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HUCKNALL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR
1940

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS
FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.



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Printers :
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Hucknall, Notts.

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

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my twenty-seventh Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of Hucknall.

In compliance with instructions received from the Ministry of Health the report is given in a shortened form, similar to the one for 1939.

My thanks are due to all those officials of the Council who have given me material assistance during the year, and to you, Gentlemen, I again express my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration which you have extended to me.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

15th June, 1941.

WALTER GARSTANG.

Since the completion of this report I have received from the Registrar General the estimate of population of Hucknall for 1940. It is 20,740.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	4030
Population 1939. Registrar General's estimate	...					20790
Population 1940 (estimated)	...	...	...	...		21000
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940)						
				according to Rate Books		6120
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£89382
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...		£332

132 more houses were occupied in 1940 than in 1939, and at the present time it is correct to say that no house capable of occupation is standing empty. Indeed, a number are occupied which would not be permitted to be so under ordinary circumstances.

This increased number would normally point to a considerable addition to the population, but as so many men and women are now serving in the Forces of the Crown, I do not think there is any material increase in the Civilian population, which I estimate at 21,000.

The Unemployment figures show a further decrease over those for 1939. This is especially noticeable among males, of whom there were only 160 unemployed at the end of the year.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			Total	M.	F.
Live Births: Legitimate	...	...	407	206	201
Illegitimate	...	...	14	10	4
Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population = 20.04.					
Stillbirths: Legitimate	...	...	16	7	9
Illegitimate	...	...	2	0	2

Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births = 41.02.

Deaths	...	...	...	...	229	130	99
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population = 13.08.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings
29 and 30 of the Registrar General's
Short List)

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births.
No. 29, Puerperal sepsis	0	0.00
No. 30, Other puerperal causes ...	0	0.00
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:		
All infants per 1000 live births ...	25	58
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	24	58
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegiti- mate live births	1	71
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	19	
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	2	
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	1	
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under two years of age	3	

BIRTHS.

The number of live births is 421, males 216, females 205, and the birth rate is 20.04. This rate has not been exceeded since 1924. Stillbirths were 18, males 7, females 11, the main cause of these being Prematurity.

DEATHS.

These numbered 229, males 130, females 99. The general death rate is 13.08. Among the diseases causing the greatest number of deaths are Cardiac Disease 36; Cerebral Hæmorrhage and other diseases of the Blood Vessels 30; Cancer 19; Tuberculosis 12; Pneumonia, primary and influenzal, 13; Influenza 8. There were 2 deaths from Measles and 1 from Whooping Cough. For the second successive year there were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other diseases of Pregnancy or Parturition.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 58 per 1000 live births, the number of infant deaths being 25, a similar number to that of 1939. Only 9 of these deaths took place during the first month of life, and they were due to Prematurity or Congenital Malformation. In three other cases Diarrhœa was the cause of death.

Inquests. The number held was 14, of which one was concerned with the death of 6 people. The causes of death were stated to be Accidental Burns 8, Road Accidents 4, Injuries caused by falls 3, Suicide 2, Colliery Accident 1, and Septicæmia following an Abrasion on the leg 1. The percentage of total deaths is 8.3.

Uncertified deaths numbered 7, the percentage of total deaths being 3.0.

The ages at which death occurred were as follows. Under 1 year, 25; between 1 and 25 years, 17; between 25 and 45 years, 25; between 45 and 65 years, 61; over 65 years, 101, of which 62 were over 75 years.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

Ambulance Facilities.

Nursing in the Home. Similar to the last two years.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Hospitals.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

These are the same as in the previous year. Some details are given below.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

The number of women attending was 311, of whom 2 were Post-Natal cases. The total attendances made were 550. 9 women were referred to a Consultant Obstetrician for various abnormalities, of whom 4 were afterwards admitted to the Women's Hospital, Nottingham, for their confinements. 11 other women were admitted to the same Hospital at the request of their own Medical Attendant or as "emergencies." 7 women were admitted to the Basford County Infirmary owing to unsuitable home surroundings. In only one instance was it necessary for a Consultant to be called to visit at the patient's house. The two Post-Natal cases were referred to the Women's Hospital, where the necessary treatment was given.

Dental Treatment of Expectant Mothers and Pre-School Children.

61 women were referred to the Dental Surgeon. 55 children were also referred for necessary treatment.

Ophthalmic Treatment (Provision of Spectacles).

No case was referred under this heading.

Treatment of Minor Ailments.

91 children were sent to the School Clinic.

Orthopædic Treatment.

The total attendance made by Pre-School children was 1247. These may be summarised as follows:—

For examination by Consultant	...	153
„ Radiant Heat and Massage	...	221
„ Plaster Treatment	... ..	233
„ Sun Ray Treatment	... ..	640

Mrs. D. N. Harrison has given the following statistics on Infant Welfare work generally:—

Number of Births notified	... ..	423
Number of Births notified by Doctors	... ..	2
Number of Births notified by Midwives	... ..	421
Number of Births attended by Doctors (who were engaged) and Midwives	... ..	12
Number of Cases in which Medical assistance was asked for	...	99
Number of Stillbirths	... ..	17
Number of Twinbirths	... ..	6
Number of Births transferred to this district	... ..	27
Number of Births transferred from this district to others	...	3
Number of Families with young children who came to reside in this district	... ..	74
Number of Families with young children who left this district	...	41

Systematic Visiting.

Number of first visits	... ..	384
Number of subsequent visits to infants under 1 year	...	2006
Number of visits to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	1391
Number of visits to expectant mothers	... ..	124

Infant Welfare Centre.

Number of infants on Register under 1 year	...	...	326
Number of children on Register between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	596

Children Weighed.

Under 1 year (total weighings)	...	...	4279
From 1—5 years (total weighings)	...	...	3000
Average attendance per session	...	...	60

Thee attendance at the Welfare Centre has remained fairly satisfactory in spite of war conditions. 80% of the infants born during the year were brought to the Welfare Centre. The average attendance of 60 children per 2-hour session has been just sufficient to avoid overcrowding at the Centre. The periodic visiting of infants and young children in their homes has been carried out as usual. Towards the end of the year the attendance at the Welfare Centre included many mothers and babies from London and other bombed areas.

The customary social events such as parties for the children and an outing for the mothers were not held this year.

The Ladies' Committee have again given valuable assistance at the Welfare sessions, and we are grateful for their help.

Provision of Fresh and Dried Milk to pregnant and nursing mothers and children under school age.

Up to the end of July, when the National Milk Scheme was brought into operation, 1245 gallons of cows' milk and 409 lbs. of dried milk were supplied either free or at half cost. With the introduction of the National Milk Scheme, the provision of fresh milk by the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority came to an end. The provision of dried milk was continued in those cases where the milk powder supplied under the National Scheme was found to be unsuitable. The amount of dried milk supplied during the period August—December was 84 lbs.

As the Government is now going to supply a milk powder—half cream content—this provision by the Local Authority will also come to an end.

It is to be understood that the Local Authority still continues to supply various kinds of Infant Foods at cost price.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

I refer you to Mr. H. M. Aitchison's report.

I append a Report of the Analysis of sample submitted in May, 1941.

REPORT OF ANALYSIS OF WATER FROM THE TOWN MAINS.

Received 5th May, 1941, from the Hucknall Urban District Council.

This sample contains per 100,000 parts:—

Total Solids dried at 180°	...	...	...	18.00
Suspended Matter	...	...	...	absent
Chlorides as chlorine	...	...	...	2.13
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	...	...	...	0.40
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	...	...	...	absent
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0032
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0004
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	5.00
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	8.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F. from N/80 KMnO ₄	...	...	...	0.008
pH value	...	...	...	7.90
Appearance	...	...	...	clear and bright
Odour	...	...	...	none
Taste and Colour	...	...	...	normal
Heavy Metals	...	...	...	absent

Treated Water.

No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hrs.	...	...	...	5
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 24 hrs.	...	...	...	1
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	...	...	...	4
Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	...	...	...	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hrs.	...	...	...	0

Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)	...	...	Absent in 200 mls.
Free Chlorine	...	...	absent

This sample is of satisfactory bacterial and chemical quality for public supply.

(Signed) W. W. Taylor, B.Sc., F.L.C.,

Public Analyst for the City of Nottingham.

I am indebted to Mr. H. M. Aitchison, the Surveyor and Engineer, for the following statement:—

1. Water.

No main extensions of any importance have been carried out during 1940.

The old reservoir has again been empty throughout the year, and a high level has been maintained in the new reservoir as far as possible, to meet the demands of the district.

As in previous years, I have again had considerable anxiety in regard to the quantity of water in the wells at the Pumping Station. The sinking of the new bore-hole was carried out to a depth of 263 ft. The new buildings to contain the new pumping machinery and the transformer house have been completed, and it is hoped that the plant will be erected and in good working order within the next few months.

The Chlorination apparatus has worked continuously throughout the year, and analyses received of the treated water have been uniformly satisfactory.

In regard to emergency water supplies, arrangements have been made as far as possible to provide water for the public in the event of the piped supply failing, and a manual control water-pressure portable hypo-chlorinator has been bought for the purpose of sterilizing mains and services following possible contamination through damage by enemy action or other causes.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

The most important work under this heading was the completion of the new Sewage Disposal Works, which are now in operation.

Owing to war conditions, the completion of the new sewerage scheme has been postponed for the time being.

3. Swimming Baths and Pools.

The filtration plant at the Swimming Baths has worked satisfactorily throughout the year, whilst the Baths were in use.

H. M. AITCHISON.

Action taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928, and other Acts.

Regulations under this heading are administered by the County Council. Mr. E. Templeman, Chief Inspector, has supplied the following information.

The total number of articles purchased for examination and analysis was 42, of which 38 were samples of milk. All were genuine except 2 samples of milk which were found to have added water, in one case 7.5% and in the other 5.7%. Proceedings were taken and a fine of £7 was imposed on the vendor.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938.

Examined by the County Bacteriologist.

Number of Samples taken:

Accredited, 48. Complied, 34. Failed to comply, 14.

Additional Informal Samples of Milk Tested by the
Inspectors by "Gerber" Tester.

				Results.	
				Correct.	Incorrect.
No. of Samples taken	...	...	40	38	2
No. of Samples supplied by Milk Vendors			5	4	1
				45	3

Housing.

The following particulars are presented in the manner prescribed by the Ministry of Health.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	130
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	307
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1936	0
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or their officers	40
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(1)		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	88
	(b)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
	(a)	By owners	79
	(b)	By the Local Authority in default of others	0
(2)		Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2

(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—		
(i)	By owners	2
(ii)	By the Local Authority in default of owners	0
(3) Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(b)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(4) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(a)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(b)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4. Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding:—

(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	12
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	14
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	102
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	6
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	47
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer may consider it desirable to report ...	—

PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Tables 2 and 3 should be read in connection with the following remarks:—

If cases of Measles and Whooping Cough are excluded, it will be seen that the incidence of Infectious Diseases has been considerably less than in the previous year. In particular, there has been a decrease in the cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. Cases of Pneumonia showed an increase, which was to be expected from the very severe climatic conditions experienced during the first quarter. This is borne out by the fact that 46% of these cases were notified during that period.

Enteric Fever. The two cases notified were in young children in widely separated parts of the district, and with four months interval between each. In one case examination of the blood gave a positive reaction of *Bacillus Typhosus* and *Bacillus Para-Typhosus B.* In the other there was a positive reaction to *Bacillus Para-Typhosus B.* Both cases were removed to Hospital and were discharged fully recovered.

Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis. In the cases notified examination of the cerebro-spinal fluid showed the presence of meningococcal organisms. Four of these cases were treated in Hospital and one at home. They all made a complete recovery.

Measles and Whooping Cough. The former was epidemic during the first five months of the year, and the latter during November and December. On the whole, these diseases were of a mild character and pulmonary complications were uncommon. There were only two deaths from Measles and one from Whooping Cough. A large number of cases escaped notification, partly because parents are averse to sending for Medical assistance in mild and uncomplicated cases of these diseases, and partly because when epidemics of this nature break out during the winter months in which the general sickness rate is high and doctors are very busily engaged, it becomes almost impossible for them to keep

an accurate record of the number of cases seen for transmission to the Medical Officer of Health. Therefore, as far as this district is concerned, and from a statistical point of view notification has served no useful purpose, and I cannot see any adequate reason for continuing it. It has been a waste of time, paper and money, all of which could have been put to better use.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Two notifications have been received, one case being treated at home and the other as an out-patient at the Eye Infirmary. Recovery with vision unimpaired took place in each case.

Puerperal Pyrexia. There were three cases notified; in each there were adequate facilities for treatment at home and full recovery took place.

Influenza. This disease almost reached epidemic proportions during the first quarter of the year. Fourteen deaths are recorded of which six were stated to be due to Influenzal Pneumonia. The ages ranged from one week to 79 years. The intense cold experienced during that period no doubt contributed to the fatal termination of some of these cases.

In two fatal cases no previous notification had been received.

The Death Rate per 1000 population is 0.57.

No action has been necessary under:—

(a) Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

(b) Public Health Act, 1925, sec. 62.

The number of cases receiving Sanatorium, or other Institutional treatment during the year was:—15.

Males 8.

Females 7.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

Age Periods.	*New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmon- ary		Non-Pul- monary.		Pulmon- ary.		Non-Pul- monary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 ...								
1—5 ...			1				1	
5—10 ...	1	1						
10—15 ...		1	1	1				
15—20 ...	2		1			1		
20—25 ...		1	1	1	1			
25—35 ...	3	3			2	1		
35—45 ...		2			1	1		
45—55 ...	1				1			
55—65 ...	2			1	1			1
65 upwards ...	1				1			
TOTALS	10	8	4	3	7	3	1	1

*New cases are to include all primary notifications, and any other NEW cases coming to the knowledge of the M.O.H. during the year.

TABLE I. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1940 and previous years.
Name of District : HUCKNALL URBAN.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents registered in the District.	Transferable Deaths of Residents not registered in the District.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett.		Number	Rate			Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1000 Net Births	Number	Rate.
1935	18260	286	285	15.7	160	9.8	3	40	24	84	197	12.2
1936	18630	306	282	15.3	163	8.8	3	60	19	67	220	13.4
1937	19480	327	323	17.0	160	8.4	2	59	24	74	217	12.7
1938	19890	384	388	19.4	163	8.1	1	58	23	59	220	12.3
1939	20790	394	398	19.3	162	7.8	3	75	25	62	234	12.6
1940	21000	397	421	20.04	179	8.5	5	55	25	58	229	13.08

TABLE II. Showing Monthly Notifications
of Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever	11	2	4		3	2	3	4	2	6	4	6	47
Diphtheria	1			2	1	1	1		1			1	8
Enteric Fever				1				1					2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1		1								2	5
Anterior Polio-Myelitis								1			1		2
Pneumonia	17	8	7	2	6	4	3	2	2	6	3	9	69
Puerperal Fever									1	1		1	2
Erysipelas	1			1	2				2	3	1		10
Measles	200	65	99	105	100	4	8	4	3	10	42	23	663
Whooping Cough					1	1		1	1	8	38	41	91
Totals ...	231	76	110	112	113	12	15	13	12	34	89	83	900

TABLE III. Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1940.
Hucknall Urban District.

Notifiable Disease.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.												Total cases notified in each Locality.			Total cases removed to Hospital Deaths	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.															
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	East Ward	West Ward	North Ward	
Scarlet Fever ...	47		1	4	4	19	9	3	6	1			15	15	17	3	
Diphtheria ...	8		1	1	1	1	1	1	2				2	5	1	1	
Enteric Fever ...	2					2								1	1	2	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	5	2					3						1	3	1	4	
Anterior Polio-Myelitis ...	2					1		1						2		2	
Pneumonia ...	69	2	5	1	2	6	8	3	3	12	6	16	5	17	21	31	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3								3						1	2	
Erysipelas ...	10				1			2		2	2	3	2	3	6	1	
Measles ...	663	19	56	59	82	67	334	25	13	7	1		174	237	252	1	
Whooping Cough ...	91	6	4	14	9	10	45	3					54	22	15	1	
TOTALS ...	900	27	67	76	98	89	410	44	23	30	10	19	7	266	313	321	17

Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

During the year under review inspections of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces have been made, as and when necessary.

No Defects have been found and no communications have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories.

WALTER GARSTANG,

M.O.H.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1940.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

COUNCIL OFFICES,

HUCKNALL.

May, 1941.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HUCKNALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my eleventh Annual Report as your Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

I am sorry that this Report must again be a short one. I am sorry too that it has been impossible to carry out more work during the year. You will, however, appreciate that it is extremely difficult to keep up our rather high standard of activity with a depleted staff, and at the same time carry out so many additional duties. The fact that comparatively few complaints of a serious nature concerning housing defects are being received to-day is pleasing. Apart from the fact that people realise the difficulties which stand in the way of getting repairs done, a lot of the relief which we are experiencing to-day is due to the efforts made in past years. Some information in respect of these activities are given in the following paragraph.

HOUSING.

Tabulated details of the work carried out under the Housing Acts for the year under review have been supplied to your Medical Officer of Health and are included in his Report. The following particulars relating to development over the past 10 years will, I feel sure, be of general interest.

Ten years ago there were 4232 houses in the district; the odd 232 houses have been demolished, leaving 4000 standing. Of this number, 1000 have been made fit and a further 2000 new houses have been built. It will thus be seen that 50% of the

houses in the town are either newly built or have been pretty thoroughly overhauled.

Naturally, one would like to see an even better standard of housing than exists at present, but the facts stated above do show that Hucknall has made extraordinary strides during the past few years.

SHOPS ACTS.

This work has been done as well as possible. Inspections have been carried out, particularly during the winter months, and in all cases the shops appeared to be in a satisfactory condition. I did not receive any complaints or have to serve any notices.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints were received during the year, and in any case the creation of smoke is rather encouraged than discouraged at the moment. This, to me, is regrettable.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are two baths in the district, one owned by the Council and one owned privately. Regular visits have been made, and the water tested on numerous occasions. The chlorinating plants in each bath are in good working order, and I have received no complaint during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The usual methods employed are spraying with Insecticide and fumigation with Sulphur Dioxide. Both methods have proved entirely satisfactory. Precautions taken to ensure that tenants do not carry infested bedding into Council houses include the steam disinfection of bedding and the spraying of the other articles of furniture with Insecticide. Repeated visits to Council houses have proved that the system adopted has been entirely successful, and that re-infestation of Council houses is extremely rare. The disinfection is carried out by your Council's foreman. It is satisfactory to note that during the year only 5 complaints were received of alleged verminous houses, and of these only 3 were found to be infested. This compares very favourably with the previous year, when a total of 24 houses were found to be infested. Of the 3 infested houses 1 was owned by the L.A.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

61 houses were disinfected during the year by fumigation with formalin gas, and a quantity of bedding was destroyed on request. All library books which have been in contact with infected persons are fumigated before being returned to the Library.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Tradespeople have had a most difficult time during the past year, and it is very pleasing to be able to report that without exception they have shown a keen desire to maintain their shops and vehicles in a cleanly condition, and to continue to deal in good quality foodstuffs. It may be that lighting restrictions and shortage of labour have discouraged farmers in their efforts to produce a real clean milk, but it is certain that matters will improve when conditions again become normal. Pasteurisation of milk is now carried out at a large, modern, and splendidly equipped dairy in the district. This marks a very progressive step forward in the production of clean and safe milk. It gives me great pleasure to write of the success of this venture.

The tables below show the amount of food surrendered and condemned during the year.

Animals affected	Disease.	No. of carcasses or organs condemned	Cwts.	Qrs. Weight.	Lbs.
Cattle	Cirrhosis	6 livers		3.	
"	Tuberculosis	1 set of lungs			12.
"	Tainted and unsound	Forequarter		1.	2.
"	"	Hindquarter	3.	0.	15.
Swine	Tuberculosis	6 carcasses & offals	8.	1.	0.
"	"	15 heads	1.	2.	12.
Sheep	Abscesses	2 loins			16.
"	Tainted and unsound	2 carcasses & offals		2.	$\frac{1}{2}$.
TOTAL WEIGHT			14.	3.	$1\frac{1}{2}$.

Other Foods.

6 tins of Corned Beef.	} Unsound.
5 tins of Ox Tongue.	
39 tins of Condensed Milk.	
5 tins of Mixed Fruit.	
1 tin of Soup.	
30 lbs. of Bacon.	
4 tins of Sheeps' Liver.	
1 Chicken.	

PARTICULARS OF INSPECTIONS, ETC.**Slaughterhouses.**

Number on Register	...	...	...	11
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	115
Infringement of byelaws or regulations	...	...	...	0

Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.

Number on Register (a) retailers	...	...	...	96
(b) producers	...	...	...	25
Number of inspections	...	...	...	45
Notices served	...	...	...	0
Notices complied with	...	...	...	0

Bakehouses.

Number on Register	...	...	...	8
Number of inspections	...	...	...	22
Notices served	...	...	...	0

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The trade of a Gut-scraper is carried out in the district. 9 inspections were made during the year, and the premises were generally found to be in a cleanly condition.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

There are 26 structures in the district. A number of inspections have been carried out during the year, although no complaints were received concerning any of them. Almost without exception they are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF MUSIC HALLS, THEATRES, ETC.

Visits have been made regularly to the two local cinemas and dance halls. In all cases they were found to be well conducted and kept in a clean condition.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

In November last a special effort was made, and in all 7,000 Red Squill rat baits were laid on Council's land and sewers, on the Sewage Works, and on land occupied by the Council as a refuse tip. 43 complaints were received during the year, and 1,000 baits were supplied to householders in the town, and 4,000 were sold to farmers. From observations taken it was seen that the baiting had had good results.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE
PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS (EXCLUDING
HOUSING ACTS).

				Informal Notices		Statutory Notices	
				Ser-ved	Com-plied with	Ser-ved	Com-plied with
Housing defects	To remedy dampness			38	26	12	9
	{ „ repair or renew eaves, gutters and downspouts ...			177	167	10	10
	{ „ repair chimney stacks			7	5	2	2
	{ „ repair or renew defective windows			5	5	—	—
	{ „ „ „ „ doors			8	8	—	—
	{ „ „ „ „ floors			1	1	—	—
	{ „ „ „ „ fireplaces			10	9	1	1
	{ „ „ „ „ washcoppers			2	2	—	—
Sanitary conveniences	{ „ cleanse			5	5	—	—
	{ „ repair or renew			44	41	3	2
	{ „ provide additional			1	1	—	—
Drains	{ „ cleanse			72	72	—	—
	{ „ repair or renew			11	11	—	—
	{ „ provide additional			—	—	—	—
Cesspools	{ „ cleanse			3	3	—	—
Dustbins	{ „ renew			525	495	30	25
Yard	{ „ repair or renew			3	3	—	—
Paving	{ „ provide additional			—	—	—	—
Vermin	{ „ cleanse premises			3	3	—	—
Smoke	{ „ abate nuisance arising from ...			—	—	—	—
Cowsheds	{ „ limewash and cleanse			—	—	—	—
Dairies, etc.	{ Other matters			—	—	—	—
Factories & Workshops	{ Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or insufficient ...			—	—	—	—
Rivers & Streams	{ To cleanse brook courses			—	—	—	—
Accumulations or Deposits of Refuse.	{ To remove			2	2	—	—
Animals	{ Improperly kept			—	—	—	—
Gut-scraper	{ To limewash and cleanse			—	—	—	—
Slaughter-houses	{ To limewash and cleanse			—	—	—	—
Water	{ To remedy water in cellar			3	3	—	—
	{ To provide internal supply			—	—	—	—
Outbuildings	{ To repair or remove			2	2	—	—
Miscellaneous	{			16	14	2	2

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The normal Cleansing Staff consists of eleven loaders, three lorry drivers, two tip attendants and a foreman. Three mechanical vehicles are employed, each has a capacity of 7 cubic yards, and is properly covered.

At the time of writing the staff has been increased by approximately six persons in order to efficiently carry out the work of salvage. The practice of having each vehicle efficiently valeted has been continued with marked success. Throughout the year very little time has been lost due to vehicles being taken off the road for minor repairs.

DISPOSAL.

The Bradford system of controlled tipping is the method employed. The work is carried out on privately owned land previously waterlogged. During the year approximately one acre of land has been reclaimed, and a considerable amount of material salvaged.

The table below shows the amount of salvage collected and sold by your Council during the year.

Material.	Weight.				Amount.		
	tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	98.	17.	1.	0.	392.	9.	9.
Cardboard	2.	18.	0.	0.	15.	4.	6.
Textiles	4.	4.	3.	12.	30.	19.	9.
Bones	4.	5.	0.	19.	12.	19.	0.
Iron	18.	14.	0.	0.	80.	2.	0.
Non-Ferrous Metals		4.	0.	1.	3.	6.	7.
Bottles and Jars		15.	0.	0.	6.	3.	0.
TOTALS ...	129.	18.	1.	4.	£541.	4.	7.

It will be noted from the figures given below that the cost of Refuse Collection has increased considerably. This is accounted

for by the rise in wages, increase in cost of material purchased, the overhauling and re-conditioning of two vehicles, and the employment of additional workmen on Salvage. This is offset largely by the sale of materials collected.

For the year ending March, 1941.

The cost of Refuse collection was	...	...	4029.	19.	5.
The cost of Refuse disposal was	...	...	572.	9.	4.
TOTAL	...	...	£4602.	8.	9.

Amount received from collection of

Trade Refuse	...	...	...	...	84.	3.	0.
Scavenging Roads	...	...	...	...	26.	0.	0.
Sale of Salvage	...	...	...	...	623.	3.	6.
	...	...	...	...	£733.	6.	6.

Nett cost of Scavenging	...	...	...	...	£3869.	2.	3.
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AMBULANCES.

The two ambulances have been well maintained throughout the year. The General Ambulance has made 654 journeys, and the Infectious Disease Ambulance 17 journeys. There were four false calls.

MORTUARY.

The mortuary has been used on eleven occasions. The Ambulance Driver is responsible for keeping the premises clean, and for the care of the instruments.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS ACTS, 1928 & 1936.

Licences granted	...	...	21
Visits and inspections	...	...	35
Carbide of Calcium licences	...	...	Nil

In conclusion, I desire to express my very sincere thanks to my Staff, you, Gentlemen, and the Officials of the Council, for the much valued help extended to me throughout the year.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. ADAMS,
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.



