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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN



THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

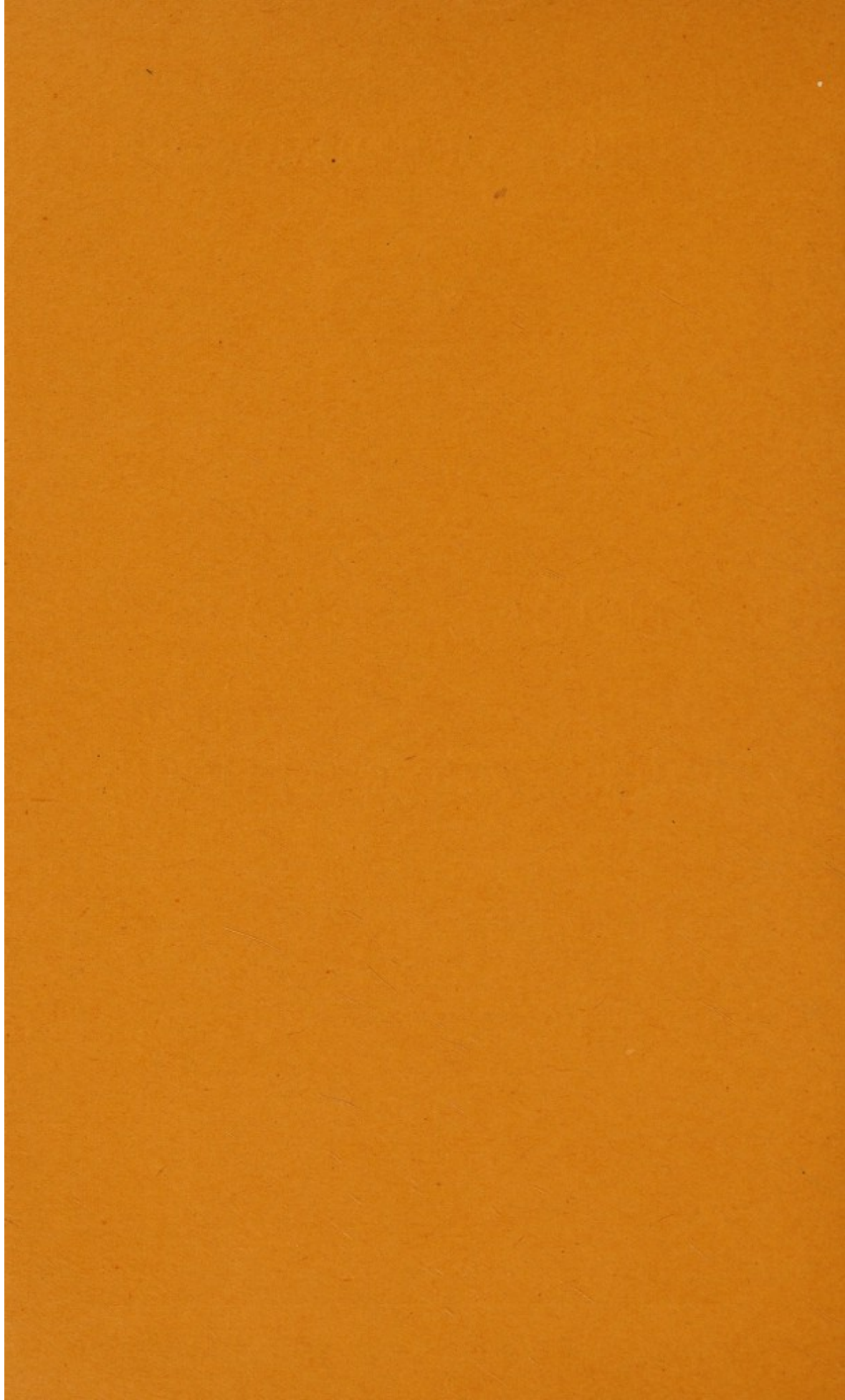
(J. LYONS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

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

1948



BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN



THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Medical Officer of Health (J. LYONS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector
(L. A. CRABTREE, C.R.SAN.I.)

1948

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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN

Health Committee

1st January 1948

CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR H. TAYLOR,

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN EGERTON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR G. E. BOOTHMAN

" DR. BROWN

" A. COCKCROFT

" MISS FIELDEN

" J. GLEDHILL

" F. W. KNIGHTON

" F. SUNDERLAND

" MRS. TATHAM, C.C.

" D. WRIGHT

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee

CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR MRS. TATHAM, C.C.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

ALDERMAN EGERTON J.P.

COUNCILLOR G. E. BOOTHMAN

" DR. BROWN

" A. COCKCROFT

" MISS FIELDEN

" F. W. KNIGHTON

" F. SUNDERLAND

" H. TAYLOR,

MRS. CROSSLEY

" HARGREAVES

" SUTCLIFFE

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN

Medical Officer of Health

R. C. WEBSTER, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.
(Resigned August 31st, 1948.)

J. LYONS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Appointed 1st November, 1949.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

G. A. WILTHEW, M.B., B.S., B.Sc.

Sanitary Inspector

†L. A. CRABTREE, C.R.SAN.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

†C. BAXTER, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.

Sanitary Inspector's Clerk

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

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL

Preventive Medical Services : Health Division 19

Divisional Medical Officer

As above (M.O.H.).

Deputy Divisional Medical Officer

As above (Deputy M.O.H.).

Assistant County Medical Officers

N. HAMLIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.
(Resigned May, 1948.)

T.M. LENNOX, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
(Appointed September, 1948.)

Medical Officer to the Ante-Natal Clinic

*MILDRED M. THIERENS, M.B.

Ophthalmic Surgeon and Consultant

*P. M. WOOD, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

Ear, Nose and Throat Consultant

*W. O. LODGE, M.D., F.R.C.S.

School Dental Officers

*J. B. JACKSON, L.D.S.
(Resigned August 31st, 1948.)

*J. I. JAGGER, L.D.S.

Health Visitors

- ‡MISS A. SMITH, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 ‡MRS. M. M. ILLINGWORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 ‡MISS M. HILL, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor

MRS. B. G. NICHOLL, S.R.N.

Mental Health Social Worker

MISS S. PENNINGTON, B.A. (SOC. ADMIN.).

Home Nurses

MISS U. A. WESTWOOD, S.R.N., QUEEN'S NURSE.
 MISS M. MACKMAN, S.R.N., QUEEN'S NURSE.

Midwives

MRS. A. K. MILLS, S.R.N., C.M.B.
 (Resigned June, 1948.)
 MISS M. HOLDEN, S.R.N., C.M.B.
 MRS. F. M. CATTERMORE, C.M.B.
 (Temporary—resigned October, 1948.)

Dental Attendant

*MISS W. FIELDING.

Joint Clerical Staff—engaged in all constituent districts of the Division, viz. Todmorden, Hebden Royd, Hepton, Sowerby Bridge and Ripponden.

H. MARSHALL, A.C.I.S.
 MISS J. SUTCLIFFE
 MISS P. JACKSON.
 S. STARKIE.
 MISS M. CHATBURN (appointed 26th January, 1948).
 MISS K. GREENWOOD (appointed 27th May, 1948).
 MISS H. DOUGLAS (appointed 26th July, 1948).
 F. YOUNG (appointed September, 1948).

* Part-time.

† Hold Meat Inspection Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute

‡ Hold Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

ABRAHAM ORMEROD MEDICAL CENTRE,
TODMORDEN,

October, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The year under review—1948—was an historic year in the development of the nation's health services, for it was on 5th July, 1948 that the major provisions of the National Health Service Act first came into operation. Many revolutionary changes have been brought about in this effort to produce a comprehensive and unified service. Controversy will indeed rage for many years as to the wisdom of this or that provision of the Act and it is not for me to kindle the flame. It is sufficient to say that a National Health Service was necessary and was demanded by all—and here it is.

It was inevitable that a revolution of this magnitude would involve the sacrifice of some that was good as well as much that was bad. The Borough of Todmorden has had to make its own painful contribution; the Maternity and Child Welfare Services are no longer hers. This "infant," so carefully nurtured through difficult times, has now to be "boarded-out" with the County Council. In true Yorkshire fashion however the transfer was made with neither fuss nor fret. The change-over has been smooth and the foster-child bears the same sturdy appearance now as it did before July 5th. I know that your interest in maternity and child welfare will never diminish and I have therefore included in my report details of the work done after July 5th as well as before. Separate figures are introduced only when some change in the service makes separate entries necessary.

My report is devoted largely to statistics. Many of these are difficult to interpret as guides to the health of the people of Todmorden. A few figures can however be picked out from this numerical jumble for your earnest consideration. Infant mortality, for example, is universally recognised as a sensitive index to the level of public health. I have prepared a graph, facing page 20, which shows the remarkable diminution of Todmorden's infant mortality rate in the past 45 years. The low figure of 34 for the quinquennial period 1944-48 is par-

ticularly pleasing and is a tribute to the maternity and child welfare services referred to in the previous paragraph. It also points to the general progress made in the prevention and treatment of disease, and the slow but steady improvement in housing and sanitation.

On the debit side is the increased number of new cases of tuberculosis. Twenty-two notifications were received in 1948 as compared with only twelve in 1947. How far this is due to improved facilities for ascertainment and earlier diagnosis is uncertain, but the situation is one that warrants careful observation. Tuberculosis is essentially a "social" disease, the incidence and spread being encouraged by bad living and working conditions, poverty and malnutrition.

With reference to other infectious diseases, diphtheria returned to Todmorden in 1948 after its complete absence in 1947. There were however only eight cases and these were of a generally mild character. They are nevertheless a reminder that the immunisation campaign must never be relaxed.

An outbreak of Flexner dysentery among mentally defective patients at the Stansfield View Institution accounted for the figure of twenty-five notifications of this disease. Effective control measures carried out by my predecessor, Dr. R. C. Webster, prevented spread to the outside community.

The incidence of measles and whooping cough remains high and it is known that the figures of notified cases in these two diseases do not cover every case. The results of the trials in whooping cough vaccination being carried out by the Medical Research Council are eagerly awaited. Whooping cough is a crippling disease and, more especially in young infants, can often kill. Even if whooping cough vaccination proves successful it may not be practicable for very young infants and we must rely on breast feeding as the best safeguard of the young infant against this and other diseases of infancy. The spread of both measles and whooping cough is encouraged by overcrowding and low standards of personal hygiene. Health education, improved living standards and better housing therefore play a part in the prevention of these as well as other diseases. Indeed, the experience of the first year's working of the National Health Service should make it clear to all that, in the long run, it is cheaper to prevent illness than to cure it.

May I in conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for your kindness and co-operation. Your friendly welcome to me as a newcomer will always be remembered. I also wish to express my deep appreciation to the staff of the Department for their consistently loyal and energetic work.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. LYONS,

M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I.

VITAL STATISTICS

Statistics.

Area. 12,790 acres.

Population—Census 1931. 22,222 persons.

Registrar General's estimate of
Resident Population, mid. 1948, 19,130.

Number of dwelling-houses, 7,020.

Rateable value £112,814.

Product of a penny rate £452.

Rainfall at Gorpley Reservoir during 1948, 50.5 inches

Summary of Vital Statistics.

	Total	M	F	
Live Births—				
Legitimate	284	159	132	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated res- ident population 15.5
Illegitimate	12	8	4	
Still Births—				
Legitimate	8	6	2	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 29.6.
Illegitimate	1	1	—	
Deaths	293	146	147	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 15.3.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES—

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

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE—

All infants per 1000 live births	41
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births ...	42
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births ...	Nil

Infantile Mortality.

Eleven infants under age of twelve months died during 1948, giving an infantile mortality rate of 41 per 1000 births.

The following table gives the cause of death of these infants.

Cause of Death	No. of infants dying in				
	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week	5—52 week
Prematurity ...	4	—	—	—	—
Congenital Heart Disease	1	—	—	—	—
Primary Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—
Broncho Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—
Cardiac Muscle Failure	—	—	—	—	1
Tubercular Meningitis	—	—	—	—	1
Septicaemia ...	—	—	—	—	1
Acute dilation of stomach due to duodenal ulcer resulting from burn of thigh	—	—	—	—	1

DEATHS FROM Cancer (all ages)	47
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all forms)	0.42
Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate	0.31
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate	0.11
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding tuberculosis)	1.88

CAUSES OF DEATH IN TODMORDEN, M.B.

Cause of Death	1947		1948	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid				
Fevers	—	—	—	—
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory				
System	4	2	6	—
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	1	2	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	2	—	—	1
9 Influenza	—	1	—	—
10 Measles	1	—	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-myelitis and				
Polio-encephalitis ...	1	—	—	—
12 Ac. Infantile Encephalitis	—	—	—	—
13 Cancer of Buccal Cavity and				
Oesophagus (M) and Uterus (F)	3	3	3	3
14 Cancer of Stomach and				
Duodenum	2	—	3	4
15 Cancer of Breast	—	1	—	3
16 Cancer of all other Sites ...	12	9	14	17
17 Diabetes	3	3	1	—
18 Intercranial Vascular lesions	29	24	19	26
19 Heart Disease	34	34	36	42
20 Other Diseases of Circulatory				
System	12	10	10	12
21 Bronchitis	28	19	17	7
22 Pneumonia	9	6	6	1
23 Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2	3	2
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	—	2	—
25 Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	2	—	—	—
26 Appendicitis	—	—	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases ...	5	2	—	2
28 Nephritis	2	6	6	9
29 Puerperal and Post abortion				
sepsis	—	—	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes ...	—	—	—	—
31 Premature Birth	4	2	2	3
32 Congenital Malformation, Birth				
Injury; Infancy Diseases ...	1	1	2	—
33 Suicide	1	1	4	3
34 Road Traffic Accidents ...	—	2	1	—
35 Other Violent Causes	2	1	2	2
36 All other Causes	4	15	7	10
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ...	164	145	146	147

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948
based on Registrar-General's Figures

	Todmorden M.B.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (provisional figures)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population)	15.5	19.2	18.5	17.9
DEATH RATE (all per 1,000 estimated population)				
All causes	15.3	11.8	11.3	10.8
*Zyomotic Diseases (seven principal)	—	0.12	0.12	§
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.31	0.37	0.37	0.44
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	0.11	0.07	0.07	0.07
†Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1.88	1.34	1.29	§
Cancer	2.46	1.83	1.74	1.86
‡Heart and Circulatory Diseases	5.23	3.98	3.73	§
INFANT MORTALITY (deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	41	38	39	34
DIARRHOEA (deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	—	4.17	4.38	3.3
MATERNAL MORTALITY (deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births)				
Puerperal Sepsis	—	0.09	0.10	0.24
Other causes	—	1.02	1.05	0.78
Total	—	1.11	1.15	1.02

* Combined death rate from smallpox (if any), scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, also diarrhoea in infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined death rate from bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system.

‡ Combined death rate from Heart Disease and other Diseases of the Circulatory System.

§ Figures not available.

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948

Based on Registrar-General's Figures

Comparison with neighbouring districts in County Health Division 19	Todmorden M.B.	Hepton R.D.	Hebden Royd U.D.	Sowerby Bridge U.D.	Rippon- den U.D.
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population)	15.5	15.7	15.1	18.8	14.2
DEATH RATE (all per 1,000 est'd. population)					
All causes	15.3	14.2	15.5	13.8	14.0
*Zymotic Diseases (seven principal) ...	—	—	0.2	0.1	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	0.31	—	0.30	0.31	0.39
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	0.11	—	—	—	0.19
†Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuber- culosis of respiratory system) ...	1.88	1.03	1.69	1.30	0.39
Cancer	2.46	2.06	1.99	2.03	1.75
‡Heart and Circulatory Diseases ...	5.23	7.22	5.96	6.08	6.22
INFANT MORTALITY (deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	41	16	66	33	27
DIARRHOEA (deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births) ...	—	—	13.16	2.76	—
MATERNAL MORTALITY (deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births)	—	—	—	—	—

* Combined death rate from smallpox, scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, also diarrhoea in infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined death rate from bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system.

‡ Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system.

SECTION II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

A. HOSPITALS.

There is no General Hospital in the Borough of Todmorden. Patients requiring hospital treatment are referred as a rule to hospitals under the administration of the Halifax Hospitals Management Committee (National Health Service). Included in this group are the Halifax General Hospital, the Royal Halifax Infirmary, St. John's Hospital (for the aged and chronic sick), Northowram Infectious Diseases Hospital, Shelf Sanatorium, Todmorden Fielden Hospital (for long stay medical cases in children, as from January, 1949) and Todmorden Stansfield View Institution.

Before 5th July, 1948 (the "appointed day" of the National Health Service Act), the Fielden Hospital was owned by Todmorden Corporation and used as an isolation hospital. Also before this date the Todmorden Institution was controlled by the West Riding County Council and used as a Public Assistance Institution; it is now being converted for use as an Institution for mental defectives.

Maternity beds are available at both the Halifax General and Royal Infirmary. Priority in booking is given to abnormal cases, mothers expecting their first child, and mothers with unsatisfactory home conditions.

Special Hospital (e.g. Mental Hospitals, special Orthopaedic Hospitals, Tuberculosis Sanatoria, etc.) outside the Halifax area are available when required; they are situated in various parts of the so-called "Leeds Hospital Region" which in fact extends into all three Ridings.

B. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Before July 5th, 1948, this was carried out by the Todmorden and District Nursing Association. After 5th July, the West Riding County Council took over full responsibility for home nursing, and from that date until the end of the year the two nurses were employed by the County Council.

C. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The County Council took over the control of the ambulances formerly provided by the Todmorden Corporation towards the end of 1947 in anticipation of the operation of the National Health Service Act 1948. The ambulances continued to operate from Todmorden as previously supplemented when necessary by the ambulance at Hebden Bridge which had also passed to the control of the County Council. The ambulance formerly owned by the Fielden Joint Hospital Committee, Todmorden, was used for all cases of infectious disease.

D. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

See page 16.

E. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) at a Central Laboratory in Wakefield.

F. ISSUE OF ANTI-TOXIN, ETC.

Supplies of diphtheria and tetanus anti-toxin are available at the Halifax Isolation Hospital and the Halifax General Hospital for issue to medical practitioners requiring it. By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board supplies are also kept at the Medical Centre, Todmorden, for use of local medical practitioners in the division. A supply of reagents for diphtheria immunisation is also available free of charge to private practitioners who have undertaken to participate in the West Riding County Council's scheme of immunisation.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Infant Welfare

Ridgefoot ...	...	Tuesdays and Wednesdays ...	...	2 to 4-30 p.m.
Y.M.C.A., Cornholme ...	...	Tuesdays ...	...	2 to 4-30 p.m.
Walsden County School ...	...	Thursdays ...	...	2 to 4-30 p.m.

Ante-Natal and Post Natal

Ridgefoot ...	...	Wednesdays and Thursdays	...	1-30 to 4 p.m.
---------------	-----	--------------------------	-----	----------------

School Clinics

Ridgefoot

(a) *Minor Ailments ...	...	Mondays to Fridays inclusive	...	9 to 10 a.m.
(b) Dental... ...	...	Mondays to Fridays inclusive	...	By arrangement
(c) Ophthalmic ...	...	As required ...	...	By arrangement
(d) Ear, Nose and Throat ...	...	As required ...	...	By arrangement
(e) Artificial Sunlight ...	...	Mondays and Fridays	...	1-30 to 5 p.m. Oct.—March

Diphtheria Immunisation

Ridgefoot ...	...	Monthly	...	By arrangement
---------------	-----	---------	-----	----------------

Tuberculosis

Union Offices, Hall Street ...	...	Fridays	...	1-30 to 4-30 p.m.
--------------------------------	-----	---------	-----	-------------------

* Medical Officer in attendance Tuesdays and Fridays only.

SECTION III.

W.R.C.C. PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICE

A. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Ante Natal Services

During 1948 Dr. Thierens held 104 sessions and 254 patients made 1150 attendances. The popularity of the clinic is shown in the table below :—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Number of patients	201	229	199	277	296	254
No. of attendances	1124	1309	1002	1448	1353	1150
No. of sessions held	100	104	99	100	102	104
Patients sent by						
Midwives	29	28	49	60	58	50
Patients sent by						
Doctors	7	7	10	10	10	10
Patients sent by						
Health Visitors	32	55	56	73	35	55
Patients attended on						
own initiative	129	133	76	94	172	99
Patients sent by						
Hospitals	4	5	8	20	8	20
Patients sent by						
Private Nsg. Home	—	—	—	20	13	20
Patients referred to						
own doctor	4	17	28	40	37	17
Patients referred to						
Hospital	14	35	42	47	55	61
Patients referred to						
Dentist	35	13	38	32	62	54
Patients given U.V.R.						
treatment	19	5	7	4	5	1
No. of attendances for						
U.V.R. treatment	—	—	—	—	38	8

X-ray examinations were carried out at Sowerby Bridge County Medical Centre by courtesy of the County Council, and 7 women were X-rayed under this scheme during the year.

Post Natal and Gynaecological Clinics.

Gynaecological and post-natal patients are examined at the ordinary ante-natal clinic. During 1948, 45 patients made 60 attendances at the clinic. Some of the patients confined in Halifax General Hospital attended there for post-natal examination.

	1945	1946	1947	1948
No. of post-natal patients ...	80	70	60	45
No. of attendances ...	93	90	80	60

Child 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 1948 is given in the following table:—

	Medical Centre	Walsden	Cornholme	Total
No. of sessions ..	98	52	51	201
No. of children who attended :—				
(a) Under 1 year old	132	36	42	210
(b) 1-5 years of age	265	70	90	425
No. of attendances by children :—				
(a) Under 1 year ..	2486	720	1192	4398
(b) 1-5 years ..	1069	289	425	1783
Total attendances	3555	1009	1617	6181
Average attendance per session ..	36	19	32	31

Home Visiting of Health Visitors.

NO. OF ANTE-NATAL VISITS :—	
First Visits	80
Subsequent Visits	46
NO. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR	
First Visits	312
Subsequent Visits	1625
NO. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN 1-5 YEARS ..	2294
SPECIAL VISITS	51
TOTAL HOME VISITS ..	4408

Day Nursery Accommodation.

During the year the County Council leased "The Glen," Todmorden, for conversion into a Day Nursery which when completed would be under the jurisdiction of the Divisional Medical Officer. Only slow progress was made on this project during 1948 and the opening date has not yet been fixed.

There is one privately owned Day Nursery in Todmorden run by the Lancashire Cotton Corporation Limited at Mons Mill for children of employees only. This Nursery caters for 31 children between the ages of 1—5 years.

The Care of Premature Infants.

Special equipment and nursing staff is available for use in the home in cases requiring them.

The Care of Illegitimate Children.

Every effort is made to find a suitable home for the baby either with the mother or with the grand-parents. When the child is old enough it can be admitted to a Nursery Class if the mother has to go out to work. Special advice about legal adoption is given if it is desired. These cases are seen in the home by the Health Visitor and encouraged to attend the Infant Welfare Centre regularly.

Minor Ailments Clinic.

During 1948 some 111 children under five years of age some of whom were attending nursery classes, made 168 attendances for treatment at the Medical Centre.

Dental Clinic.

Prior to 5th July, 1948, Mr. Jackson held 5 Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Clinics. 30 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. Nine nursing or expectant mothers were fitted with dentures. When the National Health Service Act came into force on 5th July, 1948, any person requiring dental treatment could obtain it free of charge from any private dentist.

The following table gives a record of the work done prior to 5th July, 1948 :

Number	39
Total Attendances	84
Number of Sessions	5
Permanent Teeth extracted	76
Permanent Teeth filled	4
Temporary Teeth extracted	37
Temporary Teeth filled	2
Other Operations	1
No. of patients given a general anaesthetic	30
Dentures supplied—Complete	9
Partial	0

Ophthalmic and Aural Clinics.

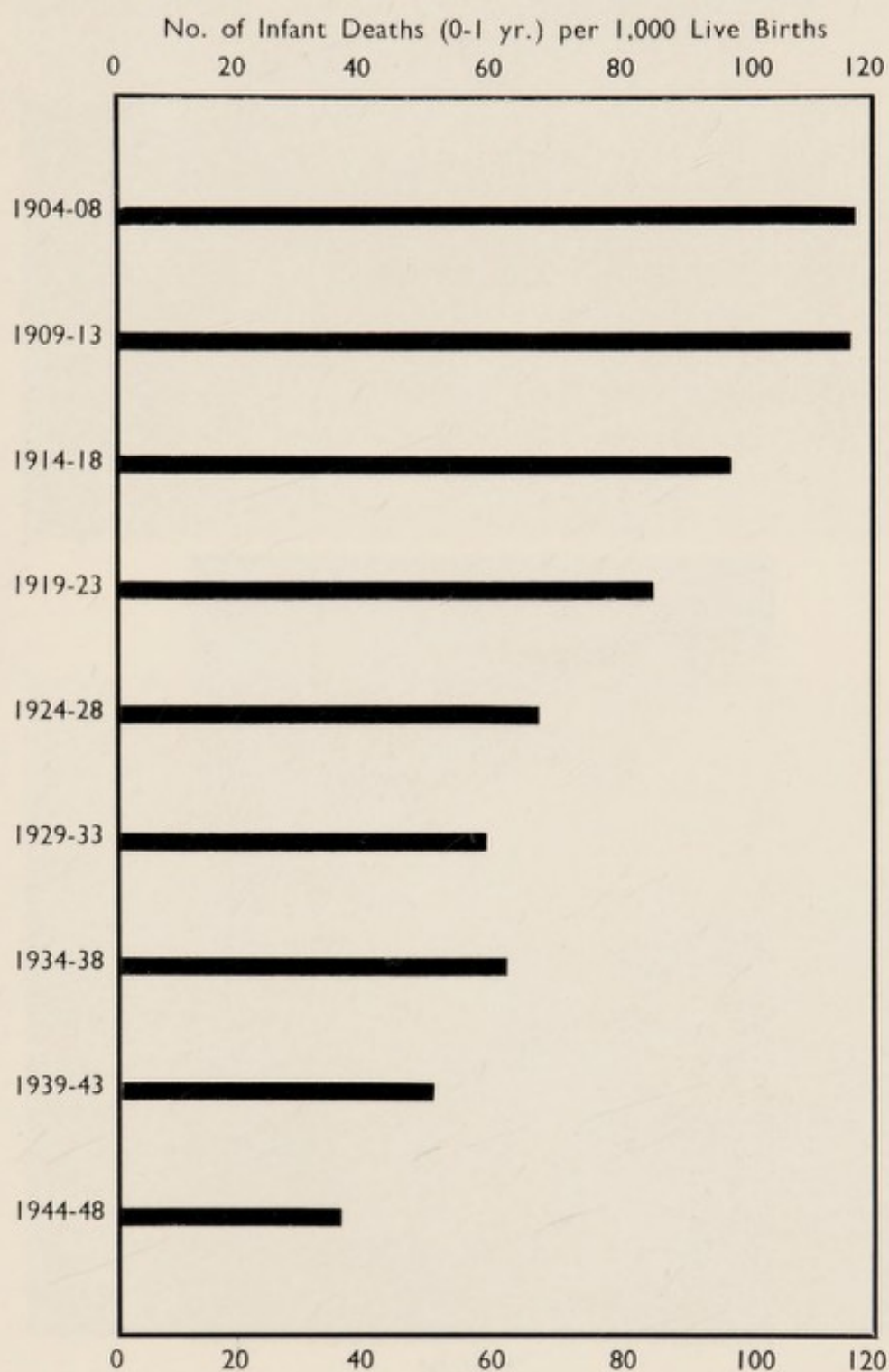
Before 5th July, 1948, any child under five years of age suffering from eye defects could be referred to Mr. P. M. Wood, the Council's Consultant, and 12 children were referred to him for consultation. After 5th July, 1948, children under five not attending school who required ophthalmic examination were referred to their own doctors to be dealt with under the National Health Service.

U. V. L. Clinic.

This was held twice weekly at the Medical Centre during the year. A Sollux Mercury Vapour Lamp was used. 39 children not attending school made 651 treatment sessions.

Infant Mortality in Todmorden

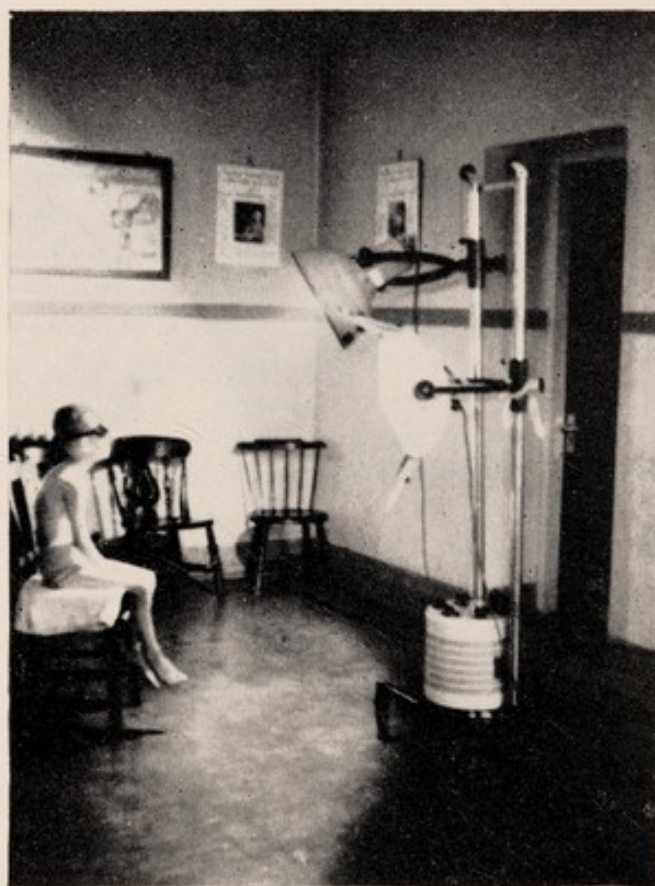
taken over 5 year periods 1904-48



Sunlight in Todmorden



Natural ?



Artificial

Sunlight in Todmorden

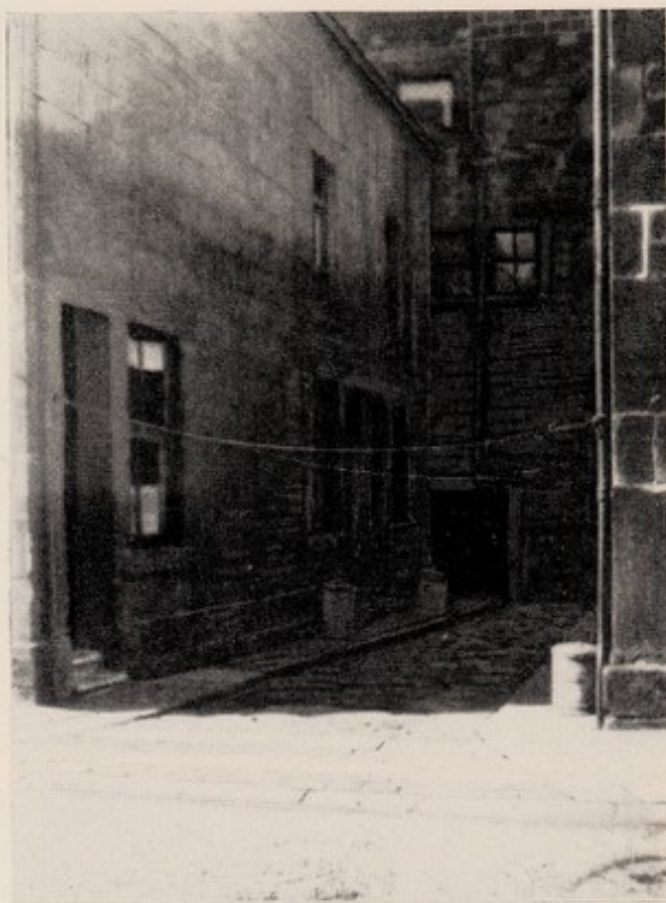


On Holiday



At Work

Housing in Todmorden



The Old



The New

Provision of Milk, Cod Liver Oil, etc.

During 1948, National Dried Milk was supplied in accordance with the Government's Milk Scheme and 1445 tins were sold during the year. Each tin contains 20 oz. dried milk. Most other proprietary brands of milk are sold at the clinic for the convenience of mothers, and special brands of milk are ordered when necessary.

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 on behalf of the Ministry of Food during the year, the average uptake being greater than for the country as a whole.

Provision of Maternity Outfits.

These are provided free to mothers preparing for confinement in their own homes.

B. MIDWIFERY SERVICES.

The following table shows the number of Todmorden women confined in hospital, private nursing home, or delivered by midwives and private practitioners in Todmorden or elsewhere so far as has been ascertained:

	No.	%
No. delivered in hospital	144	47.7
No. delivered in private nursing homes ...	25	8.3
No. delivered by midwives... ..	118	39.0
No. delivered by doctors (including the difficult cases met with by municipal midwives in their practice where a doctor had to be sent for to effect delivery)	15	5.0
TOTAL (including stillbirths), so far as has been ascertained ...	302	100

During 1948 the practising midwives summoned medical assistance to 31 mothers and 8 infants. Medical aid was sent for on account of the following conditions :—

MOTHERS		INFANTS	
Cause	No.	Cause	No.
Ruptured Perineum ...	15	Discharge from eye ...	1
Uterine Inertia ...	3	Vomiting Blood ...	1
Threatened miscarriage	1	Unsatisfactory condi-	
Protracted labour ...	1	tion	3
Pyrexia	2	Premature Baby ...	2
Inflammation of breast	2	Rash	1
Laceration	2		
Contracted pelvis ...	1		
Post-partum haemorrhage	1		
Ante-partum haemorrhage	1		
Retained placenta ...	1		
Midwife not available	1		
Total	31	Total	8

The following table summarises the midwifery work of the district midwives for the year 1948 :—

Work done within the Borough	Two Municipal Midwives
No. of deliveries made by Midwives ...	116
No. of difficult cases met with by midwives where a doctor had to be sent for and who	
(a) Effected delivery	6
(b) Sent patient to Hospital ...	8
No. of cases where midwives acted as a maternity nurse	9
Medical aid sent for in case of	
(a) Mothers	31
(b) Infants	8

Emergency Obstetric Unit.

The "flying squad" attached to Halifax General Hospital is available for obstetric emergencies occurring in the town. It was not utilised during the year.

C. HOME NURSING SERVICE.

See page 14.

D. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

See page 15.

E. HEALTH VISITING.

The duties of the Health Visitor are combined with those of School Nurse. In pursuance of the National Health Service Act the scope of this service includes home visiting for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of children, and persons (including adults) suffering from illness, and of expectant and nursing mothers. The Health Visitor also gives advice in the home as to measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

F. HOME HELPS.

Owing to the severe shortage of labour in this district it was not possible to recruit any Home Helps during 1948.

G. CARE AND AFTER CARE.

Special provisions are in operation for the care and after care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defect, venereal disease, and other illnesses.

H. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Number of schools in district	...	...	...	...	14
Number of children in attendance at school at end of 1948	...	...	...	...	2324
Number of children examined at school during 1948					939
(This figure being made up as follows)					
Routine examinations	...	...	...	...	463
Additional children specially examined at request of parent	...	...	...	...	20
Re-examinations	...	...	...	...	456
Number of children referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	54

Minor Ailments Clinic.

877 children made 2,990 attendances at the minor ailments clinic during the year.

SECTION IV.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Summary of Notifications received during 1948.

Disease	Total cases notified
Smallpox	—
Scarlet Fever	45
Diphtheria	8
Typhoid and Para-typhoid	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—
Pneumonia	18
Erysipelas	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—
Measles	283
Whooping Cough	97
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7
Dysentery	25
	504

Scabies.

The number of cases of Scabies dealt with during 1948 was 50. All cases were treated at the Medical Centre, Mr. H. Firth treating the male cases and the Health Visitors giving the treatment for women and children.

The sarcopticide used was Benzyl Benzoate and one treatment was found, in the majority of cases, to effect a cure.

Fielden Joint Isolation Hospital.

Although the ownership of this hospital vested in the Regional Hospital Board (Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee) as from 5th July consequent upon the operation of the commencement of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the hospital continued as an isolation hospital until the end of 1948. During this period the hospital was under the medical supervision of my deputy, Dr. G. A. Wilthew. There

were no patients in the hospital at the end of the year and it was then closed for the purpose of repairs and alterations. The following table shows the number of cases admitted during the year :

	Todmorden	Hebden Royd	Hepton R.D.	Sowerby Bridge	Total
Scarlet Fever	40	4	4	9	57
Diphtheria	11	—	—	1	12
Measles	3	2	—	—	5
Mumps	1	1	—	—	2
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	1
Streptococcal Throat	5	—	—	—	5
Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	2
Tonsillitis	2	—	—	—	2
TOTAL	67	7	4	10	88

Diphtheria.

During 1948 12 cases were admitted.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 57 cases admitted during 1948.

Tuberculosis Services.

After 5th July, 1948, the tuberculosis service was taken over by the Regional Hospital Board. A clinic is held weekly on Friday afternoons at Hall Street, and cases requiring X-ray examination are referred to the Medical Centre at Sowerby Bridge. Regular home supervision is carried out by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Free extra nourishment, bedding, shelters, etc., are provided, when authorised by the Tuberculosis Medical Officer, by the County Council.

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in Todmorden in 1948 :—

	Respiratory			Non-Resp.			Ttls.
	M	F	Ttl.	M	F	Ttl.	
No. on Register on 1st Jan., 1948 ..	37	15	52	37	52	89	141
No. first notified during 1948 ..	11	3	14	5	2	7	21
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
No. removed from Register during 1948 :—							
(a) Died ..	7	1	8	1	—	1	9
(b) Removed from district ..	3	2	5	—	—	—	5
(c) Recovered ..	1	—	1	2	1	3	4
No. remaining on Register 31/12/48 ..	37	16	53	39	53	92	145

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1948 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	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
35-45	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
45-55	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
65 & over	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	11	4	5	2	7	1	1	—

SECTION V.

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Corporation Supply.

Serving 5385 houses with a population of 14,675.

(b) Private Supplies.

Serving 1635 houses with a population of 4,455.

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. A chlorinator is installed at the waterworks.

Private Supplies.

These are derived mainly from springs, the water generally being conveyed to storage chambers from which it is piped to the houses.

Examination of Samples.

CORPORATION SUPPLY.

Bacteriological	...	Satisfactory	23	—	All satisfactory.
Chemical	...	Satisfactory	9	—	All satisfactory.
Plumbo-solvency		No lead			Total ... 4

PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

Bacteriological	...	Satisfactory	17	}	Total ... 21
		*Unsatisfactory	4		

* The four unsatisfactory samples were from one small private supply to two farms and a few houses. Investigation showed the storage cistern as a possible place where contamination could occur and improvements to the cover were carried out. Subsequent samples of the water were reported as being satisfactory.

SECTION VI.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

HOUSING

Rainfall for 1948 (Sourhall).

January ..	11.64 ins.	September ..	4.03 ins.
February ..	4.81 ..	October ..	3.08 ..
March ..	2.48 ..	November ..	2.56 ..
April ..	3.52 ..	December ..	5.75 ..
May ..	1.97 ..		
June ..	7.27 ..		55.71
July ..	2.40 ..		
August ..	6.20 ..		

Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewer extensions to the Peel Cottage district were carried out in 1948. Certain portions of the district still require sewer-ing, 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	..	..	..	404
(b) Workplaces	..	..	..	53
TOTAL	..	..	..	457
Privies with covered middens	..	..	about	70
Water Closets (a) Houses	..	..	..	5331
(b) Workplaces	..	..	..	658
TOTAL	..	..	..	5989
Waste Water Closets	..	..	..	305
Number of additional Closets provided:—				
Old property (a) W.C.'s	19	(b) Others	0	
New houses (a) W.C.'s	35	(b) Others	0	
Number of Closets, other than privies, reconstructed as W.C.'s—26.				

With a view to securing the conversion of pail closets and slop closets to water closets the Corporation contribute one-half of the cost of conversion to a maximum of £10 per closet. Ten conversions of slop closets and 16 conversions of pail closets were carried out during the year.

Public Cleansing.

In July the Lewin Compressing Refuse Collector was delivered and put into use at the beginning of August being employed whole time on the collection of refuse. This vehicle is a marked improvement on the one which it displaced as it is wholly enclosed giving almost dustless loading and is entirely dustless when loaded and going to the tip for the disposal of the refuse. One other motor vehicle is employed four days per week on refuse and nightsoil collection, paper salvage, etc. The collection of nightsoil is done by motor vehicle fitted with a moveable tank, and the contents are disposed of at the sewage disposal works.

In October the shorter working week of 44 hours was put into operation and was spread over five days except that one tipman and the man on public conveniences is required to work on Saturday mornings. This entailed the re-arrangement of the collection of house refuse, making use of the new Refuse Collector on Mondays, a day on which refuse had not been collected previously.

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, bottles and jars, etc. Bins for the reception of bones and kitchen waste are situated at convenient points in the Borough.

The weight of refuse collected by the Corporation during the year was 3,847 tons, and the cost of collection and disposal was £4,717. The income from the sale of salvaged materials, charges for tipping, etc. was £1,395, giving a net cost for the collection and disposal of refuse of £3,322.

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

	Tons	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	171½	1106	16	10
Ferrous metals (including 22¾ tons of baled tins) ...	29½	43	10	8
Non-ferrous metals	1	24	13	9
Textiles (rags, carpets, etc.) ...	5	65	7	3
Bottles and jars (37 gross) ...	2¼	18	12	10
Waste food	21½	21	10	0
Bones	1	5	16	3
Total	231¾	1286	7	7

In comparison with the previous year, the total weight of salvage recovered shows an increase of nine tons. The weight of waste paper increased by 17 tons and of ferrous metals by four tons, but there was a decrease in the weight of textiles, bottles and jars, and waste food.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1948, for Nuisances only	...	...	...	...	...	385
Nuisances found in 1948	...	...	...	...	...	110
Nuisances in hand, end of 1947	...	...	...	...	...	7
Total needing abatement	...	...	...	...	...	117
Abated during 1948	...	...	...	...	...	168
Outstanding, end of 1948	...	...	...	...	...	9
Notices served, Informal	...	...	...	...	...	35
Complied with	...	...	...	...	...	30
Notices served, Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Complied with	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total number of Summonses or other legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	—

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 ..	0	0	0		
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	9	9	4	Satisfactory	None
1 Fat Melter					
6 Dressing Hides for Pickers or Tanners.					

Eradication of Bed Bug.

No. of Council Houses found to be infested	0
No. of other houses found to be infested	1
No. disinfested (a) with hydrogen cyanide	0
(b) with insecticide	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 ...	15	0	None
FACTORIES without mechanical power	23	0	None
†OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not in- cluding outworkers' premises)... ..	None	None	None
TOTAL	38	0	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) ...	2	2	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	None	—	—	
unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	
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	4	4	None	None

Summary of the Work Done during 1948.

Inspections of Premises—

1.	For nuisances, etc.	...	...	204
2.	Where infectious disease has occurred	...	...	56
3.	Where offensive trades are carried on	...	...	4
4.	Inspections of Factories	...	...	4
5.	Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	34
6.	Inspections of Cowsheds...	...	...	25
7.	Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	42
8.	Inspections of Slaughterhouses	...	...	177
9.	Inspections of Water Supplies	...	...	6
10.	Inspections of Work in Progress	...	...	153
11.	Inspections under the Housing Act 1936	...	...	65
12.	Re-inspections under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	54
13.	Re-inspections as to compliance with notices	...	...	28
14.	Inspections under Public Health Acts	...	...	16
15.	Inspections under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	13
16.	Inspections of Food Premises	...	...	7
17.	Inspections of Ice Cream Premises	...	...	37
18.	Miscellaneous inspections	...	...	3
Total Visits...				928

19.	No. of houses disinfected after			
	(1) infectious disease	...	...	56
	(2) tuberculosis	...	...	2
20.	Smoke test applied to drains	...	...	23
21.	Samples of Water taken for analysis	...	...	14
22.	Samples of Water taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	47
23.	Samples of ice cream taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	29
24.	Samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	73
25.	No. of complaints investigated	...	...	189
26.	Cases abated under preliminary notice	...	...	129
27.	Cases abated under statutory notice	...	...	40
28.	Cases dealt with under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	10
29.	Smoke observations taken	...	...	8

Summary of Work Carried Out in Compliance with Notices,
etc., during 1948.

House Drainage—

House drains repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	45
New pipe drains provided	...	...	4
Drains trapped	...	...	12
House drains connected to sewer	...	...	3
Waste pipes and rainwater pipes disconnected from drains	...	...	7

Sanitary Conveniences—

Tub closets converted into water closets	...	16
New water closets provided	...	19
Closets repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	12
Waste water closets converted into water closets	...	10
Waste water closets abolished...	...	1

Factories and Bakehouses—

New Sanitary Conveniences provided (re-constructed)	24
---	----

Houses dealt with under Housing Act, 1936—

Houses repaired by informal notice	...	32
Houses demolished	...	17

Cowsheds and Dairies—

New dairies provided	...	2
----------------------	-----	---

Miscellaneous—

No. of condemnations of unsound food	...	22
No. of premises cleansed, disinfested, etc.	...	2
No. of houses provided with proper water supply	...	6
Pollutions of water supplies remedied	...	1
No. of accumulations of refuse, etc. removed	...	2
No. of dust bins sold by Health Dept.	...	254

Mortuary Accommodation.

For accidents	..	..	One Mortuary : two slabs.
For infectious cases, other than at hospitals	..	None	
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	 88
Number of wholesale traders	 44
Number of retail milk sellers	 96
Number of cowsheds	 267
Number of inspections of cowsheds	 25
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	 73

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 12 private slaughterhouses, all licensed by the Council, 8 being unsatisfactory as regards structure, position or in other respects. Centralised slaughtering outside the Borough continued in operation, but one of the slaughterhouses was in use during the year for the slaughter of horses for human consumption and 302 horses were slaughtered during the year and the carcasses, etc., inspected.

There are 31 bakehouses, one of them underground, and 34 inspections were made during the year when the premises were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition as both regards cleanliness and structurally.

The unsound food condemned during the year comprised the following : 1 ton 7 cwts. (approx.) of horseflesh ; 10½ lb. of bacon ; 10 lb. butter ; and 222 cans and packets of food of various kinds.

73 samples of ordinary milk were taken from retailers in the Borough during the year and submitted to the Methylene Blue test prescribed for special designated milk and in 67 the milk satisfied the test. In the 6 cases which failed advice was given to the producers concerned as to the methods of production and the need for careful attention to cleanliness, and subsequent samples satisfied the test.

There were 5 makers of ice-cream in the Borough and their premises were inspected at intervals and were found to be kept in a cleanly condition and in a good state of repair.

29 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test and were graded as follows : 20 in Grade I, 4 in Grade II, 2 in Grade III, and 3 in Grade IV. Following the reports on the samples placed in Grades III and IV investigation and suggestions were made with a view to improved grading and subsequent samples were placed in the two higher grades. In the case of two makers the results were consistently good.

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.

Rodent Control.

Investigations were made at 42 premises in connection with rodent infestation—28 by rats and 14 by mice. The premises treated for rats included 6 houses, 4 food premises, 5 factories and part of the sewage works and a length of the river. The measures used were those of pre-baiting followed by poison baiting and successful results were obtained. A maintenance treatment of the sewers in the Borough was begun in December.

With regard to the infestation by mice these cases occurred at various classes of premises including schools, food premises and houses. Treatment was successfully carried out at 13 premises, one building requiring several treatments.

Housing.

No action was taken during the year with respect to new Clearance Areas or individual unfit houses. In the Shade Clearance Area dealt with prior to the outbreak of war, four houses were still occupied at the end of the year. Seven houses in this area and ten in another Clearance Area were demolished.

The conversion of eight back-to-back houses, the subject of Closing Orders into through houses in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Council was proceeded with, but only very slow progress was made. The reconditioning of another house, the subject of an undertaking, was begun late in the year.

47 houses were inspected and in the majority of them various defects such as leaking roofs and eavestroughs, broken floors, plasterwork, etc., were found. The owners were requested by informal notice or interview to carry out necessary repairs and in 20 cases repairs were done. In addition repairs were carried out at 12 houses standing over at the end of the previous year.

Applications for Corporation houses were dealt with under the "points scheme" and visits paid to houses where necessary.

with a view to the betterment of the community, and
at the same time, to the improvement of the
and the betterment of the community, and at the
same time, to the improvement of the community.

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community, and at the same time, to the improvement
of the community, and at the same time, to the
improvement of the community.

The committee has the honor to acknowledge the
receipt of the letter of the 10th inst., and in
reply to inform you that the same has been
forwarded to the proper authorities for their
consideration.

The committee has the honor to acknowledge the
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