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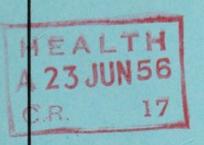
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KNARESBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

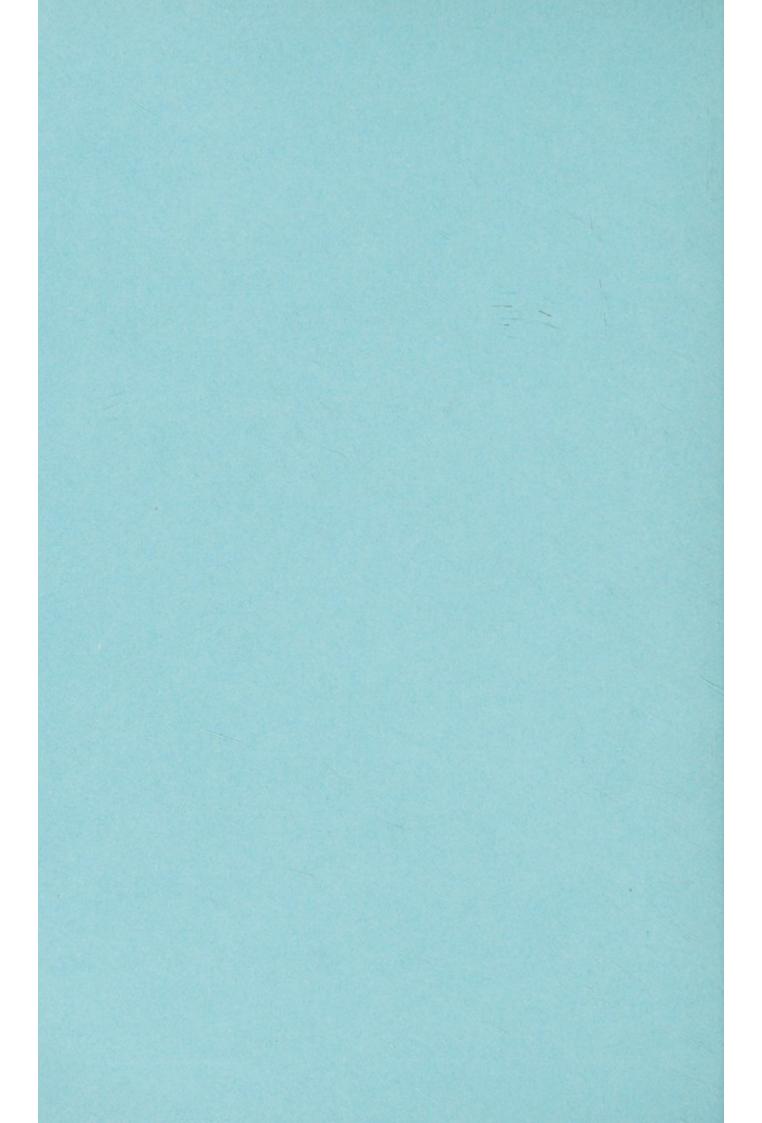
Medical Officer of Health

For the year 1955

by

LIBRA

D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S. L.R C.P, D.I H Medical Officer of Health





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D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Medical Officer of Health

Knaresborough Urban District Council

1955

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor C. COOPER, J.P.

Vice Chairman :

Councillor P. BROADBELT (To 25/7/55) Councillor Lt.-Col. B. C. WILKINSON (From 5/9/55)

М.
ISON

Chairman of the Health Committee :

Councillor W. EMMETT

Chairman of the Buildings and Housing Committee : Councillor G. HUGHES

Public Health Officers of the Council 1955

Medical Officer of Health :

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

Deputy Medical Officer of Health : P. S. R. BURRELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 3-12-55)

Sanitary Inspector :

W. JENNINGS, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H., M.INST.P.C.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Knaresborough Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I submit for your information and consideration my Annual Report for the year 1955.

Dr. Burrell, the Deputy Medical Officer of Health left the service of the Council in December to take up a similar position in the County Borough of Doncaster. He was replaced by Dr. Graham who commenced his duties at the beginning of the New Year. Dr. Elizabeth Redfern relinquished her duties as Medical Officer to the Knaresborough Infant Welfare Clinic after many years of devoted service, during which she had become well known and appreciated by many Knaresborough mothers and children. Dr. Turner took over the duties of this Clinic in November and also became School Medical Officer to the Knaresborough schools following his appointment in this area as Assistant Medical Officer to the West Riding County Council.

Apart from measles and whooping cough, which were somewhat more prevalent during the year than usual, there was little infectious disease in the town. It was gratifying that no case of poliomyelitis was reported in 1955.

Vaccination against tuberculosis by means of B.C.G. vaccine was carried out on school children 13 years of age, in cases where the parents gave their consent, and where the child had been shown by a Mantoux test to be susceptible to infection. This procedure had previously only been done in Knaresborough in cases where there was a special risk of the child contracting the infection; for example if either of his parents were suffering from tuberculosis.

This B.C.G. vaccination of schoolchildren formed part of a large scale trial in this country of the efficacy of such vaccination. The vaccination of school children has been in general use in many other countries, notably Scandinavia, for a number of years. A limited trial had already been undertaken in this country in London. Birmingham, and Manchester where some 14.000 school children aged 14 years old received the vaccine from the Autumn of 1950 to the Autumn of 1952, 13,000 children being left unvaccinated as a control. Since that time the annual occurrence of tuberculosis in the vaccinated group has been 0.37 per 1,000 compared with 1.94 per 1,000 in the unvaccinated, in other words there have been about 5 times more cases of tuberculosis in the unvaccinated children. This trial showed the striking benefit of B.C.G. vaccination for adolescents in an urban industrialised community.

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

I am,

Yours faithfully,

D. D. PAYNE,

Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1956.

General Statistics, 1955

Area (acres) 2,488
Population (mid-summer, 1955, estimated by the
Registrar General) 8.250
Number of Inhabited Houses 2.756
Rateable Value £59,281
Product of Penny Rate, March, 1955 £228
BIRTHS-
Live Births: Males Females Total
Legitimate, $\begin{array}{c} 64\\ Illegitimate, \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{c} 68\\ 1llegitimate, \end{array} \left. \begin{array}{c} 2\\ 2\end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{c} 58\\ 126\end{array}$
Crude Birth Rate (Live births per 1,000 of the
estimated population) 15.3
*Adjusted Birth Rate 14.2
Still Births: Males Females Total
Legitimate,11Legitimate,12Illegitimate, $ 1$ 112
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births 15.6
DEATHS
Number of Deaths—Males 45, Females 60 105
Crude Death Rate 12.7
*Adjusted Death Rate 10.8
Deaths from Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion 0.0
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:
Males Females Total
Logitimate 1 Logitimate
$egin{array}{cccc} Males & Females & Total \ Legitimate, 1 \ Illegitimate 1 \end{array} ightarrow 2 egin{array}{ccccc} Legitimate, - \ Illegitimate 1 \end{array} ightarrow 2 egin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:
All Infants per 1,000 live births 15.9
Rate (per 1,000
population)
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis 0.0
Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases 0.0
Deaths from Infective and Parasitic Diseases (excluding
Tuberculosis) 0.0
Deaths from Vascular lesions of the nervous system, 23 2.8
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases, 35 4.2
Deaths from Cancer, 25 3.0
Deaths from Respiratory Diseases, 10 1.2

*Adjusted by Area Comparability factors supplied by the Registrar-General. This adjustment makes allowance for the changing age structure of the population. (Births 0.93, Deaths 0.85).

Causes	of Death	in Knares	sborough	Urban	District,	1955
				STERIO STATE	1 19	955

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10 **

Causes of Death Male Female All Causes 45 60 1 Tuberculosis, other — — 2 Tuberculosis, other — — — 3 Syphilitic disease — — — — 4 Diphtheria — — — — 5 Whooping Cough — — — — 6 Meningococcal infections — — — — 7 Acute poliomyelitis — — — — 9 Other infective and parasitic diseases — — — — 9 Other infective and parasitic diseases — — — — 9 Other infective and parasitic neoplasms 4 — — — 10 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus … … … 1 13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus … … … … … …		19	55	
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory — — — 2 Tuberculosis, other — — — 3 Syphilitic disease … … — — 4 Diphtheria … … … … … 5 Whooping Cough … … … … … … 6 Meningococcal infections … … … … … … … 7 Acute poliomyelitis …		Causes of Death	Male	Female
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		Iotal	mog	05
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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. Population.

The population at the end of June, 1955, was estimated by the Registrar General to be 8,250, an increase of 30 over the estimated population for the previous year.

2. Social Conditions.

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, providing special attraction for the day visitor.

During the summer months, catering forms one of the principal trades in the town. There are also a number of small industries in the town including Saw Mills, Plastic Goods Factory, Manufacture of Children's and other Clothing and Linen Weaving Mills.

3. Births.

(a) Live Births:

The number of live births registered in Knaresborough during the year was 39, 22 males and 17 females, but the corrected figure supplied by the Registrar General which takes into account inward and outward transfers was 126, 68 males and 58 females.

The birth rate, when adjusted by the area comparability factor as given by the Registrar General was 14.2 per thousand of the population which was 0.8 less than the rate for England and Wales. (15.0).

There were 6 illegitimate births, 4 males and 2 females, representing 4.8 per cent of the live births.

(b) Still Births:

After adjustment for inward and outward transfers, there were 2 still births, 1 male and 1 female, during the year. This gave a rate of 15.6 per thousand live and still births, compared with 23.1 the rate for England and Wales.

4. Deaths.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 209. 106 males and 103 females, but the number of deaths of residents corrected for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar General was 105, 45 males and 60 females. The crude death rate was 12.7 per thousand, but when adjusted in accordance with the comparability factor the rate was reduced to 10.8 which was 0.9 less than the rate for England and Wales (11.7).

The causes of death are shown in the table on page 6.

5. Infant Mortality.

During the year 2 resident infants, both males, died before reaching their first birthday. The infant mortality rate was 15.9 per thousand live births compared with the rate of 24.9 for England and Wales.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority.

The names and qualifications of these are set out on page 2.

2. Health Services.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examination of clinical material, throat swabs, etc., is undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory at the Harrogate General Hospital. Water, milk and other foodstuffs, including ice-cream, are also bacteriologically examined at this laboratory.

Knaresborough is fortunate in having a public health laboratory situated so close at hand. Dr. D. J. H. Payne is the bacteriologist in charge of this laboratory, and there is the closest co-operation between the laboratory and the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

The services of the laboratory are most valuable when there is an outbreak of infection or suspected cases of food poisoning. The control of infectious disease is a matter of team work between the Public Health Department, the Medical Practitioner and the Public Health Laboratory Service.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance facilities are provided by the West Riding County Council. An Ambulance Station is situated in Harrogate and the service is provided free under the National Health Service Act. This ambulance service also covers removal of infectious cases to hospital.

The 5 ambulances are all equipped with short wave wireless transmission and reception apparatus, enabling information to be passed to and from a central control. By this means, ambulances can be diverted to accidents and other emergencies and can save life and time. The Harrogate Station has its own transmitter, and together with a Monitor set which gives full information from the main control at Birkenshaw, Nr. Bradford.

3. Divisional Health Services.

The Divisional Health Services covering the areas of Harrogate, Knaresborough and Nidderdale, are administered from the Divisional Health Office, Municipal Offices, Harrogate.

These services include Maternity and Child Welfare, School Health and Dental, Care and After-care, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, and Mental Health Services.

Brief details of some of these services are given as follows:-

(a) Health Visiting and School Nursing.

Health Visiting and School Nursing have been carried out in the area by one part-time health visitor and one part-time school nurse.

(b) School Health Service.

A general school clinic is held at Fysche Hall, Iles Lane, on Monday and Thursday mornings, attendances during the year numbered 757. An Ophthalmic Clinic is held on certain Friday mornings.

There is a Dental Clinic in Chain Lane, Knaresborough, Mr. Buzza being the part-time Dentist at this Clinic. 762 school children received treatment during the year. Mr. Buzza also inspects the dental condition of the children attending the schools in Knaresborough.

The following special Clinics for school children are held in Harrogate:--

Cardiac. Ear, Nose and Throat. Orthopaedic. Orthoptic. Speech Therapy. Sunlight.

The Orthoptic Clinic had to be suspended at the end of July, 1955, owing to Miss Davey, the Orthoptist, leaving to take up work in another area. There were considerable difficulties in obtaining a replacement and this Clinic could not be resumed until February, 1956. The Clinic is concerned with children who are suffering from squint, and eye exercises are given to help the children overcome this condition.

Children from Knaresborough are issued with travel vouchers, when necessary, for attendance at these clinics.

(c) Special Examination of Handicapped Children.

Special examinations are made, sometimes at the Clinic, but more often at the child's home, where it is found that a child is educationally retarded. In certain cases special education is advised. At the end of the year there were 8 children resident in Knaresberough who were educationally sub-normal, of whom 7 were attending special schools for this purpose.

Children who are ineducable are reported to the Mental Deficiency Committee of the West Riding County Council. 8 children were under supervision and were visited from time to time by the Mental Health Social Worker.

Other children who are physically handicapped are recommended for admission to special schools when this is considered desirable. A partially deaf child was attending a residential special school; and a malajusted boy from the Children's Homes in Knaresborough, where he returns for his holidays, was living in a Hostel for malajusted children.

(d) School Medical Examinations,

Children attending the schools in Knaresborough are periodically medically examined. There are four routine examinations undertaken during the period the child attends school. In addition, children who are found to be delicate or to have some defect at a previous routine examination are re-inspected when the doctor visits the school, and at any time the parents or teachers may request a special inspection of a school child. Arrangements are made for the treatment of any defects found at these examinations, children either being referred to their own doctor, to the hospital, or to the special clinics for such treatment. 390 routine school medical examinations were carried out during the year. In addition 197 special inspections and 49 re-inspections were also carried out.

(e) Examinations of Employees.

School children are medically examined for fitness for part-time employment as errand boys, shop assistants, etc. 14 children, 13 boys and 1 girl, were medically examined during 1955 for this purpose.

There is also close liaison with the Youth Employment Officer and medical reports are made from time to time to the Youth Employment Officer on children who are leaving school and who are in some way handicapped. Information is given as to any occupation which would not be suitable for a particular child on medical grounds. Where the disability is severe, and the parents give consent in writing, more detailed medical reports are given in order that the case may be registered under the Disabled Persons Act. This Act gives certain advantages to disabled persons, these include priority in gaining suitable employment.

(f) Maternity Services.

127 births, including 2 still births were notified in respect of Knaresborough residents during the year. Of these, 59 births including 1 still birth, took place in the maternity block of the Harrogate General Hospital, 33 in Carlton Lodge Maternity Home and 2 in Ripon Maternity Hospital. The remaining 33 births, including 1 still birth, took place in the patients' own homes under the care of the domiciliary midwives.

(g) Home Nursing.

There are 2 whole-time home nurses resident in Knaresborough and their services are much appreciated by the community. The majority of the work of the Home Nursing Service is amongst the elderly, particularly those who have some crippling defect and who are bed-ridden owing to chronic illness.

(h) Home Help Service.

At the end of the year, 11 part-time home helps were employed in Knaresborough. The total number of hours worked during the year was 10.602 as compared with 11.560 hours during 1954.

Assistance was given to 65 cases, of these, 16 were due to illness in the home, excluding illness of aged persons, and 38 related to illness or infirmity of the aged. In 1 case where the mother was ill, a home help was provided to look after the children, and home helps were supplied to 7 Knaresborough maternity cases, enabling the mother to have her baby at home. 2 expectant mothers and 1 case of tuberculosis were also provided with a home help.

(i) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The West Riding County Council maintain a Child Welfare Clinic and a School Clinic at Fysche Hall, Iles Lane, Knaresborough.

A change took place at the end of October at the Knaresborough Child Welfare Clinic when Dr. Redfern ceased to act as Medical Officer after many years excellent service. This change was necessitated by the appointment by the County Council of another full time Assistant County Medical Officer.

The Dental Clinic at Chain Lane, Knaresborough, treats mainly school children but occasional cases of expectant and nursing mothers receive treatment at this Clinic, 3 such cases were treated during the year.

The days and times these clinics are held are set out in tabular form on page 15.

(j) Mental Health Service.

Group Training classes for mentally retarded children who are not attending school have continued throughout the year under the supervision of the Home Teacher. Two sessions are held each week at the Fysche Hall Clinic and are greatly appreciated by the parents. 6 children have attended regularly and, though the progress is rather slow, the children respond very well. The social abilities of the children have also shown a noticeable improvement.

All these children are under Statutory Supervision and are visited regularly by the Social Worker. The Social Worker also visits 10 older defectives, of whom 4 are not subject to be dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Acts, but whose parents have requested visits.

(k) Distribution of Welfare Foods.

The distribution centre in Knaresborough is at the Clinic, Iles Lane, which is open for distribution all day on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and on Saturday mornings.

The welfare foods distributed are National Dried Milk. Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamins A and D tablets.

During 1955, 6.668 tins of National Dried Milk, 10,574 bottles of Orange Juice, 2.097 bottles of Cod Liver Oil and 677 packets of Vitamin Tablets, have been issued.

4 Registration of Nursing Homes.

At the end of 1955 there was 1 Registered Nursing Home in Knaresborough. This home was inspected during the year by one of the medical staff of the Division.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
General School Clinic Iles Lane. Ophthalmic Clinic Iles Lane.	9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.			9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	9 a.m. (by appointment only)
Child Welfare Centre Iles Lane.	1	1-30 p.m. to 4 p.m.		*1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.	
Group Training Centre Iles Lane.	1-45 p.m. to 4 p.m.		1-45 p.m. to 4 p.m.	I	I
Dental Clinic Chain Lane.		B	By Appointment	nin dana Marabaa Marabaa Marabaa	

West Riding County Council Clinics held at Knaresborough.

* Every 2nd and 4th Thursday in the month.

THE PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THEIR CONTROL.

The number of cases notified are set out in the table on page 18.

1. Scarlet Fever.

8 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year. 4 were admitted to the Isolation Hospital and 4 were isolated at home.

2. Measles.

179 cases of measles were notified during 1955 as compared with 49 in 1954. 2 of the patients were admitted to Hospital.

3. Whooping Cough.

103 cases of whooping cough were notified in 1955 as compared with 5 cases in 1954.

4. Tuberculosis.

2 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, both males, and 2 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, both males, were notified during the year. 3 patients were admitted to sanatoria, 1 patient removed from the area and 1 case recovered. There were no deaths from this disease during 1955.

5. Other Infectious Diseases.

No case of smallpox, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, pneumonia, dysentry, food poisoning, puerperal pyrexia, nor erysipelas, was notified during 1955.

6. Preventive Inoculations.

(a) Diphtheria Immunisation.

The health visitors, during their visits, particularly to children under one year, stress the need for diphtheria immunisation, and it is felt that personal persuasion of this character is the best form of propaganda. 175 immunisations were carried out during the year. In addition 277 reinforcing injections were given to children in whom the degree of immunity had been diminished by the length of time since their initial inoculation.

(b) Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The number of whooping cough immunisations carried out during 1955 was 26. In addition many pre-school children received the combined diphtheria and whooping cough immunisation through their private practitioners.

(c) Smallpox Vaccination.

During the year 101 primary vaccinations and 25 revaccinations were carried out for residents of Knarebsorough.

(d) Tuberculosis Vaccination.

The parents of thirteen year old school-children attending the council schools, were given the opportunity of accepting vaccination with B.C.G. for their children. It is first necessary to find out which children need this vaccination and this is determined by a test, known as the Mantoux test, which is a skin test showing whether the child has already acquired a natural resistance to tuberculosis or whether vaccination is desirable.

In Knaresborough 137 children received this preliminary Mantoux test and from this test it was shown that it was desirable for 103 children to receive the B.C.G. vaccination, all of whom were vaccinated during the year.

7. Mass Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit did not undertake a survey in Knaresborough during 1955. Age Groups of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases for the year 1955.

No. of Cases Notified Ages—Years	Scarlet Fever	Measles	/hooping Coŭgh
	Sca	F4	×
Under 1	-	3	5
1—2	_	37	16
3—4	2	47	23
5—9	6	89	51
10—14	_	3	3
15—24	-	-	1
25 and over	- a d		4
Total notified	8	179	103
No of cases admitted to Hospital	4	2	
Total No. of Deaths of Notified Cases			

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948-Section 47.

This section of the Act gives authority to order the removal to hospital, or Part III accommodation, of persons in need of care and attention where this is not being provided in their own homes. No case was dealt with under this section during 1955.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the Knaresborough Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Ninth and Final Annual Report on the Sanitary and Cleansing Services for 1955.

In years to come, if and when these reports are perused, it may be assumed by the reader that as the period being reviewed is ten years after the end of the second world war conditions could be classed as normal.

This is not so—as the atomic era, threats of war, international politics, difficulties in the Commonwealth and in international relationships all lead to a world of suspicion, unrest and instability. Ever increasing wages and costs were the order of the day. Labour was scarce.

This had its effect in many ways on Local Public Health work. Principally, it meant an end of new housing except for slum clearance, and a delay in schemes for improvement of the town. The Housing Repairs and Rents Act seemed to be a failure (remember its fanfare—"Operation Rescue"?) and has had practically no effect on decaying old property that could and must be saved. The scheme for Improvement Grants has been no more successful either.

I wish to tender my thanks to the members of the Council for their support and encouragement and to Dr. Payne for his guidance and co-operation during the eight years I have had the honour to serve your Council.

I am. Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. JENNINGS,

Sanitary Inspector.

Health Department, Knaresborough. January, 1956.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Total number of inspections and visits made	2,272
Number of contraventions found	279
Number of nuisances and contraventions in hand at	
31/12/54	22
Number of nuisances abated and contraventions remedied	
during 1955	283
Number of nuisances and contraventions outstanding at	
31/12/55	18
Number of informal notices served by letter or verbally	279
Formal Notices served	11
Formal Notices complied with	9

Details of Inspections

Public Health Acts		
Obstructed drains and sewers		 33
Drainage and sewer inspections		 27
Drains tested:—		
Smoke test		 -
Water test		 3
Colour test		 28
General nuisances and sanitary defects		 83
Cleanliness of houses		 6
Keeping of Animals		 15
Insect and other infestation (except roder	nts)	 9
Rivers, streams and ditches-pollution		 5
Smoke observations and smoke nuisances		 2
Infectious diseases enquiries		 19
Disinfections		 1
Disinfestations		 5
Water supply		 18
Water samples-Bacteriological		 14
Moveable dwellings		 20
Public Cleansing Service:		
Refuse Collection		 96
Refuse Disposal		 119
Salvage		 71
Heating Appliances and Fireguards Act		
Noise nuisances		 10
Cesspool drainage and unsewered premises		 55
Re-inspections. Public Health Act		 126

Hotels and places of entertainment—sanitary	
conveniences	26
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	356
Factories Act, 1937:-	
Part 1	47
Means of escape in case of fire	12
Re Outworkers	-
Shops Act, 1950	25
Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act. 1951	2
Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951-Samples	1
Pet Animals Act, 1951	3
Hairdressers and Barbers	7
Housing Acts:-	
Inspections-Housing Act, 1949, Improvement Grants	41
Inspections—Housing Consol Regs	19
Re-inspections and miscellaneous visits	85
Overcrowding	10
Requisitioned Property	11
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954—re Certs, of	**
Disrepair	14
Food and Drugs:—	14
	12
Fried Fish Shops	27
Butchers' Shops	
Bakehouses	15
Grocery Shops and General Stores	41
Greengrocers, Fishmongers, Poultry Dealers	13
Hotel. Cafe and Canteen Kitchens	45
Food preparing premises	19
Confectionery Shops	10
Ice Cream premises and selling points	11
Hotels	26
Milk and Dairies	10
Unsound Food	12
Miscellaneous food visits	26
Bacteriological examination of food—other than	
milk and ice cream	13
Bacteriological examinations of Milk	34
Biological Examinations of Milk	1
Visits to Laboratory	28
Ice Cream Samples—Bacteriological examination	55
Knackers Yard	7
Food Hawkers, Food Hawkers' premises and delivery	
Vans ,	6
Slaughterhouses	278
Market Inspections	13
Miscellaneous visits, Meetings, interviews, etc	146

Summary of work carried out to abate Nuisances, 1955

Defective eavesgutters and downspouts renewed or		
repaired		11
Defective roofs repaired		9
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired		3
Obstructed or defective drains cleared, repaired or rela	id	25
Cleanliness of houses improved		1
Accumulations of refuse removed		12
Defective W.C.'s repaired		10
Miscellaneous internal defects repaired		8
Defective paths or yards relaid		2
New dustbins provided in lieu of dilapidated bins		119
External house walls rendered or pointed to abate		
dampness		2
Internal water supply provided		1
Dangerous walls and buildings demolished or repaired		7
Cesspools cleansed		25
Defective fireplaces and smoky chimneys repaired		3
Watercourses cleaned out or pollution abated		2
Sanitary accommodation rebuilt or improved		1
Smoke nuisances abated		2
Nuisance from flooding abated		1
Works to remedy dampness carried out		6
Access for removal of house refuse improved		3
Unsatisfactory cesspools connected to sewer		-
Nuisance caused by gas leakage or petrol fumes abated		2
Infestation by insects dealt with		5
Conversions from pail closet to water closet		i
Keeping of animals so as to be a nuisance abated		2
Cesspools abolished-houses connected to main sewer		52

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Water is supplied and distributed by Harrogate Corporation. A short description of the water supply was given in the Annual Report for 1950.

The following are the details of 14 water samples examined during the year:---

Source of Supply	No. of Samples	Probable No. of coliform bacilli per 100ml. after 2 days at 37° C.	Probable No. of faecal Coli
Public Supply	10	One Sample 1 Nine Samples 0	10 Spl.—0
Private Supplies	4	One Sample35One Sample1Two Samples0	1 Spl.—17 3 Spl.—0

Only 5 occupied houses in the town remain without internal water supplies, and only 3 houses are not on the public supply.

The water supply for the latter 3 houses is inadequate and unsatisfactory, the meagre pure water supply being delivered in small churns by rail to a point near the houses from whence it has to be carried into the houses by the householders. A private supply pipe passes within 120 yards of the cottages.

The position of these cottages has been fully reported to the Council, but after prolonged consideration and interviews and correspondence with the owners, the Council have not decided to take action to remedy the position.

During August, following complaints of insect life in the water supply of a house in Boroughbridge Road area, investigations were made in this area and in a number of instances in this part of the town insect life was found from time to time in the water supply. The matter was reported to the water department. It was no doubt due to the exceptionally warm and dry summer and the use of open storage reservoirs.

The Water Engineer, Harrogate Corporation, reports that the only mains extensions carried out in Knaresborough in 1955 were in Tentergate Road, Manor Road and Scotton Banks (to the Hospital).

Public Cleansing

A. Collection.

The weekly collection of house and trade refuse throughout the Urban District was maintained during 1955, approximately 2,400 tons of refuse being collected from over 3,000 bins.

158 informal notices were served to renew defective dustbins and 143 dustbins were provided during 1955 as a result of notices.

For the second year, in no instance was it necessary to serve a statutory notice—indeed the provision of dustbins seems to proceed remarkably smoothly in Knaresborough.

The increasing bulk of refuse was fully discussed in last year's report. It is a problem, as the ash content was most important to us at the refuse tip. During the past summer the refuse has been little more than a heap of smelly paper, tins and vegetable matter and in winter has never assumed its immediate post war cinder content.

After 10 years of useful life the Karrier Bantam became very uneconomical and worn out during the year and a similar replacement vehicle was ordered in December.

B Disposal

The disposal point continues to be in the old Grimbald Quarry, Wetherby Road, which should provide tipping space for another 3 years.

The Council's decision to increase the tip attendants' time at the tip quickly had beneficial results and throughout the summer the tip was maintained in a very good state considering the small amount of cover that becomes available. Early in the year tipping was carried out at Briggate Tip and the unsightly area at the lower end left level with Union Street and ready for utilisation for some other purpose.

Bearing in mind the increasing paper content of refuse and the increasing numbers of all-night burning fires which are cleaned out while still hot, we were fortunate in only having one tip fire, though on several occasions refuse was burning on arrival at the tip.

C. Salvage.

Salvage of paper, textiles, scrap metals, bottles and jars continued but due to the increased pressure of work it was not possible to collect and sort as much salvage as one would wish to do.

D. The cost of the Public Cleansing Service during the year ended 31st March. 1956, was:--

Refuse Collection	0 100	 		£3	3,489
Refuse Disposal		 		£	520
				4	
esponsible for the			0 2		
Revenue		 	£1	.44	
Salvage Profit		 	£	239	
Nett Cost of Servic	e	 		£3	.626

The cost of emptying each bin is, therefore, approximately 51/2, per week or 23/- per year.

Sewers and Drains

Mossop's Estate and the unsewered parts of Crag Top including parts of Aspin Lane and Wetherby Road and embracing some 52 houses were sewered during the year. These two areas have given frequent and serious trouble in the past, so far as drainage is concerned, and their sewering can be considered a major local public health improvement.

Part of York Road, Wetherby Road (beyond Grimbald Bridge), York Lane and Thistle Hill (beyond the hospital) will then be the only localities in the district not sewered. This portion of Wetherby Road is to be sewered in 1956. 25 cesspools were emptied, on payment, by Wetherby R.D.C's. Cesspool Emptier. Wetherby Council are very co-operative in offering this service which is hygienic and reasonable in cost to occupiers and owners.

Public Conveniences

The town is now well served with public conveniences mostly of modern construction. The accommodation was detailed in the 1954 Report.

The proposed conveniences in Fisher Street will complete the needs of the town and in particular will serve the Bus Station where conveniences have long been needed.

If the proposed Car Park in York Road is proceeded with, one of the first essentials would be conveniences, especially having in mind the size of the proposed car park and its distance from any conveniences.

The Surveyor's Department are responsible for the public conveniences in the district.

Licensed Premises and Places of Entertainment

Routine visits were paid to licensed houses and a cinema under the Public Health Act. 1936, Section 89, and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 13. Most Licensed premises have now got good internal sanitary conveniences for both sexes.

Factories

There are 53 premises on the Council's Factory Register consisting of:-

(a) Factories without power			
Baking	1	Hand knitwear	1
Starshell parachutes	1	Upholstery and cabinet	
side hermone har tohtelb.		making	1

Total ... 4

(b) Factories with power:-

4	Cotton sewing 1
1	Electricity generating 1
2	Laundry 2
1	Linen and cotton
	weaving 2
1	Light engineering 1
	Printing 2
5	Raincoat manufacture 2
	Shirt manufacture 1
1	Sports clothes 1
9	Timber sawing 2
	Skin curing 1
1	Sausage making 1
1	Engineering Components 1
1	(interesting)
	1 2 1 1 5 1

Total ... 45

... 4

(c) Other Premises:-

Building operations ...

Forty-seven inspections were made of the above factories. 16 contraventions were found and 15 remedied during the year.

There are no large factories in the area only 5 having over 20 employees and none having over 50. Many employ only 2 or 3 persons.

Outworkers.

There were 19 names on the August lists of outworkers required by Sec. 110 of the Factories Act. including 7 residing in the Urban District. In two instances there was default in sending lists to the Council.

Knackers Yard

There is one Knackers Yard in the area and 7 visits of inspection were made during the year. The Knackers Yard is licensed for the slaughter of horses and the annual return of horses slaughtered and carcases of horses received into the Knackers Yard was duly received from the occupier.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials

Two premises in town are registered under the provisions of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951. Two visits were made to registered premises during the year and one sample of filling material was taken.

Pet Shops

The Pet Animals Act, 1951, is administered by the department. Three visits were made under the provisions of the Act. Two premises are licensed as Pet Shops and both are satisfactory, being only engaged in the trade concerned to a small degree.

Dealers in Scrap Metal

The Council have adopted Sec. 86, Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, which requires the registration of the Scrap Metal Dealers in the town. Six such dealers were on the Register at the end of the year, and four police officers are authorised officers for the purpose of enforcing the Act in addition to the Council's own officers.

The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act. 1952

This Act requires guards for all heating appliances. While no special visits were made during the year, close watch was kept on the windows of shops dealing in such appliances and, in particular, on the premises of second hand dealers. No heating appliances that would contravene the Regulations were observed on any occasion.

Infectious Disease and Disinfection

In 19 instances investigations were made after cases of certain infectious diseases, and disinfection of houses and fomites carried out where necessary. The investigations were all of a routine nature with the exception of one investigation into the causes of several cases of food poisoning amongst a party from Bolton which, amongst other places, had had a meal in Knaresborough. The investigation gave satisfactory evidence that the food poisoning had not been contracted in Knaresborough.

Hairdressers and Barbers

The Council have adopted Sec. 120 of the West Riding (County Council) General Powers Act. 1951, and required all hairdressers and their premises to be registered. Ten hairdressers are registered under the Act. The Council have made Bye-laws relating to cleanliness in hairdressers and barbers shops, and 7 visits of inspection were made during the year. In one instance contraventions were found and remedied.

Swimming Baths or Pools

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

Infestation and Disinfestation

Only 5 houses were disinfested during the year—all for wasps. 3 bed bug infestations were found in one block—the first to come to notice for some years. Quick, cheap and effective treatments with a minimum of disturbance to occupiers are now available for all common domestic pests. In addition to the above mentioned cases, advice was given in several more instances of infestation by various types of insects.

Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trades on the Register.

Shops

25 inspections of shops were made under the provisions of Section 10 of the Shops Act. Many more inspections were made in actual fact, but were not separately recorded, as the major reason for inspection was under other legislation. The provisions of the Act relating to washing facilities were delegated to the Authority during the year and the above inspections included inspections of these facilities also.

Rodent Control

The yearly test bait and twice yearly maintenance treatment of the infested sewers was carried out as in previous years, and work under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, continued.

"Warfarin" has continued to play a major part in rodent control. It has been used with complete success in most cases of infestation by both mice and rats. Again it was found that poor hygiene and rodent infestation went hand in hand in many cases.

Free treatments for domestic premises, and treatments on payment for other premises, are offered by the department where there is co-operation from occupiers.

356 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector during 1955 in connection with rodent infestation, surveys, or treatments. The following table shows the details of rodent infestations of land which came to the Department's notice or were discovered by inspection during the year ended 31st March. 1956, which is the period covered in the Annual Return to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Type of property	L.A. Property	Dwelling Houses	Agricul tural	Business & other	Total
Properties	10	2566	84	531	3191
Properties inspected : As a result of	ann -dda Langes au Langes bul	inge bps inge bps inge sign inge sign inge sign	are, money look, and mais lo nei		minina sa katod sas
Notification by occupier	3	23	ibino <u>m</u> i iq	6	32
Survey or Otherwise	ti	91	45	192	334
Total	9	114	45	198	366
Infestations found :					ddryyou
Rats—Major	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	3	-	4
—Minor	2	28	3	7	40
Mice—Major —Minor	10-201	2 6	mage 11	2	4
Minor	o ITON	0			
Control measures :	a Balles				Saret S
Informal Notices Sec. (4)	es have	icn llacn	ow tol age	Howb 10	'tedraura
(a) Treatment		36	6	9	51
(b) Works		2	2	2	6
Formal Notices Treatments		North	1	net ben net ra ett	1
carried out by					aldour .
L.A. or occupiers	8	36	6	9	59

Keeping of Animals

Improvement is still desired in the way pigs and poultry are kept in many gardens, allotments and smallholdings. Often a minimum of time, money and suitable material is expended on housing the stock, and the cleanliness and maintenance of the housing of animals is neglected. Such buildings soon become shacks and breeding grounds for flies and rodents.

Moveable Dwellings

At the end of the year there were five licensed sites for moveable dwellings.

20 visits were made to sites and dwellings. In only 1 instance was there permanent occupation of dwellings on camping sites at the end of the year. In licensing one particular site the Council made it a condition of the licence that permanent occupation of 2 dwellings should cease.

The following are the sites licensed and the maximum number of dwellings for which licences have been granted:—

Nidderdale Camping	Site, York	Road	 28 dwellings
Lorrisholme Camping	Site, York	Road	 45 .,
Homestead Camping	Site, York	Road	 30 ,,
Lido Camping Site,	Wetherby	Road	 200 ,,
Dropping Well Farr	n Camping	Site	 30 ,,

Smoke Abatement

During 1955. 2 timed observations were taken of industrial chimneys in the district. In both instances smoke was emitted in such quantity as to constitute nuisances, and the occupiers were notified. There are few industrial chimneys in the district and of these only four serve large industrial type furnaces. A constant watch is kept on such chimneys as a normal routine and when smoke is discharged in quantity, timed observations are commenced.

Housing

Unfit Houses.

A start was made on the Council's programme of Slum Clearance and by the end of 1955. 17 houses had been dealt with as follows:—

Address	Section	Action	Remarks
13, 15, 17, 19 Church Lane	H.A. 1936 Sec. 11	Demolition Order, made 1954	Not demolished at year end. 3 houses empty
4, 6, 8, 10, 12 Park Row 8, 9, 10 Park Parade	H.A., 1936 Sec. 11	Purchased by Council by agreement	No further action by year end, 6 houses empty, 2 houses to be improved and retained.
Cane Cottage Abbey Rd.	H.A., 1936 Sec. 11	Demolition Order made	Not demolished at year end.
1a Railway Terrace 2 Wellington Street 18a Windsor Lane	H.A., 1936 Sec. 11 L.G. (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953	Closing Order made	Houses closed.
Bar House Boroughbridge Road	H.A., 1936 Sec. 11	Demolition Order made	Not demolished at year end.

In addition certain houses in Abbey Road were represented as a Clearance Area and whereas the representation was accepted and approved, action thereon was deferred.

(1) Number of houses which on inspection were considered unfit for human habitation *103
(2) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied as a result of informal action by the Local Authority 21
(3) Number of representations or reports made to the Local Authority with a view to:—
 (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works None (b) the making of Demolition or Closing Orders 13 (c) the making of Clearance Areas 1 (8 houses)
(4) Number of notices served requiring the execution of works None
(5) Number of houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices None
 (6) (a) Number of Clearance Orders made
(7) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings under Sec. 11 (3), Housing Act, 1936 were accepted None
(8) Number of houses demolished None
 (9) Number of houses in Clearance Areas Demolished None * Based on survey carried out under Sec.1, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.
† Action on area referred to, deferred.

Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants.

Four formal applications under Sec. 20 of the Act were received and all were approved. This Act provides a means of assisting owners to bring good old property up to modern standards yet very few enquiries and applications have been forthcoming and only 7 schemes have been approved in the four years the Act has been in force. With so much old property in the district in need of retention, repair and modernisation one must regret the fact that more schemes have not been forthcoming.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954-Certificates of Disrepair.

Under the provisions of the above Act. 3 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during the year and in each case Certificates were granted. 3 applications for revocation of Certificates were received and 2 were granted.

Housing Act, 1949. Section 4-Loans for Repair.

The Council have indicated their willingness to make loans in approved cases for repairs to render old houses fit. No applications for loans were however, received during the year.

New Houses.

38 houses were completed by the Council on Manor Estate and 30 dwellings were built or provided by private enterprise. When Manor Estate is completed the Council will own 633 houses of which 6 have 5 bedrooms; 22, 4 bedrooms; 420, 3 bedrooms; 137 2 bedrooms; 40 bungalows and flats, and there are also 8 miscellaneous house properties.

By the end of 1955 there were no requisitioned houses, the last 7 being released during the year.

Council House Applications.

The number of applicants on the Council's waiting list at the year end was 176, which included 40 applicants for bungalows and flats.

Land Searches

In 184 cases information was given to complete land searches.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

The following are results of samples of milk taken during the year:-

Test		oidity est	Methyle	ne Blue	Phosphatase Test		
Type of Milk	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis factory	
Pasteurised	-	-	1	_	1	1	
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised			2		2		
Tuberculin Tested	-	-	24	5			
Sterilised	2		and the second	82- 10	the end	wi	
Total	2	-	27	5	3	-	

One sample of ungraded milk submitted for biological examination, was found to be negative to the tubercle bacillus and the organism of undulant fever.

No.	of Registered Distributors		18	
No.	of Registered Dairies		3	
No.	of Dealers Licences-Tuberculin-Tested M	Ailk	9	
	Pasteurised milk .		7	
	Sterilised milk		3	
No.	of Supplementary Licences:			
	Tuberculin-Tested	milk	6	
	Pasteurised milk		7	
	Sterilised milk		4	

Only a very small quantity of undesignated milk is now retailed in the district, all in Thistle Hill area.

Meat.

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

18 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. With one exception all are of a minor nature and usually connected with retail shops adjacent.

Slughterhouses.

There is only 1 slaughterhouse licenced in the area and this is used by 5. and occasionally 6, butchers, all slaughtering being done by the employees of the occupiers. The slaughterhouse would be quite adequate if slaughtering was spread over several days but as is customary in this trade the majority of the killing is done on a Monday afternoon and evening when the facilities become overburdened. Plans were however submitted before the year end for improved facilities for slaughtering of sheep and pigs.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-54.

The number of slaughtermen's Licences in force during the year was 12.

Meat Inspection.

278 visits were made to the slaughterhouse to inspect meat. 110 visits were made cutside normal office hours of which 23 were on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

The following table gives details of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year ended 31st December, 1955:—

Horses	1	1	1		neda j krod Prozestalja			1		
Pigs	576	576	5	10	2.6		23	4.0	1	
Sheep and Lambs	1395	1395	3	8	0.72	1	I	1		
Calves	81	81	3		3.7	1		Ι	I	
Cows	26	26	ŝ	I	15.4		4	15.4		1
Cattle Excluding Cows	494	494	3	44	9.3	I	48	6.6	e	3
	Number kilied	Number inspected	All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or argan was condemned	Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration Generalised and totally condemned

Details of Meat found unfit and surrendered:-

Cloudy Swelling	12 11	os. Dysphagia	50	lbs.
Cysticercus Bovis	25 11			lbs.
Pyaemia	70 11	bs. Fatty Degeneration	1 12	lbs.
Actinobacillus	75 11	bs. Pericarditis	1	lb.
Parasitic Infestatio	on 7 ll	bs. Distomatosis	34	lbs.
Tuberculosis	2194 11	bs. Inflamation	40	lbs.
Febrile Condition	50 11	os. Pneumonia	50	lbs.
Cirrhosis	224 18	os. Bruising	171	lbs.
Abscesses	134 lk	os Peritonitis	450	lbs.
Mastitis	40 11	bs. Swine Erysipelas	300	lbs.
Oedema	250 11	bs. Septic Pneumonia	350	lbs.
Nephritis	1 1	b. Septic Mastitis	750	lbs.
Pleurisy	19 11	bs. Pathological		
Pyaemic Polyarthr	itis 40 ll	bs. Emaciation	130	lbs.
Septic Metritis	450 11	bs. Hydronephrosis	3	lbs.
	Total	5962 lbs.		

Grading.

92 Pigs were graded deadweight at the slaughterhouse for the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, who had requested that the Council's Meat Inspector should carry out such duties on their behalf at the slaughterhouse which was made a Deadweight Certification Centre.

Ice Cream.

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

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

Three premises are registered to manufacture and sell Ice Cream.

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

51 premises are registered to sell Ice Cream, 22 of these being for pre-packed type only.

55 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

Grade	1		 	31	samples
Grade	2		 	12	samples
Grade	3			6	samples
Grade	4	1.2	 	6	samples

8 of the Grade 3 and 4 Samples were from 2 plants during investigations to find the cause of unsatisfactory routine samples during the very hot weather in June.

Generally the processing and handling of Ice Cream remains Satisfactory.

Market.

13 visits were paid to the Market.

The food sold in the market is for the most part, greengrocery, fish and biscuits, the average number of food traders being twelve.

Other Foods.

It will be seen from the details of inspections on page 21 that visits were made to every type of food premises.

The following table gives the types and numbers of food premises and trades in the district:—

Catering	34	*Hospital Kitchens 3
School Canteens		*Residential Homes 3
School Canteens		Market Food Traders
(Consumption only)		(average) 12
Bakeries	10	Ice Cream Manufacturers 5
Grocer and General	35	*Clubs 4
Confectioners-Retail	25	Food Hawkers 7
" Manufacturing	1000000	Food Hawkers premises 1
Butchers	8	Milk Dealers (including
Pork Butchers and		Producer-Retailer) 20
prepared foods	2	Dairies 3
Food Preparation Rooms	-	Premises registered re sale
—other than at retail		of Ice Cream † 51
shops	1	Premises registered for
Fish and Chip Shops	9	manufacture of certain
Fish, Greengrocery and	0	foods under Sec. 14,
	8	Food and Drugs Act,
Fruit	7	1938† 18
Greengrocery and Fruit		
Poultry Dealers	5	Slaughterhouses 1

* No power of inspection until January 1st, 1956.

† All included in previous classifications.

The following contraventions were noticed in food premises during routine visits of inspection and appropriate action taken:

Equipment defective				6
Equipment not clean				5
Food rooms not clean or satisfactorily de	ecorate	ed		18
Protection of food unsatisfactory				6
Walls, floors or ceilings requiring repair				3
Keeping of animals in food rooms in unsat	tisfact	ory		
manner				2
Notices re hand washing not provided				6
Unsatisfactory facilities for hand washing				3
Infestations by rats or mice detected				8
Unsatisfactory food hawkers van				1
Exposure of unsound food detected				1
Unregistered food premises detected				2
Miscellaneous other unhygenic practice in	food	rooms	or	
food vehicles				7
Smoking while handling food				1

Food Hawking.

Under the provisions of Section 76, West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, 7 food hawkers and 1 food hawkers' premises are registered. The 7 food hawkers traded as follows:—Ice Cream, 3; Greengrocery and/or fish, 3; and mobile canteen, 1. Apart from Ice Cream very little hawking of food is carried on in the district.

Unsound Food (other than fresh meat).

228 lbs. of food unfit for human consumption were surrendered and destroyed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938-Analysis.

The County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority and have kindly given the following particulars of samples taken during 1955:—

Milk—Genuine	 	 	 15
Adulterated	 	 	
Other Foods-Genuine		 	 9
Adulterated	 	 	 —
Drugs—Genuine	 	 	 2
Adulterated	 	 	
Cautions	 	 	
Prosecutions	 	 	

