Contributors

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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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Bentley & Sons, Printers, Todmorden.

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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN

HEALTH COMMITTEE

December, 1953

CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR DR. S. H. BROWN

ALDERMAN L. F. COCKCROFT

- " W. EGERTON, J.P.
- " F. SUNDERLAND
- " H. TAYLOR

COUNCILLOR G. E. BOOTHMAN

- " A. COCKCROFT
- " H. CUNLIFFE
- " H. COCKCROFT
- " H. HARDY
- " R. LAW
- " E. R. SYKES

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 Vacant.
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 Officer NORMAN E. GORDON, M.B., B.CH. D.P.H. (commenced October 1st, 1953.) ALICE SEELIG, M.D. Medical Officer to the Ante-Natal Clinic *MILDRED M. THIERENS, M.B. School Dental Officer *J. I. JAGGER, L.D.S. Health Visitors MRS. M. M. ILLINGWORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M. MISS J. ALEXANDER, S.R.N., S.C.M. [†]MRS. A. LUNT, S.R.N., S.C.M. Tuberculosis Health Visitor MRS. B. G. NICHOLL S.R.N. Mental Health Social Worker MISS E. C. WROE, S.R.N., R.M.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Home Nurses

MISS F. ROBINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., QUEEN'S NURSE. MRS. N. HANSON, S.R.N., QUEEN'S NURSE (resigned 31-7-53).

MISS P. BRYERS, S.R.N., S.C.M., (commenced 8-9-53, transferred away 23-11-53).

MISS F. M. BURDETT, S.R.N., S.C.M., QUEEN'S NURSE, (commenced 20-11-53)

Home Nurse/Midwife

MISS A. B. HOBSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., QUEEN'S NURSE, (commenced 1-1-53).

Midwives

MISS P. STANSFIELD, S.C.M.

Dental Attendant

*MISS C. HANLEY (transferred away 24-12-53).

MISS J. TWEDDLE (commenced 7-12-53).

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

*MRS. J. GREENWOOD.

F. H. UTTLEY

J. GREENWOOD

MISS P. JACKSON.

D. HOWORTH.

MISS M. JOHNSON (transferred away 30-11-53).

MRS. M. LEAH (nee Miss M. Hopkins).

MISS A. Y. ALCOCK.

* 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

Orthopaedic Surgeon G. HYMAN, M.B., F.R.C.S. 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. Ophthalmic Surgeon

P. M. WOOD, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

ABRAHAM ORMEROD MEDICAL CENTRE.

TODMORDEN.

November, 1954.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the seventh Annual Report since the inception of the scheme of Divisional Health Administration.

Under the Divisional Health Scheme 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 Urban Districts of Hebden Royd, Sowerby Bridge, and Ripponden, and the Rural District of Hepton. The scheme has led to a closer integration of local authority health services.

The year under review was an unhappy one as regards the incidence of infectious disease. Not only was there a prevalence of influenza, measles, whooping-cough, mild scarlet fever, and dysentery, but fate chose Todmorden as the battle ground for a struggle with the virulent major type of smallpox. Full reports of this outbreak have already been given to your Health Committee and a permanent record is available in the form of an article written by Dr. C. W. Dixon of the University of Leeds and myself and published in the December 19-26 issues (1953) of The Medical Officer. The outbreak was brought under control only by the tireless and extreme efforts of every medical, nursing, sanitary, and clerical member of the Health Department, assisted by volunteers from other departments of the Todmorden Corporation and other parts of the West Riding. Doctors and nurses on the County Council staff came to assist us from as far away as Wakefield, Rothwell, Colne Valley, Cleckheaton, and Shipley, frequently working until late in the night and then returning home. I may add that they received no remuneration whatsoever for their voluntary overtimesurely an object lesson to the rest of the community. The effor s of the Health Department were supported by the good sense and co-operative spirit of the townsfolk of Todmorden.

In spite of strenuous and painstaking investigations the exact mode of entry of the infection into the country was not determined. Infected raw cotton was at first under suspicion but a careful review of the evidence by Dr. Dixon and myself indicated that human transport links with the West Coast ports represented a much more likely route of infection.

One of the results of the smallpox outbreak was the introduction by the County Council (inspired by the Ministry of Health) of a scheme for the voluntary vaccination, and revaccination at two-yearly intervals, of certain categories of cotton workers. This scheme was, in my sincere and humble opinion, hastily conceived, of illegitimate origin and likely to be stillborn. It is based on a nebulous hypothesis which simply will not stand up to investigation. Huge amounts of raw cotton from infected areas of the world are delivered to Todmorden almost daily, yet the last outbreak of major smallpox was as long ago as 1903. Furthermore no smallpox virus has ever been isolated from imported raw cotton in this or any other country. Even if it were certain that raw cotton was the culprit such infrequent outbreaks of smallpox would hardly justify the continued routine primary vaccination every year of a considerable number of workers, many of whom are at an age when vaccination for the first time may produce considerable pain, discomfort, inconvenience, and absenteeism. And how many workers will, especially when this outbreak has been forgotten, consent to this and also to two-yearly re-vaccinations? It should be noted here that the success of the scheme would, in fact, depend on regular re-vaccination, since the immunity received from vaccination gradually fades. The scheme is nevertheless in existence and those who handle raw cotton up to and including the carding process and who wish to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated should approach either their factory doctor, their general practitioner, or the Health Department.

The outbreak of mild dysentery (of the "sonne" type) in 1953 was more widespread than any previously recorded local epidemic in recent years. The number of cases statutorily notified was 43 but there is evidence to indicate that the total number of cases was considerably higher. Young children were chiefly affected but no deaths occurred. The spread of diseases of this kind can only be checked by a higher standard of personal hygiene. The practice of thoroughly washing the hands after every visit to the "toilet" would, if universally adopted, take us a long way towards the complete elimination of dysentery and of other similar infections, including the more common types of food-poisoning. The importance of the training of young children by parents and teachers in the elementary rules of cleanliness is underlined. The use of communal towels encourages the spread of infection and representation has been made to the Education Authority for their replacement in schools by individual towels.

But not all was gloomy during the year under review. The infant mortality rate reached the extraordinarily low level of 12.5 per 1,000 births and it is interesting to note that the infant mortality rate in the Division as a whole was the lowest on record, viz. 19.0 per 1,000 births. This figure was also lower than in any of the other 29 West Riding Divisions and compares favourably with the infant mortality rate of 26.8 for England and Wales. Maternal deaths were absent again for the seventh successive year, a remarkable tribute to the efficiency of both the hospital and domiciliary midwifery services.

Sixty-six cases of whooping-cough were notified during the year. None of these children had been vaccinated against whooping-cough under the provisions of the County Council's scheme. The total number of Todmorden children vaccinated against whooping-cough in this scheme was 250. It is too early as yet to assess the degree of success of this relatively new form of immunisation.

The housing situation in Todmorden has been reviewed in the light of Ministerial statements of policy. The possibilities of slum clearance are being seriously considered and it is hoped that a modest start may be made within the next year or two. The chief difficulty is, of course, the problem of re-housing the tenants of cleared property, the solution of which is not rendered easier by the fact that many of those who at present inhabit unfit houses (including a considerable number of pensioners) are questioning their ability to pay the rents of post-war Council houses. In spite of the difficulties, however, one would welcome a bold long-term plan by the Housing Committee for the eradication of the large number of unfit houses which are unsuitable for "improvement."

The care of the aged continues to be the daily concern of the Divisional Health Department. The Home Nursing, Health Visiting and Home Help Services of the County Council are fully extended in an effort to keep the old folk happy and healthy in their own homes. Advice and assistance has been given to the voluntary organisations interested in this work. One important outcome of this co-operation between local authority and voluntary bodies was the introduction this year by the Todmorden Needy Sick Fund of a scheme for the door-to-door delivery of a limited number of school dinners to handicapped aged persons in special need. The arrangement is working extremely well and due tribute should be paid to the many voluntary workers involved, not least to the extremely energetic and able organiser and secretary, Mr. Arthur Sykes.

In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I 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,

Your obedient servant,

J. LYONS,

M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., P.D.H., Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I.

VITAL STATISTICS

Statistics.

Area. 12,790 acres.

Population-Census 1951. 19,072 persons.

Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population, mid. 1953, 18,630.

Number of dwelling-houses, 7,108.

Rateable value £115,509.

Product of a penny rate £453.

Rainfall at Gorpley Reservoir during 1953, 49.08 inches

Summary of Vital Statistics.

	Total	М	F	nergetic work of the sta
Live Births– Legitimate Illegitimate	236 4	111	125 3	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated res- ident population 12.9
Still Births- Legitimate Illegitimate	3	2	1	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 12.3
Deaths	246	124	122	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 13.2

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES-

	Deaths	(live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	 Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	Nil	 Nil

Death Data

1000

Infantile Mortality.

Three infants under the age of twelve months died during 1953, giving an infantile mortality rate of 12.5 per 1000 births.

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

Cause of Death	No. of infants dying in							
Cause of Death	lst week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week	5—52 week			
Atalectasis	2	-		-	-			
Congenital Heart disease	Tag				-			
Spina bifida			-					
Prematurity	1				-			
Broncho pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-			

DEATHS FROM	Cancer (all ages)	 40
	Measles (all ages)	 Nil
	Whooping Cough (all ages)	 Nii
Tuberculosis D	eath Rate (all forms)	 0.16
Respiratory Tu	iberculosis death rate	0.16
Non-Respirator	ry Tuberculosis death rate	Nil
Respiratory Dea	ath Rate (excluding tuberculosis)	1.45

CAUSES OF DEATH IN TODMORDEN, M.B.

	CAUSE OF DEATH		952			53
		М.	F.		М.	F .
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2			3	
2	Tuberculosis, other		1			
3	Syphilitic disease				1	1
4	Diphtheria					
5	Whooping Cough					
6	Meningococcal infections		-			
7	Acuto Dellamoralitia			•••		
8					L walk	
				•••		
9	Other infective and parasitic					
10	diseases				1	2 7
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	4		3	7
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung,					
	bronchus	3			5	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast		2		1	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus		3			1
14	Other malignant and lym-					
		15	11		11	9
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia				1	1
16	Diabetes	1			î	î
17	Vascular lesions of nervous					-
11		22	26		14	90
10	system				14	29
18	Coronary disease, angina	23	14		24	10
19	Hypertension with heart dis-					
	ease	3			2	3
20			29		16	13
21	Other circulatory disease	8	17		8	11
22	Influenza		-			2
23	Pneumonia	3	2		1	3
24	Bronchitis	4	9		8	9
25	Other diseases of respiratory					
	system	4			3	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duo-				0	-
20		1	1		4	2
27		1	1		4	4
21	Gastritis, enteritis and diar-	1	1			
-	rhoea	1	1	•••	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis		1		2	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	1		•••	1	
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abor-					
	tion					
31	Congenital malformation	1	2			-
32	Other defined and ill-defined					
	diseases	12	10		6	9
33	Motor vehicle accidents	2			4	1
34	All other accidents	ī	1		1	2
35	Suicide	2	2		2	-
36	Homicide and operations of	-	2		4	
00						
	war		_			-
	TOTAL ALL CALIGING	100	140		104	100
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES	126	143		124	122
	-					

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1953 based on the Registrar-General's Figures

and Wales England 0.76 $0.18 \\ 0.02$ (provifigures) 1.99 ** 26.8 sional 15.5 11.4 Adminis-Riding County 0.16 1.88 trative 0.08 0.02 $4.26 \\ 1.76$ 0.51 West 15.7 11.6 29.3 Aggregate Districts Riding 0.38 0.09 0.17 0.02 $4.63 \\ 1.96$. 39 Urban West 15.4 12.5 27.6 0.96 3.463.661.73Rippon 14.2 11.7 U.D. den Sowerby Bridge U.D. 2.32 4.75 0.05 1.35 16.8 12.2 16.1 Hebden 0.10 1.70 5.99 Rovd 44.8 13.4 14.5 U.D. $3.68 \\ 1.72$ Hepton 0.25 0.98 1.97 10.6 10.6 23.3 R.D. Todmorden 13.2 0.16 1.452.254.67 31 12.5 12.9 M.B. 01 Death Rates (all per 1,000 estimated population) *** : Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population) ... Respiratory disease† (excluding tubercu-.... ---Infant Mortality (deaths under one year per Maternal Mortality (deaths of mothers in child-.... Tuberculosis of respiratory system... birth per 1,000 live and still-births) Vascular lesions of nervous system Infective and parasitic diseases* Heart and circulatory diseasest Other forms of tuberculosis... ... losis of respiratory system) 1 1,000 live births) ... All causes Cancer ...

Combined death rate from syphilitic diseases, acute poliomyelitis, meningococcal infections, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, and other infective and parasitic diseases. *

Combined death rate from influenza, 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 Hall 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 Halitax General and Royal Infirmary. Priority in booking is given to abnormal cases, mothers expecting their first child, and mothers with unsatisfactory home conditions.

Special Hospitals (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. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The West Riding County Council maintain an Ambulance Depot at Millwood, Todmorden, with an establishment at the end of 1953, of a Depot Superintendent, ten full-time Driver-Attendants and four vehicles. The area served covers Todmorden Borough, part of Hebden Royd U.D. area and the Hepton Rural District.

C. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

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

D. ISSUE OF ANTI-TOXIN, ETC.

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

A. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Infant Welfare

2 to 4-30 p.m. 2 to 4-30 p.m. 2 to 4-30 p.m.	1-30 to 4 p.m.	9 to 10 a.m. 9-15 to 11-30 a.m. By arrangement By arrangement
Tuesdays and Wednesdays Tuesdays Thursdays	Wednesdays and Thursdays	Mondays to Fridays inclusive Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays As required As required Mondays and Fridays
Ridgefoot Wals Baptist Sunday School, Cornholme Walsden Wesley Sunday School	Ante-Natal and Post Natal Ridgefoot	School Clinics Ridgefoot (a) *Minor Ailments (b) Dental (c) Ophthalmic (d) Ear, Nose and Throat (e) Artificial Sunlight Smallpox Vaccination Diphtheria Immunisation

16

SECTION III. W.R.C.C. PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICE

1-30 to 4.30 p.m.

...

:

::

Wednesdays ...

::

::

Union Offices, Hall Street

* Medical Officer in attendance Fridays only.

Tuberculosis (by arrangement with Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee)

By arrangement

:

....

....

As required ...

....

:

Whooping Cough Immunisation All Infant Welfare Centres

B. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Ante Natal Services

During 1953 Dr. Thierens held 98 sessions and 148 patients made 817 attendances. The popularity of the clinic is shown in the table below :---

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Number of patients	254	217	200	162	158	148
No. of attendances	1150	992	1060	105	737	817
No. of sessions held	104	101	102	96	100	98
Patients sent by						
Midwives	50	40	30	23	5	8
Patients sent by						
Doctors	10	10	5	3	19	17
Patients sent by						
Health Visitors	55	50	20	14	9	12
Patients attended on						
own initiative	99	102	135	100	114	88
Patients sent by						
Hospitals	20	10	10	22	11	23
Patients sent by						
Private Nsg. Home	20	5	<u>.</u> 00			02
Patients referred to						
own doctor	17	20	20	6	9	20
Patients referred to						
Hospital	61	30	24	22	32	21
Patients referred to						
Dentist	54	16	9	26	6	10
Patients given U.V.R.						
treatment	1				5	4

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

Fost Natal and Gynaecological Clinics.

Gynaecological and post-natal patients are examined at the ordinary ante-natal clinic. During 1953, 81 patients made 134 attendances at the clinic. Some of the patients confined in Halifax General Hospital attended there for post-natal examination.

	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. of post-natal patients	 51	 56	 79	81
No. of attendances	 70	 88	 139	134

Child Welfare Clinics.

Clinics were held at the Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and at Cornholme and Walsden on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons respectively. A record of the work done in 1953 is given in the following table :—

	Medical Centre	Wals- den	Corn- holme	Total
No. of sessions	101	50	49	200
No. of children who attended :— (a) Under 1 year old	113	47	34	194
(b) 1-5 years of age	203	142	54 59	404
No. of attendances by children :		12	a para	
(a) Under l year (b) 1-5 years	$\begin{array}{r}1515\\616\end{array}$	921 722	869 535	3305 1873
Total attendances	2131	1643	1404	5178
Average attendance per session	21	32	28	26

Home Visiting by Health Visitors.

VISITS :-	Contraction of the	d binep		
			109	
			125	
HILDREN U	INDER 1	YEAR		
			233	
			1329	
ILDREN 1-	5 YEARS		3256	
			1195	
HOME VIS	SITS		6247	
	HILDREN U	HILDREN UNDER 1 ILDREN 1-5 YEARS	 HILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR ILDREN 1-5 YEARS 	109 125 HILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR 233 HILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR 1329 ILDREN 1-5 YEARS 3256 1195

Day Nursery Accommodation

The Glen Day Nursery was opened by the West Riding County Council on 11th September, 1950, and children may be admitted under a system of priorities by arrangement with the Divisional Medical Officer.

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 Day Nursery 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 1953 61 children under five years of age, some of whom were attending nursery classes, made 113 attendances for treatment at the Medical Centre.

U. V. L. Clinic.

This was held twice weekly at the Medical Centre during the winter months. A Sollux Mercury Vapour Lamp was used. 62 children not attending school, made 637 attendances for treatment.

Provision of Welfare Foods, etc.

Most proprietary brands of milk and other infant foods are sold at the Child Welfare Clinics for the convenience of mothers and special brands of milk are ordered when necessary.

In addition the distribution of cod liver oil, orange juice, vitamin A and D tablets, and National Dried Milk, is carried out at the three Child Welfare Clinics on behalf of the Ministry of Food.

Provision of Maternity Outfits.

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

C. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Home Nursing.

The County Council are responsible for the home nursing in Todmorden, the two whole-time nurses being resident at the Nurses' Home, Garden Street, Todmorden. In addition, a Home Nurse/Midwife is responsible for the Cornholme etc., district.

Midwifery.

One whole-time midwife and a Home Nurse/Midwife (resident in their own homes) are employed by the County Council to serve the Todmorden area. 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 No. delivered in private nursing homes No. delivered by midwives No. delivered by doctors (including the difficult cases met with by municipal midwives in their practice where a	126 6 104	53.2 2.6 43.8
doctor had to be sent for to effect delivery)	1	0.4
TOTAL (including stillbirths), so far as has been ascertained	237	100.0

During 1953 the practising midwives summoned medical assistance to 16 mothers and 4 infants. Medical aid was sent for on account of the following conditions :—

MOTHERS		INFANTS				
Cause		No.	Cause		No.	
Ruptured perineum Prolonged labour Maternal distress Pyrexia Mastitis Retained placenta Uterine inertia Eye infection		8 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Cyanosis Discharge from eyes Prematurity		1 2 1	
Total,		16	TOTAL		4	

The following table summarises the midwifery work of the district midwives for the year 1953 :---

Work done within the Borough	Two WRCC Midwives
No. of deliveries made by Midwives	102
No. of difficult cases met with by mid- wives where a doctor had to be sent for and who (a) Effected delivery (b) Sent patient to Hospital	
No. of cases where midwives acted as a maternity nurse	
Medical aid sent for in case of (a) Mothers (b) Infants	$\frac{16}{4}$

Emergency Obstetric Unit.

The "flying squad" attached to Halifax General Hospital is available for obstetric emergencies occurring in the town.

Analgesia.

Both midwives are trained in the administration of gas and air analgesia and provided with the necessary equipment. Analgesia is available to all mothers desiring it subject to satisfactory medical examination by a doctor.

D. 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.

E. HOME HELPS

The recruitment of suitable women to be Home Helps again proved to be difficult. During 1953 94 cases were attended by Home Helps as compared with 65 cases the previous year, and the total number of hours worked was 13,078.

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."

Of the 94 cases attended in 1953, Home Helps were provided for the following reasons: 3 illness, 14 maternity, and 77 chronic sick.

F. 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.

G. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Number of schools in district	16
Number of children in attendance at school at end	
of 1953	2688
Number of children examined at school during 1953	1289
(This figure being made up as follows)	
Routine examinations 823	
Re-examinations 466	
Number of children referred for treatment	79

Minor Ailments Clinic

474 children made 1,617 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 70 Todmorden children were seen by him. Of the children inspected at these and previous sessions 26 received operative treatment at either the Halifax General Hospital or the Halifax Royal Infirmary during 1953.

Dental Clinic.

During the year 132 Dental Clinics were held. The following table gives a record of the work done:

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

Number of children inspected	d		 1400	
Number of children offered t	reatm	lent	 878	
Number of children treated			 882	
Number of attendances			 1035	
NUMBER OF EXTRACTIONS				
Temporary teeth			 1550	
Permanent teeth			 230	
NUMBER OF FILLINGS				
Temporary teeth			 360	
Permanent teeth			 321	
NUMBER OF OTHER OPERATIONS				
Temporary			 76	
Permanent			 105	

Ophthalmic Clinic.

Mr. Wood held 26 eye clinics during the year, and 181 Todmorden school children were seen by him and glasses were prescribed where necessary.

U.V.L. Clinic.

67 school children made 661 attendances during the year.

H. IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox may be done either at the clinic or by the family doctor.

Number of children in Todmorden who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time to 31-12-53.

Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total under 15
56	210	212	309	107	1164	1132	3190

Estimated mid-year population 3916 under 15 years

Age	0-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Began and completed injections 1953	56	117	13	4	2	3	2	1			2	9	2	4	2
Sellio Letter			-			Tot	tal		2	17	1				
Immunised in previous years, re-treated 1953					29	59	29	10	8	8	12	8	-		
						То	tal		1	63			-	1	

Number of children in Todmorden who completed a full course of Jmmunisation 1953

Vaccination against Smallpox.

During the year 13,153 people were vaccinated against smallpox.

SECTION IV.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Summary of Notifications received during 1953.

Disease			tal cases otified
Scarlet Fever			 18
Whooping Cough			 66
Acute Poliomyelitis			 4
Measles			 21
Diphtheria			
Acute pneumonia			 25
Dysentery			 43
Smallpox	XIIII		 11
Acute encephalitis		0.05	
Enteric or Typhoid fe			
	VEI		
Paratyphoid fevers			
Erysipelas			 4
Meningococcal infectio	on		
Food poisoning			 6
Puerperal Pyrexia			
Ophthalmia Neonator	um		
Pulmonary Tuberculo			 18
Other forms of Tuber			 5
			221

Tuberculosis Services.

A clinic is held weekly on Wednesday afternoons at Hall Street, and cases requiring X-ray examination are referred to the Chest Clinic at Halifax Royal Infirmary. Regular home supervision is carried out by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Free milk, 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 1953:---

	Res	pirat	ory	No	n-Re	esp.	Ttls.
	Μ	F	Ttl.	M	F	Ttl.	
No. on Register on							
lst Jan., 1953	59	35	94	20	19	39	133
No. first notified							
during 1953	11	7	18	3	2	5	23
No. of cases restored							1- car
to register	2	-	2	-	1	1	3
No. of cases entered	pen 1			1053.77		pitving.	1
in Register other than							
by notification	1	1	2	-	1	1	3
No. removed from	3170			12 11		11 200	
Register during				hereast			in.ban
1953 :							i mare da
(a) Died	3	-	3	1	1	2	5
(b) Removed from			-				Lines 1
district .	4	1		1	3	4	9
(c) Recovered	1	2	3	3	5	8	11
	-						
No. remaining on						1	
Register 31/12/53	65	40	105	18	14	32	137

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1953 are given in detail in the following table :---

	1	New	CASES		DEATHS					
Age	Respiratory		Non-res	piratory	Respiratory		Non-respiratory			
Period	М.	F.	м.	F.	м.	F.	м.	F.		
0-1	_		_		_		_	_		
1-5	1	1	-			-	-			
5-10	2		1	1			-			
10-15	2		-	1	- 1			-		
15 - 20	1		1		00-0	- 10		-		
20-25		1	110-0-	100	1		pil-	-		
25-35	-	1	10-1	113-31	1					
35-45		2	11-11		-		01-01	-		
- 45-55	1	1	-		-			-		
55-65	3		1	_ 1	1	-	1	-		
65 & over	1	1	-	-	-		102-0	1		
Totals	11	7	3	2	3		1	1		

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SECTION V.

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Corporation Supply.

Serving 5573 houses with a population of 14,954.

(b) Private Supplies.

Serving 1535 houses with a population of 4,118.

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 SU	PPL,	Υ.			
Bacteriological			19		All satisfactory.
Chemical		84840	12		All satisfactory.
Plumbo-solvency	y		4		No lead.
PRIVATE SUPPLI	ES.				
Bacteriological		Satisfactory	34	1	
		Unsatisfactory	7	3	Total 41

Twenty-four of the samples from private supplies were taken during routine sampling of the larger supplies, in various parts of the Borough, and were all satisfactory. Five samples were taken from various points on the supply to an Approved School, and the reports were supplied to the Authorities concerned. Three samples, two of which were unsatisfactory, were obtained from a supply at Warland and negotiations for water to be obtained from the Rochdale Corporation were instituted. Seven samples were taken in connection with the improvement of a supply and two in connection with the provision of a supply to a factory.

SECTION VI.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

HOUSING.

Rainfall for 1953 (Fielden Hospital).

January	 1.52 ins.	September		3.32	ins.
February	 2.44 ,,	October		2.67	,,
March	 2.80 ,,	November		5.27	,,
April		December		2.02	,,
May	 3.03 ,,		-		
June	 3.06 ,,			40.90	
July	 4.90 ,,		-		
August	 5.62 ,,				

Drainage and Sewerage.

No extensions of sewers were carried out. Certain portions of the district still require sewering, but in these parts the cost is prohibitive.

Defective sewers are improved as required and such works of repair or improvement were carried out during the year at East Street, Brook Street, Gauxholme Fold and Back Ridge Street.

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 covered middens		abo	ut 70
Pail or Tub Closets (a) Houses			392
(b) Workplaces		••	48
TOTAL	•••		440
Water Closets (a) Houses			5687
(b) Workplaces			666
TOTAL			6353
Waste Water Closets			239
Number of additional Closets provided	l :—		
Old property (a) W.C.'s 23 (b)			
New houses (a) W.C.'s 34 (b)			
Number of Closets, other than priv	vies, re	econstr	ucted
as W.C.'s—8.			

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. Fourteen conversions of slop closets and two conversions of pail closets were carried out during the year

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

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 nightsoil is done by motor vehicle fitted with a movable tank and the contents are disposed of at the Sewage Disposal Works.

In the latter half of the year the Council, on the recommendation of the Health Committee, decided to replace the older refuse vehicle by a Dennis 7 cubic yard refuse collector fitted with a Diesel Engine, but the vehicle had not been delivered by the end of the year.

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, where necessary, the sorting from the refuse of various materials such as waste paper, scrap metals, rags, carpets. Almost all the waste paper is collected separately during the collection of refuse, in addition to which there is a special collection from factories and business premises.

The weight of refuse collected during the year was 3893 tons, and the cost of collection and disposal was $\pounds 6,915$. The income from the sale of salvaged materials, charges for tipping, etc., was $\pounds 1,247$, giving a net cost for collection and disposal of refuse of $\pounds 5,668$.

The following are the various items of salvage recovered during the year, with the proceeds, although some of the salvage was not sold until after the year end.

		Tons		£	s.	d٠
Waste paper		 197		882	8	10
Ferrous metals		 $9\frac{1}{2}$		36	7	6
Non-ferrous metals		 11		66	9	7
Textiles (rags, carpe	ts, etc.)	 $11\frac{3}{4}$		160	2	9
	TOTAL	 $219\frac{1}{2}$	1	(1145	8	8

In comparison with the previous year the total weight of salvage recovered shows an increase of 32 tons, waste paper being 39 tons more, and ferrous metal being $8\frac{1}{2}$ tons less, whilst non-ferrous metals and textiles show slight increases.

The selling price of waste paper which had seriously fallen during the previous year remained steady at the reduced figure until December, when there was a slight rise. There was no difficulty in disposing of our output of bales, notwithstanding the increased weight.

The payment by the Council of incentive bonus for the employees of the Scavenging Department was continued during the year. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Total No. of Inspections	made	in 1953,	for	Nuis-	a market
ances only					375
Nuisances found in 1953					112
Nuisances in hand, end of	1952				13
Total needing abatement					125
Abated during 1952					117
Outstanding, end of 1952					8
Notices served, Informal					50
Complied with					55
Notices served, Statutory					-
Complied with					-
Total number of Summon	nses o	or other	lega	pro-	
ceedings					

Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	No. of In- spections.	General Conditions	Legal proceed- ings if any
Common Lodging Houses	0	0	0		Dertiles (n
Houses let in Lodgings	0	0	0		rained in
Canal Boats	0	0	0		
Knackers Yards	0	0	0		ala Tri
Tents, Vans & Sheds	4	4	8		
Offensive Trades— 2 Tripe Boilers 1 Fat Melter 6 Dressing Hides for Pickers or Tanners.	9	9	4	Satisfactory	None

Eradication of Bed Bug.

No instances of bug infestation of houses, either Council or other, were found during the year.

Factories and Workplaces.

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

Premises	Number of				
(1)	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)		
FACTORIES with mechanical power FACTORIES	29	2	None		
without mechanical power OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not in-	5	None	None		
cluding outworkers' premises)	2	None	None		
TOTAL	36	2	None		

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Tions where to and	Num	Number of defects in		
Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	respect of which Pro- secutions were instituted (5)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	1)
Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable temperature (S.3) Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of floors			None	None
(S.6) Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—	None	ew lo	J	J
insufficient	1	1	series .	
unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes Other offences (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections		2		
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.)			No. of	
Тотац	6	4	None	None

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Summary of the Work Done during 1953.

Inspections of Premises-1. For nuisances, etc. 2342. Where infectious disease has occurred 441 ... 3. Where offensive trades are carried on 4 4. Inspections of Factories ... 6 5. Inspections of Bakehouses 31... Inspections of Ice Cream premises and shops 6. 8 7. Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Act 68Inspections of Slaughterhouses 8. 10 9. Inspections of Water Supplies 9 10. Inspections of Work in Progress ... 111 ... 11. Inspections under the Housing Act 1936 40 ... 12. Re-inspections under the Housing Act, 1936 12 13. 30 Re-inspections as to compliance with notices 14. Inspections under Public Health Acts 14 15. Inspections under Closet Conversion Scheme 8 16. 51 Inspections of Food Premises and Shops ... 17. Miscellaneous inspections 3 . . . Total Visits... 1080 No. of houses disinfected after 18 (1) infectious disease ... 22 ... (2) tuberculosis ... 11 ... Smoke test applied to drains 19. 19 ... 20.Smoke observations taken 43 . . . 21. Samples of water taken for analysis 12 22. Samples of water taken for bacteriological examination 60 23. Samples of ice cream taken for bacteriological examination 18 24. Samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination 24 25.No. of complaints investigated ... 147 ... 26. Cases abated under preliminary notice 139... 27. Cases abated under statutory notice ... 28. Cases dealt with under Closet Conversion Scheme 8

Summary of Work Carried Out in Compliance with Notices, etc., during 1953.

House Drainage—		
House drains repaired, cleansed, etc		38
New pipe drains provided		4
House drains connected to sewer		2
Drains trapped		4
Sanitary Conveniences—		
New water closets provided		2:
Closets repaired, cleansed, etc		4
Waste water closets converted into water closets	sets	E
Waste water closets abolished		
Tub closets abolished		é
Water closets abolished		-
Factories and Bakehouses-		
Bakehouses limewashed or painted]
Sanitary conveniences cleansed and repaired		1
New water closets provided]
Houses dealt with under Housing Act and Fublic	e Health	n Ac
		10
Houses repaired by informal notice		
Houses repaired by informal notice Houses repaired by statutory notice		
Houses repaired by statutory notice Houses demolished		
Houses repaired by statutory notice Houses demolished		
Houses repaired by statutory notice Houses demolished		1
Houses repaired by statutory notice Houses demolished Miscellaneous— No. of cases of overcrowding abated No. of condemnations of unsound food		1
Houses repaired by statutory notice Houses demolished Miscellaneous— No. of cases of overcrowding abated No. of condemnations of unsound food No. of premises disinfested,		1
Houses repaired by statutory notice Houses demolished Miscellaneous— No. of cases of overcrowding abated No. of condemnations of unsound food No. of premises disinfested, Accumulations of refuse, etc., removed		4 47
Houses repaired by statutory notice Houses demolished Miscellaneous— No. of cases of overcrowding abated No. of condemnations of unsound food No. of premises disinfested, Accumulations of refuse, etc., removed		47 47 17(

Mortuary Accommodation.

For accidents One Mortuary : two slabs.

For infectious cases, other than at hospitals ... None

Facilities for post-mortem examination? ... Ves.

Mortuary accommodation sufficient ? Yes.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of milk distributors registered 79							
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) MILK) REGS., 1949	(PASTEURISED	AND S	TERILIS	ED			
Number of licences in force for : Pasteurised Milk Sterilised Milk	19		lement 5 1	ary			
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)	(RAW MILK)	REGS.,	1949				
Number of licences in force for Tuberculin Tested Milk	Dealers 17	Supp	lementa 5	ary			
Number of licences in force for	production o	f milk					
Tuberculin Tested							

Food Inspection.

As in the previous year there are two licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough—one at Pavement and one at Bottoms, Walsden. Centralised slaughtering continued in operation at the Halifax Abattoir. The slaughterhouse at Pavement continued in use for a period for the slaughter of horses for human consumption, but only six horses were slaughtered, the slaughtering of such animals being discontinued in February. 102 inspections were made of premises where food is prepared or sold, including bakehouses, ice-cream manufactories, tripe works, refreshment houses, grocers and butchers shops. The premises were found to be kept in a cleanly condition and in a satisfactory state of repair, except in odd cases where re-painting was required and minor items of disrepair were met with, and these were dealt with.

Three premises used by registered hawkers of food were registered under the W.R.C.C. (General Powers) Act 1951, the premises having been made suitable. The use of one other premises which was unsuitable was discontinued.

The unsound food condemned during the year comprised the following: $6\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. of bakers' chocolate, 50 lbs. dried milk, 48 fish cakes, 17 lbs. beef, 33 lbs. sausage, $6\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. butter, 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. rabbits, and 188 cans of various foods.

Sixteen samples of ordinary milk produced and distributed in the Borough were submitted to the methylene blue test for designated milk and 12 satisfied the test. Details of the four samples which failed to satisfy the test were sent to the appropriate Officer of the County Agricultural Committee. Six samples of pasteurised and sterilised milk were submitted for examination and they satisfied the prescribed tests. Four milk samples from local farms were examined for the presence of tuberculosis with negative results in each case.

There are 79 retail milk distributors (not including producer/retailers) registered and of these 60 are shopkeepers selling sterilised milk in bottles from their shops.

There are two makers of ice-cream in the Borough and ice cream from several makers outside the Borough is sold at approximately 50 shops. Eighteen samples of ice cream were submitted to bacteriological examination and were graded as follows: fifteen in Grade I; two in Grade II; and one in Grade III. In the case of the last sample investigation was made and the possible cause of the low grading arrived at.

Rodent Control.

Investigations were made at 64 premises in connection with rodent infestation—44 by rats and 20 by mice. The premises treated for rats included 15 houses, five factoriss, five food premises, one school and the refuse tip.

A test baiting of the sewers in the Borough was carried out late in August and the sewers in one area, the worst affected, were treated in September.

Treatment for mice infestation was carried out at 15 premises, including houses, business premises, schools, etc.

Treatment of premises for rats and mice, apart from sewers, is effected by the use of a poison known as "Warfarin" and no pre-baiting is required, as is the case when using other poisons. Further since only a very low concentration of Warfarin is needed its use materially reduces the risk to other animals.

Housing.

No action was taken with respect to new Clearance Areas. In the Shade Clearance Area one house was vacated leaving one house only still occupied. These two houses and ten others, some of which are derelict, still remained to be demolished.

No individual houses were represented as being unfit for habitation. Two houses which were subject to Closing Orders together with adjoining houses, nine houses in all, and all very much below a reasonable standard, and which had been unoccupied for some time, were demolished by the owners.

Forty-four houses were inspected and at 18 defects such as leaking roofs, defective eavestroughs, plasterwork, windows, etc., were found. In one case statutory action was taken and the necessary repairs carried out. In the remainder the owners were requested by informal notice or verbally to carry out the necessary repairs and in 10 cases this was done.







