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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN



THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

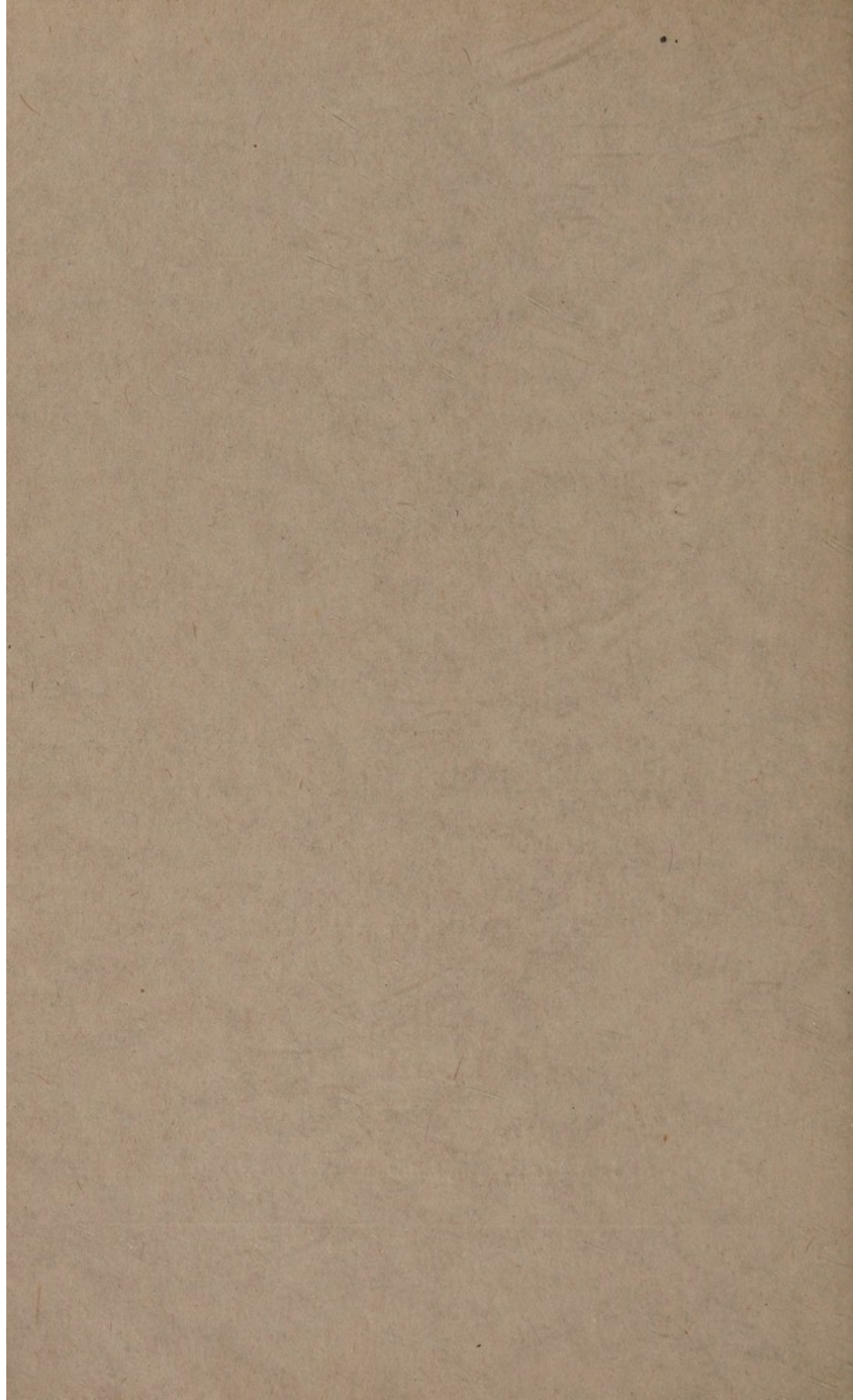
Chief Sanitary Inspector

(L. A. CRABTREE, C.R.SAN.I.)

1944

A. J. MUIR, M.B., CH.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.

John Bentley & Sons, Printers, etc., Todmorden.



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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent, Fielden Joint Hospital—

A. J. MUIR, M.B., Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.

(Resigned Oct., 1944).

Medical Officer to the Ante-Natal Clinic—

* M. M. THIERENS, M.B.

Consultant for Difficult Obstetric Cases occurring in Private Practice—

* B. L. JEAFFRESON, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Ophthalmic Surgeon and Nose and Throat Consultant—

* R. W. GREATOREX, M.B.

Dental Officer to Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic—

* E. B. GIBSON, L.D.S., (Resigned June, 1944).

* J. B. JACKSON, L.D.S., (Commenced July, 1944).

Sanitary Inspector—

† L. A. CRABTREE, C.R.SAN.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector—

C. BAXTER, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors—

*† MRS. A. N. GEE, S.R.N., S.C.M., C.R.SAN.I.

*† MISS A. SMITH, S.R.N., S.C.M.

*† MISS M. A. MAY, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Commenced June, 1944; Resigned Nov. 1944).

Clerical Staff—

* MR. H. MARSHALL, A.C.I.S. (H.M. Forces).

* MRS. G. HODGINS.

* MISS J. SUTCLIFFE.

MRS. E. E. WADDILOVE, C.R.SAN.I.

Dental Attendant—

* MISS W. FIELDEN.

Matron of Fielden Joint Hospital—

MISS E. J. BREW-HUNTER, S.R.N., R.F.N. (Housekeeping Certificate)

Master and Matron of Sourhall Joint Hospital—

MR. AND MRS. KIRKBY.

* Part Time.

† Hold Meat Inspection Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

† Hold Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

The Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre,
 Todmorden,
 September, 1945.

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors—

GENTLEMEN—

I have pleasure in presenting my fifth Annual Report on the Health Services.

The most noteworthy feature of the statistics is the low infantile mortality rate. There were only seven deaths occurring in infants under one year, giving an infant death rate of 26 per 1000 live births. This compared very favourably with 1943 when the rate was 70 per 1000. In an industrial town such a low figure is highly satisfactory.

Another pleasing feature is the excellent attendance at the Ante-Natal Clinic. During the year 229 patients attended or approximately 83% of the total births in the town. This figure can scarcely be improved upon. It is a great tribute to the zeal and personality of Dr. Thierens who has conducted the clinic for so many years and who has built it up from a very small beginning to what it is to-day—a first rate service which is greatly appreciated by the women of the town.

Scarlet Fever was fairly prevalent during the year and accounted for 40 notifications of which 39 were admitted to hospital.

There were 153 notified cases of measles. There were probably many more actual cases as parents do not always call in a doctor so that many cases remain unnotified.

There were two notified cases of diphtheria and both children died. One child had been immunised and this is the first death I have seen in an immunised person although cases have been recorded in other parts of the country.

Parents should be careful to call in medical advice for every case of sore throat and when children have swelling of the neck. Severe diphtheria often simulates mumps and a doctor should always be called in when a child appears to be suffering from this condition. If anti-serum is given early in the disease the chance of death occurring is very small. Where serum is not given until five or six days have passed the consequences may be very grave.

Difficulty was experienced in securing a Health Visitor during the year and this accounts for the diminution of visits done. Many of the visits are done in remote and inaccessible parts of the Borough and when the quota of Health Visitors is not at full strength the Council should consider the advisability of granting a car allowance to one of the nurses to enable the work to be done with the reduced staff available.

Scabies was very prevalent during the year, there being 391 cases. On another page I have stressed the waste of nurses' time in carrying out treatments when other more urgent work requires to be done.

As this is my final report I should like to acknowledge my gratitude to the Council for the consideration shewn to me and to my staff for their support and loyalty during my term of office; it was a pleasure to work in such a happy atmosphere.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. J. MUIR.

SECTION I.

VITAL STATISTICS

STATISTICS.

Area. 12,790 acres.

Population—Census 1931. 22,222 persons.

Registrar General's estimate of
Resident Population, mid. 1944, 17,680.

Number of dwelling-houses, 7,084.

Rateable value £113,834.

Product of a penny rate £449.

Rainfall at Gorpley Reservoir during 1944, 63.77 inches

Summary of Vital Statistics.

	Total	M	F	
Live Births—				
Legitimate	259	148	111	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated res- ident population 15.4
Illegitimate	13	5	8	
Still Births	7	5	2	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 25.1.
Deaths	315	156	159	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 17.8.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES—

	Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 total (live and still) Births	
Puerperal Sepsis ...	nil	...	nil
Other Puerperal Causes	1	...	3.58

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE—

All infants per 1000 live births ...	26
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births...	27
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0

DEATHS FROM Cancer (all ages) ...	41
Measles (all ages) ...	0
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	0

Tuberculosis Death Rate (all cases) ..	0.17
Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate ..	0.06
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate	0.11
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding tuberculosis)	2.54

CAUSES OF DEATH IN TODMORDEN, M.B.

Causes of Death				1943		1944	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes	..	..	..	152	172	156	159
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever				—	—	—	—
2 Measles	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	..	..	..	1	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—	2	—
6 Influenza	..	..	..	7	7	3	—
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	..			—	—	—	—
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	..			—	—	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	..	..	..	4	3	1	—
10 Other Tuberculous diseases	..			1	2	1	1
11 Syphilis	..	..	..	1	1	1	2
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis				—	—	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	..			20	14	23	18
14 Diabetes	..	..	..	1	1	2	5
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	..			31	26	15	23
16 Heart Disease	..	..	..	26	42	33	50
17 Aneurysm	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	..			8	9	12	6
19 Bronchitis	..	..	..	9	16	23	15
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	..			8	5	4	2
21 Other respiratory diseases	..			1	4	—	1
22 Peptic ulcer	..	..	..	3	—	4	1
23 Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)				—	—	—	—
24 Appendicitis	..	..	..	—	1	—	—
25 Cirrhosis of liver	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
26 Acute infantile encephalitis	..			1	—	—	—
27 Other digestive diseases	..			2	5	1	6
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	..			7	5	4	9
29 Puerperal sepsis	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
30 Other puerperal causes	..			—	1	—	1
31 Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	..			4	7	4	2
32 Senility	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
33 Suicide	..	..	..	1	3	5	1
34 Other deaths from violence	..			6	5	4	1
35 Other defined diseases	..			10	15	14	15
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown				—	—	—	—

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1944.

	Rate per 1000 total population		Annual Death Rate per 1000 Population.							Rate per 1000 Live Births		
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	17.6	0.50	11.6	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.12	4.8	46
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	20.3	0.64	13.7	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.10	7.3	52
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931) ...	20.9	0.61	12.4	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.11	4.4	44
TODMORDEN	15.4	0.39	17.8	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.17	0.0	26

Puerperal Sepsis

Other

Total

The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales

(per 1000 Total Births)

0.31

...

2.62

...

2.93

The Maternal Mortality Rates for TODMORDEN

(per 1000 Total Births)

—

...

3.58

...

3.58

SECTION II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

A. HOSPITALS.

The Hospital facilities are as described in previous reports.

B. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

This is undertaken by the Local Nursing Association.

C. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The facilities provided are ample for the needs of the Borough.

Two ambulances are used for general, and one for infectious cases.

D. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Are as described in previous Reports.

E. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These are provided by the West Riding County Council at a central laboratory at Wakefield. The following table gives particulars of the specimens sent to the County Laboratory from Todmorden during 1944.

Blood Films for Cytological Examination	..	2
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	.. ..	14
Swabs for B. Diphtheriae	.. ..	57
Urines and Faeces for B. typhosus, etc.	..	1
Waters for Bacteriological examination	..	52
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	..	2
Urines for Tubercle Bacilli and Organisms	..	2
Milk for Bacteriological Examination	..	96
Milk for Tubercle Bacilli	.. ..	5
Miscellaneous Specimens	.. ..	1
Total	.. ..	232

F. ISSUE OF ANTI-TOXIN, Etc.

A supply of diphtheria anti-toxin is kept at the Health Department, Ridgefoot, for the use of medical practitioners practising in the area. During 1944 some 32,000 units of diphtheria anti-toxin were supplied free of charge.

A small stock of tetanus anti-toxin is also kept for use in the school clinic.

No applications were received from general medical practitioners, under Section 177 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for a free supply of insulin for necessitous patients not being treated under the National Health Insurance Act.

Immunising reagents such as Alum Precipitated Toxoid are available free of charge to private practitioners who wish to undertake the immunisation of their patients.

SECTION III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

A. Ante-Natal Services—

During 1944 Dr. Thierens held 104 sessions and 229 patients made 1309 attendances. The popularity of the clinic is shown in the table below :—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Number of patients	136	150	177	208	201	229
No. of attendances	683	741	889	1258	1124	1309
No. of sessions held	65	58	78	98	100	104
Patients sent by Midwives	45	55	39	33	29	28
Patients sent by Doctors	6	8	9	8	7	7
Patients sent by Health Visitors	42	31	49	54	32	55
Patients attended on own initiative	40	49	74	110	129	133
Patients sent by Hospitals	3	7	6	3	4	5
Patients referred to own doctor	8	3	9	12	4	17
Patients referred to Hospital	33	27	13	16	14	35
Patients referred to Dentist	17	18	31	46	35	13
Patients given sun- light treatment	9	4	12	19	19	5

Consultant Ante-Natal Clinic.

Abnormal cases are referred either to Halifax General Hospital or to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester. X-Ray examination is carried out at Sowerby Bridge County Medical Centre by courtesy of the County Council. In 1944, 13 women were X-rayed under this scheme.

B. Midwifery Services.

The Borough Council have an arrangement with Halifax Corporation for the provision of maternity accommodation for both normal and abnormal cases. During 1944, forty cases were sent to Halifax General Hospital at a cost of £491 1s. 6d., of which £185 16s. 6d. was recovered from the patients.

Consultant Obstetrician.

The services of Mr. B. L. Jeaffreson, M.D., F.R.C.S., of the Leeds Maternity Hospital are available for difficult obstetric cases occurring in private practice in the town. During 1944 there was no call on Mr. Jeaffreson's services.

Emergency Obstetric Unit.

The "flying squad" attached to Halifax General Hospital is available for obstetric emergencies occurring in the town. It was utilised on one occasion during the year.

Midwives.

The County Council is the local Supervising Authority and it reimburses the Local Authority for the net cost of the service.

In May, 1944, the agreement between the County Council and the local Nursing Association was terminated and an additional Municipal Midwife (Nurse Holden) was appointed. Nurse Mills and Nurse Holden do almost all the domiciliary midwifery.

During 1944 the practising midwives summoned medical assistance to 49 mothers and 5 infants.

The following table summarises the midwifery work of the district midwives for the year 1944:—

Work done within the Borough	Midwvs. emp'd. by Tod. & Dist. Nursing Assoc.	Municipal Midwives	Total
No. of deliveries made by Midwives	9	105	114
No. of difficult cases met with by midwives where a doctor had to be sent for and who			
(a) Effected delivery	5	2	7
(b) Sent patient to Hospital	—	1	1
No. of cases where midwives acted as a maternity nurse	1	23	24
Medical aid sent for in case of (a) mothers	8	41	49
(b) infants	1	4	5

The following table shows the number of women confined in hospital or delivered by midwives and private practitioners:—

	No.	%
No. delivered in hospital	135	48
No. delivered by midwives	114	41
No. delivered by doctors (including the 7 difficult cases met with by midwives in their private practice where a doctor had to be sent for to effect delivery) ..	30	11
TOTAL (including stillbirths) ..	279	100

Home Helps.

It is very seldom that a mother asks for the services of a Home Help. When one is desired an attempt is made to secure one but there is usually great difficulty in obtaining a suitable person. The Home Help is paid at the rate of 1/3 per hour.

Sterilized Maternity Outfits.

These are available to expectant mothers at a reduced cost (4/10) and can be bought from the Municipal Midwife or from the Clinic.

Maternal Mortality.

In 1944 there was one death from puerperal causes in Todmorden. The following table gives the number of maternal deaths in Todmorden and England and Wales for the past ten years :—

Year	TODMORDEN			ENGLAND & WALES
	Deaths from :		Rate per 1000 births	Rate per 1000 births
	Puerperal Sepsis	Other Puerperal Causes		
1935	—	1	4.52	3.93
1936	—	—	0.00	3.65
1937	—	2	8.23	3.11
1938	—	1	4.38	2.97
1939	—	—	0.00	2.82
1940	—	—	0.00	2.16
1941	—	—	0.00	2.23
1942	—	1	4.01	2.01
1943	—	1	3.67	2.29
1944	—	1	3.58	2.93

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

There are none in the Borough.

Post Natal and Gynaecological Clinics.

Gynaecological and Post-Natal patients are examined at the ordinary ante-natal clinic. During 1944, 83 patients made 99 attendances at the clinic. Some of the patients confined in Halifax General Hospital attended there for post-natal examination.

YEAR.	1941	1942	1943	1944
No. of post-natal patients ..	110	78	85	83
No. of attendances ..	118	81	95	99

C. CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Infantile Mortality.

Seven infants under the age of twelve months died during 1944, giving an infantile mortality rate of 26 per 1000 births.

Total number of neo-natal deaths (1-4 weeks)—6.

Total number of infant deaths under 1 year—7.

There were 7 deaths of infants under one year; of these 6 died in the first month. The neo-natal deaths were made up as follows:—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	3
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	...	1
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia	...	...	...	...	1

The death in the first year excluding those given above was due to accidental asphyxia.

Still births.

During the year there were seven still-births.

Sunlight Clinic.

This was held twice weekly at the Medical Centre during the winter months. A Sollux Mercury Vapour Lamp was used. 74 children not attending school made 1343 treatment sessions.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

The Local Authority have an agreement with the Rochdale Crippled Children's Union for the treatment of orthopaedic cases at the Bamford Memorial Home. An outpatient clinic was held in the Smith Street Clinic, Rochdale, every Monday afternoon. During 1944 some 2 children made 4 attendances at the Clinic.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During 1944 some 155 children, not in school attendance, attended for immunisation against diphtheria.

Minor Ailments Clinic.

During 1944 some 138 children, not in school attendance, made 326 attendances for treatment at the Medical Centre.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Clinics were held at the Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and at Cornholme Y.M.C.A. and Walsden School House on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons respectively. A record of the work done in 1944 is given in the following table:—

	Medical Centre	Wals- den	Corn- holme	Total
No. of sessions ..	98	49	48	195
No. of children who attended :—				
(a) Under 1 year old	252	44	69	365
(b) 1-5 years of age	167	27	34	228
No. of attendances by children :—				
(a) Under 1 year ..	2393	347	592	3332
(b) 1-5 years ..	941	289	556	1786
Total attendances	3334	636	1148	5118
Average attendance per session ..	34	13	24	26

Dental Clinic.

During the year two Dental Clinics were held by Mr. Gibson and four by Mr. Jackson and 31 patients had extractions under general anaesthesia (gas and oxygen). The patients were assessed to pay for artificial dentures which were supplied by a private firm in accordance with an income scale. During 1944 five nursing and expectant mothers were fitted with dentures. This branch of the dental service is self-supporting.

The following table gives a record of the work done :—

	Mr. Gibson	Mr. Jack'n	Total
Number	21	29	50
Total Attendances	26	49	75
Number of Sessions	2	4	6
Permanent Teeth extracted ..	33	88	121
Permanent Teeth filled ..	4	7	11
Temporary Teeth extracted ..	4	18	22
Temporary Teeth filled ..	13	4	17
No. of patients given a general anaesthetic ..	12	19	31
Dentures supplied—Complete ..	5	4	9
Partial ..	—	—	—

Ophthalmic and Aural Clinics.

Any child under five years of age suffering from eye, ear, or nose and throat defects may be referred to Dr. Greatorex, the Council's Consultant. During 1944, 8 children under school age were referred to him for consultation.

Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids.

Fourteen children were sent to Burnley Municipal Hospital for the operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids.

Provision of Milk, Cod Liver Oil, etc.

During 1944, National Dried Milk was supplied in accordance with the Government's Milk Scheme. 514 packets were supplied free of charge and 3922 packets were sold at 1s. 2d. each during the year. Each packet contained 20 ozs. dried milk.

A supply of cod liver oil was available at the various Child Welfare Clinics. At the ante-natal clinic tablets containing iron, calcium, and vitamin D were available, and in suitable cases Fertilol, ferrous sulphate, calcium, 'Benerva,' and nicotinic acid tablets were given.

The distribution of cod liver oil and fruit juices was carried out at the respective clinics under the supervision of the Ministry of Food during the year, over 80% of the child population under five years of age taking advantage of the scheme.

Child Life Protection.

A register is kept in the Public Health Department as required by the Infant Life Protection Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, of all persons resident in the Borough who receive children for reward together with the names of the children concerned. There was one child on the register during 1944.

Cleanliness.

Home visiting was curtailed in 1944 owing to shortage of staff, the Health Visitors having to concentrate on essential work.

Home Visiting of Health Visitors.

Home visiting is an essential part of a Health Visitor's duties. In the course of a year a large number of visits are paid and for a variety of reasons as can be seen from the following table :—

NO. OF ANTE-NATAL VISITS :—				
First Visits	..	..	..	80
Subsequent Visits	..	..	..	70
NO. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR				
First Visits	..	..	..	165
Subsequent Visits	..	..	..	442
NO. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN 1-5 YEARS	..			671
NO. OF VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH :—				
Infectious Disease	..	..	..	100
Housing	..	..	..	11
Special Visits	..	..	..	19
Stillbirths	..	..	..	5
TOTAL HOME VISITS				1563

Voluntary Helpers.

The following ladies assisted in the work of the Infant Welfare Clinics and their help was greatly appreciated :—

RIDGEFOOT :—

Mrs. Crossley, Mrs. Ratcliffe, Mrs. Hargreaves.

VALE :—

Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Hodgson, Mrs. Bulcock

WALSDEN :—

Mrs. Fielden, Mrs. J. Law, Mrs. Nightingale, Mrs. R. Law.

SECTION IV.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

- (a) NOTIFIABLE DISEASES—NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED
- (b) VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.
- (c) IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.
- (d) SCABIES.
- (e) FIELDEN JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL—ANNUAL REPORT.
- (f) SOURHALL JOINT SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Disease.

(a) Notifiable Diseases.

The table on page 22 gives the number of cases notified during the year.

(b) Vaccination against Smallpox.

Of the 272 children born alive in 1944 only 16 (6 per cent) were vaccinated against smallpox.

(c) Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The antigen used was Alum Precipitated Toxoid. The first dose was 0.2 c.c. and the second, 0.5 c.c., was given a month later. Three months later a Schick test was done and positive reactors were given a further dose of 0.5 c.c.

The table on page 23 shows the number and the age groups of the children who completed the course of immunisation during the year 1944 and in the preceding years.

(d) Scabies.

This disease was very prevalent throughout the year there being 391 cases. These were all treated at the Clinic by the Health Visitors—benzyl benzoate emulsion being used. The treatment of such cases at present necessitates the use of Health Visitors. This constitutes a waste of skilled personnel especially when nurses are so scarce and the Department understaffed. Consideration should be

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE FOR 1944.

DISEASE.	Total Cases No'fid.	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	40	...	...	2	3	4	14	11	4	2	...	...	...
Diphtheria	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid and Para-typhoid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Pneumonia	19	...	...	4	3	2	3	...	1	1	...	3	2
Erysipelas	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	153	4	22	20	23	27	53	2	1	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	27	1	1	3	4	6	9	2	...	1	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	3	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	1	1	...
	262	6	23	29	33	40	81	18	8	11	2	9	2

given to the employment of a helper who, after training, could undertake the treatment of such cases. The difficulty is that patients do not come at regular intervals throughout the year so that often there are no persons requiring treatment for several days and then perhaps there is a minor epidemic with many people awaiting treatment.

(e) **Fielden Joint Isolation Hospital.**

This is a Fever Hospital serving Todmorden Borough, Hebden Royd U.D., Hepton Rural District and Sowerby Bridge U.D.—the latter by agreement. During the year 186 cases were admitted from the various districts as shewn in the following table.

	Military Detention Barracks, Sow. Br.	Todmorden	Hebden Royd	Hepton R.D.	Sowerby Bridge	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	39	29	3	81	152
Diphtheria	4	2	—	—	1	7
Diphtheria carrier	—	1	—	—	—	1
Tonsillitis	1	1	—	—	4	6
Mumps	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erythema	—	—	—	—	2	2
Tonsillitis with Diphtheria carrier	3	1	—	—	1	5
Scarlet Fever with Chicken Pox	—	—	1	1	4	6
Scarlet Fever with Measles	—	—	1	—	1	2
Vincent's Angina	1	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	1	—	—	1	2
Miscellaneous	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	10	45	32	4	95	186

At the Hospital there is no cubicle block for isolation of doubtful cases and of patients with mixed infections. The lack of this accommodation lessens the value of the Hospital. At the present time, when the future of Isolation Hospitals is uncertain, it is not opportune to consider the erection of a new cubicle block; neither in my opinion, is it necessary. During my period as Medical Superintendent, and this included 1943 when the record number of patients was admitted (291), the Scarlatina Block was hardly ever used so that one ward of this block could quite easily be converted into a cubicle block without any great expenditure. The convenience of being able to isolate doubtful and other highly infectious cases would far offset any loss of ward space. It would also be most useful for adult patients who at present often have to be nursed with children.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 152 cases admitted. This is nowadays a very mild disease which, in the majority of cases, does not call for much treatment other than rest in bed. Serum was necessary only in severe cases, the usual dose given being 10,000 units.

Diphtheria.

Seven cases were admitted during the year, four from the Military Detention Barracks, Sowerby Bridge, two from Todmorden, and one from Sowerby Bridge. There were two deaths both occurring in the case of the Todmorden children, one of whom had been immunised two years previously and had had a negative Schick test after the second dose of A.P.T. Unfortunately the child was admitted to hospital on the sixth day of the disease. This is the first death of an immunised child that has occurred in the hospital. During the last six years of 134 diphtheria admissions only 6 had completed the course of immunisation. Of the 12 deaths which have occurred in that period, 11 were unimmunised. It might be better if, in future, all children who have been immunised were Schick tested every second year until they leave school—this would detect those whose negative reactions had reverted to positive and it would probably prevent such a calamity occurring again. It would mean extra work but it would be worth it.

Immunisation of Staff.

All new members of the nursing staff were Schick and Dick tested when they first entered the hospital and the positive re-actors were immunised.

(f) Sourhall Joint Smallpox Hospital.

The Hospital has 34 beds and there is a resident master and matron. This Hospital was used from time to time for the treatment of evacuees suffering from minor infectious diseases such as scabies and impetigo.

SECTION V.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Tuberculosis.

The tuberculosis service is administered by the County Council. A clinic is held weekly on Friday afternoons at Hall Street. Cases requiring X-ray examination are referred to the appropriate Centre at Sowerby Bridge.

SECTION VI.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

There is an arrangement whereby a child suffering from ophthalmia neonatorum who requires hospital treatment can be admitted along with the mother to Manchester Royal Eye Hospital at a charge of £3 3s. 0d. per week. During 1944 one case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified.

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in Todmorden in 1944 :—

	Respiratory			Non-Resp.			Ttls.
	M	F	Ttl.	M	F	Ttl.	
No. on Register on 1st Jan., 1944 ..	23	17	40	33	50	83	123
No. first notified during 1944 ..	6	1	7	2	4	6	13
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. removed from Register during 1944 :—							
(a) Died ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
(b) Removed from district ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) De-notified ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. remaining on Register 31/12/44 ..	28	18	46	35	54	89	135

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1944 are given in detail in the following table :—

Age Period.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M	F.	M	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
15-20	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	1	2	4	1	—	—	—

SECTION VII.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

WATER SUPPLY.

HOUSING.

RAINFALL FOR 1944 (SOURHALL).

January ..	8.30 ins.	September ..	8.27 ins.
February ..	2.90 „	October ..	6.03 „
March ..	.86 „	November ..	9.37 „
April ..	4.89 „	December ..	5.10 „
May ..	4.88 „		
June ..	4.20 „		62.63
July ..	3.99 „		
August ..	3.84 „		

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No sewer extensions were carried out during 1944. Certain portions of the district still require sewerage, but in all these parts the cost is prohibitive. All defective sewers are improved as required.

All sewage is treated at the Corporation Sewage Works which are adequate for the needs of the Borough.

There have been no complaints from the West Riding Rivers Board in respect of the effluent from the Sewage Works.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been taken during the year to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the number of the various types of closets in the Borough:—

Privies with open middens	..	..	..	0
Pail or Tub Closets (a) Houses	..	..	..	423
(b) Workplaces	..	..	..	51
TOTAL	..	..	..	474
Privies with covered middens	..	..	about	70
Water Closets (a) Houses	..	..	..	5089
(b) Workplaces	..	..	..	647
TOTAL	..	..	..	5736
Waste Water Closets	..	..	..	339
Number of additional Closets provided:—				
Old property (a) W.C.'s	7	(b) Others	1	
New houses (a) W.C.'s	0	(b) Others	0	
Number of Closets, other than privies, reconstructed as W.C.'s—3.				

With a view to securing the conversion of pail closets and slop closets to water closets the Corporation contribute one-third of the cost of conversion to a maximum of £4 per closet. Three conversions of slop closets were carried out during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

No changes were made in the methods of collection and disposal of refuse during the year and the service has been maintained and has worked effectively. The collection of refuse, including nightsoil, is done by two motor vehicles, one employed whole time, and one on $4\frac{1}{2}$ days per week, and a weekly collection is carried out. The collection of nightsoil is done by motor vehicle fitted with a movable tank.

The refuse collected is disposed of at Woodhouse Tip where the system of "controlled tipping" combined with salvage recovery is in operation. The salvage recovery comprises the collection and, where necessary, the sorting from refuse of various materials such as waste paper, scrap

metals, textiles, rubber, bones, kitchen waste, bottles and jars, etc. Bins for the reception of bones and kitchen waste are situated at convenient points in the Borough. The waste paper and tins are pressed and baled before sale to merchants.

The weight of refuse collected by the Corporation during the year was 3,188 tons, and the cost of collection and disposal was £3,902. The income from the sale of salvaged material, charges for tipping, etc., was £1,439, giving a nett cost for the collection and disposal of refuse of £2,463.

The following are the various items of income from the recovery of salvage during the year:—

				Tons.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	...	144	933	16	5
Ferrous metals (including 70 tons baled tins)	...	...	...	77½	105	19	8
Non-ferrous metals	...	...	...	1½	25	5	0
Textiles (Rags, carpets, etc.)	...	...	...	16	165	13	10
Bottles and jars (114 gross)	...	...	...	6	34	17	4
Kitchen waste	...	...	...	49¾	24	16	6
Bones	...	...	...	6½	30	18	8
Rubber	...	...	...	2¼	5	11	3
Boots and Shoes	..	..	..	1¼	2	11	0
TOTAL	...	...	...	304¾	1329	9	8

In comparison with the previous year the weights of waste paper, bottles and jars, bones and kitchen waste show a decline, but there is an increase in the salvage of tins and textiles. The decline in the weight of paper may be accounted for, to some extent, by the lighter weight of paper, cartons, etc., as manufactured, and by the absence of books and magazines for salvage.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1944, for Nuis-					
ances only	...	...	...	...	269
Nuisances found in 1944	...	...	...	...	82
Nuisances in hand, end of 1943	...	...	...	...	6
Total needing abatement	...	...	...	...	88
Abated during 1944	...	...	...	...	76
Outstanding, end of 1944	...	...	...	...	12
Notices served, Informal	...	...	...	...	22
Complied with	...	...	...	...	15
Notices served, Statutory	...	...	...	...	—
Complied with	...	...	...	...	—
Total number of Summonses or other legal pro-					
ceedings	...	...	...	...	—

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, ETC.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	No. of In spections.	General Conditions	Legal proceed- ings if any
Common Lodging Houses ..	1	1	4	Satisfactory	None
Houses let in Lodgings	0	0	0		
Canal Boats	0	0	0		
Knackers Yards ..	0	0	0		
Tents, Vans & Sheds	0	0	0		
Offensive Trades—					
2 Tripe Boilers	8	8	4	Satisfactory	None
1 Fat Melter					
5 Dressing Hides for Pickers					

ERADICATION OF BED BUG.

No. of Council Houses found to be infested	..	0
No. disinfested (a) with hydrogen cyanide	..	0
(b) with sulphur	..	0
No. of other houses found to be infested	..	1
No. disinfested (a) with hydrogen cyanide	..	0
(b) with sulphur, etc.	..	1

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.
Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power ...	24	1	None
FACTORIES without mechanical power	18	0	None
†OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not in- cluding outworkers' premises)... ..	None	None	None
TOTAL	42	1	None
†Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Pro- secutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	None	None
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	None			
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	None			
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	None			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)... ..	None			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
insufficient	1	3	—	
unsuitable or defective ...	3	4	—	
not separate for sexes ...	None	—	—	
Other offences	None	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Min- istry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
TOTAL	5	8	None	None

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING 1944.

Inspections of Premises—

1.	For nuisances, etc.	...	...	122
2.	Where infectious disease has occurred	...	...	44
3.	Where offensive trades are carried on	...	...	4
4.	Inspections of Factories	...	...	9
5.	Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	33
6.	Inspections of Cowsheds...	...	...	74
7.	Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	127
8.	Inspections of Common Lodging Houses	...	...	4
9.	Inspections of Water Supplies	...	...	15
10.	Inspections of Work in Progress	...	...	111
11.	Inspections under the Housing Act 1936	...	...	20
12.	Re-inspections under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	83
13.	Re-inspections as to compliance with notices	...	...	36
14.	Inspections of houses under Public Health Acts	...	...	35
15.	Inspections under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	1
16.	Miscellaneous	...	...	5
Total Visits...				723

17.	No. of houses disinfected after			
	(1) infectious disease	...	...	42
	(2) tuberculosis	...	...	1
18.	Smoke test applied to drains	...	...	7
19.	Samples of Water taken for analysis	...	...	15
20.	Samples of Water taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	52
21.	Samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	102
22.	No. of complaints investigated	...	...	134
23.	Cases abated under preliminary notice	...	...	108
24.	Cases abated under statutory notice	...	...	14
25.	Cases dealt with under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	4

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT IN COMPLIANCE WITH
NOTICES, ETC., DURING 1944.

House Drainage—

Waste pipes disconnected from house drains	...	...	4
House drains repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	31
New pipe drains provided	...	...	4
Drains trapped	...	...	7

Sanitary Conveniences—

New water closets provided	...	...	9
Closets repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	19
Waste water closets converted into water closets			3
Water closets abolished	...	...	1
Tub closets abolished	...	...	1

Factories and Bakehouses—

New Sanitary Conveniences provided	...	...	11
Water Closets abolished	...	...	6

Houses dealt with under Housing Act, 1936—

Houses demolished	...	...	9
Houses rendered fit for habitation (Secs. 11 and 12).	...	...	1
Houses abolished as separate dwellings	...	...	1
Houses repaired by informal notice	...	...	3

Cowsheds and Dairies—

Cow-shed floors re-laid or repaired	...	...	1
Cow-sheds provided with improved lighting and ventilation	...	...	1
Cow-sheds provided with proper water supply	...	...	1

Miscellaneous—

No. of condemnations of unsound food	...	...	38
No. of houses cleansed, disinfested, etc.	...	...	4
No. of accumulations of manure, refuse, etc. removed			1
Pollutions of water supply remedied	...	...	2
No. of new sinks provided	...	...	1

MORTUARY ACCOMMODATION.

For accidents	.. ..	One Mortuary : two slabs.
For infectious cases, other than at hospitals	..	None
For other cases		One Emergency A.R.P. Mortuary with accommodation for 60 bodies.
Facilities for post-mortem examination ?	..	Yes.
Mortuary accommodation sufficient ?	.. ..	Yes.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of milk cows kept in the district (about)		1000
Number of cow-keepers	.. ..	90
Number of wholesale traders	.. ..	24
Number of retail milk sellers	.. ..	95
Number of cowsheds	.. ..	267
Number of inspections of cowsheds	.. ..	74
Number of milk samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938	..	—
Number of samples of ordinary milk taken for Methylene Blue Test	.. ..	102

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936-1942: —

Production of Milk	No. of Licences in force in area	Samples of designated milks examined bacteriologically	
		No. satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tstd	None	—	—
Accredited	2	none exmd.	none exmd.
Pasteurised	None	—	—

No. of Licences in force for bottling " Tuberculin Tested " or " Accredited " Milk, other than at the place of production—0.

FOOD INSPECTION.

There are 13 private slaughterhouses, all licensed by the Council. Eight of these premises are unsatisfactory as regards structure, position or in other respects. The slaughterhouses were not used for slaughtering as centralised slaughtering continues in operation.

There are 33 bakehouses, one of them underground, and 33 inspections were made.

The unsound food condemned during the year included the following:—58lbs. fish, 36lbs. beef and pork, 33lbs. ham and bacon, 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. of brussel sprouts, 130lbs. dried fruits and vegetables, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. margarine, 11 packets cereals, and 561 cans of food of various kinds.

ADULTERATION.

No samples of food and drugs were taken for analysis during the year. The West Riding County Council is the Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Water Supplies.

(a) CORPORATION SUPPLY.

5129 houses are supplied with water from the Corporation supply. The water is from upland surfaces and is naturally soft and of an acid character. The water is treated by slow filtration through sand and lime dust and also by chlorination. Routine samples of the water before and after treatment were again taken for bacteriological examination and for chemical analysis. The results of these examinations showed that the treated water is of a highly satisfactory quality according to the standards of the Ministry of Health.

(b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

1767 houses are supplied with water from private sources derived mainly from springs, the water generally being conveyed to storage chambers from which it is piped to the houses. Samples from a number of these supplies were taken for examination and inspections made of the gathering grounds and storage chambers. A defective pipe line for one of these supplies was renewed and the cisterns for another supply were repaired and cleansed during the year.

Rodent Control.

During the year investigations were made at 35 premises in connection with rodent infestation—33 by rats and 2 by mice. The premises dealt with for rats included 7 dwelling-houses, 3 canteens, 4 stores and shops, 1 factory, 1 bake-house, 1 piggery, 1 poultry run, the refuse tip, and portions of the river Calder. In the majority of the cases the measures applied were those of pre-baiting, followed by poison baiting, and successful results were obtained. At 7 premises it was found that the drainage was defective and the necessary repairs were carried out. It is calculated that 180 rats were killed as a result of these operations.

A comprehensive and systematic treatment of the sewers in the Borough was carried out in the later part of the year, the treatment being in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Food. Two treatments were carried out with an interval between, the treatment consisting of pre-baiting, followed by poison baiting. The estimated number of rats killed was 6,879 on the first treatment, and 1,765 on the second.

In addition to the above comprehensive sewer treatment a small section of the sewerage system was previously treated owing to rats being found in various dwelling-houses in the area, and gaining access by means of defective drainage, which was subsequently put in order.

With regard to mice infestation the two cases occurred at large public buildings and were successfully dealt with by poison treatment.

Housing.

Owing to the continued war conditions no action was taken with respect to new clearance areas, and in the Shade Clearance area dealt with prior to the outbreak of the war 13 houses were still occupied at the end of the year. Three houses and a common lodging house, the subject of a Clearance Order previously confirmed, were demolished, as were five houses in respect of which demolition orders had been made.

The works required by an undertaking previously given by the owners were completed whereby two "back-to-back" houses were converted into a "through" house and the house re-conditioned in the process.

Eighteen houses were inspected under the Housing Act and various defects such as defective roofs, floors, plaster work, etc., were found, but in only three cases had the necessary repairs been carried out, although instructions had been given to tradesmen to do the work required in most cases.

Nine houses and other premises were dealt with for infestation by insect pests, and remedial measures were carried out in each case. Nine houses were inspected where the tenants had made application for Council houses.

