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URBAN DISTRICT OF MELTHAM




ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
*FOR THE YEAR 1947*

BY  
*ERIC WARD*  
*M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.*

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MELTHAM:  
FRANK SWIFT, 5 MARKET PLACE.

1948



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### LIST OF COUNCILLORS FOR THE YEAR 1947

#### Chairman:

R. F. WOODHEAD, ESQ., J.P.

#### Vice-Chairman:

A. QUARMBY, ESQ.

MR. J. C. T. CALLANDER.	MR. E. HOLROYD.
MISS H. B. HAIGH.	MR. H. BASTOW.
MR. R. F. WOODHEAD.	MR. M. H. KAYE.
MR. H. STEAD.	MR. J. W. HOLLINGWORTH.
MR. A. QUARMBY.	MR. E. V. QUARMBY.
MR. H. HIRST.	MR. E. MOORHOUSE.

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### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

#### Medical Officer of Health

ROBERT GELLATLY, M.D., C.M.

*(Resigned 2/6/47)*

R. A. W. PROCTOR, M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

*(Temporary Medical Officer of Health)*

*(Appointed 3/6/47 Resigned 31/12/47)*

ERIC WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*(Appointed 1/1/48)*

#### Sanitary Inspector

E. WALLER, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

The appointment of Medical Officer of Health is a part-time one.

The Sanitary Inspector is also Building Surveyor and Water Engineer  
to the Council

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE,  
WOODVILLE,  
SCAR LANE,  
GOLCAR,  
NR. HUDDERSFIELD.

December, 1948.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Meltham Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Miss Haigh and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my first Annual Report on the health of the Meltham Urban District and the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1947.

On the 3rd June, 1947, Dr. Robert Gellatly resigned his appointment as Medical Officer of Health after having held office for 44 years. Pending the adoption of the West Riding County Council Scheme for Divisional Health Administration Dr. R. A. W. Proctor, who was then an Assistant County Medical Officer, undertook the duties of your Medical Officer of Health from the date of the resignation of Dr. Gellatly until I assumed my duties on the 1st January, 1948.

Under the Scheme of Divisional Health Administration all the preventive medical services in the area are administered together by one Medical Officer, acting as Divisional Medical Officer for County Council work and as Medical Officer of Health for the sanitary authorities within the Division. The Meltham Urban District is placed in Division No. 20 which also includes the Urban Districts of Colne Valley, Denby Dale, Holmfirth and Kirkburton.

Owing to the above mentioned circumstances it will be appreciated that this Report is largely based on information supplied by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E. Waller, to whom I wish to express my thanks for the valuable assistance he has given me.

The Birth Rate of 19.95 per 1,000 population is only slightly below the average for England and Wales, but the Death Rate of 16.05 per 1,000 population compares unfavourably with 12.0 and 12.7 for England and Wales and the Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts respectively. The health of the community has been well maintained during the year and there has been no abnormal incidence of infectious or other diseases.

The provision of new houses and the reconditioning of existing properties are the principal immediate needs of the District.

I should like in conclusion to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the welcome I received from them on taking up my appointment, and to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation given to me by the Clerk and other officials of the Council.

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

**ERIC WARD,**

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

### I. General Statistics

Area in acres... ..	5,906
Enumerated Population (Census 1931) ... ..	5,051
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1946) ... ..	4,818
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1947) ... ..	4,860
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1947 ... ..	1,724
Rateable Value (31st March 1948)... ..	£30,082
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March 1948) ... ..	£119

### II. Extracts from Vital Statistics

<i>Live Births :</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ..	49	43	92
Illegitimate ... ..	3	2	5
Total ... ..	52	45	97

Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population : 19.95

<i>Still Births :</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ..	2	2	4
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	2	2	4

Rate per 1,000 of total live and still births : 39.60

Deaths (males 37, females 41) ... ..	78
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ... ..	16.05
Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... ..	Nil

Number of deaths of Infants under one year of age :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ..	1	1	2
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	1	1	2

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	20.62
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births... ..	21.74
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	Nil

Death Rate per 1,000 population from :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	0.21
All forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	0.21
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	2.06
Cancer ... ..	3.70
Principal Zymotic Diseases (Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria) ... ..	0.41

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (children under 2 years of age) ... ..	Nil
Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of children under 2 years of age per 1,000 births ... ..	Nil

## Section I.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

The Urban District is situated on high ground about five miles to the south-west of Huddersfield, the principal centre of population being the township of Meltham, whilst other hamlets in the District are Meltham Mills, Helme and Wilshaw.

High moorland rising to a height of over 1,500 feet forms the western and southern parts of the District. The principal industries now carried out in the area are engineering, including tractor building, woollen textiles, silk dressing, brick and tile making and mixed farming.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

##### Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births, a net total of 97 live births (52 male and 45 female) was registered in the District during the year, an increase of 5 compared with the previous year.

The BIRTH RATE is 19.95 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 19.1 for the previous year.

The illegitimate live births number 5 or 5.15% of the total live births, an increase of 3 or 2.98% on the previous year.

##### Stillbirths

After adjustment for transfers, 4 stillbirths were registered during the year as compared with 4 for the previous year. This figure gives a rate of 39.60 per 1,000 live and stillbirths, and 0.82 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 41.69 and 0.83 respectively for 1946.

##### Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the District was 78 (37 male 41 female) an increase of 8 on the total for the year 1946.

The DEATH RATE is 16.05 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 14.5 for the previous year.

The following were the principal causes of death in order of frequency:—

(i)	Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	...	25
(ii)	Cancer	... ..	18
(iii)	Respiratory System, excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis		10
(iv)	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	... ..	7

These 4 causes accounted for 76.92% of the total deaths. Particulars of the various causes of death and the sex distribution are given in the following table:

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Whooping Cough .. .. .	1	..	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	1	..	1
Influenza .. .. .	..	1	1
Measles .. .. .	1	..	1
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M) and Uterus (F)	2	2	4
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	3	1	4
Cancer of Breast .. .. .	..	1	1
Cancer of all other sites .. .. .	6	3	9
Diabetes .. .. .	1	1	2
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions .. .. .	5	2	7
Heart Diseases .. .. .	6	16	22
Other diseases of the Circulatory System ..	..	3	3
Bronchitis .. .. .	4	3	7
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	3	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .. .. .	1	..	1
Digestive Diseases .. .. .	..	2	2
Nephritis .. .. .	2	1	3
Premature Birth .. .. .	1	..	1
Road Traffic Accidents .. .. .	..	1	1
Other Violent Causes .. .. .	..	1	1
All other causes .. .. .	3	..	3
ALL CAUSES.. .. .	37	41	78

#### Maternal Deaths and Mortality

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other maternal causes.

#### Infant Mortality

After corrections for transferable deaths, there were 2 deaths (1 male, 1 female) of infants under 1 year of age, a decrease of 1 compared with the previous year.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 20.62 per 1,000 live births as compared with 32.67 for the previous year.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births is 21.74 as compared with 22.22 for the year 1946.

There were no deaths of illegitimate children under 1 year of age.

### Comparative Statistics

	Meltham Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (provisional figures)
<b>BIRTH RATE</b> Per 1,000 estimated population..	20.0	21.6	21.5	20.5
<b>DEATH RATES</b> All per 1,000 estimated population				
All Causes .. .. .	16.0	12.7	12.3	12.0
Zymotic Diseases (seven principal)..	0.41	0.16	0.16	*
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System..	0.21	0.38	0.39	0.47
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	0.09	0.09	0.08
Respiratory Diseases (ex- cluding Tuberculosis of respiratory system) ..	2.06	1.41	1.37	*
Cancer .. .. .	3.70	1.87	1.80	1.85
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ..	5.14	4.23	3.98	*
<b>INFANT MORTALITY</b>	21.62	44	45	41
<b>DIARRHEA</b> (Deaths of infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births) .. .. .	Nil	5.17	5.31	5.8
<b>MATERNAL MORTALITY</b>				
Puerperal Sepsis .. ..	Nil	0.24	0.21	0.26
Other Causes .. .. .	Nil	0.88	1.07	0.91
Total ..	Nil	1.12	1.28	1.17

\* Figures not available

## **Section II.**

### **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

#### **Staff**

In addition to the Medical Officer of Health who is a part time officer, the staff consists of a part time Sanitary Inspector who is also the Surveyor. Clerical assistance is provided by the Clerk's Department.

#### **Laboratory Facilities**

All the bacteriological laboratory work required to be undertaken by the Health Department and by General Practitioners is carried out at the Wakefield Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council, whilst samples of water for chemical examination are sent to the laboratories of Messrs. Richardson and Jaffe, Public Analysts, Bradford.

#### **Ambulance Facilities**

##### **For cases of infectious diseases:**

The ambulance of the Colne and Holme Joint Hospital Board is used for the removal to hospital of cases of Infectious Diseases.

##### **Cases of sickness and accident:**

The Council maintain an Ambulance for use in accident cases and for the removal of serious cases of non-infectious diseases. Facilities were also provided by the Huddersfield and District Hospitals Contributory Scheme until the 26th September, 1947, when the service was taken over by the West Riding County Council. The Ambulance Depot is situated at Huddersfield and service is provided free of charge.

#### **Professional Nursing in the Home**

**General:** Home nursing is undertaken by the two District Nurse/Midwives employed by the Meltham District Nursing Association.

**Infectious Diseases:** No arrangements are made for the nursing of cases of infectious diseases at home.

**Midwifery:** The two nurses employed by the District Nursing Association are both practising midwives.

#### **Treatment Centres, Clinics and Hospitals**

##### **Infant Welfare Centres**

Held weekly.

##### **Ante Natal Clinics**

Held monthly.

##### **School Clinics**

Held weekly.

All these clinics are held in the Baptist Church, Meltham.

##### **Tuberculosis Dispensary**

Held Tuesday afternoon and Friday afternoon at 1, Peel Street, Huddersfield.

##### **Venereal Diseases Clinics**

Held at York Place, New North Road, Huddersfield, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Held at Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Held at the General Infirmary, Dewsbury, on Monday Thursday and Friday.

## Hospitals

- (a) **Infectious Diseases:** Cases of Infectious Diseases, other than Smallpox, are treated at the Colne and Holme Joint Isolation Hospital, which is controlled by a Joint Board of representatives of the constituent authorities which include Meltham Urban District Council.
- (b) **General Hospitals:**  
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.  
Holme Valley Memorial Hospital.  
Deanhouse County Hospital, Holmfirth.
- (c) **Maternity:** Arrangements made by the West Riding County Council for admission to the Princess Royal Maternity Home, Huddersfield, and to various County Hospitals.

### Section III.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

The principal sources of piped water are the undertakings of the Urban District Council and the Huddersfield Corporation.

The Council's supply is derived from three springs situated on the high moorland surrounding the township.

Water from two springs, Scope and Fearn Nook, is received into two collecting reservoirs and then piped to the service reservoir, whilst water from Royd Drift is collected in a covered tank and then piped to the service reservoir. At the service reservoir the water is treated in a Filtration and Hardening Plant installed by Permutit Ltd. The Plant is comprised of two vertical pressure filters, with apparatus for preliminary and final brine treatment and for treatment with Alumina, Ammonia, and Chlorine.

The Council's mains cover the greater part of the District.

The Huddersfield Corporation supply is used mainly to augment the Council's supply during periods of drought. The Corporation supply is derived from Deerhill Reservoir and is metered into the Council's service mains in Station Street. The water is treated by filtration and chlorination at the Corporation's Waterworks. In addition to its use for augmenting the Council's general supply, premises above Martin's Nest in Slaithwaite Road; a portion of Wilshaw; Hey Farm and Crosland Edge, Helme; and Church Lane, Hill Top and Lea Lane, Netherton, are supplied direct from Corporation mains. Wilshaw Village also has a private piped supply.

Supplies from the Council's or Corporation's mains are available throughout the District, except in a few isolated parts. The supply generally is satisfactory as regards quality and quantity, but in a few areas, owing to the presence of "dead-ends" and the silting-up of old pipes, pressures are inadequate for present day needs.

No trouble has been experienced as a result of plumbo-solvent action. During the year 4 samples of water were submitted for examination in this respect and all were reported as satisfactory. No samples were submitted for other chemical or bacteriological examination.

The work of extending the Council's water main to supply the new housing estate at Broadlands (Sunny Heys) was commenced during the year.

Water purchased from the Huddersfield Corporation during the year amounted to 26,107,000 gallons recorded as follows by meter and ~~then~~ by Lee Recorder :-

By meter	...	...	21,539,000 gallons
„ Lee Recorder	...	...	4,568,000 „

### Sewerage and Drainage

There is one Sewage Outfall Works in the District which is situated off the Huddersfield Road, near Bent Ley Mills. During the year alterations and repairs have been carried out at the works, which have included the provision of a new filter and sprinkler. The Works consist of 3 settlement tanks, 2 storm tanks, effluent channels with 4 rotary sprinklers and sludge beds. Renewal of the sludge and effluent pumping plant is under consideration.

The unsewered portions of the District include the hamlets of Helme and Wilshaw. It is desirable that sewerage schemes to cover these two hamlets should be carried out as soon as practicable.

### Rivers and Streams

Some pollution of water courses with sewage takes place in the District. This cannot be remedied until sewerage schemes are carried out for Helme and Wilshaw.

### **Closet Accommodation**

The closet accommodation for many of the houses in the District is most unsatisfactory. Exact information is not available as to the number of closets of each type in existence in the District or of the provision for individual houses. From such records as are available it would appear that there are in the District 1,097 water closets, 133 privy middens, and 166 tub closets. It is not very clear from the records as to whether these figures include closets provided at non-domestic premises, but this is probably the case. Neither is it clear whether the figures given for privy middens are of the number of pits, it being borne in mind that 1 pit may serve 2 or more closets, or of the actual number of closets. It will not be possible to give an accurate statement regarding closet accommodation in the District until a survey on the whole District has been completed.

The abolition of privy middens and tub closets is one of the most pressing needs of the District. In approved cases a grant of £2 and a free dust-bin is made by the Council where owners convert a privy or tub closet into a water closet. New tubs are supplied by the Council on request to property owners at a small charge above cost price. During the year conversions were carried out at 7 houses, whilst 13 water closets were provided as additional accommodation.

### **Public Cleansing**

Scavenging is undertaken throughout the District by the Council, a covered type motor waggon being used. Domestic refuse and tub closet contents are collected weekly, whilst privy middens are cleared approximately once a quarter. Cesspools are emptied every 6 months. The amount of refuse removed during the year was 1,947 tons and the mileage covered by the cleansing waggon was 5,798. Refuse is disposed of at the Wood Bottom Tip where a system of controlled tipping is carried out.

The cost of the cleansing services for 1947 was as follows:—

Total Cost	...	...	...	...	£1,910
Credits from various sources (including sale of salvage material)	...	...	...	...	£ 292
Nett Cost	...	...	...	...	£1,618

The Council supply ashbins to property owners at a small charge above cost price.

### **Salvage**

The collection of salvage has been undertaken since early 1940, paper, string, rubber, bones, rags and metals being collected.

### **Shops Act.**

During the year 14 visits and inspections were made of shops.

### **Smoke Abatement**

As a result of observations made towards the end of 1946 a statutory notice under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was served on an industrial concern early in January 1947. Certain alterations were made to the plant concerned and of 6 observations made during the year in only 1 instance did the emission of black smoke exceed the period allowed in the byelaw.

### **Camping Sites**

There is 1 site in the area licensed under the provision of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the accommodation of 1 caravan. This site is kept in a satisfactory condition.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools**

There are no public swimming baths in the area.

### Rag Flock Acts 1911 and 1928

There are no premises in the District where Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold.

### Regulated Buildings and Offensive Trades

There are no Common Lodging Houses or Houses Let in Lodgings in the District, neither are there any premises registered for use of Offensive Trades.

### Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919

The Council have not participated in the Ministry of Food's (Private Dwellings) Special Scheme 1946-47. They have, however, a part-time operative employed. Under a transfer of powers inaugurated by the Ministry of Food, the Council became the responsible authority for the operation of this Act in their Area. Previously the Act was administered by the County Council.

During the year 57 inspections for rats were made. In 7 cases the standard treatment laid down by the Ministry of Food was applied and these minor infestations cleared. A test baiting of sewer manholes showed only one take. An area around this manhole was treated when 4 very slight takes of poison were recorded. Later 6 dead rats were found at the Sewage Works.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs

No houses were found to be infested during the year.

### Factories Act 1937

The submission of a separate report to the Director of Statistics of the Ministry of Labour on Form 572 is now again in operation. The following is an extract from such report.

#### 1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are not to be enforced by L.As. .. .. .	29	21	2	..
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies .. ..	23	15	..	..
(3) Other premises under the Act .. ..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL ..	52	36	2	..

#### 2. Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness .. .. .	7	7	..	..
Sanitary conveniences insufficient ..	1	1	..	..
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective .. .. .	1	1	..	..
TOTAL ..	9	9	..	..

## Schools

There are in the District 4 schools, all of which are voluntary church schools. Those at Meltham, Meltham Mills and Helme have a piped supply of water from public mains, whilst at Wilshaw a piped supply is obtained from a private source.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Nature of Inspection	Number	NOTICES			
		Informal (incl verbal)	Formal	Complied with	Outstanding at end of year
Infectious Diseases.. ..	7	..	..	..	..
Disinfection .. .. .	7	..	..	..	..
Nuisances .. .. .	71	67	1	68	3
Dwellings .. .. .	169	157	..	12	..
Cowsheds .. .. .	35	..	..	..	..
Bakehouses .. .. .	14	..	..	..	..
Slaughterhouses .. ..	12	..	..	..	..
Ash closets, privies and pail closets .. .. .	116	11	..	11	..
Workshops, Workplaces ..	36	4	..	3	1
Schools .. .. .	16	..	..	..	..
Rats & Mice Destruction Act	57	7	..	7	..

## **Section IV.**

### **HOUSING**

Housing is one of the principal post war needs of the District. There is a grave shortage of houses, and many of the existing houses are unfit for occupation and should be dealt with under the appropriate sections of the Housing Act. No routine inspection of houses was carried out during the year but various complaints were investigated and suitable action taken. The information available in the Department regarding housing conditions is far from complete, and a house to house survey should be undertaken as soon as possible.

#### **Overcrowding**

The records of overcrowding conditions in the area are incomplete, but applications for council houses indicate the prevalence of many cases of overcrowding and unsatisfactory housing conditions. From records available it appears that at the commencement of the year there were 11 known cases of overcrowding, 3 additional cases have come to notice during the year and 2 have been abated. The number of known cases at the end of the year was 12.

#### **Provision of New Houses**

The Council's programme for the first 2 post war years was for the erection of 86 houses. During the year the approval of the Ministry was obtained and the erection of the first blocks was commenced. No new houses were completed in the District either by the local authority or by private enterprise during the year.

## Section V.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Milk Supply

Practically all the milk supplied in the District is produced in the area and is distributed mainly by the producers. A little milk is sold wholesale for distribution outside the area. No milk is sold in the District as pasteurised but bottled sterilised milk is sold by the local Co-operative Society.

The number of registered cowkeepers at the end of the year was 35 and amongst them they occupy 46 cowsheds and maintain some 345 milk cows.

Of the producers 2 are licensed to produce Tuberculin Tested milk, whilst 5 are licensed Accredited producers. Of the 35 registered cowkeepers 30 are producer/retailers, whilst 5 dispose of their milk wholesale.

Inspections of cowsheds and dairies have continued throughout the year and whilst some premises are maintained in a satisfactory condition others leave much to be desired. The provision of proper milk rooms and means of sterilising utensils by steam is still required in a number of cases.

No samples of milk were submitted for examination for cleanliness by officers of the Council during the year, but a number of samples of designated milks were taken by officers of the Council. It is very desirable that routine sampling of non-designated milks should be commenced and that samples should also be submitted as frequently as possible for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli.

#### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1939-1946

The following licences were granted during the year:—

(a)	By the Meltham Urban District Council	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	By the West Riding County Council:	(1) Tuberculin Tested	...	2	
	(Producers' licences)	(2) Accredited	...	5	

#### Ice Cream

At the end of 1947 there was 1 premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, and 3 registered for sale only. No samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year.

#### Meat

No regular slaughtering of animals has been carried out at any of the slaughterhouses in the District, all of which have remained closed by virtue of the Livestock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order 1940.

All meat for sale in the District is derived from the Government controlled slaughterhouse and depot at Huddersfield, where inspection is carried out.

The 4 private slaughterhouses in the District have continued to be licenced in spite of the fact that there has been no regular slaughtering.

Occasional emergency slaughterings have been carried out at these premises during the year.

There are in the District 4 butchers' shops which have been regularly visited. No premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 for the purposes of the manufacture of sausages, potted meat, pickles or preserved foods.

#### Slaughter of Animals Act 1933

Licences in operation under the provisions of the Act numbered 15, none of which expired during the year. No new licences were issued.

### Bread

There are 4 bakehouses in the District, none of them underground. The premises are regularly inspected and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

### Other Foods

At retail shops the following other foods were found to be unfit:—

21	14½oz. tins Evaporated Milk
2	1½lb. tins of pork sausage meat
2	1lb. tins of stewed steak
3	2lb. tins of jam

### Food & Drugs Act 1938

The West Riding County Council is the authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Section of the Act. The following particulars of samples taken during the year have been supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights & Measures:—

Milk samples examined	...	19
Dry goods examined ...	...	4

All samples were found to be genuine and no cautions or prosecutions were required during the year.

## **Section VI.**

### **PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Apart from a considerable increase in the incidence of Measles, there was no unusual prevalence of infectious or other disease during the year.

#### **Diphtheria**

During the year 2 cases of Diphtheria, a child of 2 years and a male of 49 years, were notified, as compared with 1 case in the previous year. Both patients were admitted to the Mill Hill Isolation Hospital where they made satisfactory recoveries.

Supplies of Anti-Toxin were available on request to medical practitioners. Work in connection with the Immunisation Campaign continued during the year, the inoculations being performed by general practitioners and Officers of the County Health Department. Records available show that 25.9% of children aged 0-5 years and 47.4% of children aged 5-14 years were immunised against this disease. These figures are low and probably misleading owing to the incomplete records that are available. It is probable that in fact 60% to 70% of the children resident in the District are protected by immunisation.

#### **Scarlet Fever**

During the year 3 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, as compared with 28 in the previous year. The cases were all children aged between 5 and 10 years, and 2 cases were admitted to the Colne and Holme Isolation Hospital and 1 to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital.

#### **Erysipelas**

There were 2 isolated cases of Erysipelas notified during the year.

#### **Pneumonia**

During the year 2 cases of Pneumonia were notified, one with meningeal complications. Deaths registered during the year as due to all forms of Pneumonia numbered 3. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 9 notifications and 1 death.

#### **Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis**

There was 1 case, a male aged 40 notified during the year. He was admitted to the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary and was still receiving treatment at the end of the year.

#### **Whooping Cough**

There were 36 cases of this disease notified during 1947 as compared with 48 during the previous year. There was 1 death from the disease, the same figure as in 1946.

#### **Measles**

There was a marked increase in the number of cases of Measles, 79 cases being notified as compared with 4 in the previous year, and 1 death was attributed to this disease as was the case in 1946.

The following table shows the monthly distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles ..	5	6	..	..	..	9	52	7	..	..	..	..	79
Whooping Cough	8	7	7	7	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	36
Pneumonia ..	4	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	9
Scarlet Fever ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Erysipelas ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Diphtheria ..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
	19	15	8	8	3	12	53	8	1	1	1	3	132

### Cancer

The number of deaths attributable to Cancer during the year numbered 18 (11 male and 7 female), as compared with 9 in the previous year. The Cancer death rate is 3.70 per 1,000 of the estimated population compared with a rate of 1.87 for the previous year. The corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the West Riding Urban Districts are 1.80 and 1.87 respectively.

### TUBERCULOSIS

A total of 5 new cases of Tuberculosis were entered in the Register during the year, as compared with 3 in the previous year. Only 1 death was recorded as due to Tuberculosis during the year, this being a male whose death was attributable to Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis for the year 1947 :—

	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
(a) Number of cases on Register at commencement of year ..	5	3	4	9
(b) Number of cases notified first time during the year ..	4	1	..	..
(c) Number of cases restored to the Register ..	..	..	..	..
(d) Number of cases added to Register otherwise than by notification ..	..	..	..	..
(e) Number of cases removed from the Register ..	1	..	2	6
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register ..	8	4	2	3

### NEW CASES

Age	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
16	1	..	..	..
26	..	1	..	..
36	1	..	..	..
39	1	..	..	..
40	1	..	..	..
Total..	4	1	..	..

TABLE SHOWING CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

DISEASE	Total No of cases of cases Notified	No. of cases in which Diagnosis Confirmed	Cases Admitted to I.D.H.	Deaths	AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CONFIRMED CASES																							
					Under 1		1 - 2		2 - 3		3 - 4		4 - 5		5 - 10		10 - 15		15 - 20		20 - 35		35 - 45		45 - 65		Over 65	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Whooping Cough...	36	36	..	1	3	..	2	5	9	4	..	2	2	2	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Scarlet Fever ..	3	3	3*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Pneumonia ..	9	9	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Measles ..	79	79	..	1	..	..	2	3	4	6	4	5	3	12	15	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Erysipelas ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Diphtheria ..	2	2	2†	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis...	1	1	1‡	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		

\* 2 cases to Colne and Holme Joint Isolation Hospital, Meltham.

† 1 case to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield.

‡ To Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield.

§ To Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

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