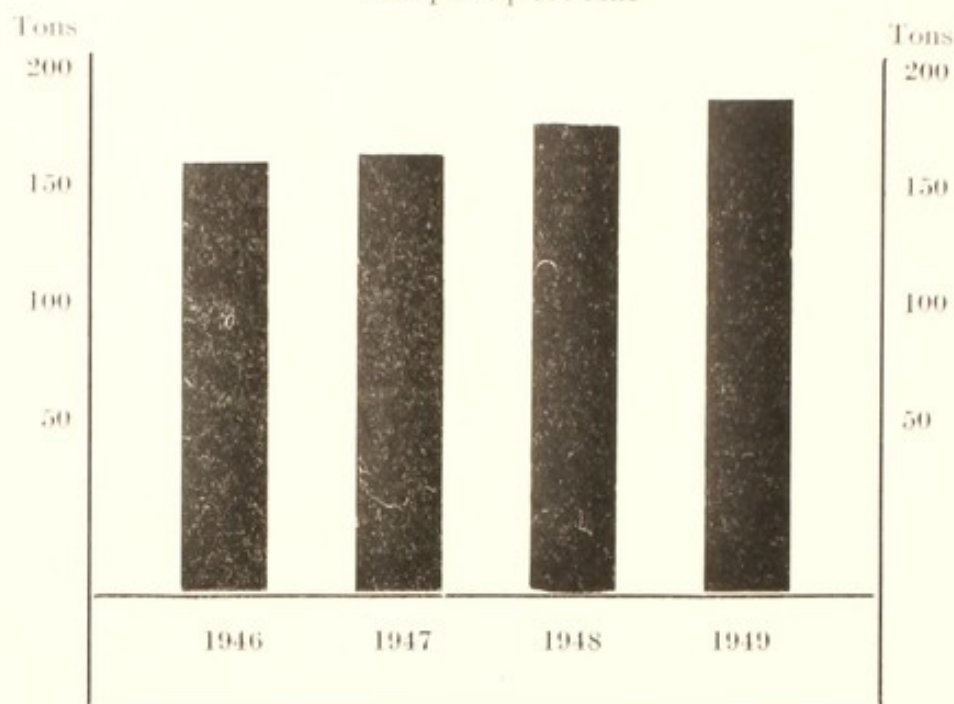
Annual Rainfall during the last four years

1946	32.51 inches
1947	26.29 inches
1948	23.62 inches
1949	27.00 inches

MONTHLY SOOTFALL IN 1949—Tons per Square Mile



ANNUAL SOOTFALL FOR LAST FOUR YEARS
Tons per Square Mile



DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Routine work of disinfection of premises after removal of cases of Infectious Disease to Hospitals, and in some cases of terminal disinfection of premises after the recovery of cases of Infectious Disease nursed at home, has been continued on a similar scale to previous years; rooms and furniture are normally dealt with by spraying and fumigation and bedding and clothing by steam disinfection. Difficulties arose when the steam disinfector attached to the Menston Isolation Hospital was no longer available for our use, and after a number of efforts to secure alternative facilities, arrangements are now in operation for the treatment of bedding and clothing at Calverley Hospital, Thornbury, Bradford. Some difficulty still exists in the obtaining of suitable transport for the conveyance of bedding and clothing; the position is one which may have to receive more detailed attention by the Council at some later stage.

I have previously reported in detail on methods for disinfestation of premises infested with bed bugs, cockroaches and other insect pests. This service was continued as in previous years and no change was made which necessitates special report.

The work of disinfection and disinfestation generally is one which seems to be greatly appreciated by those residents in the District who have need of our services.

RODENT CONTROL

Our previous policy of assisting occupiers of premises who are unfortunate enough to be infested with rats or mice has been continued, and good co-operation has generally been received from those troubled with these pests. Most of the infestations arise as a result of domestic pig and poultry keeping and the work of dealing with these has to be

carried out with great care so as not to endanger the livestock. The method most commonly used is pre-baiting and poisoning with Zinc Phosphide, other poisons being used as alternatives in cases where re-poisoning has been necessary. Trapping is not found to be successful and is only rarely used. Every endeavour is made to secure proper rat-proofing of premises which are subject to these infestations.

The Council's sewers are remarkably free from infestation. The type of construction and the gradient at which many of them are laid inhibits the use of the sewers by rats. There is no special focus of infestation, but in the area adjacent to Cow Beck there seem to be many conditions which are favourable to infestation by migratory colonies.

Fourteen infestations were treated and post-baiting carried out in these cases indicated successful results.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The information and statistics in this section of the report relate to the financial year 1949-50.

Refuse Collection

The public cleansing service was continued on similar lines to preceding years and once again serious difficulties were encountered in providing a service adequate to the needs of the district. The labour position, which, for the first nine months of the financial year had been good, deteriorated considerably after Christmas and many of the workmen had considerable spells of absence from duty due to illness. It was only by abandoning street cleansing services that the refuse collection service was kept going at all.

One of the refuse collection drivers resigned his position to take up work in one of the local industries. This man had completed 24 years service with the Council and the fact that at this stage he should have been attracted away from Local Authority employment is indicative of the gap which exists between the remuneration of Local Authority employees and those employed by private employers, a point which is at the root of most of our difficulties in obtaining suitable labour.

Our method of recovering salvageable materials at the same time as household refuse is collected was continued and an increasing amount of paper and textiles became available for collection. The market for other salvageable materials made it necessary to reduce our efforts, although there was a seasonable demand for glass bottles and jars.

The Council considered the position arising from the continuance of the Direction to maintain a kitchen waste collection service, particularly in view of the reduction of the amount of material placed by the public in the communal bins and the considerable increase in the activities of private collectors. It was decided to petition the Board of Trade asking for the removal of the formal Direction, but at the close of the year no decision had been given to this petition.

During the war period, at the request of the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Council undertook to collect kitchen waste arising at the Greenbanks Hostel, which was at that time run for the Ministry of Aircraft Production, and payment was made for the material collected. The small financial margin involved in this transaction allowed only for a seven-day collection and the Hostel

Authorities asked that the frequency of the collection should be improved and that if possible a daily service should be given. In the interests of hygiene it was readily accepted that a daily service was necessary, but as the Council were unable to provide such a service it was agreed that the Hostel Authorities should arrange for collection by a private contractor, and on the 31st December, 1949, our arrangements for collection were terminated.

The communal bins system of collection is a most unhygienic method and as the service cannot now be justified on the basis of the amount of food made available for stock-keepers, it is hoped that the service will quickly be wound up.

The Council again gave consideration to the institution of a dustbin provision scheme operating under the provisions of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It had previously been decided to bring such a scheme into operation on the 1st April, 1949, but the commencing date was later postponed to the 1st April, 1950. During the year the Council decided again to postpone the bringing into force of such a scheme. It is to be regretted that the Council, owing to financial difficulties, find themselves unable to adopt a scheme providing for the recovery of the cost of dustbins through the general rate, and it is to be hoped that if the financial position still makes this a difficult proposition, an alternative scheme involving an annual charge on the premises provided with dustbins might be brought into operation.

Refuse Disposal

The whole of the refuse collected, apart from the material dealt with as salvage, was disposed of at the Calverley Bridge Tip. Although an endeavour is made to regulate our operations in conformity with the Ministry of Health's recommendations for controlled tipping, labour and shortage of covering material do not always allow of an adequate standard being maintained. During the hot weather of July and August infestations by crickets and wasps were observed, and with the dry state of the tipped refuse the risk of firing the Tip by children and other unauthorised people who gain access to the site was considerable. In the absence of other covering material arrangements were made for the delivery of some 120 loads of ash sludge from a local Power Station and with this material the whole of the Tip surface was sealed very effectively.

The site is proving to be an excellent one and we can look forward to an outlet for the disposal of our refuse in this way for many years to come.

The disposal of salvaged materials followed the same lines as recent years and our contract with a Paper Board Mill for the purchase of our waste paper proved to be a very helpful arrangement as we were guaranteed an outlet for this material during the slump of the Summer months, when many Local Authorities found themselves in an extremely difficult position and unable to dispose of their stocks.

Street Cleansing

The use of machines for sweeping and gully cleansing showed itself to be a considerable improvement over hand-operated methods previously in force, although lack of labour for manual sweeping and weeding to a certain extent obscured the good work done by the road

sweeper. The use of the mechanical gully emptier for cesspool cleansing has been noticed by farmers and others who have previously emptied their cesspools by their own labour, and many requests were made for the use of the machine. It was decided that these requests should be met and a charge made where the cesspools were not provided solely for domestic premises.

Transport

The transport used in the Department was as follows:—

- One 1937 two ton Bedford with 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.
- One 1940 two ton Bedford with 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.
- One 1943 Karrier Bantam with 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.
- One 1948 Karrier Bantam with 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.
- One Lewin Sprinkler Sweeper Collector.
- One Karrier Yorkshire Gully Emptier.
- Three Salvage Trailers.

We are very badly handicapped in the lack of proper garage accommodation and a workshop. Most of the vehicles are still garaged in the old Destructor building, one vehicle is garaged at the rear of Horsforth Hall and one vehicle still remains without a garage and has to stand out in the open throughout the year. The provision of a proper Depôt with garages, workshop and a proper salvage store is becoming very necessary and it is hoped that the Council will proceed as rapidly as possible with their scheme for the development of land at the rear of Horsforth Hall for this purpose.

The two Bedford waggons are now of such an age and in such a condition that they require replacement.

COSTS

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Statistics of work performed and costs

Loads collected	1,915
Weight of material collected	2,873 tons
Visits to premises	159,572
Miles covered	15,650
Total nett cost	£3,806
Cost per ton (collection and disposal)	£1 6s. 6d.
Cost per visit (collection and disposal)	5.7d.

The value of salvaged materials sold during the year is shown below:—

	£	s.	d.
Ferrous Metals	9	7	1
Non-ferrous Metals	13	0	0
Textiles	171	1	10
Bottles and Jars	32	1	6
Waste Paper	966	0	11
Kitchen Waste (Raw) ...	148	10	0
Bones	0	11	6
Cullet	3	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£1,343	12	10
	<hr/>		

SUMMARY OF SALVAGE BONUS SCHEME DURING FINANCIAL YEAR 1949-50.

Period	Value of Salvaged materials £ s. d.	Increase in sales over corresponding period in year 1947 £ s. d.	Deductions towards expenses £ s. d.	Workmen's share £ s. d.	Council's share £ s. d.
1st Quarter	400 1 5	233 1 10	90 2 11	107 4 2	35 14 9
2nd Quarter	370 6 2	203 6 7	82 19 7	90 5 3	30 1 9
3rd Quarter	282 17 6	115 17 11	41 7 8	55 17 8	18 12 7
4th Quarter	290 7 9	123 8 2	59 19 11	47 11 2	15 17 1
Total	1,343 12 10	675 14 6	274 10 1	120 18 3	100 6 2

Street Cleansing

Statistics of work performed and costs

Loads collected:—

(a) by street sweeper	369
(b) by gully emptier	77

Weight of material collected:—

(a) by street sweeper	532 tons
(b) by gully emptier	179 tons

Miles covered:—

(a) by street sweeper	2,830
(b) by gully emptier	803

Total nett cost: £882.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Once again I have to report no improvement in the position of public conveniences in the District and to draw your attention to their serious inadequacy. Detailed consideration was given to the provision of new conveniences, but owing to the need of granting priority to other urgent works the provision of additional facilities has not been proceeded with. The existing conveniences have been maintained as well as possible, but they are very limited in their provision and are all of an out-of-date type.

NUISANCES

Details of work under this heading are as follows:—

Nuisances found during the year	Nuisances abated
Defective and insufficient dust bins	352 341
Defective drains	10 10
Defective roofs	7 7
Defective eaves gutters	4 4
Defective water closets	16 16
Defective sink waste pipes	4 4
Defective plasterwork	2 2
Defective floors	2 1
Defective sinks and lavatory basins	3 3
Defective water supply	2 2
Defective cesspools	1 1
Defective soil, rainwater and vent pipes	4 4
Defective fireplaces and kitchen ranges	6 5
Defective chimneys	2 2
Premises disinfected	22 22
Bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected	40 40

Premises disinfested	5	5
Blocked drains, w.c.s and gullies	96	96
Rodent infestations	14	12
Cellar flooding	6	5
Dampness	8	8
Keeping of animals	1	1
Coal gas leakages	1	1
Drains tested	13	13
Noxious accumulations	1	1
Smoke nuisances (domestic)	1	1
Miscellaneous housing defects	15	12
Insufficient closet accommodation	2	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	640	619
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of visits made to premises in connection with nuisances are summarised as follows:—

Dust bins	704
Disinfection	142
Defective drains	49
Blocked drains	103
Disinfestation	33
Rodent infestations	136
Cellar flooding	48
Housing defects	156
Keeping of animals	12
Accumulations	10
Testing of new drains	29
Miscellaneous	38
	<hr/>
	1,460
	<hr/>

Action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances was as follows:—

Informal Notices served	160
Informal Notices complied with	142
Statutory Notices served	26
Statutory Notices complied with	19
Legal proceedings	Nil

CONCLUSION

One cannot conclude a report of this nature without feeling that whilst a considerable improvement has been made in some directions a vast amount of work has necessarily been left undone owing to the extreme difficulties of the present time. It is hard not to develop a dangerous apathy when constantly faced with frustration, particularly such as one meets in trying to deal with the unsatisfactory housing conditions.

It was only with the devoted assistance of my staff that so many of our problems have been solved and this has been greatly appreciated. To the Officers of other Departments who have at all times been so ready to help, and to the Council for their constant support and encouragement, I extend my thanks.

Yours faithfully,

E. M. BIRTWISLE,

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

