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**KNARESBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH**

**FOR THE YEAR**

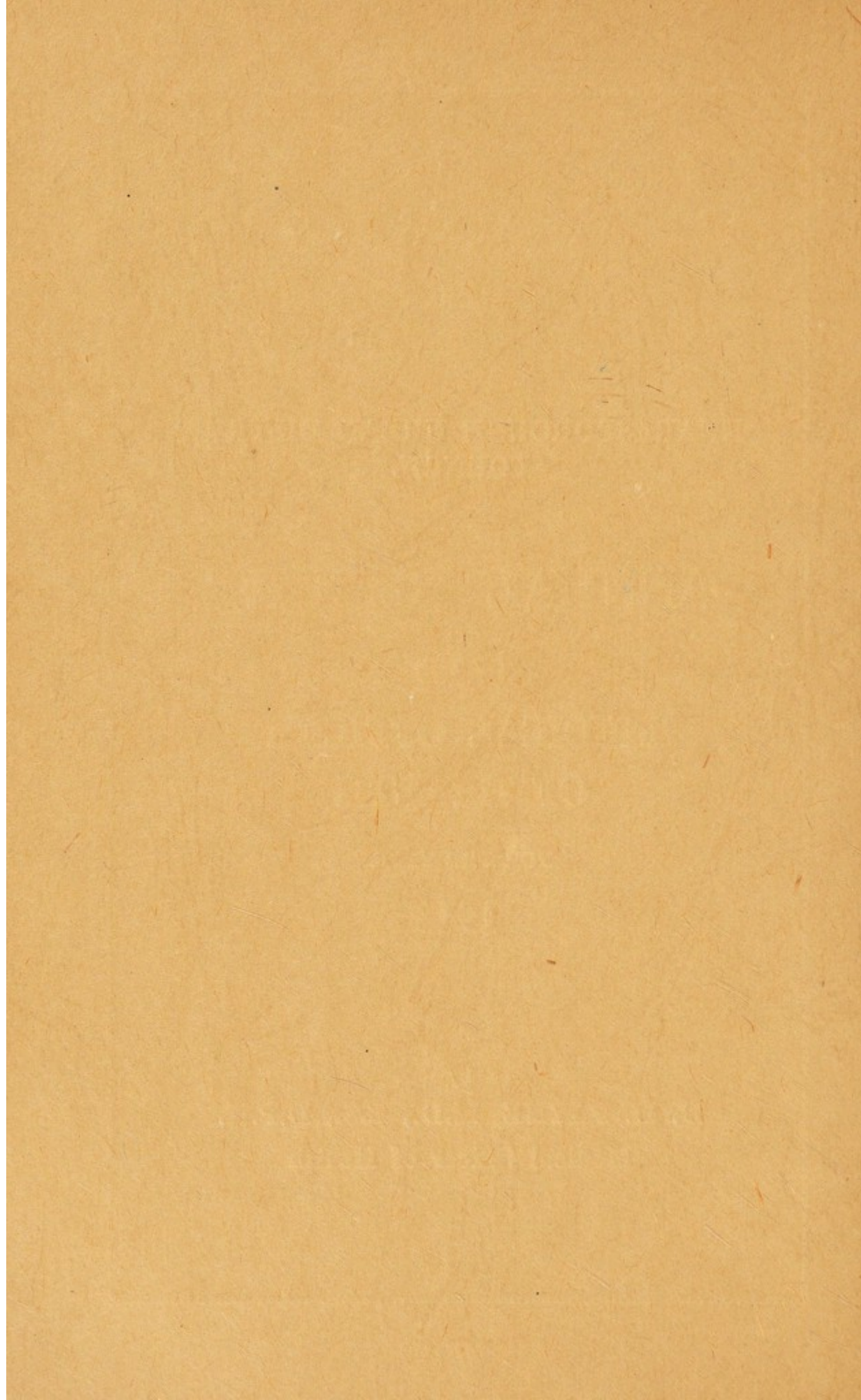
**1948**

**by**

**D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.**

**Medical Officer of Health**





# The Health Committee, 1948

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR E. JACKSON, D.C.M., J.P.

CHAIRMAN - - - - COUNCILLOR G. A. HOLCH

VICE-CHAIRMAN - - - - COUNCILLOR B. AYKROYD

COUNCILLOR B. P. ABBOTT

„ C. COOPER

„ H. CORPS

„ MRS. M. H. DOBSON

„ H. T. KNUTTON



*To the Chairman and Members of the*

## **Knaresborough Urban District Council**

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration my Annual Report for the year 1948.

The Report this year has been divided into two Sections, the first Section dealing with the Health and Social Circumstances of the area, and the second Section dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the District ; the Sanitary Inspector has written a foreword to the latter Section.

I should like to draw attention to the low infant mortality rate, which is the death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This rate reached the low level of 21, which compares very favourably with the rate of 34 for England and Wales, and may be taken as an index of the efficiency of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services in the Area. The absence of any epidemic of infectious disease during the year is also noteworthy.

I desire to acknowledge the assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and to record my appreciation of the work of Mr. Jennings.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. D. PAYNE.

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,

Knaresborough.

July, 1949.

# Public Health Staff, 1948

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## Medical Officer of Health :

D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

## Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

E. M. WRIGHT, B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H. - (Resigned 30/9/48)

## Medical Officer to the Joint Isolation Hospital :

D. F. DOBSON, M.B., D.P.H.

## Sanitary Inspector :

W. JENNINGS, M.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,488
Population (mid-summer 1948, estimated by the Registrar-General)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,470
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,375
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£51,017
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£201
	Males				Females		
Live Births	{ Legitimate 70 } { Illegitimate 7 }	...77	Legitimate 66 } Illegitimate 3 }	...69	Total	146	
Birth Rate (Live Births per 1,000 estimated population)							17·2
	Males				Females		
Still Births	{ Legitimate 0 } { Illegitimate 0 }	... -	Legitimate 2 } Illegitimate 0 }	...2	Total	2	
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births							13·5
Number of Deaths—Male 42, Female 45							87
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	10·3
Deaths from Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year of age			Legitimate 3 } Illegitimate 0 }				3
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :							
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...				21
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births							22·1
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							0·00
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	3	Rate				0·35
Deaths from other Tuberculous diseases	Nil		„				0·00
Deaths from Scarlet Fever	...	...	Nil	„			0·00
Deaths from Diphtheria	...	...	Nil	„			0·00
Deaths from Typhoid and Paratyphoid	...	Nil	„				0·00
Deaths from Measles	...	...	Nil	„			0·00
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	Nil	„				0·00
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) (per 1,000 live births)	...	1	„				6·85
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	16	„				1·9



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area is mainly agricultural and residential, and the town itself, on account of its historical associations and picturesque position on the banks of the Nidd, is a well-known holiday resort. Hence, during the summer months, catering forms one of the principal industries.

There are also a number of small industries in the town comprising Saw Mills, Plastic Goods Factory, a Manufactory of Children's School Clothing and Linen Weaving Mills.

**POPULATION.** The Population as at the middle of 1948 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 8,470.

**BIRTHS.** The number of live births registered in Knaresborough during the year was 63, 32 males and 31 females, but the corrected\* figure supplied by the Registrar-General is 146, 77 males and 69 females. The birth rate is 17.2 per 1,000 of the population, which is 0.7 above the rate for England and Wales.

There were 10 illegitimate births, 7 males and 3 females, representing 7.3 per cent of the live births.

**STILL-BIRTHS.** The corrected\* still-birth figure supplied by the Registrar-General is 2, both females, this gives a rate of 13.5 per 1,000 total births and a still-birth rate of 0.23 per 1,000 of the population as compared with a still-birth rate of 0.42 for England and Wales.

**DEATHS.** The number of deaths registered during the year was 177, 61 males and 116 females, but the corrected\* number of deaths of residents as supplied by the Registrar-General is 87, 42 males and 45 females. The death rate is 10.3, which is a decrease of 5.3 as compared with last year, and is 0.5 lower than the rate for England and Wales (10.8).

The causes of death are shown in Table 1, Page 6.

**INSTITUTIONAL DEATHS.** Of the 177 deaths registered in the district, 112 occurred in public institutions, representing 63.3 per cent of the whole number.

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\* The Corrections made by the Registrar-General adjust the number for inward and outward transfers.



**Table I**

**Causes of Death in the Knaresborough Urban District, 1948**

CAUSES OF DEATH				1948	
				Male	Female
	(Civilians only)	All Causes		42	45
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	—	—	—	—
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	2	1	2	1
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—
8	Syphilitic Disease ... ..	—	—	—	—
9	Influenza ... ..	—	1	—	1
10	Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
12	Acute Infectious Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
13M	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (males only) ... ..	—	—	—	—
13F	Cancer of Uterus (Females) ... ..	—	—	—	—
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	—	2	—	2
15	Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	3	—	3
16	Cancer of all other sites ... ..	7	4	7	4
17	Diabetes ... ..	1	2	1	2
18	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	2	5	2	5
19	Heart Disease ... ..	15	12	15	12
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System ... ..	—	2	—	2
21	Bronchitis ... ..	4	3	4	3
22	Pneumonia ... ..	1	2	1	2
23	Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—
24	Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	1	—	1	—
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	1	—	1	—
26	Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	—	1	—	1
28	Nephritis ... ..	2	1	2	1
29	Puerperal and post-abortion Sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	—
30	Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—	—	—	—
31	Premature Birth ... ..	1	—	1	—
32	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease ... ..	—	—	—	—
33	Suicide ... ..	—	1	—	1
34	Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	—	—	—	—
35	Other Violent Causes ... ..	1	1	1	1
36	All other Causes ... ..	4	4	4	4



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA

With the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, the Harrogate and District General Hospital, the Royal Bath Hospital, and the Joint Isolation Hospital at Thistle Hill, Knaresborough, passed to the control of the Regional Hospital Board on July 5th, 1948.

The Harrogate and District General Hospital provides most of the medical and surgical treatment for cases requiring admission to Hospital ; 112 beds are also reserved for the chronic sick at the Knaresborough Institution which comes similarly under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

The Royal Bath Hospital renders specialised treatment, including Orthopaedic treatment for cases of Rheumatism.

Ambulance facilities are provided by the West Riding County Council. An Ambulance Depot is situated in Harrogate, and the service provided is now free under the National Health Service Act.

Arrangements have been made with the West Riding County Council to retain an Ambulance at the Isolation Hospital for the removal of infectious cases to Hospital.

Maternity cases requiring hospital treatment are either admitted to the Harrogate General Hospital Maternity Wards or to Hazelwood Castle, part of which was adapted during the war as a Maternity Home.

A further change took place on July 5th 1948, with regard to Home Nursing. The West Riding County Council took over the District Nursing Associations in the County, and the nurses on staff of such Associations were transferred to the Staff of the Divisional Health areas, thus the three nurses of the Knaresborough and Goldsborough District Nursing Association are now on the Staff of No. 8 Public Health Divisional Area, for which area your Medical Officer of Health is Divisional Medical Officer.

*Clinic and Treatment Centres are set out in tabular form on page 8.*



**Table II**  
**WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL'S SCHOOL CLINICS AND MATERNITY AND  
 CHILD WELFARE CLINICS**

Held at FYCHE HALL, ISLES LANE, KNARESBOROUGH

SCHOOL CLINIC	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
General School Clinic ...	9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	...	...	9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	...
Ophthalmic Clinic ...	...	...	...		9-0 a.m. (by appointment only)
<b>MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE</b>					
Child Welfare Centre ...	...	1-30 p.m. to 4 p.m.	...	*1-30 p.m. to 3-30 pm.	...
Ante-Natal Clinic ...	1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.		...	...	...

\* Every 2nd and 4th THURSDAY in Month only.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There was a very low incidence of infectious disease in the district during the year.

Following the epidemic of measles in Knaresborough in 1947, when 190 were reported, there were only 10 cases reported in 1948.

Two cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified in children of school age during August. Of these two cases one was abortive, no paralysis followed the infection ; in the other case slight weakness of the muscles of one shoulder developed.

For the second year in succession no cases of diphtheria occurred in the district. During the year 118 children under five were immunised together with 5 school children, whilst 262 children received a reinforcing injection where the degree of immunity had been diminished by the length of time since their initial inoculation.

Seven cases of pulmonary and six cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, compared with eight cases of pulmonary and four cases of non-pulmonary during 1947.

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### Schools.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Divisional School Medical Officer and in this capacity visited all the Schools in the Area during the year.



**Table III**

**Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1948**

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	8	8	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	6	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	10	—	—
Whooping Cough... ..	6	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—

Table IV - Analysis of Cases under age Groups

AGE GROUP	Scarlet Fever	Acute Anterior Polio-myelitis	Pneu-monia	Measles	Erysi-pelas	Whoop-ing Cough
0	—	—	—	1	—	—
1-2	—	—	—	1	—	4
2-3	2	—	2	2	—	1
3-4	2	—	—	1	—	1
4-5	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	3	2	2	5	—	—
10-15	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-35	—	—	1	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-65	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	8	2	6	10	1	6

Table V—Tuberculosis  
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948

Age Groups at notification	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
35	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	4	5	1	2	1	—	—



# Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1948

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

MR CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Sanitary and Cleansing Services for the year 1948.

As this report covers my first complete year with your Authority I should like to comment on the work of the Council in the past. I feel that the record of the Urban District Council, so far as those environmental health services for which it is responsible are concerned, is worthy of particular mention.

The pre-war slum clearance progress ; the pre-war and post-war housing schemes ; the provision of piped internal water supply to practically every dwelling house, and the state of the closet and refuse accommodation and sewage disposal in the area, demonstrate fully the efficiency that can exist in a small Authority, bearing in mind the semi-rural character of the District.

The major problems for the future appear to lie in the fields of housing, sewage disposal, and ensuring the cleanliness of food.

The need for houses is far from satisfied, and in view of the ever rising standards of living, and other factors of this post-war world, the ultimate solution and the date thereof is difficult to foresee.

So far as sewage disposal is concerned it is pleasing to report that two of the small unsewered areas are being dealt with, and it is hoped that the Council will press on with the remaining areas as soon as possible.

Public opinion is now focussed, more than ever, on the purity



of food, and catering for the public is probably the main industry in our town. It is earnestly hoped that now war time shortages and restrictions are gradually passing the food traders and owners of food premises in the town will co-operate in ensuring that the hygienic standard of premises and equipment and the personal hygiene of food handlers is beyond reproach from any source.

In conclusion I wish to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees for their support, and to the Medical Officer of Health for his help and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

W. JENNINGS,  
Sanitary Inspector.

Health Department,  
Knaresborough.  
June, 1949.

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## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water

Water is supplied and distributed by Harrogate Corporation, and has been excellent in quality and quantity throughout the year.

Extensions to the service were made to serve the Meadowside Housing Estate and new property in Tentergate Road.

There are 24 of the older houses in the town without separate supplies of water inside the houses.

2,530 premises—consisting of 2,360 domestic, 147 lock-up, and 23 metered—are supplied by the Water Undertaking in the Urban District.

The following samples of water were taken during the year of supplies used for human consumption.



Date	Place of Examination	Type of Examination	Result	Remarks
<b>1. Public Supply :</b>				
18/2/48	Council Offices ...	Bacterio-logical	Satisfactory	} Complaint of unsatisfactory water
18/2/48	1 Gracious Street	do.	do.	
19/4/48	22 Waterside ...	Chemical	Nothing abnormal revealed	
21/4/48	22 Waterside ...	Bacterio-logical	Satisfactory	
21/4/48	22 Waterside ...	do.	do.	
9/12/48	Council Offices	do.	do.	

## 2. Other Supplies :

21/4/48	Railway Cottages Hazlehead Lane	Bacterio-logical	Satisfactory	} Well supply
9/12/48	do.	do.	Presumptive Coli of I.A.C. group present 1 per 100 ml.	
8/7/48	Haugh's Farm Wetherby Road	do.	Satisfactory	
27/10/48	do.	do.	Unsatisfactory	} Shallow Well Supply
27/10/48	do.	Chemical	Nothing abnormal detected	
8/11/48	do.	Bacterio-logical	Unsatisfactory	
8/11/48	do.	do.	do.	
11/11/48	do.	do.	do.	
11/11/48	do.	do.	Suspicious	



The unsatisfactory results of samples taken at Haugh's Farm were brought to the notice of the Council, and this water supply was receiving attention at the end of the year.

The two dwelling houses at Haugh's Farm, and the three at Hazlehead Lane, are the only ones in the Urban District not connected to the Public Supply.

## Public Cleansing

The Council collects both house and trade refuse, and a once weekly collection from all property was maintained throughout the year. A twice weekly collection was offered at a charge in accordance with the Council's Scale of Trade Refuse Charges from those Hotels and Cafes desiring it. The main essentials of an efficient refuse collection service are—a courteous service, a hygienic service, and a regular service—every attempt has been made to give these, and the number of complaints received were negligible.

Refuse is disposed of at Manse Lane Tip by Controlled Tipping methods. A large portion of the quarry which had been completed was covered with a foot of soil during the year and was prepared for cultivation in 1949. The filling of the Tip will be completed by the middle of 1950, and the provision of tipping space after that date has received serious consideration. The Council have secured permission to use another former quarry in Wetherby Road, which should provide adequate tipping space for 15 or more years.

The general state of the refuse receptacles in the district is good, and only standard dustbins are accepted as providing satisfactory storage.

The whole of the refuse receptacles throughout the district are dustbins—the last two ashpits were converted during the year.

195 informal notices and 18 legal notices were served under Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of insufficient or defective refuse receptacles, and 227 new bins were provided as a result of notices from the Department.

The Council provide full protective clothing to permanent Collection and Disposal Staff, consisting of overalls, gloves, macintosh, leggings, and southwester ; and washing, bathing and drying rooms, which are situated in Isles Lane Depot.



The cost of the Public Cleansing Service during the year ended 31st March, 1948, was :—

REFUSE COLLECTION :—

Wages	...	...	1056	4	2
Mech. Vehicles	...	...	263	0	8
Transfer to Reserve...	...	...	200	0	0
Part Cost of Depot	...	...	30	0	0
Misc.	...	...	22	10	2
					<hr/>
					1571 15 0

REFUSE DISPOSAL :—

Wages	...	...	362	11	4
Rent and Rates	...	...	34	3	4
Misc.	...	...	29	13	4
					<hr/>
					426 8 0
					<hr/>
					1998 3 0

REVENUE :—

Trade Refuse ...	...	74	15	7	
Grazing, etc. ...	...	17	0	0	
					91 15 7
Nett Cost of Service					£1906 7 5

Taking Salvage profits into consideration the cost of removal and disposal of refuse per house per week was 3.5d.

## Salvage

Once again Salvage formed an important part of the Department's activities, and considerable publicity in the form of advertisements in local papers, slides at picture houses, displays in showrooms and markets, advertisements on Council postage, competitions, bookmarks, etc., was given. The incentive bonus of 5% per man to the Public Cleansing Staff was also continued. No Authority could have had greater help from the local Press, which gave most useful publicity.

Particular stress was directed throughout the year to the collection of paper salvage, and the result was most satisfying, giving an increase of 80% over the previous year in the paper sold.



The call for bottles and jars ceased entirely during the year, and the receipts fell from £160 in 1947 to £49 in 1948. Nevertheless, it is pleasing to report the receipts from salvage in 1948 were the highest ever, though due to illness of the salvage baler the costs increased.

The Council purchased a new baler and a weighing machine during the year.

The following are the amounts of Salvage sold during the recent calendar years :—

ITEM	TONS				
	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
Paper ... ..	64.6	37.3	42.3	41.4	43.1
Textiles ... ..	6.5	2.3	2.1	2.3	3.7
Scrap Metal... ..	3.3	4.2	3.0	1.3	2.2
Bottles and Jars ...	8.9	12.4	15.1	1.7	0.9

The cost and Receipts during the recent financial years are as follows :—

YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH	COST	RECEIPTS
1941 ...	£122	£256
1942 ...	£198	£380
1943 ...	£280	£632
1944 ...	£287	£434
1945 ...	£192	£490
1946 ...	£223	£288
1947 ...	£279	£394
1948 ...	£542*	£624
1949 ...	£531†	£652

\* Including cost of Showers (£188).

† Including cost of Baler and Weigh Machine (£59).

The contribution to the relief of rates has been over £1,500 during the past nine years.

## Sewers and Drains

Portions of the District which were added at the Review of County Districts in 1938 remain unsewered, i.e., part of Crag Top, Wetherby Road, York Road, and Ripley Road

Mossops Estate is to be sewered in conjunction with the Nidderdale R.D.C's Tutt Valley Sewerage Scheme, and the Ministry of Health Enquiry was held at the Nidderdale R.D.C. Offices on the 2nd July, when Officers of your Council gave evidence so far as



Mossops Estate was concerned. On the 18th August, 1948, the Ministry approved the scheme in principal. The proposed sewer line follows the valley line of the River Tutt to proposed Disposal Works at Boroughbridge.

The Council's intention to proceed with the Wetherby Road sewer during 1949-50 will also reduce the number of unsewered premises.

Approximately 150 yards of new surface water drain were laid in Hyde Park area during the year, and the scheme commenced in 1947 to relieve flooding in Halfpenny Lane area during heavy rainfalls was completed.

### **Public Conveniences**

The provision of new Public Conveniences for both sexes in the centre of the town is still an urgent necessity, and after considering several sites during the year the Council decided that the most suitable site would be one in the Market Place, and plans were being prepared for underground conveniences in that position at the end of the year.

The Males' Conveniences on Waterside were found to be inadequate, and temporary enlargement was decided upon, though not commenced during the year.

The provision of Public Conveniences at Conyngham Hall also received the Council's attention. From a public health point of view it is most desirable that conveniences should be provided in the High Bridge area to serve Bilton Fields, Waterside and Conyngham Hall, as soon as possible.

### **Factories**

The factories have been inspected regularly and a number of contraventions found, whilst one complaint was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories. The defects were remedied by informal action.

There are 49 factories on the Register consisting of 12 factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act are enforced by the Local Authority, 35 factories where Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. There are two building operations in progress where Section 7 is enforced by the Council.

The following is a table of defects found during the year and action taken :

### CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of Cases in which Defects were found			
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)				
(a) insufficient ...	1	2	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	4	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework) ...	1	1	—	—
TOTAL ...	11	9	—	1

It was not necessary to institute any proceedings.



## Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Total number of inspections and visits made ... ..	1634
Number of contraventions found ... ..	207
Number of nuisances in hand at 31/12/47 ... ..	28
Number of nuisances abated and contraventions remedied during 1948 ... ..	203
Number outstanding at 31/12/48 ... ..	32
Number of informal letter notices served ... ..	113
Number of informal verbal notices ... ..	91
Formal notices served ... ..	26
Formal notices complied with ... ..	26

## Details of Inspections

Obstructed drains and sewers ... ..	49
Drainage inspections ... ..	42
Drains tested ... ..	18
General nuisances and sanitary defects ... ..	80
Keeping of animals ... ..	10
Verminous and dirty houses ... ..	17
Offensive trade—rag and bone dealer ... ..	3
Watercourses, ditches and ponds ... ..	1
Smoke observations ... ..	15
Infectious diseases enquiries ... ..	22
Disinfections ... ..	8
Disinfestations ... ..	8
Water Supply ... ..	11
Water samples—Chemical ... ..	5
Water samples—Bacteriological ... ..	14
Moveable dwellings ... ..	36
Public Cleansing Service—	
Refuse collection ... ..	119
Refuse disposal ... ..	45
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### Smoke Abatement

During 1948 fifteen timed observations were taken of industrial chimneys in the district. In three cases smoke was emitted in such quantity as to constitute nuisances, and the occupiers were notified and plants visited.



## **Premises and Occupations Controlled by Byelaws and Regulations**

### **Moveable Dwellings :**

At the end of the year there were five licensed Sites for Moveable Dwellings in the District, and one licence in force in respect of a Moveable Dwelling. One licence in respect of a Moveable Dwelling was granted for a period of three months, expiring on the 31st October, by which time the dwelling was removed. The majority of moveable dwellings from the unlicensed site in Abbey Road had been removed by the end of the year, and only one dwelling remained. Two applications—one to use land for moveable dwellings, and one to station a moveable dwelling in the area—were refused.

36 visits were paid to Camping Sites, Moveable Dwellings and Fairgrounds during the year. In one case breaches of the byelaws were found in conjunction with space, water supply and sanitation, and due notice was given to the Licensee.

Some of the dwellings are still being used on a permanent basis.

### **Offensive Trades :**

There is only one offensive trade on the Register. The licence in respect of this—a Rag and Bone Dealer—was renewed in April for a further year.

## **Shops**

Fourteen inspections of shops were made under the provisions of Section 10 of the 1934 Act. Many more inspections were made in actual fact, but were not separately recorded, as the major reason for inspection was under other law.

In four cases contraventions were found, and three of these were remedied during the year.

## **Swimming Baths or Pools**

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the Area.



## **Infestation and Disinfestation**

Two houses were disinfested for bed-bug infestation during the year. On the whole the district is remarkably free from this type of infestation. 6 houses were treated for cockroach infestation. "D.D.T." and "Gammexine" liquids, powders and "smoke" were used and found successful.

### **Rodent Treatment :**

110 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspector in connection with rodent infestation, and 18 minor and 2 major rat infestations were treated by the Department during the year. Advice was given in several other cases.

A 10% test bait of the sewers was carried out in April and a maintenance treatment of the sewers in the Centre, which were the only ones found to be infested, followed. A further treatment of the sewers in the Town Centre was carried out in July. The second maintenance treatment of the sewers was delayed, but was eventually carried out early in 1949.

The Council have adopted Circular N.S.19, and the whole of the above treatments were carried out in accordance with Ministry of Agriculture methods.

The Sewage Works and Refuse Tip were kept comparatively free from rats, but with the advent of the cold weather the Refuse Tip was found to have become infested and dealt with.



## HOUSING

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 171/48, all applicants on the Council's waiting list were circulated, and 254 applicants indicated they were still desirous of houses. 128 applicants living in Knaresborough and 40 living out of the district were without separate homes and 84 had separate homes.

In June, 1946, a Report was submitted to the Council on a Survey of Houses in the District, when it was found that 236 houses were suitable for procedure under Sections 11 and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, and 234 for procedure under Section 9 of the Public Health Act, 1936. In December, 1948, a further survey was commenced to investigate in more detail the houses suitable for the former procedure and to categorise them according to their degree of unfitness, and this survey was completed early in 1949 and a Report thereon submitted to the Council. The Council can now, when the time is opportune, proceed with Slum Clearance without any delay, and with a knowledge that they will be dealing with the property in a proper and logical sequence. Cases of overcrowded families living in unfit houses which were revealed by the Survey are brought to the notice of the Tenants Selection Sub-Committee for consideration.

Demolition Orders were made by the Council under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, on one Railway Carriage used as a dwelling, two single-brick buildings and one van body, situated in Bar Lane. The two brick buildings were demolished during the year.

On account of the difficult housing situation no further formal action was taken in 1948. It was found that, in common with other Authorities, where the Council rehoused the tenants out of the most unfit houses, the owners were besieged with requests for tenancy of the houses. There is nothing more certain than that over the years these unfit houses will have their effect on the health of the inhabitants, and while for the present very little action under the Housing Acts can be undertaken, one looks forward to when demolition and repair of sub-standard houses can proceed on a pre-war scale.

### **New Houses :**

On the Meadows Estate a further 17 houses were completed, making a total of 60 houses constructed since the end of the war. A further 52 houses were under construction at the end of the year. When these are completed the Council will own 388 houses. Five houses were completed by private enterprise.



# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## Milk

There are 12 wholesale producers of milk. The registered cowsheds and dairies have been inspected regularly and are kept in a reasonable condition of cleanliness. Four of the herds are producing Tuberculin Tested milk and there is a further herd of pedigree Jersey cows.

Production and sale of milk is generally satisfactory and clean, and results of samples taken are as follows.

TYPE OF MILK	SAMPLES TAKEN BY			
	Department		W.R.C.C.	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Pasteurised ...	1*	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised ...	6*	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested Certified ...	9	1	5	—
Ordinary ...	19	8	—	—
Total ...	35	9	5	—

\* Also Group 1 when submitted to phosphatase Test

It is interesting, perhaps, to analyse the 9 unsatisfactory milk samples. In the case of the T.T. Certified milk this milk was produced outside the district, though it was discovered that bottles were being washed and sterilised away from the farm and the County Council, as the Licensing Authority, informed. With regard to eight samples of raw milk found to be unsatisfactory, three were produced outside the district and were referred to the Local Authority concerned. Five were produced in Knaresborough. One was due to a defective cooler and broke the particular pro-



ducers long record of satisfactory samples. Four unsatisfactory samples were from a further producer or his retailer. The milk concerned was of a very high fat content, and the cleanliness of production methods and equipment appeared to be as good as any in the area. By elimination, the fault was discovered and corrected, and samples thereafter were satisfactory.

There are 22 retail purveyors of milk on the Register, six of whom hold T.T. Dealers Licences, and two "Pasteurised" Dealers Licences, three "Supplementary" "T.T.," and three "Supplementary" "Pasteurised" Licences.

It is pleasing to report that during the year there was a considerable increase in the amount of designated milk sold in the Urban District at the expense of raw milk. This was brought about as the result of the granting of a "T.T. Certified" Licence to one of our farms and the milk supply from a further "T.T." farm which was formerly sent out of the district being made available to one of our retailers. The majority of milk now sold in the district is designated milk.

Further progress is expected early in 1949 as a further producer retailer was in the process of carrying out the required alterations to his farm and stock with the same end in view.

Five samples of raw milk retailed in the district were submitted during the year for examination for B. Tuberculosis—all with negative results.

The following work was carried out at farms during the year :

Sweetbits Farm	...	...	Cowshed repaired, dairy reconstructed.
Stoneface Farm	...	...	New dairy constructed.
Abbey Farm	...	...	Cowsheds and dairy in progress of reconstruction.
Dropping Well Farm	...	...	Cowsheds reconstructed, new dairy constructed.
Conyngham Hall Farm	...	...	Roof of cowshed repaired, standings reconstructed.



## Meat

Slaughterhouses in the District are kept closed by Ministry of Food order and slaughtering for the District is carried out in Harrogate.

Regular inspections of Butchers' shops were made, where conditions found were generally satisfactory.

Eleven premises are registered with the Local Authority under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, to prepare or manufacture sausages, or potted, pressed, preserved, or pickled food.

In one instance the Council took successful legal proceedings under Section 57, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Articles 8 and 10, Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

## Ice Cream

The conditions of the preparation and sale of this product were closely watched during the year.

20 premises are registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

4 premises are registered to manufacture and sell Ice Cream.

5 premises are registered to manufacture by the Cold Mix method and sell Ice Cream.

11 premises are registered to sell Ice Cream.

Fifty-six samples of ice cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination with the following results :—

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Work to bring the premises into line with the above Section and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations continued, and though for the "Cold Mix" manufacturers was completed, the "Hot Mix" manufacturers had still not received their



equipment, though it did commence to arrive towards the end of the season. The lack of proper cooling and sterilising facilities almost certainly accounted for the Grade 3 and 4 samples, 10 of which were from "Hot Mix" ice cream, against 2, both from one producer, from "Cold Mix" manufacturers.

There was the best of relations with the local Ice Cream manufacturers, who all appear keen to produce a bacteriologically clean product, and it is hoped that with the proper plant available the number of unsatisfactory samples will be reduced to a negligible proportion of samples taken.

### **Other Foods**

Routine inspections are regularly carried out at all food premises such as bakehouses, cafe and hotel kitchens and food shops.

Conditions found varied within wide limits, but in 20 cases where there were contraventions of the law, informal action was taken to secure compliance.

The high standard of kitchen hygiene in school and other canteens was particularly noticeable.

The importance of washing hands before handling food was stressed by a National Campaign during the summer months, and in conjunction therewith the legal necessity of washing basins with constant hot water, cold water, soap and towels, in all food preparing premises and food shops was stressed with good results in many cases.

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