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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN



THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

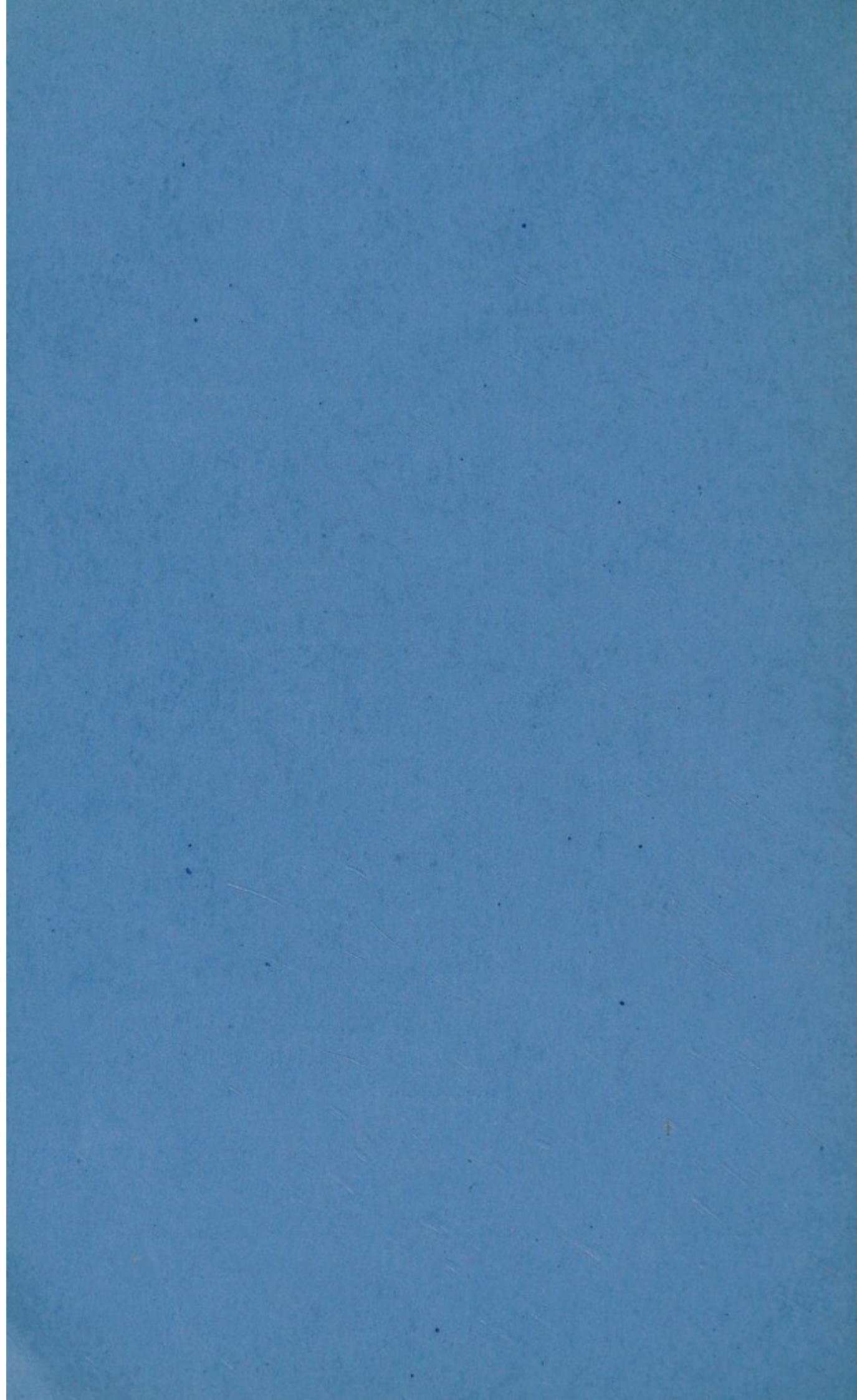
(J. LYONS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

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

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1949

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Members of Health Committee	...	..	...	PAGE 3
Staff of the Public Health Department	...	...	...	4
Introduction	...	...	...	6
Section I— Vital Statistics and Social Conditions	...			9
Section II— General Provision of Health Services	...			14
Section III— W.R.C.C. Preventive Health Service	...			17
Graph showing Maternal Mortality in Todmorden				20
Graph showing Mortality from Respiratory Tuberculosis in Todmorden	...	...	...	21
Section IV— Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	27
Section V— Water Supplies	...	...	...	29
Section VI— Sanitary Circumstances of the Area, Inspection and Supervision of Food, Housing				30

BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN

Health Committee

1st January 1949

CHAIRMAN

ALDERMAN H. TAYLOR,

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN EGERTON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR G. E. BOOTHMAN

„ DR. BROWN
„ A. COCKCROFT
„ L. F. COCKCROFT, J.P.
„ H. HARDY
„ F. W. KNIGHTON
„ F. SUNDERLAND
„ MRS. TATHAM, C.C.
„ D. WRIGHT

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN

Medical Officer of Health

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

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.).

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.

School Dental Officer

Vacant.

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 (resigned July 1949).

MISS M. MACKMAN, S.R.N., QUEEN'S NURSE (Resigned August, 1949).

MISS F. ROBINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., QUEEN'S NURSE, (commenced August, 1949).

MISS M. TYLER, S.R.N., S.C.M., QUEEN'S NURSE (commenced August, 1949).

Midwives

MISS M. HOLDEN, S.R.N., S.C.M. (appointed relief midwife for Division from May, 1949).

MRS. M. MCAULEY, S.C.M.

MISS P. STANSFIELD, S.C.M.

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.

MISS K. GREENWOOD.

MISS H. DOUGLAS.

F. YOUNG (resigned April, 1949).

F. H. UTTLEY (appointed April, 1949).

J. GREENWOOD (appointed May, 1949).

* Part-time.

† Hold Meat Inspection Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute

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

HALIFAX AREA HOSPITALS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Consultant Staff

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon

W. O. LODGE, M.D., F.I.C.S., F.R.C.S.(EDIN.).

Chest Physician

BERTRAM MANN, B.SC., M.D., D.P.H.

Orthopaedic Surgeon

G. HYMAN, M.B., F.R.C.S.

ABRAHAM ORMEROD MEDICAL CENTRE,
TODMORDEN,

October, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the third Annual Report since the inception of the scheme of Divisional Health Administration. Under this arrangement your Medical Officer of Health is also Divisional Medical Officer for the West Riding County Council's local health services and has similar functions in the Hebden Royd, Sowerby Bridge, and Ripponden Urban Districts, and the Hepton Rural District. The scheme has, I think, led to a closer integration of all local authority health services.

The vital statistics for 1949 present features characteristic to the Upper Calder area. The birthrate remains fairly steady at the comparatively low figure of 15.9 per 1,000. The deathrate has however risen from 15.3 per 1,000 in 1948 to 17.2 in 1949. Deaths exceeded births by no fewer than 26 and, of all the 89 districts of the West Riding Administrative Area, only Hebden Royd had a higher crude deathrate. This state of affairs may be largely attributed to the unduly heavy proportion of old folk in the community. The particularly high deathrate in 1949 was due to an increased mortality from influenza and bronchitis, the patients being, in nearly all cases, elderly persons. An ageing community must indeed be expected to feel the effect of epidemics of influenza and bronchitis more acutely than would be the case in a more evenly balanced population.

In a district possessing a statistical background of the type I have just described, the problem of caring for the aged is thrown greatly into relief. One is appalled by the number of cases reported of old people suffering in loneliness, handicapped by physical and often mental infirmity, uncared for and without the capacity to attend to the most elementary of their own needs. In the face of this growing and urgent problem there is, unfortunately, developing an attitude of mind which devolves the entire responsibility for dealing with the situation on to the State. Is it too old fashioned to suggest that the prime responsibility for caring for the aged rests with the relatives where they exist—or have State provisions (such as they are) confused our moral conscience?

The community and the State must of course play a part, and it is encouraging to note that a local Old People's Welfare Organisation has been formed. It is equally a relief to learn that the Halifax Hospitals Committee have plans for additional accommodation for the aged chronic sick. The district Council, too, must keep in mind the care of this increasing number of aged people when plans for future housing projects are discussed. A place on the waiting list is, to an old person, merely a passport to the Beyond. I would plead for a sense of urgency in dealing with the many and varied aspects of this human problem.

The statistics of infectious diseases show that whooping cough remains as a public health problem of the first degree. Results of preliminary trials in whooping cough vaccination carried out by the Medical Research Council are encouraging and it is expected that a reliable vaccine will be available to the public within a year or two.

Six cases of poliomyelitis were notified in the late autumn of 1949, all occurring within a period of a few weeks. One case was fatal. There was no demonstrable connection between any of the six patients, most of whom resided in widely scattered rural parts of Todmorden. This absence of an obvious source of infection is typical of the epidemiology of poliomyelitis, the disease being spread very largely by healthy carriers who may be very numerous. The control of the infection is, for this reason, an extraordinary difficult matter.

It is tuberculosis, however, and not poliomyelitis, which remains the most persistent threat to the health and life of the younger half of the community. Seventeen new cases (14 respiratory) were notified in 1949, and there were 5 deaths. Thirteen of the 17 patients were under the age of 45 years. My report includes a graphical picture of the decline in mortality from respiratory tuberculosis over the past 70 years. It will be seen that marked progress has been made in the reduction of mortality especially during the first quarter of this century. But during the past 10 years the rate of progress has slackened. Indeed notifications of new cases are now considerably more numerous than they were 10 years ago though this may be at least partly due to better facilities for diagnosis. Early diagnosis is however of little value if it is not followed promptly by the isolation and treatment in hospital of the infectious "open" cases. Hospital waiting lists should simply not exist for such cases any more than they

would do for cases of typhoid fever or diphtheria. Adequate housing, too, is of the greatest importance in preventing the spread of tuberculosis and one cannot offer any hope of eradicating the disease until local housing conditions are vastly improved.

To end on a more cheerful note, I would draw attention to one very encouraging feature of the vital statistics, namely, that 1949 was yet another in the recent succession of years without a maternal death. It is now over four years since a Todmorden mother died as a result of confinement. This is a tribute to the work of the medical and social services and also to the co-operation and sound common sense of the mothers themselves.

May I, in conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for your kindness, patience, and co-operation. I also wish to express my deep appreciation of the consistently loyal and energetic work of the staff of this Department.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman 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. 1949, 19,220.

Number of dwelling-houses, 7,016.

Rateable value £113,760.

Product of a penny rate £450.

Rainfall at Gorpley Reservoir during 1949, 53.88 inches.

Summary of Vital Statistics.

	Total	M	F	
Live Births—				Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated res- ident population 15.9
Legitimate	296	160	136	
Illegitimate	9	6	3	
Still Births—				Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 25.6.
Legitimate	7	3	4	
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
Deaths	331	168	163	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 17.2.

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	52
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births ...	51
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births ...	111

Infantile Mortality.

Sixteen infants under age of twelve months died during 1949, giving an infantile mortality rate of 52 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 ...	5	—	—	—	—
Congenital Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis	2	—	—	—	—
Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—
Congenital Deformity	1	—	—	—	—
Intracranial Haemorrhage ...	4	—	—	—	—
Spina Bifida ...	1	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	1

DEATHS FROM Cancer (all ages)	47
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all forms)	0.26
Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate	0.26
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate	Nil
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding tuberculosis)	2.91

CAUSES OF DEATH IN TODMORDEN, M.B.

Cause of Death	1948		1949	
	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	6	—	5	—
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	—	—	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	—	1	2	1
9 Influenza	—	—	—	6
10 Measles	—	—	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-myelitis and				
Polio-encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—
12 Ac. Infantile Encephalitis	—	—	—	—
13 Cancer of Buccal Cavity and				
Oesophagus (M) and Uterus (F)	3	3	—	3
14 Cancer of Stomach and				
Duodenum	3	4	8	5
15 Cancer of Breast	—	3	—	1
16 Cancer of all other Sites ...	14	17	13	17
17 Diabetes	1	—	1	4
18 Intercranial Vascular lesions	19	26	25	29
19 Heart Disease	36	42	36	25
20 Other Diseases of Circulatory				
System	10	12	14	18
21 Bronchitis	17	7	21	20
22 Pneumonia	6	1	3	6
23 Other Respiratory Diseases	3	2	6	—
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	—	2	1
25 Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	—	—	1	—
26 Appendicitis	—	—	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases ...	—	2	5	5
28 Nephritis	6	9	6	5
29 Puerperal and Post abortion				
sepsis	—	—	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes ...	—	—	—	—
31 Premature Birth	2	3	5	0
32 Congenital Malformation, Birth				
Injury; Infancy Diseases ...	2	—	6	4
33 Suicide	4	3	1	2
34 Road Traffic Accidents ...	1	—	—	1
35 Other Violent Causes ...	2	2	1	3
36 All other Causes	7	10	7	7
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ...	146	147	168	163

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949
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)	15.9	16.8	17.2	16.7
DEATH RATE (all per 1,000 estimated population)				
All causes	17.2	12.5	12.1	11.7
*Zyomotic Diseases (seven principal)	0.05	0.08	0.08	§
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.26	0.32	0.32	0.40
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	0.05	0.05	0.05
†Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	2.91	1.48	1.44	§
Cancer	2.45	1.88	1.81	1.87
‡Heart and Circulatory Diseases	4.84	4.36	4.19	§
INFANT MORTALITY (deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	52	37	38	32
DIARRHOEA (deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	3.28	3.01	3.27	3.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY (deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births)				
Puerperal Sepsis	—	0.15	0.15	0.22
Other causes	—	0.60	0.68	0.76
Total	—	0.75	0.83	0.98

* 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 1949
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)	15.9	13.2	14.5	16.7	14.9
DEATH RATE (all per 1,000 est'd. population)					
All causes	17.2	14.5	17.7	16.1	11.2
*Zyomotic Diseases (seven principal) ...	0.05	—	—	0.16	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	0.26	0.25	0.20	0.26	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—
†Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuber- culosis of respiratory system) ...	2.91	1.78	1.87	1.05	0.39
Cancer	2.45	1.78	2.27	2.16	0.78
‡Heart and Circulatory Diseases ...	4.84	6.11	7.20	6.94	5.82
INFANT MORTALITY (deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	52	38	14	35	—
DIARRHOEA (deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births) ...	3.28	—	—	9.43	—
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) and Todmorden Stansfield View Hospital (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.

The County Council are responsible for the home nursing in Todmorden, the two nurses being resident at the Nurses' Home, Garden Street, Todmorden. A car is provided to enable the nurses to carry out their duties more expeditiously in this extensive district.

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, together with Hebden Bridge ambulance which had also passed to the control of the County Council.

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	...	Temporarily Suspended
(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

... ..	...	Wednesdays ...	...	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 1949 Dr. Thierens held 101 sessions and 217 patients made 992 attendances. The popularity of the clinic is shown in the table below :—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Number of patients	229	199	277	296	254	217
No. of attendances	1309	1002	1448	1353	1150	992
No. of sessions held	104	99	100	102	104	101
Patients sent by						
Midwives	28	49	60	58	50	40
Patients sent by						
Doctors	7	10	10	10	10	10
Patients sent by						
Health Visitors	55	56	73	35	55	50
Patients attended on						
own initiative	133	76	94	172	99	102
Patients sent by						
Hospitals	5	8	20	8	20	10
Patients sent by						
Private Nsg. Home	—	—	20	13	20	5
Patients referred to						
own doctor	17	28	49	37	17	20
Patients referred to						
Hospital	35	42	47	55	61	30
Patients referred to						
Dentist	13	38	32	62	54	16
Patients given U.V.R.						
treatment	5	7	4	5	1	—
No. of attendances for						
U.V.R. treatment	—	—	—	38	8	—

X-ray examinations were arranged for six patients who had attended the Ante-Natal Clinic during the year.

Post Natal and Gynaecological Clinics.

Gynaecological and post-natal patients are examined at the ordinary ante-natal clinic. During 1949, 50 patients made 60 attendances at the clinic. Some of the patients confined in Halifax General Hospital attended there for post-natal examination.

	1946	1947	1948	1949
No. of post-natal patients ...	70	60	45	50
No. of attendances ...	90	80	60	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 1949 is given in the following table:—

	Medical Centre	Wals- den	Corn- holme	Total
No. of sessions ..	102	51	51	204
No. of children who attended :—				
(a) Under 1 year old	133	48	41	222
(b) 1-5 years of age	252	72	60	384
No. of attendances by children :—				
(a) Under 1 year ..	2512	679	571	3762
(b) 1-5 years ..	1175	224	398	1797
Total attendances	3687	903	969	5559
Average attendance per session ..	36	18	19	27

Home Visiting of Health Visitors.

NO. OF ANTE-NATAL VISITS :—	
First Visits	105
Subsequent Visits	29
NO. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR	
First Visits	314
Subsequent Visits	1657
NO. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN 1-5 YEARS ..	2672
SPECIAL VISITS	69
TOTAL HOME VISITS ..	4846

Day Nursery Accommodation.

During 1948 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 1949.

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.

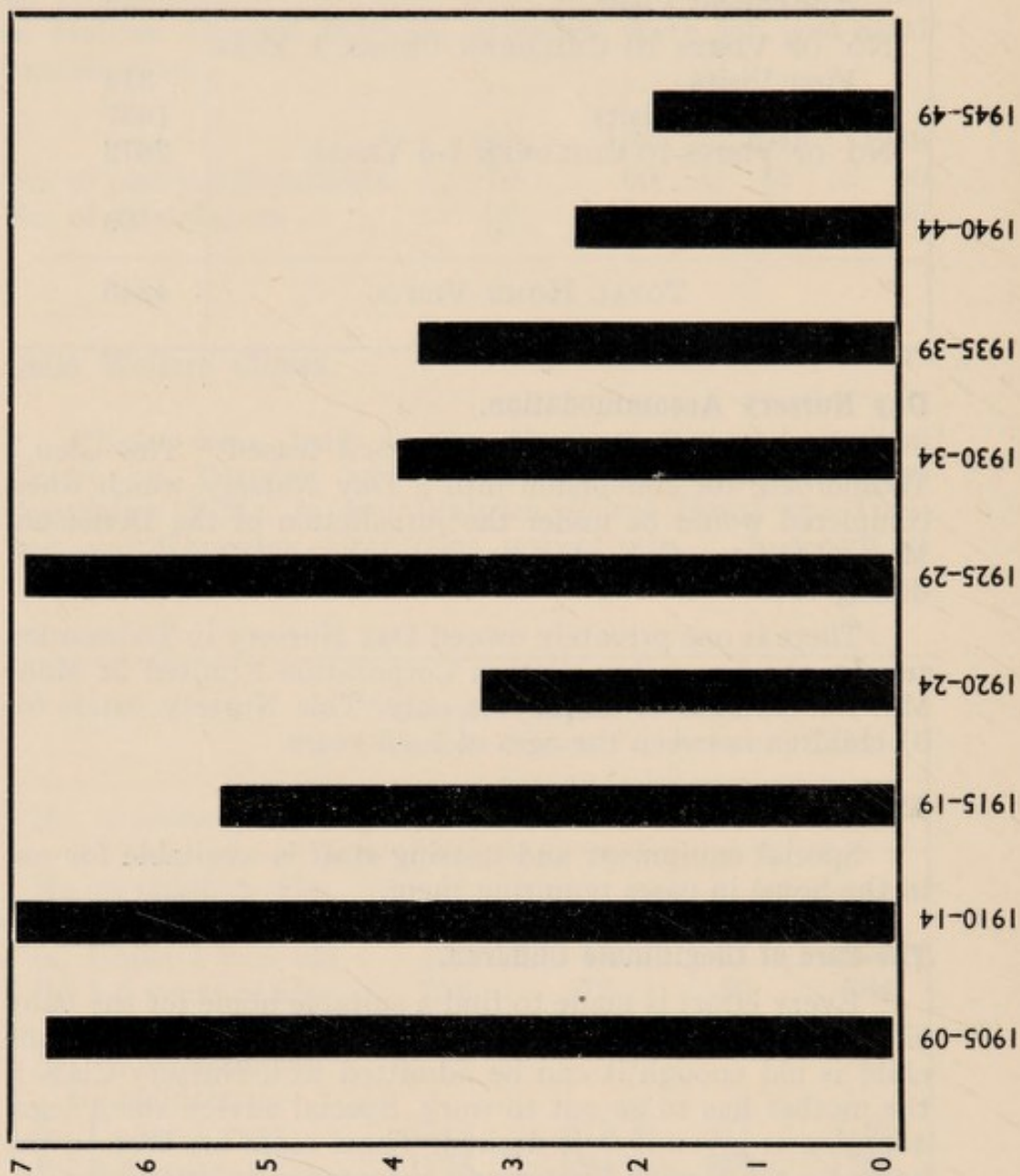
Every effort is made to find a suitable home for the baby either with the mother or with the grand-parents. When the child is old enough it can be admitted to a Nursery Class if the mother has to go out to work. Special advice about legal adoption is given if it is desired. These cases are seen in the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

Minor Ailments Clinic.

During 1949 some 185 children under five years of age some of whom were attending nursery classes, made 217 attendances for treatment at the Medical Centre.

Maternal Mortality in Todmorden

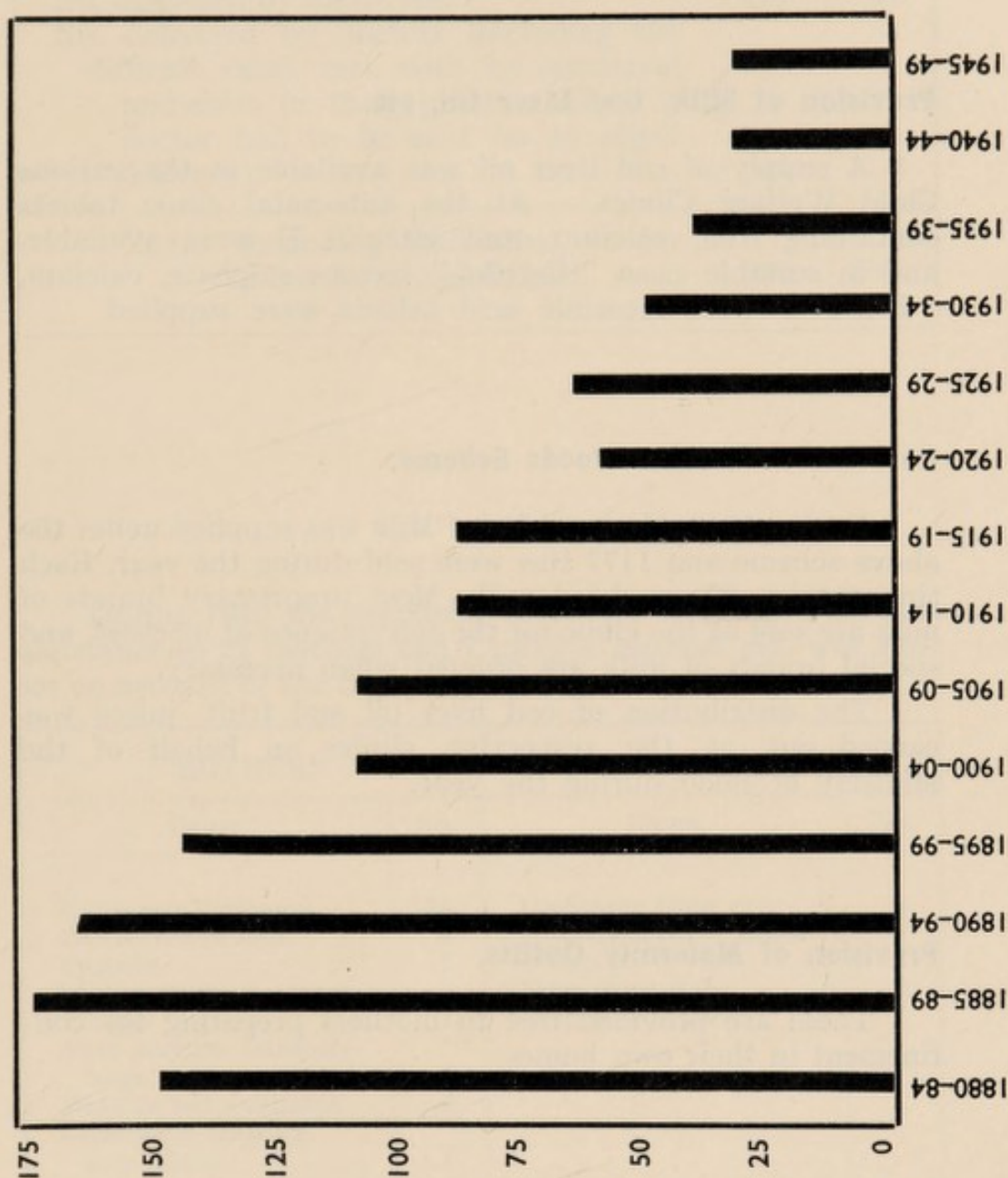
Taken over 5-year periods, 1905-1949.



No. of deaths
per
1,000 births
per annum.

Mortality from Respiratory Tuberculosis in Todmorden

Taken over 5-year periods, 1880-1949.



No. of deaths
per 100,000
population
per annum.

U. V. L. Clinic.

This was held twice weekly at the Medical Centre during the year. A Sollux Mercury Vapour Lamp was used. 34 children not attending school made 473 treatment sessions.

Provision of Milk, Cod Liver Oil, etc.

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 supplied.

Government Welfare Foods Scheme.

During 1949, National Dried Milk was supplied under the above scheme and 1177 tins were sold during the year. Each tin contains 20 oz. dried milk. Most proprietary brands of milk are sold at the clinic for the convenience of mothers, and special brands of milk are ordered when necessary.

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.

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	174	55
No. delivered in private nursing homes ...	20	7
No. delivered by midwives... ..	111	35
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)	11	3
TOTAL (including stillbirths), so far as has been ascertained ...	316	100

During 1949 the practising midwives summoned medical assistance to 27 mothers and 7 infants. Medical aid was sent for on account of the following conditions :—

MOTHERS		INFANTS	
Cause	No.	Cause	No.
Ruptured Perineum ...	14	Discharge from eye ...	2
Protracted labour ...	4	Unsatisfactory condition	2
Pyrexia	1	Premature Baby ...	2
Post-partum haemorrhage	1	Displaced Ankle ...	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage	1		
Midwife not available	5		
Unsuitable housing conditions ...	1		
Total	27	Total	7

The following table summarises the midwifery work of the district midwives for the year 1949 :—

Work done within the Borough	Two Municipal Midwives
No. of deliveries made by Midwives ...	111
No. of difficult cases met with by midwives where a doctor had to be sent for and who	
(a) Effected delivery ...	1
(b) Sent patient to Hospital ...	5
No. of cases where midwives acted as a maternity nurse ...	11
Medical aid sent for in case of ...	
(a) Mothers ...	27
(b) Infants ...	7

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 14.

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 it was not possible to recruit many home helps and there were only two home helps resident in this district who were employed by the West Riding County Council at the end of 1949.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, the County Council provide domestic help for households "where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age."

During the year home helps were provided for 12 cases occurring within the Borough.

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 1949	...	...	...	...	2317
Number of children examined at school during 1949					1061
(This figure being made up as follows)					
Routine examinations	...	...	...	...	581
Additional children specially examined at request of parent	...	...	...	...	6
Re-examinations	...	...	...	...	474
Number of children referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	51

Minor Ailments Clinic.

557 children made 2,279 attendances at the minor ailments clinic during the year.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

Five sessions were held by Mr. Lodge at the Medical Centre and 90 Todmorden children were seen by him. Of the children inspected at these and previous sessions 101 received operative treatment at either the Halifax General Hospital or the Halifax Royal Infirmary during 1949.

SECTION IV.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Summary of Notifications received during 1949.

Disease	Total cases notified
Smallpox	—
Scarlet Fever	37
Diphtheria	3
Typhoid and Para-typhoid	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Pneumonia	29
Erysipelas	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	6
Measles	22
Whooping Cough	107
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3
Dysentery	—
	228

Scabies.

The number of cases of Scabies dealt with during 1949 was 8. All cases were treated at the Medical Centre.

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

Tuberculosis Services.

A clinic is held weekly on Wednesday 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 by the County Council at the discretion of the Divisional Medical Officer if recommended by the Consultant Chest Physician in charge of the Clinic.

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in Todmorden in 1949:—

	Respiratory			Non-Resp.			Ttls.
	M	F	Ttl.	M	F	Ttl.	
No. on Register on 1st Jan, 1949 ..	37	16	53	39	53	92	145
No. first notified during 1949 ..	10	4	14	2	1	3	17
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
No. removed from Register during 1949 :—							
(a) Died ..	7	1	8	—	—	—	8
(b) Removed from district ..	3	1	4	2	2	4	8
(c) Recovered ..	—	1	1	6	18	24	25
No. remaining on Register 31/12/49 ..	38	17	55	33	34	67	122

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1949 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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
20-25	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
35-45	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55-65	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Totals	10	4	2	1	7	1	—	—

SECTION V.

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Corporation Supply.

Serving 5421 houses with a population of 14,850.

(b) Private Supplies.

Serving 1595 houses with a population of 4,370.

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. A bulk supply of water is also obtained from the Rochdale Corporation.

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	...	...	21	—	19	satisfactory.
Chemical	...	...	15	—		All satisfactory.
Plumbo-solvency	No lead				Total	... 2

PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

Bacteriological	...	Satisfactory	10	}	Total	... 19
		Unsatisfactory	9			

The nine unsatisfactory samples were from a supply serving ten houses, the water being reported as unfit for domestic use. The supply was considered by the Health Committee and subsequently the Council made an application to the Magistrates under Section 140 of the Public Health Act 1936. The Magistrates made an Order for the supply to be cut and this was done by the owners of the supply, the houses subsequently being provided with water from the Corporation supply.

Two private supplies were tested for plumbo-solvency and one of them, which was tested in December, was found to contain lead in excessive amounts. The provision of treatment to remedy this was put in hand at once, but was not installed before the end of the year.

SECTION VI.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

HOUSING.

Rainfall for 1949 (Sourhall).

January ..	4.05 ins.	September ..	1.71 ins.
February ..	4.44 „	October ..	6.57 „
March ..	2.94 „	November ..	8.53 „
April ..	5.14 „	December ..	9.23 „
May ..	3.85 „		
June ..	.79 „		53.94
July ..	2.14 „		
August ..	4.55 „		

Drainage and Sewerage.

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	..	..	..	402
(b) Workplaces	..	..	..	48
TOTAL	..	..	..	50
Privies with covered middens	..	..	about	70
Water Closets (a) Houses	..	..	..	5394
(b) Workplaces	..	..	..	663
TOTAL	..	..	..	6057
Waste Water Closets	..	..	..	295
Number of additional Closets provided :—				
Old property (a) W.C.'s	21	(b) Others	0	
New houses (a) W.C.'s	32	(b) Others	0	
Number of Closets, other than privies, reconstructed as W.C.'s—12.				

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. Eleven conversions of slop closets and one conversion of pail closets were carried out during the year

Public Cleansing.

No changes were made during the year in the methods of collection and disposal of refuse. The collection of refuse, including nightsoil, is done by two motor vehicles, one, the Lewin Compressing Refuse Collector, being employed whole time, and the other on four days per week, a weekly collection being carried out in the Borough except for outlying districts where a fortnightly collection is made. The collection of night-soil is done by motor vehicle fitted with a movable tank and the contents are disposed of at the Sewage Disposal Works.

All the refuse 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, when necessary, the sorting from the refuse of various materials such as waste paper, scrap metals, rags, carpets, etc. Bins for the collection of kitchen waste and bones are situated at convenient points in the Borough.

The weight of refuse collected during the year was 3,820 tons, and the cost of collection and disposal was £4,871. The income from the sale of salvaged materials, charges for tipping, etc., was £1,079, giving a net cost for collection and disposal of refuse of £3,792.

The following are the various items of salvage recovered during the year :

	Tons	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	149 $\frac{1}{4}$	788	18	2
Ferrous metals	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	14	9
Non-ferrous metals	$\frac{3}{4}$	17	17	6
Textiles (rags, carpets, etc.)	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	77	12	6
Waste food	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	22	4	0
Bones	$\frac{1}{2}$	2	18	5
TOTAL	186	£917	5	4

In comparison with the previous year the total weight of salvage recovered shows a decrease of 46 tons. The weight of waste paper decreased by 21 tons and that of ferrous metals by 26 tons, the latter decrease being due largely to the non-recovery of tins owing to the shortage of labour. In July compulsory salvage of waste paper, rags and bones was terminated but the Council decided to continue with salvage of waste paper, and that of rags and bones was also continued. The price of waste paper fell by over 40%. The salvage of rags increased, but there was no market for the sale of bottles and jars.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1949, for Nuisances only	408
Nuisances found in 1949	138
Nuisances in hand, end of 1948	9
Total needing abatement	147
Abated during 1949	137
Outstanding, end of 1949	10
Notices served, Informal	45
Complied with	40
Notices served, Statutory	3
Complied with	3
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	..	3
No. disinfested (a) with hydrogen cyanide	..	0
(b) with insecticide ..	..	3

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 ...	36	0	None
FACTORIES without mechanical power	9	0	None
†OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not in- cluding outworkers' premises)... ..	None	None	None
TOTAL	45	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) ...	None	—	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 ...	3	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	3	2	None	None

Summary of the Work Done during 1949.

Inspections of Premises—

1.	For nuisances, etc.	...	...	199
2.	Where infectious disease has occurred	...	...	49
3.	Where offensive trades are carried on	...	...	4
4.	Inspections of Factories	...	...	20
5.	Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	25
6.	Inspections of Cowsheds...	...	...	31
7.	Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	43
8.	Inspections of Slaughterhouses	...	...	112
9.	Inspections of Water Supplies	...	...	18
10.	Inspections of Work in Progress	...	...	149
11.	Inspections under the Housing Act 1936	...	...	59
12.	Re-inspections under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	36
13.	Re-inspections as to compliance with notices	...	...	60
14.	Inspections under Public Health Acts	...	...	17
15.	Inspections under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	19
16.	Inspections of Food Premises	...	...	43
17.	Inspections of Ice Cream Premises	...	...	30
18.	Miscellaneous inspections	...	...	2
Total Visits...				916

19.	No. of houses disinfected after			
	(1) infectious disease	...	...	40
	(2) tuberculosis	...	...	5
20.	Smoke test applied to drains	...	...	3
21.	Samples of water taken for analysis	...	...	16
22.	Samples of water taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	41
23.	Samples of ice cream taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	14
24.	Samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	50
25.	No. of complaints investigated	...	...	195
26.	Cases abated under preliminary notice	...	...	105
27.	Cases abated under statutory notice	...	...	40
28.	Cases dealt with under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	11
29.	Smoke observations taken	...	...	12

**Summary of Work Carried Out in Compliance with Notices,
etc., during 1949.**

House Drainage—

House drains repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	35
New pipe drains provided	...	...	3
House drains connected to sewer	...	...	2

Sanitary Conveniences—

Tub closets converted into water closets	...	...	1
New water closets provided	...	...	21
Closets repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	8
Waste water closets converted into water closets	...	...	11
Waste water closets abolished...	...	...	1
Tub closets abolished	...	...	1

Factories and Bakehouses—

Tub closets converted into water closets	...	...	5
New Sanitary Conveniences provided (re-constructed)	...	...	26
Sanitary conveniences put in order	...	...	2

Houses dealt with under Housing Act, 1936—

Houses repaired by formal action	...	...	6
Houses repaired by informal notice	...	...	26
Houses demolished	...	...	16
Houses abolished as separate dwellings	...	...	4

Cowsheds and Dairies—

New dairies provided	...	...	1
Cowsheds repaired	...	...	2
Cowshed floors relaid	...	...	1

Miscellaneous—

No. of condemnations of unsound food	...	...	26
No. of premises cleansed, disinfested, etc.	...	...	3
No. of houses provided with proper water supply	...	...	12
No. of ashpits closed	...	...	1
No. of accumulations of refuse, etc. removed	...	...	2
No. of dust bins sold by Health Dept.	...	...	220

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 	91
Number of wholesale traders 	49
Number of retail milk sellers 	102
Number of cowsheds 	267
Number of inspections of cowsheds 	31
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 	50

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-1946 :

Production of Milk	No. of Licences in force in area	Samples of designated milks examined bacteriologically	
		No. satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tstd	3	none exmd.	none exmd.
Accredited	1	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, 7 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 for the slaughter of horses for human consumption and 156 horses were slaughtered during the year and the carcasses, etc., inspected.

There are 32 bakehouses, and 25 inspections were made when the premises were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition as regards both cleanliness and structurally.

The unsound food condemned during the year comprised the following : $7\frac{1}{4}$ cwts. of horseflesh, $1\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. of fish, 164 lb. tripe (imported), 21 lb. cheese, 23 lb. dried peaches, and 168 cans and jars of various kinds.

Fifty samples of ordinary milk were taken from retailers in the Borough and submitted to the Methylene Blue Test prescribed for special designated milk, and 45 of the samples satisfied the test. In the 5 cases which failed advice was given to the producers concerned as to methods of production and the need for careful attention to cleanliness and where subsequent samples were taken these satisfied the test.

There were 4 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.

Fourteen samples of ice-cream at various stages of manufacture were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test and were graded as follows :

Ten in Grade I, 3 in Grade III, and 1 in Grade IV. In the case of the sample in Grade IV investigation of the process of manufacture was made and samples taken at various stages. After perusal of the reports advice was given and subsequent samples were placed in Grade I

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 43 premises in connection with rodent infestation—29 by rats and 14 by mice. The premises treated for rats included 10 factories, 4 houses, 2 food premises, the refuse tip, sewage works (part) and a short length of the river. The treatment consisted of pre-baiting followed by poison baiting and successful results were obtained. Five premises were dealt with privately.

The maintenance treatment of the sewers in the Borough started late in 1948 was completed during the early part of the year and a further maintenance treatment was started later.

With regard to the infestations by mice these cases occurred at various classes of premises including schools, food premises, and one house. Treatment was carried out at 10 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, three houses were still occupied at the end of the year, but 16 further houses had been demolished.

The conversion of 8 back-to-back houses, the subject of Closing Orders, into through houses in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Council, which was in progress in 1948, was completed and the Closing Orders determined.

Fifty-eight houses were inspected, 10 being for the purpose of report to the Housing Committee. In the majority of the remainder various defects such as leaking roofs and eaves-troughs, defective floors, plasterwork, etc., were found and the owners were requested by informal notice or interview to carry out necessary repairs. Repairs were carried out at 28 houses.

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

Seven cases of overcrowding were abated during the year by re-housing in Corporation houses. At the end of the year 14 houses were recorded as being overcrowded and affecting 17 families with 93 persons.



