

[Report 1958] / Medical Officer of Health, Richmond (Yorkshire) Borough.

Contributors

Richmond (North Yorkshire, England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1958

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/p6wtjmdy>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

1/ H. O' Mara 5B
2/ Library

HEALTH
A 2 5 SEP 59
C.R. 23

BOROUGH OF RICHMOND

in the

COUNTY OF YORKSHIRE.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for

1958.

F. W. Gavin, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.



B

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my Report on the health of the Borough for the year ended 31st December 1958.

The Report is prepared on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health. The mid-year population is estimated by the Registrar General at 6,110, an increase of 70 on that for 1957. The live births numbered 132, compared with 125 in 1957, giving a live birth rate of 21.60 (20.70 in 1957), and above the National figure at 16.40. There were two still births during the year.

The infantile death rate at 45.45 compares with the National figure of 22.50. Total deaths numbered 66 (62 in 1957), and the death rate at 13.20 this year is higher than that for the rest of England and Wales at 11.70. Heart disease again leads the list with 22 deaths, 16 deaths from cancer and 9 from vascular lesions of the nervous system, there were also 8 deaths from pneumonia and 2 from bronchitis. It is pleasing to record no deaths from tuberculosis and no maternal deaths during the year.

During the year 1958 there were only 12 notifications of infectious diseases in the Borough, three isolated cases of measles occurred in May, July and December respectively. In this connection one recalls that the previous year had been a 'Measles' year. These 'measles' years recur every second year. Only one case of whooping cough and one of chicken pox were notified, the latter disease is not normally notifiable but this case had occurred in Military Barracks. Five cases of sonne dysentery were reported, all in one family, occurring in January, and thus illustrating the extreme infectivity of this disease in a household. One case of scarlet fever occurred in the month of May and a second case in August when the schools were on holiday. The year 1958 was thus outstanding for its freedom from the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases.

There were six cases of respiratory tuberculosis reported in 1958, there being no deaths from this cause during the year.

F. W. Gevin,

Medical Officer of Health.



VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS. The number of live births registered during the year was 132, as against 125 in 1957, the number of still births registered during 1958 was 2, as against none in the previous year.

Birth Rate Comparisons.

Live Births - per 1,000 population.
Stillbirths - per 1,000 live and stillbirths,
 as adjusted by the Comparability Factor
 supplied by the Registrar General.

| | <u>Live Births</u> | <u>Still Births</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Richmond Borough 1958 | 21.60 | 14.90 |
| Richmond Borough 1957 | 20.70 | 0.0 |
| England and Wales 1958 | 16.40 | 21.60 |

Analysis of Births.

| | <u>Live Births</u> | | | | <u>Still Births</u> | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|----|------|----|---------------------|---|------|---|
| | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1958 | | 1957 | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Legitimate | 66 | 54 | 54 | 65 | 1 | 1 | . | . |
| Illegitimate | 6 | 6 | 4 | 2 | . | . | . | . |
| Totals | 72 | 60 | 58 | 67 | 1 | 1 | . | . |

DEATHS. There were no cases of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth in the Borough during the year out of a registered total of 134 births.

Infantile Mortality. The number of infantile deaths (under one year) registered in the Borough during 1958, was 6 as against 5 in 1957.

| <u>Infantile Mortality Comparisons.</u> | <u>Rate per 1,000 live births</u> |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Richmond Borough 1958 . | 45.45 |
| Richmond Borough 1957 . | 40.00 |
| England and Wales 1958 . | 22.50 |

Deaths from all Causes. During 1958 there were 66 deaths from all causes in the Borough, as against 62 in 1957, the rate is slightly higher than the National figure.

| <u>Death Rate Comparisons.</u> | <u>per 1,000 population.</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Richmond Borough 1958 . | 13.20 |
| Richmond Borough 1957 . | 11.70 |
| England and Wales 1958 | 11.70 |

Deaths from the Seven Chief Causes.

| | No. of Deaths | 1958 | No. of Deaths | 1957 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Rate per 1,000 population | | Rate per 1,000 population |
| Cancer ... | 16 | 2.62 | 14 | 2.31 |
| Respiratory (not T/B) | 11 | 1.80 | 6 | 1.00 |
| Heart Disease ... | 22 | 3.60 | 18. | 3.00 |
| Tuberculosis - Pulmonary | . | . | . | . |
| Tuberculosis - Non-Pulmonary | . | . | . | . |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | 2 | .33 | 3. | .50 |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System | 9 | 1.47 | 11 | 1.8 |
| Totals | 60 | 9.82 | 52 | 8.61 |

| <u>Causes of Deaths from all Causes, showing sexes and compared with previous year.</u> | <u>1957</u> | | <u>1958</u> | |
|---|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| | M | F | M | F |
| Tuberculosis, respiratory | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| " lung, bronchus | 2 | 1 | . | . |
| " uterus | ... | ... | . | 1 |
| " breast | ... | 1 | . | 1 |
| Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| Syphilitic diseases | ... | 1 | . | . |
| Leukaemia | ... | . | 1 | . |
| Meningococcal infections | 1 | . | . | . |
| Diabetes | ... | . | . | . |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System | 2 | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| Coronary Diseases, Angina. | 7 | . | 11 | 6 |
| Hypertension with Heart Diseases | ... | 1 | . | . |
| Other Heart Diseases | 2 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | ... | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Bronchitis | 1 | 1 | . | 2 |
| Other Diseases of the Respiratory System | 1 | . | 1 | . |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum | 3 | . | . | . |
| Congenital Malformations | 1 | . | . | . |
| Other Defined and ill-defined diseases | 1 | 1 | 2 | . |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | ... | . | . | . |
| All Other Accidents | ... | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Suicide | ... | . | 5 | 1 |
| Totals | 32 | 30 | 35 | 31 |

NOTIFIABLE/INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Analysis and comparisons with previous year

| <u>Diseases</u> | <u>1957</u> | <u>1958</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Food Poisoning | 3 | . |
| Scarlet Fever | 16 | 2 |
| Whooping Cough | 34 | 1 |
| Chicken Pox | 1 | 1 |
| Measles | 115 | 3 |
| Dysentery | 1 | 5 |
| Totals | 170 | 12 |

TUBERCULOSIS. There were 6 notifications of Tuberculosis during the year, as against 2 in 1957.

Analysis.

| | <u>1957</u> | | <u>1958</u> | |
|---------------|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| | M | F | M | F |
| Pulmonary | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Non-pulmonary | . | . | . | . |

Deaths from Tuberculosis. As in 1957 there were no deaths from Tuberculosis during 1958.

VACCINATIONS AND IMMUNISATIONS. The following vaccinations and immunisations were carried out during the year:-

Analysis and comparison with previous year.

| | <u>1957</u> | | <u>1958</u> | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | 0 - 5 | over 5 | 0 - 5 | over 5 |
| Successful vaccinations | 30 | 14 | 65 | 21 |
| Complete course of immunisation | 60 | 4 | 81 | 6 |

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health: F.W. Gavin, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Borough Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

A. Anderson, M.I.Mun.E., M.I.H.E., M.R.S.H. I.

Additional Public Health Inspector: J.T.D. James, M.P.H.I.A.

General Statistics

| | |
|---|---------|
| Area of District in acres | 2,520 |
| Resident Population, estimated mid-year 1958 | 6,110 |
| Number of inhabited houses | 1,842 |
| Rateable value at 1st April, 1958 | £68,976 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | £273 |
| Rate in £ levied at 1st April, 1958 (half-year) | 12/4 |

Water Supplies

(1) High Zone - Coalsgarth Supply

The small headworks comprise a number of springs, some collected in small adits and conveyed by pipes of various sizes to a collecting tank.

During the year, the yield of these springs was excellent, although at times the quality of the water was poor. The contour drainage of Richmond Outmoor promotes a rapid run-off with consequent deterioration of the supply.

Storage - Since the war the greater part of the development of the town has taken place in the area of the Coalsgarth supply. The present capacity of the reservoir is 150,000 gallons, barely over one day's supply. Further capacity is needed, and the addition of filtration equipment at that time would ensure a good and constant supply.

Shortages at either zone can be met by the use of pumping plant at the Low Zone reservoir connected to the High Zone by a 6" rising main. This can also be used as an overflow from High to Low.

The supply to Cutpurse Lane gives rise to difficulties insofar as ten houses on the estate are above the normal limits at the High Reservoir. A stand-pipe on the incoming main ensures sufficient head for gravity supply. Since the chloramine treatment is injected into the incoming raw water main, very little time elapses between chlorination and consumption. So far, all analyses of this supply have been satisfactory, but a constant check on residuals at Cutpurse Lane is necessary.

(2) Low Zone

The Low Zone supply is derived from springs at the head of Clapgate Beck. Except in times of very heavy rainfall this supply is constantly good in quality and volume.

The limiting factor in quantity is the 6" trunk main from Feldom to Richmond. Improvement in the contours of this main is now under review, and the Council is proceeding with the reconstruction of part of the main in Clapgate Gill, where a section takes a steep dip in crossing a small beck, with the result that the bottom of the dip is continually giving rise to silting, and of course the dip seriously affects the rate of flow at this point.

It would seem that, sooner or later, even after any difficult sections have been relaid, a second 6" main from Feldom is necessary. This would also call for extra storage capacity in Richmond.

Storage - The 300,000 gallons capacity at the Low Zone limits the supply to less than two days. Additional storage and the installation of filtration equipment are both necessary. During the year Gallowgate Camp was vacated and, of course, the need for water supply ceased.

Water Supplies
(Continued)

(3) General

Bacteriological analyses are made monthly for each zone of supply, and throughout the year under review every sample has been analysed as satisfactory.

Rainfall for the year ending 31st December, 1958 was 34.79".

The average daily consumption for both zones is 280,000 gallons.

Drainage and Sewerage

St. Martins Sewage Disposal Works

The sewage disposal works at St. Martins are giving excellent results. The effluent is checked weekly by the Yorkshire Ouse River Board Inspector, and reports show that it is consistently good. The disposal of sludge and the clearing of the drying beds is one of the greatest problems at the works, and is one of the largest items in running costs.

Throughout the town drainage is combined, and, apart from eleven outlying properties outside the sewerage area, all sewage is conveyed to the sewage works for treatment.

Scavenging

A public scavenging and refuse collection service is in operation throughout the urban area of the town.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping at Aislabeck.

The total cost of refuse collection for the year was £3,783.

Meat Inspection

There are two private slaughterhouses in the town. The numbers of animals inspected at these slaughterhouses are as follows:-

| | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| Bovine 376 | Sheep 632 | Pigs 454 |
|------------|-----------|----------|

Throughout the year 244 visits were made to the slaughterhouses and 1,670 lbs. of carcase meat and offal condemned.

Nine slaughtermen's licences were renewed during the year.

For details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned, please see Appendix.

Housing

Slum Clearance

Millgate Compulsory Purchase Order, 1957

There were no objectors to the Millgate Compulsory Purchase Order which was confirmed by the Minister in March, 1958. Occupiers of the six premises involved have been rehoused and the area is now available for redevelopment.

Waterloo Clearance Area, 1958

A local enquiry held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in June of this year, when objectors to the Waterloo Clearance Area were heard, resulted in official confirmation of the Clearance Order. Redevelopment of the area will lie with the respective owners of the property when the Order becomes operative.

Housing
(Contd)

Individual Unfit Houses

21 Castle Hill was officially represented as being unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at reasonable expense.

Rent Act, 1957

Only one application for a certificate of disrepair was received during the past year. An undertaking to remedy the defects was later given by the owner of the premises and thus obviated the necessity for service of the certificate.

General

| | |
|---|-------|
| Total number of houses in district | 1,843 |
| Number of houses inspected where minor defects were discovered | 246 |
| Number of houses inspected for purposes of improvement grant under Housing Act, 1949 and Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954 | 5 |
| Number of Housing Grants made | 5 |
| Total number of Housing Grants refused | Nil |
| Total number of houses erected by the Local Authority | Nil |
| Total number of houses erected by private persons | 7 |

Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year

| | | |
|---------|--|-----|
| (1) (a) | Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 374 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 391 |
| (2) (a) | Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. | Nil |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | Nil |
| (3) | Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 3 |
| (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 | 54 |

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers | 59 |
|--|----|

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 ... | Nil |
| (b) | Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices: | |
| (1) | By owners ... | Nil |
| (2) | By Local Authority in default of owners ... | Nil |

Housing
(Contd)

(2) Proceedings under Public Health Act:-

| | | |
|-----|--|---------|
| (a) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs | ... 5 |
| (b) | Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | |
| (1) | By Owners | ... 5 |
| (2) | By Local Authority in default of owners | ... Nil |

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

| | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| (a) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... Nil |
| (b) | Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... Nil |
| (c) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted by the Council | ... Nil |

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 | ... Nil |
| (b) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... Nil |

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Out of a total of 78 visits made, 32 unsatisfactory conditions were found to exist; 24 of these have so far been remedied.

BAKEHOUSES

There are 5 bakehouses in the Borough. Out of a total of 10 inspections there were 2 occasions when unsatisfactory conditions were found. These have since been remedied by service of informal notice.

MILK SUPPLY

Three Dealers' Licences and four Supplementary Licences were issued during the year.

ICE CREAM

There are 29 registered retailers of ice-cream in the Borough, one of which is also a manufacturer.

FACTORIES

There are 29 factories on the register, 5 of which are non-mechanical and 2 included in the Building Operations and Engineering Class.

Fortyfive visits were made to these premises throughout the year. Defects were found on 3, and these were remedied by informal action.

MORTUARY ACCOMMODATION

One mortuary, with accommodation for two bodies and for post-mortem examinations, is attached to the Victoria Hospital.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS, 1949

A rodent control service is in operation within the Borough, disinfection being carried out upon complaint. Treatment of the sewerage system is done twice yearly.

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

Amongst others, more recently the following have been adopted:-

- (1) Byelaws (Building) Public Health Act, 1936, Section 61.
- (2) Byelaws (Water) Section 17, Water Act, 1945.
- (3) Byelaws, Prevention of Litter and Dangerous Substances, Section 249, Local Government Act, 1933.

There are also Byelaws in force relating to New Streets, Nuisances, Common Lodging Houses, Market and Slaughter Houses.

