WAKEFIELD

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1944.

Leeds:

ELSWORTH BROS. LTD., PRINTERS, BOWMAN LANE.

Wakefield Rural District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman:
Councillor R. L. LATHAM.

Vice-Chairman:
Councillor F. H. HUDSON.

Committee:

Councillor	F. BARKER	Councillor	E. KEEN
,,	H. BARKER	,,	H. TAYLOR
,,	A. DWYER	,,	H. SIMPSON
,,	J. MILNE	,,	C. W. MARSHALL
,,	A. E. GREAVES	,,	W. SANDHAM
,,	G. W. FISHER	,,	R. B. LOFT
,,	J. W. GOODWIN		

Clerk to the Council:
GERALD ARMITAGE.

Deputy Clerk to the Council:
A. ELSTONE.

Medical Officer of Health:
K. S. MACDONALD-SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. E.

Sanitary Inspector:
THOS. H. BRIDDICK, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Etc.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:
E. HEALD, M.S.I.A.

Clerk:
Miss RITA CUNNINGHAM.

Disinfector:
G. SCOTT.

Engineer and Surveyor:
W. E. MASSIE, M. Inst. M. & C.E.

THE WAKEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1944.

Section A.—Statistics and Social Conditions.

Statistics.

Area.—22,011 acres. Population.—17,820.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1944) according to Rate Books:—5,214.

Rateable Value.—£81,281.

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate.—£318 12s. 11d.

Social Conditions.

Coal-mining and its By-products, along with Agriculture are the chief industries; consequently the District is partly urban and partly rural. Such people as work in mills, etc., at Dewsbury, Ossett, Wakefield, etc., are transported to and fro by the excellent road and rail facilities.

Vital Statistics.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	395	211	184	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. 23.96
	Illegitimate	32	10	22	
		427	221	206	
Still Births	Legitimate	11	5	6	Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths) births 27.3
	Illegitimate	1	1	—	
		12	6	6	
Deaths		193	96	97	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. 10.8

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN 1944.

Nett Deaths from stated causes under one year of age :—19.

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
Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	10	1	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	11
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broncho Pneumonia ..	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	3	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	5
Totals ..	10	5	—	—	15	3	—	1	—	19

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

148 Smaller Towns, per 1,000 live births 44

Wakefield Rural District, per 1,000 live births .. 44.5

Deaths from other Causes :—

	Males	Females	Total	Percentage of Total Deaths
Cancer	11	22	33	17.09
Heart Disease	25	18	43	22.28
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	4	4	8	4.14
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	—	1	0.51
*Congenital Debility, Malformation, Premature Birth, and other causes	5	7	12	6.21
Diphtheria	1	—	1	0.51
Influenza	—	—	—	0.00
Pneumonia	5	4	9	4.66
Bronchitis	7	1	8	4.14
Other Respiratory Diseases ..	3	2	5	2.59
TOTAL ..	62	58	120	62.13

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1944.

Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year 1944 } { England and Wales, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional figures, based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population									Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza		Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years)	Total Deaths under one year
England and Wales	17.6	0.50	11.6	0.00	—	0.01	—	0.03	0.02	0.12		4.8	46
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	20.3	0.64	13.7	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.10		7.3	52
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	20.9	0.61	12.4	0.00	—	0.01	—	0.02	0.03	0.11		4.4	44
London	15.0	0.42	15.7	—	—	—	—	0.04	0.01	0.08		10.1	61
Wakefield R.D.C.	22.9	0.66	11.2	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00	—		7.6	44

Section B.—General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health (part time) :

K. S. MACDONALD-SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E.

Sanitary Inspector:—Thos. H. BRIDDICK, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(*Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspector of Nuisances. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspector of Meat and other Foods. Diploma, Sanitary Training College, London, for Sanitary Inspection, Law, Science and Hygiene. Diploma, Sanitary Training College, London, for Meat, Food and Drugs Inspection*).

Additional Sanitary Inspector :—E. HEALD, M.S.I.A.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of sputum, swabs and other pathological specimens is carried out by the County Laboratory. Milk is also examined for tubercle bacilli and bacterial content by the County Laboratory, while water and food stuffs are submitted to the Public Analyst, Mr. Richardson, of Bradford.

Ambulance Facilities.

There are two motor ambulances for the removal of infectious disease patients to Carr Gate Hospital, and one for smallpox patients, which meet the requirements of the districts.

For non-infectious cases and accidents an arrangement has now been made for the use of Emergency Ambulances in the Rural Area. This is a welcome addition to the Ambulance Service for the District, as during the night it is sometimes impossible to obtain a private ambulance.

Nursing at Home.

(*a*) General Nursing :—No arrangements by the Council.

(*b*) Nursing of Infectious Cases :—No arrangements for nursing at home.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

All clinics and treatment centres are under the jurisdiction of the West Riding County Council. Diphtheria immunisation is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and private practitioners.

Hospitals and Other Institutions.

(*a*) General Infectious Diseases :

(1) Carr Gate Isolation Hospital, Wakefield.
(2) Cardigan Smallpox Hospital, Wakefield.

(*b*) Voluntary Hospitals :

The hospitals used by the inhabitants in the area for accidents and general diseases are :—

(1) Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.
(2) General Infirmary at Leeds.
(3) Hospital for Women at Leeds.

The Council has made no arrangements for the admission of patients into these voluntary institutions.

Some bodies of workmen, *e.g.*, coal miners, make contributions at fixed intervals, *e.g.*, weekly, to these voluntary institutions whereby their claim to admission, free treatment, etc., is secured.

(*c*) County Council Hospitals :

White Rose County Hospital, Wakefield.
Staincliffe County Hospital, Dewsbury.
Walton Hall Maternity Hospital, Walton.

Hospital Accommodation.

Hospital, Zymotic Diseases.

The Carr Gate Hospital at the time of its erection was sufficient for the needs of the area, but the time has arrived when it should be enlarged and modernised.

The hospital is governed by representatives from the Rural District of Wakefield, the Urban District Council of Stanley and the County Borough of Morley.

Persons suffering from Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever from these districts are admitted and treated in this hospital.

Occasionally, other infectious diseases, *e.g.*, measles, pertussis, mumps, are admitted,. but as a rule accommodation will not allow their admission. Usually their admission follows as a result of doubtful diagnosis, segregation being carried out until diagnosis is established. Accommodation suffers as a result of the absence of an observation block.

Accommodation is provided for cases of erysipelas at the Carr Gate Isolation Hospital and the County Hospital, Wakefield.

Cardigan Smallpox Hospital.

This hospital is governed by a Smallpox Joint Hospital Board, comprised of representatives from the City of Wakefield, the Wakefield Rural District Council, the Urban District Councils of Stanley, Methley, Horbury and Rothwell, and the County Borough of Morley.

At the present time it is leased to the West Riding County Council and used as a sanatorium. The County Council has entered into an agreement to vacate immediately these premises should an outbreak of smallpox occur in any of the above districts.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

All houses in the district, with the exception of 37 isolated houses, have a piped supply of water laid on.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewers are still required in the parishes of Warmfield-cum-Heath, Sharlston, Crofton, Crigglestone, Sitlington, Bretton, Woolley, Notton and Wintersett.

In the parish of Warmfield-cum-Heath with the exception of the new Council Houses the whole of the houses drain into cesspools or open ditches.

In the hamlet of Warmfield the conditions are very unsatisfactory. Several of these open ditches are for the greater part of the year full of stagnant sewage, some of them within a few feet of the public footpath.

Spring Hill Area in the Parish of Crofton drains into the brook which flows through that part of the district. A scheme for its drainage is held in abeyance during the war.

In the Parish of Sharlston, Foulby Area is developing and here cesspools are constructed to take the drainage from all the houses.

This area is one in which developments would rapidly proceed if there was an efficient sewer constructed.

Woolley Moor, Dennington and Great Cliffe, in the Parish of Crigglestone, are unsatisfactorily sewered. At Dennington the house drains discharge into the brook, at Great Cliffe part of the houses discharge into an open ditch and the remainder into the covered drain discharging into the stream near the Railway Station.

All sewage works in the district are quite satisfactory and the sewage conveyed thereto has been treated in an efficient manner, with the exception of the Parish of Sitlington. Reconstruction of the sewage works at Horbury Bridge is suspended until the end of the war.

947 houses are not connected to the sewers. These drain into cesspools and ditches.

Rivers and Streams.

There were no complaints from the West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board regarding any of the affluents from the sewage works except Horbury Bridge Sewage Works.

Pollution of rivers and streams is prevalent in Crigglestone and Crofton. This pollution taking place through the house drainage finding its way direct without treatment.

Closet Accommodation.

Types of Closet Accommodation in the District.

Water Closets	3804
Slop Closets	—
Tub Closets	69
Privy Middens	501
Dry Ashpits	20

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.

37 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year.

The attack rate per 1,000 population was 2.07.

Notification of all infectious diseases is chiefly given by telephone. This expedites the removal of the patients to the Isolation Hospital and to a large degree minimizes the spread of infection.

40 cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital, and there were no deaths.

Diphtheria.

23 cases of Diphtheria were reported and 23 of these were removed to the Isolation Hospital; there was one death.

The attack rate per 1,000 of the population was 1.29.

Statement of Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year 1944.

Wakefield Rural Sanitary District.

Cases Notified or otherwise ascertained																									Cases removed to Hospital							
			Enteric Fever																Malaria													
Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	Typhoid	Paratyphoid	Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Acute Polio-Encephalitis	Encephalitis Lethargica	Typhus Fever	Relapsing Fever Continued Fever	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Respiratory Tuberculosis (New cases only)	Other forms of Tuberculosis (New cases only)	Contracted in England	Contracted abroad	Chickenpox	Measles (excluding German Measles)	Whooping Cough	Other Diseases (Please specify)	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Other Diseases (Cerebro-Spinal Fever)	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Whooping Cough
—	37	23	1	—	22	1	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	12	5	—	1	—	12	31	—	—	40	23	1	5	1	—	—

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1944.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths		
			M.	F.	Total
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	37	40	—	—	—
Diphtheria	23	23	1	—	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	22	—	5	4	9
Other Diseases generally notifiable :					
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	5	5	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—
Measles	12	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	31	—	—	1	1
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	145	70	6	5	11

Causes of Death in 1944.

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes	96	97
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
2 Measles	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	1
5 Diphtheria	1	—
6 Influenza	—	—
7 Encephalitis lethargica	—	—
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	4
10 Other tuberculous diseases	1	—
11 Syphilis	2	—
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	11	22
14 Diabetes	—	2
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, &c.	8	11
16 Heart disease	25	18
17 Aneurysm	—	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	2	2
19 Bronchitis	7	1
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	5	4
21 Other respiratory diseases	3	2
22 Peptic Ulcer	1	—
23 Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	2	1
24 Appendicitis	2	2
25 Cirrhosis of liver	—	—
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	—	—
27 Other digestive diseases	1	4
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	2	3
29 Puerperal sepsis	—	—
30 Other puerperal causes	—	—
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformation, etc.	5	7
32 Road Traffic Accident	1	3
33 Suicide	2	—
34 Other violence	7	—
35 All other causes	4	10
Deaths of Infants under 1 year — Total	11	8
Deaths of Infants under 1 year — Legitimate	11	7
Deaths of Infants under 1 year — Illegitimate	—	1
Live Births — Total	221	206
Live Births — Legitimate	211	184
Live Births — Illegitimate	10	22
Still Births — Total	6	6
Still Births — Legitimate	5	6
Still Births — Illegitimate	1	—
Population (Resident)	17,820	

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1944.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
15—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
25—	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
35—	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
45—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
Totals	8	4	1	4	3	5	1	—

Verminous Persons.

Arrangements for cleansing of verminous people, clothing, bedding and all textile articles likely to contain vermin, are made with the City of Leeds when the occurrence arises. The infested articles are steam disinfected and, during the occupier's stay at the cleansing station, the premises are fumigated. It was not necessary to take any action during 1944.

Disinfection.

This is carried out at every place where a notifiable infectious disease has occurred, and where there has been a death from Tuberculosis. Houses in which active cases of Tuberculosis reside are disinfected periodically—every 3 months. Disinfection is also done when a tuberculous person leaves home and enters a sanatorium.

The method employed is formalin sprayer and lamps.

This work is done by a trained workman under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Prevention of Blindness.

It was not found necessary to take any action during the year for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from injury or any diseases of the eyes.

WAKEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1944.

Gentlemen,

I respectfully submit my Annual Report for the year 1944.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

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

Sanitary Inspector.

Notices and Correspondence.

	Number of Statutory Notices served, Public Health Act, 1936	6
Do.	Statutory Notices, Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1936, Sec. 269	—
Do.	Statutory Notices (Sec. 92) Public Health Act, 1936	—
Do.	Statutory Notices, Public Health Act, 1936	6
Do.	Statutory Notices, Milk and Dairies, 1926	—
Do.	Informal Notices served	41
Do.	Letters sent	562
Do.	Sec. 9, Housing Act, 1936	2
	TOTAL ..	617

Number of Nuisances reported to Sanitary Committee	6
Number of reported nuisances outstanding, 1943 ..	—
Number abated on service of Statutory Notice (Public Health Acts)	4
Do. abated before Statutory Notice was served..	—
Do. of reported nuisances outstanding, 1944 ..	2

Houses Erected, 1944.

	Bretton	Crigglestone	Crofton	Chevet	Newland	Notton	Sharlston	Sitlington	Walton	Warmfield	Wintersett	Woolley	Total
Private Enterprise and Subsidy ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
By the Council under 1936 Acts—Houses ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Inhabited Houses.

Parish	Houses
Chevet	16
Crigglestone	1,305
Crofton	862
Newland-cum-Woodhouse	7
Notton	165
Sharlston	751
Sitlington	1,033
Walton	411
Warmfield-cum-Heath	257
Bretton West	94
Wintersett	14
Woolley	299
TOTAL	5214

Sanitary Inspection of Area.

General District Inspection	171
Notifiable Infectious Diseases	100
Cowsheds	1,526
Distributing Centres	53
Interviews and Appointments in District	292
Investigations of Complaints	181
Inspections of Works for the Abatement of Nuisances	63
Re-visits	9
Petroleum	26
Drain Testing	45
Shops	233
Inspection of Houses	88
Refuse Tips	140
Knackers Yards	3
Salvage	116
Bakehouses	26
Workshops	66
Military Camps	25
Rats and Mice	134
Other Visits	282
Fish Shops	20
Water Samples	3
Tents, Vans and Sheds	11
Milk Samples	1,248
Canteens	4
Schools	14
Food Decontamination—Practices	37
TOTAL	4,916

IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED, Year 1944.

PARISH	Drains taken out	New Drains laid	Drains found defective	Stopped Drains cleansed	Gully Traps affixed	Inspection Chambers built	Drains ventilated	Sink Wastes repaired	Sink Wastes trapped	New Sinks affixed	Water Conductors repaired	Fall Pipes disconnected	Water Closets repaired	W.C.s provided	Privies converted into W.Cs	Ashpits repaired	New Ashpits provided	W.C., Soil & Vent Pipes rep'd	Dirty Houses cleansed	Urinals repaired	Houses damp	House Roofs repaired	House Floors repaired	Plaster-work repaired	Yards paved	Animals kept to be a nuisance	Swine removed	Dilapidations repaired	Cesspools repaired	Cowsheds repaired	Dairies repaired	New Cesspools provided	Sewage Disposal Plants prov.	Sewage Disposal Plants rep'd.	Other Items	TOTAL
Chevet	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
Crigglestone	2	3	3	13	3	1	1	3	–	1	3	–	3	4	–	3	–	1	2	–	2	–	1	1	–	–	–	2	1	1	1	–	–	–	2	57
Crofton	–	1	2	9	1	1	–	2	–	1	2	–	1	2	1	1	–	–	–	–	4	3	–	2	1	1	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	41
Newland-cum-Woodhouse	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
Notton	1	1	5	10	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	13	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	37
Sharlston	6	10	3	16	4	2	–	8	3	–	4	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	4	4	–	5	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	1	–	–	3	81
Sitlington	–	–	–	3	1	–	–	2	–	–	1	–	3	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	2	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	18
Walton	–	1	–	3	4	–	–	1	–	–	1	4	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	20
Warmfield-cum-Heath	1	1	1	3	9	–	–	2	–	–	1	4	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	2	26
West Bretton	–	3	–	2	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7
Wintersett	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
Woolley	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
TOTAL	10	20	14	60	24	4	1	19	3	2	12	10	12	6	1	5	1	1	4	1	14	22	3	9	1	1	1	8	1	1	1	2	1	1	12	288

Disinfections.

Disinfections are carried out by workmen specially trained for this work and the method adopted is spraying with Formaldyhyde and Formalin Lamps. During the year 146 disinfections were carried out by this method. In the case of Verminous houses, de-infestation is done by spraying with a special insecticide and fumigation with sulphur candles.

Disinfectants are supplied free for use in houses where a case of infectious disease has occurred and where Tuberculosis patients reside. Stores for the supply of disinfectants are situated in each of the Townships and supplies are issued on the production of a note signed either by myself or the disinfector.

The wasteful manner in which it was used in the past compelled me to curtail the issue of fluid disinfectant.

The following disinfections were carried out during 1944 :—

DISINFECTIONS	DISEASES										
	Tuberculosis	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Enteric	Vermin	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Scabies	Other Cases		Total
Private Dwelling Houses	5	63	30	1	1	28	3	1	2		134
Schools	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		1
Day Nursery	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		1
Maternity Homes ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10		10
TOTAL ..	5	65	30	1	1	28	3	1	12		146

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.

The total number of houses disinfected for tuberculosis during the year was 5.

Disinfestation.

28 houses were found to be infested with bugs during the year.

Food and Drugs.

No samples were submitted to the Public Analyst during the year.

Cowsheds, Milk Shops, Dairies.

On the 31st December, 1944, there were 32 wholesale producers, 76 producer retailers and retailers.

1,526 visits were made during the year to farms and dairies; the average number of dairy cattle kept in the district was 1169.

Milk.

1,284 samples of milk produced in the district were submitted for test and examination. 8 samples were taken as the result of complaints from other Authorities. 2 of the 8 samples were taken from the Retailer in the district from which the complaint was received after it had left the farm, and these were found to be unsatisfactory; 6 samples taken at the places of production were reported by the Bacteriologist to be quite satisfactory.

36 samples of milk produced at Accredited Farms were taken by the County Council Inspectors and submitted for examination; 18 were reported satisfactory and 18 unsatisfactory.

Of the total 1,284 samples taken, 91% were satisfactory, and suitable for distribution to the public, 9% were unsatisfactory.

Food Inspection.

The following food was found to be totally unfit for human consumption:—

	lbs.		*lbs.*
Tinned Pork	6	Dried Raisins	40
Salmon	1	Tinned Fish	21
Tinned Beef	43	Baking Powder	14
Cereals	17½	7 Tins Milk	
Sugar	224	Dried Eggs	3
1 Pig Head (T.B.)		1 set Pig Lungs (Pleurisy)	
2 Pigs' Hearts (Pericarditis)		1 Pig Carcase (Moribund)	
1 Calf (Dysphagia)			

Offensive Trades.

In the district there are 28 Fish Friers. The conditions at one of these premises was found unsatisfactory. Improvements were effected and the premises were made satisfactory.

Petroleum and like Substances.

19 premises are licensed for the storage of Petroleum. There were no accidents during the year and no contraventions of the Petroleum Act discovered.

Canal Boats.

There are no Canal Boats registered in the district. Canal Boats worked in the district are chiefly day boats on which there is no sleeping accommodation. These boats pass through several districts on their journeys.

Of 88 houses inspected on complaints, 55 were found not to be in a reasonable state but capable of being repaired at reasonable cost. No Demolition Orders were made and no undertakings accepted.

Sanitary Conveniences.

Water Closets	3,804
Covered Privy Middens	501
Open Privy Middens	20
Tub or Pail Closets	69
Covered Dry Ashpits	—
Open Dry Ashpits	20
Ashbins	3,871

Scavenging.

The total cost of house refuse collection and cleansing of cesspools and the collection of waste paper, rags and bones was £3,965 17s. 2d. throughout the district for the year 1st April, 1944, to 31st March, 1945. The income to the Cleansing Department was £502 12s. 11d., giving a net cost of cleansing of £3,463 4s. 3d. The average cost per house was 13s. 3¼d.

In 1926, seven parishes were scavenged, six by contract and one by direct labour. The average cost per house was 15/11d. These seven parishes comprised of 13,638 acres. In 1924-25 the number of houses scavenged was 3,563.

In 1944-45 the total number of houses scavenged was 5,214, on an average cost per house of 13/3¼d.

Since 1939 wages have increased by £936 per annum. The increased cost in petrol per annum £138 10s. 0d., spares £68, tyres £46, a total of £1,188 10s. 0d., which shows that the increased cost per house since 1939 includes wages, petrol, spares and tyres, over which I have no control. This works out at 4/6 per house ; but for the increases mentioned the average cost per house to-day would be 8/9¼d. per house.