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Contributors

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RURAL DISTRICT
OF
OSGOLDCROSS

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR


1951



RURAL DISTRICT
OF
OSGOLDCROSS

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1951.

BY
J. F. FRASER
M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.



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Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
9, Horsefair,
Pontefract.

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

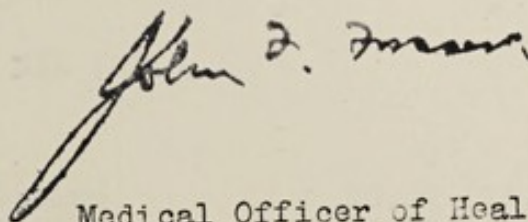
I have the honour to present for your information and consideration a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Rural District during the year 1951.

The Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Rural District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies is complementary to this Report.

For your information certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John D. Evans". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer's Office,
Health Department,
City Hall,
San Francisco.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present for your information
and consideration a report on the Health and Health
Officers of the County District during the year 1921.
The Annual Report of the Chief Health Officer
concerning with the sanitary circumstances of the Rural
District, Health and the Inspection and Supervision of
Food Supplies is supplementary to this report.

For your information certain details of the
personal health services administered by the County
Committee are included.

I am, Gentlemen,

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health.

P A R T O N E.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the District: 33,954 acres.
 Registrar-General's estimate of population: 7,740
 Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1951: 2,383
 Rateable value at end of 1951: £29,790
 Product of a penny rate(at 31st December,1951): £116
 These figures show a population increase of 160.

VITAL STATISTICS.

(The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1950)

BIRTHS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	54 (48)	51 (62)	105 (110)
Illegitimate	3 (7)	5 (4)	8 (11)
Total	57 (55)	56 (66)	113 (121)

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 14.59 (15.96)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	- (1)	1 (2)	1 (3)
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births: 8.7 (24.2)
 Rate per 1,000 estimated population: .13 (0.39)

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>All age groups</u>	47 (43)	31 (41)	78 (84)

Infants under 1 yr.

Legitimate	2 (1)	3 (-)	5 (1)
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Maternal Deaths. NIL (NIL)

Death Rates.

General rate per 1,000 population	10.07 (11.08)
All infants per 1,000 live births	44.25 (8.26)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	47.62 (9.09)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL (NIL)
Maternal Deaths	NIL (NIL)

The number of births has fallen by 8 as compared with last year, and the birth rate has also fallen slightly. Deaths have decreased by six during the same period.

STATISTICS OF THE POPULATION

Area of the District
Estimated population at the end of 1921
Number of households at the end of 1921
Estimated value of property at the end of 1921
Estimated value of property at the end of 1921
Estimated value of property at the end of 1921
Estimated value of property at the end of 1921

These figures show a population increase of 100

Area	Population	Households	Value of Property
1921	100,000	10,000	1,000,000
1922	110,000	11,000	1,100,000

These figures show a population increase of 100

Area	Population	Households	Value of Property
1921	100,000	10,000	1,000,000
1922	110,000	11,000	1,100,000

These figures show a population increase of 100

Area	Population	Households	Value of Property
1921	100,000	10,000	1,000,000
1922	110,000	11,000	1,100,000

These figures show a population increase of 100

Age Groups	Under 10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100
No. of Deaths	6	-	1	4	3	11	10	32	11	-

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

T A B L E I.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	3	6
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	6	9
Coronary Disease, Angina	3	2	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	-	2
Other Heart Diseases	9	7	16
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	-	2
Influenza	-	2	2
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	7	1	8
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	7	14
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1
All other accidents	1	-	1
	47	31	78

Infant Mortality.

The following Table gives the causes of infant deaths during the year 1951, classified into age groups.

T A B L E II.

Cause of Death	Age Groups								All ages under 1 year.		
	Under 1	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mths	M.	F.	Tot
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	2
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	3	5

The following Table gives a general survey of infant deaths throughout the year.

T A B L E III

Cause of Death.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Prematurity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Atelectasis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebral Haemorrhage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-

Total - 5

Comparison of 1951 statistics with those of 1950, 1949, 1948 and 1947.

	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1949.</u>	<u>1948.</u>	<u>1947.</u>
Live Births	113	121	134	147	136
Population	7740	7580	7560	7790	7624
Birth Rate	14.59	15.96	17.72	18.87	17.84
Death Rate	10.07	11.08	11.2	8.47	13.11
Infant Death Rate	44.25	8.26	44.77	6.53	66.18

P A R T T W O.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases throughout the year.

T A B L E IV.

Disease.	Jan/ Mar	Apr/ Jun	Jul/ Sep	Oct/ Dec	Total	Deaths	No of cases admitted to hospital.
Scarlet Fever	4	1	3	7	15	-	14
Whooping Cough	18	4	4	14	40	-	-
Measles	109	192	4	-	305	-	-
Pneumonia	1	2	-	-	3	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	-	3	-	3
	133	200	12	21	366	2	17

Diphtheria.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year. During 1951 66 children under the age of five years, and 4 between the ages of 5 and 15, received their primary immunisation against diphtheria.

The following table shows a general survey of the
 results obtained in the year 1901.

TABLE I.									
General Survey of the Results of the Year 1901.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Comparison of 1901 with the year 1900.

Year	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

TABLE II.

Summary of the Results of the Year 1901.

The following table shows the results of the year 1901, compared with the year 1900.

TABLE II.									
Summary of the Results of the Year 1901.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

TABLE III.

Summary of the Results of the Year 1901.

The following table shows the results of the year 1901, compared with the year 1900.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of tuberculous persons.

T A B L E V.

No. of cases in Register	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
At the commencement of 1951	13	13	7	3	36
Notified during 1951	2	2	-	-	4
Removed during 1951	1	1	1	-	3
At the end of 1951	14	14	6	3	37

There were 3 removals from the Register. Two patients left the district, and one died.

P A R T T H R E E.

M A T E R N I T Y A N D C H I L D W E L F A R E.

Child Welfare Clinics.

An Infant Welfare Clinic commenced to operate on a fortnightly basis at the Methodist Chapel, Beal, in January of 1951, and the people, both of Beal and from the surrounding area readily accepted the facilities offered.

During the year 61 individual children passed through the clinic. The total number of attendances was 355, and 303 cases were seen by the medical officer.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

During the year 29 expectant mothers passed through the clinic. The average attendance per session was 6, and the total number of attendances 138. In addition 19 post-natal examinations were carried out.

Gas and Air Analgesia was freely used for confinements and was greatly appreciated by the patients.

The following analysis of births occurring during 1951, adjusted by transferred notifications, indicates how the various maternity services and institutions were used.

1. No. of births occurring in the district during 1951.

<u>Domiciliary cases.</u>	<u>L.B.</u>	<u>S.B.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	78	1	79
2. <u>Outward Transfers</u>	-	-	-
3. <u>Inward Transfers.</u>	35	-	35
Total	<u>113</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>114</u>

Inward Transfers.

Walton Hall Maternity Home	12
Hazlewood Maternity Home	5
Leeds Maternity Hospital	7
Manygates Maternity Hospital	7
Northgate Lodge Hospital	2
Fairfield Nursing Home	1
Ilkley Maternity Hospital	1
Total	<u>35</u>

Care of the Premature Infant.

Ten premature infants were notified during the year. In each case a special investigation was made and help given as required. Close liaison exists between Hospitals and Authorities.

P A R T F O U R

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Routine school medical inspections were carried out in the Osgoldcross Schools during the year. Cases requiring consultation with a specialist, that is to say, orthopaedic cases; ear, nose and throat cases, and eye cases; were referred to the appropriate Clinic in Pontefract and dealt with there.

P A R T F I V E

HOME NURSING.

Home Nursing Services have been maintained during the year. During 1951 246 cases were nursed and 5,484 visits made.

P A R T S I X

CARE AND AFTER CARE.

Much good work has been done under this heading during the year. A Health Visitor for Pontefract has continued to visit the Pontefract General Infirmary daily and has maintained close co-operation with her colleagues in the Rural District.

Home Helps.

The demand for this service has been maintained.

P A R T S E V E N

MENTAL HEALTH.

Mental health is a responsibility of a Sub-Committee of the County Council. Work under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 and 1930, has been undertaken by a Duly Authorised Officer living in Pontefract. He is Mr. R.S.H. Battye, of 27, Grove Lea Crescent, Pontefract. His Telephone number is Pontefract 813.

We have one Mental Deficiency Social Worker, Miss Simons, for work under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

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Major General
Colonel
Lieutenant Colonel
Captain
Major
Lieutenant
First Lieutenant
Second Lieutenant
First Sergeant
Second Sergeant
Third Sergeant
Fourth Sergeant
Fifth Sergeant
Sixth Sergeant
Seventh Sergeant
Eighth Sergeant
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Eleventh Sergeant
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Seventy-eighth Sergeant
Seventy-ninth Sergeant
Eightieth Sergeant
Eighty-first Sergeant
Eighty-second Sergeant
Eighty-third Sergeant
Eighty-fourth Sergeant
Eighty-fifth Sergeant
Eighty-sixth Sergeant
Eighty-seventh Sergeant
Eighty-eighth Sergeant
Eighty-ninth Sergeant
Ninetieth Sergeant
Ninety-first Sergeant
Ninety-second Sergeant
Ninety-third Sergeant
Ninety-fourth Sergeant
Ninety-fifth Sergeant
Ninety-sixth Sergeant
Ninety-seventh Sergeant
Ninety-eighth Sergeant
Ninety-ninth Sergeant
One hundredth Sergeant

Table of the President's Salary

The President's salary is fixed by law. In each case a special law is passed to increase the salary. The salary is paid in advance of the year.

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P A R T E I G H T .

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Ambulance Service of the District is now operated by the County Council, and its administration is the responsibility of the County Ambulance Officer.

- - - - -

STATE OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

The enclosed copy of the report is now separated
by the County Board, and the Commission is the responsibility
of the County Board.

OSGOLDCROSS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1951.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs Sharpe and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year 1951.

NUISANCES.

Number of primary inspections - 798	
Number of cases in which nuisance found.	393
Number of nuisances outstanding, 1950.	<u>12</u>
Number of cases dealt with.	405
Number of cases abated in 1951.	<u>391</u>
Number of cases outstanding.	<u>14</u>

No statutory notices were issued, abatement being effected by informal notices or arrangement.

As usual the bulk of the cases concerned defects in houses, the number of such cases being 372.

With regard to smoke, grit and fumes from the electricity generating station in the neighbouring District, some effort has been made to mitigate the nuisance by raising the height of the chimneys. The efficacy of this has yet to be observed. A proposed extension of this station is viewed by residents in that part of the District near to the station with considerable misgiving. The matter is being watched by the Council with a view to ensuring as clean an atmosphere as they are able to insist upon.

Efforts have also been made to obviate cause of complaint in connection with our neighbouring chemical industry. While it is believed some success has been achieved, real elimination can ~~scarcely~~ ^{scarcely} be said to have been attained.

HOUSING.

The construction of new houses has provided satisfactory accommodation for some 40 families, the adaption of a further 16 of the hutments at Byram Park has provided more or less satisfactory accommodation for that number of families if only for a limited number of years. This accommodation was sorely needed and the greater part of it was provided in an area of the District where the need was most urgent. This and the improvement and repair of houses must be a considerable contribution towards the improvement of general housing conditions. It is questionable, however, whether the rate of construction of new houses keeps pace with the needs, bearing in mind the married couples needing houses of their own, newly marrying couples desiring such homes and even couples wishing to marry but cannot because of having no accommodation; also bearing in mind the need for rehousing families at present in worn-out and substandard houses. There are many of the latter of which there is little prospect of them being brought up to a satisfactory standard largely on account of present day costs and the uneconomic returns to owners in the form of rents.

ACTION UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

The number of houses inspected and recorded was 124.

The number of these considered unfit was 27 and the number not in all respects reasonably fit, 71.

Five unfit houses were demolished, one following vacation of a house in respect of which a demolition order had been made some years ago; four as a result of informal action obviating statutory demolition orders.

Repairs and improvements were carried out to 39 houses, in addition to repairs to 372 under "Nuisances". These were arranged for without recourse to statutory notices.

ACTION UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS AND REGULATIONS (Contd.).

The houses were not all brought up to a "Full" standard but it is found expedient to effect such work as will keep them in reasonable condition until such time as more drastic measures are opportune.

An improvement grant under the Housing Act, 1949, was paid in respect of one house and work was in progress at 5 houses with a view to grants.

OVERCROWDING.

At the end of the year there were 38 overcrowded houses on record involving 49 families and 267 persons; about 3.4% of the population and 1.59% of the houses.

During the year 4 new cases were recorded and 7 cases were relieved, concerning 9 families and 51 persons. These figures are the result of a check of the recorded cases and inspections at 64 houses.

They refer only to cases of statutory overcrowding. If based on other factors, such as inadequate bedroom accommodation, the number of overcrowding cases would be much greater.

In connection with applications for Council houses, 57 visits were paid to check particulars for points assessments.

ACTION UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

In addition to houses already mentioned, 186 houses were inspected under Public Health Acts in respect of water supply, sanitary accommodation and fittings, etc. Work was required or undertaken at 156 and completed at 142.

A further 9 houses were inspected specially in respect of vermin. In 5 cases the trouble was cockroaches, in 2 cases ants and in the other two cases fleas. D.D.T. suppressed these infestations. A road transport cafe which provides rest for drivers had a customer who left lice behind him. The blankets and bedding were taken away and disinfected by steam. The room was sprayed with D.D.T. No further trouble was experienced.

It is agreeable to note that no cases of bug infestations were encountered.

NEW HOUSES.

Fifty-six new dwellings were provided during the year. The adaption of hutments at Byram Park accounted for 16 of these. The Council also built 32 houses, the other 8 houses being built by private enterprise.

The adapted hutments are a temporary measure, and rendering them more or less satisfactory for the purpose has not proved an easy matter.

The need for them, however, was very urgent and it is hoped they will serve until more permanent accommodation can be provided.

A new departure in the provision of housing accommodation by the Council was the construction of 4 blocks each of four flats, on the Byram Park site. These structures are quite attractive and the accommodation afforded appears to be very satisfactory. They meet the needs of many people who require only two bedrooms.

The remaining 16 houses built by the Council were of traditional type at Hensall - actually in Eggborough parish - an attractive little scheme and a valuable and welcome addition to the housing accommodation of the neighbourhood.

Of the 8 houses built by private enterprise, one each was built at Beal, Birkin, Burton Salmon and Eggborough; a house at Kellington was made into 2; 2 houses were built at Byram-cum-Sutton.

The Council again encountered serious difficulties in procuring and developing sites, but headway was made, and in addition to continued development of the Byram Park Scheme, schemes are on the way for Birkin, Monk Fryston, Hillam and Fairburn. The provision of houses at East Hardwick and further houses at Balno, Kellington and Womersley are also under consideration.

WATER.

By the extension of a main from Darrington to Stapleton, the Council have now fulfilled their long cherished wish to provide a piped water supply in every parish in the District.

The scheme prepared two or three years ago provided for mains in every parish. After a Ministry Inquiry this was whittled down to exclude some outlying parts of parishes, but after much of the work had been done last year it was found possible to provide for some of these outlying parts. Although a few outlying groups of houses still remain to be catered for, the progress recently made is important and gratifying and all but a small percentage of houses now are, or can be, adequately serviced.

Water from the Pontefract Corporation Works (three pumping stations in the Rural District) supplies the greater part of the District; Balno, Hock, and part of Womersley being supplied from the Goole Corporation Water Works. Most of the water is distributed by the Council's own mains; supplies at East Hardwick and Wentbridge being received via Hemsworth R.D.C., mains. (Pontefract Corporation source). A few houses at East Hardwick are supplied directly by Hemsworth R.D.C. Pontefract Corporation also supplies a few houses in various places directly.

The Council's own works at Darrington continues to supply the village and it is from here that the extension has been made to the adjoining parish of Stapleton.

House connections were being taken from the newly provided mains and in a few cases from the older mains and at the end of the year approximately 91% of the houses were supplied from public mains, 5.77% by taps from private sources, the remaining 5.23% being served by private wells with hand pumps.

A little lack of pressure trouble has been experienced at Fairburn and mechanical trouble has caused hitches at Darrington and Womersley, otherwise piped supplies have been ample.

Twelve samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these 11, from public piped supplies were satisfactory. The other from a private well was doubtful.

Most of the former unsatisfactory (private) supplies are being eliminated by supplies being taken from the new mains.

SEWERAGE.

There is no new constructive work to report this year. The scheme for Brotherton and Byran, etc., lacks progress, fresh requirements from higher quarters and change of mind by our neighbours resulting in further frustration. Continued delay is likely to lead to an embarrassing situation to say the least of it.

The continuing unsatisfactory sewerage and sewage disposal facilities for most parishes, with resultant fouling of dykes, continuation of cesspools and lack of reasonable water closet facilities are a great bar to sanitary progress and the need for them would be difficult to overstress.

SCAVENGING.

Domestic refuse removal throughout the District has continued, the work being done by direct labour with two 3-ton motor vehicles. The scattered nature of the District and the varied types and circumstances of receptacles do not make equal, regular and frequent visits easy. Although the two teams were supplemented on occasions by a third team, making the service a costly one, intervals between the emptying of conveniences were in some cases longer than is desirable.

As already mentioned in another connection the lack of adequate sewerage facilities is a hindrance to conversion of other forms of closets to water closets and only three such conversions took place during the year. The 56 new houses were each provided with a W.C., and one was provided at a house which had previously shared a privy. This brought the number of W.C.'s in the District to about 1180, 49.18% of the total number of all kinds. Five years ago the percentage of W.C.'s was 37.28. The construction of W.C.'s at practically all new houses

SCAVENGING (Contd).

and conversions where it is possible to arrange for them is gradually increasing this percentage. Demolition of unfit houses should increase the pace somewhat but proper sewerage facilities is what is needed to hasten the elimination of privies and pail closets. There remain some 1220 of these in the District, about 640 ashpits and 975 dust-bins.

SALVAGE.

Better prices were obtainable for some salvaged materials and efforts were made to collect and save paper and cardboard which is the material we can best obtain. During the year the following material was sold:-

	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Paper and Cardboard	12	17	1	20	175	15	4
Rags		7	1	19	13	17	8
Iron	1	19	1	0	7	14	11

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Of the 14 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, 3 occurred in February in one family, the patients following one another to hospital within a week. The father was a milker at a dairy farm. It was arranged that he had no part in the milk handling for the time being and no further cases developed. A case occurred at a private boarding school; the patient was removed to hospital, some disinfection was carried out and other precautions taken; no further cases developed at the school. There were two cases of 2 in a family and those with several others, though in widely separated houses appeared to have connecting links.

The one case of diphtheria and one death from Tuberculosis provided 2 cases for disinfection, making the number of disinfections carried out, including for Scarlet Fever, 14.

INFESTATION.

The infestation by insects of houses is referred to under "Housing" but the greater and more general infestation with which my department is concerned is caused by the rodents rats and mice.

Some 315 premises were inspected, made up of 10 Council properties, 216 dwelling houses, 59 agricultural holdings and 30 businesses and industrial premises.

Infestations were found at 8 council properties, 23 dwelling houses, 20 agricultural holdings and 13 business and industrial premises, a total of 64. In only 9 cases had infestations been notified by occupiers. The number of infestations treated by the Council was 48, including 2 serious infestations by mice only. The number of treatments required to overcome these infestations was 1 in 30 cases, 2 in 13 cases, 3 in 3 cases and 4 in 2 cases.

As each treatment involved from 3 to 8 visits it will be seen that a large number of visits were made and a correspondingly large number of baits laid.

In the cases where treatment was not carried out by the Council it was done by the occupier, a servicing company or the Agricultural Executive Committee. The latter have carried out many treatments which are not covered by this report. The Committee does most of the work on agricultural holdings in the area but it is the Council's responsibility to see that where necessary it is done.

In addition to the above, sewers also received attention, to which much importance is attached by the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

At least 10% of the manholes at Brotherton, Darrington, Girdling Stubbs (Croft Lea), and Eggborough (Greenacres) were test baited. At Brotherton, full treatment on a section which in previous years had been infested was commenced, but here also there were no takes.

The Planning and Advisory Committee for the area (Group No. 11) continued its function, still under the Chairmanship of Cr. G.O. Peacock, J.P., and issued another annual report. By this means we are kept informed of advances in methods and technique and have useful opportunity of discussing difficulties, etc., in operating.

A joint press announcement was arranged for as to occupiers responsibilities and Local Authorities services, etc. Through the suggestion of the Committee, so that all Councils in the group area should act similarly, it was agreed that dwellinghouses not connected with business premises should be serviced free of charge.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

As the Ministry of Food do not operate a slaughterhouse in the District, no slaughtering for food for sale takes place in the District except maybe in a case of emergency.

Meat arriving at the butchers premises has been inspected at the place of slaughter and I have not had occasion to seize or disapprove any.

There is an understanding with the local Food Control Office as to arrangements for the slaughter of pigs for self suppliers but the number killed appears to have been small compared with the number killed two or three years ago.

In three cases, two at a grocers shop and one at a hotel, canned cooked ham to a total weight of 36lb was found to be unfit, was surrendered and destroyed.

Ice-cream, the consumption of which appears to increase yearly, continued to receive attention. Of two makers in the District, one with small but clean and suitable premises and modern equipment continued to turn out a quite satisfactory product. The other with larger premises not quite so smart or clean but reasonably satisfactory and quite well equipped was erratic in results from a bacteriological point of view. Samples of the finished article and of ingredients showed varying results. The problem of more consistently satisfactory products was solved by the business being closed down before the end of the year. Excluding the last mentioned, there were 6 premises at the end of the year registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1948, for the sale of ice-cream. These were satisfactory, usually only wrapped ice-cream being sold, from suitable refrigerator cabinets. Frozen samples of ice-cream or ingredients were submitted for bacteriological examination. Ten of these were satisfactory, the remainder (all from the business which has closed down) were unsatisfactory or doubtful.

Some 60 visits have been paid to butchers, grocers, fried fish shops, hotels and other places where food is prepared or sold. For their various circumstances conditions on the whole have been reasonably good and it has not been necessary to take any punitive actions.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

At the end of the year there were 10 Distributors registered in the District. This is not the number of dealers actually selling milk in the District as there are a large number of dairy farmers producing milk and selling wholesale, retail or both. As such they are registered with and 'controlled' by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Of the Registered Distributors 4 have no premises within the District and 3 use premises only for storage of utensils. Scope for Local Authority action is therefore limited.

The tendency towards designated milks continues and the following licences were in force:- Tuberculin Tested, 4 Dealers and 3 Supplementary; Pastuerised, 5 Dealers and 3 Supplementary; Sterilised, 1 Dealers and 1 Supplementary. Most of the Tuberculin Tested milk is also Pastuerised.

Following up my action of the previous year in checking milk from producers not likely to be covered from other sources I took samples from 4 Dairy Farms (not touched the previous year) for biological examination in respect of Tuberculosis. They were all satisfactory, no indication of Tuberculosis being found. Two samples of ungraded milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue test as for Accredited Milk, one of which did not satisfy the test.

As mentioned elsewhere in the report there was a case of Scarlet Fever in which a member of the family was a milker at a dairy farm. It was arranged that he take no part in the milk business for the time being and no case of infectious illness has been attributed to milk.

FACTORIES.

There were 32 Factories registered 25 of which were power operated in which cases the Local Authority is only concerned with the Sanitary accommodation. Some 37 inspections were made revealing 2 contraventions one of which has been remedied and the other is having attention.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There were no licenced camping grounds in operation and only 5 of 6 caravans or the like were "Sottled" in the District. Apart from a few in connection with feasts or fairs some 10 moveable dwellings stayed for a short time. No special trouble has arisen regarding these during the year. Endeavour is made to see that no untoward development takes place in respect of this class of dwelling in the district.

I regret that owing to technical college courses difficulties, my colleague, Mr. Ansell, has found it necessary to give up his intention of qualifying as a Sanitary Inspector and take up another side of the Council's work. In the circumstances I have agreed to carry on for the time being with the minimum of assistance from him, though this will certainly handicap my department. I have much appreciated Mr. Ansell's efficient services during the year.

I have the honour to remain,
Yours obediently,

GORDON LEDWITH.



