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**Contributors**

Royston (Yorkshire, England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

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ROYSTON (YORKS.) URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
and  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
for the  
YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1950.







ROYSTON (YORKS) URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1950

Councillor G.H. Cooke (Chairman)

- " H. Griffiths (Vice-Chairman)
- " L.W. Jackson, J.P.  
(Chairman of the Council)
- " R. Crawshaw
- " Mrs. J.A. Westwood
- " J. Berry, C.C.,
- " G. Shone
- " T. Dyer
- " T. Paling
- " A. Calcutt (Retired April, 1950).

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

A. REEVES, M.A., M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O. (Dub)  
D.P.H. (Vict. Manch.)

Divisional Medical Officer  
Resigned 25th October, 1950.

SANITARY INSPECTOR & CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

GEORGE EDWARD MILLAR, M.R. San. I., M.S. I. A.,  
C.S. I. B., M. Inst. M.,

Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

PUPIL SANITARY INSPECTORS (FULL TIME)

ALAN FOSTER and WILFRED MURRAY.





ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1950

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

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Royston Urban District for the year 1950.

The data based on figures and records obtained before I became Medical Officer of Health to your Council, show that in the main the health of the Area has been satisfactory during the year.

There was no appreciable change in the birth rate but you will notice that there was a slight increase in the death rate; however, the rate for 1949 was unusually low compared with England and Wales as a whole.

A disturbing feature is the increase in the Infant Mortality rate.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	2,315
Population	...	...	...	8,165
No. of Inhabitated Houses			...	2,320
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£28,427
Product of a penny rate	...		...	£104

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1894

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

ALBANY, N.Y.: JAMES B. LEECH, PRINTER, 1895.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and to transmit herewith to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, a copy of the same.

The report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, for the year 1894, contains a full and complete statement of the revenue account for the year, and of the operations of the General Land Office during the same.

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## DEATHS

The following Table shows the causes of Death and is amended for inward and outward transfers:-

	M	F	Total
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1	1	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	0	1	1
Syphilitic diseases ... ..	0	0	0
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	1	1
Meningococcal infections ... ..	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	0	0
Measles ... ..	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1	1	2
-do- lung, bronchus ... ..	2	1	3
-do- breast ... ..	0	0	0
-do- uterus ... ..	0	1	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms ...	3	5	8
Leukaemia and aleukaemia ... ..	0	0	0
Diabetes ... ..	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	6	6	12
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	6	2	8
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	2	0	2
Other heart disease ... ..	11	12	23
Other circulatory disease ... ..	1	0	1
Influenza ... ..	2	0	2
Pneumonia ... ..	2	2	4
Bronchitis ... ..	5	5	10
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	0	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	1	0	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	0	0	0
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	0	0	0
Congenital malformations ... ..	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	3	5
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	0	1
All other accidents ... ..	0	0	0
Suicide ... ..	1	0	1
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	0	0	0
TOTALS	51	44	95





## BIRTHS

During 1950, 76 Male and 90 Female Births, making a total of 166 births, were registered. Of this total 1 female birth was illegitimate. In 1949 a total of 159 births were registered.

### Still Births

There were 3 Still Births registered during the year consisting of 2 male and 1 female births. No Still Births were registered during 1949.

Infantile Mortality. (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births).

During 1950 a total of 8 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred, consisting of 4 male and 4 female children. The Infantile Mortality Rate was 48 per 1,000 registered Live Births. In 1949 the Infantile Mortality Rate was 38 per 1,000 registered Live Births.

### Causes of Death:-

Pneumonia	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	...	1
Miliary Tuberculosis			1
Prematurity	...	...	2
Bilateral Pulmonary collapse			1

### Premature Births

There were 14 Premature Births notified during the year and of this total 2 died. 12 Premature Babies were born in Hospital and 2 at home.

### Maternal Mortality

There were no Maternal deaths during the year.



WHITE

During 1950, 48 White and 50 Female Whites, making a total of 98 Whites, were registered. Of this total 1 female White was illegitimate. In 1949 a total of 100 Whites were registered.

WILLIAMS

There were 5841 Whites registered during the year consisting of 2 males and 1 female child. 5841 Whites were registered during 1950.

WILLIAMS (born under 1 year 1,000) (born under 1 year 1,000)

During 1950 a total of 1,000 Whites were registered, consisting of 2 males and 1 female child. The female child was born on 10/1/50 registered 10/1/50. In 1949 the total was 1,000 Whites registered 10/1/49.

WILLIAMS

1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...
1	...	...

WILLIAMS

There were 10 Whites registered during the year and of this total 2 died. In 1949 there were 10 Whites and 2 at birth.

WILLIAMS

There were no Whites registered during the year.

Notes on the Water Supply and Disposal of Sewage  
for the year ended 31st December, 1950

WATER SUPPLY

Source of Supply

The Township continues to receive water in bulk from the Corporation of Barnsley, via the Council's service reservoir at Carlton. A sufficient supply to the reservoir has been maintained, and, it was not necessary to issue economy warnings during the year.

Complaints

Where complaints as to inadequate supplies have been received, improvement has been effected by the clearing of ferrules.

Extensions

There were no extensions to mains carried out during the year.

Consumption

The daily consumption per head of population continues to increase, due, probably, to the continued increase in the number of new houses erected, and having modern sanitary fittings. There is an increase of 1.15 gallons per head over the year 1949, but compulsory restrictions had to be imposed during this year, so that a fair comparison is not possible.

The consumption (in gallons) over the past 10 years is shown in the following table:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total annual consumption</u>	<u>Average daily consumption per head of population</u>
1941	42,680,000	15.07
1942	42,018,000	15.17
1943	39,171,000	14.45
1944	41,488,000	14.88
1945	47,154,000	17.01
1946	46,113,000	16.77
1947	46,241,000	16.37 +
1948	48,637,000	17.08
1949	49,582,000	17.15 +
1950	54,174,000 (148,422,000 g.p.d.)	18.30

+ Compulsory restrictions imposed

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No extension to the sewerage system has taken place during the year.

The disposal works continue to operate effectively, and a satisfactory effluent has been maintained.

There is a continued demand for the sewage sludge by gardeners and farmers and there is no accumulation at the works.

WATER SUPPLY

Source of Supply

The following supplies to local water in this town  
and Corporation of Lawrence, via the Lawrence Water Company  
as follows: A sufficient supply to the reservoir has been  
secured, and it is not necessary to draw water from  
any other source.

Complaints

There are no complaints as to the quality of the water  
received, although it has been reported in the morning of  
certain days.

Expenditures

There were no expenditures for water during the year.

Consumption

The following table shows the amount of water consumed  
in this town, for the year ended December 31, 1900.  
The amount of water consumed in this town for the year  
ended December 31, 1900, was 1,115,000 gallons, or 1.115  
million gallons. This is an increase of 115,000 gallons  
over the year 1899, and a decrease of 115,000 gallons  
over the year 1901. The consumption for the year 1900  
is 115,000 gallons less than the consumption for the year  
1899, and 115,000 gallons more than the consumption for  
the year 1901.

Year	Total amount consumed	Amount consumed per capita
1901	1,000,000	15.00
1900	1,115,000	15.17
1899	1,230,000	15.34
1898	1,345,000	15.51
1897	1,460,000	15.68
1896	1,575,000	15.85
1895	1,690,000	16.02
1894	1,805,000	16.19
1893	1,920,000	16.36
1892	2,035,000	16.53
1891	2,150,000	16.70
1890	2,265,000	16.87

1. The amount of water consumed in this town for the year 1900 is 1,115,000 gallons, or 1.115 million gallons.

CONSUMPTION AND STORAGE

The extension to the Lawrence Water Company has been placed  
during the year. The amount of water consumed in this town  
for the year 1900 is 1,115,000 gallons, or 1.115 million  
gallons. This is an increase of 115,000 gallons over the  
year 1899, and a decrease of 115,000 gallons over the  
year 1901. The consumption for the year 1900 is 115,000  
gallons less than the consumption for the year 1899, and  
115,000 gallons more than the consumption for the year 1901.



PRINCIPLE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1950

	Royston Urban District	Aggregate West Rid- ing Urban Districts	West Riding Admins. County	England & Wales (Provis- ional figures)
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)	21.6	16.2	17.1	15.8
Death Rate (all per 1,000 estimated population) all causes	14.2	12.6	11.8	11.6
Infective and Parasitic Diseases excluding Tuberculosis	0.24	0.10	0.10	+ +
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.32
Tuberculosis, other forms	0.12	0.04	0.04	0.04
Cancer	1.71	1.94	1.83	1.99
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	1.47	1.70	1.59	+ +
Heart and Circulatory	4.16	4.66	4.39	+ +
Respiratory Diseases	2.08	1.26	1.18	+ +
Maternal Mortality	-	0.95	0.98	0.86
Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births)	48	33	35	30
Still Births (rate per 1,000 Still Births)	18	24	24	+ +

+ + Figures not available





## PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifiable diseases other than Tuberculosis during 1950:-

### Scarlet Fever

6 Cases were notified and all were treated in hospital. In 1949 there were 10 cases.

### Pneumonia

There were 4 cases of pneumonia and two were treated in hospital. There was one case in 1949.

### Whooping Cough

43 Cases were notified, comparing with 32 cases in 1949. 5 Cases during the year were admitted to hospital and one patient aged 6 weeks died. The cause of death in this case was Whooping Cough and Broncho-pneumonia.

### Measles

62 Cases of measles were notified comparing with 16 in 1949.

## EPIDEMIOLOGY

Notifiable disease other than tuberculosis	No. notified	No. admitted to hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	6	6	-
Pneumonia	4	2	-
Whooping Cough	43	5	1
Measles	62	-	-

The following table gives the age distribution of cases of Infectious Disease notified in 1950:-

Notifiable disease	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & Not over known
Scarlet Fever	-	1	5	-	-	-	- -
Pneumonia	-	-	2	-	2	-	- -
Whooping Cough	7	30	6	-	-	-	- -
Measles	6	45	10	-	-	-	- -





## TUBERCULOSIS

Staff: Mrs. Cartledge - Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

1. Cases on the Register at 1st January, 1950:-

Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
Male	Female	Male	Female	
17	9	2	4	32

2. Number of new notifications received during the year:-

Pulmonary:-	10	
Non-pulmonary:-	1	Total 11

There were 8 new notifications during 1949.

3. Number of cases removed from the register in 1950:-

Pulmonary:-	8	
Non-pulmonary:-	1	Total 9

4. Number of cases admitted to Sanatoria in 1950:- 5.

5. Number of deaths from Tuberculosis during 1950:-

Pulmonary	4	
Non-pulmonary	1	Total 5

6. Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1950:-

Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
Male	Female	Male	Female	
19	9	2	4	34

7. Distribution of notifications:-

Age groups	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65 & Over
M	-	-	2	1	-	2	1
F	1	-	1	3	-	-	-
Total	1	-	3	4	-	2	1

The above table shows that this dread disease attacks people mainly when they are in the prime of life as opposed say, to cancer, which, being largely a disease of old age deprives the community of people whose life work is finishing.

### Occupations

Housewives	...	...	4 cases
Coal miners	...	...	2 cases
Outcrop miner	...	...	1 case
Mental Defective (inmate of Mental Hospital)	1 case		
Old age pensioner (retired coal miner)	1 case		
Infants and scholars	...	...	2 cases

APPENDIX

Table 1. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Table 2. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Category	Male	Female	Total
Population	100	100	200
...	...	...	...

Table 3. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Population	100
...	...

Table 4. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Table 5. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Population	100
...	...

Table 6. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Table 7. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Population	100
...	...

Table 8. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Population	100
...	...

Table 9. Summary of the results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950.

Category	Male	Female	Total
Population	100	100	200
...	...	...	...

The above table shows that the population of the district in 1950 was 200. The results of the survey of the population of the district in 1950 are shown in the following table.

Category	Male	Female	Total
Population	100	100	200
...	...	...	...



## 8. Tuberculosis, Care and after care scheme

### Provision of extra nourishment

Two patients received two pints of milk daily during the year under the County Council's care and after care scheme.

## 9. Care and After Care Scheme

One patient received a grant of bedding under this scheme.

### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

School Medical Inspections were carried out at the following schools by Dr. S.G.A. Henriques.

Royston Modern Boys' School (3 inspections)  
 Royston Modern Girls' School (2 inspections)  
 Royston County Primary School

Summary of defects found at the above inspections:-

School visited	No. seen	Defects found						No. passed on for treatment
		Ocu-lar	ENT	Hea-rt	Lungs	Ortho-pae-dic	Oth-ers	
Royston Modern Boys	62	23	6	1	1	2	8	27
" " Girls	54	26	2	-	1	5	10	31
" County Primary	82	3	14	1	2	0	8	4
Totals:-	198	52	22	2	4	7	26	62

### School Clinics

Wesleyan Sunday School		No. of indiv-	
High St. Royston	Each Friday	idual	Total
Dr. A. Reeves	in the school	attendances	attendances
Dr. S.G.A. Henriques	year	in 1950	
Miss K. Power	10 a.m. - 12 noon	101	224

### SPECIALIST CLINICS

1. Ophthalmic Clinics. (Dr. J.V. Kirkwood, County Oculist)  
 No. of children examined in 1950
2. Orthopaedic Clinics. (C. Lee Pattison, F.R.C.S. -  
 Orthopaedic Surgeon)

No. of individual children examined:- 5  
 Total attendances:- 8

/cont'd over





3. Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics. (W.R.Rowe, Esq., F.R.C.S. -  
Aural Surgeon)  
No. of individual children examined:- 9  
Total attendances:- 20
4. Paediatric Clinics. (Dr.C.C.Harvey, M.D., M.R.C.P. Child  
Health Officer)  
No. of individual children examined:- 5  
Total attendances:- 7
5. Chest Clinics. (Dr.H.A.Crowther - Consultant Chest Physician)  
No. of children examined:- 22
6. Child Guidance Clinics. (Dr.M.MacTaggart, Pl.D.  
Educational Psychologist)  
No. of individual children examined:- 4  
Total attendances:- 44

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO  
CHILD POPULATION 1950

No. of children who had, at any time up to 31st December, 1950,  
received a full course of immunisation

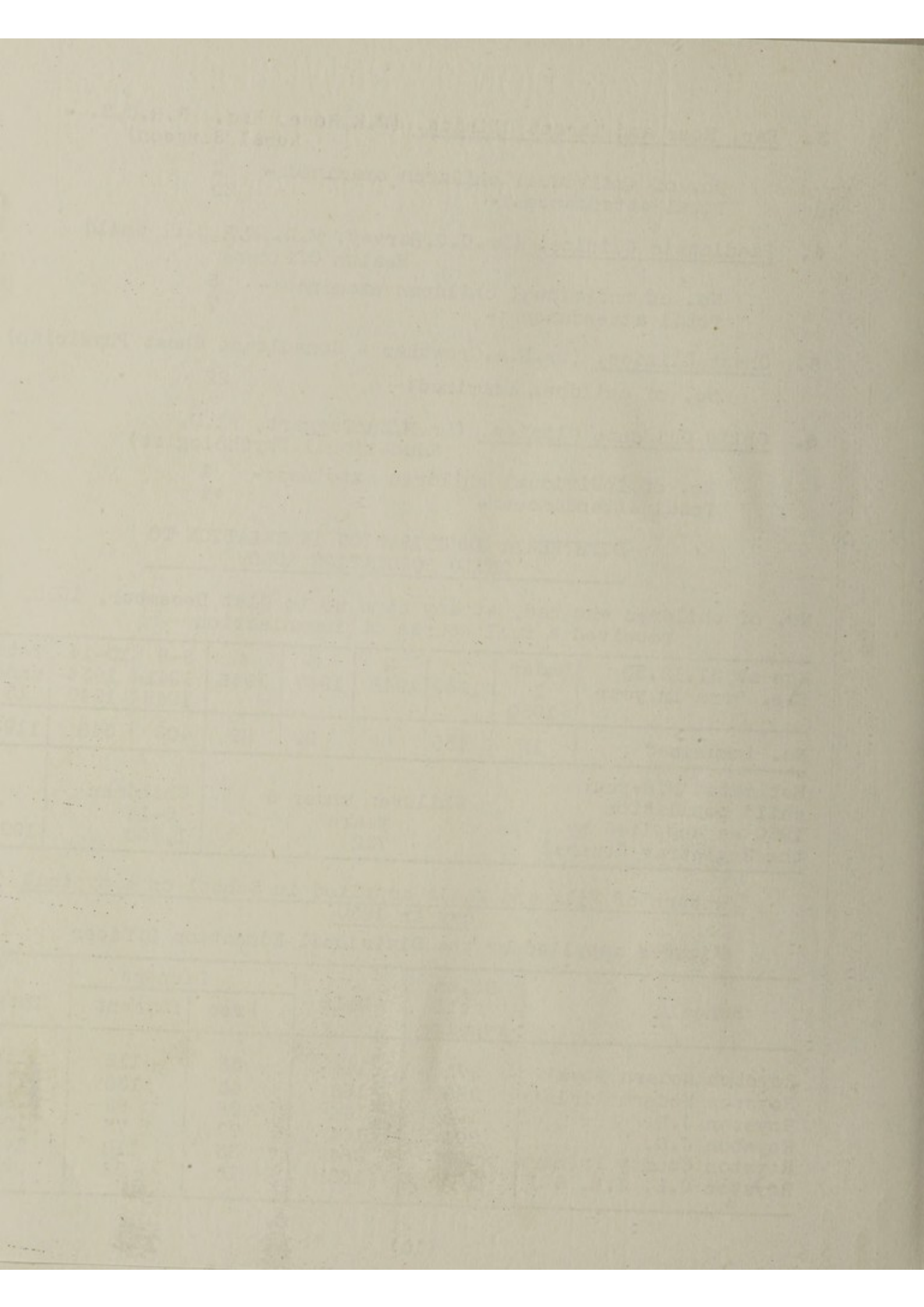
Age at 31.12.50 i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1950	1 1949	2 1948	3 1947	4 1946	5-9 1941- 1945	10-14 1936- 1940	Total under 15
No. immunised	12	135	88	99	89	402	348	1193
Estimated Mid-year child population 1950 as supplied by the Registrar General	Children under 5 years 722					Children 5-14 1,200		1922

Return of Milk and Meals supplied in School on a typical  
day in 1950

Figures supplied by the Divisional Education Officer

School	No. on roll Average	Milk	Dinners		Total
			Free	Payment	
Royston Modern Boys'	271	144	38	116	154
Royston Modern Girls'	288	168	43	130	173
Royston J.B.	195	144	26	82	88
Royston J.G.	201	144	28	73	101
Royston County Primary	309	264	33	110	143
Royston C.E. J.M. & I.	193	168	15	82	97





## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Staff: Domiciliary Midwives:- Nurses Maclean and Ward.

### Child Welfare Centres

Wesleyan Sunday Sch. High Street, Royston. Dr. Gothard. Miss K.Power.	Day and times of sessions  Wednesday 10-12, 2-4 p.m.	No.of children who attended during the year  446	Total atten- dances under 1 year 3,638 Over 1 year 2,116
---	--	---	---

Number of Infant Welfare Sessions each week - 1

### Ante Natal Clinics

Wesleyan Sunday Sch. High Street, Royston. Dr. Jones. Miss K.Power.	Day and time of sessions  Tuesday 2-4 p.m.	No.of women who attended during the year 86	Total No.of attendances made by women during the year 455
---	--	---	---

Post Natal attendances during the year - 6

### HOME NURSING

Staff: Nurse E.A.Walker. Relief: Mrs.K.M.Ward

The total number of new cases undertaken in 1950 for the area was 104

The total number of visits made to patients during the year was 3,750

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

The area is served by the Public Health Laboratory, County Medical Offices, Wood Street, Wakefield.

### HOSPITAL - Isolation

Patients are admitted to the Kendray Isolation Hospital.

### HOSPITAL - General

The Beckett and St.Helen's Hospitals, Barnsley; the Jessop Hospital, Royal Hospital and Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, and the County General, Wakefield supply the needs of the area.

### MATERNITY HOME ACCOMMODATION

The majority of patients continue to be admitted to the St. Helen's Maternity Home, Barnsley.

STATE OF NEW YORK

IN SENATE, January 1, 1901.

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE, FOR THE YEAR 1900.

ALBANY: J. B. LEECH, STATE PRINTER, 1901.

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### HOME HELP SERVICE

The number of cases attended by Home Helps during the year was as follows:-

(a)	Illness	...	...	...	11
(b)	Expectant Mothers			...	1
(c)	Lying-in period	...		...	25
(d)	Mental Defects	...		...	-
(e)	Aged	...	...	...	12
(f)	Child not over compulsory school age				-

### CONCLUSION

Having being appointed to the combined post of Medical Officer of Health to your Council and Divisional Medical Officer to the West Riding County Council, I assumed office on the 1st January, 1951.

I was fortunate in following a Medical Officer of Health whose relations with the Members and Officials of the Council was very harmonious and I look forward to a continuance of this happy state of affairs. The cordial way in which I have been welcomed, and which I much appreciate, augurs well in this respect.

I am, Mr.Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.R. MURDOCK.

Medical Officer of Health.

# THE HISTORY OF THE

... ..

(1) ... ..

(2) ... ..

(3) ... ..

(4) ... ..

(5) ... ..

(6) ... ..

(7) ... ..

(8) ... ..

(9) ... ..

(10) ... ..

(11) ... ..

(12) ... ..

(13) ... ..

(14) ... ..

(15) ... ..

(16) ... ..

(17) ... ..

(18) ... ..

(19) ... ..

(20) ... ..

(21) ... ..

(22) ... ..

(23) ... ..

(24) ... ..

(25) ... ..



ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1950

To The Chairman and Members  
of the Royston Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my fifth Annual Report showing the work done in the Sanitary Section of the Public Health Department during the year ended 31st December, 1950.

As on previous occasions, that portion of the Report dealing with the Public Cleansing Service refers to the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1951.

Continuing shortage of materials and scarcity of building labour has, of necessity, limited the amount of work which could be carried out to existing property, but, as in previous years, a not inconsiderable amount of work to such properties has been executed. As a result of the time when little or no works of repair and reconditioning could be carried out because of the National Emergency, the amount of work requiring to be done continues to increase, and until such time as such arrears of work are able to receive attention, there can only be a continually growing accumulation of repair work to be carried out. Furthermore, with the passage of time, more work will become necessary. House properties are reaching the stage when it will be necessary to expend considerable amounts of money if they are to be brought back to and maintained at even a reasonable standard of fitness. As has been pointed out on previous occasions, the atmosphere in this District as a result of the chemical by-product plants to north and south, together with burning colliery spoilbanks on the outskirts of the District, can only result in serious deterioration of building fabric. This action is particularly noticeable with the B.I.S.F. houses which were erected less than four years ago, where the paint-work on the metal cladding to the upper storey has stripped extensively.

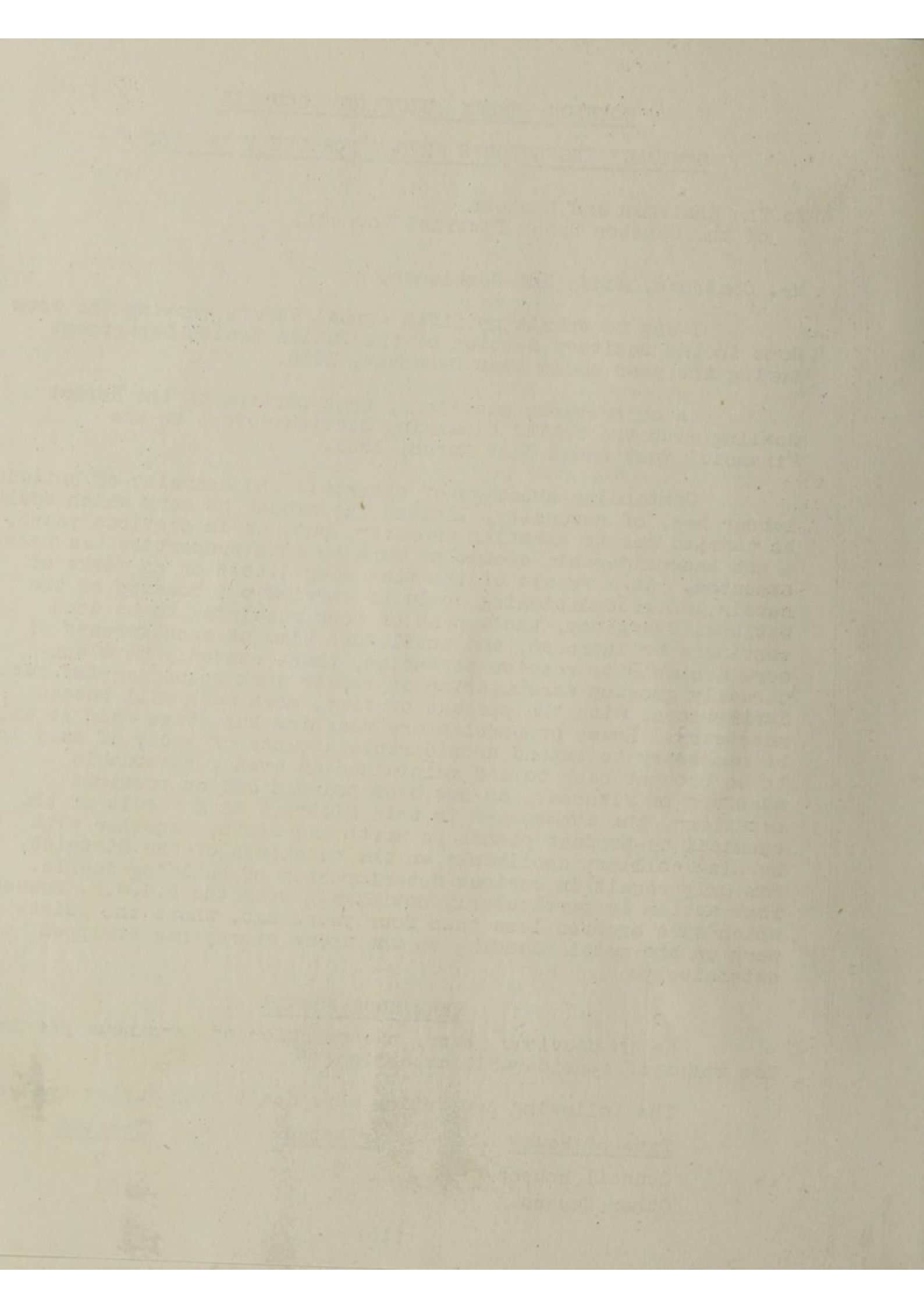
VERMINOUS HOUSES

As in previous years, the question of verminous premises has received considerable attention.

The following properties were dealt with during the year:-

<u>Type of House</u>	<u>Infested</u>	<u>Treated</u>
Council Houses	8	8
Other Houses	32	32





Houses found to be infested were treated according to the type and degree of infestation found. Bed bug infestations were treated by spraying with liquid insecticides containing either D.D.T. and Gammexane whilst infestations by cockroaches and crickets were treated either with powder (Gammexane Dust) and/or spraying according to the extent and persistence of infestation.

Despite the prolonged treatment given to the Council's Refuse Tip in previous years, trouble was again experienced during the year from crickets. Although the numbers of crickets in the working faces of the Tip could only be classified as very considerable, the infestation was by no means as severe as had been the case in previous years. Regular treatment was carried out on the working faces and under the plates with Gammexane Dust. As was expected, the kill under the plates on top of the Tip was very considerable, but even so, clearance of the infestation was not able to be effected. The whole problem is made more difficult by reason of the fact that apparently increasing quantities of material are placed in dustbins which can only encourage the breeding of these pests. Garden refuse, hedge clippings and other putrescible material continues to be placed in dustbins despite requests that this practice should cease.

The resulting increase in the heat of the Tip, together with the abundant supplies of food provided can only result in an increasing degree of infestation. In an effort to reduce the outside food supplies of these insects, the whole of the old levels of the Tip were treated with Sodium Chlorate for the destruction of weeds.

The extremely gross nature of the refuse being collected provides ample cover amongst which the insects live, feed and breed, and, although regular dressing with insecticidal powder tends to keep the infestation within bounds, the gross character of the refuse prevents maximum results being obtained. The position is aggravated still further by the almost complete lack of suitable covering material for the Tip which would keep the temperature of the Tip down and would automatically reduce the rate of breeding of these insects.

As in previous years, close co-operation was maintained with the Council's Housing Manager on the question of verminous Council Houses. The B.I.S.F. (Permanent Pre-Fabricated) Houses found to be verminous during 1949 were finally cleared at the beginning of 1950 and there has been no evidence of re-infestation. Two other traditional type houses on the Pinfold Housing Scheme were found to have slight bed bug infestations but evidences of infestation were sporadic. These houses were sprayed with satisfactory results. In no instance was it found necessary to treat houses with Hydrogen Cyanide by the Council's







Contractors. It is pleasing to be able to report that the co-operation of tenants of houses found to be infested was always obtained.

Advice continues to be sought by the owners of private properties where verminous infestations are suspected, and this is gratifying.

Speaking generally, householders seek advice much more readily than was the case some time ago, and in several instances insects were brought to the Sanitary Department where it was suspected that they were bed bugs. In some cases, however, it is very apparent that prejudice is not easily broken down and householders continue to be diffident in seeking advice and assistance, and continue to use various insecticides with little or no benefit. Many tenants continue to link a visit by a Sanitary Inspector with verminous infestations and it would be interesting to know why such an association of ideas has become so firmly established.

Small quantities of powder continue to be issued to tenants complaining of crickets, cockroaches or silver fish. This practice continues to be appreciated and judging by the lessening degree of infestation throughout the District, it has proved well worthwhile. None-the-less, some people still appear to have a totally wrong impression of the speed with which modern insecticides work and become despondent when repeated treatments are required before infestations are cleared. Persistent infestations were visited and advice and assistance given to householders to help them to clear their houses. It would appear that the widespread cockroach infestation in the District is becoming less, following the persistent use of recognised insecticides.

#### TRANSFER OF TENANTS TO NEW COUNCIL HOUSES

The system of previous years whereby the houses and effects of families selected as tenants for Council Houses, either new or existing, were inspected for the presence of vermin prior to their removal to Council Houses continued throughout the year.

During the year, 28 houses were inspected in accordance with the Council's instructions. In no case was it found necessary for the furniture and effects of the tenants to be treated by the Council's Contractors. In two instances there was evidence of possible existing or previous slight infestation. The effects of the tenants concerned was sprayed, but in neither case was the suspected infestation proved to be a live infestation.

It was found necessary during the year to inspect the





houses of tenants transferred during previous years. Although verminous conditions were not found, in several cases the new houses were found to be in a dirty condition and instructions were issued for the houses to be completely redecorated. It is most disappointing to find that where families have been granted the tenancy of a new house providing all modern amenities, they do not justify their tenancy by maintaining their new houses in a cleanly condition.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

#### (a) WATER SUPPLY

No samples of water were obtained during the year either for chemical or bacteriological examination.

#### (b) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Particulars of the various types of sanitary conveniences in the District at the end of 1950 are as follows:-

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
Water Closets	2372
Privies	64
Chemical Closets	2

During the year three additional water closets were provided for existing properties whilst 74 were provided for new houses occupied during the year.

No privies were converted during the year, but the following cases were investigated with a view to possible conversion:-

1 to 4, Station Terrace,	Royston.
50, High Street,	Royston.
110, Midland Road,	Royston.
7 to 21 Victoria Road,	Royston.

The majority of privies remaining in use in the District do not appear to lend themselves for conversion owing to inaccessibility of sewers, and until sewers are laid, it will be impossible to convert in some instances.

During the year, following the provision of additional female sanitary accommodation at the Ship Hotel during 1949, following informal action, the flushing arrangements in the urinal at the Ship Hotel were completely overhauled and automatic flushing cisterns installed.

A survey of domestic sanitary accommodation in the District was carried out during the year, and although this Survey included combined business and domestic premises, purely





business premises were not included. This Survey was carried out by Mr.A.Foster and Mr.W.Murray, the two Pupil Sanitary Inspectors and my thanks are due to them for the extremely useful information the Survey provided.

At the time of the Survey the following statistics were recorded:-

#### DWELLINGHOUSES

Total number of dwellinghouses in the District	2274
Total number of water closets in the District	2163
Total number of baths in the District	1269
Total number of houses using privies	81
Total number of privies in the District	63
Total number of privy middens in the District	40
Houses without separate water closet	456 houses using 228 water closets

#### LICENSED PREMISES

Total number of licensed premises in the District ...12  
Sanitary accommodation provided for above premises:-

<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
17 water closets and 1 privy	16 water closets, 1 privy and 8 urinals (various types)

#### FACTORY PREMISES

Total number of factory premises in the District .....7  
Sanitary accommodation provided for above premises:-

<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Staff</u>
14 water closets	5 water closets & 1 urinal	2 water closets

#### SCHOOLS

The District is served by the following schools:-

Royston Secondary Modern Boys School  
Royston Secondary Modern Girls School  
Council (J.B.), (J.G.) and (I) Schools  
National (J.M.) School

Sanitary accommodation is provided in these schools as follows:-

<u>Children</u>	<u>Staff</u>
57 water closets & 47 urinal stalls.	9 water closets

#### CINEMAS

There are two cinemas in the District in which sanitary accommodation is provided as follows:-

<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
7 water closets	6 water closets & 14 urinal stalls





So far as dwellinghouses are concerned, the Survey showed that 1548 houses had their own water closet whilst 232 houses were supplied with two or more water closets.

### (c) PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE

The following report on the Public Cleansing Service is for the Financial Year ended March, 1951.

Details of the various types of refuse receptacles in use in the District at the end of the year were as shown below:-

Dustbins	...	2179
Dry Ashpits...	...	Nil
Privy Middens	...	40
Chemical Closets	..	2

No privies were converted during the year, and cleansing of privies continued to be carried out by one of the local farmers. The system continued to work satisfactorily. A regular weekly cleansing of the District was maintained throughout the year.

The table given below gives details of the number of refuse receptacles emptied during the year, together with the number of loads and their estimated weight.

Receptacles	No. emptied	No. of Loads	Estimated Weight		
			T.	C.	Q.
Dustbins etc.	119330	1772	4784.	8.	0.
Privies	395	182	182.	0.	0.
Trade Refuse		151	75.	10.	0.
	119725	2105	5041.	18.	0.

The labour position was maintained during the year, and except during the holiday period, it was not found necessary for temporary labour to be employed. The Public Cleansing Service extended, naturally, with the erection and occupation of more houses, but it was still found possible to maintain a weekly collection.

Continuing progress in the erection and occupation of new houses naturally resulted in an increase in the amount of work devolving upon the Public Cleansing Staff. As in previous years, houses completed and occupied during the year were either detached or semi-detached, built away from the road, resulting in longer "carries" than is the case in older properties of the "terrace" type. As more houses of the detached or semi-detached

So far as the Commission has been able to ascertain, the Bureau of the Census has not yet received any information regarding the results of the 1930 census in the various States.

### THE RESULTS OF THE 1930 CENSUS

The following table shows the results of the 1930 census in the various States, as reported by the Bureau of the Census.

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State	Population	Area	Density
Alabama	1,500,000	52,420	28.8
Alaska	43,000	588,000	0.07
Arizona	1,000,000	113,910	8.8
Arkansas	1,200,000	53,170	22.6
California	3,700,000	158,330	23.4
Colorado	1,000,000	104,240	9.6
Connecticut	1,200,000	5,540	216.8
Delaware	200,000	2,480	80.7
Florida	1,500,000	55,560	27.0
Georgia	2,000,000	59,720	33.5
Idaho	500,000	84,360	5.9
Illinois	3,500,000	57,910	60.4
Indiana	2,500,000	36,420	68.6
Iowa	2,000,000	56,270	35.7
Kansas	1,500,000	82,270	18.2
Kentucky	2,000,000	40,360	49.6
Louisiana	1,500,000	52,420	28.8
Maine	500,000	9,330	53.6
Maryland	1,000,000	10,460	95.6
Massachusetts	2,000,000	8,010	250.0
Michigan	3,000,000	30,800	97.4
Minnesota	2,500,000	225,180	11.1
Mississippi	1,000,000	47,920	20.9
Missouri	2,500,000	69,700	35.9
Montana	500,000	147,040	3.4
Nebraska	1,500,000	77,340	19.4
Nevada	200,000	110,630	1.8
New Hampshire	500,000	9,330	53.6
New Jersey	2,500,000	8,790	284.4
New Mexico	1,000,000	121,740	8.2
New York	10,000,000	47,150	212.1
North Carolina	2,000,000	51,980	38.5
North Dakota	500,000	70,620	7.1
Ohio	3,000,000	44,820	66.9
Oklahoma	1,000,000	69,560	14.4
Oregon	1,000,000	24,810	40.3
Pennsylvania	5,000,000	46,080	108.5
Rhode Island	500,000	1,540	324.7
South Carolina	1,000,000	32,020	31.2
South Dakota	500,000	77,100	6.5
Tennessee	2,000,000	42,330	47.3
Texas	3,000,000	69,560	43.1
Vermont	200,000	9,610	20.9
Virginia	2,000,000	40,780	49.0
Washington	1,000,000	71,300	14.0
West Virginia	1,000,000	62,030	16.1
Wisconsin	2,500,000	54,180	46.1
Wyoming	500,000	97,810	5.1

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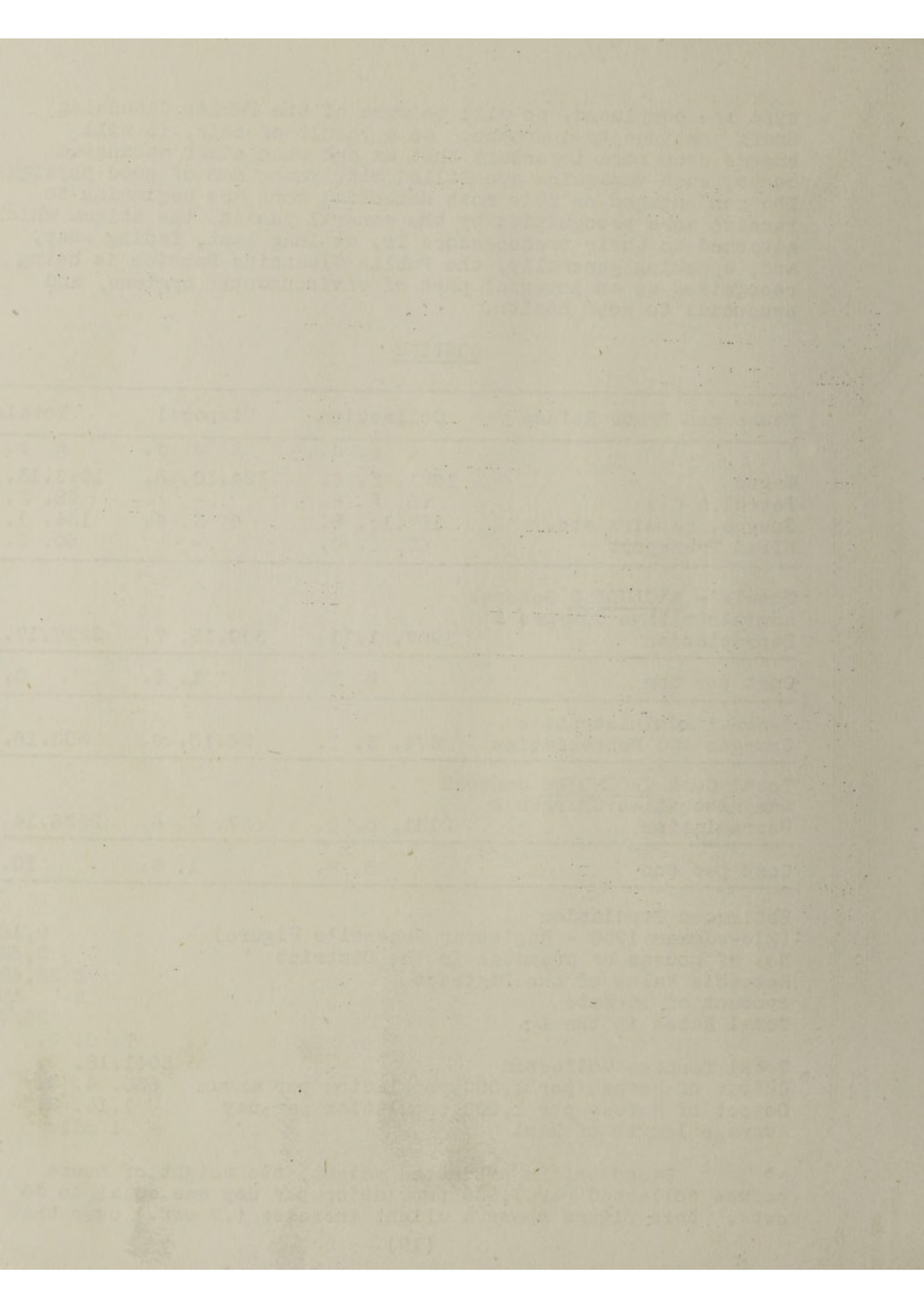


type are completed, so will be work of the Public Cleansing Staff continue to increase. As a result of this, it will become even more important that as and when staff vacancies occur, such vacancies are filled with young men of good physique. The men engaged on this most essential work are beginning to receive more recognition by the general public, the stigma which attached to their predecessors is, at long last, fading away, and, speaking generally, the Public Cleansing Service is being recognised as an integral part of environmental hygiene, and essential to good health.

### COSTING

House and Trade Refuse	Collection	Disposal	Totals
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wages	1621. 3. 6.	324.10. 3.	1945.13. 9.
Petrol & Oil	98. 2. 8.	-	98. 2. 8.
Spares, repairs etc.	127.15. 9.	6. 5. 4.	134. 1. 1.
Hired Transport	60. 0. 0.	-	60. 0. 0.
<hr/>			
Totals - <u>EXCLUDING</u> General Administrative Charges & Depreciation	1907. 1.11.	330.15. 7.	2237.17. 6.
<hr/>			
Cost per ton	7. 7.	1. 4.	8.11.
<hr/>			
General Administrative Charges and Depreciation	274. 3. 1.	26.13. 9.	300.16.10.
<hr/>			
Total Cost <u>INCLUDING</u> General Administrative Charges & Depreciation	2181. 5. 0.	357. 9. 4.	2538.14. 4.
<hr/>			
Cost per ton	8. 8.	1. 5.	10. 1.
<hr/>			
Estimated Population (Mid-summer 1950 - Registrar General's Figure)			8,165
No. of houses or premises in the District			2,630
Rateable Value of the District			£ 28,427
Product of 1d Rate			£ 104
Total Rates in the £			20/6d.
<hr/>			
Total Tonnage Collected		T. C. Q.	5041.18. 0.
Output of Refuse per 1,000 population per annum			630. 4. 3.
Output of Refuse per 1,000 population per day			1.14. 2.
Average length of haul			1 mile

Based on the estimated weight, the weight of house refuse collected per 1,000 population per day was equal to 34 cwts. This figure shows a slight increase (.6 cwt.) over that





for the year 1949/50, and is due to the increased number of houses occupied. The quality of 'home' coal was maintained during the year, the amount of shale in this type of coal being very much less than was the case only a short time ago. Without details for other Districts and the Country as a whole, I feel that this figure is high. This is understandable, however, having in mind that the majority of householders in the District are in receipt of home coals, and, although there has been a reduction in the quantity of concessionary coal allowed to mine-workers during the year under review, the quantity of coal going to such houses remains considerably more than is allowed to other houses and, as a result, economy in the use of solid fuel has not to be exercised as is the case in households where supplies of solid fuel are limited. With more houses being occupied, the total amount of house refuse collected continues to increase and this will, automatically, be progressive.

As in previous years, it is with regret that I have to report that the amount of combustible material present in house refuse continues at a high level and much valuable materials is discarded and lost.

During the year more applications were received from residents in the District for permission to screen cinders from the Tip for use in the heating of greenhouses. At the end of the year, permission had been granted to six residents granting such facilities. The screening of cinders is allowed only under strict conditions and indiscriminate screening could not be allowed because of the risk of fire in the Tip.

Having in mind the quantity of refuse to be disposed of and the limited estimated life of the existing Tip at the rear of Poplar Terrace, negotiations started during the previous year to acquire land adjoining the existing Tip to extend the Tip were pursued during the year, and as an objection was made to the Council's proposal, a Public Inquiry was held towards the end of the year. The Council's proposals, with slight modifications as to limits of tipping, were approved by the Ministry of Health.

In calculating the cost per ton, no allowance is made for income from the sale of various classes of salvage. Income from this source during the year amounted to £326.13. 3d. of which details and further information is given in that portion of the Report dealing with Salvage. This income reduces the cost per ton (collection and disposal) to 8/9d, a reduction of 1/4d per ton.

The cost of the Public Cleansing Service, expressed as Cost per Ton (Collection and Disposal) shows a slight increase during the year, 10/1d for the year 1950/51 as against 9/5d for the year 1949/50. The increase in cost is due entirely to increases in standing charges and wage increases during the year.

The first part of the report, which is the most important, is a description of the work done during the year. This is followed by a summary of the results, and then a list of the references. The report is written in a clear and concise style, and is well organized. The work described in the report is of a high standard, and the results are of great interest. The references are carefully chosen, and the report is a valuable contribution to the literature of the subject.

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In spite of the slight increase, however, I am of the opinion that these costs will compare very favourably with those of other Districts in this area.

### SALVAGE

As in previous years, the collection of various classes of Salvage continued to be an integral part of the Public Cleansing Service.

The slump in the market experienced during the year 1949/50 continued at the beginning of the year 1950/51, but this market revived during the year. Income from the sale of salvaged materials during the year rose to £326.13. 3d. as compared with £106. 0. 6d. during the Financial Year 1949/50. The increase is due mainly to improved prices paid, although residents responded to the Council's renewed appeals for the separation of salvage and the weight able to be recovered rose slightly. Although there was some response to further salvage appeals, I am convinced that much more could be done and wholehearted co-operation of all householders in the matter of salvage is still not forthcoming. If such wholehearted co-operation could be obtained, income from the sale of salvaged materials would increase still further and would be reflected in less money being required from the General Rate Fund for the running of the Public Cleansing Service. Damage and interference with materials awaiting disposal in the salvage shed on the Midland Road Tip continued during the year, but although efforts were made to apprehend persons causing such damage with a view to action being taken against them, it was not found possible to ascertain the identity of persons doing damage. In this respect, it is a matter not easy to understand why children wish to play on or about refuse tips or why parents allow them to do so.

There was a further fall in the weight of rags, etc., made available for collection. This class of salvage continued to realise a good price, and, had the considerable quantities of best household rags taken out of the District almost daily by itinerant rag collectors been made available to the Council, income from this source alone could only have been much higher. In no instance was it able to be proved that rag collectors exchanged toys etc., for rags to children under the age of 14 years although there was evidence, from time to time, that this practice had operated. The penalties in this respect are, however, insufficient to act as a real deterrent.

The mutual arrangements between pig and poultry keepers and householders whereby kitchen waste was collected continued throughout the year. Judging by the standard of pigs slaughtered by self-suppliers, quite a considerable quantity of this material must have been made available for collection and every credit is due to the people who collect the material and also the householders who keep their scraps etc., in order that they may be used for stock feeding.







The weights and values of the various classes of Salvage disposed of during the year are shown in the following Table:-

### SALVAGE STATISTICS

YEAR ENDED MARCH, 1951.

Material	Weight				Value		
	T.	C.	Q.	LBS.	£	s.	d.
Paper	45.	17.	3.	0.	255.	15.	0.
Rags etc.	4.	2.	1.	0.	51.	19.	4.
Ferrous Metals	4.	3.	0.	0.	10.	7.	6.
Non-Ferrous Metals	0.	8.	2.	8.	8.	11.	5.
	54.	11.	2.	8.	326.	13.	3.

### NEW HOUSES

During the year 40 new houses were occupied of which 26 were Council Owned Houses and 16 were provided by Private Enterprise.

### DISINFECTION OF HOUSES AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

As in previous years, disinfection was carried out at all houses where cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, and at other premises where requests were received for disinfection. Several requests were made during the year for houses to be disinfected after visits by notified cases of Tuberculosis.

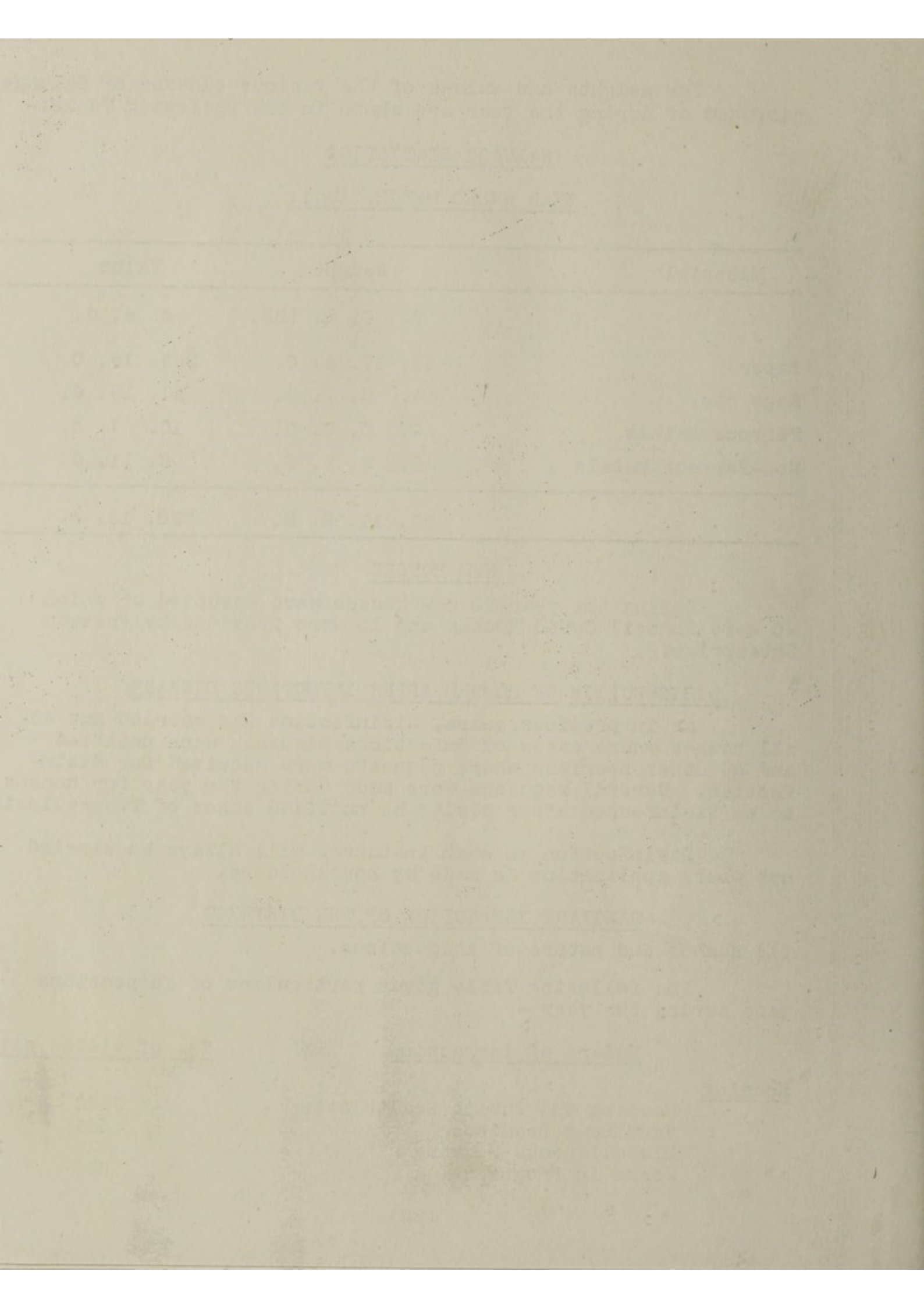
Disinfection in such instances will always be carried out where application is made by householders.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

(1) Number and nature of inspections.

The following Table gives particulars of inspections made during the year:-

<u>Nature of inspection</u>	<u>No. of visits paid</u>
<u>Housing</u>	
Housing and Public Health Acts	3268
Verminous Premises	384
Miscellaneous Housing	222
Works in Progress	626





<u>Nature of inspection</u>	<u>No. of visits paid</u>
<u>Meat and Food Inspection</u>	
Slaughterhouses	49
Other Premises	15
Butchers	58
Fishmongers and Poulterers	11
Grocers	37
Ice Cream Premises	97
Food Preparing Premises	46
Street Vendors and Hawkers Carts	16
Ice Cream Samples	95
Suspected Food poisoning	13
Unsound minced beef and kidney	7
Miscellaneous Food Visits	70
<u>Infectious Disease</u>	
Inquiries and Disinfection	33
Miscellaneous	14
<u>General Sanitation</u>	
Water Supply	10
Drainage	286
Stables and Piggeries	44
Fried Fish Shops	23
Sanitary Accommodation Survey	1681
Factories	38
Bakehouses	12
Public Conveniences	90
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	7
Refuse Collection	143
Refuse Disposal	174
Rats and Mice	1357
Crickets	84
Shops	4
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	310
Interviews	423
Salvage	166
Petrol	17
Total number of Visits	<u>9926</u>

(2) Complaints Received

During the year 328 complaints were received, details of which are as shown below:-

<u>Nature of Complaint</u>	<u>No. Received</u>
Defective or choked drains	89
Dampness	5
Defective range	7

/cont'd





<u>Nature of Complaint</u>	<u>No. Received</u>
Nuisance from Public Convenience	1
Overcrowding and Bad Housing Conditions	18
Defective W.C. Pedestal	4
Defective door	4
Defective W.C. Service Pipe	17
Defective window	2
Water in cellar	3
Defective roof	2
General Dilapidations	16
Accumulation of Refuse	4
Nuisance from Pigs	1
Defective Chimney	3
Defective Sink	8
Flooding of common yard	5
Misuse of Surface Shelter	1
Defective eaves gutters	4
Defective floor	6
Defective Flushing Cistern	2
Smells in Bathroom	2
Defective Sink Waste Pipe	4
Defective Wall Plaster	4
Defective Wash Copper	3
Smells in Cellar	1
Rats	53
Mice	6
Wood Boring Beetle	5
<u>Verminous Premises</u> - Bugs	10
Silverfish	2
Crickets	1
Cockroaches	34
Moths	1
	<u>328</u>

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

No further premises were included in the Register during the year.

Premises already included in the Register were inspected during the year, 38 inspections being made.

No complaints of uncleanness were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories during the year, and no case of uncleanness was found during routine inspections.

In one instance, factory premises were found to have insufficient sanitary conveniences, in one instance, sanitary accommodation was found to be defective, and in one instance, sanitary accommodation was found to be unlighted. In all instances defects were remedied following informal action.





No notifications under the provisions of Sections 110 and 111 of the Factories Act, 1937 (Outworkers) were received during the year.

The following Tables are extracts from the form of return submitted to the Ministry of Labour and National Service:-

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	38	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	11	38	-	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Referred Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspection	By H.M. Inspection	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against Act	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-





## SMOKE ABATEMENT

No nuisance from smoke arising in the District was noted during the year, but considerable nuisance from smoke from outside the District arose from one of the stacks at the Monkton Colliery Unit. This was referred to the Hemsworth Rural District Council.

So far as Smoke Nuisances are concerned, although there are no industrial stacks in the District likely to give rise to smoke nuisance, there are industrial stacks, burning colliery spoil banks and by-product plants on all sides of the District, smoke from which, according to the prevailing wind, drifts over the District. Grit Nuisance also arises from time to time, again according to the prevailing wind, from the Monkton Coking Plant.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

During the year, all food preparing premises in the District were re-registered under the provisions of Section 14(2) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and relevant registers brought up to date, and all premises where ice cream was manufactured, stored or sold were also re-registered.

At the end of the year, registered premises were as shown below:-

Premises used for the Preparation or manufacture of preserved food etc.	8
Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream	2
Storage of Ice Cream	1
Sale of Ice Cream	<u>13</u>
Total number of premises registered	<u>24</u>

The various Registered Premises were inspected from time to time during the year and were found to be in a generally satisfactory condition.

## HOUSING

During the year 1950, 793 houses were inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts, 3,203 visits being made for the purpose.

Works of repair and re-conditioning of existing houses increased during the year despite the continuing shortage of building labour and materials. The continuing shortage of labour and materials had the effect, however, of severely limiting the extent to which works of repair could be carried out. Further houses were painted externally during the year and the improvement in appearance as a result of such painting was very





marked. In this respect, evidences of lack of external painting become more apparent almost daily as evidenced by weather affecting the woodwork of houses particularly in the mouldings of doors, and wooden window sills which deteriorate and rot, in many instances, simply because of the lack of protection against the weather which paint provides.

The continuing vexed question of rents of private properties remaining at their pre-war level presents a serious handicap so far as repairing and re-conditioning is concerned, particularly having in mind that the cost of labour and materials continue to rise.

As in previous years, the need for Certificates to assist Contractors to obtain materials in short supply, particularly timber, resulted in information relative to works of repair and re-conditioning carried out other than as required by Notices served by this Department came to the notice of the Department more than would have been the case under more normal circumstances.

As mentioned in Annual Report for 1949, evidences of damage to houses as a result of colliery subsidence were becoming apparent. Such houses were kept under observation during 1950, and whilst no instance occurred where serious damage was resulting, more houses showed slight fractures in the walls and cracking of plaster to walls and ceilings were noted. These houses continue to be kept under observation.

Instances of dry rot were again found during the year, some cases being in houses which have only been erected for a small number of years. It was found, in almost all instances, that totally inadequate sub-floor ventilation had been provided. Further instances of considerable damage to timber in houses from wood boring beetles was also found during the year. In all instances of dry rot and infestation by wood boring beetle, affected timber was removed and destroyed.

The completion of further new Council Houses resulted in more complaints being received of overcrowding and/or bad sleeping conditions. 18 such complaints were received during the year which is slightly less than during 1949 when 21 such complaints were received. All such complaints were investigated and, as in previous years, some distressing conditions were found. During the year, 15 families, details of which had been reported to the Council, were re-housed. Without a new Overcrowding Survey, it is impossible to assess, with any degree of accuracy, the extent to which overcrowding exists in the District, or the number of cases where two or more families live in one house can only remain a matter of conjecture. Furthermore, the constant movement of population makes any such Survey very quickly incorrect. The standstill in building





operations as a direct result of the recent War is still being felt, and until such time as considerably more houses can be provided, the position cannot improve greatly. Despite the number of houses which have already been provided, the number of cases where two or even more families live in one house does not appear to be reduced to any appreciable extent. At the same time, owing to the high cost of building, rents are automatically much higher than was the case a few years ago, and in some instances, high rents may be beyond the means of newly married couples. The need for the provision of smaller houses for newly married couples, more especially after the birth of children, becomes more and more necessary, but at the same time, one cannot help but wonder whether the provision of bungalows for older people, and the resultant releasing of houses for occupation by families, would help the housing position considerably. There must be many instances where three bedroom type houses are occupied either by an old couple or one aged person.

Moral overcrowding continues to be a grave social problem, the solution to which is by no means easy to arrive at. Separate sleeping accommodation for growing children of opposite sexes must remain a matter of prime importance. Having in mind that the majority of the older houses in this District provide only two rooms on the ground floor and two bedrooms on the first floor, where such houses are occupied by mixed families, adequate separation of the sexes can only be a matter of concern to perplexed parents. The position, as pointed out in previous years, does not lend itself to ready solution, particularly having in mind the fact that the majority of the available male labour is employed in or about the collieries where the "shift" system of working is in operation, as a result of which it is impracticable to erect beds in downstairs rooms. This factor is aggravated further when it is realised that domestic washing and cooking must be carried out in the living room, alternative facilities not being available.

Another vexed problem is the question of the unfit, insanitary house. Still more houses are fast reaching the stage when formal action under the provisions of the Housing Act is the only satisfactory method of dealing with them. Application lists for Council Houses continue to grow, and whilst the need for houses for newly married couples and young couples with young families is a matter of urgency, one can only feel that the longer families remain in insanitary houses, the greater ill effect can this have on their health, and on the health of children which ill effects will only become apparent later in life. Unless such houses become structurally dangerous, I can see little hope of action being able to be taken against them for some considerable time to come. In one instance during the year under review, the house known as 51 High Street, Royston was demolished. This house had been





empty for some time, and the condition of the fabric deteriorated badly. This was specially noticeable with outhouses adjoining the footpath in front of the house. The owner was asked to make these outhouses safe, and owing to some misunderstanding, the house was demolished. The house known as 225 Station Road, Royston, also showed signs of very serious deterioration of the fabric and it was considered to be becoming unsafe.

Whilst such houses cannot be regarded, in any way, as being good houses, they do at least provide shelter and constitute units of housing, but to even try to bring them up to standard would prove extremely difficult even if the cost of so doing was not prohibitive. Until the present continuing housing shortage exists, it would be very much open to question whether formal action would be fully justified, and the most that can be done, at the moment, is to try to keep them reasonably weatherproof. Owners of such properties, naturally, do not feel disposed to expend large sums of money on their property when the life of the property can, at best, be for a very limited time only. Works of repair and/or reconditioning, could only be major works, which the general condition of the houses would not justify. As a result, the condition of the houses can only become progressively worse, minor repairs are totally inadequate, and the economic factor as reflected in the rent paid for the houses, can only have an adverse effect on the whole position. Whether amendment of the Law governing rent might help is a matter of conjecture.

The smaller numbers comprising a family unit, as compared with the size of families only a comparatively short time ago, has resulted, if each family is to have its own house, in a considerably greater number of houses being required. At the same time, owing to the cost of new houses, the rent of such houses is much higher than is the case with older properties, and I have no doubt that this economic factor will carry great weight with young, newly married couples, if they are fortunate enough to have the opportunity of the tenancy of a modern house.

It remains a matter of the utmost urgency, therefore, that the Housing Programme be pressed forward. Continuing, vigorous prosecution of the housing programme to overcome the present acute shortage of houses would appear to be essential before the demolition of unfit, insanitary houses can again receive the attention it so urgently needs. Continuing control of various classes of building materials, together with continuing shortage of skilled building labour present a very serious handicap to owners wishing to re-condition their property, and the curtailment of building licences prevents those anxious to build their own houses from doing so.





One application was received for an Improvement Grant under the provisions of Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949, but at the end of the year a decision had not been arrived at.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

This matter continued to receive attention during the year. A very considerable amount of work will become necessary when all food shops, food preparing premises etc., are inspected after Byelaws under the provisions of Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 become operative.

In only one instance was it found necessary to deal with food from one of the school kitchens when minced beef and kidney which had been partly cooked one day for use the next was found to be unsound. Otherwise there are no comments to make on school catering arrangements.

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

At the end of the year, two supplementary licences for the sale of milk under the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" remained in force in the District.

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED) MILK REGULATIONS, 1949

At the end of the year, the following Supplementary Licences remained in force:-

Milk to be sold under the Special Designation	
"Sterilised"     ...     ...     ...     ...	2
Milk to be sold under the Special Designation	
"Pasteurised"     ...     ...     ...     ...	3

#### ICE CREAM

All premises in the District registered under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation, storage or sale of ice cream were kept under regular supervision during the year, 97 visits being made for the purpose.

Routine sampling of ice cream for bacteriological examination was started, and 95 visits were made during the year in this connection.

A considerable amount of time was spent on account of samples from one manufacturer being persistently unsatisfactory. In this connection, the utmost assistance was forthcoming from the Public Health Laboratory at Wakefield, and visits were paid to the plant both by the Director of the laboratory and the Technician dealing with ice cream samples. The producer in question was advised on efficient cleansing routine, but even

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so, satisfactory samples were not produced. In co-operation with the Public Health Laboratory, samples of all ingredients were obtained and submitted to the Plate Count Test and thereafter serial samples throughout the plant were taken during production. By the end of the year consistently satisfactory samples were obtained. I would like to express my appreciation to the Council for allowing me to spend so much time on this case and also to the Public Health Laboratory at Wakefield for the co-operation and support they afforded me.

The following Table shows the results of the bacteriological examinations of samples of ice cream obtained during the year:-

<u>Provisional Grade</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
I	18
II	8
III	3
IV	<u>14</u>
Total	<u>43</u>

In addition to the samples of ice cream obtained shown above, 10 samples of ingredients and 4 samples of mix at various stages of production were obtained. It is of interest to note that a sample of chocolate used for coating of ice cream, on plating, revealed spores.

#### MEAT INSPECTION

As in previous years, meat for sale in the various butchers' shops in the District was slaughtered at the Barnsley Abattoir and delivered to retail shops by motor vehicle.

During the year, motor vehicles used for the delivery of meat from the Abattoir to retail shops were fitted with all metal, readily cleansed, insulated bodies, quarters of beef being suspended from rails fitted to the roof of the vehicle. This was a great improvement on previous years and should result in considerably less contamination of meat during distribution. Unfortunately, however, contamination did occur before meat reached the butchers' shops, and on several occasions inspection of meat shortly after delivery revealed serious soiling of meat. On other occasions, it was found that, instead of being placed in suitable metal receptacles, plucks were dropped inside the carcasses of freshly killed sheep, lambs and calves. This is a practice much to be deplored.

I am glad to be able to report, that in no instance during the year was it found necessary to return any meat to the Distributors in Barnsley.





So far as the slaughter of pigs for home consumption was concerned, there was a considerable falling off in the number of pigs slaughtered by self-suppliers of meat. The arrangement of previous years whereby circular letters were sent out with licences to slaughter by the Food Executive Officer, with a view to all pigs slaughtered being inspected, continued during the year. The premises recognised for the dressing of pigs in 1948 continued to be recognised for this purpose, and most of the pigs slaughtered were dressed in these premises. It would appear, however, that more pigkeepers sent their pigs in to Receiving Centres. Only 51 pigs were inspected during the year under review as against 162 during 1949.

The standard of pigs slaughtered continued to maintain the high standard attained in previous years, and, whilst the continuing shortage of feeding materials must make it difficult for pig keepers to keep their stock, the standard attained proves that pig-keepers must have gone to considerable trouble to collect scraps from neighbours with which to supplement the ration of meal allowed by the Ministry of Food. Concentrated kitchen waste, prepared outside the District continued to be used during the year. It was still not possible to ascertain the weight of kitchen waste collected by pig-keepers from householders, but the weight and condition of pigs inspected made it apparent that the amount collected could not have been inconsiderable.

The amount of diseased or unsound conditions found continued to be very small and gives no cause for alarm. Pig-keepers welcomed inspection even more than had been the case in previous years, and this state of affairs continues to be most gratifying.

The only unsound conditions found were:-

<u>Tuberculosis</u>	1 pig pluck
<u>Cystic</u>	1 pig kidney

#### OTHER FOODS

Details of other foodstuffs found to be unsound and which were voluntarily surrendered are given below:-

<u>Tinned Foodstuffs</u>	<u>No. of Tins</u>
Peas ... ..	12
Beans in Tomato ... ..	2
Tomatoes ... ..	43
Strained Foods ... ..	8
Milk (unsweetened) ... ..	6
Milk (skimmed) ... ..	2
Luncheon Meat ... ..	33
(total weight - 87 lbs.)	





<u>Tinned Foodstuffs</u>					<u>No. of Tins</u>
Danish Pork	...	...	...	...	6 ( 6 lbs.)
Canned Rabbit	...	...	...	...	1
Grade 3 Salmon	...	...	...	...	1
Crawfish	...	...	...	...	1
Golden Syrup	...	...	...	...	1
Nescafe	...	...	...	...	1
Plums	...	...	...	...	11
Total number of tins					<u>128</u>

					<u>Bottles or Jars</u>
Pears	...	...	...	...	1
Plums	...	...	...	...	1
Apricots	...	...	...	...	4
Greengages	...	...	...	...	1
Beetroot	...	...	...	...	1
Cherries	...	...	...	...	1
Damsons	...	...	...	...	1
Plum Jam	...	...	...	...	1
Blackcurrant Jam	...	...	...	...	2
Sauce	...	...	...	...	1
Total number of bottles or jars					<u>14</u>

<u>Other Foodstuffs</u>					
Sausage	...	...	...	...	19½ lbs
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	6 lbs
Beef and Kidney Mince	...	...	...	...	48½ lbs
Ginger Conserve	...	...	...	...	1 lb
Granulated Sugar	...	...	...	...	112 lbs
Cheese	...	...	...	...	14 lbs
Dates	...	...	...	...	½ lb
Lard	...	...	...	...	56 lbs
Margarine	...	...	...	...	5¾ lbs
Total weight					<u>263¼ lbs</u>

#### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

During the year, the Council's systematic treatment of infestations at rats and mice in the District continued.

As in previous years, two sewer maintenance treatments, following a 10% test of sewer manholes, were carried out. "Takes" in the sewers, except in a very few instances, were not recorded, and it would appear that rat populations in the sewers were kept under control. No further takes were recorded in the Pinfold Lane Area, and it is reasonable to suppose that this black spot was cleared up.

Complaints of rats and mice were received during the





year from the National School, the Council Junior Schools and the Secondary Modern Schools. All School premises were treated, and at the end of the year, there was no evidence of residual infestation.

Follow-up treatments continued throughout the year at the Refuse Tip, Salvage Shed, Sewage Disposal Works, Pooles Lane and at the Church Hill Depot. The apparent kill in all instances was satisfactory, and all these premises appeared to be free from infestation at the end of the year.

Private Properties continued to be treated under the Block Control methods of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. More complaints were received during the year, and notification, in most instances, was received early which resulted in necessary treatment being much more quickly effective.

#### BARNSLEY CANAL

This canal, to all intents and purposes, is derelict, the only traffic along the canal being occasional repair and maintenance barges. During the year, and especially during the summer, very considerable weed growths became apparent, flow in the canal was imperceptible, and as a result, the canal became a breeding place for flies. The conditions prevailing in the canal were brought to the notice of the Docks and Inland Waterways Executive, and as a result of informal action, weed growths were removed.

Towards the end of the year, intimation was received to the effect that The Docks and Inland Waterways Executive proposed applying to the Ministry of Transport for a Warrant to close the canal as had been done by the previous Undertakers - The Aire and Calder Navigation Company.

#### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

As in previous years, the public urinals in the District were a constant source of trouble by reason of their persistent and gross misuse. On numerous occasions, these urinals were found to be in a disgusting condition and considerable damage was done to fittings.

Following consultation with the Area Planning Officer, plans of new modern conveniences, for both sexes, were amended slightly, but at the end of the year, they had not been returned from the Area Planning Officer, nor had deemed planning permission been received from the County Council.

The need for conveniences for both sexes becomes more urgent, public female sanitary accommodation being non-existent in the District except at licenced premises.





The urinal on Midland Road becomes more dilapidated and is extremely foul. This urinal causes the most trouble and is most often mis-used.

Having in mind the abuse which such premises suffer, one cannot help but wonder what treatment a new building would receive.

#### MORTUARY

No works were found to be necessary to the Mortuary Building during the year.

#### CONCLUSION

As will be seen from the foregoing Report, my Section of the Public Health Department had a busy year and a varied one.

I would like to take this opportunity of again expressing to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, my appreciation of their continued support and unfailing encouragement during such a busy year. I would like also to thank the Medical Officer of Health for his continued support and for the very amicable working conditions which existed between us. Dr. Reeves, the Divisional Medical Officer resigned his appointment to take up an appointment in Ireland in October, and at the end of the year, his successor had not taken up his duties.

I would like also to express my appreciation of the help given to me by the two Student Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Alan Foster and Mr. Wilfred Murray for their assistance.

I am glad also of the opportunity of expressing my appreciation and thanks to my fellow Officials for the support and help which I have at all times received in the discharge of my duties.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE E. MILLAR.

Sanitary Inspector &  
Cleansing Superintendent.

November, 1951.





