

**[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Wakefield R.D.C.**

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Wakefield (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1925

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WAKEFIELD  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



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**REPORT**


OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1925.**

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WAKEFIELD :  
B. P. DODDSON, CROWN PRESS, KIRKGATE,  
1926.



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# Wakefield Rural District Council.

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## SANITARY COMMITTEE.

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*Chairman.*

Councillor T. LUMB.

*Vice-Chairman.*

Councillor R. L. LATHAM.

*Committee.*

Councillor J. W. BALDWIN.	Councillor W. GREAVES.
„ H. BENTLEY	„ A. H. HOBSON.
„ A. DWYER.	„ E. JONES.
„ J. GARTHWAITE.	„ D. McADOO.
„ J. GILL.	„ J. MUIRHEAD.
„ Mrs. E. GREAVES.	

*Clerk to the Council.*

WALTER DRUCE.

*Assistant Clerk to the Council.*

G. ARMITAGE.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Dr. J. J. JACKSON.

*Sanitary Inspector.*

THOS. H. BRIDDICK.

*Assistant Sanitary Inspectors.*

W. H. BAXTER.      J. F. BURNS.      S. STEPHENSON.

Washfield Rural District Council.

AGENDAS

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The Wakefield Rural District Council.

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## Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1925.

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*To the Sanitary Committee.*

GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour of presenting my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1925, dealing with the Health and Sanitary conditions of the district under your control.

Also a general survey of the improvements in these conditions which have been effected during the past five years.

**POPULATION.**—The population has been estimated to have been 18,290 on the 30th June, 1925.

**BIRTHS.**—There were 432 births, of these 224 were male and 208 were female, and as according to the Registrar-General's returns there were no inward or outward cases to be recorded, the birth rate must be calculated on the numbers actually registered in the district.

**THE BIRTH RATE.**—The Birth rate was, therefore, 23·07 per 1,000. The birth rate is always much above the average, as will be seen from the following figures.

The Birth rate for England and Wales	was 18·3 per 1,000.
Do. London and 105 Large Towns and Boroughs	was 18·8 per 1,000.
Do. 157 Smaller Towns	was 18·3 per 1,000.
Do. London	was 18 per 1,000.

Up to the present we have always lost our superiority of position in birth rate by our very large Infantile Mortality.

**ILLEGITIMACY.**—Included in the number of births were 17 illegitimate births. Of these 11 were males and 6 were females.

**DEATHS.**—There were 183 deaths registered in the District. Twelve of these were of residents of other areas, and consequently are apportioned to their own Sanitary Authorities. During the year 41 of our residents died in places outside our boundary, and are consequently debited to us.

This gives the total rectified deaths to be 212. Of these 110 were males and 102 were females.

The Death Rate was 11·5 per 1,000 inhabitants.

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 12·2 per 1,000.

Do.	105 Large Towns	..	12·2	..
Do.	157 Smaller Towns	..	11·2	..
Do.	London ... ..	..	11·7	..

Our own Death Rate in 1924 was 13·9, more than 1 per 1,000 higher than the whole of England.

This year compares much more favourably.

A glance at Table I, which shows vital statistics for the past ten years, points out that with the exception of 1920 this year, 1925, has been the healthiest covered by the Table, and although our Infantile Mortality is still higher than the average, it is the lowest that I have recorded for your district.

**INFANTILE MORTALITY.**—There were 35 deaths of children under one year of age. Of these 20 were males and 15 were females. This figure includes one illegitimate female birth.

And is at the rate of 81·0 per 1,000 registered births.

The rate of deaths of children under one year for England and Wales was 75 per 1,000 births.

Do.	105 Large Towns	was 79 per 1,000 births.
Do.	157 Smaller Towns	was 74 per 1,000 births.
Do.	London	was 67 per 1,000 births.

Our death rates, although on the improve, are still above the average.

The Death Rate per 1,000 births of children under two years of age from Diarrhœa and Enteritis was 11·5.

The general rates from the same cause being as follows :—

England and Wales	...	8·4	per 1,000 births.
105 Great Towns	...	10·8	„ „
157 Smaller Towns	...	7·6	„ „
London	...	10·6	„ „

The Neo-Natal Mortality (that is the mortality during the first month of life) was 34·7 per 1,000 registered births.

Now to consider the causes—Malformation, Congenital Debility and Premature Birth take first place as a cause. This, taken as a whole, means ignorance on the part of the parents as regards their own health. And is the result of, what looked at from a cold, calculating, health point of view, can only be described as absurd marriages—I speak, of course, “absurd” as regards the welfare of the community and race. Pneumonia took seven of these infants, a number which is much lighter than in former years; and Bronchitis only one. Diarrhœa, Enteritis, etc., accounted for five deaths, which is somewhat of an improvement.

As regards the mortality of older persons, Heart Disease is accountable for 31. Pneumonia caused 23 deaths. Tuberculosis caused 8 deaths; and Cancer caused 18 deaths.

INQUESTS.—There were 22 inquests held in the district, and 6 inquests were held in other areas on persons belonging to our population. These figures include 2 cases of Suicide.

The Wakefield Rural District consists of nine parishes, which lie on the South of the River Calder. They all drain into the River Calder, except Shitlington and parts of Bretton which drain into the River Dearne, and parts of Sharlston, Crofton and Warmfield into the Went.

There is ample means of transit by road, rail and water ways.

The Area (in acres) is 16,853.

The Population in 1921 was 17,729.

The present estimated population is (1925) 18,290.



The Area differs greatly in its characteristics, some parts being almost Urban, such as Crigglestone, Sharlston and Crofton (as examples), and some being purely Rural as (for example) Chevet, Bretton and Warmfield.

Occupation is provided, in the populous parts, for the most part in the mines, and in the purely rural portions agriculture is the staple industry. The proximity of Wakefield, Ossett, etc., also gives a source of industry in the mills and other works.

The following Table gives the number of houses and separate families in each parish on the 1st July, 1921.

Parishes.	Houses.	Separate Families.
Chevet ... ..	18	19
Crigglestone ... ..	972	976
Crofton ... ..	527	538
Kirkhamgate ... ..	292	292
Newland-cum-Woodhouse ...	8	8
Sharlston... ..	530	559
Shitlington ... ..	704	706
Walton ... ..	246	249
Warmfield-cum-Heath ...	243	243
West Bretton ... ..	87	87
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>3,627</b>	<b>3,677</b>

The number of houses at the end of 1925 was 4,003 - 110 were erected by the Council and the remainder by private enterprise.

I have not been able to obtain information as to the Poor Law Relief.

There are eight Midwives registered and practising in the District, one residing at each of the following places:—Warmfield, New Sharlston, Sharlston Common, Crofton, Middlestown, Bretton, Walton and Calder Grove.

**DRAINAGE.**—In 1921 there were sewer extensions at Crigglestone and Sharlston.

In 1922 the contract was let for the drainage of Woodmoor and Painthorpe outfall sewer.

In 1923 the above-mentioned sewers were laid.

In 1924 sewers were laid for the drainage of Boyne Hill area, Baptist Hill and Slack Lane area.

In 1925 the Shay Lane area drainage was in progress.

**WATER.**—In 1921 there was an extension of the water supply at Crigglestone.

In 1922 there were no extension. Many complaints were received from Crigglestone.

In 1923 scheme for supply at Crigglestone from Secker Wood.

In 1924 mains laid at Heath, Warmfield and Crigglestone.

In 1925 there is still an insufficiency at Crigglestone and Crofton.

**SCAVENGING.**—The details of this will be found in Table C., on the whole it was satisfactory and there were few complaints.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**—This with numbers, etc., will be found in Table C. and in Inspector's Report (pages 10 and 26).

**SANITARY INSPECTION.**—The tabulated report will be found in the beginning of the Inspector's Report (page 19).

**HOUSING STATISTICS.**—These will be found in Table D. (page 15).

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—In 1921 there were 92 cases of Scarlet Fever, resulting in 1 death.

In 1921—4 cases of Small-pox, all in one house. This did not spread—no deaths.

In 1921—36 cases of Diphtheria—no deaths.

In 1922 there were 132 cases of Scarlet Fever, with 1 death.

„ 14 cases of Diphtheria, with 3 deaths.

In 1923 there was 1 case of Small-pox—no death.

„ 57 cases of Scarlet Fever—1 death.

„ 54 cases of Diphtheria—3 deaths.

In 1924—22 cases of Scarlet occurred, with 1 death.

„ 28 cases of Diphtheria—no death.

„ 1 case Typhoid—no death.

In 1925—47 cases of Scarlet Fever—no death.

„ 14 cases of Diphtheria—2 deaths.

The notification in the district is very prompt (generally, in the first case) by telephone.

The Isolation Hospital (Carr Gate), situated in the area of the Urban District of Stanley, is a well-appointed Hospital which covers the three districts—Ardsley East and West Urban, Stanley Urban, Wakefield Rural. It contains 7 wards with discharging block, Steam disinfectant and is supplied with a Motor Ambulance.

The resident staff consists of Matron, Sister and six Nurses and a proper number of ward maids, servants, etc., and two porters. A good supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin is always kept and is at the command of the Medical Practitioners if and when they choose to apply for it.

As will be seen from Table 2, nearly all cases are readily removed and the houses immediately disinfected. I have yet to find a case which could be clearly proved to be a return case.

The disinfection in the houses is carried out with Formaline Spray and Lamps.

The Schick and Dick tests have not as yet been used. Nor has the new Scarlet Antitoxin been as yet used.

The Cardigan Hospital is the Small-pox Hospital for a large area and covers, amongst others, the same ground as Carr Gate does for other infectious cases.

It is leased to the West Riding County Council for use as a Sanatorium, and cases up to the number of six are treated at Sherburn-in-Elmet, near Selby. After six cases, the Cardigan must be cleared and resume its original use.

I have had only one occasion to vaccinate in connection with Small-pox, as the public vaccinator was ready to carry out his duties. The case I vaccinated was our own disinfecter who had not been vaccinated since childhood.

All Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are examined and reported upon by the County Officers. Their services are made most extensive use of. In 1924, in dealing with one fatal case of Meningococcal Meningitis, I had swabs from 21 contacts examined, this is only a single case which I give as an example of the general use of the W.R. County Lab.

With regard to Tuberculosis, this is generally taken charge of by the County Authorities, who have a clinic in Wakefield, which is fairly central for our district. As regards our action, every case is card indexed and then movements watched, but the Sanatoria, etc., are in the hands of the County Officials, who supply nurses, etc. The disinfection of premises inhabited by Tuberculous people is carried out on removal to a Sanatorium, or to residence, and on the death of a patient.

Tuberculosis Notifications (New Cases) for the past 5 years.

		Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
1921	...	5	4	9
1922	...	20	4	24
1923	...	21	7	28
1924	...	54	8	62
1925	...	44	5	49
Total	...	144	28	172

Table 2, page 30, shows the numbers and ages of notified cases also of deaths in 1925, which differentiates between pulmonary and non-pulmonary cases and male and female.

As regards Venereal Diseases, these are in the hands of the County Authorities. A quite central clinic is arranged for at Clayton Hospital, Wakefield. The Leeds General Infirmary is also used by some patients.

**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.**—Inspection and instruction of Midwives, and all routine coming under this heading, is also carried out by the West Riding County Council who have instituted Clinics in all parts of our district.

#### FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

##### 1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances—

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops ... .. (including Workshop Laundries)	12	Nil.	Nil.
Workplaces... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total ... ..	12	Nil.	Nil.

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces—  
Nil.

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108—Nil.

TABLE C. 1925.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1925, for Nuisances only:—  
288.  
Nuisances reported in 1925:—26.  
Nuisances in hand, end of 1924:—Nil.  
Total needing abatement:—26.  
Abated during 1925:—18.  
Outstanding end of 1925:—8.  
Notices served, Informal:—101. Complied with:—101.  
" " Statutory:—17. Complied with:—17.  
Total number of Summonses or other legal proceedings:—  
Nil.  
Any notices served under Sec. 46 of P.H.A. 1875 (or any  
Act)? Nil.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in Dis- trict.	No. on Regis- ter.	Total No. of Inspec- tions made.	General Condition.	Legal Proceedings (if any).
Common Lodging Houses	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	—	—
Houses let in Lodgings .	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	—	—
Canal Boats ... ..	Un- known	0	3	good	—
Knackers Yards ... ..	1	1	4	good	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds .	8	0	8	unsatisfactory.	—
Offensive Trades (please specify kind).	1	1	4	knacker's yard	—

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive  
trades? No.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—

Developments during 1925? Shay Lane Area, Walton, in  
progress

Developments still needed as to (a) Want of sewers:—In the  
Parishes of Sharlston, Walton, Crigglestone, Shitlington and  
Warmfield.

(b) Improvement of defective sewers:—Nil.

Sewage Disposal Works (a) Any inadequacy:—No.

(b) Any complaints:—No.

Any sink wastes still needing disconnection? No.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

- No. of Privies with open middens :—106.  
 No. of Pail or Tub Closets :—318.  
 No. of Privies with covered middens :—855.  
 No. of Water Closets :—948. Waste-water Closets :—7.  
 No. of Privies re-constructed during 1925—(a) as w.c.'s :—14 ;  
 (b) other :—39.  
 No. of *additional* Closets provided for old property in 1925—  
 (a) w.c.'s :—Nil ; (b) other :—Nil.  
 No. of Closets constructed in 1925 for new houses (a) w.c.'s :—  
 81 ; (b) other :—Nil.

## SCAVENGING—

- Any change during 1925 ? Scavenging transferred from day to night work in the Parish of Crofton.  
 Performed by (a) Council :—Yes ; (b) Contractor :—Yes ; (c) Owners or Occupiers :—Yes.  
 How is refuse disposed of ? No. of loads to (a) Destructor :—Nil ; (b) Tips :—Yes ; (c) Farmers :—Yes.  
 Is there any inadequacy, and where ? No.  
 Any utilization of waste material ? No.

## WATER SUPPLY—

- Any developments during 1925 ? No.  
 Restricted in any way ? No.  
 Any general insufficiency, and where ? Crigglestone and Crofton.  
 Any action in regard to unsatisfactory quality, and where ? None.  
 Any new sources added ? No.  
 Any disused sources re-used ? No.

## MILK SUPPLY—

- Are two Registers being kept as required by Section 2 (3) of the 1922 Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act ? (a) For Retailers :—Yes ; (b) For Cow-keepers or Wholesale Traders :—Yes.  
 Have any Licences been granted under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, to distributors of :—“ Certified ” Milk—No ; “ Grade A. ”—No ; “ Grade A. (Tuberculin Tested) ”—No ; “ Grade A. (Pasteurised) ”—No ; “ Pasteurised ”—No.

Have you had samples of Graded Milk tested? Give No. and kind.—No.

Have any retailers been removed from the Register? No.

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts :—Nil; No. adulterated :—Nil.

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination :—7.

What arrangement for periodical Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows? None.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1925? No.

No. of Cowkeepers in district producing and selling milk :—81.

No. Registered :—81.

No. of Retail Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers :—40.

No. who are Milk Retailers only :—13.

Total No. of Retail Milk Sellers Registered :—53.

Total No. of Cowsheds :—81.

Total No. of Inspections in 1925 :—191. { Cowkeepers 167.  
Retailers 24.

Date of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations? 9/12/1908.

Any Legal Action? No.

Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent? No.

#### OTHER FOODS—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs Acts in 1925 :— Nil.

Any special examination of Milk for Dirt? No.

No. of seizures of unsound food :—Nil.

Any Public Abattoir? No.

No. of Slaughterhouses :—10. Registered :—0.

No. Licenced :—10. Unsatisfactory, structurally or in bad position? None.

No. of times each Slaughterhouse inspected? 40.

Total Inspections? 428.

No. of Prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs? Nil; (b) Unsound Food? Nil; (c) *re* Slaughterhouses? Nil.

Bakehouses, No.? 1. Any underground? Nil; Total No. of Inspections :—2.



FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—

No. of Smoke observations taken :—2 ; No. of Cautions :—Nil ; Summonses :—Nil.

No. of Workshops :—10. No. of times each Workshop inspected :—1. Total inspections :—10.

Any Industrial Welfare Workers appointed ? No.

ADOPTIVE ACTS (in force in District).—

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890 :—Yes.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 :—Part III.

Do. Do. 1907 :—No.

Private Street Works Act, 1892 :—The whole of the Act in the Parish of Sharlston.

Public Health Act, 1925 :—No.

For Rural Districts, any Urban }  
Powers obtained in 1925 ... } None.

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS (in force in District).—

New Streets and Buildings—Date of Approval :—16/4/94.

Slaughter Houses—Date of Approval :—11/6/12.

Any relaxation of Bye-laws under Section 24 of Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919 :—Yes.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

Diseases specially prevalent in 1925? Scarlet Fever :—47 cases State months :—Generally.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list ? No.

Any influences threatening the health of the District ? No. change.

Any undue prevalence of Venereal Diseases ? No.

Any prevalence of Jaundice, and at what ages ? No.

HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

(a) General : Accident :—Leeds Infirmary.

Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.

Children :—Leeds Women's and Children's.

(b) Local : Hospital, Cottage :—Nil.

(c) Infectious, General :—Carr Gate.

Small-pox :—Cardigan.

(d) Maternity :—None in District.

Any arrangements for nursing Puerperal Fever cases? If desired at Carr Gate.

(e) Clinic and Treatment Centre not provided by County Council Scheme :—Nil.

Whether any other disease (*e.g.* Pneumonia) is treated in Infectious Diseases Hospital :—No.

Any change or extension of (a) General Infectious Hospital? No.  
(b) Smallpox Hospital :—No.

**TUBERCULOSIS**—*Procedure by M.O.H. or his Staff after notification* :—

- (1) Inspection of patient's home and workshop :—None.
- (2) Examination for contacts :—None.
- (3) Is house disinfected :—Yes; When? On removal of patient to a Sanatorium. On the death of a patient.
- (4) Leaflets, Lectures, etc., distributed :—By County Council.
- (5) Action *re* spitting :—None.
- (6) Is sputum examined apart from Dispensary? Yes, sent to and examined by County Council.
- (7) Any special procedure adopted in cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis with T.B. in sputum :—None.
- (8) Are the requirements of Tuberculosis Regulations as to notification observed by general practitioners? Yes.

**BACTERIOLOGY**—

(County Laboratory) Any suggestions? No.

**INFANT MORTALITY**—

Any voluntary Centres for Child or Mother Welfare? No, Centres are established in nearly all districts by County Council.

Causes of any excessive Infantile Mortality in 1925 :—Premature Birth, etc.

Supply of Milk to Mothers and Infants—Any action? At all Clinics.

**VITAL STATISTICS**—

Deaths during 1925—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the District *without any correction*—Males 93; Females 90.

(2) No. of uncertified deaths (included above) :—There were 22 inquests.

## MORTUARIES—

What accommodation—(a) for accidents :—nil; (b) for infectious cases other than at hospital :—Nil; (c) For other purposes :—Nil.

Any suggestions made by M.O.H. :—No.

## SANITARY STAFF—

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H. ? £90.

Name of Sanitary Inspector :—Thomas Heslop Briddick.

Annual Salary as Inspector :—£300.

Other appointments held ? None.

Any Assistants ? No.

Is Staff sufficient ? No.

Does M.O.H. receive copies of Memos. and Circulars distributed by Ministry of Health ? Yes.

## CLINICS—Any Suggestions—

(a) Tuberculosis :—All carried out by W.R. County Council.

(b) Venereal Diseases—How advertised and if any difficulty in reaching nearest :—W.R. County Council.

(c) Child Welfare— Do.

(d) Ante-Natal Do.

(e) School Do.

(f) Dental Do.

(g) Ophthalmic Do.

## ANY REMARKS as to—

(a) Voluntary Agencies for social betterment :—Nil.

(b) District Nursing Association :—Nil.

(c) Any Dispensary :—Nil.

(d) Health Visiting (co-operation with local M.O.H.)

(e) Tuberculosis, Home Visiting (do) }  
and Medical Attendant ... } By

(f) Dental Services ... } County

(g) Midwifery Services ... } Council.

(h) Propaganda work *re* Tuberculosis, Child Welfare or Venereal Diseases ... }

## HOUSING—

See Table D—but please state No. of Certificates given under Increase of Rent (Restriction) Act, 1920, Section 2 (2) :—None.

## SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS ON ANY SUBJECTS—Nil.



## OTHER ACTION IN REGARD TO HOUSING—

Total number of houses in district :—4,003.

Number of working-class houses :—3,635.

General Standard compared with that of the Ministry of Health in Manual Vol. I., 1919 :—Satisfactory.

*Obstructive Buildings.*—Any building represented by M.O.H. under section 38 (1) of 1890, or Section 19, 1925 Act? None.

Any building represented by Local Government Electors under Section 38 (2) of 1890 Act, or by a Justice of the Peace, Parish Council, or 4 Government Electors under Section 10, 1925 Act? No.

*Unhealthy Areas.*—Any representations under part I. or II. of the 1890 Act or part II. of 1925 Act? If so give particulars :—No.

*Re-construction Schemes.*—Have L.A. directed any to be prepared under Section 39 of 1890 Act or part II. of the 1925 Act :—No.

*Penalty on re-letting houses ordered to be closed.*—Any action under Section 12 of 1925 Act? No.

*Unfit Houses.*—Any complaints by Local Government Electors under Section 31 of 1890 Act as amended by the 1923 Act or Section 10, 1925? None.

*Unfit Houses.*—Any complaints by Parish Councils under Section 6 (2) of the Local Government Act, 1894? None.

Any Action under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899 to 1923? None.

Any scarcity of houses? If so, where? Yes, Charlston, Crofton, Walton, Crigglestone, Shitlington, Kirkhamgate.

Any overcrowding in houses, and where? Charlston, Crofton, Walton, Crigglestone, Shitlington, Kirkhamgate.

Any special activity in house building, and where? No.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 17 (7) 1909 Act, or under Section 18, 1925 Act? No. Any action thereunder? None.

*Total number of houses built in the district under state aided and all conditions in 1925.* (a) Working Class Dwellings :—81.

## STATE-AIDED HOUSING SCHEMES—

## A. Scheme under 1919 Act.

Number of houses erected in 1925. (1) By Council :—  
Nil. (2) By Private Builders' Subsidy :—Nil.

*B. Scheme under 1923 Act.*

Have Council propounded a scheme under this Act? Yes.

Has a scheme been submitted to the Ministry of Health for their approval? Yes.

Has it been approved? Yes.

If scheme is approved, please enclose particulars of same:—142 houses to be erected throughout district.

Is assistance given to private individuals?

(a) By lump sum Yes. If so, how much, £75.

Number of houses completed by Local Authority under scheme in 1925:—26.

No. of houses completed by Private Persons under this scheme in 1925:—55.

*C. Scheme under 1924 Act.*

Total Number of houses provided under all state aided schemes in 1925. 81.

## TOWN PLANNING—

Have Council joined a Regional Town Planning Committee in 1925? Yes; If so, which? Leeds and Bradford Regional Town Planning Committee.

In conclusion, I wish to tender my thanks to all the Members of the Council for their help on many occasions and to the Officials generally for assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. J. JACKSON.

Wakefield Rural District Council.

**Report of the Sanitary Inspector**  
FOR THE YEAR 1925.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Wakefield Rural District Council.

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1925, showing the various work dealt with and the improvements effected from the 6th January to 31st December. This is the first Annual Report I have had the honour of submitting to you.

It is impossible to give in detail the amount of work involved and time spent in obtaining the results shown in the following summaries of my report.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, which came into force on the 1st April, 1925, have greatly curtailed my operations in other branches of sanitation. It was also found necessary to compile new registers, so as to comply with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922. These registers are now completed, every Cowshed has been measured up and the measurements and particulars entered therein. Where any alteration or improvement was required, notices were sent to the occupiers.

The clerical work of the department takes up a considerable amount of time keeping the necessary records, and the correspondence is exceptionally great.

I much regret this time spent on clerical work, as it could be utilised with advantage on the district.

Area, 16,853 acres.                      Population (1921), 17,729.

Total number of houses, 4,003.

Number of working-class houses, 3,635.

**Houses erected 1925.**

Private enterprise with Subsidy ... ..	50	
Private enterprise without Subsidy ... ..	4	
Temporary Wooden Building (10 years) ... ..	1	
	55	
By Council under 1923 Act ... ..	26	
<b>Total</b> ... ..	81	

**Notices and Correspondence.**

Number of Statutory Notices served ... ..	17
Do. Informal Notices served ... ..	101
Do. Letters sent ... ..	750
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>868</b>

<b>Number of Nuisances reported to Sanitary Committee ...</b>	<b>26</b>
Number abated on service of Statutory Notice ...	9
Do. abated before Statutory Notice was served	9
Do. of reported nuisances outstanding ...	8
<b>— 26</b>	<b>26</b>

There were no Police Court Proceedings during the year.

Evidence was prepared in respect of three nuisances, but were not proceeded with on the work commencing.

**Visits and Inspections.**

Notifiable Infectious Diseases ... ..	60
Cowsheds ... ..	191
Slaughter-houses ... ..	428
Interviews and Appointments ... ..	247
Investigation of Complaints ... ..	67
Inspection of Works for the abatement of Nuisances... ..	130
Re-visits to Nuisances ... ..	158
Samples taken (Bacteriological examination) ... ..	7
Smoke Observations ... ..	2
Houses Inspected and recorded... ..	87
General Inspection of various premises ... ..	63
Knackers' Yards ... ..	4
Drain Testing ... ..	4
Workshops ... ..	12
Canal Boats ... ..	3
Petroleum Storage Licence Applications ... ..	5
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1468</b>

**Nuisances abated and improvements effected.**

Privy middens converted into water closets ... ..	14
Old privy middens rebuilt ... ..	11
Privy middens repaired ... ..	28
Privy middens abolished... ..	14
Ashbins provided ... ..	35
Dry ashbins erected and repaired ... ..	2

Carried forward ... 104



	Brought forward ...	104
New drains constructed ...	...	15
Existing drains re-laid ...	...	8
Sink waste pipes renewed and trapped...	...	19
New slopstone sinks (complete)...	...	5
Inspection chambers constructed or repaired ...	...	17
New gullies fixed...	...	8
Stopped drains released ...	...	56
Leaking roofs repaired ...	...	25
Eaves, spouts and downpipes renewed and repaired ...	...	16
Dampness remedied ...	...	2
Slaughter-houses ...	...	3
Cowsheds repaired ...	...	17
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance removed ...	...	35
Windows repaired ...	...	7
Offensive accumulations removed ...	...	4
Yards re-paved ...	...	9
Cellar flooding prevented ...	...	7
Public House urinal improved ...	...	4
Cesspools abolished ...	...	1
Other matters not included in above ...	...	19
	<b>Total ...</b>	<b>381</b>
Ditches cleaned out ...	...	3,270 yds.
Quarry fencing ...	...	100 yds.

#### Disinfections.

Disinfection of Infected Houses is done by spraying with Formalin sprayer and Formalin lamps. During the year 116 disinfections were carried out by this method.

DISINFLECTIONS.	DISEASES.							Total.
	Tuber- culosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Enteric.	Vermis.	Measles.	Erysipelas	
Private Dwelling Houses ...	49	43	14	3	2	...	2	113
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Churches ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>116</b>

The result of the disinfections for zymotic diseases has been very satisfactory, and no secondary cases have occurred that could be traced to the inefficiency of the method adopted.

Disinfection for tuberculosis is carried out on the removal of a patient to the Sanatorium, and on the death of a person certified as having died from this disease. The number of active cases of tuberculosis in the district, and the overcrowding conditions that exist in many of the houses where these active cases reside, calls for a more frequent and periodical disinfection. Disinfection every three months of the rooms used by an active case, would lessen the risk of infection.

#### **Food and Drugs Acts.**

No samples were taken during the year for analysis by the Public Analyst.

Seven samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, five of milk for the presence of tubercle bacilli, one was found to contain tubercle bacilli, the other four were negative. Two samples of water were submitted for analysis and examination, and were found satisfactory. The animal giving tubercle infected milk was eliminated from the herd.

#### **Slaughter-houses.**

There are ten licensed slaughter-houses in the district, all of which are in regular use. There are no registered slaughter-houses, all registration certificates of premises for the purpose of slaughter have lapsed through non-use, and in some instances on account of their use for other purposes.

Three were found to require alterations and repairs; these repairs were carried out upon verbal request. The whole of the premises are of a high standard, and are kept in a clean and wholesome condition.

One slaughter-house, recently constructed, is acknowledged to be the finest private slaughter-house in the country, and a visit to these premises at any time will be welcomed by the owner, Mr. Spurr, Walton.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1925, has greatly facilitated the inspection of meat during the time of slaughter, and a glance at the number of visits to slaughter-houses will give some idea of the time spent on this branch of work.

Permission to mark meat under the Regulations was granted by the Ministry of Health, and marking is carried out in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry and the provisions of the Regulations.

Rural District Councils (Slaughter-house) Order, 1924, which came into operation on 1st January, 1925, did not affect the Rural District of Wakefield, as previous powers in this respect had been in force for some years in the area.

The Tuberculosis Order, 1925, now in operation, will, in course of time, prevent animals arriving at the slaughter-house in a state of generalized tuberculosis, and reduce the number of carcasses condemned at the time of slaughter in private and public abattoirs.

428 visits were paid to the slaughter-houses during the process of slaughter. All carcasses were examined in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health, (Memorandum 62 Foods).

## Meat Condemned and Destroyed.

CARCASSES AND ORGANS.	DISEASE.															
	Tuberculosis.	Abscesses.	Distomatosis.	Cirrhosis.	Relinocoecl.	Patty Degeneration.	Bacterial Nerosis.	Cysts.	Nephritis.	Septicemia.	Garget.	Johne's Disease.	Infective.	Tropys.	Actinomycoes.	
Total carcasses and all organs of—																
Beast ...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	8
Pigs ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sheep ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Calves ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Parts and Organs—																
Hind Quarters ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heads and Tongues ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Lungs ...	56	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Livers ...	19	14	10	7	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Intestines ...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	23
Stomach ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Udders ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Kidneys ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Hearts ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pleuro stripped ...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Total ...	124	14	10	7	3	2	2	4	5	4	1	2	1	1	2	182

10 stones of Fat in addition to the above was destroyed for Tuberculosis.

### Cowsheds, Milkshops, Dairies.

The work in connection with the New Registers has taken up a great deal of time. 191 visits were made to the cowsheds and dairies. On measuring up the cowsheds several were found to contain more cattle than the Regulations allowed. Lighting, Ventilation and Drainage in many cases were very bad. A few were found dirty. 80% of the milch cows were very dirty, and little, if any, attempt had been made to clean them. Judging from the condition of the cattle and the lax methods of dealing with the milk, fully 80% of the milk put on the market is organically fouled.

Through the organic impurities in the milk, the majority of it will, before it reaches the consumer, have undergone a chemical change.

Much improvement has been effected but a lot of ground has yet to be covered before a reasonable standard of cleanliness is reached.

Sampling and bacterial cultivation would furnish ample proof to place before the producer of the organic contamination of his product, and would be of unquestionable value in obtaining a suitable clean milk. I regret to say I have not the time at my disposal to carry out this.

There are 41 Wholesale Producers and 53 Retail Purveyors now on the Registers. 40 of the Retail Purveyors produce part of the milk they retail. One produces Grade A milk. This cowshed has been reconstructed and additional modern improvements introduced. A visit to these premises will give some idea of the amount of work yet to be done in this branch of my work before a suitable supply of milk is produced in other places.

There are 81 cowsheds in the district housing 977 head of cattle. (Wholesale Producers 678, Retail Purveyors 299). I thoroughly examined 426 of these animals during the year, 6 were found showing clinical signs of Tuberculosis, of these 1 was giving tubercule infected milk, 2 were slaughtered and on post-mortem examination were found to be extensively infected with Tuberculosis. Samples of milk from the other 3 failed to show evidence of Tubercule Bacilli. Milk cows of this latter description require careful watching, although the samples were negative, the milk may at any time be infected.

24 Notices were served in respect of defects in the Dairies and Cowsheds, 10 have complied with the requirements, 14 are still outstanding. Seven were repaired upon Verbal request.

#### **Offensive Trades.**

There is one Knacker's Yard in the district and four visits were made.

The premises are kept in a satisfactory condition and no nuisance arises.

In a disused slaughter-house three horses were found slaughtered and dressed for export, the slaughterer was informed that it was illegal to carry on the slaughtering without a licence. This slaughtering has now stopped and a letter of caution was sent to the owner.

#### **Factories and Workshops.**

There are eleven workshops registered. Blacksmiths four; Joiners, four; Tailors, two; and one Bakehouse. Twelve visits were made to these premises, and the conditions on all occasions were found satisfactory.

#### **Petroleum and like Substances.**

Seventeen sets of premises are licenced to store petroleum and like substances. Five licences were applied for during the year. The premises on inspection were found to be suitable, and licences granted in every case. There were no contraventions of the Petroleum Acts in respect of the 12 previously licenced.

#### **Housing, Town Planning, etc., Acts.**

87 houses were inspected under the Housing Acts. Two were found to be totally unfit for human habitation. Closing orders were made in each case and the houses have ceased to be occupied.

Minor defects were found in 37 houses and were dealt with under the provisions of the Public Health Acts. 24 were repaired upon service of informal notices, six upon service of Statutory Notice and seven were outstanding at the end of the year.

81 new houses were erected and tenanted during the year.

#### **Canal Boats.**

Three Canal Boats were inspected and were found to conform to the Acts and Regulations.

**Scavenging and Sanitary Accommodation.**

The Scavenging is carried out by:—

- (a) Direct Labour.
- (b) Direct Labour and Contracted Team Labour.
- (c) Contract.
- (d) Owners and Occupiers.

The following table gives the Sanitary accommodation throughout the district.

PARISH	Water Closets	Covered Privy Middens	Open Privy Middens	Tub or Pail Closets	Covered Dry Ashpits	Open Dry Ashpits	Asbblins	Slop Closets	Total
Bretton ... ..	9	31	10	...	6	...	...	...	56
Crigglestone ... ..	317	253	35	20	11	1	300	...	937
Crofton ... ..	89	111	7	186	43	...	16	...	452
Chevet ... ..	2	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	9
Kirkhamgate ... ..	22	81	4	2	2	...	51	...	162
Newland-cum-Wood-house ... ..	2	4	5	...	...	...	2	...	13
Shitlington ... ..	182	129	13	8	29	...	130	...	491
Sharlston ... ..	107	101	10	76	44	3	87	7	435
Walton ... ..	185	52	6	14	30	5	91	...	383
Warmfield-cum-Heath	33	91	11	12	5	4	...	...	156
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>948</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>677</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3094</b>

**Crigglestone.** The removal of house refuse is carried out by direct labour. Two Council horses and 3 men employed daily. This method has given most satisfaction during the year.

**Crofton and Kirkhamgate.** In these parishes the work is done by one man employed by the Council in each parish and hired local team labour. The removal of refuse in the parish of Crofton is done between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

**Sharlston.** In this parish the work, with the exception of six cesspools, which are done by hired local team labour, is done by one man employed by the Council and contracted team labour. Difficulties arose in the disposal of the contents of the cesspools, and a solution of the problem was found by hiring the tenant of the adjoining grass lands to dispose of it on the fields. This arrangement has given every satisfaction and not one complaint has been received.

**Warmfield-cum-Heath, Bretton, Shitlington and Walton.** These parishes are scavenged by Contract.

**Chevet and Newland-cum-Woodhouse.** The owners and occupiers in these parishes remove and dispose of their own house refuse.

Some difficulties have arisen throughout the district during the year in connection with the removal and disposal of house refuse and the contents of cesspools. The chief of these arose in the parish of Walton.

A refuse tip which had been obtained and used on sufferance was found to be giving rise to a nuisance and notice to terminate was given by the owner.

Several attempts were made by me to obtain a suitable place for tipping, and three weeks elapsed after ceasing to use the old tip before another could be procured. The present tip is a temporary one and will last the parish for another year. Immediate steps should now be taken to obtain a suitable tip for the future. The temporary cesspool at the new housing site (Shay Lane) has given considerable trouble.

In addition to the waste from 12 houses with water closets and baths, subsoil water gained access and a cleansing of the cesspool had to be done every third day. Although under the heading of scavenging this cleansing has been a matter of sewage disposal and added to the cost of scavenging has greatly increased the estimated figure.

#### **General.**

The general sanitary condition of the district is satisfactory.



Extension of sewers, privy midden conversions, and housing inspections are sanitary matters that call for early attention, and further concentration on the milk supply produced in the district is essential.

Conversion of privy middens to water closets, where suitable sewers and an adequate water supply exist, should be carried out under the provisions of the Public Health (Amendment Act, 1907).

As a practical step towards the elimination of privy middens I would urge that a fixed number be converted under Sec. 39, Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907. This would in the course of time abolish the whole of the privy middens in the district and raise the standard of sanitation thereby safeguarding the health of the community.

House to house inspection is done whenever possible, but the number of emergency calls demanding immediate attention prevent a routine inspection being carried out to a degree of satisfaction.

Milk is the staple food of the younger generation and improvements in the present methods of supply are needed before a suitable standard is reached.

Preventative methods are more economical than curative practices, and the suggestions contained in my report are with a view to the prevention of the outbreak and spread of disease and the improvement of conditions which tend to lower the resistive power of the human body.

I wish to tender my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council, the Clerk to the Council, the Engineer, their Assistants and the Assistant Sanitary Inspectors for the courtesy and assistance I have received during my first year of office.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

THOS. H. BRIDDICK,  
A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

21st January, 1926.



Sanitary District, Wakefield Rural.

Table 2—Statement of Notifications of Infectious Disease received during the Year 1925.

CASES NOTIFIED OR OTHERWISE ASCERTAINED.		CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
Smallpox.	..	..
Scarlet Fever.	47	41
Diphtheria including Membranous Group.	14	13
Typhoid.	3	3
Paratyphoid.	1	..
Pneumonia.	27	..
Fuerepal Fever.	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis.	..	..
Acute Polio-Kneephalitis.	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica.	..	..
Typhus Fever.	..	..
Relapsing Fever.	..	..
Continued Fever.	..	..
Trench Fever.	..	..
Dysentery.	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	..	..
Erysipelas.	38	..
Respiratory Tuberculosis. (New Cases only).	44	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis. (New Cases only).	5	..
Malaria.	..	..
Contracted Abroad.	..	..
Contracted in England.	..	..
Chickenpox.	..	..
Measles (excluding German Measles).	..	..
Whooping Cough.	..	..
Other Diseases (Please specify).	..	..
Smallpox.	..	..
Scarlet Fever.	41	41
Diphtheria.	13	13
Enteric Fever.	3	3
Other (Please specify).	..	..

RESPIRATORY AND OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.—Include under these headings the number of primary cases notified, *i.e.*, number notified on Forms A. and B. The number of cases notified on Forms C. and D. should not be included.

CHICKEN POX, MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—Please state if any of these diseases have been made compulsorily notifiable in your district, and if so, when, and for what period.

(Signed), J. J. JACKSON,  
Medical Officer of Health

Table 3.

Wakefield Rural District Council.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1925.

Nett Deaths from stated causes under one year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total under 1 Year.
Congenital Debility, Malformation and Premature Birth .. .. .	9	..	2	1	12	..	2	2	..	16
Enteritis and Diarrhoea .. .. .	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	5
Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	2	7
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Other Causes .. .. .	1	1	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	4
	10	1	3	1	15	3	7	7	3	35

Table 4. Wakefield Rural District.

## Causes of Death in 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH. (Civilians only.)	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes .. .. .	110	102
Enteric Fever .. .. .	..	1
Measles .. .. .	3	3
Whooping Cough.. .. .	..	3
Diphtheria.. .. .	1	1
Influenza .. .. .	3	4
Tuberculosis of respiratory system .. .. .	5	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	1	3
Cancer, Malignant Disease .. .. .	12	6
Rheumatic Fever.. .. .	2	..
Diabetes .. .. .	..	2
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c. .. .. .	3	7
Heart Disease .. .. .	19	12
Arterio-sclerosis .. .. .	2	..
Bronchitis .. .. .	4	3
Pneumonia (all forms) .. .. .	13	10
Other respiratory diseases .. .. .	1	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum .. .. .	4	..
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) .. .. .	2	3
Appendicitis and typhilitis .. .. .	..	2
Acute and chronic nephritis .. .. .	3	5
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth .. .. .	8	8
Suicide .. .. .	1	1
Other deaths from violence .. .. .	6	3
Other Defined Diseases ... .. .	17	20
Cases ill-defined or unknown .. .. .	..	1
Total Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age .. .. .	20	15
Do. do. Illegitimate .. .. .	..	1
Total Births .. .. .	224	208
Legitimate Births .. .. .	213	202
Illegitimate Births .. .. .	11	6
Population (for Births and Deaths) .. .. .	18,200	

**Table 5.**

**CARR GATE HOSPITAL, 1935.**

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric.	Encephalitis Lethargica	Total.
Ardley, East and West ...	15	10	—	1	26
Stanley Urban ...	30	6	—	—	36
Wakefield Rural ...	41	13	3	—	57
	86	29	3	1	119

Total 119.

There were only two deaths — one from Diphtheria and one from Enteric—both originating in the Wakefield Rural District.

Table 6.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
YEARS.								
0 ...			1	1				
1 ...	—	1	—	1			1	1
5 ...	3	6	—	2			—	1
10 ...	5	4					—	1
15 ...	2	3						
20 ...	2	1			—	1		
25 ...	4	6			4	—		
35 ...	2	3			—	2		
45 ...	—	1						
55 ...								
65 and over	1	—			1	—		
TOTALS -	19	25	1	4	5	3	1	3

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