

[Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Stanley (Yorkshire) U.D.C.

Contributors

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STANLEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
(Yorks.)

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

A. L. TAYLOR, M.D., D.P.H.

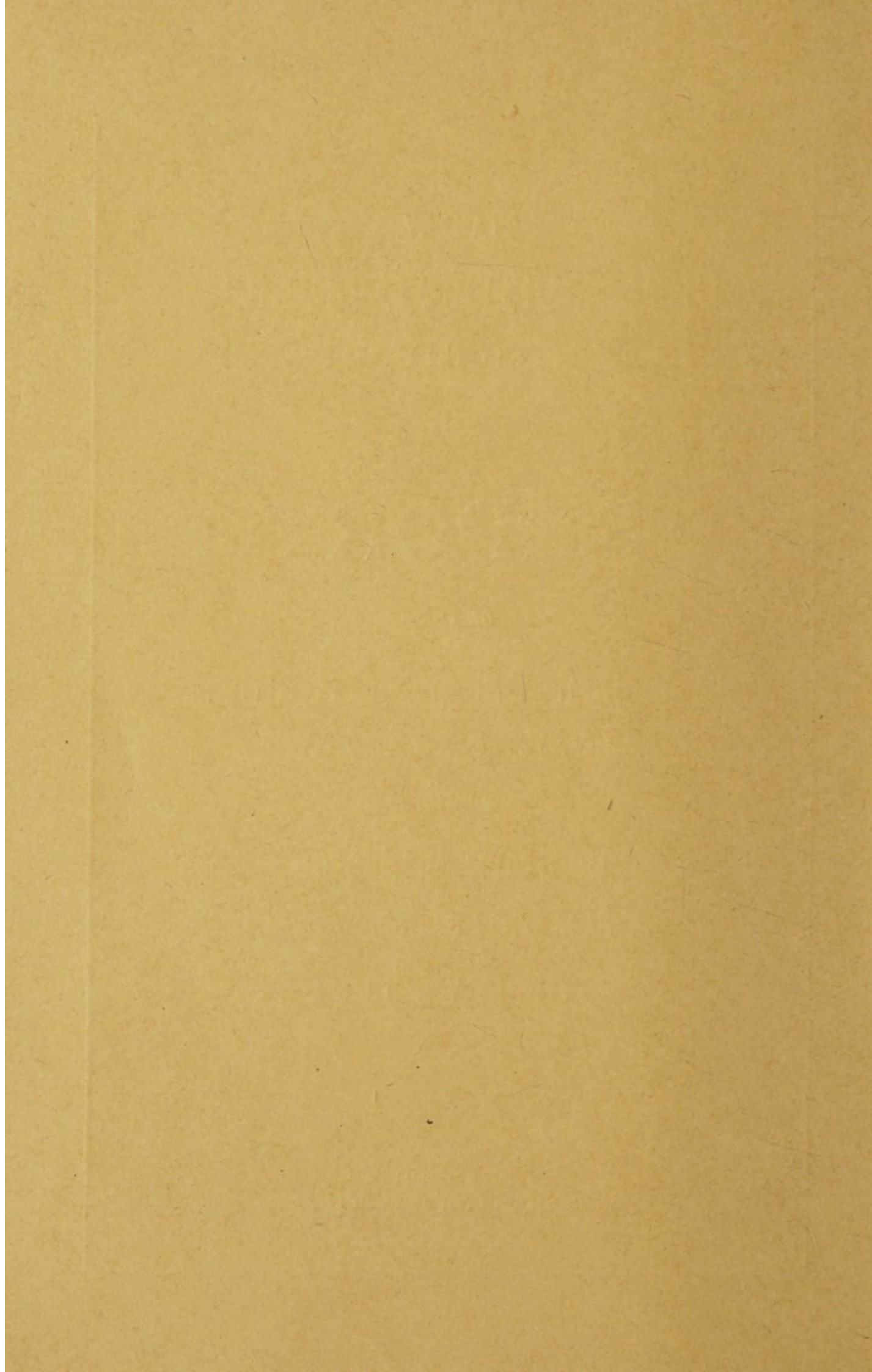
and the

Sanitary Inspector

R. BLAKEY, LL.B. (Hons.), D.P.A.

For the Year 1948

WAKEFIELD:
W. H. MILNES LTD., 16 WOOD STREET



Stanley (Yorks.) Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December, 1948

To the Stanley Urban District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1948 on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of your area.

Area : 5,169 acres.

Census figures, 1931 : 15,885.

Registrar General's Estimate for 1948 : 16,260.

Number of inhabited houses 1948, according to rate book, 5,084.

Rateable Value, Year commencing 1-4-48 : £60,850,

Net product of a penny rate, Year commencing 1-1-48 : £233 2s. 10d.

Statistics
and Social
Conditions
of the Area

The Urban District of Stanley is bounded on the South side by the City of Wakefield, on the North by the Urban District of Rothwell, on the West by the Boroughs of Morley and Ossett, and on the East by the Urban Districts of Rothwell and Normanton and the Rural District of Wakefield.

This Report may be considered in almost all respects to be a satisfactory one. In some ways, indeed, it is outstandingly satisfactory. I would refer particularly to the fall in the Infantile Mortality Rate which this year stands at 32·26.

The Birth Rate, it is true, has fallen slightly, but still remains fairly high at 19·43. The Death Rate remains low and again the vast bulk of deaths occur in the later years of life.

The problem of the aged and infirm is still acute and seems likely to remain so. The Home Help service now operating can do something to ameliorate hardship and, indeed, has proved a great boon to numbers of elderly folk who are unable to manage their domestic affairs and who are without the help of neighbours or relatives. Unfortunately, however, there remains a considerable number of chronic sick, suffering from conditions such as stroke, cancer, and senile degeneration, for whom, at the present time, it is possible to do very little. Acute shortage of Hospital beds for such cases as these makes Institutional admission virtually impossible and it is a matter of almost daily experience to have to deal with matters arising out of this type of case. It is fair, at this point, to pay tribute to the Welfare side of the County Council's Health and Welfare Department. The Welfare section is proving most helpful and co-operative and it is possible always to make an approach in the knowledge that whatever help can be given will be freely and generously forthcoming.

I regret to have to record three deaths from Enteritis in children under two years. This condition is usually found to be due to some infection and must be regarded as preventable in the majority of cases. A death in an infant, caused by Gastro-enteritis, usually represents a breakdown in the technique of "clean" feeding. It is possible to state that only in the case of bottle fed infants does Gastro-enteritis occur and this constitutes a great argument in favour of the maintenance of breast feeding.

Of the Housing position, one can only say that in Stanley Urban District all that can be done under present circumstances, is being done. As in other areas, great difficulty is found, due to the age and insanitary condition of large numbers of houses. It is still not possible to deal with these as Clearance Areas and the representation of large numbers under Section 11 causes very considerable embarrassment to the House Letting Committee, who have so many other claims for consideration in the allocation of new houses. At the same time, it is essential to ensure that no unfit house, once having been vacated, should be re-let. Thus, it is my intention, whenever possible, to continue to deal with such cases as Individual Unfit Houses, and to ensure that they shall no longer be let, once they are vacated.

			M.	F.	Total	Vital Statistics Live Births
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	138	157	295	
Illegitimate	...	...	6	9	15	
		Total	144	166	310	

			M.	F.	Total	Still Births
Still Births—Legitimate	...	...	4	1	5	
Illegitimate	...	...	—	1	1	
		Total	4	2	6	

Birth rate (live and still) per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 1943.

			M.	F.	Total	Deaths
Deaths	...	...	75	79	154	

Deaths. *Rate per 1,000 total
(live and still) Births.*

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	1		3·16

Death rate of Infants under 1 year:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	32·26
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	33·90
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	—

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age): 3

Rate per 1,000 population	...	0·18
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	9·70

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... —

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 1·00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 28·00

Deaths in Age Groups			Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year	..	..	2	8	10
1—5 years	...	...	—	1	1
5—10	„	...	1	—	1
10—15	„	...	—	1	1
15—20	„	...	—	—	—
20—25	„	...	2	2	4
25—35	„	...	4	1	5
35—45	„	...	5	2	7
45—55	„	...	9	5	14
55—65	„	...	10	13	23
65—70	„	...	8	12	20
70—75	„	...	7	10	17
75—80	„	...	10	10	20
80—85	„	...	8	10	18
85—90	„	...	7	2	9
90—95	„	...	2	2	4
Totals	...	...	75	79	154

Death Rate The death rate for the district was 9·47 per 1,000 population.

Infantile Mortality Rate The table shews the infantile rates for the past 24 years.

1925	...	...	103·0	1937	...	...	29·4
1926	...	...	98·3	1938	...	...	69·5
1927	...	...	67·3	1939	...	...	42·9
1928	...	...	81·1	1940	...	...	79·29
1929	...	...	62·3	1941	...	...	37·8
1930	...	...	65·8	1942	...	...	47·6
1931	...	...	60·2	1943	...	...	54·2
1932	...	...	84·5	1944	...	...	50·2
1933	...	...	56·1	1945	...	...	45·0
1934	...	...	85·0	1946	...	...	31·74
1935	...	...	30·1	1947	...	...	53·07
1936	...	...	34·7	1948	...	...	32·26

The number of infantile deaths, i.e., deaths of infants under one year of age, during 1948 was 10.

Inquests 5 inquests and 3 post mortems were held in the district during the year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN 1948.

Net deaths from stated causes under one year of age in
Stanley Urban District.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months.	Total under 1 Year.
Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	2	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
Pneumonia .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3
Enteritis and Diarrhoea .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	3
Other Causes	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Totals	3	..	1	..	4	2	1	1	2	10

3 children under 2 years of age died from enteritis and diarrhoea during 1948.

Deaths of
Children
under 2
years of age
during 1948
from
Enteritis
and
Diarrhoea

The Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (the mortality rate during the first month of life) for 1948 was 12·9 per 1000 registered live births.

Neo-Natal
Mortality
Rate

Comparison with previous years is offered in the table below :—

1931	...	...	37.0	1940	...	...	52.8
1932	...	...	32.9	1941	...	...	21.1
1933	...	...	20.4	1942	...	...	29.3
1934	...	...	45.0	1943	...	...	33.9
1935	...	...	21.1	1944	...	...	35.5
1936	...	...	17.4	1945	...	...	30.0
1937	...	...	24.5	1946	...	...	15.8
1938	...	...	30.4	1947	...	...	19.5
1939	...	...	55.0	1948	...	...	12.9

and can be considered very satisfactory.

Zymotic
Death Rate

	Scarlet Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Enteric.	Small Pox.	Diarrhoea, under 2 years.	Zymotic Death Rate.
No. of Deaths	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	0.31

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT

Vital Statistics for the whole District during the year 1948, and previous years

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS			Total Deaths Registered in District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	Non-Residents Registered in the District	Residents Registered elsewhere	Under One Year of Age		At all Ages
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Registered Births		Number	Rate per 1,000
1925	15290	380	21.9	150	9.8	8	39	36	109.0	181	11.9
1926	14930	305	20.4	150	10.0	10	28	30	98.8	178	11.9
1927	14990	282	19.4	141	9.3	8	38	19	68.3	171	11.4
1928	14690	271	18.4	132	8.1	3	37	22	81.1	166	11.3
1929	14810	239	16.0	184	14.6	6	45	13	62.3	184	14.6
1930	14860	243	16.3	159	10.7	35	14	18	65.8	159	10.7
1931	14750	216	14.6	166	11.2	18	32	13	60.0	180	12.2
1932	14420	213	14.7	151	10.5	12	65	18	84.5	204	14.1
1933	14390	196	13.6	110	7.6	10	40	11	56.1	140	9.7
1934	14350	178	13.9	131	9.1	12	60	17	85.0	179	12.4
1935	14230	169	13.9	121	8.5	11	50	6	30.1	160	11.2
1936	14020	194	16.4	114	8.1	11	39	8	34.7	142	10.1
1937	15470	155	13.5	136	9.0	8	59	6	29.4	187	12.4
1938	15660	169	14.6	134	8.5	6	44	16	69.5	172	10.9
1939	15900	185	14.6	161	10.1	13	57	10	42.9	205	12.8
1940	15520	182	14.6	153	9.8	7	56	17	79.3	202	13.0
1941	15600	193	15.1	135	8.6	9	54	9	37.3	177	11.3
1942	15320	202	17.8	120	7.8	5	55	13	47.6	170	11.1
1943	15080	219	19.6	118	7.8	7	76	16	54.2	187	12.4
1944	14900	231	22.7	149	10.0	3	53	17	50.3	199	13.3
1945	14850	160	17.9	119	8.0	4	44	13	48.8	159	10.7
1946	15770	184	19.9	133	8.4	2	54	10	31.7	185	11.7
1947	15980	209	22.4	112	7.1	4	62	19	53.1	170	10.6
1948	16260	164	19.1	114	7.0	8	48	10	32.3	154	9.5

Causes of Death in 1948.

CAUSES OF DEATH				MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes				75	79
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	..	..	..	..
2.	Cerebro-Spinal fever	..	..	..	..
3.	Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..
4.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	1
5.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	1
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	..	..	3	1
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	1	..
8.	Syphilitic diseases	..	..	..	..
9.	Influenza	..	..	..	..
10.	Measles	..	..	..	..
11.	Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio encephalitis	..	..	..	..
12.	Acute infantile encephalitis	..	..	..	..
13.	Cancer of buc : cav : and oesoph : (M.), uterus (F.)	..	..	..	..
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	4	1
15.	Cancer of breast	..	..	..	3
16.	Cancer of all other sites	..	..	10	10
17.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..
18.	Intercranial vascular lesions	..	..	10	15
19.	Heart Disease	..	..	22	20
20.	Other circulatory diseases	..	..	6	1
21.	Bronchitis	..	..	6	4
22.	Pneumonia	..	..	2	4
23.	Other respiratory diseases	..	..	1	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	..	..	1	..
25.	Diarrhoea, under 2 years	..	..	1	2
26.	Appendicitis	..	..	..	..
27.	Other digestive diseases	..	..	1	2
28.	Nephritis	..	..	..	1
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion : sepsis	..	..	..	..
30.	Other maternal causes	..	..	..	1
31.	Premature birth	..	..	..	3
32.	Con : mal : birth inj : infant : dis :	..	..	1	..
33.	Suicide	..	..	..	..
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	..	..	..	..
35.	Other violent causes	..	..	2	..
36.	All other causes	..	..	4	8
Deaths of Infants under 1 year. { Total				2	8
{ Legitimate				2	8
{ Illegitimate .. .. .				..	..
Live Births. { Total				144	166
{ Legitimate				138	157
{ Illegitimate				6	9
Still-Births. { Total				4	2
{ Legitimate				4	1
{ Illegitimate .. .. .				..	1
Population (Resident)				16,260	
Comparability Factor				Not available for 1948	

BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES,)
 ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL)
 DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR)
 CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE)
 YEAR 1948. (England and Wales, London,
 126 Great Towns and 148
 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	Stanley U.D.C.	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resi- dent Popula- tion 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.					
Births :—					
Live Births ..	19.1	17.9 *	20.0	19.2	20.1
Still Births ..	0.37	9.42*	0.52	0.43	0.39
Deaths :—					
All Causes ..	9.5	10.8 *	11.6	10.7	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ..	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria ..	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis ..	0.31	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63
Influenza ..	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02
Smallpox ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio- encephalitis ..	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia ..	0.37	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54
Notifications :— (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever ..	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ..	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever ..	2.39	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37
Whooping Cough ..	7.38	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13
Diphtheria ..	0.00	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10
Erysipelas ..	0.43	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22
Smallpox ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ..	4.86	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17
Pneumonia ..	1.84	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57
Acute Polio-myelitis Acute Polio- encephalitis ..	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04
Deaths :—					
All causes under 1 year of age ..	32	34 †	39	32	31
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ..	9.7	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4
Notifications :— (Corrected)					
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ..	0.00	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34**

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

	Stanley U.D.C.	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
140 Abortion with Sepsis ..	0.00	0.11	9
141 Abortion without Sepsis ..	0.00	0.05	4
147 Puerperal Infections ..	0.00	0.13	
142-146, 148-150 Other Maternal Causes ..	3.16	0.73	

* Rates per 1,000 total Population.

† Per 1,000 related births.

** In London Puerperal fever alone was 0.61.

Principal Vital Statistics for the year 1948.

				Stanley Urban District	Aggregate of Rural Districts	Aggregate of Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales
Population	..	..	..	16,260	407756	1157204	1565000	..
Births	{	Male	..	144	1054	10729	14783	..
		Female	..	166	3792	10391	14183	..
		Total	..	310	7846	21120	28966	..
Deaths	{	Male	..	75	2129	7068	9197	..
		Female	..	79	1858	6594	8452	..
		Total	..	154	3987	13662	17649	..
Deaths under one year	{	Male	..	2	169	461	630	..
		Female	..	8	148	351	499	..
		Total	..	10	317	812	1129	..
Still Births	{	Male	..	4	89	306	395	..
		Female	..	2	90	235	325	..
		Total	..	6	179	541	720	..
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	316	8025	21661	29686	..
RATES.								
Birth	..	..	..	19'1	19'2	18'3	18'5	17'9
Death	..	..	..	9'5	9'8	11'8	11'3	10'8
Cancer	..	..	..	1'72	1'49	1'83	1'74	1'86
Heart and Circulatory	..	..	..	3'01	3'03	3'98	3'73	..
Diarrhoea under 2, per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	9'68	4'97	4'17	4'38	3'3
Zymotic	..	..	..	0'31	0'12	0'12	0'12	..
Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	1'11	1'15	1'34	1'29	..
Respiratory T.B.	..	..	..	0'25	0'36	0'37	0'37	0'44
Other T.B.	..	..	..	0'06	0'07	0'07	0'07	0'07
Total T.B.	..	..	..	0'31	0'43	0'44	0'44	0'51
Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	0'00	0'13	0'09	0'10	0'24
Other Maternal	..	..	..	3'16	1'12	1'02	1'05	0'78
Total	..	..	..	3'16	1'25	1'11	1'15	1'02
Infantile Mortality	..	..	..	32	40	38	39	34

SECTION B.

General Provisions of Health Services in the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

*Medical Officer of Health (part time):—Dr. A. L. Taylor, M.D., D.P.H.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector:—R. Blakey. Bachelor of Laws (2nd class honours), Diploma in Public Administration (Leeds University), Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

*Additional Sanitary Inspector:—D. Walker, Cert. R.S.I., A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerk:—Mr. R. Thorp.

Do. Mr. J. Bulmer.

*Half the salaries of these officers is paid by the County Council.

The County Laboratory is now completely under the control of the Medical Research Council and has continued to give unflinching and courteous help throughout the year. No difficulty is encountered in getting any examinations carried out and the information is always prompt and accurate. Samples of milk taken under the Foods and Drugs Act are submitted to the County Analyst at Bradford, to whom samples of water and foodstuffs are also sent.

Laboratory
Facilities

The coming into force of the National Health Service Act in July, 1948, removed from the control of this Authority its ambulance service. Initially, this caused some confusion and this was heightened by a remarkable increase in the demand—I use the word advisedly, as distinct from need—for ambulance services. Fortunately, the initial troubles appear to be lessening and the ambulance service which, for the Stanley area has its main Depot at Wakefield, is now functioning much more smoothly, complaints regarding delay becoming progressively less frequent. No charge is now made for the use of the ambulance.

Ambulance
Facilities

Home Nursing, again, has been removed to the administrative control of the County Council and is locally administered under the Divisional Health Scheme. Home Nursing in the Stanley area is carried out by three Home Nurses working in

Nursing in
the Home

the Wrenthorpe and Kirkhamgate, Outwood, and Stanley areas respectively. This is a service which is much appreciated, and for which the demand is great and growing. The shortage of beds for chronic sick, mentioned previously in this report, means that many patients requiring nursing care have to stay at home, and it is with great relief that I can inform you that all demands have been adequately met throughout the year.

Clinics and Treatment

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are still operating as previously, at Stanley, Outwood and Wrenthorpe.

Hospitals

General Infectious diseases :—As predicted, smaller fever Hospitals everywhere have been, or are being, closed down and in some cases converted to other uses. Carr Gate is no exception to the general rule and infectious diseases cases are now admitted to the Snapethorpe Hospital in Wakefield, or the Seacroft Hospital in Leeds. The general practice of retaining the majority of Scarlet Fever cases at home, and the complete disappearance of Diphtheria as an epidemic disease, has greatly lessened the need for fever hospitals and makes possible the admission of fever cases to one or two large hospitals serving a very big area and population.

Cardigan Smallpox Hospital is of course now under the control of the Regional Hospital Board and its future is uncertain.

During recent years, when smallpox in the district has fortunately not been prevalent, the Hospital has been leased to the West Riding County Council for use as a sanatorium. Arrangements are such that the premises would be vacated and made immediately available in the event of an outbreak of smallpox.

General Hospitals :—Since the formation of the Regional Hospital Board, the County General Hospital is now known as the Wakefield General Hospital, and under its new name carries on efficiently those services from which we have for so long benefited in the past. In addition, cases are admitted to Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, the General Infirmary at Leeds, and the Hospital for Women, Leeds.

Midwifery and Maternity Services

A full staff of Midwives has been maintained by the County Council throughout the year and all are regularly administering Gas and Air Analgesia.

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operative spirit shown by Stanley Urban District Council in making available housing accommodation for a Midwife appointed to the Stanley area.

SECTION C.

It has not been necessary to obtain any new source of Water water supply during the year. The Council still continue to take the district's supply in bulk from the Wakefield Corporation and redistribute it to this district.

The whole of the houses in the district have water laid on to indoor taps from the Council's mains. No action was necessary during the year.

Three samples of water were taken during the year and the appended table showing the chemical analysis of these samples proves that the standard was entirely satisfactory.

Total Solids	..	14·0	11·0	12·0
Chlorides	...	1·2	1·1	1·2
Nitrites	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrates	...	Trace	Nil	Nil
Free Ammonia	...	·002	·002	·002
Albuminoid	...	·002	·002	·002
Metals	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Hardness	...	4·2	7·2	6·0
Ph. Value	...	6·8	7·4	7·0

The chemical data is satisfactory.

The Sewage works are still not all one could desire, but it Rivers and has not been possible to undertake the radical reconstruction Sewage required. One feels that the provision of increasing numbers of new houses using the water carriage system of disposal will ultimately force a very extensive scheme of reconstruction to be undertaken. The time, however, is not yet, and some years may elapse before this action is possible.

No complaint has been received respecting the sewers of Drains and the district and apart from extending the existing sewers for Sewers Council estates there has been no other development during the year.

Closet
Accommo-
dation

Five privies were converted into W.C.'s during the year.

I append the table showing the number and type of closets in comparison with 1926.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Privies</i>	<i>No. of W.C.'s</i>	<i>No. of Waste W.C.'s</i>
1926	1,092	1,387	12
1948	133	4,525	12

Public
Cleansing

The cleansing of the District is still carried on by direct labour and the standard has been reasonably satisfactory throughout the year. Cesspools are emptied by the mechanical Gully Emptier and no nuisance arises therefrom. The 15 cesspools in the district were cleansed regularly each month.

Sanitary
Inspection
of Area**Infectious Disease Prevention.**

Inspections and Disinfections	...	...	...	39
Further Enquiries	...	...	...	8
Schools Disinfected	...	...	...	—
Other Disinfections	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	1
Scabies Visits	...	...	...	—
				48

Cowsheds and Dairies.

Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	40
Milk Samples	...	...	...	59
Meat Inspections	...	...	...	23
Bakehouses	...	...	...	21
Food Inspections...	...	...	...	67
Water Sampling...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream Sampling	...	...	...	—
				218

Housing.

Houses inspected and recorded	...	...	...	192
General Surveys	...	...	...	74
Council houses	...	...	...	34
P.H. Act Inspections	...	...	...	157
Re-visits	...	...	...	132
				589

Offensive Trades.

Knackers Yards	...	...	...	5	
Blood Boiling	...	...	...	—
					5

Sanitary Matters.

For Nuisances	...	...	...	435	
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	41	
Privies	...	...	...	128	
Drains Tested	...	...	...	90	
Piggeries	...	...	...	6	
Rat Infestations	...	...	...	82	
Inspection of New Drains	...	...	...	14	
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	43	
					839

Scavenging.

Inspections	...	...	...	11	
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	172	
Supervision of Workmen	...	...	...	120	
					303
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	42	
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	18	
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	399	
Council House Complaints	...	...	...	665	
Inspection of repairs	...	...	...	376	
Interviews	...	...	...	515	
					2015

Number of Statutory Notices (Housing Act and Public Health Acts)	...	...	...	...	36
Number of Statutory Notices (Sect. 17 H.A. 1936)					986
Number of Letters sent	...	...	...	...	2343
Sub-committees attended	...	...	...	...	46
Number of Nuisances abated on serving Statutory Notice (P.H. Acts)	...	...	...	...	36

The majority of the shops in the district are of small **Shops Act** house type and no complaint has been received in respect to the larger shops in the district where assistants are employed.

There are no camping sites in the district.

Camping Sites

It is a matter of common knowledge in this area that the **Smoke Abatement** emanations from colliery chimneys are worse than ever before. Approaches have been made at frequent intervals but no satisfactory solution has been found. Under present circumstances it is impossible to predict any substantial reduction of

this gross and annoying evil. It is my belief that in this area the vast majority of atmospheric pollution is caused by emanations from collieries, spoil banks, coke ovens and similar establishments. Were these converted to a reasonable standard of smokelessness, the problem of atmospheric pollution would be considerably more than half solved.

**Colliery
Spoil Heaps**

The two spoil heaps on fire have been carefully watched throughout the year and any recrudescence has been made the subject of representation to the National Coal Board. It is fair to say that any approach has always been met with courtesy and that the action taken in every instance has resulted in a diminution of the nuisance.

**Eradication
of
Bed Bugs**

41 houses were reported upon as verminous and were sprayed with liquid insecticide to which D.D.T. had been added by personnel of the department. The results were quite satisfactory and only on few occasions was it necessary to give a second treatment.

**Offensive
Trades**

No offensive trade of any dimensions is carried on in the district.

While fish frying is not now regarded as an offensive trade it can be mentioned here that 40 visits have been made to the 26 fish shops in the district. The standard of cleanliness and appliances is generally good but there are several situated in old property where improvements can be made when labour and materials are available.

**i. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector)**

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	41	—	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ..	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	43	42	—	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found. (If defects are discovered on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases).

	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	---	---	---	---	---
Overcrowding	---	---	---	---	---
Unreasonable temperature	---	---	---	---	---
Inadequate ventilation	---	---	---	---	---
Ineffective drainage of floors	---	---	---	---	---
Sanitary Conveniences :—					
Insufficient	---	---	---	---	---
Not separate for sexes	---	---	---	---	---
Unsuitable or defective	---	---	---	---	---
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	---	---	---	---	---
Total	---	---	---	---	---

Outwork.

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
WEARING APPAREL :—						
Making, etc. ..	3	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other items as specified on Form 572 (Revised)	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	3	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION D.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	349
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	555
	2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1942	192
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose.	266
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	192	
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	—	
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices		Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	
	(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..	—
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a)	By owners	—
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	—
	(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	157

(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of notices :—	
(a)	By owners	36
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of representations etc. made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation	13
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	13
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition & Clearance Orders...	—
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	75
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	172
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	511
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	5
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	8
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases...	34
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

Again, the overcrowding figures are partly conjectural. At the same time, I think that they give a fairly good idea of the position existing to-day. In any case, the pre-war figures are by now hopelessly inaccurate and have no present-day value.

192 houses were inspected and recorded with a view to action under the Housing Act as soon as it is possible to re-house the occupants.

All other defects were dealt with under the Public Health Act, 1936, as this has been found to be the more expedient method of procedure particularly in respect of the older type of property from which most complaints emanate.

Thirteen houses were represented to the Council as being entirely unfit for human habitation.

Since commencing housing operations on a large scale in 1935, the following clearance areas and individual unfit houses have been dealt with :—

Clearance Areas :—

Number of Clearance Areas declared	...	...	48
Number of houses therein	...	...	279
Number of persons involved	...	...	994
Number of Clearance Orders confirmed	...	...	48

Individual unfit houses :—

Number of houses represented	...	...	119
Number of Demolition Orders	...	...	78
Number of Closing Orders	...	...	14
Number of undertakings to repair	...	...	22

During 1948 the Council completed 138 permanent houses, of which 38 were permanent prefabricated bungalows. There were 9 privately built houses completed. Since the war, 40 temporary prefabricated bungalows have been built and occupied. 28 houses have been built by private enterprise since the war. The total number of Council houses built since the war to the end of 1948 is 218, composed of 140 permanent brick houses, 38 permanent prefabricated bungalows, and 40 temporary prefabricated bungalows.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

59 official samples of milk were taken from the retailers of the district and submitted to the Public Analyst. Of these, 50 were genuine, 1 was deficient in milk fats, and 8 were deficient in non-fatty solids. The Analyst was of the opinion, after applying the freezing test that the latter samples were not adulterated. The County Council issued a warning to the retailers supplying the sample deficient in milk fats. Milk Supply

40 visits were made to the various cowsheds in the district.

Almost all the Ice Cream sold from registered premises in the district is pre-packed and thus free from the risk of contamination due to any handling during the course of sale. No case of illness due to the consumption of suspected ice cream arose during the year, and careful watch was kept on all premises registered for the purpose of sale of ice cream. Ice Cream

While all fresh meat is killed centrally, and outside this area, a close watch has been kept on all meat coming into the district and particularly in respect to its handling. Various improvements have been made at the meat allocation centre. A table showing details of meat and food condemned is given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report. Meat and Food Inspection

There are no shell-fish layings in this district.

Shell-fish

CASES NOTIFIED IN 1948 IN AGE GROUPS.

Disease.	0-1 yr.	1-3 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 yrs. and over.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	M ..	2	7	5	3	..	1	..	..	18
	F ..	1	6	11	2	1	..	..	..	21
Whooping Cough	M ..	16	21	15	..	..	..	..	..	57
	F ..	22	23	13	..	..	..	..	..	63
Measles	M ..	16	17	7	1	..	..	..	..	43
	F ..	17	10	9	..	..	..	..	..	36
Pneumonia	M ..	3	1	2	..	1	1	2	1	12
	F ..	2	..	2	2	1	3	6	1	18
Erysipelas	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	5
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
Diphtheria	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poleomyelitis	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery Sonné	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox	M ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	M ..	37	46	29	4	1	3	4	3	135
	F ..	42	39	35	4	2	4	6	2	140
		14	85	64	8	3	7	10	5	275

Incidence of Diseases 1948.

Incidence of Disease.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Scarlet Fever ..	6	2	3	2	5	1	1	2	4	4	4	5	39
Whooping Cough ..	9	7	14	17	2	5	2	9	20	6	16	13	120
Measles ..	5	21	13	3	10	6	3	3	5	..	3	7	79
Pneumonia ..	5	2	8	..	..	1	1	2	1	4	4	2	30
Erysipelas ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	2	7
Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paratyphoid ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery Sonne ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	25	32	39	22	17	13	7	17	31	15	28	29	275
Scabies ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TUBERCULOSIS.

Record of Cases during 1948.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
No. of cases on Register at beginning of year	18	32	12	2
No. of cases notified for first time during year	6	2	1	2
No. of cases added to Register	—	—	—	—
No. removed to other districts	1	1	—	—
No. Cured	3	2	—	2
Removed from Register :—revised diagnosis	—	1	1	—
No. Died from other causes	—	—	—	—
Totals	17	29	11	2

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—35	1	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	2	1	2	3	1	1	—

Tuberculosis (New Cases) for past 18 years.

Year	New Cases		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1931 ...	28	5	16	3
1932 ...	17	14	9	4
1933 ...	17	1	8	1
1934 ...	10	3	6	—
1935 ...	11	7	8	1
1936 ...	6	6	6	3
1937 ...	13	7	6	2
1938 ...	9	2	8	—
1939 ...	17	7	5	2
1940 ...	10	6	7	1
1941 ...	10	5	7	2
1942 ...	18	4	10	12
1943 ...	21	3	9	—
1944 ...	7	3	5	1
1945 ...	10	7	2	2
1946 ...	9	8	5	1
1947 ...	12	2	4	1
1948 ...	8	3	4	1

Tuberculosis.

Again, figures for 1948 show little change compared with the previous year. There was a slight diminution of pulmonary new cases from 12 to 8, but the total of five deaths was identical in number and analysis with last year's total. Close liaison is kept with the Tuberculosis Officer and the Chest Clinic. All cases are investigated and any possible improvement in housing circumstances is made. At the same time, however, it is necessary to point out, once again, that only infectious cases which cannot be segregated can be given any degree of priority in relation to re-housing. So acute is the staffing shortage at Sanatoria that many grossly infectious cases are discharged home, and constitute a deadly reservoir of infection and a cause of perpetuation and a spread of the disease. The only hope of diminution lies in improvement in the facilities for sanatorium accommodation, and the absolute separation of all infectious cases from intimate daily contact with other members of the community.

Infectious Diseases.

I am happy to be able to record that last year's high incidence of Infantile Paralysis was not repeated in 1948, when no single case occurred.

No notification of Diphtheria was received throughout the year. It was, therefore, with considerable surprise that I received an Inward Death from the Registrar General indicating that a child had died during 1948 in a neighbouring general Hospital, with a diagnosis of Laryngeal Diphtheria. On enquiry it was discovered that no post mortem was done and that although swabs were taken, no Diphtheria bacilli were isolated. Further, the child had been fully immunised several months previously. The diagnosis was presumptive, and in my own opinion grave doubt must be felt as to its correctness. At the same time, I have no choice but to accept it as a death due to Diphtheria.

Immunisation has been steadily kept up throughout the year, although it is necessary to remark that there is a tendency towards falling off due to the imagined absence from the community of the Diphtheria germ. I should like to reiterate that it will be dangerous to allow the number of protected children to fall and every effort is being made to maintain the very high percentage protected.

Scarlet Fever, with 39 cases, continued mild in type. It is no longer thought necessary to admit every case to Hospital, and Medical Practitioners are being encouraged to nurse their patients at home where, in their opinion, this can be done without detriment to patient or family.

Once again, no case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified.

Measles, in the usual inter-epidemic period, showed a low incidence of 79 cases, and no death from the disease occurred.

It is disappointing to have to record an increase in the number of Whooping Cough notifications, and a continued lack of facilities for immunisation. Material is being tested at the present time and high hopes are entertained that it will be introduced on a wide scale for protection of infants in the very near future. Permission has not yet been granted to Local Authorities and one can only hope that this will not be unnecessarily withheld. One death from Whooping Cough occurred.

Infestation was virtually non-existent. No Scabies was notified during the year and pediculosis was limited to a small number of school children. These were dealt with by the use of lethane oil.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during the year 1948.

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths		
			M.	F.	TOTAL.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	39	34	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	1	1
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	30	1	2	4	6
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	2	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	120	—	—	1	1
Measles	79	—	—	—	—
Totals	275	37	2	6	8

Once again, I have pleasure in expressing my thanks to Mr. Blakey and the staff of the Health Department. Throughout the year they have given that ready and courteous co-operation which one has come to expect from them, and their willingness to undertake every investigation and furnish the fullest particulars thereon has made for the smooth and efficient working of the environmental preventive health Service.

Finally, to the Chairman and Members of the Council, I must also say "Thank You" for their sympathy and help throughout the year.

I beg to remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. L. TAYLOR.

Stanley Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

(R. BLAKEY, LL.B. (Hons.), D.P.A.)

For the Year 1948.

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my sixteenth Annual Report upon the work done by your Health Department during the year.

Many of the records of inspections made will be found in the earlier part of the report. While repair work is still being delayed because of the large number of orders still outstanding on tradesmen's books and because of high labour costs a fair amount of progress has been made as will be seen from the records of work done.

Abatement of Nuisances.

Number of Privies converted into W.C.'s	...	5
Do. W.C.'s provided	...	5
Do. Choked drains and W.C.'s cleared	...	185
Do. Sink wastes repaired	...	11
Do. Defective drains relaid	...	14
Do. New drains laid...	...	1
Do. Gully traps fixed	...	-
Do. Water closets repaired	...	17
Do. Inspection chambers repaired	...	-
Do. Eaves gutters/down spouts repaired	...	47
Do. House roofs repaired	...	79
Do. Flooded cellars	...	-
Do. Damp houses remedied	...	64
Do. Damp proof courses fixed	...	-
Do. House floors repaired	...	12
Do. Walls replastered	...	64
Do. New sinks fixed	...	7
Do. Windows re-corded and repaired	...	38
Do. Fireplaces repaired	...	-
Do. Washing coppers repaired	...	9
Do. Defective dustbins removed	...	324
Do. Privy middens abolished...	...	5
Do. Ashpits abolished	...	9
Do. Bins provided in lieu of ashpits	...	9
Do. Verminous premises	...	41
Do. Dirty premises	...	1
Do. Beetle infested premises	...	28
Do. Rat infested premises	...	22
Do. Burst services	...	31
Do. Ashpits repaired	...	-
Do. W.C. Soil pipes repaired	...	15
Do. Ceilings repaired	...	-
Do. Doors repaired/renewed	...	20
Do. Bath wastes repaired	...	-
Do. Miscellaneous cleansing	...	-
Do. Cooking ranges repaired	...	27
Do. Defective chimneys	...	10
Do. Insanitary yards	...	6
Do. Accumulations of refuse	...	1
Do. Dangerous buildings	...	1
Do. Unsatisfactory W.C. accommodation	...	-

Meat Inspection.

As a result of the centralisation of slaughtering no fresh meat is killed in the district. The allocation centre for the district is visited regularly and a great improvement has been made in respect to the handling of the meat at this centre.

Milk and other Foods.

59 official samples of milk were taken from retailers in the district and submitted to the Public Analyst for his analysis. Of these samples one only was found to be deficient in fat and a warning was issued by the County Council. 8 of the samples contained less solids not fat than the law prescribes but application of the freezing test indicated that water had not been added.

67 visits were made for the purpose of inspecting food and it was found necessary to condemn the following:—

Sugar	...	37 lbs.	...	Contamination
Beef	...	239 lbs.	...	Putrefaction
Meat Lunch (tin)		12 oz.	...	Blown
Beast Lungs (sets)		2	...	Tuberculosis
Ham	...	12½ lbs.	...	Putrefaction
Rolled Oats	...	145 lbs.	...	Mites Infestation
Lambs tongues (tin)		16 oz.	...	Blown
Beasts livers	...	13 lbs.	...	Tuberculosis

Cowsheds.

The Cowsheds of the district have again been regularly inspected during the year. No statutory action was necessary and only minor defects were noted which were rectified. Limewashing was done throughout at the stated premises.

Bakehouses.

21 inspections of the bakehouses of the district were carried out and nothing to complain of was found.

Offensive Trades.

No offensive trade is carried on in the district. Blood boiling in a very small way is carried out by several butchers but not enough to class as a trade.

The trade of fish frying is carried on at 26 premises. Various structural improvements have been made in several of these and there now remains only 5 which are below our standard.

Factories and Workshops.

42 visits were made to factories and workshops of the district, and the premises were found to be satisfactory. No notice was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect to any defect.

Smoke Abatement.

43 observations of chimneys in the district were taken during the year. Again I have to report that the only chimney from which black smoke has consistently issued was a Colliery chimney. Representations have been made to the National Coal Board but there has been no amelioration of the trouble.

Housing.

Housing inspection has again been in the forefront of our work and complaints from householders have received immediate attention. As stated previously a number of houses are in a deplorable structural condition and many are likely to remain so until more houses are built. 13 houses were dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, but we are only touching the fringe of the problem. The only solution is more and more houses to enable us to tackle the problem as we were doing pre-war.

Summary of Improvements to Dwelling Houses during 1948.

(a) Improvements for external dilapidations or to prevent dampness, such as repairs or renewing of gutters, rainwater pipes, walls, provision of open areas, etc.	418
(b) Improvements for internal dilapidations or defects, including repairs and renewals to floors, walls, ceilings, windows, and provision of food pantries ...	182
(c) Improved means of ventilation to living rooms and pantries, such as the insertion of air grates ...	—
(d) Improvements to closets and ashpits, including the conversion of privies into water closets, substitution of ashbins for ashpits, additional means of closet accommodation.	42
(e) Improvements to drainages, including drains re-laid, chambers inserted, ventilation provided, etc.	30
	<hr/>
	672
	<hr/>

Overcrowding.

It will be seen from the previous table that 8 cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year by the allocation of council houses.

Privy Conversions.

5 privies were converted into water closets during 1948 and an additional 6 were actually in course of conversion at the end of the year but not completed.

In addition to conveniences in use as shown in the table below there were 14 pail closets.

No. and Type of Closet			No. and Type of Ashpits				Cess-pools emptied by Sanitary Staff
Privies to convert in all parts of the District	Water Carriage System		Total No. of Ashpits of all kinds	Privy Ashpits	Dry Ashpits	Bins	
	Fresh Water	Waste Water or Hand Flushed					
133	4525	12	4773	82	12	4679	15

Cesspools.

The 15 cesspools in the district are cleansed monthly by the Council's own 750 gallon mechanical gully and cesspool emptier. The work is now done satisfactorily, hygienically, and regularly.

Disinfection.

The Disinfection of infected premises is done by means of formalin lamps.

Number of Disinfections 39

Verminous Premises.

41 houses were found to be infested with bugs and these were sprayed with liquid insecticide, viz., Vermicene, to which D.D.T. is added. A very high standard was obtained by using insecticide and no case had to be re-treated.

No request for sulphur candles was received during the year, a sure sign that the Public are becoming D.D.T. conscious.

Cockroach Infestation.

28 persons complained of cockroach infestation. Gamm-axene powder was put down in the premises affected and in the majority of cases this proved effective.

Cleansing and Salvage.

The cleansing of the district is done by direct labour. Bins are emptied at intervals of 7 days except after holidays when some delay occurs. Three lorries are fully engaged on scavenging and one lorry is used solely for salvage work. As mentioned previously salvage collection which is done at the same time as the scavenging increased the cost of the latter service as some delay is of necessity caused by waiting for householder's salvage.

Refuse collected is deposited on farmers' tips which in the majority of cases are a considerable distance from dwellings.

Miscellaneous Table.

Letters sent out—General	...	...	2343
Informal notices—Housing	...	...	986
Legal notices—Abatement of Nuisances	...	...	36

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. BLAKEY.

