

[Report 1957] / Medical Officer of Health, Rotherham County Borough.

Contributors

Rotherham (England). County Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1957

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THE HEALTH OF ROTHERHAM 1957

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER**

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROTHERHAM

REPORT
BY THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1957

ROTHERHAM:
HENRY GARNETT & CO. LTD., "ADVERTISER" OFFICE
1958

Index

	PAGE		PAGE
Aged and Infirm Persons	35	Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts ..	95
Ambulance Service	77	Mass Radiography	43-45
Ante-Natal Clinics	58	Maternity Services	53-61
Atmospheric Pollution	31-34	Meat	27
B.C.G. Vaccination	73	Mental Deficiency Acts	92-95
Blind Persons	97-99	Mental Health	91-96
Canal Boats	19	Mental Treatment Acts	95-96
Care and After-care of		Merchandise Marks Act, 1926	29
Illness	78-82	Midwives	53-61
Mental Health	91-96	Milk	24-25
Tuberculosis	81-82		
Care of Mothers and Young Children ..	46-52	National Assistance Acts	97
Care of the Premature Infant	49-51	Nursing equipment loans	89
Care of the Unmarried Mother	63		
Chest Clinic	79	Occupation Centre	94
Child Welfare Centres	46	Offensive Trades	19
Children's Committee, Residential Nursery	52	Other Food	31
Common Lodging Houses	22		
Cancer	16, 75	Paediatric Clinics	79
		Pharmacy and Poisons	23
Deaths	11	Poliomyelitis	73-74
Dental Treatment	47-49	Prematurity and Infant Mortality	49-51
Diphtheria Immunisation	71	Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care	78-82
District Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics	58	Problem Families	63
Domestic Help	83-90	Post-Natal Clinics	58
Domiciliary Meals Service	87	Public Mortuary	35
Domiciliary Midwives' Service	58-61		
Domiciliary Services, relief of hospital beds	70	Rats and Mice Destruction	23
		Residential Nursery	52
Epileptics and Spastics	102		
Factories	18	Sanitary Accommodation	18
Family Planning Association	58	Sanitary Circumstances	17-35
Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs	31	Shellfish	25
Food and Drugs	29-31	Shops	24
Food Premises	25-26	Smoke Abatement	31-34
		Social Case Work	63
Health Committee	3-4	Spastics	102
Health Education	75-76	Staff	5-7
Health Visiting	62-65		
Home Accidents	79-80	Temporary Accommodation	52
Home Nursing	66-69	Tents, Vans and Sheds	22
Hospital Liaison	70, 78-79	Tuberculosis	41-42
Houses-let-in-Lodgings	22	Tuberculosis Care Committee	81-82
Housing	19		
		Vaccination and Immunisation	71-74
Ice Cream	25	Vermineous Premises	23
Illegitimate Children	63	Vital Statistics	11-16
Immunisation :			
Diphtheria	71	Water	18
Whooping Cough	72	Welfare Committee	97-102
B.C.G.	73	Welfare Foods	52
Industrial Centre	94	Whooping Cough Immunisation	72
Infant Mortality	15		
Infectious Diseases and Tuberculosis ..	36-40		
Influenza Outbreak	40		

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(as at 31st December, 1957)

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REPRESENTATIVE ON THE ROTHERHAM OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE

ALDERMAN A. BUXTON, J.P., M.R.S.H.

STAFF

(as at 31st December, 1957)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER:

R. J. Donaldson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND DEPUTY PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER:

J. M. H. Hopper, M.B., B.S., D.Obst.,
R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH AND SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICERS:

D. P. Adams, M.B., Ch.B.

Evelyn Bostock, M.B., B.S.,
D.Obst. R.C.O.G.

Mary D. A. Boyd, M.B., Ch.B.

PRINCIPAL DENTAL OFFICER:

H. R. Heald, L.D.S.

DENTAL OFFICERS:

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G. W. Lowe, L.D.S.

Joyce Stocks, L.D.S.

L. F. T. Liang, L.D.S. (part time)

H. P. Redfearn, L.D.S. (part time)

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST:

J. R. Green, B.A.

CHIROPODIST (part time):

L. Aldam, M.Ch.S.

CONSULTING STAFF (part time):

OPHTHALMOLOGY:

T. Stafford Maw, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.O.M.S.

Franziska Fischer, M.D.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT:

H. M. Petty, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O.

PSYCHIATRY:

J. D. Orme, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.M.

OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY:

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M.R.C.O.G., L.M.

TUBERCULOSIS:

A. C. Morrison, M.D., D.P.H.

ORTHODONTICS:

J. H. Gardiner, B.D.S., L.D.S. (Manch.)

ORTHOPAEDICS:

H. L. McMullen, B.A., M.B., B.Chir.,
F.R.C.S.

PUBLIC ANALYST (part time):

H. Childs, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

LAY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

G. E. Westby (1), (5)

SENIOR CLERK:

G. H. Biggin

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S SECRETARY:

Miss J. Caseldine

GENERAL OFFICE: CLERICAL STAFF:

5 Clerks

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

L. Eastwood, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.Inst.P.C.,
(1), (2), (3), (4), (5)

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

T. E. Snape, M.A.P.H.I., (1), (2), (3).

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS :

G. C. Harrison, M.A.P.H.I., (1), (3)
W. James, (1)
L. W. Lodge, M.A.P.H.I. (1), (2)
W. G. Smith, (1), (2)
M. A. Standish, (1), (2), (3), (5)
three vacancies

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION :

1 Pupil Public Health Inspector
2 Clerks
2 Disinfectors
1 Ratcatcher

SUPERINTENDENT HEALTH VISITOR:

Miss E. G. Taylor (6), S.R.N., S.C.M.

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT HEALTH VISITOR:

Miss E. Keeton, (6), S.R.N., S.C.M.

HEALTH VISITOR/SOCIAL WORKER:

Vacant

SPEECH THERAPIST:

Miss A. D. Lee, L.C.S.T.

HEALTH VISITORS/SCHOOL NURSES :

Miss M. Fleming, S.R.N., S.R.F.N.,
S.C.M.
Miss E. M. Jeffs (6), S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss M. Myers, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. A. W. Harper (nee Ritchie) (6),
S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss T. Shanley (6), S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss M. Willis, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. R. McHugh (6), S.R.N., S.C.M.
(part-time)
4 vacancies.

SCHOOL NURSES :

Mrs. E. M. Catley, S.R.N.
Miss G. K. Cave, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. N. Lloyd, S.R.N.
Mrs. M. P. Phinn, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. E. Ward, S.R.N.

PREMATURE BABY NURSE :

Mrs. M. Mossmann, R.S.C.N.

CLINIC NURSES :

Mrs. G. Gillam, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. A. Hale, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. E. A. S. Hoyle, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. M. Hunton, S.R.N.
Mrs. R. Jackson, S.R.N., S.C.M.
(part time).

PHYSIOTHERAPIST:

Mr. P. J. G. Nightingale, M.C.S.P.
(part time).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SECTION:

SENIOR CLERK:

Miss N. H. Platts
7 clerks

SCHOOL HEALTH SECTION:

SENIOR CLERK:

Miss W. M. Cooper
5 Clerks
1 Dental Clerk.
4 Dental Attendants
1 Dental Mechanic
1 Apprentice Dental Technician

HOME NURSING SERVICE:

SUPERINTENDENT:

Miss V. M. McCarthy (6), S.R.N.,
S.C.M.

SENIOR DISTRICT NURSE:

Miss M. Walker, S.R.N.
18 nurses (full time)
8 nurses (part time)

HOME HELP SERVICE:

HOME HELP ORGANISER AND
GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER:

Mrs. R. E. Wales, M.I.H.H.O., A.I.S.W.

DEPUTY HOME HELP ORGANISER:

Mrs. G. Stevenson
188 home helps (part time)
3 visitors (full time)
3 visitors (part time)

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST (part time):

Mrs. A. B. Bartlett

SENIOR CLERK:

Mr. F. Bray
3 Clerks (part time)

DISTRICT MIDWIVES SERVICE:

SUPERINTENDENT MIDWIFE AND NON-
MEDICAL SUPERVISOR OF MIDWIVES:

Mrs. M. J. Walsh, S.R.N., S.C.M.

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT MIDWIFE:

Mrs. I. McGann, S.R.N., S.C.M.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- (1) Certificate, Public Health Inspector
- (2) Certificate, Meat and Other Foods Inspector
- (3) Certificate, Smoke Inspector
- (4) Testamur, Institute of Public Cleansing (Honours)
- (5) Building Construction Certificate
- (6) Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute (Health Visitor)
- (7) Housekeeping Certificate

DISTRICT MIDWIVES:

Miss E. Atkinson, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. H. M. Clarke, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. M. Cobley, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. B. Ellis, S.C.M.
Mrs. E. Hawley, S.C.M.
Mrs. W. A. G. Herrington, S.R.N.,
S.C.M.
Mrs. G. Hewitt, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. E. Houghton, S.C.M.
Mrs. M. Hughes, S.C.M.
Miss E. D. Jeyes, S.C.M.
Miss K. Ray, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. S. M. Shaw, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss S. M. Thorpe, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MENTAL HEALTH OFFICER:

W. R. Sidaway

ASSISTANT MENTAL HEALTH OFFICER:

H. Coates
Miss G. Calam, Mental Health Social
Worker.
1 Mental Health Trainee—vacancy

OCCUPATION CENTRE AND
INDUSTRIAL CENTRE:

HEAD TEACHER:
Miss E. Kelford
DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER:
Mrs. F. Crossley.

OCCUPATION CENTRE

2 Assistant teachers (female)

INDUSTRIAL CENTRE:

2 Assistant teachers (male)
2 Assistant teachers (female)

WELFARE FOOD SHOP: ...

2 Sales assistants

Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
ROTHERHAM.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee
of the County Borough of Rotherham.

I have pleasure in submitting the report on the health of Rotherham for 1957.

The estimated mid-year population of the County Borough was 83,350. The birth rate per thousand for the year was 16.95 as compared with 17.22 in 1956 and the death rate was 12.67 per 1,000 as compared with 12.70 in 1956. Thirty-six infants under one year of age died in the County Borough during the year and sixteen of these were premature babies, the infantile mortality rate being 25.4 as compared with the provisional rate of 24.8 for England and Wales.

New public health legislation which came into force during 1957 has added to the work of the public health inspectors. The difficulty in obtaining inspectors has thrown an added burden on the staff ; in fact much of the routine work in connection with the Rent Act, 1957, was done by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, which came into operation at the beginning of the year, is the first realistic approach to the problem of atmospheric pollution. The Council approved in principle the establishment of three smoke control areas involving nearly 3,000 existing houses and land which is likely to be developed for building purposes in the near future.

An enquiry was held into the first post-war slum clearance programme and the Clearance Orders, involving 212 houses, were confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government without modification.

There was a fairly large epidemic of sonne dysentery during the year and 547 cases were confirmed. School children, particularly in the primary schools, were mostly affected. There were 1,173 cases of measles during 1957 and nine cases of paralytic poliomyelitis. No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, the last case occurring in 1952. There was also an extensive epidemic of influenza.

The figures for diphtheria immunisation show a decrease of 335 primary immunisations when compared with the year 1956, and it is disappointing that the response should be so poor. During 1957 the mobile ambulance was not used to visit children at home for the purpose of diphtheria immunisation. It has now become clear that in the years when the ambulance was used, the figures for the period were reasonably good. Concentration of effort has been directed to the immunisation of children before their first birthday and of 985 children immunised during the year, 649 were under one year old—65.8 per cent.

The poliomyelitis vaccination scheme proceeded slowly during the year owing to the limited supply of vaccine. At the end of the year 2,285 children had completed their quota of two injections, and there were 1,398 awaiting vaccination. Ministry of

Health Circular 16/57 was received in November, 1957, authorising a further extension of the scheme, and an account of the ensuing programme will be given in the annual report for 1958. The Local Medical Committee at their meeting in December, 1957, agreed that general medical practitioners should participate.

During the year a syringe service was set up for the dry sterilisation of syringes and needles ; a separate sterilised syringe and needle is used for each child.

The domiciliary midwifery confinements during the year represented 52.2 per cent. of the total deliveries. There were 425 cases discharged from institutions before the fourteenth day who were subsequently attended by domiciliary midwives. These cases represent a saving of 1,882 patient days in hospital and this is the highest number so far recorded.

The Health Visiting Service during 1957 suffered from acute shortage of staff, so that a lot of useful work which was being done by this section had to be curtailed, particularly the Mother and Baby Club and the Fathers Club. Also it is very disappointing to have to report that the system of "block visiting," in which children were visited at regular intervals in accordance with their age and the district in which they lived, had to be discontinued in August, 1957.

The opening of the clinic at the Broom Lane Methodist Church in May, 1957, met a real need and the sessions are very well attended. This has also resulted in relieving the pressure on the clinic held in the Broom Valley School where accommodation was crowded.

The classes for exercises and relaxation for expectant mothers have been very well attended and mothers have come from outside areas. The total number of attendances was 308 as compared with 241 in the previous year.

A lot of health visiting time is spent on work with problem families. There are 34 families in this category who could be described as "socially ineducable." In many cases there is evidence of low intelligence on the part of one or both parents and in most cases the father shows little inclination to work regularly. In spite of a lot of time and effort being spent, there is often little improvement. On the other hand, families tackled in the pre-problem phase show much better results. One of the main objects is to ensure that the children are being well cared for.

For the second year in succession the total number of cases nursed by the Home Nursing Service has fallen, but again the total visits have increased. During 1957 3,301 cases were nursed, which is 88 less than the previous year, but a total of 100,922 visits were paid to these patients which is an increase of 7,527. More than two thirds of the cases nursed in the district are "medical" cases and over half the visits paid are to old people, and it is important to stress in this connection the partnership with the Home Help Service in the care of old persons at home.

The Children's Nursing Unit continued its excellent work during the year and now seems to follow a fairly regular pattern. The work is seasonal with a large number of cases in the winter months and relatively few during the summer.

The Home Help Service again showed a marked expansion, the total number of hours service being 194,186 as compared with 179,597 in the previous year, making an increase of 14,589 hours. Most of this extra time has been spent in helping old people.

The Washing Centre was moved in August, 1957, to new premises in Doncaster Road, where there is room for expansion and for the training of home helps. The volume of work has increased by approximately 100 washes per month.

A domiciliary occupational therapy scheme was started in November, 1957, to introduce a fresh interest into the lives of old people living at home, in order to combat one of the enemies of old age—loneliness. The logical development of this scheme would be the setting up of some form of remunerative employment for old people, either in their own homes in the form of "homework" or in workshops.

The problem of old age is one that is likely to increase as the years pass. There are at present approximately 10,000 people of pensionable age living in the County Borough, and this can be estimated to increase to 16,000 by 1970. Probably one of the most valuable features of the service is the excellent liaison which exists with the hospital service and the general medical practitioners' service. This is a very valuable contribution towards the main aim of keeping old people living happily at home.

The biggest single task in the field of health education concerned smoking and cancer of the lung and was launched with a lot of publicity. A small survey was carried out in Rotherham into the smoking habits of persons dying from lung cancer and details of the result of this are given in the section on Health Education. It is now widely accepted that the relationship between cigarette smoking and lung cancer is one of direct cause and effect. For those people who are not prepared to accept this interpretation the onus is on them to produce an alternative explanation of the evidence now available.

Mr. G. E. Westby, Lay Administrative Officer, retired at the end of the year after 45 years' service in the department. For a considerable proportion of this time he was responsible for compiling the statistics and editing the Annual Report, and because of this special knowledge I asked him to write a short review on the previous fifty years. This is written from a personal angle, but contains much interesting and factual information and follows my report as Principal School Medical Officer.

I am grateful to the hospital and general practitioner services for their help in maintaining the high standard of liaison which has existed. Other Corporation departments' co-operation with the Health Department has been outstanding, and this has helped considerably in the smooth running of the Local Authority Health Services. I deeply appreciate the excellent support and complete loyalty of all sections of the department whose splendid work throughout the year has made the writing of this report possible. Finally, may I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their help both in and out of Committee, which has proved for me a most valuable asset in running the department.

R. J. DONALDSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,255
Population (census) 1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82,334
Population (estimated civilian) 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83,350
Number of inhabited houses (1/4/1958)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26,083
Rateable value (1/4/1958)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£885,000
Sum represented by a penny rate (1/4/1958)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£3,750

VITAL STATISTICS

In the following summary extracts from the vital statistics for the year are given :

	Total	Male	Female	
Live Births				
Legitimate ..	1366	699	667	— Birth rate per 1,000 population 16.95
Illegitimate ..	47	25	22	— Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 population (comparability figure 0.98) 16.61
Stillbirths	35	19	16	— Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births .. 24.17
Deaths	903	521	382	— Crude death rate per 1,000 population 10.83
				Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population (comparability figure — 1.17) .. 12.67

									Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Death from puerperal causes :										
Puerperal sepsis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other puerperal causes .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
									—	—
									Total	—
									—	—

Death rate of infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Deaths from measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

The following table gives details of birth rate, death rate, infantile mortality rate and estimated population during the last 50 years.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate	Estimated Population
1908	32.75	16.92	142	64,000
1909	31.78	12.94	116	65,000
1910	28.21	13.73	130	66,500
1911	28.85	16.63	161	62,700
1912	29.53	15.79	119	63,500
1913	30.15	15.56	144	64,500
1914	30.32	15.43	118	65,300
1915	28.02	17.13	129	65,300
1916	27.60	15.55	130	65,300
1917	24.79	13.90	97	65,300
1918	24.91	19.61	132	65,300
1919	22.75	13.19	91	72,800
1920	27.77	11.45	100	72,800
1921	28.54	13.13	86	68,045
1922	25.45	12.06	86	69,100
1923	23.85	11.30	100	70,000
1924	23.88	12.75	96	70,260
1925	22.27	11.74	83	70,300
1926	21.82	10.34	65	70,600
1927	20.76	13.46	90	70,080
1928	19.05	10.58	71	70,530
1929	20.01	12.13	83	70,790
1930	18.72	10.50	74	70,390
1931	18.18	12.03	92	70,130
1932	18.11	11.15	70	69,820
1933	16.53	12.06	84	69,370
1934	17.30	10.30	49	68,900
1935	17.01	11.53	69	68,700
1936	16.98	11.98	71	74,965
1937	16.99	11.42	50	75,740
1938	17.82	10.54	52	76,430
1939	16.88	10.86	53	76,960
1940	18.01	12.39	62	75,740
1941	17.86	11.43	66	75,770
1942	18.08	10.31	50	75,040
1943	18.81	12.12	65	74,250
1944	23.28	11.68	60	75,260
1945	20.09	11.73	56	75,630
1946	22.49	10.96	51	78,610
1947	23.87	10.86	57	79,920
1948	20.11	10.50	70	81,450
1949	18.69	10.63	53	82,030
1950	17.44	10.33	50	82,800
1951	17.61	11.91	28	81,670
1952	16.25	10.46	32	81,800
1953	16.16	10.10	32	82,070
1954	16.50	10.68	22	82,260
1955	16.02	11.00	26	82,530
1956	17.22	10.58	24	82,850
1957	16.95	10.83	25	83,350

Causes of Death with Death Rates,
1957.

Disease	Number of deaths			Death rate per 1,000 population
	Males	Females	Total	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	8	6	14	0.17
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	-	1	1	0.01
3. Syphilitic disease	1	1	2	0.03
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	1	1	0.01
6. Meningococcal infections	-	1	1	0.01
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1	0.01
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	11	19	0.23
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	31	3	34	0.41
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	14	14	0.17
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	7	7	0.08
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	53	37	90	1.08
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	3	6	0.07
16. Diabetes	2	2	4	0.05
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	55	66	121	1.45
18. Coronary disease, angina	108	38	146	1.75
19. Hypertension with heart disease	13	11	24	0.29
20. Other heart disease	44	56	100	1.20
21. Other circulatory disease	36	20	56	0.67
22. Influenza	2	3	5	0.06
23. Pneumonia	24	5	29	0.35
24. Bronchitis	33	26	59	0.71
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	7	3	10	0.12
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	7	-	7	0.08
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	3	0.04
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	7	9	0.11
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	9	-	9	0.11
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	5	3	8	0.10
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	40	41	81	0.97
33. Motor vehicle accidents	7	-	7	0.08
34. All other accidents	17	10	27	0.32
35. Suicide	5	2	7	0.08
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	1	1	0.01
	521	382	903	10.83

In the following table the causes of death at different periods of life, as supplied by the Registrar General, are given for the year :

Cause of death	MALES									FEMALES									Total
	0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	Total	0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	Total	
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	1	8	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	6	14
Tuberculosis, other ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Syphilitic disease ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Meningococcal infections..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Acute poliomyelitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	3	11	19
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-	-	-	1	20	6	4	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	34
Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	1	14	14
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	1	7	7
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	-	-	-	2	1	9	22	19	53	-	-	-	-	-	14	4	19	37	90
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	3	6
Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	-	-	-	1	10	21	23	55	-	-	-	-	3	13	19	31	66	121
Coronary disease, angina..	-	-	-	-	4	40	35	29	108	-	-	-	-	-	7	13	18	38	146
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-	-	1	4	4	4	13	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	5	11	24
Other heart disease ..	-	-	-	-	2	9	6	27	44	-	-	-	1	1	10	11	33	56	100
Other circulatory disease..	-	-	-	-	1	7	12	16	36	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	15	20	56
Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	3	5
Pneumonia	3	1	-	1	-	5	2	12	24	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	29
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	1	13	10	9	33	-	-	1	-	-	3	9	13	26	59
Other diseases of the respiratory system ..	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	3	10
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3
Nephritis and nephrosis ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	1	7	9
Hyperplasia of prostate ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformations..	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	8
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	10	1	3	-	4	6	6	10	40	10	-	2	-	1	4	6	18	41	81
Motor vehicle accidents ..	-	-	-	2	2	1	1	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
All other accidents ..	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	7	17	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	6	10	27
Suicide	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	7
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Total—all causes ..	18	3	4	6	22	150	137	181	521	18	-	5	4	15	85	85	170	382	903

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The following table gives details of the deaths registered during the year which were under one year of age :—

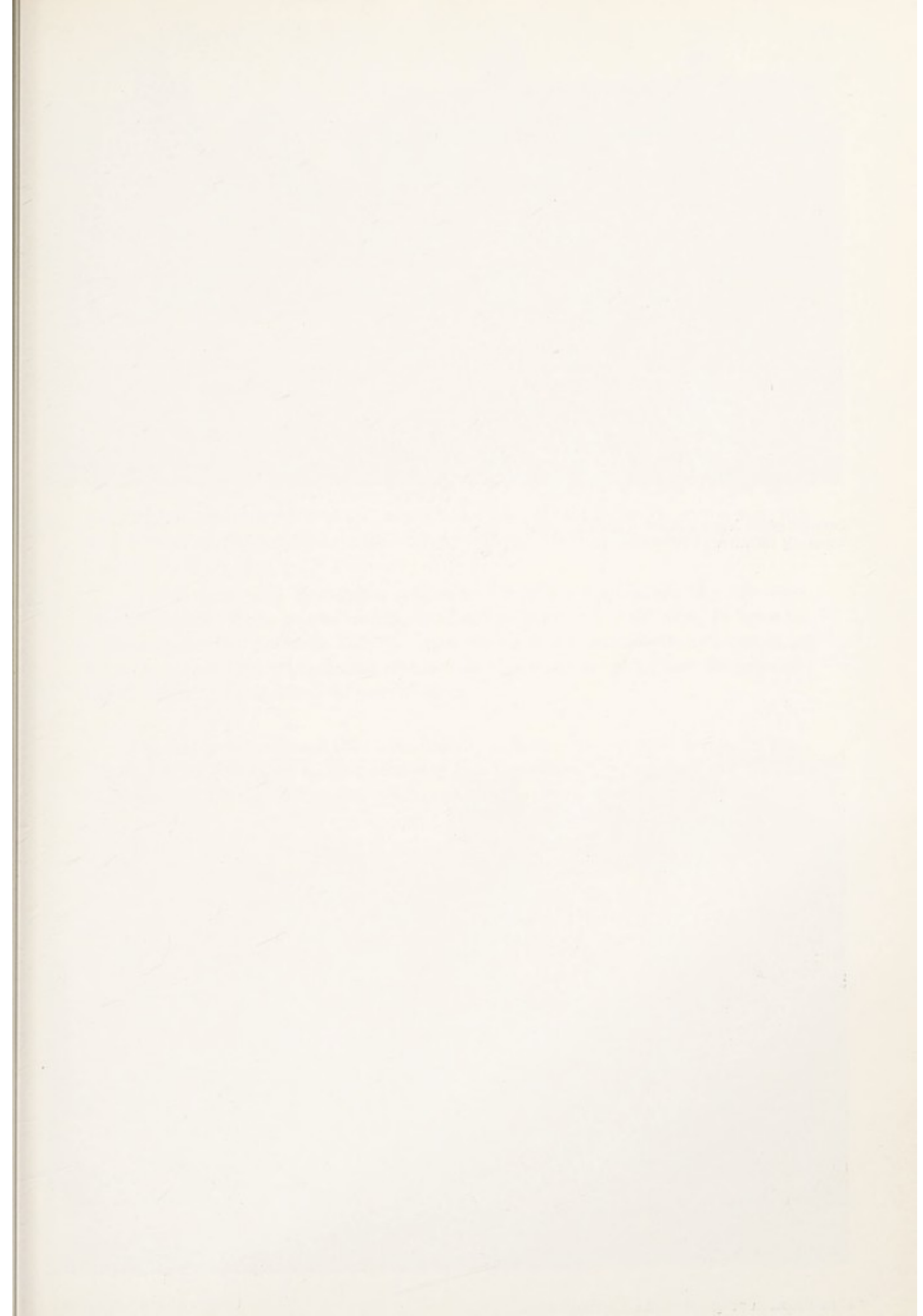
R.G.'s Code No.	Cause of death	Under 1 day	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7-13 days	14-20 days	21-28 days	Total under 4 wks	4 wks to 3 mths	3-5 mths	6-8 mths	9-11 mths	Total under one year
9	Other infective and parasitic disease																
	Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	Septicaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	Gastro enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
23	Pneumonia																
	Broncho pneu- monia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	5
	Other forms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
31	Congenital malformations																
	All forms	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	1	5
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases																
	Birth injury	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
	Prematurity with	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
	Atelectasis	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
	Birth injury	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Congenital malformations	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
	Atelectasis with	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	Congenital malformation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Other causes	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	3
34	All other acci- dents Asphyxia Scalds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	Totals	10	4	3	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	22	6	2	1	5	36

CANCER

The following table gives the localisation of the disease, the number of deaths and the death rate per 1,000 population annually for the past ten years :—

	1948		1949		1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957	
	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate	No.	Death rate
Stomach and duodenum	34	0.42	22	0.27	31	0.37	26	0.32	34	0.41	38	0.46	26	0.32	18	0.22	23	0.28	19	0.23
Lung, bronchus					17	0.21	24	0.29	31	0.38	18	0.22	30	0.37	29	0.35	35	0.42	34	0.41
Breast	11	0.13	12	0.14	18	0.22	11	0.13	10	0.12	14	0.17	10	0.12	10	0.12	11	0.13	14	0.17
Uterus	7	0.09	9	0.11	7	0.08	9	0.11	6	0.07	10	0.12	7	0.09	4	0.05	1	0.01	7	0.08
Other sites	165	1.29	108	1.32	76	0.92	83	1.02	79	0.97	80	0.98	82	1.00	72	0.87	87	1.05	90	1.08
Total deaths and death rates from cancer	157	1.93	151	1.84	149	1.80	153	1.87	160	1.95	160	1.95	155	1.90	133	1.61	157	1.89	164	1.97
Total deaths and death rates all causes	855	10.50	872	10.63	856	10.33	973	11.91	856	10.46	829	10.10	879	10.68	908	11.00	877	10.58	903	10.83
Proportion, cancer deaths to total deaths, - 1 in	5.45		5.77		5.74		6.36		5.71		5.18		5.67		6.83		5.59		5.42	

Note—Deaths from cancer of the lung or bronchus were included in "other sites" prior to 1950.





Sub-standard houses in the Thornhill area
awaiting vacation and demolition.

(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)



Demolition in progress in the Thornhill area.

(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Of new legislation: The Clean Air Act, 1956, which came into force at the beginning of the year, must take pride of place. To clean up the "black areas" in the fifteen years envisaged by the Beaver Committee is a magnificent conception which can be achieved if general public and local authority alike can realise the opportunity it affords of living in a town and yet having the advantage of country air and sunshine. The smoke control areas which the Council have approved in principle are a first step in this direction.

The most severe outbreak of dysentery in Rotherham for many years occurred in the early part of 1957 and remained at peak level for three months. Over 500 cases were proved, including many food handlers. It is impossible to judge by how much the outbreak was restricted by the control measures put into operation, but it was with considerable satisfaction that we saw the gradual reduction in cases notified.

In 1911 there were 10 common lodging houses with accommodation for 400 men ; men of no fixed abode or men seeking work in other districts. The need for common lodging houses has gradually dwindled with the years and another milestone in social progress was reached when the last common lodging house in the County Borough was closed following the death of the owner-keeper.

The first post-war Slum Clearance Inquiry in Rotherham was held during the year. The Thornhill Clearance Orders, involving 212 houses were confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government without modification.

The Rent Act, 1957, which threatened to be a major problem of organisation in dealing with enquiries and visits in connection with certificates of disrepair, proved, in the event, to be manageable without dislocating all our other work. That the somewhat ponderous machinery for securing increased rents and repairs has worked without producing such dislocation is an indication of the reasonable nature of the average man. There can be no doubt that the majority of tenants have agreed with owners on the repairs necessary to warrant an increase of rent without needing to apply for a certificate of disrepair.

In the latter part of the year movements of public health inspectors created unfilled vacancies. Fortunately the remaining staff are becoming accustomed to these perennial shortages and to fitting in the urgent work on vacant districts. Sincere thanks are due to them for the splendid way in which they work together to keep things going.

WATER

44 samples of drinking water and 13 samples of swimming bath water were taken for examination. 2 samples of drinking water and 1 sample of swimming bath water were unsatisfactory. Repeat samples of drinking water taken in the Water Engineer's Department from the same sources proved satisfactory. The results of all examinations of swimming bath water are sent to the Baths Superintendent and give a check on his own frequent tests of the quality of the bath water.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

(a) HOUSE DRAINAGE.

2,304 visits were made in connection with drain tests, defective drains and drainage appliances. The service given by the Borough Engineer's Department in the clearing of stoppages in "combined drains" is a great help in reducing nuisance and inconvenience to householders. The delay which used to occur in securing action where several owners were involved caused nuisance out of all proportion to the cost of the work.

When it is remembered that much of the drainage system of the town has existed for very many years, the simplicity, efficiency and relatively trouble free nature of the water carriage system can be appreciated.

Privy middens converted to W.C.'s	..	..	1
Ashpits abolished	..	..	1

(b) LICENSED PREMISES, CINEMAS.

92 inspections were made of the sanitary accommodation at licensed premises and cinemas. A very satisfactory standard is being achieved by the companies concerned.

(c) PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Following the modernisation programme of the past few years no further alterations were carried out during the year. Some of the conveniences still to be improved will be affected by development proposals and no reconstruction is, therefore, proposed in the immediate future.

FACTORIES

177 factory inspections were made as follows :

Type of factory	Number registered	Inspections	Notices
Non-mechanical	41	9	—
Mechanical	298	168	—

FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Type of defect	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	1	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—
Sanitary conveniences insufficient	2	—
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective	14	11
Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes	—	—
Other offences	2	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Three visits were paid to the six offensive trades now registered. No complaints of nuisance were received in connection with these trades.

CANAL BOATS

Number of canal boats inspected	..	..	..	..	7
Number of persons on board :					
Male adults	..	..	..	..	7
Female adults	..	..	..	..	—
Number of cases of infectious disease	..	..	..	..	—
Number of infringements observed	..	..	..	..	—
Number of notices served	..	..	..	..	—
Number of notices complied with	..	..	..	..	—
Number of notices outstanding	..	..	..	..	—
Legal proceedings taken	..	..	..	..	—

HOUSING

(a) NUISANCE AND DISREPAIR.

1,049 complaints of nuisance and disrepair were received during the year. 2,200 houses were involved in the total nuisances found as a result of complaints or during inspection of the district.

The procedure under the Rent Act, 1957, which provides that tenants shall, on notice of rent increase, seek assurances from owners concerning necessary repairs before making application to the local authority for a certificate of disrepair, is not easy for the average person to follow correctly. Forms have been served omitting the address of the property or with the owner's address instead of the address of the property, or undertakings to tenants by owners have not been in the correct form, but, almost without exception, technicalities have not been allowed to override common sense.

Having regard to the large number of disrepair forms known to have been served on owners by tenants the number of applications for certificates of disrepair from mid September to the end of the year was relatively small. There is little doubt that in most cases landlords and tenants have reached agreement on repairs. There is also little doubt that the agreed repairs will, in many instances, be substantially less than would be necessary to put the properties in a good state of repair. As might be expected, many tenants, lacking technical knowledge, have included minor repairs but omitted major items.

On the other hand, it is also clear that substantial sums of new capital are being made available for repairs. During 1958 a marked improvement in the condition of this type of property should be seen.

Another by-product of the Rent Act is a reduction in the number of complaints of disrepair received. This is probably partly due to undertakings given by owners to carry out repairs. Another factor which may have had some influence is the desire of tenants, where rents have not been increased, to avoid attracting the increase which might follow the carrying out of repairs.

(b) DEMOLITION AND CLOSURE.

At the Public Inquiry held in connection with the Thornhill Clearance Orders objections by the owners of 44 houses and 3 houses and shops were heard. This was followed by an inspection of the houses by the Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The subsequent confirmation without modification of the Clearance Orders involving 212 houses was a satisfactory indication that the new standards by which unfitness must be judged have been reasonably interpreted.

The result of a further Public Inquiry concerning 24 houses in the Greasbrough Road No. 1 Clearance Area has not yet been received.

The tempo of the housing of families from unfit houses is now accelerating, 76 such families were rehoused during the year.

Many enquiries are still being received from would-be house purchasers requiring information as to the slum clearance position of individual houses. 180 such enquiries were dealt with.

212 houses were visited in connection with applications for mortgages, to ensure that the period of repayment and probable life of the house were properly related.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING ACTION.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses :

(1) Number of houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	619
(2) Number of houses (included under sub head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	26
(3) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	20
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	599

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice :

(1) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers (including houses with minor defects)	373
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3. Action under statutory powers :

A. Proceedings under Section 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957. Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	206
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	194
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	-

C. Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 18, Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	17
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made	-
(3) Number of individual unfit houses demolished	16
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings as to future user were accepted and which ceased to be used as dwellings	-

DETAILS OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Case No.	Date	Default or offence	Result	Penalty
1	24.1.57	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	Withdrawn, work done	—
2	28.2.57	" " "	" " "	—
3	7.3.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 45.	" " "	—
4	7.3.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 39.	Withdrawn, work done	—
5	7.3.57	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	" " "	—
6	4.4.57	" " "	Nuisance Order made	—
7	4.4.57	" " "	" " "	—
8	25.4.57	" " "	Withdrawn, work done	—
9	25.4.57	" " "	" " "	—
10	16.5.57	" " "	" " "	—
11	30.5.57	Non-compliance with Nuisance Order	Conviction	£2 fine
12	30.5.57	" " "	"	£2 fine
13	30.5.57	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	Withdrawn, work done	—
14	30.5.57	" " "	" " "	—

Case No.	Date	Default or offence	Result	Penalty
15	20.6.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 39.	Conviction	£2 fine
16	11.7.57	" " "	Withdrawn, work done	—
17	11.7.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 45.	" " "	—
18	11.7.57	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	" " "	—
19	25.7.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 39.	Conviction	£2 fine
20	25.7.57	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	Nuisance Order made	—
21	8.8.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 39.	Conviction	£2 per day
22	31.10.57	" " "	"	£1 per day
23	31.10.57	Non-compliance with Nuisance Order	"	£2 per day
24	31.10.57	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	Withdrawn, work done	—
25	31.10.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 56	" " "	—
26	7.11.57	Non-compliance with Abatement Notice	" " "	—
27	12.12.57	Non-compliance with Nuisance Order	" " "	—
28	12.12.57	Non-compliance with Notice under Section 39	" " "	—

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS

No inspections were made of the 13 houses-let-in-lodgings.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

The Westgate lodging house, which had been under-occupied for some time, was finally closed. There is now no common lodging house in the County Borough.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

Moveable dwellings were licensed as follows :

New licences	..	..	..	..	..	30
Licences renewed	..	..	..	..	..	33
Licences refused	..	..	..	..	..	—
Licences surrendered	..	..	..	..	..	19

Caravan dwellings in the district are kept under strict licence control but are not subject to detailed rules. Reliance is placed on the individual to keep his caravan and the land occupied in good condition. It is pleasing to report that our residential caravans conform to this understanding and that only occasionally is it necessary to draw attention to lapses from good standards.

Quite a different state of affairs exists in relation to itinerant caravan dwellers who take possession of land without permission, creating litter and nuisance with

complete lack of social conscience. They apparently fail to realise that a better standard of behaviour would do much to create a more sympathetic attitude on the part of members of the public and the local authority.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

737 inspections of Corporation houses and the houses of prospective tenants were made. Evidence of vermin was found on 27 occasions. Similar inspections were made of the effects of 3 families offered tenancies of houses by other Authorities.

The incidence of infestation in all premises treated was as follows :

		Bugs	Cockroaches	Other pests	Total
Corporation Houses	..	23	28	7	58
Private Premises	.. ..	48	42	20	110
		—	—	—	—
		71	70	27	168
		—	—	—	—
Percentage of infestation in all premises	.. ..	42%	42%	16%	

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT

171 licences were issued authorising the sale of poisons included in Part 2 of the Poisons List.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

(a) SEWER TREATMENT.

The maintenance treatments of the sewers were not carried out due to pressure of work and staff shortage. In the older part of the town there are many manholes which cannot be lifted and long stretches of sewers without manholes which extends the distance between baiting points. There is, in these circumstances, room for doubt as to the effectiveness and desirability of sewer treatments having regard to the cost involved.

(b) INSPECTION AND TREATMENT OF PREMISES.

The free service given to occupiers of dwelling and business premises continued to function satisfactorily. It seems obvious that a free service of this nature ensures the maximum co-operation from occupiers in reporting rodent infestation, with a consequent saving in time spent in searching for infestations.

The following details have been extracted from the annual report required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food :

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	Business etc.	
Complaints received	22	370	—	141	533
Other inspections made	22	52	15	1054	1143
Properties found to be infested by rats ..	28	220	15	127	390
Properties found to be infested by mice ..	12	105	—	78	195
Notices served for structural work ..	—	9	—	—	9

SHOPS

80 visits were made for the purposes of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950. This section deals with the provision of adequate facilities in shops employing assistants, including heating, lighting, ventilation, facilities for washing and the taking of meals, and sanitary accommodation. A good standard has been reached and is being maintained in all shops to which this section applies.

MILK

(a) SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS.

All milk sold in Rotherham is now either "Pasteurised," "Sterilised" or "Tuberculin Tested." Processing is done in plants situated in other districts and the bulk of the milk consumed is produced in other areas. Few complaints of lack of cleanliness or keeping quality were received and these were, where possible, with the co-operation of inspectors of other areas, referred directly to the dairies concerned.

The following licences were issued in connection with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations :

Dealer's Tuberculin Tested	26
Dealer's Pasteurised	25
Dealer's Sterilised	195
Supplementary Tuberculin Tested	21
Supplementary Pasteurised	21
Supplementary Sterilised	16

(b) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

105 samples of milk were taken for examination as to cleanliness and efficacy of heat treatment, with the following results :

					Samples		
					Tested	Passed	Failed
Tuberculin Tested .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7	7	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised .. .. .	..	..	..	..	35	34	1
Pasteurised .. .. .	..	..	..	..	34	33	1
Sterilised .. .. .	..	..	..	..	29	29	—

(c) BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

39 samples of milk were taken to be examined by the Pathologist for the presence of tubercle bacilli. 3 of the samples were tuberculous, and the Divisional Veterinary Officer was notified in order that the herds could be examined and the diseased cows removed for slaughter.

ICE CREAM

53 samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results :

Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
45	7	—	1

The above results demonstrate the remarkable improvement which has taken place over the past few years in the processing and handling of ice cream. Whatever objections may be raised on other grounds, it is evident that the reduction in the number of manufacturers has made a marked contribution to improved bacteriological standards.

SHELLFISH

All consignments of mussels inspected during the year had been submitted to an approved cleansing process.

FOOD PREMISES

The following list of premises and record of visits gives a picture of the types of food trades in the district and the time given to inspection :—

UNREGISTERED PREMISES

Type	Number	Inspections
Bakehouses	37	35
Breweries	1	2
Cafes	21	25
Clubs and licensed premises	129	80
Confectioners	87	71
Factory canteens	26	12
Fish friers	64	58
Fishmongers	34	54
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	133	157
Grocers	345	503
Mineral water factories	5	3
School kitchens	4	6
Soft drinks bar	6	3
Sweet factories	2	—
Tripe purveyor	3	4

REGISTERED PREMISES

	Number	Inspections
Butchers	99	153
Food preparing premises	69	13
Hawkers	13	2
Ice cream factories	5	7
Ice cream shops or stores	260	267
Pickle factories	1	—
Tripe boilers	1	1

Improvements made in food premises during the year :

Additional sinks provided	8
Additional wash basins provided	150
Display covers provided for food	8
Hand washing notices displayed	12
Hot water supplies provided	32
Premises cleansed or repaired	15
Premises improved	17
Sales limited to pre-packed foods	16
Accommodation for clothing provided	11
Name and address displayed on stalls	5

As will be evident, the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, absorbed much of the time available for routine inspections. Satisfactory progress is being made in the implementation of the Regulations. The wide variety of food premises to which the Regulations apply, the congestion in many small food shops and drainage difficulties, often make the siting of a washbasin or sink a major problem. Every endeavour has been made to give the food trader the maximum technical assistance in solving his problems and securing the best possible result. It will be obvious, however, that in old congested premises, the best possible result may fall far short of the ideal. Food traders, in spite of disagreement, in some cases, on individual regulations, have accepted the Regulations in good spirit and continue to give splendid co-operation to the Department.

A course of eight lectures arranged in conjunction with the Director of Education proved to be both interesting and informative to the 50 food handlers who attended. The lectures were given at the Technical College by the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector.

FOOD POISONING

No major outbreak of food poisoning arose during the year, only 9 cases of food poisoning were reported.

DYSENTERY

An outbreak of Sonne Dysentery began in late January and lasted for four months. Two schools were involved in the first notifications and emergency measures were quickly put into force. All schools were notified by the Director of Education and requested to report all possible cases to the Health Department. This eliminated the postal delays likely to arise in awaiting notification from medical practitioners. Special disinfecting routines were put into operation at all school toilets and in the badly affected schools arrangements were made for handwashing in all classrooms involving the use of a benzalkonium chloride solution and paper towels. Food handlers were excluded from work, all contacts were checked, and every endeavour was made to limit the spread of infection. More than 1,200 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors to whom every credit is due for the way in which they rose to this emergency. Thanks are also due to the Public Health Laboratory staff who examined more than 1,200 specimens and to the Health Visitors who gave substantial assistance at one stage in the outbreak.

MEAT

The following details of animals slaughtered at the public abattoir were supplied by the Markets Superintendent :

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
9,029	117	15,900	14,503	39,549

The estimated weight of fresh killed meat and offals condemned at the public abattoir during the year was :

All causes	..	..	..	..	..	57 tons	11 cwts.
Tuberculosis only	..	..	..	..	..	29 tons	14 cwts.

All condemned meat is treated in the municipal waste elimination plant at the public abattoir, from which fertilisers and animal feeding stuffs are produced.

The percentages of animals found to be diseased are given in the following table :

				Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	}	..	..	5,725	3,304	117	15,900	14,503
Number inspected								
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci :								
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	2	19	11	21	29
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	794	616	1	184	744
Percentage affected	..	..	..	13.90	19.21	10.25	1.28	5.33
Tuberculosis only :								
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	6	18	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	364	1,099	—	—	93
Percentage affected	..	..	..	6.46	33.80	—	—	0.66
Cysticercosis :								
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	28	6	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	..	..	26	6	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	..			—	—	—	—	—

All animals slaughtered at the private slaughterhouse were examined as follows :

				Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	}	..	..	1,169	50	2	4,781	2,317
Number inspected								
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci :								
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	248	16	—	60	43
Percentage affected	..	..	..	21.21	32.00	—	1.25	1.89
Tuberculosis only :								
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	116	19	—	—	51
Percentage affected	..	..	..	9.92	38.00	—	—	2.33
Cysticercosis :								
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	..			—	—	—	—	—

The estimated weight of meat condemned was :

All causes	..	..	..	..	..	4 tons 0 cwts.
Tuberculosis only	..	..	..	..	..	2 tons 0 cwts.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

348 visits were made in connection with the marking of food. The Marking Orders refer to the correct labelling of such food as apples, tomatoes, currants, ham, meat, dead poultry, margarine, malt products, frozen and chilled salmon and sea trout and honey. In 20 instances the attention of vendors was drawn to incorrect marking.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS

219 samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. 5 samples were reported to be not genuine. Details of all samples taken are given in the following table.

No.	Nature of sample	Genuine		Not reported as genuine	
		Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
1	Aspirin tablets	-	1	-	-
2	Bacon	-	2	-	-
1	Baking powder	-	-	-	1
1	Bicarbonate of soda	-	1	-	-
1	Blancmange powder	-	1	-	-
2	Butter	-	2	-	-
3	Butter sweets	-	2	-	1
2	Cake mixtures	-	2	-	-
1	Castor oil	-	1	-	-
2	Cheese spread	-	2	-	-
2	Chewing gum	-	2	-	-
1	Chocolate roll	-	1	-	-
2	Coffee	-	2	-	-
1	Condensed milk	-	1	-	-
2	Cornflour	-	2	-	-
1	Cream, fresh	-	1	-	-
1	Cream, sterilised	-	1	-	-
1	Cream of tartar	-	1	-	-
2	Cream soup	-	2	-	-
1	Currants	-	1	-	-
1	Curry powder	-	1	-	-
2	Custard powder	-	2	-	-
1	Eucalyptus oil	-	1	-	-
1	Fish cakes	-	1	-	-
3	Fish paste	-	3	-	-
2	Flavourings	-	2	-	-
2	Flour	-	2	-	-
1	Friars balsam	-	1	-	-
1	Fruit sauce	-	1	-	-
1	Glace cherries	-	1	-	-
1	Glycerine	-	1	-	-
2	Ground almonds	-	2	-	-
48	Ice cream	-	48	-	-
2	Jam	-	2	-	-
2	Lard	-	2	-	-

No.	Nature of sample	Genuine		Not reported as genuine	
		Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
2	Lemon curd	-	2	-	-
2	Margarine	-	2	-	-
2	Marmalade	-	2	-	-
1	Marzipan	-	1	-	-
3	Meat paste	-	2	-	1
76	Milk	75	-	1	-
2	Mincemeat	-	2	-	-
1	Mint sauce	-	1	-	-
1	Olive oil	-	1	-	-
2	Orange squash	-	2	-	-
1	Parishes chemical food ..	-	1	-	-
2	Pepper	-	2	-	-
1	Pickled beetroot	-	1	-	-
1	Potted meat	-	-	-	1
1	Prunes	-	1	-	-
1	Raisins	-	1	-	-
1	Raisins flavoured non-alcoholic beverage	-	1	-	-
1	Rice	-	1	-	-
1	Salad cream	-	1	-	-
1	Sal-volatile	-	1	-	-
2	Self-raising flour	-	2	-	-
1	Sherbo-fizz	-	1	-	-
1	Soft drinks	-	1	-	-
3	Suet	-	2	-	1
1	Sultanas	-	1	-	-
1	Sweets	-	1	-	-
2	Table jellies	-	2	-	-
1	Tea	-	1	-	-
1	Tomato ketchup	-	1	-	-
2	Vinegar	-	2	-	-
1	Zinc ointment	-	1	-	-
<hr/> 219 <hr/>		<hr/> 75 <hr/>	<hr/> 138 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> 5 <hr/>

SAMPLES REPORTED AS "NOT GENUINE."

Formal Samples :

No.	Article	Results of Analysis	Remarks and action taken
5704	Milk	Contained 3.42% Milk Fat. Solids not fat 9.30%. Water 87.28%.	Deficient in Milk Fat 14.5%. Producer's attention was drawn to the deficiency.

Informal samples :

5640	Old Fashioned Butters	Contained 2.68% Butter Fat instead of 4%.	Should have been described as "Old Fashioned (Flavoured) Butters." The attention of the retailer was drawn to the need for correct description.
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No.	Article	Results of Analysis	Remarks of action taken
5671	Beef Suet	Contained 77% Beef Suet instead of 83%.	The attention of the manufacturer was drawn to the deficiency
5675	Potted Meat	Contained 79.5% Meat and 20.5% excess water.	Should have been described as meat paste. The attention of the vendor was drawn to the need for correct description.
5685	Chicken and Ham Paste	Contained 55% Meat.	Deficient in Meat 7.2%. The attention of the manufacturer was drawn to the deficiency.
5794	Baking Powder	Contained 7.40% Available Carbon Dioxide and 1.80% Residual Carbon Dioxide Conformed to the Fluorine in Food Order, 1947.	Deficient in Available Carbon Dioxide 7.5% and contained an excess of Residual Carbon Dioxide. Letter to manufacturers.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

8 samples of fertilisers and 4 of feeding stuffs were taken for analysis. 5 of the 12 samples taken varied from the statutory statements. The attention of the suppliers was drawn in each case to the need for accuracy in the statement of ingredients.

OTHER FOOD

In the following table details are given of food surrendered.

				Number	lbs.					Number	lbs.
Apples	..	..	..	-	1519	Ground almonds	..	..	..	-	336
Bacon	..	..	..	-	681	Ham	..	..	..	-	21
Bacon croquets	..	..	..	23	-	Jars	..	..	..	44	-
Butter	..	..	..	-	12	Mussels	..	..	..	2½ bags	-
Cake	..	..	..	-	14	Packet goods	..	..	..	100	-
Cheese	..	..	..	-	360	Pies	..	..	..	21	-
Cherries	..	..	..	-	147	Sausage	..	..	..	-	266
Cooked Meats	..	..	..	-	130	Tinned goods	..	..	..	3438	-
Fish	..	..	..	-	140	Sugar	..	..	..	-	54
Fish cakes	..	..	..	37	-	Table jellies	..	..	..	14	-

Condemned or surrendered food other than meat is buried by the Cleansing Department in the controlled tip.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The year 1957 may well mark the beginning of the transformation of the industrial areas of this country. The Clean Air Act, 1956, in spite of being a less virile piece of legislation than had been visualised when clean air proposals were first mooted, still provides a means of improving the purity of the air we breathe.

Arising from the Clean Air Act, the Council adopted the new Model Byelaw requiring that heating and cooking facilities in new buildings should be of an approved type. Similarly, it is now an offence to install a furnace of a higher capacity than 55,000 British thermal units per hour unless notice has been given to the local authority. Where plans for the extension or erection of an industrial building include a chimney the plans may be rejected unless the chimney complies with the provisions of the Clean Air Act.

These controls are all new and should ensure that new development shall comply with the clean air programme.

The Council also approved in principle the establishment of three smoke control areas in the Herringthorpe, Kimberworth Park and Moorgate districts. Nearly 3,000 existing houses will be affected by the proposed Orders and land likely to be developed in the next few years is also included in the 1,078 acres of the three areas. A meeting with organisations affected by the proposed smoke control areas was held and proved helpful to all concerned. The preliminary survey of one area was almost completed at the end of the year.

The regulations to be made concerning industrial smoke are awaited with interest as are the findings of the Committee set up to consider the desirability of adding certain special processes to the list scheduled under the Alkali Act.

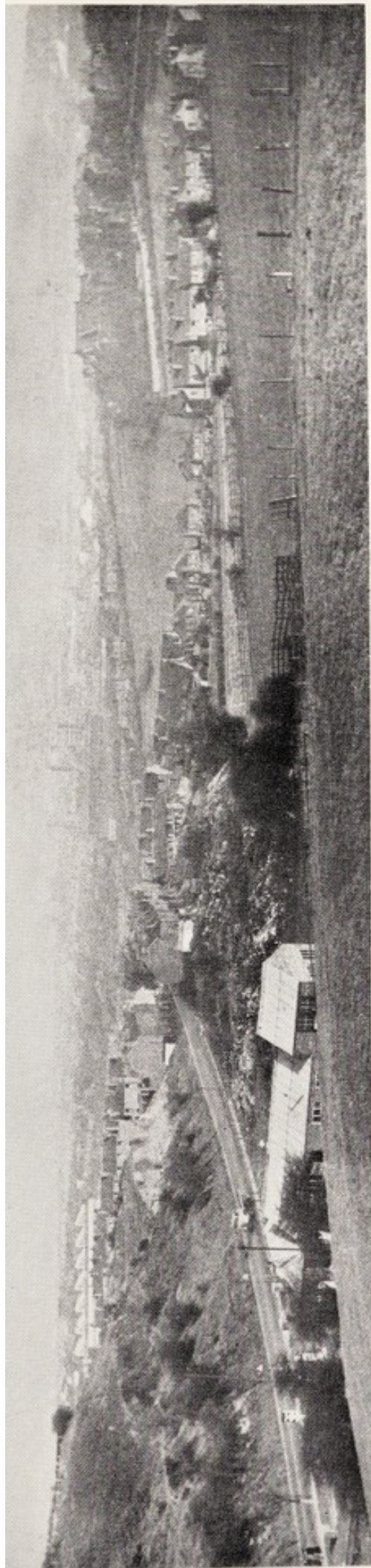
More industrial furnaces were converted to oil firing during the year. This trend is likely to continue, the flexibility, cleanliness, ease of operation and reliability of oil firing are now more appreciated and tend to make the price differential less of a barrier than was formerly the case. The way in which the recent fuel crisis was overcome demonstrated the ability of the oil industry to deliver regular supplies of fuel under adverse conditions.

Discussions were held at a number of works concerning proposals to reduce atmospheric pollution. The steel industry in particular has long term plans involving large capital outlay which will make a great contribution towards clean air.

The telephone continues to be a useful means of smoke abatement. A normal 30 minute observation of a chimney followed by a later interview with manager, engineer or stoker when dark smoke emission has probably ceased is less salutary in action than a telephone call during a heavy smoke emission when the evidence is there for anyone to see. Management in general is clean air minded and helpful.

A number of talks have been arranged to publicise clean air proposals amongst the women's organisations in the town.

Details of the air pollution recorded by the various gauges are given on page 33. The solid deposit at our two oldest gauges, Technical College and Oakwood was again below the 25 years average. The yearly average deposit at both Blackburn and



(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)

Rotherham on a sunny but cool day. Note the smoke haze from domestic chimneys.



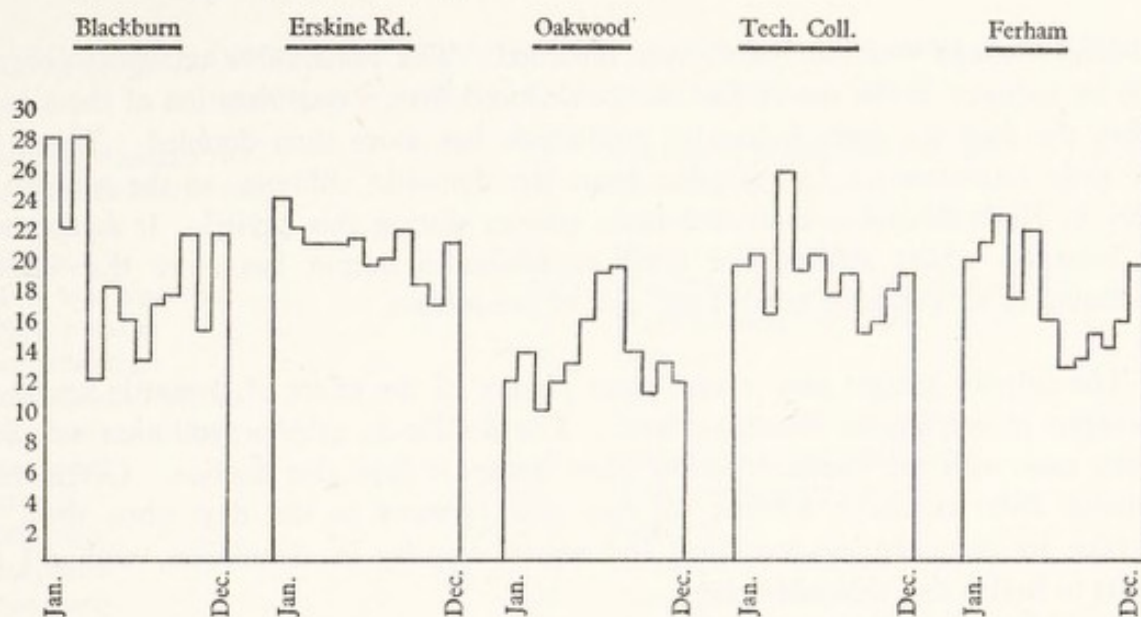
(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)

The same view on a warm summer day with little domestic smoke.

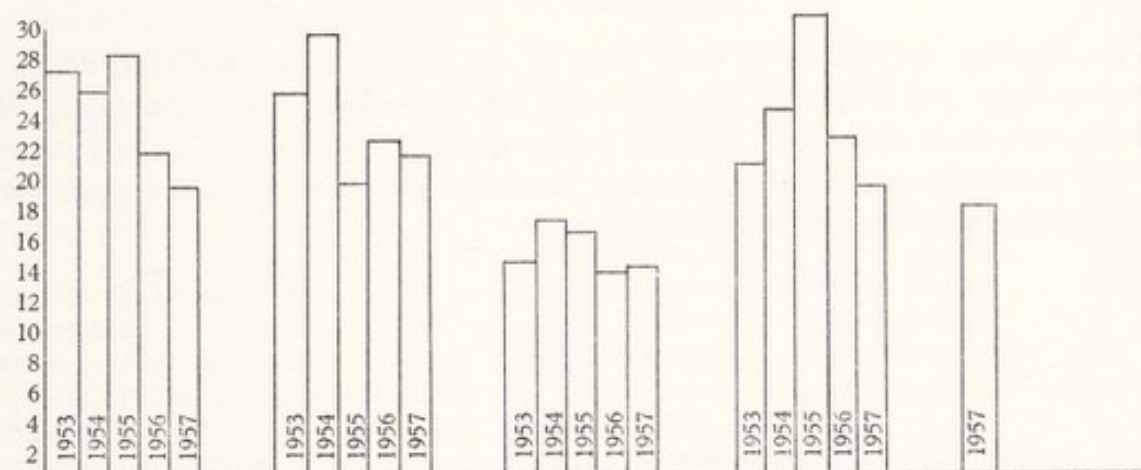


1. STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES.

(a) Total monthly deposit in tons/sq. mile

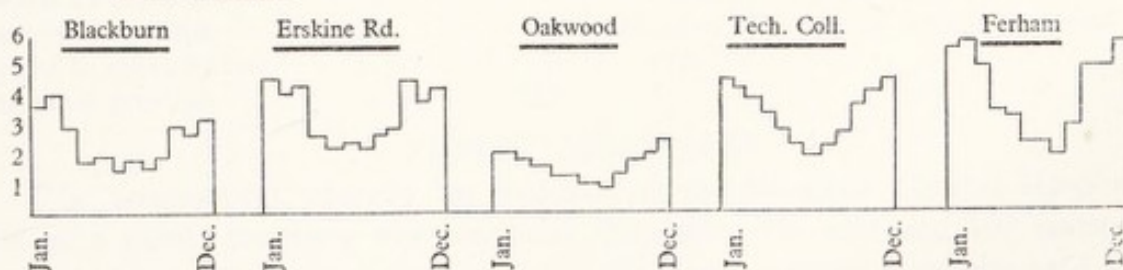


(b) Average yearly deposit.

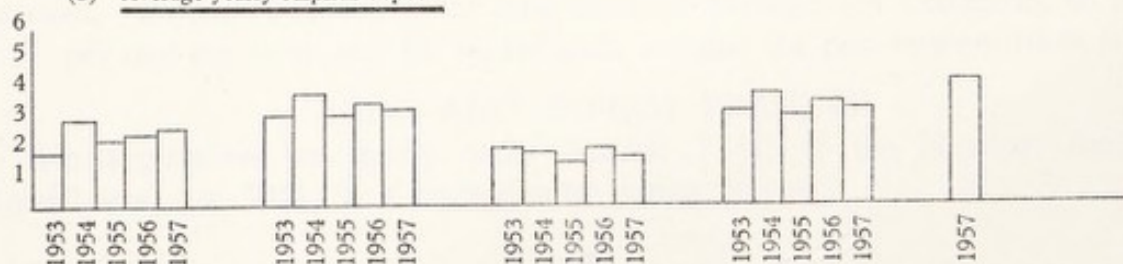


2. SULPHUR DETERMINATION (LEAD PEROXIDE CANDLE).

(a) Monthly deposit.



(b) Average yearly sulphur deposit.



The sulphur determination is expressed in milligrams of SO_2 /day per 100 sq. centimetres of lead peroxide candle.

Technical College was the lowest ever recorded. The remarkable technical progress made by industry in the use of fuel can be deduced from a consideration of these facts. During the past 25 years industrial production has more than doubled. There has been little improvement in pollution from the domestic chimney as the number of houses in Rotherham has increased by a quarter during this period. It is apparent that industry, whilst achieving a great expansion in output has more than halved the amount of air pollution created per unit of production.

The sulphur gauges give a very clear picture of the effect of domestic smoke on the output of sulphur at breathing level. The decline in sulphur pollution coincides in each case with the summer period when domestic fires also decline. Given some assistance from domestic sources we can look forward to the day when town air will take its place beside our food and water supplies in cleanliness, with all the benefits to health that this will bring.

CLERICAL WORK

To complete the picture of work done by the section during the year, details of office interviews and outgoing correspondence are of interest, 1,049 complaints from residents were dealt with. 975 informal notices and 272 statutory notices were served, and 436 licences were issued. Including reminder notices and other letters, 4,158 postal packages were sent out during the year.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS AND NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR ENDING 1957.

Disease of Animals Act	11	Revisits to verminous premises	4
Merchandise Marks Act	20	Miscellaneous housing visits	316
Water supply	16	Infectious disease enquiries	1,035
Drainage	2,200	Visits re disinfection	91
Stables and piggeries	22	Miscellaneous infectious disease visits	1,529
Offensive trades	1	Visits to slaughterhouse	402
Fried fish shops	70	Butchers	205
Houses-let-in-lodgings	2	Canteens	19
Tents, vans and sheds	197	Dairies and milk distributors	149
Canal boats	8	Fishmongers and poulterers	24
Factories	204	Food preparing premises	38
Workshops	6	Grocers	536
Workplaces	4	Greengrocers and fruiterers	83
Drain tests	104	Ice cream premises	274
Bakehouses	50	Market stalls	348
Poisons	55	Restaurants	40
Public conveniences	6	Street vendor and hawkers carts	13
Theatres and places of entertainment	2	Sweetshops	86
Licensed premises	90	Milk—bacteriological	107
Interviews	950	Milk—tubercle bacilli	39
Pet Animals	10	Ice cream	62
Rats and mice	131	Food and drugs	219
Atmospheric pollution	184	Fertilisers and feeding stuffs	12
Schools	19	Miscellaneous food visits	271
Shops	80	Water samples	70
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	2,367	Number of nuisances found	2,232
Hairdressers	35	Number of nuisances abated	2,444
Matters to other departments	143	Number of verbal notices served	349
Number of houses inspected under		Number of verbal notices complied	
Public Health Acts	591	with	329
Revisits to above houses	3,172	Number of informal notices served	975
Number of houses inspected under		Number of informal notices complied	
Housing Acts	36	with	1,032
Revisits to above houses	75	Number of statutory notices served	272
Overcrowding visits	10	Number of statutory notices complied	
Revisits to above houses	5	with	358
Verminous premises	222		

PUBLIC MORTUARY

The arrangement whereby the mortuary at the Moorgate General Hospital was used as a public mortuary was continued throughout the year and 108 bodies were received there and detained for 336 days. The post-mortem room was used on 108 occasions. Payment is made to the local Hospital Management Committee on a basis of 5s. per day per body and £1 1s. for each occasion the post-mortem room is used.

AGED AND INFIRM PERSONS

No application was made under Section 1 (3) of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, for a removal order during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND TUBERCULOSIS

The prevalence of the infectious diseases notifiable in the county borough is shown in the following table:—

Disease	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Acute encephalitis—Infective	1	—	1	—	—
Post-infectious	1	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis—Paralytic	2	1	8	—	9
Non-paralytic	1	—	3	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	5	26	72	174	547
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	16	13	7	6	1
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	847	130	2072	21	1173
Meningococcal infection	2	2	3	3	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	1	—	1	—
Pemphigus neonatorum	1	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	50	53	29	32	32
Puerperal pyrexia	27	25	10	47	59
Relapsing fever	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	51	109	90	80	100
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	1	—	—	3
Typhus fever	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough	220	45	45	93	129
Tuberculosis—respiratory	54	42	56	59	39
other forms	9	5	6	6	4
Food poisoning	14	3	12	48	9
Totals	1302	456	2414	571	2105

In the following table details are given of the age and ward distribution of the notifications received, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the deaths occurring:—

Notifiable disease	No. of cases notified													Total cases notified in each ward of the borough									Total cases removed to hospital	Total deaths			
	At ages—years																										
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 years and over														
Acute encephalitis-infective ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Post infectious ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute poliomyelitis-paralytic ..	9	..	2	3	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	9	..	..	..
Non-paralytic ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	547	19	23	28	40	33	251	62	20	31	20	16	4	84	21	216	15	30	16	89	19	33	10	..	..	..	..
Dysentery ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis lethargica ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Malaria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	1173	56	115	155	158	184	490	9	4	1	1	..	..	113	214	48	310	81	52	79	84	113	14	..	..	..	..
Meningococcal infection ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pemphigus neonatorum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia ..	32	1	2	1	1	..	2	..	1	9	5	12	7	2	6	8	4	3	3	4	2	2	7	29	..	..	..
Puerperal pyrexia ..	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46	4	..	..	3	..	2	4	3	3	1	5	36	57	..	..	..	..
Relapsing fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet fever ..	100	..	..	6	13	15	57	7	2	..	..	..	..	6	3	49	17	5	4	3	1	4	16	..	..	..	..
Smallpox ..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhus fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping cough ..	129	17	13	15	15	11	53	3	2	7	1	11	2	13	2	31	5	7	7	21	6	24	8	1	8	..	..
Tuberculosis : respiratory, males ..	21	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	11	1	1	..	2	..	3	3	1	1	3	2	1	..	..	6	..	..
.. females ..	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
.. other forms, males ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. females ..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	5	..	..	..	..
Food poisoning ..	9	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	2105	94	157	209	229	245	854	82	41	100	34	44	16	226	281	632	130	102	114	202	119	219	129	45	..	..	..

The following table gives details of the notifications received monthly throughout the year :—

Notifiable disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Acute encephalitis—infective ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis—paralytic ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	2	-	9
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	10	152	239	97	25	4	9	3	2	1	5	-	547
Encephalitis lethargica ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	3	51	168	268	345	236	85	4	3	6	2	1173
Meningococcal infection ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pemphigus neonatorum ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	5	4	1	3	1	1	-	4	6	1	6	32
Puerperal pyrexia	6	-	3	1	4	6	3	7	7	11	6	5	59
Relapsing fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	11	29	24	8	7	-	3	2	6	3	3	4	100
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3
Typhus fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	11	23	10	19	25	11	11	10	6	1	-	2	129
Tuberculosis: respiratory, males	6	2	3	-	1	-	2	-	1	2	3	1	21
females	7	1	1	1	-	2	1	3	-	1	-	1	18
other forms, males	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
females	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Food poisoning	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	9
Totals	55	216	335	295	334	370	266	112	39	31	30	22	2105

During the year 129 cases of infectious disease were notified from or removed to hospitals in the district, and the following table gives the distribution :

Disease	Infectious Diseases Hospitals			Other Hospitals			Total
	Lodge Moor Sheffield	Doncaster Isolation Hospital	Kendray Hospital, Barnsley	Moorgate General Hospital	Rotherham Hospital	Other Hospitals	
Dysentery	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	13	—	—	—	—	1	14
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	8	—	—	—	—	1	9
Pneumonia	—	—	1	4	1	1	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	57	—	—	57
Scarlet fever	16	—	—	—	—	—	16
Typhoid fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping cough	6	—	—	2	—	—	8
Food poisoning	3	—	—	2	—	—	5
Totals	59	—	1	65	1	3	129

In addition to these cases, 56 patients were admitted to Lodge Moor Hospital, Sheffield, for observation and were ultimately diagnosed as follows :

Admitted for observation for	Final diagnosis																		
	Diberticulitis	Bronchitis	Br. Pneum.	Cardiac Disease	Allergic Rash	Cor-Pulmonade	Upper Resp. Inf.	Dysentery	Enteritis	Glycosuria	Influenza	Mumps	Acute Ab. Cond.	Neurosis	Tonsillitis	Shingles	Verous Meng.	Nil	Total
Acute Polio Par.										1					1		2	3	5
Diphtheria																		1	2
Dysentery								4	1									1	6
Cardiac Disease.				1															1
Bronchitis		1																	1
Broncho Pneum.			1	1															2
Pneumonia		7	1	1		2	1								1				13
Glandular fever										1									1
Enteritis								1	11				1					1	14
Encephalitis														1					1
Mumps												1							1
Meningitis										1							1	3	5
Shingles																1			1
Pyrexia of unknown origin											1								1
Typhoid	1																		1
Skin rash					1														1
	1	8	2	3	1	2	1	5	12	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	8	56

In amplification of the foregoing tables the following observations are made on the number of notifiable diseases.

Nine cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified, and five patients were admitted to hospital for observation for this disease but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year. Two patients were admitted to hospital for observation, one was diagnosed as suffering from glandular fever and one from glycosuria. The last notified case occurred in 1952.

Of the 547 cases of dysentery notified, 14 were treated in hospital. One death occurred.

One case of erysipelas was reported, and was treated in hospital.

1,173 cases of measles were reported during the year, 14 were treated in hospital. No deaths occurred from this disease.

No notification of meningococcal infection was received.

129 cases of whooping cough were notified, two of whom were removed to hospital for treatment. One death occurred.

59 notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received, all of which with two exceptions were reported from hospital.

Of the 100 notifications of scarlet fever received, 16 cases were treated in hospital and 84 remained at home. No deaths occurred.

Nine notifications of food poisoning were received during the year, eight were treated in hospital and one remained at home.

INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

There was a large epidemic of influenza in Rotherham during September and October, 1957, which affected all age groups of the population by the third week in September. The school attendance figures, which at that time of year are normally over 90 per cent., had dropped to 65 per cent. and, from information supplied by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, the numbers of first claims showed an increase of 300 per cent. over the weekly average for the past thirty five weeks and well over half of these claims specifically stated influenza. The outbreak was of an explosive nature, the overall cause being influenza virus A (Asian type), which was isolated from a swab taken from a patient on 19th August, 1957. It is estimated that approximately half the population of Rotherham had symptoms of influenza, but a vast majority of these cases were very mild and in fact only one death could be attributed directly to influenza. Five deaths also occurred from influenza as a terminal feature in patients suffering from other serious conditions. During the period of the outbreak there were 10 cases of influenzal pneumonia admitted to hospital from the County Borough and 9 cases of respiratory infection related to influenza. Of these, 8 were over the age of sixty, 7 between forty and sixty years of age and 4 less than ten years old. The sex distribution was about equal. Influenza vaccine became available early in October to certain groups of staff who had particular risk of infection, for example, general medical practitioners, district nurses, midwives, ambulance staff, home helps, etc.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1957

NOTIFICATION AND DEATHS.—The following table gives details of the number of primary notifications received during the year :

Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
Males	Females	Males	Females	
21	18	1	3	43

In addition, the following cases were brought to notice other than by formal notification :

	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
Death returns from local registrars ..	6	—
Transferable deaths from Registrar General ..	—	—
Posthumous notifications	1	—

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease are given in the following table :

Age periods Years		New cases*				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ..		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-5		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
10-15		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20		—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20-25		1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-35		5	4	—	—	—	2	—	—
35-45		—	6	—	—	—	3	—	—
45-55		9	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55-65		6	1	1	—	5	1	—	—
65-75		3	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
75 and upwards ..		1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ..		25	20	2	3	8	6	—	1

* Primary notifications, including other new cases which have come to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

A review of the deaths which occurred during 1957 amongst notified cases of tuberculosis shows the following periods elapsed between notification and death :

Notification						Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
After death	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
Within one month	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
1—3 months	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
4—6 months	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
7—12 months	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
1—2 years	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
2—3 years	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
3—4 years	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
4—5 years	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Over 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	4	-
From death returns	..	..	..	..	..	2	-
Total number of deaths from tuberculosis						14	1
Causes other than tuberculosis						4	-

The ratio of non-notified tuberculous deaths to the total tuberculous deaths was 1 in 2. No action was required for cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY

The Sheffield Mass Radiography Unit visited Rotherham from 24th April to 30th May, 1957, and, by courtesy of the Yorkshire Electricity Board, was operated in the canteen at the Rotherham Power Station in Rawmarsh Road.

The total attendance, 8,685, was not only an increase on the previous year, (7,671), but was the highest ever recorded. The number of patients referred to their own doctor was 129 and 63 were referred to the Chest Clinic ; of this latter total 18 were found to be active tuberculosis.

In addition to the 8,685 attendances at public sessions, quite a number were examined when the unit visited several large works in the town.

The following table summarises the attendances at the public sessions :

	Males	Females	Total
General public	2352	2710	5062
School children	599	710	1309
Organised groups from factories shops, offices, etc	1042	1272	2314
	3993	4692	8685

Of the 8,685 persons attending, 342 were called for re-examination by large film. Of these, 236 were males and 106 females. Ten males and nine females were recalled for a clinical interview with the Medical Director.

The following table gives details of the persons who were referred to their own doctor, the Chest Clinic, or to hospital, etc. :

	Males	Females	Total
Chest Clinic	42	21	63
Patient's own doctor	94	35	129
General hospital for investigation	4	—	4
Re-check in 3-6 months time	5	1	6
	145	57	202

The provisional diagnoses of the persons referred to the Chest Clinic were as follows :

Provisional diagnosis	Males	Females	Total
Active tuberculosis	13	5	18
Inactive tuberculosis	6	4	10
Bronchiectasis	8	4	12
Acute inflammatory condition	4	2	6
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	3	4
Pneumoconiosis	6	-	6
Hilar enlargement	1	1	2
Pleural effusion	1	-	1
? Neoplasm	-	1	1
Radiation fibrosis	-	1	1
Referred for observation on account of symptoms only	2	-	2
Total referred	42	21	63

	Age groups of cases provisionally diagnosed as active tuberculosis									Total
	Under 14 yrs.	14-19 yrs.	20-24 yrs.	25-34 yrs.	35-44 yrs.	45-54 yrs.	55-59 yrs.	60-64 yrs.	65 yrs. & over	
Males	-	-	2	2	2	3	-	1	3	13
Females	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	5
Totals	-	-	2	4	4	4	-	1	3	18

Details of the number of patients in certain groups who were referred to their own doctor :

	Males	Females	Total
General public	47	24	71
Doctor's referrals	29	8	37
Organised groups	14	3	17
Schools	4	-	4
Totals	94	35	129

The following table summarises the attendances when the unit visited the town :

	1952	1953	1955	1956	1957
Attendances for :—					
Miniature films—public sessions	3,481	2,392	5,194	3,892	5,062
school children	1,447	1,429	1,523	2,092	1,309
organised groups	2,007	1,240	1,461	1,687	2,314
Total attendances for miniature films	6,935	5,061	8,178	7,671	8,685

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

A new clinic was commenced in premises at the Broom Lane Methodist Church on 1st May, 1957, where a child welfare session, with a doctor in attendance, is held every Wednesday morning, and a midwives ante-natal clinic and mothercraft and relaxation class are held every Wednesday afternoon. This is a very popular clinic and all sections are well attended. A number of special poliomyelitis vaccination sessions have been held with an excellent response. The premises are proving very suitable.

The overcrowding which previously existed at the Broom Valley Clinic (held on school premises), was relieved by the opening of the Broom Lane Clinic, and the accommodation is now adequate. There was a reduction of 247 attendances when compared with the figure for 1956, due, no doubt, to the opening of the Broom Lane Clinic. However, the total number of attendances at the two clinics during 1957 showed an increase of 1,331 over the attendance at the Broom Valley Clinic during 1956, and there was an increase of 125 children attending.

The following table shows the usage of the clinics :

Centre	Sessions held	New registrations			Total children attending			Total attendances			Medical consultations		
		Un. 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	Un. 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	Un. 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	Un. 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.
Ferham House ..	101	243	25	23	361	151	185	2152	605	318	775	314	250
Cranworth Road ..	101	268	24	29	392	120	192	2080	415	294	762	211	222
Thorpe ..	48	37	2	1	69	19	23	411	113	41	123	34	16
Greasbrough ..	51	61	3	6	81	26	46	572	117	147	186	42	43
Canklow ..	48	77	8	6	125	54	57	725	179	105	385	113	70
Blackburn ..	51	39	5	6	65	25	42	416	88	73	153	42	33
High Greave ..	51	73	8	8	105	52	56	614	189	89	254	91	51
Broom Valley ..	49	99	12	7	179	67	94	988	214	170	333	102	101
Redscope ..	102	121	12	20	187	79	135	1152	228	169	503	135	145
Broom Lane ..	34	104	21	5	108	47	35	1188	289	101	359	108	70
Totals ..	636	1122	120	111	1672	640	865	10298	2437	1507	3833	1192	1001

In all, 3,177 children made 14,242 attendances during 1957 as compared with 2,962 children making 12,812 attendances during 1956.

In addition to the child welfare clinics the following pre-school children were referred during 1957 to the specialist and other treatment clinics held on centre premises :

						Cases	Total Inspections
Orthopaedic	..	..	..	..	..	24	53
Orthopaedic treatment	..	..	..	..	..	10	38
Aural	..	..	..	..	..	37	76
Aural treatment	..	..	..	..	..	22	73
Ophthalmic	..	..	..	..	..	25	197
Chiropody	..	..	..	..	..	6	7
Dental	..	..	..	..	..	289	394
Minor ailment treatment	..	..	..	..	..	53	171

At the Ophthalmic clinic 25 children under 5 years of age were submitted for refraction. In 18 cases glasses were prescribed. 172 re-inspections of children in this age group were also made during the year.

DENTAL TREATMENT

The treatment given to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under five years of age at the Local Authority clinics in Rotherham during 1957 is detailed in the appended tables. The work done shows slight decreases on similar activities for 1956, apart from the rather surprising one of denture work for very young children which is described later. It is justifiable to point out that the dental treatment for children of school age increased in 1957 to an extent in excess of the decreased amount done for these other classes of patients. It must also be remembered that all groups of patients eligible to attend a Local Authority clinic can, if they wish, obtain treatment free (apart from having to pay up to £4 5s. 0d. towards any dentures they may require) from any private dentist on the National Health Service list who agrees to undertake their treatment. During the next five to ten years the total number of practising dentists is likely to fall greatly, due to the great number who will become eligible for a pension under the National Health Service Act, 1946, having reached the age of 60 years since the Act came into operation on 1st July, 1948, and who will have completed ten years work in the National Health Service on 30th June, 1958. The dental schools are now full to capacity and if this can be maintained and, if possible, increased over the next few years it is greatly to be hoped that the introduction of partly trained personnel will be avoided. The suggestion that such people could be employed in school clinics received support in some quarters, for reasons which may not be so altruistic as would appear at first sight.

An apprentice technician was articled and commenced work in the Local Authority laboratory in June, 1957, and is already a great help to the technician in dealing with the denture and orthodontic work for six dentists. The total work done in the laboratory is again given here, since, given under two separate reports it might be under-estimated :

			1957	1956
Total full dentures made	..	..	146	118
Total part dentures made	..	..	182	191
Total repairs to dentures	..	..	73	19
Total crowns made	..	..	25	9
Total inlays cast	..	..	6	1
Total orthodontic appliances made	..	..	477	345
Total orthodontic appliances repaired	..	..	61	18

Miss Knowles, Senior Dental Officer of the Ministry of Health, visited Rotherham on 25th June to see the dental services provided for the maternity and child welfare patients. She showed especial interest in some young patients who had been provided with artificial dentures, to restore their appearance and enable them to chew, after the extraction of their carious milk teeth and until such time as their second dentition erupts. We have, over the past ten years, provided such dentures for three children suffering from complete or nearly complete anodontia (congenital absence of teeth), but this year we suggested to the parents of a few children, who had had to have all or a great number of milk teeth extracted, that provision of dentures would be beneficial to their children for the next two or three years. It is indeed amazing how well these patients tolerate dentures, especially as they are often anything but co-operative during the early stages of impressions, etc. ! These dentures will have to be remade as the permanent teeth erupt, acting more as space maintainers between the ages of 6-10 years when, if not already done so, they will be finally discarded. The details of such miniature denture work are as follows :

Number of children treated	..	..	..	8
Number of dentures made	..	..	..	10
Full upper and full lower dentures	..	..	..	1
Full upper and part lower (4 teeth)	..	..	..	1

Of these partial dentures one carried nine teeth, three carried eight teeth, and three had four teeth. Serial plaster study models are kept of these patients, so that later on their development can be compared from this early age up to say thirteen or fourteen years. It is also hoped to perfect 35 m.m. photography of such patients at their various ages.

It is hoped to increase the amount of conservation work done for those under five years old, but unless this is done at a very early stage of decay the result is often not good or successful and is bad propaganda for fillings, etc., in the permanent teeth at a later date. The dental treatment for these groups of patients is an integral part of the whole dental work undertaken by a Local Authority and this report and that to the Principal School Medical Officer should be regarded as complimentary to one another.

The following table gives details of the treatment given at dental clinics to expectant and nursing mothers and young children during 1957 :

					Children	Expectant and nursing mothers	Total 1957	Total 1956
					under five			
Total attendances	..	..	..	..	394	1083	1477	1710
Number of individuals treated	..	..	..	..	289	317	606	724
Extraction —permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	—	1346	1346	1264
—temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	671	—	671	772
Fillings —permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	—	171	171	210
—temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	18	—	18	21
Anaesthetics—local	..	..	..	..	—	71	71	83
—general	..	..	..	..	295	235	530	596
Other operations	..	..	..	..	83	677	760	993
Number of patients supplied with dentures	..	..	..	..	8	129	137	148

Details of the denture work done for expectant and nursing mothers in 1957 was made up as follows :

					Dentures	Patients
Full upper and full lower dentures	..	..	..	..	112	56
Full upper or full lower dentures	..	..	..	..	10	10
Full upper or full lower denture along with part lower or part upper denture	..	..	..	..	26	13
*Partial upper and partial lower dentures	..	..	..	..	30	15
Partial upper or partial lower dentures carrying						
4 teeth or less	..	..	..	..	19	19
5—8 teeth	..	..	..	..	12	12
over 8 teeth	..	..	..	..	3	3
Total					212	128

In addition to the above, one post crown was fitted ; 17 dentures relined and 38 dentures repaired.

CARE OF THE PREMATURE INFANT

All infants weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth are regarded as premature babies irrespective of the period of gestation.

The following table gives details of the premature births during the year :

				Total births	Premature births	Percentage
Live births	..	..	..	1413	123	8.70
Still births	..	..	..	35	22	62.85
Total				1448	145	10.0

Of the 145 premature births, 62 live births and 16 still births occurred in hospital; 59 live births occurred at home of which 10 were transferred to hospital, and 6 still births also occurred in cases delivered at home ; whilst 2 live births occurred in cases delivered in nursing homes.

Details of the birth weights of these babies are given in the following table which also gives the numbers who died within 24 hours of birth and those surviving at the end of 28 days :

Weight at birth	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS															PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS		
	Born in hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in nursing home and nursed entirely there			Born in nursing home and transferred to hospital on or before the 28th day			Born in hospital	Born at home	Born in nursing home
	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days			
3 lb. 4 oz. or less (1,500 gms. or less)	11	7	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	-
Over 3lb. 4oz. up to and including 4lb. 6oz. (1,500—2,000 gms.)	7	-	6	1	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Over 4lb. 6oz. up to and including 4lb. 15oz. (2,000—2,250 gms.)	21	-	20	10	-	10	3	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	-
Over 4lb. 15oz. up to and including 5lb. 8oz. (2,250—2,500 gms.)	23	-	23	38	-	38	3	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	-
Totals	62	7	51	49	-	49	10	3	6	1	-	1	1	-	1	16	6	-

The Premature Baby Nurse visited 114 premature babies during the year and, of these, two babies died, both having congenital defects. Of the children who died, the first, an apparently healthy twin aged six weeks and weighing over seven pounds, suddenly became ill and was admitted to hospital. He died within a few hours, the post mortem examination showing defects in the child's liver, and the absence of any bile duct. The second baby failed to thrive during the supervisory period and, on being referred to the Paediatric Clinic, she was found to have congenital heart abnormality. She was admitted to hospital on 18th November, 1957, after medical aid had been called; her condition gradually deteriorated, and she died on 30th December, at the age of three months.

In collaboration with Dr. C. C. Harvey, Consultant Paediatrician at the Rotherham hospitals, it was decided to carry out the haemoglobin estimations at the Child Welfare Centres instead of at the hospitals. Equipment was therefore provided for this purpose at the clinics and the service was transferred on 14th November, 1957. Forty-nine premature babies had their blood haemoglobin estimated during the year.

In addition to the premature babies, ten others were attended by the Premature Baby Nurse and discharged as satisfactory.

The total number of visits made by this nurse during the year to 124 babies was 1,684, and she also attended a course of six lectures at the City General Hospital given by Dr. R. R. Gordon, Consultant Paediatrician.

Details of the babies cared for during 1957 were as follows :

	Weakly babies		Total
	Premature babies	other than premature	
In care at the beginning of the year ..	7	—	7
New cases, 1957	109	26	135
Total infants	116	26	142
Infants discharged from care as :—			
adjusted	109	25	134
died	1	—	1
admitted to hospital	—	—	—
Infants remaining in care at end of the year	6	1	7
Total infants	116	26	142
Visits paid	1487	165	1652

Special enquiries were made into the 35 infant deaths registered during the year.

Seven infants died due to severe congenital abnormalities, four died as a result of birth injury, and five died due to acute respiratory infection. Two deaths were accidental, one child being smothered by a pillow, and the other being placed by its mother in a bath of water which was too hot, death resulting later from broncho-pneumonia.

The remaining seventeen were premature babies, of whom :

One weighed 1 lb. at birth.

Three weighed between 1 and 2 lbs. at birth.

Four weighed between 2 and 3 lbs. at birth.

Three weighed between 3 and 4 lbs. at birth,

Two weighed between 4 and 5 lbs. at birth, of whom one died due to respiratory infection.

One weighed between 5 and 5½ lbs. at birth and had a congenital abnormality.

Three weighed 5½ lbs. at birth, and all had congenital abnormalities.

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE — RESIDENTIAL NURSERY AND CHILDREN'S HOMES

Medical inspections have been held monthly at the Nursery and all children were examined on admission and discharge.

Number of children immunised	8
Number of children vaccinated	8
Number of medical examinations	646
Number of visits made by medical officers	71
Number of visits made by health visitors	28

WELFARE COMMITTEE — TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

At the end of the year eight families, consisting of 16 adults and 37 children, were remaining in temporary accommodation. During the year one family removed from the district, one was rehoused, and a third family was evicted. It is necessary for health visitors to visit frequently, as the standard of living in the majority of these families is low and would be regarded as problem family level, and 51 visits were made during the year. The mothers are invited to bring their babies to the Child Welfare Clinic, but the response is poor.

SALE OF WELFARE FOODS

The following table gives details of the sales of Welfare Foods in the County Borough since taking over the scheme in June, 1954 :

	1954	1955	1956	1957
National dried milk ..	34516	59492	61814	47155
Cod liver oil	6924	11621	11632	9181
A and D tablets	2756	5866	6619	5851
Orange juice	31996	66635	84049	83381
	<hr/> 76192	<hr/> 143614	<hr/> 164114	<hr/> 145568

MATERNITY SERVICES AND THE DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES SERVICE

MATERNITY SERVICES

The number of ante-natal patients who made application to have their confinements in hospital was 171 and, of these, 128 were recommended and accepted for hospital admission. Thirty-six persons had suitable accommodation and were booked for home confinement. The remaining seven were recommended for hospital because of unsuitable home conditions, but could not be accepted due to shortage of hospital beds. Three of the seven made application within the last three months of their pregnancies, and four made application during the fifth month of pregnancy. There was a decrease of 64 applications for hospital confinement when compared with the figure for 1956, but the difficulty experienced in securing a bed was not relieved.

Confinements among normal residents in the Borough :

A. SERVICES PROVIDED WITHIN THE BOROUGH :—	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Moorgate General Hospital	380	332	366	339	341
Rotherham General Hospital	—	1	—	1	—
Private nursing homes	42	54	62	59	49
Domiciliary confinements	662	741	656	717	739
 B. SERVICES PROVIDED OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH :—					
The Jessop Hospital, Sheffield ..	20	12	18	17	18
Listerdale Maternity Home	216	209	220	249	264
Hallamshire Maternity Home	11	9	9	15	8
Private nursing homes and other Institutions	9	2	1	8	8
Domiciliary confinements	2	3	5	12	7
 Total confinements	<u>1342</u>	<u>1363</u>	<u>1337</u>	<u>1417</u>	<u>1434</u>

The Maternity Services of the post war years were reviewed in the 'Health of Rotherham 1956.' An account was given of the measures taken by this department to improve the liaison and co-operation between the general practitioners and the local Authority Maternity Services. In particular there was an offer for the general practitioner to attend at the Corporation Clinics and see his patient with the midwife, or for the midwife to attend at the doctor's surgery. There was no acceptance of this offer.

There have been no new developments of note in the local Health Authority Maternity Services since the discussion on the Memorandum on Ante-Natal Care, relating to toxæmia referred to in Circular 9/56 dated 25th May, 1956.

At the various meetings and discussions which took place, including a full discussion in the Rotherham Local Medical Committee, there was general agreement that the services, as now organised, were satisfactory in so far as the part played by the local Health Authority was concerned.

The following table gives a picture of the maternity work undertaken in the County Borough :

Year	Confinements occurring in						Total
	Hospitals Maternity Homes		Private Maternity Homes		Domiciliary arrangements		
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	
1947	764	39.98	288	15.07	859	44.95	1911
1948	755	46.49	154	9.48	715	44.03	1624
1949	647	41.99	125	8.11	769	49.90	1541
1950	638	43.85	90	6.19	727	49.96	1455
1951	680	47.19	49	3.40	712	49.41	1441
1952	628	45.77	35	2.55	709	51.68	1372
1953	627	46.72	51	3.80	664	49.48	1342
1954	563	41.31	56	4.11	744	54.58	1363
1955	613	45.85	63	4.71	661	49.44	1337
1956	621	43.82	67	4.73	729	51.45	1417
1957	631	44.00	56 57	3.90 3.97	746	52.02 52.03	1434

The following statement gives the number of applications for hospital confinement investigated by the health visitors and appropriate recommendations made :

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Total number of Rotherham patients confined in Hospital maternity home	680	628	627	563	613	621	688
Priority applications reported upon ..	357	316	322	226	162	214	171

Reviewing the domiciliary midwifery services of the County Borough during the same period, which are provided by the Maternity Services Scheme of the Executive Council and the Domiciliary Midwives Scheme of the County Borough Council, the following table gives details of the bookings of patients confined and includes the few non residents who had their confinement in the County Borough :

Year	Doctor NOT booked for confinement		Doctor booked for confinement		Total
	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	
1950	455	61.74	282	38.26	737
1951	379	53.23	333	46.77	712
1952	328	46.20	382	53.80	710
1953	281	42.26	384	57.74	665
1954	296	39.26	458	60.74	754
1955	245	36.68	423	63.32	668
1956	215	28.94	528	71.06	743
1957	160	21.13	597	78.86	757

The delivery of those patients who had booked a doctor to take charge of their confinement is given in the following table, together with the relevant percentages :

Year	Doctor PRESENT at birth		Doctor ABSENT at birth		Total doctor's bookings
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	
1950	143	50.71	139	49.29	282
1951	144	43.24	189	56.76	333
1952	191	50.00	191	50.00	282
1953	179	46.61	205	53.39	384
1954	176	38.43	282	61.57	458
1955	150	35.46	273	64.54	423
1956	200	37.88	328	62.12	528
1957	239	40.03	358	59.96	597

Adding those cases in which the doctor was booked but was absent at birth to those cases in which the midwife only was booked, and deducting the cases in which she had to call medical aid, the deliveries were as follows :

Year	Patients delivered by doctors		Patients delivered by midwives		Total domiciliary deliveries
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	
1950	143	19.40	594	80.60	737
1951	144	20.22	568	79.78	712
1952	191	26.90	519	73.10	710
1953	184	27.67	481	72.33	665
1954	185	24.54	569	75.46	754
1955	164	24.55	504	75.45	668
1956	208	27.99	535	72.01	743
1957	250	33.02	507	66.97	757

To sum up the changes which the last three tables indicate, it will be seen that whereas in 1950 only 38.26 per cent. of the women confined at home booked their confinement with a doctor, during subsequent years this has progressively increased until in 1957 the percentage has increased to 78.86. The cases booking midwife only show the reverse by decreasing from 61.74 per cent. in 1950 to 21.13 in 1957.

During the same period, however, the actual numbers of cases in which the doctor has been present at the birth of their booked cases have only increased from 143 in 1950 to 239 in 1957 although their bookings increased from 282 to 597 in those same years.

The effect of the increased bookings by doctors upon the work of the District Ante-natal Clinics is reflected in the decrease in the numbers of women attending and in the total attendances made :

				1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Women attending	..	..	..	578	578	532	493	467	379	339	283
Attendances	..	..	..	1002	934	848	737	774	659	602	513

Attendances at clinics attended by district midwives :

				1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Attendances	..	..	..	3173	3024	3078	3045	3003	2558	2661	2876

The midwives refer all their booked cases to the district ante-natal clinics which are attended by a consultant obstetrician (Mr. D. Ballantine) who acts as the Corporation's Obstetric Officer. Reports of his examination are sent to the patient's own doctor and sometimes result in the cases being booked by the doctor. Midwives hold sessions at the clinics at which their own booked cases and cases booked by a doctor attend with the doctor's permission.

A further obligation which the Domiciliary Midwives Service has undertaken in recent years is the nursing care of hospital maternity cases who have been discharged home before the fourteenth day. The following table gives details since the recording of these cases commenced in 1952 :

					1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Total (County Borough) hospital confinements					628	627	563	613	621	631
Hospital discharges before the 14th day	..				207	365	319	316	337	425
Percentage	..	..	..	..	33.0	58.2	56.6	51.5	54.3	67.35

This rise in the number of patients discharged from hospital before the fourteenth day from 33 per cent. in 1952 to over 60 per cent. in the following years results in further responsibility for the Local Health Authority's Midwifery Services.

Patients who were booked and delivered by midwives were encouraged to attend for examination at the post-natal clinic held jointly with the district ante-natal clinic, and the details of midwives cases delivered, and cases attending and attendances at the post-natal clinic, are as follows :

Year	Midwives bookings delivered	Midwives cases attended post-natal clinic		Post-natal attendances
		Number	Per cent	
1950	455	217	47.7	252
1951	379	204	53.8	242
1952	328	161	49.4	190
1953	281	115	40.9	130
1954	296	118	39.9	142
1955	245	112	45.7	127
1956	215	84	39.1	93
1957	160	65	40.6	75

Domestic help is provided to maternity cases under the Act and the following table summarises the assistance rendered by the Home Help Service during the years 1950-1957 :

Year	Number of domiciliary confinements	Maternity cases served by Home Helps		Hours of service rendered	Average hours per case
		Number	Per cent		
1950	727	142	19.5	14,840	104.5
1951	712	214	30.6	19,310	90.2
1952	709	157	22.1	14,706	93.7
1953	664	145	21.8	14,459	99.7
1954	744	175	23.5	16,088	91.9
1955	661	161	25.1	14,891	92.5
1956	729	152	20.8	14,942	98.3
1957	737	138	18.7	12,040	87.2

The domestic assistance given by relatives during the lying-in period should not be overlooked and many cases receive help from this source. The services of the home help during the ante and post-natal periods which are provided on medical certificate, are included in the above figures.

EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

The mothercraft and relaxation class which was previously held at Cranworth Road Child Welfare Clinic was transferred to Ferham House Child Welfare Clinic, where sessions are now held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The classes are very popular and well attended. During the year those attending have included a number of women from the Rotherham Rural area, Doncaster and Sheffield. Many are recommended by their own doctors, by midwives, hospital ante-natal clinics and health visitors. The number of mothers attending was 308 and they made 2,243 attendances, as compared with 241 mothers attending and making 1,695 attendances in 1956.

This is a most valuable time to approach young mothers to be, as they are unharassed by home worries and have time to listen to and take part in discussions on subjects appertaining to positive health. Talks and demonstrations are given and films are shown at these sessions.

DISTRICT ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

The following table gives details of the attendances at the consultant ante-natal clinics during 1957 :

Clinics	Sessions held	New cases			Total women attending			Total attendances		
		A.N.	P.N.	B.C.	A.N.	P.N.	B.C.	A.N.	P.N.	B.C.
Ferham House	24	117	21	2	134	22	2	209	28	2
Cranworth Road	21	100	26	—	114	26	—	222	29	—
Greasbrough ..	2	1	1	—	3	2	—	3	2	—
Redscope	20	29	15	—	32	15	—	79	16	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	67	247	63	2	283	65	2	513	75	2
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION.

A branch of the Family Planning Association was formed in Rotherham in February, 1956. This service now fills a need and has been of very considerable benefit to mothers of Rotherham. All new cases recommended by the Medical Officer of Health or the Consultant Obstetrician are given free advice and treatment and the Corporation pay the Family Planning Association £1 5s. 0d., for the initial treatment and 10/- for six-monthly visits.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES SERVICE

Two midwives commenced duty on 1st April, 1957—Mrs. G. Hewitt living at 369 Brinsworth Road, acting as relief midwife and Mrs. J. Rowe, living at 84 Moorgate, acting as a temporary relief midwife. Mrs. Rowe resigned and left the service on 26th September, 1957. Mrs. S. M. Shaw, living at Fern Bank, Church Street, Kimberworth, commenced duties as a general relief midwife on 23rd September, 1957.

Mrs. H. M. Clarke, who had been on sick leave since 22nd March, 1956, commenced duty on 1st April, 1957. Mrs. G. Walsh, who reported sick on 1st February, 1957, resigned and left the service on 30th June, 1957, and the house, 92 Lister Street, is no longer used by a midwife.

Mrs. Herrington left 29 Clough Road, which was a tenancy house, on 9th April, 1957, and moved into her own house at 15 South Street, Kimberworth, and the tenancy will not be renewed.

Mrs. M. J. Walsh, Superintendent Midwife, reported sick on 22nd May, 1957, and has not returned to duty at the time of report.

The annual inspection of midwives and of the nursing home was carried out by Mr. D. Ballantine, Consultant Obstetrician and Medical Supervisor of Midwives.

All staff took advantage of the services of the Mass Radiography Unit when it visited Rotherham.

MIDWIVES' CASE LOAD

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Number of domiciliary cases attended by					
Municipal midwives	665	754	668	743	757
Private Midwives	-	-	-	-	2
Number of cases delivered in Institutions, but attended by domiciliary midwives on discharge from Institutions before the 14th day ..	365	319	316	337	425
Number of days service to such cases representing a similar saving of patient days in institutions	1506	1280	1474	1496	1882

Of the 757 cases attended by midwives, 747 had booked their confinement with the service, nine cases were delivered in emergency and one was a miscarriage.

At the delivery of 149 midwives' cases, a doctor was present at the birth of the baby on 11 occasions, having been previously summoned by the midwife on medical aid. Of the 585 cases in which a doctor was booked the midwife delivered 358 of the patients, making a total of 507 cases delivered by midwives. Midwives acting in the capacity of maternity nurses attended 239 patients. Twenty-eight cases were handed over to the Home Nursing Service on account of infection or suspected infection in the mother or baby.

Analgesia was administered through the year by means of gas and air, Pethidine and Trilene.

Fourteen sets of Minnitts apparatus are possessed by the service for the administration of gas and air analgesia. Six Tecota Trilene machines were acquired on 29th April, 1957, making a total number of ten machines for the administration of Trilene.

The following table gives details of the cases delivered during the year by Municipal Midwives :

Cases delivered	Doctor not booked (Midwifery cases)		Doctor booked (Maternity cases)		Totals
	Doctor present at delivery	Doctor not present	Doctor present at delivery	Doctor not present	
Midwives booked cases ..	10	144	238	355	747
Emergencies	1	4	1	3	9
Miscarriages	—	1	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	11	149	239	358	757
	—	—	—	—	—

Analgesia—Number of cases who were delivered with:—

Gas and air only	1	21	21	41	84
Pethidine only	1	10	10	24	45
Trilene only	1	16	31	38	86
Gas/Air & Pethidine ..	5	56	87	128	276
Gas/Air & Trilene ..	—	—	—	3	3
Pethidine and Trilene ..	1	15	69	72	157
Gas/Air, Pethidine and Trilene	1	5	13	9	28
Cases delivered without analgesia	1	26	8	43	78
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	11	149	239	358	757
	—	—	—	—	—

District midwives continue to give service to mothers discharged from local maternity hospitals and maternity homes before the 14th day, of whom there were 425. A number of these cases were booked with the domiciliary service, but were admitted to hospital for medical reasons or in emergency, and returned home to the care of the midwife concerned as soon as the emergency was over.

Premature cots were sent out seven times during the year.

PUPIL MIDWIVES

There have been four pupil midwives taking their Part II training on the district and all four satisfied the examiners of the Central Midwives Board.

The Educational Supervisor of the Central Midwives Board (Miss Fensom) visited the department on 14th March, 1957. She went on to the district with Pupil Midwife Bleas and visited Miss Thorpe's home where the pupil was in residence. A visit was also made to Ferham House Ante-natal Clinic. A satisfactory report was received.

POST-CERTIFICATE COURSES

Mrs. M. J. Walsh attended a course in London, Miss Atkinson in Harrogate and Mrs. Clarke in Manchester.

MIDWIVES CLINICS

The number of attendances at the midwives ante-natal clinics held at centres during the year is as follows :

		Ferham House	Cranworth Road	Greas- brough	Redscope	Broom	Totals
No. of sessions held	..	200	171	13	50	34	468
No. of new cases attending		365	319	15	135	65	899
No. of cases attending from last year	.. ..	35	67	8	16	—	126
Total attendances	.. ..	1183	969	58	514	152	2876

A weekly ante-natal and booking clinic was opened on 1st May, 1957, at Broom Methodist Church, to accommodate patients living in the Broom and Wickersley Road district.

The number of cases booking midwives only, in the Greasbrough area has fallen off, so that the attendance of the Consultant Obstetrician at the Greasbrough clinic session has been discontinued from March, 1957.

HEALTH VISITING

HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES

Staff changes during the year were as follows :

Miss Wilkinson, Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor, Miss Casey, Health Visitor/Social Worker, Miss Griffith and Miss Wilson, Health Visitors, all left the Department to take up appointments with other authorities. Miss Crofton, School Nurse, retired from the service ; and Mrs. Glover and Miss Nicklin, Clinic attendants, also left the Department.

Miss Keeton was promoted to the post of Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor, Mrs. Hunton was appointed as School Nurse, and Mrs. Gillam and Mrs. Hale as Clinic Nurses. There was no response to advertisements for qualified or student health visitors during 1957.

It has not been possible to continue a block system of visiting since August, 1957, due to inability to fill the four vacancies for health visitors. The pressure of work increased and the district areas for each health visitor became much larger. There has also been a concentrated effort in the visiting of problem and pre-problem families, which is a very time consuming job. Therefore visits have been made mainly to special and exceptional cases. As in previous years, home background reports on children admitted to hospital have been supplied at the request of the Consultant Paediatrician.

The case load for 1957 was :

Infants under 1 year on visiting list	..	..	..	1332
Infants 1-2 years on visiting list	..	..	..	1353
Infants 2-5 years on visiting list	..	..	..	3540
Tuberculosis patients	..	..	..	465
Mental defectives	..	..	..	—
Diabetics	..	..	..	61
Gastrics	..	..	..	46
Chronic sick	..	..	..	41

SCHOOL NURSING

The school nurses have carried out the duties in connection with school work generally, with the help of clinic assistants and clinic nurses.

The case load for 1957 was as follows :

Number of school population	..	..	..	15494
Number of nursery schools	..	..	..	1
Number of schools with nursery classes	..	..	..	4
Number of voluntary schools	..	..	..	2
Number of primary schools	..	..	..	19
Number of secondary modern schools	..	..	..	4
Number of secondary technical schools	..	..	..	1
Number of County grammar schools	..	..	..	2
Number of special schools :				
Open air school	..	..	..	1
Educationally subnormal school junior and senior	1			2

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S CLUB

All the children who were suitable to attend the Handicapped Children's Club have now been admitted to Special Schools or accepted in ordinary day schools ; therefore, the need no longer exists for this service.

SOCIAL CASE WORK

CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER

During the year 44 unmarried mothers were cared for, of whom 22 were widows or cohabitees who had suitable homes and could care for their babies. One had her baby adopted, and four married the putative father of the child within a few weeks following confinement.

In the case of eight mothers admitted to Mother and Baby Homes the Local Authority paid the fees, two of the babies being adopted, and the remaining six being cared for by their mothers.

Fourteen mothers were able to make suitable arrangements within their own homes, their parents accepting responsibility for care.

PREVENTION OF BREAK-UP OF FAMILIES

Since February, 1957, the care of problem families has been returned to the purview of the area health visitor. There are 34 families in this category who require constant supervision and help. Of these, 14 families are the real hard core which never show much improvement, the inability to improve being due to low mentality of one or both parents.

The remaining 20 families are just a tough crowd of people who could not care less about the home conditions but, occasionally, after much persuasion from the health visitors, have bursts of enthusiasm and have a good clean up. In many cases the husbands are to blame for the poor home conditions ; they work intermittently and are poor time keepers, and consequently lose their employment. One man has had four jobs offered since August, 1957, and has failed to attend any one place of employment. In November he was sent to prison for debt. Family planning has been offered to suitable persons, but none have taken advantage of this service.

Pre-problem families have been specially supervised in an attempt to prevent them from falling into the problem family category. There were 26 such families in January, 1957. Regular and frequent visiting has been maintained throughout the year to give encouragement and assist in budgeting and household management. Progress is slow ; three families have been removed from the list and four other families have made good progress and maintained a reasonable standard—they will be removed from the list in the near future. One family has been transferred to the problem family list.

SPECIAL CLINIC

Follow up work has been carried out, as usual, from this clinic on 23 occasions.

GENERAL STATISTICS

The following statistical summary details the work performed by health visitors, clinic nurses, and clinic assistants (excluding duties undertaken in the School Health Service).

Sections 22, 24, 26, 28, and 51, National Health Service Act.

EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Home enquiries regarding hospital bookings	164
Re-visits	24
First visits to expectant mothers other than above	107
Re-visits	87
Contact with social agencies on behalf of mothers	27
Arranging convalescence	11
Escorting duties	2
Visits to maternity wards	38

CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR

Premature babies — nurse's supervisory visits	1487
General routine visits	4964
Illegitimate	153
Ill-cared for	270
Death enquiries	18

CHILDREN 1-5 YEARS

General routine visits, 1-2 years	3146
2-5 years	6059
Illegitimate, 1-2 years	89
2-5 years	164
Ill-cared for, 1-2 years	311
2-5 years	633
over 5 years	588
Found on area (and not known to have been visited before)	82
Contacts with social agencies	55
Visits 5-18 years—illegitimate	43

SOCIAL ENQUIRIES FOR ALMONERS, SHEFFIELD HOSPITALS

First visits	9
Re-visits	1

FOLLOW-UP VISITS, HOSPITAL

PATIENTS OTHER THAN

CHILDREN

First visits	61
Re-visits	43

TUBERCULOSIS

First visits to patients	62
Re-visits	429
Attendances at Chest Clinic	25
Contacts	21

OTHER INFECTIONS AND INFESTATIONS

Total visits	651
Contact swabbing	8
Referred to other agencies	—

MENTAL DEFICIENCY

1st visits	10
Re-visits	37
Escorting duties	2

HOSPITAL FOLLOW-UP—CHILDREN

0-15 YEARS

1st visits	352
Re-visits	323
Visits to children's wards	—
Attendances at paediatric clinics	85

YOUNG CHILDREN (visits paid after the birth of the child)

Still births :—

Hospital and nursing home confinements	27
Domiciliary confinements	7

Live births :—

Hospital and nursing home confinements	613
Domiciliary confinements	715

SOCIAL CASE WORK

Visits paid to homes	36
Cases referred to N.S.P.C.C.	10
Other social contacts	20
Interviews, etc.	225
Attendances, V.D. clinic	7
Visits, V.D. follow-up	23
Social contacts re adoption	10

Vigilance—fostering and adoption.	
Cases referred to the Children's Officer	1
Visits to illegitimate children placed in foster homes	—
Enquiries by prospective foster mothers	6
Enquiries re child minding	2
Escorting duties	2

GENERAL CARE AND AFTER CARE (adults)

1st visits	175
Re-visits	1
Ward visits	5
Contacts with other agencies	4

MISCELLANEOUS

Ineffective visits	3127
Other visits not included above	331
National surveys	19
Nursing Home inspection	—
Nursery classes	60
Child Guidance clinics	104
Psychiatric visits	90
Home visits—school children	124

DUTIES DELEGATED BY THE CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Visits to Oakwood Grange Nursery	28
Visits to residential homes	1

DUTIES DELEGATED BY THE WELFARE COMMITTEE

Hygiene surveys — temporary accommodation at the Mount	11
Visits paid to separate families in accommodation	51

HEALTH EDUCATION

Mothercraft and Health Education talks, clubs, clinics and schools	330
Talks to outside organisations	12

HOME NURSING

The arrangements for the administration of the service remain as in the previous year.

During the year, five West Riding and three Rotherham staff student district nurses have been trained. Of these, one West Riding and one Rotherham student gained a credit in the practical examination. Three Queen's Nursing Sisters resigned and have been replaced by three students who will be taking their examination in January, 1958.

The vacancy for a male nurse was filled in March, 1957. The upper part of 2 Highfield was made into a flat to accommodate this male nurse and his family.

Several third year nurses from Doncaster Gate Hospital spent three days on the district with the Queen's nurses. Letters of thanks were received from them and their Tutor, and several nurses asked to be placed on the waiting list for training.

The following table gives details of the nursing staff employed in the Home Nursing Service during the past five years.

	31st Dec., 1953	31st Dec., 1954	31st Dec., 1955	31st Dec., 1956	31st Dec., 1957
FULL-TIME STAFF					
Superintendent	1	1	1	1	1
Assistant Superintendent ..	—	—	—	—	—
Senior District Nurse ..	1	1	1	1	1
Queen's Nursing Sisters					
females	9	12	10	11	12
male	2	3	2	1	2
Queen's candidates—females	2	—	2	5	3
male ..	1	—	—	—	—
State registered nurses					
females	1	1	1	1	1
Sub-totals	17	18	17	20	20
PART-TIME STAFF					
Queen's Nursing Sisters					
females	6	6	6	5	4
State registered nurses					
females	4	4	4	3	3
State enrolled assistant nurses					
females	1	2	1	1	1
Sub-totals	11	12	11	9	8
Total Staff	28	30	28	29	28
Equivalent to full-time staff	24.6	25.0	24.6	25.3	25.0

At the commencement of the year 435 cases were brought forward and 2,866 were referred during 1957, making a total of 3,301 patients nursed.

The 2,866 new cases reported during the year were of the following types :

Medical	1,998	Tuberculosis	60
Surgical	606	Maternal complications	28
Infectious diseases	33	Others	141

They were referred by :

General Practitioners	2435	Hospitals	148
Health Dept. Services	26	Personal Applications	257

The total cases nursed during the year—3,301, is 88 less than those nursed in 1956, but the total of 100,922 visits paid during the year is an increase of 7,527 over last year.

At the end of the year 477 patients were carried forward and during the year 2,824 patients were removed from the books for the following reasons :

Convalescent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2082
Died	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	235
Hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	342
Transferred to other districts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	115
Referred for other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50

The following summary shows the increase which has occurred since the service was taken over by the Corporation in July, 1948 :

		Total cases nursed	Visits	Average daily visits paid
1948 (July December)	..	963	23442	130.2
1949	.. ..	2177	55442	151.9
1950	.. ..	2613	62241	170.5
1951	.. ..	2720	60838	166.7
1952	.. ..	3071	61850	169.0
1953	.. ..	3088	64728	177.3
1954	.. ..	3667	79976	210.9
1955	.. ..	3774	88820	243.3
1956	.. ..	3389	93395	255.2
1957	.. ..	3301	100922	276.5

The classification and age groups of all cases nursed and the visits paid during the year were as follows :

	AGE GROUPS					Total cases
	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	15-64 years	65 yrs. & Over	
CASES :						
Medical	99	119	85	939	1111	2353
Surgical	28	40	63	369	160	660
Infectious diseases	6	16	9	2	—	33
Tuberculosis	1	—	1	73	2	77
Maternal complications	—	—	—	30	—	30
Others	7	6	4	70	61	148
TOTAL CASES NURSED	141	181	162	1483	1334	3301
VISITS PAID :						
Medical	1038	1147	770	23562	49339	75856
Surgical	337	368	625	5995	6855	14180
Infectious disease	81	124	104	82	—	391
Tuberculosis	80	—	124	7288	29	7521
Maternal complications	—	—	—	439	—	439
Others	110	63	40	727	1595	2535
TOTAL VISITS	1646	1702	1663	38093	57818	100922

At the beginning of the year 11 children under the age of 15 years were carried forward, there were 473 new children during the year, making a total of 484, a decrease of 49 cases as compared with last year. The total number of visits paid was 5,011 as against 6,621 the previous year, a decrease of 1,610 visits.

During the year 450 cases were removed from the register when convalescent and 18 went to hospital—one small baby died from a congenital malformation—six were removed for other causes, and the remaining nine children were being nursed at the end of the year.

CARE OF THE AGED

The number of aged sick remains very much as last year. There were 276 remaining from last year and 1,058 new cases, making a total of 1,334 cases, with 57,818 visits paid—an increase of 7,376 visits. The following figures show the results of treatment.

Convalescent	582
Hospital admissions	174
Died	177
Removed for other causes	89
Remaining	312

Voluntary help in the form of gifts to the Patients' Comforts Fund included a cheque for £25 from the Rotherham District Nursing Commemoration Fund, and cash grants from the Rotherham Distaff Club, the Inner Wheel, and Church of Our Father.

Again parcels of clothing were received from New Zealand friends, and batches of toys and books from local people for the sick children. The nursing staff also raised £10 for the Patients' Comforts Fund by various voluntary efforts. As usual all donations were spent in buying nourishing foods for the patients, also wool for bed socks which all members of the staff helped to knit.

EFFECTIVENESS OF DOMICILIARY SERVICES IN RELIEVING PRESSURE ON HOSPITAL BEDS

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/58 I have to report on the above subject.

The policy of this Authority for some time has been to develop its Domiciliary Services so that sick persons of all ages can be cared for in their own homes. To carry out this work, there must be an adequate staff of Home Nurses and Home Helps, and these services must be fully developed to cope with emergencies and render a "round the clock cover." Details of the operation of these services are given in the appropriate sections of this report.

The work done by the Children's Nursing Unit which was, in the first place, established to reduce the risk of infection, has already been fully reported. It is difficult to assess the effect of the Children's Nursing Unit on the rate of hospital admissions, because local hospitals receive patients from the surrounding areas as well as from the County Borough, and hospital statistics are not readily available for admissions of children from the County Borough alone. It is true to say, however, that there is not the same difficulty in obtaining admission of children to hospital as in other categories of illness.

The value of the domiciliary services in the care of old people in their own homes, who would otherwise be suitable for hospital accommodation, is reflected in the low hospital waiting list :

January	18	July	16
February	18	August	11
March	17	September	10
April	24	October	8
May	20	November	8
June	19	December	9

The above figures give a clear indication of the effect of these services in relieving the demand made for hospital beds, and, as noted elsewhere, a considerable proportion of the Home Nursing and Home Help Services are given to the care of aged people at home to prevent deterioration and consequent need for hospital care.

Under the Hospital Liaison Scheme, the majority of old people who need admission to hospital are accompanied by a home circumstances report from the Home Help Service.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

VACCINATION

During the year records were received of 775 persons who were vaccinated or re-vaccinated. Details of these are given in the following table :

	Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 4 years	5 to 14 years	15 years or over	Total
Vaccinations ..	507	22	12	31	52	624
Re-vaccinations ..	17	—	3	9	122	151

Of these the records of 382 persons were received from 43 private medical practitioners and the remainder from the Corporation's medical officers at the various clinics in the borough.

No cases were reported during the year of generalised vaccinia or post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis, nor were there any deaths from complications of vaccination.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The figures for diphtheria immunisation show a decrease of 335 primary immunisations when compared with the year 1956, and it is disappointing that the response should be so poor. During 1957 the mobile ambulance was not used to visit children at home for the purpose of diphtheria immunisation. It has now become clear that in the years when the ambulance was used, the figures for the period were reasonably good.

During 1957, concentration of effort has been directed to the immunisation of children before their first birthday and of 985 children immunised during the year, 649 were under one year old—65.8 per cent. Re-inforcing doses were also given to 626 children as against 567 the previous year. 356 records of immunisation and re-inforcing doses were received from 47 medical practitioners, the remainder being carried out by the Corporation's medical staff at clinics and schools. The age groups of the children at the time of immunisation were as follows :

	Under 1 yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total
Number of children who— completed a full course of primary immunisation ..	649	229	107	985
received a secondary (re- inforcing) injection ..	—	81	545	626

Of this 649, 544 were born in 1956 and 105 were born in 1957. As these latter children must be 8 months old before immunisation, this is equal to 20 per cent. of the children born in the first four months of the year. In comparison with 1956, when 222 of the children born that year were immunised, the 1957 figure is equal to a 50 per cent. increase.

The position at the end of the year in Rotherham regarding immunisation in relation to the child population is given in the following table which gives details of all children who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date :

Age at 31.12.57 i.e. born in year	Under 1 yr. 1957	1-4 yrs. 1956-1953	5-9 yrs. 1952-1948	10-14 yrs. 1947-1943	Under 15 yrs. total
Last complete course of injections whether primary or booster.					
1953-1957	101	3,539	4,654	119	9,413
1952 or earlier	-	-	622	4,520	5,142
Estimated mid-year child population	1,350	5,050	13,800		20,200
Immunity Index	7.48	70.1	41.8		46.6

WHOOPING COUGH

During the year 850 children received injections of diphtheria-pertussis vaccine and 155 received injections of whooping cough vaccine, making a total of 1,005 children immunised.

At the end of the year there were 8,308 children under the age of 15 years who had been immunised against whooping cough. The following table gives details of the age groups of these children.

1943 — 54	1948 — 835	1953 — 819
1944 — 78	1949 — 644	1954 — 832
1945 — 117	1950 — 651	1955 — 853
1946 — 277	1951 — 637	1956 — 823
1947 — 746	1952 — 730	1957 — 212
Totals — 10-14 years 1272	5-9 yrs. 3497	0-4 yrs. 3539

B.C.G. VACCINATION

71 children were skin tested at the Chest Clinic during 1957 under the contact scheme. 55 were found negative and 66 children were vaccinated. Six young children were admitted into the Oakwood Grange Nursery during the period of vaccination and testing in order to have effective isolation.

Under the School Children Scheme authorised by the Ministry of Health Circular 22/53 the vaccination of the 13 plus age group was undertaken and an acceptance rate of 39.5 per cent. was received in response to the vaccination offer.

The following statement gives details of the testing and vaccinations performed during the year :

Total number of children in age group	..	..	..	1255
Total number of children for whom consent to vaccination was received :—				
Tested and found positive (28.9%)	..	..	169	
Tested and found negative (71.1%)	..	..	310	
Rejected for medical reasons	..	..	1	
Absent on all occasions	..	..	15	
Absent during reading of tests	..	..	3	
Left the district after first test and not read	..	..	1	
			<hr/>	497
Total vaccinations :—				
Primary vaccinations	..	..	310	
Re-vaccinations	..	..	—
			<hr/>	310
Converted	..	..	298	
Remaining negative at the end of year	..	..	12	
			<hr/>	310

The results of the tests and vaccinations are sent to the family doctor.

Details as to the general procedure and detailed arrangements for this work will be found in the Report of the School Health Service accompanying this report.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

A limited supply of vaccine became available during the year and on 31st December, 1957, 2,285 children had completed their quota of two injections and there were 1,398 awaiting vaccination (see table below).

Ministry of Health Circular 16/57, which extended the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme, was received in November, 1957, but because consultation had first to be made with the Local Medical Committee, executive action was deferred until early in the new year ; therefore, the detailed report of the response will appear in next year's report.

During the year a syringe service was set up and arrangements made for sterilisation of syringes, needles and dressings, so that each child could be given an injection with a separate dry sterile syringe and needle.

The Local Medical Committee at their meeting in December, 1957, agreed that general medical practitioners should participate in the scheme by undertaking vaccination at their own surgery.

The following are the poliomyelitis vaccination statistics :

Born in the year	One injection	Two injections	Net registrations	Total remaining to be vaccinated
1943	-	-	4	4
1944	-	-	6	6
1945	-	4	16	12
1946	3	8	29	18
1947	61	496	690	133
1948	53	414	583	116
1949	47	411	552	94
1950	29	351	484	104
1951	37	197	353	119
1952	26	153	317	138
1953	24	146	301	131
1954	37	80	262	145
1955	19	11	209	179
1956	8	11	187	168
1957	-	3	34	31
Total ..	344	2285	4027	1398

HEALTH EDUCATION

Members of the health visiting staff gave twelve talks to outside organisations during the year. All the talks were concerned with positive health, and films were shown and demonstrations given to illustrate their subjects.

Special displays in the show cupboards at Child Welfare Centres covered a wide range of subjects including the danger of flies and other household pests, prevention of the spread of infection—especially in the case of tuberculosis, the benefit of Mass X-ray, and the need for more rest.

Displays emphasising the need for accident prevention were shown during periods selected by Home Safety and Road Safety Committees.

SMOKING AND CANCER OF THE LUNG

Ministry of Health Circular 7/57 on the subject of smoking and lung cancer in the light of the report of the Medical Research Council, received full consideration of the Health Committee and the County Borough Council during the summer of 1957. This serious report sparked off a controversy which raised many issues concerning cigarette smoking and created quite a lot of local press publicity. The Council decided by a majority vote to give a lead to the public by having a "no smoking" rule in Committee rooms at the Town Hall and an instruction that no smoking be allowed by Corporation officials when attending to members of the public in public offices of the Municipal Buildings. It was also decided to ask the Watch and Fire Brigade Committee to instruct the Chief Constable to give special attention to the enforcing of Section 7 of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, relating to the sale of cigarettes to persons under sixteen years of age.

Discussion also took place with the Managers of the local cinemas with a view to having "no smoking" sessions during performances, but so far no concrete agreement has been reached.

General publicity has also been arranged, particularly publicity to school children and young people, about the harmful effects of smoking.

The bookmarks produced by the Central Council for Health Education have been given for distribution through the library. It is also pleasing to report that the Local Medical Committee supported the County Borough Council in their action by banning smoking at their meetings, and making a similar recommendation, which was accepted, to the Rotherham Health Executive Council.

A display was shown at Ferham Clinic which depicted the relationship between smoking and lung cancer.

A SURVEY OF THE SMOKING HABITS OF PERSONS DYING FROM LUNG CANCER

An enquiry into the smoking habits of persons who died in 1957 from carcinoma of the lung and had lived in the County Borough was carried out. There were 31 male deaths and the relatives of 25 of them were interviewed. The relatives of the 6 other persons could not be traced. The relatives were asked if the deceased smoked, and if so the type of tobacco smoked, the amount smoked per day and the duration of the habit. A control group of men were also asked the same questions and were chosen by matching their ages with those of the deceased. Amongst those dying from lung cancer 23 were cigarette smokers, one a pipe smoker and one a non-smoker.

It was found that the lung cancer group smoked on the average 110 cigarettes per week whereas amongst the control group the average was 55 cigarettes per week. The period of the smoking habit was also longer on the average for the lung cancer group, i.e. 29 years as against 23 years for the controls.

There were three female deaths from lung cancer, and in view of the small number for the purpose of this enquiry they were ignored.

MOTHER AND BABY CLUB

The Mother and Baby Club was continued until August, 1957. The Club was run on similar lines to previous years, with special film shows and demonstrations. Following the August holiday period and the loss of four health visitors, the Club was held fortnightly instead of weekly, but unfortunately the number of attendances fell and it was felt that a health visitor could be more gainfully occupied. The Club was therefore disbanded in October.

FATHER'S CLUB

One meeting of the Father's Club was held during the year. This was a special meeting and wives were invited, 60 persons attending. Following a discussion, it was decided by the members that shift work and night school sessions absorbed so much time that it would be advisable to disband the club. On occasions prior to this, when members of the staff had given up evenings to attend the Club, only two or three fathers had attended.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service continued to function as a joint service with the Fire Brigade as in previous years and was operated from the Fire Station, Erskine Road, Rotherham, under the direction of the Chief Fire Officer who is also the Director of the Ambulance Service.

No alterations have been made in the arrangements made with neighbouring authorities of the West Riding County Council and the City of Sheffield. The Council also operate the 'knock for knock' arrangements with other authorities who operate the scheme.

The details of cases dealt with and the mileage involved in the year 1957 were as follows :

		Ambulances	Cars	Totals
Cases removed—				
within the Borough	..	5478	19748	25226
other authorities ..	..	650	534	1184
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	6128	20282	26410
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Mileage—				
within the Borough	..	53104	41986	95090
other authorities ..	..	6074	4110	10184
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	59178	46096	105274
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Number of accident and other emergency journeys included in the above				
	.. ..	1528	255	1783

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE.

HOSPITAL LIAISON

INVESTIGATIONS OF HOME CONDITIONS

The following table gives details of the work performed by Health Visitors and Home Help Visitors during the year under the arrangements made with the Rotherham and Mexborough Hospital Management Committee for the furnishing of home reports where necessary for inclusion in the patient's hospital record. Similarly, all discharges from hospital are notified and follow-up visits are paid to the homes of children, old people, and other cases where a request for this has been made :

				Hospital	Number of visits	
					Health Visitors	Home Help Visitors
Visits to hospitals, etc.						
Paediatric clinics and wards	..	..	..	Rotherham Hospital	85	
				Moorgate General Hospital		
Maternity wards	..	..	..	Moorgate General Hospital	89	
Geriatric wards	..	..	..	Moorgate General Hospital		95
				Badsley Moor Lane Hospital		50
				Rotherham Hospital		30
				Rosehill Hospital		1
General wards	..	..	..	Rotherham Hospital	5	
				Moorgate General Hospital		
Chest Clinic	..	..	..		25	
Investigation of home conditions.						
'A' forms for children admitted to hospital and including special reports requested by Paediatrician or Chest Physician from health visitor attending clinic	..	..	..	Moorgate General Hospital	352	
				Rotherham Hospital		
				Oakwood Hall Hospital		
'A' forms for aged sick admitted plus any special reports asked for by Physician				Moorgate General Hospital		358
				Badsley Moor Lane Hospital		23
				Rotherham Hospital		442
Aged persons surveys of home conditions				Moorgate General Hospital		162
for future care	..	..	..	Badsley Moor Lane Hospital		26
				Rotherham Hospital		441
'A' Forms, for aged sick and others	..			Moorgate General Hospital	236	
				Rotherham Hospital		
				Oakwood Hall Hospital		
Tuberculosis survey visits	..	..	..	Oakwood Hall Hospital	62	
Enquiries from almoners of Sheffield hospitals re home conditions	..			Sheffield Royal Hospital	10	6
				Sheffield Royal Infirmary	(all	4
				Sheffield National Centre for Radiotherapy	sources)	53
Reports and social conditions re applications for hospital confinement	..			Moorgate General Hospital	188	
				Listerdale Maternity Home		
				Hallamshire Maternity Home		

Supervisory visits to patients on discharge from hospital

'B' forms and special requests for children	Moorgate General Hospital	}	323
	Rotherham Hospital		
	Oakwood Hall Hospital		
'B' forms and special requests for aged	Moorgate General Hospital		162
	Badsley Moor Lane Hospital		26
	Rotherham Hospital		441
'B' forms and special requests for others including tuberculosis	Moorgate General Hospital	}	44
	Rotherham Hospital		
	Oakwood Hall Hospital		

PAEDIATRIC CLINICS

There is an excellent liaison between the Consultant Paediatrician and the staff of the Health Department. Information concerning and in the interest of the patients is available from both sources. Health visitors attend the clinics at Moorgate General Hospital and Doncaster Gate Hospital each week. Prompt attention is paid to any matter arising on these occasions concerning the welfare of the patients. The number of attendances made by children at these clinics was as follows :

		Moorgate General Hospital	Doncaster Gate Hospital
Clinics visited			
Children attending under 5 years	102	147	
Children attending over 5 years	84	168	

MATERNITY DEPARTMENT, MOORGATE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Regular liaison visits have been made by health visitors to the Maternity Department at Moorgate General Hospital throughout the year.

Number of visits made	38
Number of mothers interviewed	439

THE CHEST CLINIC

Liaison with the Chest Clinic has continued as in previous years, and 147 persons were referred to the Clinic for examination as contacts during the year. Arrangements were made for six infants to be admitted to Oakwood Grange Residential Nursery following B.C.G. vaccination. In each of these cases the baby could not be isolated from possible infection for the required length of time, either in its own home or with suitable relatives.

HOME ACCIDENTS

During 1957 a total of 5,685 accidents occurred in the home and received hospital treatment, as compared with 6,087 in 1956 and 6,787 in 1955. Many of the injuries which were sustained were minor.

Continued publicity has been given concerning the prevention of home accidents. The following table gives the number of persons who were treated for home accidents at Doncaster Gate Hospital during the year :

	Total number of accidents to persons				Number of accidents causing scalds to persons				Number of accidents causing burns to persons			
	Under 5 yrs.	5-64 yrs.	65 yrs. and over	Total	Under 5 yrs.	5-64 yrs.	65 yrs. and over	Total	Under 5 yrs.	5-64 yrs.	65 yrs. and over	Total
January												
1957	60	313	23	396	6	5	0	11	3	4	0	7
1956	46	264	25	335	3	7	0	10	7	4	1	12
February												
1957	42	269	18	329	0	3	0	3	3	1	0	4
1956	30	412	19	461	2	8	0	10	4	4	0	8
March												
1957	84	395	24	503	9	5	0	14	1	7	0	8
1956	86	330	24	440	6	5	0	11	3	2	0	5
April												
1957	82	411	22	515	6	4	2	12	4	7	0	11
1956	82	373	18	473	4	6	0	10	3	1	1	5
May												
1957	91	462	24	577	5	4	0	9	3	4	0	7
1956	99	515	22	636	7	6	1	14	2	5	0	7
June												
1957	113	437	23	573	4	5	0	9	3	6	0	9
1956	70	492	18	580	2	3	0	5	4	5	0	9
July												
1957	92	462	23	577	5	9	0	14	1	10	0	11
1956	92	446	36	574	2	3	0	5	3	4	0	7
August												
1957	90	400	13	503	5	4	0	9	0	5	0	5
1956	108	440	15	563	4	5	0	9	4	4	0	8
September												
1957	71	320	20	411	2	6	1	9	2	2	0	4
1956	96	480	15	591	3	8	0	11	2	8	0	10
October												
1957	52	375	26	453	5	3	1	9	1	8	2	11
1956	82	441	20	543	3	2	0	5	5	7	0	12
November												
1957	66	351	23	440	3	5	0	8	8	11	0	19
1956	44	400	27	471	0	1	0	1	6	13	0	19
December												
1957	53	326	29	408	2	4	1	7	6	5	1	12
1956	39	361	20	420	4	8	2	14	4	3	1	8
Total												
1957	896	4521	268	5685	52	57	5	114	35	70	3	108
1956	874	4954	259	6087	40	62	3	105	47	60	3	110



(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)

HOME HELPS IN TRAINING.



TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 50 new cases of tuberculosis were notified or came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health. 21 persons were examined as contacts at the contact clinic. Persons who failed to keep their appointments were revisited and urged to attend.

In every household where there was a known case of tuberculosis, parents of young children were informed of the benefits of B.C.G. vaccination and 66 children were vaccinated during 1957.

The health visitors paid 491 visits and re-visits to patients during 1957 and made 25 attendances at the Chest Clinic for the purpose of exchanging information regarding cases or contacts of the disease. 77 cases were nursed at home by the Home Nurses, who made 7,521 nursing visits. Details of these cases will be found in the Home Nursing Section of this report. The Home Help Service also contributed their part and 2 cases received 394 hours of service.

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

The work of the Rotherham Tuberculosis Care Committee during the year ended 31st March, 1958, has continued on the lines indicated in previous reports. The area covered by the Committee is that of the Rotherham Chest Clinic area comprising the County Borough of Rotherham and the surrounding West Riding districts of Maltby and the Rawmarsh Urban District Councils and the Rotherham and the Kiveton Park Rural District Councils.

At the annual meeting of the Committee, His Worship the Mayor of Rotherham (Mr. Councillor W. J. Owen, J.P.) accepted the office of President for the ensuing year and Mr. Alderman A. Buxton, J.P., M.R.S.H., and Mr. Councillor A. Wilde were re-appointed Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

The scheme of the care and after-care is operated through the Rotherham Chest Clinic and all recommendations for assistance are made by the Chest Physician. Secretarial assistance and other sundry expenses were provided by the Rotherham Corporation and are given a token value of £40. A grant of £225 was made by the West Riding County Council as their donation towards the year's expenses, and the Rotherham Corporation Sunday Cinema Fund gave £25.

Grants of clothing, bedding, and extra nourishment made to patients amounted to £62 18s. 6d. during the year. The Committee also continued their grant of £3 0s. 0d. a month to the Medical Superintendent of the Oakwood Hall Hospital for the provision of concerts and prizes for whist drives, etc., held at the hospital for the patients, together with a grant of £20 for the provision of extras at Christmas. The scheme of Christmas grants to patients granted leave from hospital was again continued, together with grants to those necessitous patients receiving treatment at the Chest Clinic or in receipt of assistance from the Committee; cash grants up to a

maximum of £2 0s. 0d. each being made. In all 71 grants were made to Rotherham patients and 74 to W.R.C.C. patients ; a grand total of £213 8s. 3d.

Six men were employed under the Car Parks Scheme during the year, four of whom live in Rotherham and two in the West Riding area. Five of these men were employed full time throughout most of the year and one as a relief attendant during holiday and sickness periods. All these men are under the care of the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic and full co-operation is maintained with the Local Rehabilitation Officer of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

The expenditure on the car parks scheme for wages and N.I. contributions was £1,931 10s. 5d.; rent and rates £85 0s. 0d.; electricity and repairs £34 1 9d. ; printing £55 0s. 8d, making a total of £2,105 12s. 10d. The receipts from the Car Parks amounted to £1,794 3s. 4d., leaving a deficit on the year's working of £311 9s. 6d.

At the January meeting the financial state of the car parks was considered and, as a result of the constant loss, the parking fees had to be increased, and the number of attendants reduced to four. The new fees of 6d. for the first two hours plus a further 6d. for periods exceeding two hours came into operation very late in the financial year, namely 10th February, 1958, and there was an immediate increase in the takings. With so many factors to be taken into account a period of at least a full year must elapse before any further comment can be made as to the success or otherwise of this course.

In the rehousing of tuberculous families, the Rotherham Corporation Housing Department rehoused seven families under the special scheme whereby batches of 12 houses are placed from time to time for the priority recommendations of the Chest Physician. A further tenancy was allotted where an additional point has been given on account of infectious tuberculosis in the household. Two patients were rehoused by the Rawmarsh U.D.C. on the reports of the West Riding Divisional Medical Officer, Area No. 26, following the Chest Physician's recommendations. In the West Riding Area No. 31, which includes the Rotherham Rural District, the Maltby Urban District and the Kiveton Park Rural District, two patients were rehoused. The Medical Officer of Health for the Area No. 31 of the W.R.C.C. comments "there is no doubt that the standard of housing of tuberculous families has been greatly improved in the last twelve years."

The Care Committee continued its affiliation to the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, and again participated in the Christmas Seal Sale. The number of seals distributed was 200,000, and it is pleasing to report receipt of £322 17s. 11d. The expenditure in respect of the seals, postages, printing and stationery, amounted to £22 18s. 8d. and in accordance with the seal sale arrangements a donation of five per cent. of the proceeds (£16 2s. 10s.) was remitted to the National Association. This left a net balance of £283 16s. 5d. for the local fund. The thanks of the Committee are expressed to all who purchased seals and made donations, and to the members of the staff of the Health Department who gave their services in this successful effort.

DOMESTIC HELP

The domiciliary care of the elderly is again the main reason for the increased cost of the Home Help Service. 20,307 additional hours help have been given to this group.

The following table gives details of the 812 homes served by the Home Help Service during 1957 :

Type of case	Brought forward from 1956		New cases		Total cases		Total 1957	Total 1956
	Days	Nights	Days	Nights	Days	Nights		
Maternity	8	—	130	—	138	—	138	152
Sick children	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	3
Tuberculosis	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	3
Other sickness	23	—	55	3	78	3	81	92
Old age	363	1	179	24	542	25	567	510
Tired mothers	1	—	6	—	7	—	7	11
Domiciliary crises	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
Evening Service	6	—	8	—	14	—	14	12
	401	1	382	28	783	29	812	783

An analysis of the hours of service rendered by Home Helps during 1957 is given in the following table and, for the purposes of comparison, the corresponding figures for the previous year are given in brackets :

	Day (Hours)	Evening (Hours)	Night (Hours)	Total (Hours)	Decrease (Hours)	Increase (Hours)
Domiciliary	91			91		91
crises	(—)			(—)		
Maternity	12,040 (14,943)			12,040 (14,943)	2,903	—
Sick children	8 (220)		8 (—)	16 (220)	204	—
Tuberculosis	394 (408)			394 (408)	14	—
Other sickness	13,434 (15,266)		154 (—)	13,588 (15,266)	1,678	—
Old age	160,193 (140,758)	1,232 (1,188)	3,384 (2,556)	164,809 (144,502)	—	20,307
Tired mothers	379 (1,362)			379 (1,362)	983	
Washing Centre	2,869 (2,896)			2,869 (2,896)	27	
	189,408 (175,853)	1,232 (1,188)	3,546 (2,556)	194,186 (179,597)	5,809	20,398

EVENING AND NIGHT SERVICES.

There has been an increase in the hours of service given to patients requiring the evening and night services.

The services are used in the main by the elderly. It will be appreciated that the care needed is practical care, not always skilled care, but kindly care, willingly and cheerfully given. The main duties of the evening helper include undressing and helping an old person to bed. During the evening visit, the helper may provide a light meal, or a hot drink, fill a hot water bottle and attend to the patient's toilet.

The duties of the night helper include carrying out the instructions of the General Medical Practitioner, making the patient comfortable, changing sheets, attention to toilet, giving drinks and generally helping as required.

The attention given, is that which might be given by a relative, and is not a substitute for the Home Nursing Service.

These small attentions mean much to the health and happiness of sick, lonely old people, who receive this service.

HOME HELP RECRUITMENT.

The year 1957 has again been an extremely difficult one for recruiting full-time workers.

Part-timers have been called upon to assist during difficult periods. This procedure has enabled the standards of the service to be maintained. There was an increase of 24 home helps employed as compared with the previous year.

Number of home helps employed on 31st December, 1956 ..	164
Number of home helps employed on 31st December, 1957 ..	188

CARE OF THE AGED.

The assistance given by the Home Help Service is gradually becoming a way of life to the elderly sick, and the infirm, and it is well to remember that in a Service endowed by so many complexities the most important thing to the elderly is that which affects their daily lives. There have been many changes in our general concept of giving care to the elderly. Perhaps the most prominent is the fact that our understanding of the personality factors of ageing has deepened. This has affected the way we assist an aged person in planning for themselves to the extent of their mental and physical capacities.

It is interesting to note the number of applications for the care of the aged, which are made directly by some member of the family, usually a close relative like a married son or daughter, stating that the old person involved is ill and could stay in their own home if they had someone to care for them.

The reason given by relatives for not being able to care for the old person is because of their own commitments. This kind of request usually reveals a general problem involving the whole family. A plan is evolved which may or may not include use of the Home Help Service, allowing the family to come to grips with the reality of setting up a system which will best meet the need of the aged parents as well as their own.

Out of this concept is emerging a greater acceptance of self determination of the older people themselves. There is repeated experience of seeing them become much less dependent than they are described to be by their family ; the old people are visited in their own home and it is explained to them how they can use their own capacity. It is not unusual to finally make a plan where the minimum amount of service is given and the old people are able to manage despite their infirmities.

The provision of help for the elderly bedridden and homebound presents the most serious problem to the Home Help Service. Daily help must be provided and the following are the four main groups :

1. Those who are sick, but whose condition is such that they would not benefit from hospital care.
2. Those who are suffering from serious illness, but for whom a hospital bed cannot be found.
3. Those who, whilst not suffering from illness requiring continued medical or nursing care, are suffering from degenerative changes of old age and are incapable of caring for themselves without some daily assistance.
4. Those who refuse to leave their own homes either for hospital or other accommodation.

The above groups, however, do not present the full picture. Continued help must be given to the handicapped, the blind, sick, and the many other categories who come within the limits of this service.

HOSPITAL LIAISON.

Extremely good relationships exist between the hospital staff and this Service. There is a continued volume of work being done for the comfort of the patient both in hospital and in their own homes. The importance of this liaison must not be underestimated. It is most essential to effective domiciliary care and during the period under review all steps have been taken towards strengthening the existing co-operation. The wards at Moorgate General Hospital, Badsley Moor Lane, Doncaster Gate Hospital and Rose Hill Annexe have been visited and valuable information has been exchanged between the staffs of the hospital and this Service to the benefit of the patient. The objects of the liaison are as follows :

1. Priority based upon social ground for those who need admission to hospital.
2. To inform the hospital of home circumstances as a guide when priority for admission and for discharge is considered.
3. To notify the hospital of any change of circumstances to ensure a "live" waiting list.

Geriatrics—work performed by the social workers during the year 1957.

					Doncaster Gate Hospital	Moorgate General Hospital	Badsley Moor Lane Hospital	Rosehill Annexe
Number of visits to hospitals	..	..	..	..	30	95	50	1
Number of interviews in hospital	..	..	..	..	52	49	2	—
Number of home visits	..	..	..	..	442	358	23	—
Number of investigations on home conditions	..	..	..	..	442	358	23	—
Number of cases for supervision of Social Worker on discharge	..	..	..	..	441	162	26	—
Number of home helps arranged for patients on discharge	..	..	..	..	56	53	3	—

Co-operation with the General Practitioner is of vital importance to this work. His advice is sought and willingly given regarding a patient's after-care upon discharge from hospital. During 1957 there has been an increase in the amount of help given by the social workers and fifty visits and reports were made for the Radiotherapy Centre, Sheffield. Arrangements were made for 112 Home Helps to assist with the after-care of patients discharged from hospitals. 2,786 visits and reports have been dealt with during the period under review.

It will be appreciated that hospital care plays a very important part in the monetary budget of the Country. No acute medical hospital bed is available under at least £14 per week and beds for the chronic sick cost at least £10 per week, whilst beds in teaching hospitals cost around £20 per week. Thus big savings are made by the efficient and effective application of the domiciliary team, i.e., General Medical Practitioner, Home Help and Home Nursing Service, which enables patients to be treated and cared for in their own homes.

Assuming that only two-fifths of the cases attended by Home Helps are potentially hospital cases, thousands of pounds each year are saved by applying domiciliary rather than hospital care. For example :

Mrs. A, chronic sick, is cared for in her own home by the above team plus help from relatives. If a hospital bed were available, Mrs. A, rather fears the regimentation necessary in hospital and the need for early rising. She wishes to remain at home where she can "please herself."

Cost to the Local Authority is as follows :

		£	s.	d.
A Home Help working 3 mornings a week 9 a.m. to 12 noon plus 1 hour 5 to 6 p.m.	... .. Cost	2	8	0 per week.
A Home Nurse makes three visits per week	... .. Cost	0	12	6 per week.
		<hr/>		
		£3	0	6

Total expenditure to local authority including travelling expenses	£3	4	0
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Savings are also made in relation to Part III accommodation. Many old people who are awaiting hostel or institutional care are assisted by the Home Help Service. Old people still fear that the accommodation offered is the "workhouse" and prefer to remain in their own homes surrounded by familiar articles of sentimental value which bring memories of happy days. To the old, memories are of extreme importance, and the past grows increasingly dear.

CENTRAL REGISTER FOR THE AGED.

As a result of the hard work done in the past three years in the compilation of the above register, an interesting development has taken place. Old people now call at the Home Help and Social Welfare Office and request their names be added to the register in case they are "poorly" and need help. The function of the register is :

- (a) The collation of all relevant information regarding aged persons.
- (b) To establish priorities (particularly aged persons living alone).
- (c) To determine the course of action, taking into consideration medical and social conditions.

DOMICILIARY MEALS.

The domiciliary meals service has continued to be successful and appreciated. During the year under review 5,751 meals were supplied. All the recipients were most grateful and have commented upon the excellent quality of the meals provided. The administration is as in former years.

WASHING CENTRE.

1957 has been another active year and only two articles (a tea towel and a pillow case) were lost or damaged during the year under review. These articles were replaced from the loans department of the Home Help and Social Welfare Service.

The above Centre removed to new premises in August, 1957, and, since that date, the volume of work has increased by approximately 100 washes per month.

The aims and objects of the service remain as in previous years, to maintain a high degree of efficiency amongst the helpers and a continuance of improved standards within the homes assisted.

MATERNITY.

The period under review shows yet another reduction in the hours of service given. Every endeavour is made by the midwives to prevail upon mothers to call upon the home help service, but many mothers are able to manage with the help of relatives and friends. One reason for this decline could be that charges are made for the Home Help Service and a mother can go into hospital to have her baby free of cost.

SICK CHILDREN.

The night service was called upon to assist with the care of a sick child who was being nursed at home. The help given was very much appreciated by the family who were able to carry on without much disruption of their daily routine.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The assistance given to patients by Home Helps in this group is very important and most appreciated by the patient, who is able to take the necessary rest with the comfort of mind, knowing that the family is being cared for in an efficient manner.

TIRED MOTHERS.

Seven cases were assisted in the past year by Home Helps. The help given was to mothers who were unable to cope with their family responsibilities owing to temporary illness and has been most beneficial both to the mother and the family. There is no doubt that assistance given at the "right time" helps to prevent a more serious breakdown in the health of the mother and maintains the standards within the household.

As the basis of the nation is the family, any means of keeping that family together is of immense value to the community.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

The co-operation between the General Medical Practitioner and the Home Help and Social Welfare Service is essential owing to the many problems surrounding home care.

The General Medical Practitioner appreciates that there is a question of supply and demand and the most effective and convenient usage of helpers must be operated. This has enabled excellent liaison to continue.

HOME SAFETY.

Home Helps play a very responsible part in home safety. Mothers with young families and the aged are educated in the above by practical demonstration. Fire-guards are loaned from this section to help with domiciliary care.

NURSING EQUIPMENT.

Great benefit has been derived by the sick from the use of the following nursing equipment :

Articles								Number Loaned
Rubber Sheets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	284
Draw Sheets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	363
Bed pans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	282
Bottles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	162
Back rests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	223
Air rings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173
Wheel chairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Walking sticks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Bed tables	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Crutches	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Foot splints	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bed cages	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Mattresses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Commodes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Feeding cups	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Sputum mugs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
								<hr/> 1657 <hr/>

BUSINESS MEETINGS.

These meetings are most beneficial to the Organiser and the helpers. They enable problems to be ironed out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

HOME HELP WELFARE—SOCIAL CLUB'S ACTIVITIES.

Children's Outing to Cleethorpes.

Social evenings.

Children's Christmas Party.

Pantomime.

Annual Dinner and Dance.

The above social activities play a valuable part in encouraging esprit de corps amongst the helpers.

Some of the functions were again attended by the Chairman of the Health Committee, Alderman Buxton, J.P., the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Wilde and the Medical Officer of Health. The Children's Christmas Party was a success and the Chairman of the Health Committee acted as Father Christmas.

DOMICILIARY OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY.

It has been possible to provide a Domiciliary Occupational Therapy Service for the elderly and since its inception in November of this year, some results have been achieved. It is of interest to note that the most responsive age group is that of 70 to 80 years, with three volunteers of 91 years.

One hundred and seventeen old people were visited in their own homes and their various views assessed.

Forty-six were eager to accept anything that would keep them occupied. Twenty-seven said they would consider the matter and let the Occupational Therapist know when she made her next visit.

Twenty-three refused, the majority of whom are in the 60 to 70 years old group. Eleven said they would like to do something but had poor eyesight. Ten visits were ineffective.

As the scheme develops, it is hoped to be able to commence a class to attend at the Home Help Washing Centre for mending and repair work, thereby one group of old people will help to maintain the standards of their contemporaries.

MENTAL HEALTH

The lack of accommodation in mental deficiency hospitals continues, and there appears to be little hope of improvement in the near future, particularly for the low grade cot and chair cases. This anomaly is the one disturbing feature of a year of progress in which liaison and co-operation with various services has been maintained and strengthened.

During the year Miss G. Calam, deputy head teacher at the centres for the mentally handicapped, was appointed Mental Health Social Worker, and this has made it possible to give much more attention to cases referred for after-care following discharge from hospital. Mrs. F. Crossley (Assistant Teacher) was appointed to the post vacated by Miss Calam, and Mrs. S. Fowler was appointed to fill the vacancy of teacher in place of Mrs. Crossley. Mr. L. F. Wright (Craftsman), also left the Centre and his place was taken by Mr. A. Schonhut.

Two members of the teaching staff attended a refresher course for teachers of the mentally handicapped.

The Industrial and Occupation Centres have functioned satisfactorily. The charge to pupils for meals supplied at the Industrial Centre has been discontinued. A system of reward has been introduced at the Industrial Centre and each pupil receives 2/6d. per week, subject to deductions for misdemeanours and irregular attendance.

The eagerly awaited report of the Royal Commission on the Law relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency has now been published and it would appear that the aim throughout is to bring the facilities for the care and treatment of the mentally ill into line with those applied to persons suffering from physical illness. Although, in the main, the recommendations propose changes in the law, it is also urged that community care should be greatly expanded and that local authorities should be responsible for all forms of community care, residential and non-residential ; such care to include the provision for training in Occupation and Social Centres for children and adults, with homes and hostels for all the various groups of mentally disordered patients.

In the past, many mental health officers (Duly Authorised) have only been concerned with initiating action in relation to compulsory admission of patients into hospital. If patients are to be admitted in accordance with the recommendations of the report without formality, except for a few cases in which it may be necessary to exercise compulsion, then the mental health officer of the future will be called upon to play a much bigger part in social work and community care. It is no over-statement to describe the recommendations made as revolutionary, but it should be borne in mind that for some time now there has been a tendency to create greater freedom for, and less certification of, those persons suffering from mental illness. The recommendations would entail the complete repeal of the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and the Mental Deficiency Acts and their replacement by a new Act.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-38

The following table gives details of defectives in institutions and on licence at the end of the year :

	Resident		On licence leave	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
St. Catherine's Institution, Doncaster	29	32	1	1
Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	2	1	-	-
Whittington Hall, near Chesterfield	-	4	-	-
Grenoside Hospital, near Sheffield	6	1	1	-
Aston Hall Institute, near Sheffield	-	2	-	-
Wales Court Hospital	-	1	-	-
Rampton Hospital, near Retford	3	-	-	-
Thundercliffe Grange, Rotherham	1	-	-	-
Moss Side, Liverpool	1	-	-	-
Oulton Hall, Leeds	1	-	-	-
Ridgeway Hospital	1	-	-	-
Fir Vale Infirmary, Sheffield	-	1	-	-
Glenfrith Hospital, Leicester	1	-	-	-
The Manor Hospital, Epsom	1	1	-	-
Victoria Hospital, Mansfield	1	-	-	-
Sheffield Girls' Hostel	-	1	-	-
	<u>47</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

The total number of cases 'under order' in institutions shows a decrease of two on the previous year. Four cases—two male and two female—were admitted into institutions during the year. Of this number three were certified under the provisions of Section 5 and one under Section 3 of the Mental Deficiency Acts 1913-38.

Two males and three females were discharged from order during the year and one female died.

Licence leave was granted to two females and three males, but at the end of the year only two males and one female remained on licence.

A survey of the cases awaiting admission into institutions as at 31st December, 1957, shows that 32 cases were awaiting admission. Details of these cases are as follows :

	URGENT				NON-URGENT			
	Under 16		Over 16		Under 16		Over 16	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Cot and Chair	2	3	-	-	-	-	2	-
Ambulant								
Low Grade	3	4	-	1	1	1	10	1
Ambulant								
Medium Grade	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Totals	5	8	-	1	1	3	12	2
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

GUARDIANSHIP.

No change occurred during 1957 in the number of guardianship cases. Three adult female defectives remain with private guardians under the general supervision of the Brighton Society.

ASCERTAINMENT OF DEFECTIVES.

The following cases were ascertained during 1957 :

	Male	Female
(1) Notified by the Local Education Committee		
under Section 57 (3) Education Act 1944	5	1
under Section 57 (5) Education Act 1944	1	7
(2) Other cases reported and ascertained 'Subject to be dealt with'	—	2
(3) Cases ascertained but not 'Subject to be dealt with' ..	3	1
	—	—
Total	9	11
	—	—

Of the 20 cases ascertained, the majority were notified by the Local Education Authority.

SUPERVISION OF DEFECTIVES IN THE COMMUNITY.

The following statistics relate to the number of mental defectives in the various classes who are subject to supervision as at 31st December, 1957 :

	Male	Female
Mental Defectives on Licence from Institutions	2	1
Mental Defectives under Guardianship	—	3
Mental Defectives 'Subject to be dealt with'		
(a) Statutory supervision	63	79
(b) Others	9	18
Mental Defectives not 'Subject to be dealt with'		
(a) Voluntary supervision	22	17
	—	—
Total	96	118
	—	—

With the exception of the three cases under guardianship, the supervision of defectives was carried out by officers of the Mental Health Service. The number of routine visits made during the year totalled 687. In addition many visits were made in connection with patients in institutions, i.e. home circumstance reports for holiday leave, licence and continuation of order. Visits were also made to the local offices of the Ministry of Labour, Ministry of National Insurance, Youth Employment, Industrial and Occupation centres, and the Police Court.

Twenty-six cases granted holiday leave were escorted from and to institutions. Of the cases supervised, five left the area, four were admitted into institutions and five were removed from the register.

SHORT-TERM CARE.

Sixteen cases were admitted into institutions for periods of short term care. Details are as follows :

	Male	Female	Total
Thundercliffe Grange, Rotherham	3	4	7
Grenoside Institution, Sheffield	—	2	2
St. Mary's Hospital, York	1	—	1
Glenfrith Hospital, Leicester	1	—	1
St. Catherine's Hospital, Doncaster	1	3	4
Whittington Hall, Chesterfield	—	1	1
Totals	6	10	16

This is an increase of seven as compared with 1956.

OCCUPATION CENTRE.

At the end of the year twenty-seven pupils were on the register at this centre—twelve males and fifteen females. Attendances for the year totalled 9,562 half days out of a possible 11,260, which was equal to an average attendance of 84.92 per cent. The percentage would undoubtedly have been much higher had it not been for the influenza epidemic during the months of September and October.

For the first year since commencing operations in 1949 the centre was not visited by an inspector of the Board of Control.

INDUSTRIAL CENTRE.

Thirty-four pupils were on the register at the close of the year—fifteen males and nineteen females. Attendances during the year totalled 12,762 half days out of a possible 14,720, giving an average attendance of 86.7 per cent. Like the Occupation Centre, attendances were very much affected by illness during the months of September and October.

A new venture introduced for the first time this year was a competition for the best kitchen garden, the awards being a cup for the winner and a shield for the runner up, plus a monetary prize. This undoubtedly created incentive and enthusiasm. It is hoped that a similar competition with awards will be introduced for the female pupils next year.

It is very encouraging to be able to report the placing of four of the male pupils into suitable employment. This was achieved with the co-operation of the Disablement and Rehabilitation Officer of the Ministry of Labour.

The Open Days for parents and friends were held on the 14th November and 28th November, 1957.

Both functions were extremely well attended. The proceeds of the sale of work on open days amounted to £8 12s. 11d. at the Occupation Centre and £71 15s. 1d. at the Industrial Centre, bringing the total of the sale of goods at both centres for the year to £249 0s. 11d. This is an increase of £104 14s. 10d. on the previous year.

Next year it is intended to place more emphasis on work of a domestic nature, i.e. simple cooking, bed making, mending, darning, etc. This being so, less time will be devoted to the handicraft side. This will obviously result in a reduction in the amount of income derived from the sale of work.

LUNACY ACT 1890 AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACT 1930

The following table gives details of the cases investigated by the Duly Authorised Officers and the resultant action :

Admitted into designated wards under Section 20, Lunacy Act, 1890	81
Admitted under the provisions of Section 16, Lunacy Act, 1890 ..	2
Admitted under the provisions of Section 5, Mental Treatment Act, 1930	—
Admitted under the provisions of Section 1, Mental Treatment Act, 1930	17
Examined under the above provisions and no action taken ..	2
Investigated under the above provisions and no action taken ..	57
	—
Total	159
	—

Of the eighty-one cases admitted into designated wards under the provisions of Section 20, Lunacy Act, 1890, seventy-one were subsequently regraded to voluntary status, two were certified and eight were discharged. Thirty-eight cases were either dealt with or investigated outside normal working hours.

In addition to the hundred cases admitted into hospital by the Duly Authorised Officers, a further seventy voluntary patients were admitted into hospital either direct or through Psychiatric Out-patient Clinics, giving a total of 170 admissions into mental hospitals during the year from within the County Borough of Rotherham.

The number of cases which were investigated by the Duly Authorised Officers shows an increase of thirty-nine as compared with the previous year and the total number of admissions into mental hospitals rose from 110 in 1956 to 170 for the year under review.

OUT-PATIENT CLINICS.

Patients suffering from mild mental disorders are given every encouragement to take full advantage of the facilities available at Out-patient Clinics.

Two clinic sessions are held in Rotherham—at Doncaster Gate Hospital each Monday and the Moorgate General Hospital each Wednesday.

The clinics are extremely well attended and practically all sessions are fully booked. Even so, little difficulty is experienced in obtaining an appointment.

It is felt however that greater use could be made of the Local Health Authority's Mental Health Workers at the clinics. Very often a patient has been seen by the Mental Health Worker prior to a clinical appointment being made and he or she may have some information about the case which would be helpful to the visiting Psychiatrist, and likewise the Psychiatrist may pass on information which may help in the future care of the patient. It is appreciated that the Social Workers attached to the Mental Hospital attend the clinics, taking case history, etc., but it may well be that they are seeing the patient for the first time, whereas the Local Authority's Social Worker has, at the request of the family doctor, visited the patient in the home environment. Under these circumstances some thought might be given to a closer liaison between the Mental Health Workers of this Authority and the visiting Psychiatrists.

AFTER-CARE OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM MENTAL HOSPITALS.

At the commencement of the year 38 cases were on the after-care register. The number of cases referred during the year was 58 as compared with 53 during 1956. The number of visits made in connection with after-care rose from 152 in 1956 to 331 this year, and at the end of the year 77 cases remained on the register.

Much more attention is now being given to after care cases as shown by the increase in the number of visits made and there is no doubt that the engaging of a Mental Health Social Worker has been advantageous.



HOME HELP WASHING CENTRE.

(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)



WELFARE

In accordance with Circular 1/54 of the Ministry of Health dealing with the subjects for inclusion in the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health the following items are included:—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 AND 1951

The Welfare Committee is responsible for the carrying out of the Council's Schemes under the above Act.

A joint sub-committee dealing with the Care of the Aged was formed in March, 1951, with three members each from the Health and the Welfare Committees of the Council. These are the Committee's Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen and one other member from each committee.

BLIND PERSONS

The number of blind persons registered in the Borough at 31st December, 1957, was 237. This was a decrease of 7 from the previous year, and the following table gives details of the age and sex of the cases remaining on the register:—

Age groups	Males	Females	Total
Under 5 years	—	—	—
Over 5 years and under 16 years	2	2	4
Over 16 years and under 20 years	—	2	2
Over 20 years and under 30 years	3	1	4
Over 30 years and under 40 years	7	5	12
Over 40 years and under 50 years	12	10	22
Over 50 years and under 60 years	14	12	26
Over 60 years and under 70 years	19	21	40
Over 70 years	55	72	127
Totals	112	125	237

Details of the employability of the cases aged over 16 years are as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Employed	16	3	19
Trained, but unemployed	2	—	2
Training	—	—	—
Trainable	2	—	2
Unemployable	89	121	210
Totals	109	124	233

The following table gives details of the occupation of the persons employed or trained but unemployed:

Occupation	Employed		Trained, but unemployed	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Basket Makers	2	—	—	—
Braille Copyists	1	—	—	—
Domestic Workers	—	1	—	—
Brush Makers	3	—	2	—
Knitters	—	2	—	—
Labourers	2	—	—	—
Mat Makers	2	—	—	—
Mattress Makers	1	—	—	—
Physiotherapists	1	—	—	—
Piano Tuners	2	—	—	—
Open Employment	1	—	—	—
Poultry Keepers	1	—	—	—
Totals	16	3	2	—

As in past years, each new case is examined by the Consultant Ophthalmologists Miss E. Hatherley or Mr. T. Stafford Maw, and Form B.D.8 completed. Sixty Five reports on this form were received during 1957, 17 were received in respect of persons certified blind, 22 were partially sighted, 9 were re-examined and 17 were found not to be blind.

A study of these reports shows the following conditions obtained:—

Condition	Blind	Partial blindness	Re-examined	Not blind
Aninate Retinopathy	—	—	—	1
Amblyopia	—	—	—	1
Arteriosclerosis	—	1	—	—
Congenital Cataract	—	—	1	—
Cataract Diabetic	1	—	—	—
Cataract	6	6	3	8
Corneal Nebulae	—	1	—	—
Central Colloid Degeneration	1	—	—	—
Choroidal Sclerosis	—	1	—	—
Central Choroido Retinal Degeneration	1	—	—	—
Congenital Nystagmus	—	—	1	—
Choroido Retinal Cataract	—	—	1	—
Corneal Ulceration	—	—	—	1
Exudative Detached Retina	1	—	—	—
Glaucoma	2	3	—	2
Inter Ocular Haemorrhage—partial thrombosis of central vein	1	—	—	—
Interstitial Keratitis	—	1	—	—
Myopia	1	2	—	—
Third Nerve Palsy	—	—	—	1
Optic Atrophy	—	1	1	—
Popilloedema	—	1	—	—
Retinal Vascular Sclerosis	—	1	—	—
Retinal Degeneration	—	1	—	—
Retinal Arterio Sclerosis	—	2	—	—
Retinopathy	—	—	1	—
Senile Macular Degeneration	2	1	—	1
Toxic Amblyopia	1	—	—	—
Thrombosis Central Retinal Vein	—	—	—	1
Vascular Keratitis	—	—	—	1
Lens Sclerosis	—	—	1	—
Totals	17	22	9	17

The following observations are made in amplification of the above table :

ANINATE RETINOPATHY

One case examined and found not blind but requiring hospital supervision.

AMBLYOPIA

One case examined and found not blind and requiring no treatment.

ARTERIO SCLEROSIS

One partially-sighted case requiring medical treatment.

CATARACT

- One diabetic cataract certified blind and not amenable to treatment.
- One partially sighted congenital cataract re-examined and requiring hospital supervision.
- Six blind cataract cases—three not amenable to treatment, one unwilling to undergo operation and two surgical treatment required.
- Six partially sighted cataract cases—three require hospital supervision, one no treatment and two surgical treatment.
- Three cataract cases re-examined—one transferred to blind register, one no treatment, one surgical treatment. All requiring hospital supervision.
- Eight not blind cataract cases—four requiring hospital supervision, one medical treatment, two surgical treatment immediately and one later.

CORNEAL NEBULAE

- One partially sighted requiring hospital supervision.

CHOROIDAL SCLEROSIS

- One partially sighted not amenable to treatment.

CENTRAL CHOROIDO RETINAL DEGENERATION

- One blind not amenable to treatment.

CENTRAL COLLOID DEGENERATION

- One blind not amenable to treatment.

CONGENITAL NYSTAGMUS

- One partially sighted re-examination—not amenable to treatment.

CHOROIDO RETINAL CATARACT

- One partially sighted re-examination—not amenable to treatment.

CORNEAL ULCERATION

- One examined and found not blind and not amenable to treatment.

EXUDATIVE DETACHED RETINA

- One blind not requiring treatment.

GLAUCOMA

- Two blind—one not requiring treatment—one requiring hospital supervision.
- Three partially sighted—all receiving hospital supervision.
- Two not blind—receiving hospital supervision.

INTER OCULAR HAEMORRHAGE—PARTIAL THROMBOSIS OF CENTRAL VEIN

- One partially sighted re-examination—transferred to blind register requiring medical supervision.

INTERSTITIAL KERATITIS

One partially sighted—treatment failed.

MYOPIA

One blind—no treatment recommended.

Two partially sighted—no treatment recommended.

THIRD NERVE PALSY

One not blind requiring hospital supervision.

OPTIC ATROPHY

Two partially sighted—no treatment recommended.

POPILLOEDEMA

One partially sighted requiring medical treatment.

RETINAL VASCULAR SCLEROSIS

One partially sighted requiring hospital supervision.

RETINAL ARTERIO SCLEROSIS

Two partially sighted—require medical treatment.

RETINAL DEGENERATION

One partially sighted requiring medical treatment.

RETINOPATHY

One re-examined—partially sighted requiring medical treatment.

SENILE MACULAR DEGENERATION

One blind not requiring treatment

Two partially sighted not requiring treatment.

One not blind and not requiring treatment.

TOXIC AMBLYOPIA

One blind requiring hospital treatment.

THROMBOSIS CENTRAL RETINAL VEIN

One not blind requiring hospital supervision.

VASCULAR KERATITIS

One not blind requiring hospital supervision.

LENS SCLEROSIS

One partially sighted re-examination requiring medical treatment.

EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS

The following cases of epilepsy are known to the Welfare Department :

INSTITUTIONAL :	Males	Females	Total
“ The Mount,” Rotherham (Part III accommodation)			
Rotherham cases	2	2	4
West Riding cases	1	1	2
David Lewis Colony, Manchester	—	3	3
Maghull Homes, nr. Liverpool ..	1	—	1
AT HOME :			
On Handicapped Persons Register	10	6	16
	—	—	—
	14	12	26
	—	—	—

Eight cases of cerebral palsy are also known to that department, and details of these are as follows :

INSTITUTIONAL :	Males	Females	Total
“ The Mount,” Rotherham (Part III accommodation)			
Rotherham cases	1	—	1
West Riding cases	1	1	2
AT HOME :			
On Handicapped Persons Register	2	3	5
	—	—	—
	4	4	8
	—	—	—

All the cases resident in “The Mount” and at home are under the medical care of their own doctors.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROTHERHAM
(EDUCATION COMMITTEE)



REPORT
OF THE
PRINCIPAL
SCHOOL MEDICAL
OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR
1957

INDEX

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
Abbey Special School	31	Immunisation	28
Attendances	27	Infectious diseases	28
Audiometric testing	18	Medical inspection	12
B.C.G. vaccination	36	Medical treatment	14
Boarded-out children	35	Nursery schools and classes	29
Child guidance service	20	Open air school	33
Children and Young Persons Act	35	Ophthalmic clinic	15
Children's homes	35	Orthopaedic clinic	16
Chiropody clinic	26	Paediatric clinic	14
Clinics and treatment centres	8	Physical condition	12
Clothing	13	Physical education	39
College entrants	35	Physiotherapy	16
Dental service	22	Respiratory diseases	12
Ear, nose, and throat clinic	17	School meals	37
Education Committee	3	School nurses	14
Employment	35	School leavers	35
Eye diseases	13	School premises	34
Footwear	13	Speech defects	32
General statistics	4	Staff	5
Handicapped pupils	29	Statistical tables	43
Heart disease	13	Summary of work	11
Heights and weights	12	Tuberculosis	13
Home tuition	34	Uncleanliness	13
		Vision	13

ROTHERHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(as at 31st December, 1957)

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor W. J. OWEN, J.P.)

Chairman : Councillor M. W. YOUNG

Vice-Chairman : Councillor J. R. MORAN

Alderman G. A. BARKER.

Alderman E. CRUIKSHANKS, J.P.

Alderman F. DUKE, J.P.

Alderman D. J. S. MEADOWS.

Alderman Mrs. F. L. GREEN, J.P.

Alderman Mrs. M. H. MOORHOUSE, J.P.

Alderman F. C. WOFINDEN.

Councillor W. BEEVERS.

Councillor A. E. BRADLEY.

Councillor T. A. COLLEY.

Councillor C. DUFFIELD.

Councillor Mrs. E. McNICHOLAS.

Councillor L. J. TARBIT, J.P.

Councillor A. WILDE.

Councillor P. C. WRIGHT.

Rev. W. DALY.

Miss D. G. DEWAR, B.A., J.P.

Mr. T. W. EDWARDS, J.P.

Rt. Rev. G. V. GERARD, C.B.E.,
M.C., M.A.

Mrs. I. L. HABERSHON,
O.B.E., J.P.

Rev. L. N. HOLDEN.

Director of Education:

R. BLOOMER, B.Com.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

4

STAFF

(as at 31st December, 1957)

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:

R. J. DONALDSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:

J. M. H. HOPPER, M.B., B.S., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health and School Medical Officers:

MARY D. BOYD, M.B., Ch.B.

EVELYN BOSTOCK, M.B., B.S., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

D. P. ADAMS, M.B., Ch.B.

Principal Dental Officer:

H. R. HEALD, L.D.S.

Dental Officers:

JOAN H. EGAN, B.D.S.

G. W. LOWE, L.D.S.

JOYCE STOCKS, L.D.S.

L. F. T. LIANG, L.D.S. (*part-time*).

H. P. REDFEARN, L.D.S. (*part-time*).

Speech Therapist:

ANNE D. M. LEE, L.C.S.T.

Physiotherapist:

P. J. G. NIGHTINGALE, M.C.S.P., (*part time*)

Educational Psychologist:

J. R. GREEN, B.A.

Chiropodist (part-time):

L. ALDAM, M.Ch.S.

CONSULTING STAFF (*part-time*):

Ophthalmology:

T. STAFFORD MAW, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.

FRANZISKA FISCHER, M.D.

Ear, Nose and Throat:

H. M. PETTY, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O.

Psychiatry:

J. D. ORME, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.M.

Orthodontics:

J. H. GARDINER, B.D.S.

Orthopaedics:

H. L. McMULLEN, B.A., M.B., B.Chir., F.R.C.S.

Superintendent Health Visitor:

Miss E. G. TAYLOR.

Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor:

Miss E. KEETON.

Health Visitors/School Nurses:

Miss M. FLEMING.

Miss M. MYERS.

Miss E. M. JEFFS.

Mrs. A. W. HARPER (nee Ritchie)

Miss T. SHANLEY

Miss M. WILLIS.

Mrs. R. McHUGH (*part-time*).

School Nurses:

Miss G. K. CAVE.

Mrs. E. M. CATLEY.

Mrs. N. LLOYD.

Mrs. E. WARD.

Mrs. M. P. PHINN.

Clinic Nurses:

Mrs. E. A. S. HOYLE.

Mrs. G. GILLAM.

Mrs. A. HALE.

Mrs. M. HUNTON.

Mrs. R. JACKSON (*part-time*):

Dental Attendants:

Miss W. HARTE.

Miss M. JONES.

Miss J. BURTOFT.

Miss J. STEVENSON.

Dental Technician:

D. LEE.

Apprentice Dental Technician :

G. CHATTERTON.

Lay Administrative Officer (Health Department):

G. E. WESTBY.

Clerical Staff:

Miss W. M. COOPER (*Senior Clerk*).

Miss D. HIBBERD.

Miss B. MEASURES.

Miss P. W. WOOD.

Mrs. N. ROPER.

Miss P. BONNETT.

Miss N. MALLIN (*Dental Clerk*).

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
ROTHERHAM.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROTHERHAM

I have pleasure in submitting the report of the work done by the School Health Service for the year 1957.

During the year there have been a number of changes of staff, Dr. J. M. H. Hopper replacing Dr. W. J. Connelly as Deputy Principal School Medical Officer and Dr. D. P. Adams replacing Dr. T. M. B. Rohan as School Medical Officer. Mrs. B. Popplewell, Physiotherapist, who commenced duty in February, 1957, relinquished her appointment in August, 1957, and Mr. P. J. G. Nightingale has undertaken the post on a part time basis from December, 1957. Mr. J. R. Green commenced duty as Educational Psychologist in January, 1957.

A change was made in the age for intermediate routine medical inspections from eleven to nine years. This was done because it enabled children to be examined whilst still in the primary school. This change has been a gradual one as the children who had already reached eleven years were also examined and, because of this, the number of routine medical inspections in school was 6,330 in 1957 as compared with 4,615 in 1956.

Last year I commented on the poor response to B.C.G. vaccination amongst the 13 - 14 years age group. During 1957 the percentage of parents giving consent for this vaccination has again fallen very considerably. only 38.2 per cent. agreeing as opposed to 61.6 per cent. in 1956. It is difficult to understand why parents will not accept the opportunity of protecting their children against tuberculosis during their adolescent period. Perhaps one explanation may be that the young ladies and gentlemen of this age have become sufficiently independent "to rebel against the needle." Certainly there is some evidence for this in the fact that when the date on which the B.C.G. vaccination session is known, the absentee rate for that group is high ! ! !

I would like to thank the members of the staff, without whose hard work and diligence this report could not have been written.

The work of the School Health Service depends for its smooth running to a very large degree on the co-operation of the Director of Education and his staff and the teaching staff in schools, and we have had their full support throughout the year.

On behalf of myself and members of the staff of the School Health Service I would like to express thanks to the Chairman and members of the Education Committee.

R. J. DONALDSON,
Principal School Medical Officer.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

The following is a list of the school clinics and treatment centres provided, together with the sessional times:—

Address of clinic and sessions held	Times of sessions
FERHAM HOUSE CLINIC, Kimberworth Road, Rotherham.	
Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.	Mondays to Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon. Medical sessions—Mondays and Fridays.
Ophthalmic.	Specialist's session — Tuesdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Nurses re-inspections—as required, Tuesdays, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m.
Ear, nose and throat.	Specialist's session—Tuesdays, 11.30 a.m. to 1.0 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions — Mondays to Fridays, 2.0 to 5.30 p.m.
Dental.	Mondays to Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2.0 to 5.30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon.
Child guidance.	Psychiatrist—Tuesdays, 2.0 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Educational Psychologist—Tuesdays, 2.0 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Additional sessions arranged as required.
Chiropody.	Alternate Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Speech therapy.	Mondays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. Tuesdays, 1.45 p.m. to 5.0 p.m. Wednesdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. and 1.45 p.m. to 5.0 p.m. Fridays, 1.45 p.m. to 5.0 p.m.
Physiotherapy.	Wednesdays, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Thursdays, 9.0 a.m. to 10.0 a.m. Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.
Immunisation.	Tuesdays, 2.0 to 4.15 p.m.
CRANWORTH ROAD CLINIC, Cranworth Road, Rotherham.	
Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.	Mondays to Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon. Medical sessions—Mondays and Fridays.
Orthopaedic.	Specialist's session—alternate Wednesdays, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

Address of clinic and sessions held	Times of sessions
Ophthalmic.	Specialist's session — Saturdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon. Nurses re-inspections—as required.
Physiotherapy.	Mondays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Tuesdays, 9.0 a.m. to 10.0 a.m. Wednesdays, 9.0 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Fridays, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Ear, nose and throat.	Specialist's session—Fridays, 10.45 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions — Mondays to Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon.
Dental.	Mondays to Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2.0 to 5.30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon.
Chiropody.	Alternate Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Speech therapy.	Thursdays, 1.45 to 5.0 p.m.
Immunisation.	Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.15 p.m.

THORPE HESLEY CLINIC,
Thorpe Hesley Primary School,
Upper Wortley Road, Rotherham.

Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.	Medical sessions — 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions —Fridays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.
Immunisation.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m.
Speech Therapy.	Fridays, 10.15 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.

GREASBROUGH CLINIC,
Public Hall, Greasbrough,
Rotherham.

Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.	Medical sessions—1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the month, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions —Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.
Immunisation.	1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the month, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m.

BLACKBURN CLINIC,
Blackburn Primary School,
Baring Road,
Blackburn, Rotherham.

Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.	Medical Sessions—2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions—Wednesdays, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m.
Immunisation.	2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month, 2.0 to 5.0 p.m.

Address of clinic and sessions held	Times of sessions
<p>HIGH GREAVE CLINIC, High Greave Primary School, High Greave Road, East Herringthorpe, Rotherham.</p> <p>Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.</p>	<p>Nurses treatment sessions—Mondays and Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon.</p>
<p>NEWMAN OPEN AIR SCHOOL, Whiston, Rotherham.</p> <p>Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment. Immunisation. Physiotherapy.</p>	<p>Medical sessions—Thursdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions—Mondays to Fridays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon and 1.30 to 4.0 p.m. As required—at medical sessions. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.</p>
<p>ABBEY SPECIAL SCHOOL, Junior Department, Scholes, Rotherham</p> <p>Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.</p>	<p>Medical sessions—alternate Thursdays 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions—Mondays, 9.30 a.m. to 12.0 noon.</p>
<p>Senior Department, Kimberworth, Rotherham.</p> <p>Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment.</p>	<p>Medical sessions—alternate Thursdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions—Tuesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.</p>
<p>REDScope CLINIC, Redscope Primary School, Kimberworth Park Road, Rotherham.</p> <p>Minor ailment, general inspection and treatment. Immunisation.</p>	<p>Medical sessions—Wednesdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Nurses treatment sessions—Wednesdays, 9.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. As required—at medical sessions.</p>

SUMMARY OF WORK

A. Medical Officers at schools :								
Routine inspections in schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,132
Special inspections in schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	116
Re-inspections in schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,512
B. Medical Officers at clinics :								
Routine inspections of children's homes and boarded-out children	..	..						198
Inspections at clinics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,704
Re-inspection at clinics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,004
Inspections under employment of children byelaws	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	153
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	306
C. Specialists at clinics :								
Special inspections at clinics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,058
Re-inspection at clinics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,822
D. Dental Officers :								
Routine inspections at schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,738
Special inspections (school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	766
Special inspections (non-school cases)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	606
Attendances for treatment (school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,353
Attendances for treatment (non-school cases)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,477
E. School Nurses :								
Visits to schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,172
Examinations for cleanliness in schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47,186
Visits to homes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	786
Treatment of minor ailments in clinics (school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,278
							(pre-school children)	171
Treatment of aural defects in clinics (school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,116
							(pre-school children)	76
F. Speech Therapist :								
Treatments for speech training (school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,299
G. Chiropodist :								
Attendances for treatment (school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	847
							(pre-school children)	7

MEDICAL INSPECTION

During 1957, routine medical examinations were carried out in respect of 6,330 children compared with 4,615 children in 1956.

Special and re-inspections totalled 20,216 against 20,864 in 1956.

These figures include children in the children's homes and boarded-out children.

FINDINGS AT MEDICAL INSPECTION PHYSICAL CONDITION

The following table shows the classifications of children at the routine examinations.

No. of children examined		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1957	6,330	98·93	1·07
1956	4,615	99·09	0·91

HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

Random test samples of 50 children inspected at the larger schools and the actual number (if under 50 children inspected) at the other schools, revealed the following average heights and weights. Comparative figures are given for 1956.

Group			Entrants		Intermediates				Leavers	
					Age 9		Age 11			
			Height ins.	Weight lbs.	Height ins.	Weight lbs.	Height ins.	Weight lbs.	Height ins.	Weight lbs.
Boys—	1957	.. ..	42·92	43·32	52·35	65·97	56·43	82·79	63·12	113·72
	1956	.. ..	42·98	44·23	—	—	55·75	80·99	63·75	107·90
Girls	1957	.. ..	43·40	43·12	47·29	64·96	57·15	90·05	62·16	115·28
	1956	.. ..	42·75	43·11	—	—	56·42	81·56	61·72	107·75

UNCLEANLINESS

The number of children found with vermin and/or nits during the year was 207 compared with 329 in 1956.

97 children were cleansed at the clinics compared with 66 in 1956.

VISUAL DEFECTS AND EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES

The ophthalmic and minor ailment clinics cater for the above conditions. Figures are given on page 15. Vision tests were carried out on 1024 seven-year-old children, 34 of whom were referred for treatment and 108 kept under observation.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS

Details are given on pages 17-19. Special and minor ailments clinics deal with these conditions.

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

Twenty-two sessions were held in Rotherham by the Orthopaedic Consultant. Further particulars are given on page 16.

HEART DISEASE

123 children suspected of suffering from heart disease were examined during the year compared with 107 in 1956.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Chest Consultant examined 32 school children during the year, four of whom were referred by school medical officers. One case of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during 1957.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

One case of poor footwear only was reported during the year. In 1956 no cases of poor footwear or clothing were reported.

DUTIES OF SCHOOL NURSES

A summary of the work of the school nurses is given below :

Number of visits paid to schools :								
Cleanliness inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	421
Other purposes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	751
Number of examinations of children for cleanliness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47,186
Number of children found with nits and/or verminous head	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	207
Number of examinations of such children	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,151
Numbers of verminous children cleansed at the clinic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	97
Number of visits paid to homes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	786
Number of treatments of minor ailments at clinics								
(school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,278
(pre-school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	171
Number of treatments of aural cases at clinics								
(school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,116
(pre-school children)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76

MEDICAL TREATMENT

MINOR AILMENTS

A total of 4,922 minor ailments were dealt with during 1957, the figure for 1956 being 5,233.

SCABIES

No cases of scabies were reported in 1957. The figure being 2 in 1956.

RINGWORM

No cases of ringworm of the scalp or body were found in 1957. In 1956 one case of ringworm of the scalp and 4 cases of ringworm of the body were treated.

PAEDIATRIC CLINIC

As stated in previous reports, children are referred direct to the hospital for examination and reports are received from the Consultant Paediatrician on all children seen by him. This arrangement continues very satisfactorily.



PHYSIOTHERAPY SESSION.

(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)



OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

Eighty-eight sessions were held during the year by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

The appended tables give an analysis of the work :

	Refractions		Re-inspections
	Cases	Spectacles prescribed	
School children	845	746	1449
Pre-school children	25	18	172
Totals	870	764	1621

The conditions found at the examinations were as follows :

	School children	Pre-school children
Emmetropia	55	—
Hypermetropia	312	6
Hypermetropic astigmatism	344	12
Myopia	400	5
Myopic astigmatism	59	5
Mixed astigmatism	101	6
Concomitant strabismus	81	29
Nebulae	1	—
Cataract	1	—
Nystagmus	5	2
Referred for squint operation	29	1
Choroidal defects	2	—
Albinoism with nystagmus	2	—
Coloboma	2	—

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

INSPECTIONS BY THE ORTHOPAEDIC CONSULTANT.

Twenty-two sessions were held by the Orthopaedic Consultant during the year.

Details are given below :

					First inspections	Total inspections
School children	..	..	..	..	113	297
Pre-school children	..	..	..	..	24	53
Total					<u>137</u>	<u>350</u>

TREATMENT BY PHYSIOTHERAPIST.

The total number of attendances during the year was 1,569.

Reason for attendance					School children	Pre-school children
Remedial exercises	..	..	..		1137	—
Massage	..	..	..	..	202	—
Radiant heat	..	..	..	..	61	—
Breathing exercises	..	..	..		65	26
Sunlight	..	..	..	..	62	12
Other purposes	..	..	..	..	4	—
Total	..	..	..	..	1531	38

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC

The work of the clinic is summarised in the following tables :

		Ferham House	Cranworth Road	Total
1—Number of new cases examined by Aural Surgeon	..	354	391	745
2—Number of cases receiving treatment on 31/12/56 who continued treatment in 1957	.. .. .	63	40	103
3—Number of attendances made by cases in :				
(a) Head 1	.. .. .	2706	2437	5143
(b) Head 2	.. .. .	543	601	1144
4—Number of Aural Surgeon's subsequent inspections :				
(a) Head 1	.. .. .	665	687	1352
(b) Head 2	.. .. .	362	191	553

Particulars of the conditions found and treated at the clinics are given in the following table :

		Ferham House	Cranworth Road	Total
Number of children who attended	.. .. .	417	431	848
Ear conditions—Suppurative	.. .. .	193	144	337
(a) Cured	.. .. .	151	91	242
(b) Improved	.. .. .	42	53	95
(c) Continuing treatment	.. .. .	42	53	95
Non-suppurative	.. .. .	64	101	165
(a) Cured	.. .. .	38	63	101
(b) Improved	.. .. .	26	38	64
(c) Continuing treatment	.. .. .	26	38	64
Nose conditions	.. .. .	30	50	80
Throat conditions :				
(a) Tonsils and adenoids advised operation	.. .. .	53	47	100
(b) Tonsils only advised operation	.. .. .	15	14	29
(c) Adenoids only advised operation	.. .. .	8	12	20

AUDIOMETRIC TESTING

The aural nurse examines the hearing of all children in school at the ages of 8 and 11 years with 2121 electric audiometer.

Eight-year-old children found to be deaf at the first test are re-tested to eliminate such factors as novelty, lack of concentration and nervousness.

Number tested	Deaf 1st test	Number re-testeded	Total number deaf
2,546	240	174	114

Of the children tested the following analysis is made :

Group A	(-3 to 6 decibels)	..	..	..	4961	Normal ears.
Group B	(9 to 18 decibels)	..	..	..	102	Slightly deaf ears.
Group C	(21 to 30 decibels)	..	..	..	29	Partially deaf ears.
Total					5092	

A further analysis is made of children with defective hearing in both ears :

Group B	..	..	..	..	..	..	17 children
Group c	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 children

TREATMENT

Children found to have defective hearing by the electric and pure tone audiometer are examined by the Aural Surgeon.

The results of such examinations are shown as follows :

							Ferham House	Cranworth Road	Total
Children examined by Aural Surgeon	..	..	..	..	..	..	228	240	468
Defects :									
Chronic rhinitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	11	35
Chronic suppurative otitis media	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
Acute suppurative otitis media	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10	20
Mild eustachian catarrh	..	..	..	..	..	..	113	139	252
Catarrhal otitis media	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	36	59
Wax	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	14	33
Foreign bodies	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	5	9
Referred for removal of tonsils and adenoids	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	3	17
Referred for removal of adenoids only	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6	9
Nerve deafness	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	-	4
Referred for submucous resection	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
Referred for intranasal antrostomy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Referred for removal of tonsils only	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	7
No diagnosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	6	13
Aural polypus	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2

These defects were treated and the children who were found to be deaf were re-examined for hearing loss.

The following table shows the result of treatment of children found to be deaf :

Number of children re-tested with electric audometer after treatment	..	..	385
Number of children cured of deafness by treatment	..	..	291
Number of children with improved hearing after treatment	..	..	91
Number of children showing no improvement and recommended hearing aids	..		3

OPERATIVE WORK OF THE SURGEON

Number operated upon	131
----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Operations performed :

(a) Tonsils and adenoids removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84
(b) Adenoids only removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
(c) Tonsils only removed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
(d) Dissection of tonsil remains	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(e) Dissection of tonsil and adenoid remains				..	..	..	..	1
(f) Bilateral intranasal antrostomy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(g) Right or left intranasal antrostomy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(h) Intranasal antrostomy and tonsils and adenoids	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
(i) Intranasal antrostomy and adenoids	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
(j) Intranasal antrostomy and adenoid remains				..	..	..	..	1
(k) Aural granulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(l) Submucous resection, intranasal antrostomy and exploration of nasal pharynx								1
(m) Submucous resection and intranasal antrostomy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(n) Radical mastoidectomy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
(o) Submucous resection and plastic to vestibule	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(p) Intranasal antrostomy and exploration nasal pharynx	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

REPORT OF THE CONSULTANT PSYCHIATRIST.

The work of the clinic this year has been carried out by the Psychiatrist, the newly appointed Educational Psychologist and by health visitors. Over the last six months the Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor has been acting as social worker and has made a most useful contribution to the team work. The Educational Psychologist has strengthened the connections between schools and the clinic, so that an atmosphere of working together has developed in many cases. Discussions with school medical officers over various problems, informally and at a more formal meeting, have been of great value.

New cases : 39 were dealt with by the full team, mostly referred from schools either through the school medical officers or through the Educational Psychologist. An appreciable number were referred by general practitioners or by other consultants, while a small number originated from probation officers and the Children's Officer.

The most common reason for referral is "nervousness" in the usual sense of the word, but as fear may equally well produce an aggressive reaction in children of slightly different personality it is extremely difficult to classify the various cases. Bad relationships with the parents in early years are frequently the most important factor in making unstable children, especially when they have been separated from their parents during those years—the child being placed in a children's home, being in hospital or handed round to relatives.

Special handicaps of one sort or another may be the focus of difficult behaviour and it is most important to ensure that the handicap is not masking the ability to develop better. For this purpose special intelligence and aptitude tests are devised and many of these have now been acquired for the use of the Educational Psychologist. As a result it is possible to assess the capabilities of any child from the age of two years upwards and also those suffering from any type of physical handicap.

It is apparent that the clinic is not yet being used to help children who are showing the first signs of maladjustment. Only two pre-school children were referred but practically all the children seen were showing signs of maladjustment in their behaviour before reaching school age. It is axiomatic in any work with children that the earlier the diagnosis can be made the easier is treatment. It is hoped that better use will be made of the clinic in future.

Treatment : On an average there are about 40 cases under treatment at any time, about half of which are being seen every week by one member of the team or another. The remainder at less frequent intervals and a number just for supervision purposes only.

The facilities for treatment have been extended by new equipment in the playroom, while the new room available for the Psychiatrist has further increased the scope.

All members of the team have taken part; each one seeing some children and some parents as appropriate to the various cases. It is always necessary for the parents to take part in treatment as so frequently their attitudes are having a disturbing effect on the children. It is unfortunate that in some cases the time available for this has been very limited and it is in this setting that there is great need for a Psychiatric Social Worker who can spend considerable time giving help to the parents in their own homes.

Where there has been failure in treatment it has usually been because of inability to make adequate contact with the parents. There is, of course, very great shortage of trained psychiatric social workers but it is hoped that this gap in the team will eventually be closed.

In some cases where clinic treatment has not been adequate it is necessary to recommend residential treatment and this has been done in two cases this year. One boy recommended in 1956 has been seen during the holidays and contact is kept with the hostel in which he is placed ; it is good to be able to report that he is progressing satisfactorily as is another boy placed during this year. One girl has been recommended but not yet placed in a hostel.

On the educational side of treatment, remedial teaching has been carried out with many children who have not been able to make full use of schooling because of their emotional difficulties. Recommendations of change of school has been made in five cases and the Newman Open Air School, with its smaller and less formal classes, has been very helpful for some of these children.

The following table gives the figures for the year :

Number of new cases seen in 1957	..	..	..	..	..	39
Number of cases on waiting list 1.1.57	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of cases on waiting list 31.12.57	..	..	..	..	..	9
Number of cases discharged	..	..	..	..	..	29
Number of cases taken on for regular treatment	..	..	..	..	..	28
Number of cases recommended for residential treatment	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of cases recommended for change of school	..	..	..	..	..	5

DENTAL SERVICE

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL DENTAL OFFICER.

During the year there have been staff changes ; Miss J. Stocks commenced full time duties on April 1st, 1957, and Mr. Leeson finished part-time sessions on May 6th, 1957. The strength at December 31st, 1957, was therefore four full-time and two part-time dentists or the equivalent of four and nine elevenths full-time dentists, which is an increase of six elevenths from December, 1956, and of one and eight elevenths from December, 1954.

During the year 4,747 children were treated in the clinics out of 8,297 who were referred for treatment at the school inspections—this being just over 57 per cent. Of the 11,504 inspected during the year, 8,297 were advised to get treatment or around 72 per cent. Very few departments did not have a routine dental inspection in the year and these will be seen in January, 1958, so that every child is examined at least once in thirteen months—quite a number who change their school during the year are seen twice. The number of those children who attend the clinics for routine six-monthly examinations continues to increase. As has been pointed out before, the effective school year, so far as dental inspections are concerned, is about eight months, although the clinics themselves are open throughout the year with the exception of Saturday afternoons, Sundays and the statutory Bank Holidays. Indeed during August there were 818 attendances made for dental treatment and it is found that many children prefer to attend during the holidays “so that they don’t miss school.”

The number of children for whom orthodontic treatment has been started or continued during 1957 is 552 which is quite an appreciable percentage of the school population and is largely due to the too early loss of milk teeth. A great deal can be and is done for these children who develop irregular teeth but the essential factor to success is the co-operation of the patient. An appliance which is only worn occasionally is probably a bigger detriment than benefit, but the percentage who discontinue treatment on their own initiative, is slowly decreasing as the knowledge of what can be achieved becomes more widely known. The details of the orthodontic work done are shown in appended tables and while the improvement attained can be gauged from the plaster models of each patient at different stages of treatment, I hope in the near future to get 35 millimeter colour films of at least the outstanding cases. These, of course, only show the teeth and would not infringe on anybody’s individual rights, about which one has to be so careful nowadays, even at the expense of progress.

Last year it was pointed out that fluoridation of public water supplies up to 1 part per million is beneficial to the calcification of the teeth and so would decrease the amount of decay in teeth. There is however, some opposition to this measure, even from quarters which one would expect to be up to date scientifically and one



(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)

THE DENTAL LABORATORY.



wonders if their motives as well as their reasoning should not be carefully re-examined. Perhaps when fluoridation *is* instituted we shall find that those people who are now obstructing its introduction, will be claiming that they have brought about this public health measure to improve dental, and hence, general health.

The proportion of treatment to inspection sessions was 19 : 1 while 818 x-ray films were taken for 423 children and 37 x-rays for 31 maternity patients.

It has been mentioned in the report on the dental treatment for the child welfare and maternity patients that a crisis as regards dental manpower of the professional as a whole may well arise after July 1st, 1958, when the dentists who entered the National Health Service in July, 1948, and have reached the age of 60 years since then, become eligible for a pension. The effects of any shortage of dentists which may occur will no doubt have repercussions in the public dental service, though I hope that these ill-effects will be at a minimum in Rotherham and other areas where the Local Authority have made every effort to provide a complete and comprehensive service. It has been suggested that if the school dental service were run on a regional basis the salary and working conditions could be "organised" so that staff would be more attracted to the service than at present. These suggestions are usually made by areas which at present are not too happy, so that it would seem more sensible for the larger areas to extend their decentralisation and thus gain the personal touch which after all is a great thing in dental treatment. This may well account for the successful running of a small local authority dental scheme with fixed clinics which are open eleven half-days a week throughout the year.

During October two members of the dental staff, Miss Egan and myself attended a refresher course in London. This was concentrated into six lectures on a Friday afternoon and all day Saturday, but I am sure that the expense and time involved will have beneficial effects on our future work. Similarly in visiting the annual British Dental Association conference one has the opportunity of comparing notes with dentists employed by other authorities and picking up odd bits of information regarding materials, techniques, supply firms, etc., which may be useful back in one's own area. The implementation of any major changes brought about in a Local Authority's dental service depends upon the Committee and I would like to thank the Chairman and Members for the keen interest and sympathetic consideration they always give to dental matters.

The following table shows the details of the treatment given at the different clinics :

Clinic	Total attendances	No. of individuals treated	Extractions		Fillings				Anaesthetics		Other operations	No. of patients supplied with dentures
					Perm. teeth		Temp. teeth					
			Perm. teeth	Temp. teeth	No. of fillings	No. of teeth filled	No. of fillings	No. of teeth filled	Local	General		
Cranworth Road ..	6299	2250	2044	3094	2067	1660	40	36	520	2212	2217	75
Ferham House	8531	3103	2645	4018	2210	1846	37	33	644	2586	4255	171
Total 1957 ..	14830	5353	4689	7112	4277	3506	77	69	1164	4798	6472	246
Total 1956 ..	13719	5516	4192	8340	3715	3101	106	99	1146	5058	6122	243

The following table gives details of treatment for the different groups of patients :

Group	Total attendances	No. of individuals treated	Extractions		Fillings				Anaesthetics		Other operations	No. of patients supplied with dentures
					Perm. teeth		Temp. teeth		Local	General		
			Perm. teeth	Temp. teeth	No. of fillings	No. of teeth filled	No. of fillings	No. of teeth filled				
School children..	13353	4747	3343	6441	4106	3357	59	54	1093	4268	5712	109
Pre-school children..	394	289	-	671	-	-	18	15	-	295	83	8
Maternity ..	1083	317	1346	-	171	149	-	-	71	235	677	129
Total 1957..	14830	5353	4689	7112	4277	3506	77	69	1164	4798	6472	246
Total 1956..	13719	5516	4192	8340	3715	3101	106	99	1146	5058	6122	243

The following table gives the details of the work done in the dental laboratory :

Technician's half-day sessions	..	..	..	..	..	496		
Apprentice technician's half-day sessions	..	..	..	..	..	269		
Full upper and lower dentures	..	..	..	Maternity	..	112		
				Pre-school	..	2		
				Schools	..	6		
Full upper and part lower dentures	..	..	..	Maternity	..	26		
				Pre-school	..	2		
				School	..	2		
Full upper or full lower dentures	..	..	..	Maternity	..	10		
Part upper and part lower dentures	..	..	..	Maternity	..	30		
				Pre-school	..	2		
				Schools	..	6		
Part dentures	..	..	..	..	Maternity	..	34	
				..	Pre-school	..	5	
				..	Schools	..	102	
Relines and repairs to dentures	..	..	..	Maternity	..	16		
				Schools	..	39		
Jacket or post crowns	..	..	..	..	Maternity	..	1	
				..	Schools	..	24	
Inlays	..	..	..	..	..	Schools	..	6
No. of orthodontic patients	..	..	..	..	..	Schools	..	552
No. of orthodontic appliances made (fixed and removable)	..	..	..	..	..	Schools	..	477
No. of orthodontic appliances repaired	..	..	..	..	..	Schools	..	61
No. of study models made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	317
Fixed appliances	—Johnson twin arch			..	..	..	..	4
	Lower lingual bow			..	..	..	..	14
	Local pin and tube			..	..	..	..	14
	Edgewise arch			..	..	..	..	2
Removable appliances	—Oral screen			..	..	..	..	3
	Schwartz plate			..	..	..	..	114
	Propulsor			..	..	..	..	26
	Norwegian plate			..	..	..	..	6
	Tongue barrier plate			..	..	..	..	6
	Baddock expansion plate			..	..	..	..	30
	Finger spring plate			..	..	..	..	40
	Rat trap plate			..	..	..	..	92
	Canine spring retraction plate			..	..	..	..	56
	Canine screw retraction plate			..	..	..	..	7
	Inclined planes			..	..	..	..	7
	Sved plates			..	..	..	..	2
	Space maintainers			..	..	..	..	9
	Retention plates			..	..	..	..	19
	Hickory peg plates			..	..	..	..	10
	Lateral arm plates			..	..	..	..	7
	Labial arch wire plates			..	..	..	..	3
	Bite plane plates			..	..	..	..	5
	Cast, cap, lingal arch			..	..	..	..	1

CHIROPODY CLINIC

REPORT OF THE CHIROPODIST.

Fifty-two sessions were held during the year and a total of 847 treatments were given to 441 school children. As in previous years all cases were referred by school medical officers from school medical inspections or from minor ailment clinics.

Verrucae accounted for 359 cases with an average of 2.01 treatments per cure.

Forty-nine children with corns on the feet attended and were cured. By the early treatment of corns in young people, usually one treatment is sufficient to ensure complete enucleation, the cause often being from such a simple thing as a creased sock or shoe lining.

In cases of flexed toes parents were given advice on how to prevent this condition and were recommended to ensure that footwear provided ample room for growth. Advice was also given on the correct method for cutting toe nails as most of the conditions affecting the nail plates are caused by incorrect cutting—often by the children themselves and this is a procedure that parents should never permit.

Very few children attended with unsuitable footwear and guidance in such matters was given when necessary.

The appended table gives an analysis of the work :

Defects	School children		Pre-school children	
	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances
Verrucae	359	737	—	—
Helomata	49	68	—	—
Nail conditions	9	12	6	7
Callosities	5	5	—	—
Hallux valgus	3	6	—	—
Flexed digits	6	8	—	—
Bursitis	3	3	—	—
Hyperhidrosis	1	2	—	—
Miscellaneous	6	6	—	—
Total	441	847	6	7



(Photo : "The Star," Sheffield.)

A PICTURE WITH A STORY.

CLINIC SUMMARY

The following table summarises the work done at the several school clinics during the year :—

Work undertaken	Ferham House		Cranworth Road		Thorpe Hesley		Greasbrough		Newman Open Air School		Blackburn		Abbey Special School		High Greave Road		Redscope School		Totals					
	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Attendances	Cases	Non-School cases	School cases	Cases	Attendances	All cases
Minor ailment and general	2078	6979	3081	6837	159	459	11	19	655	3569	95	437	99	345	393	2018	186	202	6704	20694	53	171	6757	20865
Orthopaedic	23	372	292	1350	-	-	-	-	11	197	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	302	1828	24	91	326	1919
Ophthalmic	492	1391	378	1100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	845	2294	25	197	870	2491
Ear, nose and throat	452	4369	455	3972	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	848	8192	59	149	907	8341
Dental ..	3103	8531	2250	6299	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4747	13353	606	1477	5353	14830
Child guidance	119	929	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	684	57	245	119	929
Chiropody	252	468	195	386	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	441	847	6	7	447	854
Speech therapy	124	1666	52	604	7	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	183	2299	-	-	183	2299
Employment	89	89	65	65	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	157	157	-	-	157	157
Total	6732	24794	6768	20613	166	488	11	19	667	3767	95	437	101	347	393	2018	186	202	14289	50348	830	2337	15119	52685

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND IMMUNISATION

The appended table gives the numbers of the common infectious diseases in children between the age of 5 and under 15 years and shows the quarterly distribution of the cases. The totals for all ages are also given.

Disease	Cases occurring in 1957				Total 1957	Total all ages 1957
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter		
Acute encephalitis :						
Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis :						
Paralytic	-	-	1	-	1	9
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	246	63	3	1	313	547
Encephalitis lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	9
Measles	32	342	123	2	499	1173
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	1	2	32
Scarlet fever	39	9	8	8	64	100
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	3
Whooping cough	16	29	11	-	56	129
Tuberculosis :						
Respiratory	-	-	1	-	1	39
Other forms	-	-	-	-	-	4

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year, 107 school children received primary immunisation and 547 received booster injections.

At the end of the year 10,914 children between the ages of 5-14 years had been immunised. Of these, 5,772 had been immunised or received booster doses during the past five years.

No case of diphtheria has been reported in the County Borough since March, 1952.

NURSERY SCHOOLS AND CLASSES

No new nursery school or class was opened during the year.

Number of visits paid to nursery school and classes .. .. .	..	..	..	57
			Boys	Girls
Number of examinations of children for cleanliness .. .. .	..	..	1161	1158
Number of new children found with verminous heads .. .. .	..	..	2	2
Number of examinations of children with verminous head .. .. .	..	..	2	2
Number of new children found with nits .. .. .	..	..	10	15
Number of examinations of children with nits .. .. .	..	..	14	34
Number of children referred to minor ailment clinics .. .. .	..	..	8	6

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The ascertainment and care of the handicapped children residing within the County Borough continues within the framework of the Education Act, 1944, and the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953.

The following table shows the number of handicapped pupils of the various categories on the register at 31st December, 1957 :

	In Residential Special Schools	In Day Special Schools	In Ordinary Day Schools	Not at school	Total
Blind	4 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (2)	4 (4)
Partially sighted	- (-)	7 (6)	- (1)	- (-)	7 (7)
Deaf	8 (9)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	8 (9)
Partially deaf	1 (2)	- (-)	4 (2)	- (-)	5 (4)
Educationally sub-normal	3 (4)	123 (111)	95 (82)	- (-)	221 (197)
Epileptic	- (-)	3 (2)	3 (-)	- (-)	6 (2)
Maladjusted	2 (-)	- (-)	1 (3)	- (-)	3 (3)
Physically handicapped	6 (6)	32 (31)	3 (3)	4 (6)	45 (46)
Speech defects	- (-)	- (-)	93 (70)	- (-)	93 (70)
Delicate	- (-)	125 (121)	17 (-)	- (-)	142 (121)
Multiple defects	2 (1)	5 (6)	1 (-)	- (-)	8 (7)

The figures in brackets indicate the number on the register at 31st December, 1956.

BLIND PUPILS.

One boy was admitted to the Sheffield School for Blind Children in September, 1957, making a total of three boys in attendance at the end of the year. One girl was admitted to the Sunshine Home for Blind Children, Southport, in February, 1957.

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

One partially sighted boy was admitted to the Newman Open Air School during 1957, the total number of partially sighted pupils now in attendance at that school is seven.

DEAF PUPILS.

One girl left the Yorkshire Residential School for the Deaf, Doncaster, in April, 1957, on attaining the age of 16 years. One boy was admitted to the school in September, 1957, the number of pupils still in attendance therefore remains the same, seven.

One boy left the Maud Maxfield Special School for the Deaf, Sheffield, in December, 1957, on attaining the age of 16 years. One girl continues to attend this school.

PARTIALLY DEAF PUPILS.

One boy remains at the Yorkshire Residential School for the Deaf, Doncaster, one girl having left in December, 1957, at 16 years of age.

One boy was admitted to Bridge House School for Deaf and Partially Deaf Educationally Subnormal Children, Harewood, in September, 1957.

EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL PUPILS.

As in previous years, children brought forward by Head Teachers and School Medical Officers as requiring ascertainment, together with those recommended for review, were examined during the year, 93 such children were examined and the following recommendations made :

	1957	1956
Special residential school	2	—
Special day school	21	18
Special class for retarded pupils in ordinary day school	11	22
Further observation in ordinary day school	19	31
Remain at special day school	7	7
Reported to Local Authority as ineducable	6	12
Reported to Local Authority as requiring statutory supervision after leaving school	8	11
Examined prior to leaving special day school—no supervision required	11	11
Recommended for transfer from special day school to ordinary school	1	1
Referred to Child Guidance Clinic	5	1
Referred to Educational Psychologist	1	—
Recommended for Open Air School	1	—

One boy left the Rossington Hall Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils, Rossington, Nr. Doncaster, in August, 1957, at the age of 16 years. One boy still remains at the school. One boy remains at the Howard Home Special School, Bedford, and one girl at the Thingwall School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils, Liverpool.

ABBEY DAY SCHOOL FOR EDUCATIONALLY SUBNORMAL PUPILS

During 1957 there were twenty-five new admittances to the school. Four boys and five girls were admitted to the senior department and eleven boys and five girls to the junior department.

A total of twenty-three children left the school during the year. One boy and eight girls left on reaching the age limit of 16 years. Of these, four girls were notified under Section 57(5) of the Education Act, 1944.

Four children were allowed to leave at 15 years of age as they were considered to have reached their capacity for formal education. Two of these, girls, were notified under Section 57(5) of the Education Act, 1944.

Three boys and one girl, after a trial period at the school, were considered to be ineducable and were notified under Section 57(3) of the Education Act, 1944.

Two boys and two girls left the school on leaving the district.

One boy was admitted to a residential school and one boy was transferred to a secondary modern school.

The health of the children remains satisfactory, no case of serious illness being reported during the year. The children, particularly those in the junior department, who on admission were in poor health or emotionally disturbed, have shown a marked improvement in health and social adjustment.

EPILEPTIC PUPILS.

One girl was admitted to the Newman Open Air School during 1957.

MALADJUSTED PUPILS.

One boy was admitted to Holyrood Hostel, Northampton, in February, 1957.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The following children continue to attend residential schools :

One girl at Welburn Hall School, Kirbymoorside.

One girl at Hesley Hall School, Tickhill.

One girl at Staplefield Place School, Haywards Heath.

One girl at St. Rose's R.C. School, Stroud.

One girl was transferred from Hesley Hall School, Tickhill, to Halliwick Cripples School, London, in early January, 1958.

Two boys at Ian Tetley School, Killinghall, Harrogate.

PUPILS SUFFERING FROM SPEECH DEFECT.

A survey of speech defective children in Rotherham revealed that a considerable number had retarded speech, parallel with a general retardation in education. Mental retardation obviously effects the development of speech but it was significant that, lack of family interest and a poor environment had contributed considerably to, if not actually caused, retardation.

Remedial work with such children is lengthy and, too often, the parents were unable or unwilling to co-operate. It is however a sphere of work which is worthwhile. It was therefore decided to try experimental groups of such children, treating them in the schools where the numbers justified this. The teaching staff of the schools have been most co-operative and as a result the experiment is proving successful.

Again, this year's figures reveal the inter-action between emotional and speech disturbances and the staff of the Child Guidance Clinic has been most helpful in giving advice.

A number of children were referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Department for treatment. The co-operation of this department throughout the year has also proved invaluable.

The transference of the Doncaster children to a newly appointed Speech Therapist for Doncaster County Borough, has left time to deal exclusively with Rotherham children.

CASES AND ATTENDANCES.

Total number of cases treated	..	..	..	..	..	183
Total number of cases discharged	..	..	..	..	..	93
Total number of cases on review list	..	..	..	..	..	19
Total number of cases referred	..	..	..	..	..	75
Total number of attendances made	..	..	..	..	..	2299

DETAILS OF DISCHARGES.

Number maximum improvement	..	..	..	..	11
Number cured	..	..	..	..	40
Number left district	..	..	..	..	3
Number transferred to Doncaster	..	..	..	..	27
Number for whom treatment was considered unnecessary	..	..	..	..	6
Number discharged through lack of co-operation	..	..	..	..	6
Total					93

CLASSIFICATION OF DEFECTS TREATED.

Stammer	31
Spastic dysarthia	2
Extra-pyramidal dysarthia	2
Developmental dysarthia	5
Retarded speech development—	
(a) associated with emotional disturbance	29
(b) associated with mental retardation and poor environment	55
(c) associated with hearing deficiency	3
Structural defects—	
Guttural sigmatism	4
Lateral sigmatism	11
Nasal sigmatism	2
Interdental sigmatism	19
Cleft palate	8
Hyper-nasality	8
Hypo-nasality	4
Total	183

CASES REFERRED FOR OTHER TREATMENT.

Child guidance	3
Orthodontic	4
Ear, nose and throat	8
Plastic surgery	1

NEWMAN OPEN AIR SCHOOL

The following table records details of admissions and discharges during 1957 :

	Epileptic		Delicate		Physically handic'ped		Partially sighted		Partially deaf		Mala-djusted		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
On register 1st January, 1957	—	2	70	52	15	13	4	2	—	—	—	—	158
Admitted 1957	—	1	24	24	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	57
Discharged 1957	—	—	24	20	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	47
Remaining on registrar at year end	—	3	70	56	17	15	5	2	—	—	—	—	168
On waiting list at year end ..	2	1	13	4	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	24
Ascertained in 1957	2	2	37	28	4	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	78

Following the inauguration of the class for children in the 6 - 7 year old age group in 1956, a class for 5 year old children was started in January, 1957, thus closing the gap which existed for education of the handicapped child in a day open air school in the borough.

The total number of pupils in attendance at the school during the year has risen and at the end of the year there were 168 children at the school and 24 on the waiting list. The overall attendance rate for the year being 80.5 per cent.

Of the 78 children ascertained in 1956 as being suitable to attend the school, 85 per cent. were placed in the category of the delicate child, 9 per cent were physically handicapped, 5 per cent. were epileptic and other defects accounted for 1 per cent. In 1956 of the 21 pupils ascertained, 50 per cent. were delicate and 38 per cent. physically handicapped. This illustrates that there is a relative increase in delicate children to physically handicapped children attending the school.

Games, physical training and swimming continue to play a necessary part in the life of the school. Only 9.4 per cent. of the school population are unable to take part in any form of physical exercise.

Physiotherapy classes for eleven physically handicapped children which were commenced in February were discontinued in August on the resignation of the physiotherapist. These were resumed again in December on the appointment of a part time physiotherapist.

Eighty pupils receive instruction in the correct method of breathing from the schools' physical training instructor. This is considered one of the major factors in helping children with chest diseases to help themselves overcome their disability.

As well as her clinic duties, the school nurse continues to form a necessary link between the school and the pupils' homes, especially in the case of the delicate pupil.

Academically it would be of benefit to the pupils if they were to work the same hours of those of an ordinary school, otherwise they will still remain handicapped academically relative to the pupil in the ordinary school.

HOME TUITION

One child, suffering from congenital heart disease, was receiving home tuition at the end of the year.

SCHOOL PREMISES

No new schools were opened during 1957.

CHILDREN'S HOMES AND BOARDED OUT CHILDREN

MEDICAL RESPONSIBILITY.

As stated in previous reports, all children are medically examined by a school medical officer on admission and discharge to and from the Children's Homes. A certificate of fitness is issued to the Children's Officer in respect of any child who is to be boarded-out. A private medical practitioner continues to be responsible for the general medical services in respect of all the children.

One hundred and sixty children were seen during the year for periodic medical inspection and 177 examinations were made. Treatment and tonics were advised where necessary.

Five children were admitted to hospital during the year for various complaints. Two to the Moorgate General Hospital, Rotherham, two to Lodge Moor Infectious Diseases Hospital, Sheffield, and one to Oakwood Hall Hospital, Rotherham.

The general health of the children continues to be satisfactory.

BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN.

Thirty-eight boarded-out children were examined during 1957 and 42 examinations made. Defects found were accorded appropriate treatment and tonics prescribed where necessary.

MISCELLANEOUS MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT

Thirteen children were examined during the year prior to admission to a remand home or approved school.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

During the year 144 boys and 10 girls were granted certificates of fitness for employment. The figures for 1956 were 132 and 4 respectively. Three boys were examined and found to be unsuitable for employment.

Two girls were granted certificates of fitness to take part in stage entertainments compared with 9 girls in 1956.

COLLEGE ENTRANTS

During the year forty-six candidates for admission to various training colleges were examined by school medical officers. All candidates were found to be medically fit for admission.

SCHOOL LEAVERS

As stated in last year's report, a precis of school medical history is sent, with the co-operation of the Health Executive Council, to the family doctor in respect of each child about to leave school. During 1957, a total of 1,120 such reports were issued.

B.C.G. VACCINATION

The scheme for vaccination by B.C.G. (bacillus of Calmette and Guerin) is offered to school children in the penultimate school leaving year. Satisfactory vaccination by this method will lower the chance of tuberculosis developing in this age group, which in the next five to ten years will be as prone, or more prone, than any other age group to suffer from this disease.

The technique used for vaccination requires a preliminary Mantoux test which is read four days later. Children who show a negative result to this test are then vaccinated with B.C.G. Children showing a positive reaction to the Mantoux test do not require B.C.G. vaccination but are recommended to attend for X-ray when the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit visit Rotherham.

A third visit is paid to the school approximately eight weeks later and the children who had B.C.G. vaccination are given a further Mantoux test to estimate the conversion rate from Mantoux negative to Mantoux positive.

The acceptance rate in 1957 for vaccination in this age group was 38.2 per cent as opposed to 61.1 per cent. in 1956.

The following statement gives details of the testing and vaccinations performed during 1957.

Total number in age group	..	..	..	..	..	..	1255
Total number of children for whom consent to vaccination was obtained	..	..	..	..	..	..	479
Number of children tested and found positive	..	..	..	..	..	..	169
Number of children tested and found negative	..	..	..	..	..	..	310
Number vaccinated	..	..	..	..	..	..	310
Number re-tested	..	..	..	..	..	..	145
Number of children found Mantoux positive..	..	..	..	..	..	..	133
Number of children found Mantoux negative	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Number of children re-vaccinated	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Conversion rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	91.7 per cent.

With the co-operation of the Head Teachers and their staffs, this scheme was carried out effectively with as little interruption to the work of the school programme as possible.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

ORGANISER OF SCHOOL MEALS : MISS N. TAYLOR.

The following summary gives the number of dinners paid and free served during the year 1957 :

1957 Quarter	Children paid	Children free	Teachers paid	Teachers free	School helpers	Kitchen staff
Jan. — March	272,278	29,426	11,982	6,424	7,607	6,391
April — June	202,714	26,534	9,572	5,663	6,700	5,488
July — Sept.	153,093	18,083	7,642	4,498	5,232	4,199
Oct. — Dec.	267,661	26,928	12,536	6,298	6,858	6,043
	897,746	100,971	41,732	22,881	26,397	22,121

Total number of meals supplied—1957—1,111,848

Total number of meals supplied—1956—1,263,553

The increased price of the school dinner in September, 1956, did not appear to effect the numbers until the Summer Term, 1957, when there was a big drop in the number of meals served each day. Over the year the figures show a decrease of 100,000 meals.

The percentage of school children having dinners daily for one term :

1957	Average school attendance per day	Average number of meals per day	Percentage
September	11,595	4,739	40.9
October	14,045	5,836	41.6
November	14,298	5,992	41.9
December	13,937	5,866	42.1
Average	13,469	5,608	41.6

The economy drive last year curbed any new building programme for this year. The prefabricated kitchen dining rooms were given a new face—formica in pastel colours now cover the serving benches. This means such serving conditions bring them more into line with the new Food Regulations, 1955.

New sterilising sinks were installed during the year at the following kitchens :

1. Herringthorpe Primary School kitchen.
2. Badsley Moor Lane School kitchen.
3. Washing up facilities were improved at the Doncaster Road Primary School.

NEW PROJECTS.

During the course of next year adaptations will be made at the Thorpe Hesley Primary School. We hope by the Autumn Term to have a kitchen and dining rooms ready for use. This I feel sure will be greatly appreciated, for it is a long way to have to send container meals.

CONTAINER MEALS.

In spite of having fifteen kitchens to cope with school meals, we still send out one-third of the total number of meals in containers. There are still twenty-four departments receiving container meals.

STAFFING.

During the Summer Term the kitchen staff at The High School for Girls were reorganised. The results of these changes are gratifying.

Five staff appointments were created this year. The following schools have a Cook-Supervisor on staff grade in charge of the kitchen. They are the Grammar School, the High School for Girls, Oakwood Technical High School, Thornhill Primary School and Canklow Cooking Centre.

Three cooks gained the City and Guilds Institute Certificate for Cooking. Ten of the kitchen staff have commenced a two-year course studying Institutional Catering and at the end of this course they take the City and Guilds Institutional Examination.

FOOD HABITS.

There just is not any accounting for food habits of modern children. As far as I can judge, infant children are the most easily satisfied. They sit down and "tuck in" to a school meal with the obvious enjoyment expected of a healthy child. The likes and dislikes of senior girls appear to be part of the growing-up process. Senior boys are not difficult to satisfy—quantity appears to be their main source of worry !

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ORGANISER : MISS G. ELSWORTH.

The retirement of Mr. J. Longstaff, M.A., in December, 1956, left a vacancy on the Organising Staff which has not been filled and has resulted in a limitation of the work being carried out.

(A) PHYSICAL TRAINING IN SCHOOLS.

The children in all schools received instruction in physical training, playground activities and games. Where facilities permitted, movement training, dancing, field games and athletics were also included.

The increase in numbers at Redscope Infant and Junior Schools limited work to outdoor activities, fortunately during the summer months. The amalgamation of the Junior Boys' and Girls' Departments of the Doncaster Road School in September, allowed rooms to be freed both here and in the Infants' School for use as a hall, so permitting of indoor work. Further additions of portable agility apparatus in primary schools were made, thus stressing that some indoor work is essential to a balanced programme, especially in the winter months. It was found possible to complete the provision of locker accommodation for physical education clothing at Kimberworth Boys', South Grove Boys' and Spurley Hey Girls' Schools and to make part provision at Park Street school.

(B) ORGANISED GAMES AND ATHLETICS.

Continued use was made of all the usual playing areas in the Borough which are suitable and available to the schools.

It was particularly gratifying to regain the use of Red House ground, for the last 4 months of the year, after a lapse of many years. This ground provides useful accommodation, in a congested area, for play during school hours as well as for representative games under the auspices of the Rotherham Schools' Athletic Association. By agreement with the authorities of St. Paul's Church, provision for Redscope Junior School was allowed on their playing field until such time as the school field is ready. Additional use was made of Broom Valley School field to accommodate the Oakwood Girls' School.

On the other hand, the pitches used by Meadow Hall Road Junior School were lost temporarily, as the area forms part of the site of a new school on which work began in November. Also creating an immediate domestic problem, is the work of draining and re-seeding part of the Spurley Hey Boys' field, which was started in November.

The work on Oakwood Technical High School (Girls') Field and the extension area for the Grammar School was completed in the early autumn, but only time will tell how favourable are the results.

(C) SWIMMING.

Main Street Baths were used to capacity throughout the year but it was unfortunate that use of the Sheffield Road Baths was curtailed by the unavoidable delay in the opening date.

A warm welcome was extended to the new Baths Superintendent, Mr. J. A. King, whose interest and co-operation was so evident at all the summer events.

It was pleasing to hear of more requests for after school sessions, particularly by the Girls' Secondary Schools and noteworthy that it was found possible to appoint the Woman Instructress to assist at these times. This additional practice time helps to alleviate the over-crowding caused by the increased number of pupils in the Secondary Schools.

Awards (1.9.56—31.7.57)					Boys	Girls	Total
Swimming certificates	..	..	..	..	947	764	1,711
Royal Life Saving Society	..	..	..	..	581	265	846
Free passes	..	..	..	..	226	148	374
R.S.A.A. Award of Merit	..	..	..	..	—	10	10

Particular mention must be made of the awards gained by the Spurley Hey Girls' School during this year, both of the R.L.S.S. and the R.S.A.A.

(D) ADDITIONAL PREMISES.

(1) Brinsworth Street Gymnasium.

The College of Technology (Commerce Department) and St. Bede's R.C. School (Senior Department) continued regular classes in this hall. It was unfortunate that lack of a suitably trained member of staff denied to the students of the College Mining Department, the physical training recognised as a necessary feature of their course. Badminton and physical training classes took place here in the evenings.

(2) Westgate Hall.

Alma Road Primary Girls' School continued their use of this hall until the autumn, when the increased volume of traffic along Sheffield Road, with its consequent dangers, caused other accommodation to be sought. Full use was made for dancing and badminton in the evenings.

(3) Church Halls.

(a) Victoria Hall.

The Infant and Junior Departments of St. Bede's R.C. School continued to make good use of this hall, since it affords their only indoor accommodation.

(b) Down Row Hall.

South Grove Secondary Girls' School continued to take regular classes in this hall during the early part of the year. Later Alma Road Primary Girls' School and South Grove Secondary Boys' School took dancing and games training classes here.

(c) Parish Church Hall (Lower Room).

It was latterly found more advantageous for South Grove Secondary Girls' School to take their classes in this hall.

(4) Oakwood Technical High School Gymnasia.

Both gymnasia were used for evening classes for women, girls and boys, though premises so far out of the town were not altogether popular.

(E) COURSES.

Basic Movement — A four session course held in May for primary school teachers drew an average attendance of 19.

Games training in the Junior School — Two demonstration classes followed by discussions held in October were well attended. The average attendance was 32.

Cricket — The Indoor Cricket Coaching Scheme, under the direction of the two coaches, Mr. C. Lee (Derbyshire) and Mr. J. Hemsell, was continued during the Spring Term, but lack of support prevented it being reformed for the Autumn Term.

Details of three courses arranged by the South Yorkshire Physical Education Association were circulated to schools and youth clubs and attracted support from both. The courses were :

(a) Day Course—March. Advanced swimming and diving.

(b) Week-end course—April. Outdoor pursuits, including climbing, caving, canoeing or fell walking.

(c) Evening course—October. Netball training.

(F) CAMPS AND SCHOOL JOURNEYS.

The range of interests explored in school camps and journeys continues to be extended each year.

The Easter Vacation Work Study Courses arranged by the High School for Girls, whose party again visited the Field Studies Centre at Seahouses, and the Grammar School for Boys, whose Geographical Society this year visited Scotland, are now a regular feature. Geographical field work was also undertaken in Snowdonia and the Craven district of Yorkshire by parties from the High School for Girls. Parties from other Secondary and Primary Schools went on sight-seeing tours to France, Holland, Germany and London.

Standing canvas camps were arranged by three Secondary Schools, the High School for Girls in North Wales, Oakwood Technical High School for Boys in Scotland and Park Street Secondary School (Boys) in Derbyshire. Conditions were fortunately more favourable this year.

Period holidays of a recreational nature have also been arranged by Secondary Schools in North Yorkshire, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.

Day journeys of scientific interest have been made by parties from Boys' Secondary Schools to the South Kensington Science Museum and journeys of historical and geographical interest have been undertaken by Primary and Secondary Schools. Parties were also taken to see the York Festival Mystery Plays and the Sadlers' Wells Theatre Ballet.

(G) YOUTH COMMITTEE.

The programme of activities in football, badminton, table tennis, athletics, cricket and rounders continued in the usual pattern of individual championship, league and friendly matches.

The year opened on a high note when the Youth Club's Badminton Team won the final of the Y.Y.O.S.A. Competition in January. The 1957/58 team has already won a place in the final round of the same competition.

Interest in athletics was extended to inter-club competitions and the revival of the Youth Clubs' Athletic Meeting, from the results of which a team of boys was entered for the Y.Y.O.S.A. Competition and gained one 1st, two 2nd, a 3rd and three 4th places. The meeting was held in Rotherham and we were pleased to welcome the members of the association on this occasion.

Better use was made of the Oakwood Tennis Courts, particularly early in the season. Unfortunately, the annual cricket and tennis matches against Doncaster had to be cancelled because of rain.

The swimming session at Main Street Baths continues to attract only a small number of regular members. The mixed team entered for the Y.Y.O.S.A. Swimming Gala, held in Leeds, did us credit, gaining two 1st and three 2nd places and being placed second in the final team placings.

(H) ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

This year again, excellent work in all branches of sport was reported and this association expresses its appreciation of the support and help given by the Education Committee.

Competitions in football, athletics, cricket and swimming were successfully completed, whilst rallies and friendly matches in netball, hockey and rounders have been enjoyed.

Details of outstanding honours gained are as follows :

<i>Football</i>	County cap and English trialist : P. Hibbert.
<i>Rugby</i>	County caps : D. Long, A. James. English reserve : D. Long.
<i>Athletics. County honours</i>	Junior : C. A. Moss.
<i>Cricket</i>	County cap : R. Earnshaw.



THE SPEECH THERAPIST AT WORK.

(Photo : Wrigleys, Rotherham.)



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1957

TABLE I

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

(A) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections in the prescribed groups :

Entrants	1032
Second age group	3463
Third age group	1054

Total 5549

Number of other periodic inspections 781

Grand total 6330

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS :

Number of special inspections	8878
Number of re-inspections	11338

Total 20216

(C) PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT :

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PUPILS FOUND AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTION TO
REQUIRE TREATMENT (excluding dental diseases and infestation with vermin) :

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table III	Total individual pupils
Entrants	13	80	91
Second age group	160	161	302
Third age group	49	33	80
Total (prescribed groups) ..	222	274	473
Other periodic inspections ..	42	113	146
Grand Total	264	387	619

D—CLASSIFICATION OF THE PHYSICAL CONDITIONS OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age groups	Number of pupils inspected	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
Entrants	1032	1027	99·52	5	0·48
Second age group ...	3463	3429	99·02	34	0·98
Third age group ...	1054	1044	99·05	10	0·95
Other periodic inspections	781	762	97·57	19	2·43
Total	6330	6262	98·93	68	1·07

TABLE II.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

Total number of examinations in the school by the school nurses or other authorised persons	47186
Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	207
Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	168
Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	39

TABLE III.

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER, 1957.

A—PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.

Defect or disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS				TOTAL (including all other age groups inspected)	
	Entrants		Leavers		Requiring treatment	Requiring observation
	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation		
Skin	4	26	10	29	65	181
Eyes—Vision	13	47	49	189	264	896
Squint	7	24	—	11	13	96
Other	5	6	1	3	16	37
Ears—Hearing	8	10	3	4	22	34
Otitis media	2	15	2	5	14	65
Other	1	4	1	3	11	25
Nose and throat	34	180	4	54	105	622
Speech	9	18	1	2	13	56
Lymphatic glands	9	97	—	40	11	489
Heart	—	12	—	11	1	85
Lungs	5	44	—	16	11	177
Developmental—						
Hernia	4	8	—	—	4	16
Other	2	38	1	7	13	159
Orthopaedic—						
Posture	—	5	1	17	19	72
Feet	4	41	1	26	43	248
Other	1	29	4	41	20	253
Nervous system—						
Epilepsy	—	4	—	1	2	22
Other	1	19	1	13	10	130
Psychological—						
Development	1	7	—	3	3	40
Stability	—	3	—	2	3	26
Abdomen	—	11	1	1	5	53
Other	4	29	5	16	44	177

B—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

Defect or Disease	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation
Skin	1884	99
Eyes—Vision	339	506
Squint	14	56
Other	379	38
Ears—Hearing	84	57
Otitis media... ..	12	9
Other	241	53
Nose and throat	523	561
Speech	175	62
Lymphatic glands	27	182
Heart	1	36
Lungs	32	99
Developmental—		
Hernia	--	10
Other		64
Orthopaedic—		
Posture	5	4
Feet	37	41
Other	65	73
Nervous system—		
Epilepsy	—	9
Other	20	117
Psychological—		
Development	5	37
Stability	4	12
Abdomen	13	34
Other	2544	603

TABLE IV

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
(including Special Schools).

GROUP 1.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases dealt with	
	by the Authority	otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ..	368	12
Errors of refraction (including squint)	—	845
Total	368	857
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were :		
Prescribed	—	748

GROUP 2—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Received operative treatment :		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	5
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	119
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	30
Received other forms of treatment	594	75
Total	594	229
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids—		
(a) in 1957	—	3
(b) in previous years	—	3

GROUP 3—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	by the Authority	otherwise
Number of children known to have been treated at clinics or out-patient departments	79	113

GROUP 4.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table II)

							Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority
Ringworm : (1) Scalp	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
(2) Body	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Other skin diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	1679
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	1731

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

Number of pupils treated at child guidance clinics under arrangements made by the Authority				62
--	----	----	----	--	--	--	----

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY

Number of pupils treated by speech therapist under arrangements made by the Authority				183
--	----	----	----	--	--	--	-----

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

Number of cases of miscellaneous minor ailments treated by the Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	2229
Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	..	..	..	..	..	..	166
Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	..	..	..	..	..	..	310
Other treatments :							
Enlarged glands	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Rheumatism	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Foot conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	111
General condition	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Nervous condition	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	2858

TABLE V

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY
THE AUTHORITY

Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's dental officers :

Periodic inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10738
Specials	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	766
								Total	11504
Number found to require treatment			..	..	..	..	..	..	9532
Number offered treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8297
Number actually treated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4747
Attendances made by pupils for treatment			..	..	..	..	..	..	13353
Half-days devoted to inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1727
								Total	1816
Fillings : Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4106
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
								Total	4165
Number of teeth filled : Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3357
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
								Total	3411
Extractions : Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3343
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6441
								Total	9784
Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4268

Orthodontics :

(a) Cases commenced during the year	..	..	..	..	..	335
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	..	..	..	..	..	217
(c) Cases completed during the year	..	..	..	..	..	127
(d) Cases discontinued during the year	..	..	..	..	..	108
(e) Pupils treated with appliances	..	..	..	..	..	353
(f) Removable appliances fitted	..	..	..	..	..	443
(g) Fixed appliances fitted	..	..	..	..	..	34
(h) Total attendances	..	..	..	..	..	3295

Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures	109
--	----	----	----	----	-----

Other operations :

Permanent teeth ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2152
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Total								<u>2417</u>

IN RETROSPECT

by GEORGE E. WESTBY, Lay Administrative Officer.

As one who has been employed in the Health Department for the last 45 years, I feel honoured by being asked to make this personal contribution to the Annual Report.

Rotherham, in 1907, was a town of 60,000 inhabitants whose livelihood was mainly dependent upon the iron and steel works and the collieries in the neighbourhood. It was a typical northern industrial town with its long rows of terrace houses, many of which remain in the older parts of the town today. Few houses had baths and many of the backyards had only the minimum of paving. Each yard had its privy middens and ashpits which had to be emptied by gangs of night-soil men. The water carriage system was slowly extending with the conversion of privies into waterclosets, and sanitary dustbins were replacing ashpits. The rate of conversion was slow and Dr. Robinson, whose appointment as Medical Officer of Health was made full-time in 1907, said that it would take fifteen years to complete at the then current rate of progress.

Public Health work, at that time, was chiefly concerned with the protection of the general public from those unfortunate people who contracted one of the many infectious diseases so prevalent in those days. The Health Department's main asset was a new infectious diseases hospital, opened in 1905, which replaced an old corrugated iron structure. Tuberculosis was made voluntarily notifiable in the County Borough in 1906—nearly seven years before the operation of the 1912 Tuberculosis Regulations which made the disease compulsorily notifiable throughout the country.

A modern refuse destructor was built in 1908, one of the bye-products of which was the supply of steam to the adjoining Electricity Works of the Corporation in Rawmarsh Road.

In 1905 the first health visitor was appointed and shortly afterwards a Voluntary Health Association was formed. One of the aims was to prevent infantile mortality which, in Rotherham at that time, was equal to one baby dying, before its first birthday, out of every seven born.

In 1908 Dr. Robinson was appointed School Medical Officer and medical inspections in schools commenced. The first school nurse was appointed in 1912.

The causes of the high infantile mortality rate were being investigated and infant feeding, the health of the mother, and her employment in industry during pregnancy, were all matters for enquiry and education. A second health visitor was appointed in 1909 to assist in the attack on infant mortality. The following year, a weekly weighing session for infants was commenced in the office used by the health visitors. Thus, by encouraging mothers to bring their children to be weighed, the trained health visitor was able to give them useful advice, and so the first child welfare sessions commenced in the County Borough. Writing of the state of knowledge of many of the young mothers of those days Dr. Robinson said :

" . . . a young mother does not know by experience what to do with her baby ; how to feed it, how to clothe it, even how to handle it. She is also often ignorant of the general laws of health and sanitation ; a breach of which is so much more fatal to the sensitive organism of an infant than to a grown person . . . the mother turns for advice and help perhaps to the baby's grandmother, perhaps to the neighbours. Amongst these, fortunately she finds wisdom, experience and knowledge, but she is often quite as ready to adopt the suggestions of the woman who has had so much experience of illness : 'she has buried seven out of her nine,' as of the capable mother who has never lost a child. She is, moreover, seldom content with the advice of one friend, and experiments with half-a-dozen remedies in rapid succession upon her unlucky infant, 'in the multitude of councillors there is wisdom' is her motto . . . On the other hand, she may be equally shy : she may even be suspicious ; she may resent 'ladies interference' ; or she may simply ignore it ; she will very likely think their doctrines about open windows, woollen clothing, the boiling of feeding bottles and the careful keeping of milk 'just ladies fads', and 'all very well for the likes of them, but no good for poor folk.' Nevertheless all these and many other difficulties are not insuperable as the work of the Female Health Visitors proves."

In 1909 an open air shelter with ten beds was built in the grounds at the Isolation Hospital for use in the treatment of tuberculosis. In July 1912, Rotherham's first Tuberculosis Dispensary was started, with a full time medical officer.

Kimberworth Smallpox Hospital was erected in 1914, and was also used for tuberculous patients.

Whilst the first world war brought to a standstill many new developments, a "maternity centre" was opened in September, 1916, and the sale of dried milk, which was started in 1908, was then extended.

Measles had been made compulsorily notifiable in England and Wales in 1916, and a "measles nurse" was appointed the following year. In 1916 also, the Tuberculosis After-Care Committee was formed and it continued its activities until the early 1920's when it closed down owing to lack of financial support.

After the first world war a survey was made of the houses in the town, which resulted in three unhealthy areas being dealt with, the houses being demolished, and the tenants rehoused on the Meadow Bank Estate. The new housing estates which were now being built presented a new approach, with houses in their own gardens, hot water supply, baths, etc.

Oakwood Hall Estate with its war time military hospital was purchased by the Corporation in 1919 and developed as a Tuberculosis Sanatorium, and a full time Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. William Barr, was appointed.

The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Robinson, died in 1925, just before he was due to retire. His pioneer work laid a solid foundation for progress when his successor, Dr. William Barr, took over.

Full advantage was taken of a Ministry of Health circular issued in 1925, dealing with maternity and child welfare, in order to introduce a scheme for the supply of milk and cod liver oil on a free and assisted basis, to provide home helps to maternity cases during the lying-in-period, and to extend clinic facilities in many directions. A second child welfare centre and school clinic was opened in the same year.

A Health Week and Exhibition was held in October, 1926, which I was given the task of organising. It proved to be very successful, and nearly 31,000 visits were made to what was a departure from the normal run of exhibitions, in that no trading concerns, as such, were permitted. Concurrently during the week, nine lectures—held chiefly in the evenings—were given in an adjoining hall on various topical health subjects. In addition, special health sermons were preached in every place of public worship in the town.

The late Alderman W. Wormald, O.B.E., J.P., who was Chairman of the Health Committee at that time, delivered a broadcast address from Sheffield on "The Growth of Public Administration." Special film shows and displays were given at four of the local cinemas when 26 films were shown to audiences estimated to total 6,000. A baby show, attracting 302 babies, visits to Corporation clinics and institutions, displays of physical training by school children, essay and crossword competitions were also held. The "Health Week" was a huge success due, to a large extent, to the fine team spirit which existed amongst the staff of the department. It put the Health Department firmly on the map, and its efforts to make the general public "health conscious" were fully appreciated.

Early in 1925 the measurement of ultra violet radiation by means of acetone methylene blue gauges commenced at seven stations in the Borough with a view to estimating the relative densities of the smoke screen in the atmosphere. These measurements were taken for two months in the summer and were repeated during the following year. Also in 1926, the Corporation installed on the roof of the Town Hall its first soot deposit gauge, and a second gauge was installed the following year at the Oakwood Hall Sanatorium. These gauges and the U.V. recording were taken over on 1st April, 1928, by the Sheffield and Rotherham Smoke Abatement Committee which had been formed the previous July.

Throughout the country there was a grave shortage of accommodation for mental defectives and in 1926 a preliminary meeting was held in Rotherham with neighbouring authorities. This meeting was a success and ultimately the South-West Yorkshire Joint Board for the Mentally Defective was formed in 1928 and was followed by the opening of the St. Catherine's Institution at Loversall, near Doncaster, shortly afterwards.

In June, 1926, the Education Committee commenced an orthopaedic scheme in Rotherham with the appointment of a part time nurse and masseuse, and visits on a sessional basis from an orthopaedic surgeon.

Later in the same year, arrangements were made between the Health Committee and the Education Committee for all the facilities in operation for the treatment of school children to become available, also, to the pre-school child.

Early in 1929 Sir George Newman, the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, opened the newly erected Cranworth Road Child Welfare Centre and School Clinic.

The need for dental inspection and treatment had been growing year by year and on 1st July, 1929, a full time dental officer was appointed to replace the local part time dentist. During the same year a full time orthopaedic nurse was appointed and, as it was intended to undertake remedial exercises, she was required to be specially qualified in medical gymnastics in addition to her orthopaedic training as a nurse and masseuse.

In 1929 a tuberculosis after care committee was formed. The Corporation trading departments gave initial grants amounting to £175 and from that date, with the exception of a nominal £40 per annum for secretarial costs of assistance from the clerical staff of the Health Department, until the Scheme was enlarged in 1953 to include the parts of the Yorkshire W.R.C.C. area which are covered by the Rotherham and Mexborough Hospital Management Committee, the whole of its cost has been raised by voluntary effort. When the West Riding area was included, the County Council made a grant to the Care Committee. The secretarial side of the Committee's work has been undertaken by me during its 28 years of existence to date in an honorary capacity.

In 1930, the Public Assistance Committee of the Corporation took over from the Board of Guardians, the hospital and institution in Alma Road. The services of the hospital (which is now the Moorgate General Hospital), commenced to develop, and very shortly ante-natal clinics were held to deal with the care of its maternity patients. A mental out-patient clinic soon followed and then it was one of the first authorities in the district to link up with the Sheffield Radium Centre in order that cancer patients could have the benefit of the services of the specialist treatment.

Meanwhile, Rotherham's maternity services continued to grow and a large part was played in the promotion of the Yorkshire Convalescent Home for Mothers and Babies which was opened in 1931. This was a voluntary organisation to which local authorities guaranteed the use of beds for the season, and Rotherham's voluntary effort furnished a room containing two beds, which continued to be used until the scheme closed down in 1950.

Provision was made in the new school built at Thorpe Hesley for a medical inspection room and, following this, the Health Committee were granted facilities by the Education Committee to open a branch clinic there in 1932.

Two years later, in 1934, the dental treatment scheme was extended to include expectant and nursing mothers and tuberculous patients. The Health Committee and the Tuberculosis Care Committee drew up schemes for free and assisted provision of dentures, and both continued until the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act 1946.

In 1934 a report by Dr. W. Barr and Dr. A. T. Doig, Tuberculosis Officer, recommended that the Oakwood Hall Sanatorium should become a Chest Hospital and that the Tuberculosis Dispensary should be known as the Chest Clinic and their scope be extended to include the treatment of other diseases of the chest in addition to tuberculosis. The report foresaw the fall in tuberculosis morbidity throughout the country and recognised the value of the services provided by the dispensary in the diagnosis of chest diseases. It also realised the difficulties of the practitioner to persuade a patient to attend the dispensary for examination because of the stigma attached to the word "tuberculosis." This visionary report unfortunately was not adopted.

Arrangements were made in 1932 for children suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids to be referred to the Rotherham Hospital, where operative treatment was provided when necessary. However, in 1935 an aural clinic was established jointly by the Health and Education Committees and Mr. H. M. Petty was appointed part time Aural Consultant. It was, at first, intended that one clinic session should be held each week, but in three months the work increased to such an extent that it became necessary to hold two clinic sessions per week. One of the school nurses with experience in treating ear diseases assisted at these sessions and with subsequent treatment. In addition, the nurse was responsible for the testing of hearing by means of the audiometer.

On 1st April, 1936, the County Borough boundary was extended to include the Greasbrough U.D.C. area and parts of the Rotherham R.D.C. area at Canklow, Whiston, Dalton, Thorpe Hesley and Wentworth. On the basis of the 1931 Census the population increased by almost 6,000; the acreage of the County Borough went up from 5,895 to 9,255 acres and there were 1,770 houses in the added areas. The Corporation took over the Child Welfare Centre and School Clinic held in the Greasbrough Public Hall.

At about this time, a special committee of the Council was formed, consisting chiefly of members of the Health, Education and Public Assistance Committees to consider the co-ordination under one committee of all the medical services of the Corporation. Following the departure of the School Medical Officer to a similar post at Leicester, Dr. Barr was appointed Chief School Medical Officer. The newly appointed Senior School Medical Officer was also designated Deputy Medical Officer of Health and the first link in the new scheme was forged. During this year, also, the Radium Clinic which was attended by the specialised staff from the Centre in Sheffield commenced at the Alma Road Hospital.

Approval was received towards the end of 1936 for the extension of the Cranworth Road Child Welfare Centre by the addition of two treatment rooms—one being used as a dental surgery and the other as an ophthalmic room.

During early 1937, much time was devoted to the preparation of the scheme for the establishment of a district midwives service under the Midwives Act 1936. The needs of the area were reviewed and general practitioners, local midwives and district nursing associations undertaking midwifery work were consulted. By the end of September all the district midwives had taken up their duties and the service was in full operation.

At the annual Council meeting in November, 1937, the new Medical Services Committee was appointed to take charge of the whole of the medical services of the Council, with the exception of the School Medical Service, whilst the functions of public health such as sanitation, environment, housing repairs, etc., remained with the Public Health Committee. Thus a unified health department under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health became a fact. The scheme came into operation on 1st April, 1938. During the intervening period many problems had to be faced, including the physical division of the hospital at Alma Road from the Public Assistance Institution. In order to secure this, a new entrance was opened into Moorgate, and later in the year the hospital became known as the Municipal General Hospital. There were many staffing problems to be faced. Medical staff on a full time basis replaced part-time local practitioners employed in all the services; the merging of the maternity accommodation at Ferham House and the ultimate transfer of all the maternity beds to the Municipal General Hospital; the utilisation of the vacated space at Ferham House by the re-organisation of the whole accommodation for clinic purposes, are typical examples of tasks undertaken. The maternity work of the County Borough was further augmented by the appointment of an obstetric officer, who was also designated as Deputy Medical Superintendent of the Municipal General Hospital. Clinic services were also reviewed and a further branch child welfare clinic was opened in the Baptist Chapel School room in Westgate, to meet the needs of the Canklow area. The dental facilities were also reviewed and a third full time dental officer was appointed. The school nurses who had previously assisted the dental officers were replaced by dental attendants and a dental clerk. The transfer of the operative treatment of unhealthy tonsils and adenoids from the Rotherham Hospital to the Municipal General Hospital was a further step towards the realisation of the complete co-ordination of the medical services of the Corporation. This followed the appointment of a full consultant staff to attend the hospital and the only vacancy on that staff unfilled was that of Consulting Physician.

Later in 1938, the Child Guidance Clinic commenced jointly with the City of Sheffield and the first Rotherham cases attended in September.

On the outbreak of the second world war, civil defence work was already being organised by the Health Department and this was continued throughout the hostilities in Europe.

In 1939, the immunisation of children against diphtheria commenced in Rotherham, but little progress was made in this direction until 1942 when the scheme sponsored by the Ministry of Health throughout the country as a whole, came into operation.

War time brought its special problems including the need for day nurseries which reached a maximum of four.

In 1943, at the request of and with the assistance of the Ministry of Health, a clinical laboratory was opened at the Municipal General Hospital with a full-time pathologist and a staff of technicians. The small laboratory in the Health Department, which had done very useful work for many years, was then closed.

Following the issue of the Beverage report, the post war years were crowded with social legislation dealing with National Insurance, Health and Welfare. These Acts, which followed the war time Education Act of 1944 were to have tremendous and far reaching effects throughout the whole of the country's health and social services. The Education Act, 1944, had reviewed and revised the arrangements of the School Health Services. The National Health Service Act, 1946, was to reorganise the whole of the country's health services. To-day the scheme is an accepted service : in those days, to those who had spent their life's work in the building up of those services, it seemed as if all the best parts of the service—those giving curative treatment—were to be taken away from the Local Authority and to be given to the new Regional Hospital Boards and their Hospital Management Committees to administer. This meant the transfer of hospitals and their associated services including the treatment of infectious diseases, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, the institutions for mental defectives and the new laboratory to the new Board. "What would be left ?" we pessimistically asked, and then we began to apply ourselves to the new tasks to be undertaken. These were to re-vitalise our efforts in the care of mothers and children and in domiciliary midwifery ; the aim being to secure for future generations a lessening of the need for curative treatment. We were to provide domiciliary nursing and a greatly enlarged scheme for domestic help in sickness ; to undertake the care and after-care of sick persons including the tuberculous and mentally ill. We were also to extend the Mental Health Service and develop health education.

Dr. Barr was very quick to see the possibilities of the new proposals. He attended meetings, held discussions with all interested bodies and planned the future, so that Rotherham's contribution should be worthy of the tradition which our health services had gained. Local consultations with the new hospital authorities were begun in order that the fullest liaison and co-operation could be obtained in the new circumstances. At the same time, our new services, such as district nursing, health services bureau, extended home help and the mental health service, etc., were developed.

Several new services were started in the 1948-50 period. The Children's Nursing Unit was commenced, an Occupation Centre for mentally handicapped children was opened, two branch child welfare clinics were started in the new housing estates, and

a night "sitters in" service was inaugurated by the Home Help Section. A Premature Baby Nurse was appointed in 1951.

January 1952 saw the retirement of Dr. William Barr who had been the architect of Rotherham's Health Services. Several members of the team he had collected about him had already retired or were about to retire ; these included Mr. J. E. Fuller, Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. Pearce, Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector and Miss J. Barraclough, Superintendent Health Visitor. Dr. J. A. Gillet, who was Dr. Barr's Deputy, was promoted to the senior post. He held the post for three years and was then succeeded by Dr. R. J. Donaldson.

The growth of the department still continued and the recent developments like the Home Help Washing Centre, Industrial Centre for mentally handicapped adults, etc., have been fully written about in recent annual reports.

In 1954 the "Kettering Shield" was awarded by the National Baby Welfare Council to the County Borough of Rotherham, "for its work in connection with the pioneer Children's Nursing Unit and excellent liaison between Local Health Authorities, the Regional Hospital Board and the General Practitioner."

During these fifty years, Rotherham has had four Medical Officers of Health, all of whom were and are sincerely "health conscious." They have all striven to administer the services under their direction to give the best at all times. By coincidence, during those fifty years there have also been four Chairmen of the Health Committee. In 1907, the late Alderman T. W. Grundy, M.P., J.P., was Chairman, and continued until his election to Parliament following the end of the first world war. He was succeeded by the late Alderman W. Wormald, O.B.E. J.P., who held this office until 1928. The late Alderman F. Harper, J.P., served as Chairman from 1928 until 1947 when the Medical Services Committee took over the public health functions of the Public Health and Housing Committee in anticipation of the operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Alderman A. Buxton, J.P., who was elected Chairman of the Medical Services Committee on its foundation in 1937, became Chairman of the re-constituted Health Committee in 1947. The Health Committee has had four excellent leaders, all of whom have had at heart the welfare of the Health Services of the town. The example is set by the present Chairman, who, in addition to the other public services, is also Chairman of the County Borough's Executive Council for the Health Services, and Vice-Chairman of the Rotherham and Mexborough Hospital Management Committee. From 1948 onwards his sole purpose has been to raise and maintain the Health Services whether hospital, general practitioner or local authority, to their highest levels of achievement—in itself a wonderful record of voluntary service.

It has been my privilege to be in at the commencement of all the town's major health services to date and I have seen the changes first from environmental to personal, and later to preventive health and, as the time draws near to my retirement, I can only hope that those who follow will keep alive the high tradition of the Health Department.