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Wetherby Rural District Council

A
REPORT
on the
HEALTH of the DISTRICT
DURING YEAR 1948

by
RONALD G. SMITHSON
Medical Officer of Health

and
JOHN MARRIOTT
Engineer, Surveyor and
Chief Sanitary Officer.

WETHERBY:

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WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:

MAJOR J. H. HUDSON, M.C., J.P., C.C., Hill Top House, Wetherby.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

L. R. BURRELL, ESQ., J.P., 4, Raby Park, Wetherby.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Chairman: L. R. BURRELL, ESQ., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: E. FITZGERALD HART, ESQ.

THE FULL COUNCIL.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Chairman: J. NORFOLK, ESQ.

Vice-Chairman: A. HAIGH-LUMBY, ESQ.

THE FULL COUNCIL.

WATER COMMITTEE:

Chairman: J. M. McLAREN, ESQ.

Vice-Chairman: J. W. WATSON, ESQ.

THE FULL COUNCIL.

REPRESENTATIVES ON THE HARROGATE, KNARESBOROUGH AND WETHERBY JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL BOARD:

W. J. FINNERTY, ESQ., REV. L. E. GRIFFITH, A. HAIGH-LUMBY, ESQ.,
MRS. H. TWIDALE, MRS. H. A. WILSON.

REPRESENTATIVES ON HARROGATE AND DISTRICT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

A. HAIGH-LUMBY, ESQ., MAJOR J. H. HUDSON, C. MALLINSON, ESQ.,
J. NORFOLK, ESQ.

PERSONNEL DETAILS

DIVISIONAL HEALTH ORGANISATION

Medical Officer of Health:

Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer:

RONALD G. SMITHSON, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer:

HONORA JOHANNA TWOMEY, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H.

Part-time Medical Officers at Clinics:

R. N. Crossley, L.M.S.S.A.

Katharine M. Hick, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

W. Murphy, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

J. A. Young, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Consultants and Specialists working in Division:

Ear, Nose and Throat:

R. Thomas, B.A., B.M., B.Ch. (Oxon), D.L.O.

Eye:

R. Burns, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., N.U.I.

Obstetrical:

C. Rutherford Morison, M.A., M.B., C.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopaedic:

D. H. Russell, M.C., M.D., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.

Paediatric:

T. E. D. Beavan, M.B., Ch.B., L.D.S., M.R.C.P., D.C.H. Left
June, 1948.

W. Henderson, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.C.H. Commenced
July, 1948.

Tuberculosis:

C. A. Koefoed, M.D., Ch.B., Ph.B.

V. Ryan, M.D., N.U.I., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Dental Officers:

Miss R. Sclere, L.D.S.

G. O. Wood, L.D.S.

D. B. Owen, L.D.S. Commenced 1st September, 1948.

Speech Therapist:

Mrs. Alix S. Snow.

NURSING STAFF:

Health Visitors/School Nurses:

Miss M. W. Dodd, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Left 23rd February, 1948.

Mrs. M. Marks, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Commenced 1st March, 1948.
Left 28th December, 1948.

Mrs. E. Marsden, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Commenced 1st Feb., 1948.

Mrs. M. A. Page, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss E. F. Rutledge, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss C. Swift, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Commenced 12th April, 1948,

PERSONNEL DETAILS—Continued

Home Nurse after 5th July, 1948:

Miss L. Evamy, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queens).

Whole-time Midwives:

Miss H. C. Howe, C.M.B.

Mrs. A. Kirton, C.M.B. Left 31st March, 1948.

Home Nurses/Midwives after 5th July, 1948:

Miss E. E. Basher, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queens).

Mrs. E. Bithell, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss A. Girdlestone, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss H. M. Glennie, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Miss A. E. Hickes, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss E. C. Hodgson, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queens).

Mrs. G. Jeffries, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Mrs. E. Linley, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss M. Murphy, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss W. E. Payne, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss E. D. Pickles, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Mrs. M. Precious, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.

Miss M. E. Watson, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Dental Attendants:

Miss Allathorne.

Miss Horton.

Physiotherapist:

Miss A. M. Sugden.

Assistant Health Visitor/School Nurse:

Mrs. E. Clark, S.R.N.

Tuberculosis Visitor:

Mrs. A. M. Askham, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V., Cert. (Queens).

V.D. Social Worker:

Miss E. M. Senior.

Mental Health Social Worker:

Miss E. Buck. Commenced June, 1948.

Ambulance Service:

Section Leader: F. Ward.

CLERICAL STAFF:

Senior Clerk: F. H. Atack.

Miss S. Graham.

Mrs. M. E. M. Humphreys. Commenced 21st June, 1948.

Miss B. A. Jackson. Commenced 30th August, 1948.

Miss D. A. Scruton. Left 31st August, 1948.

Miss M. E. Strothard.

PERSONNEL DETAILS—Continued

ENGINEER, SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT

***Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Officer:**

JOHN MARRIOTT, M.I.Mun.E., A.M.T.P.I., M.Inst.P.C., M.R.San.I.,
F.S.I.A.

***Deputy Surveyor and Deputy Chief Sanitary Officer:**

WILLIAM LEONARD BARNSELY, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Surveyor and Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

PETER TELFORD, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (from 28th October, 1948).

Waterworks Attendant and General Foreman:

Brian Wood.

Clerk of Works (Housing):

Ernest Moon.

Clerk of Works (Engineering):

Lawrence Whitaker (to 23th August, 1948).

Frederick Clarkson (from 14th December, 1948).

Draughtsman Clerk:

Peter Simmons.

Shorthand Typist:

Mrs. G. Hunter.

Junior Assistant:

Miss K. McGrath.

Consultant Engineer:

Wilf. K. Rodwell, A.M.I.C.E.

Consultant Architects:

W. A. Jones, F.R.I.B.A.

G. Alan Burnett, A.R.I.B.A.

Harry Webster, A.R.I.B.A.

*Exchequer contributions to the salaries of these Officers
under the Local Government Act, 1933.

Wetherby House,
WETHERBY.

30th August, 1949.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Wetherby Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is the duty of the Medical Officer of Health to make himself aware of the health circumstances of his area, and so, despite the fact that the Rural District Council has little to do directly with the National Health Service Act of 1946, it is right and proper to make first reference in my Annual Report for 1948 to the influence the commencement of this Act had upon the district. Considering the magnitude of the change-over, it is not surprising to have to report difficulties due to alterations in medical administration locally and nationally, although relatively speaking such difficulties have been less than might have been anticipated.

The first effect felt in Wetherby was the difficulty in obtaining accommodation for chronic sick persons, probably due to the removal of the right of accommodation in hospitals provided by the County Council to a body not concerned with local authorities' areas. At the date of writing this difficulty has been reduced, although it is not yet entirely eradicated. At no time has one become aware of difficulty in gaining admission of acute cases of illness into hospital.

The next most marked effect of the Act is referred to in the body of my report, namely, the attempt to misuse the Home Help Service. It was noteworthy that the bizarre requests for financial assistance came from localised parts of the area, and once resisted one is now faced with providing for a real need in the homes of persons who are sick.

From experience during the last twelve months there appears to be an ever-widening field for providing care for the mentally sick.

Accession to the staff of the Department of the former staffs of the numerous District Nursing Associations in the Division has brought closer relationship with the local health authority's work fourteen worthy professional women, whose

The Council's work in the sphere of environmental hygiene progressed during the year, and the record of sewerage, cleansing and housing stands comparison with authorities of similar size.

The vital statistics for the area are satisfactory. In common with the rest of the country there was a reduction in the birth rate during the year. No serious outbreak of epidemic disease was reported. The illegitimate birth rate, though reduced as compared with 1947, is still unfortunately too high. No woman died in, or in consequence of, child birth. The infantile mortality rate is very little above that for 1947, and the death rate from all causes was relatively low.

Throughout the year the Council showed every consideration for recommendations put before it by the Public Health Department, and with all sincerity one extends thanks to members of the Council collectively and individually for continuous encouragement and assistance. To colleagues and staff in my own and other departments of the Council is acknowledged freely the many kindnesses and courtesies shown, and in particular, one would like to acknowledge the constant willingness of the former Clerk of the Council, Mr. Mellor, to give of his knowledge of local conditions gleaned during a record long service with the Council.

I should like to use the pages of your Annual Report, Mr. Chairman, to give a welcome to all new members of the staff of the Divisional Health Office together with an expression of goodwill to those who have thought it best to seek fields of activity away from us. The office staff, though small numerically, has worked hard and enthusiastically throughout the year.

To the Press, for the delightful way in which the previous report was received, and for its continued assistance throughout 1948, it would, I am sure, Mr. Chairman, be your wish that I should pay acknowledgment.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

RONALD G. SMITHSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

PART I. REPORT AS MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1. General Statistics.

Area in Acres	64,424
Population 1931 Census	16,317
Population Registrar-General's Estimate mid. 1948 ...	19,470
No. of inhabited houses	5,756
Rateable value 31-3-49	£134,686
Product of 1d. rate 31-3-49	£533
District Council General Rate 1948-1949	3/11d.
County Council General Rate 1948-1949	11/1d.

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

Live Births :	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	161	119	280
Illegitimate	9	9	18
Totals	170	128	298
Birth Rate per thousand population			15.3
Stillbirths 8. Rate per thousand total births			26.9
Illegitimate live births represent 6% of total live births.			
Total Deaths from all Causes 188. Rate per thousand population			9.7
No. of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth was 0			
Deaths of Infants under one year :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births (8)			27
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (7) ...			25
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births (1)			55
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			37
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages)			4
Deaths from Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages) ...			2
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)			0

WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT

COMPARABLE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948

Based on the Registrar-General's Figures

	Wetherby Rural District	Aggregate West Riding Rural Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (Provi- sional figures)
BIRTH RATE:				
(Per 1,000 estimated population) ...	15.3	19.2	18.5	17.9
DEATH RATES:				
All per 1,000 estimated population)				
All Causes	9.7	9.8	11.3	10.8
Zymotic Diseases (7 principal) * ...	—	0.12	0.12	***
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.21	0.36	0.37	0.44
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.07
Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory sys- tem) †	1.13	1.15	1.29	***
Cancer	1.90	1.49	1.74	1.86
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ††	3.18	3.03	3.73	***
INFANT MORTALITY:				
(Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	27	40	39	34
DIARRHOEA:				
(Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	—	4.97	4.33	3.3
MATERNAL MORTALITY:				
(Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births)				
Puerperal Sepsis	—	0.13	0.10	0.24
Other Causes	—	1.12	1.05	0.73
Total	—	1.25	1.15	1.02

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

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

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

*** Figures not available.

COMPARABLE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT **From 1937 to Date**

Year (i)	Estimated Population at Mid-year (ii)	Natural Variation		Live Births		Deaths			
		Increase	Decrease (iii)	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population (iv)	Total (v)	Rate per 1,000 Population (vi)	Under One Year (vii)	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (viii)
1937	16900	—	7	228	13.49	235	13.91	12	52.64
1938	16840	32	—	240	14.25	206	12.33	8	33.34
1939	16920	7	—	236	13.93	229	13.15	9	38.00
1940	18130	—	25	214	11.80	239	13.18	15	65.00
1941	18910	4	—	243	13.91	239	12.64	15	55.35
1942	18890	56	—	307	16.25	251	13.28	14	45.60
1943	19240	69	—	295	15.33	226	11.75	7	23.75
1944	20140	143	—	344	17.00	201	9.98	20	58.00
1945	19450	138	—	328	16.83	190	9.76	10	30.49
1946	18820	159	—	380	20.20	221	11.70	11	29.00
1947	18890	133	—	340	18.00	207	11.00	8	24.00
1948	19470	110	—	298	15.31	188	9.66	8	27.00

CAUSES OF CIVILIAN DEATHS

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S ABRIDGED LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATHS IN THE DISTRICT DURING 1948

Cause	Number		
	Male	Female	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	2	2	4
7. Tuberculosis (other forms)	1	1	2
8. Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
9. Influenza	—	—	—
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—
13. Cancer:			
Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	1	—	1
Uterus	—	1	1
14. Cancer (Stomach and Duodenum)	1	1	2
15. Cancer (Breast)	—	9	9
16. Cancer of all other sites	16	8	24
17. Diabetes	—	1	1
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	14	9	23
19. Heart Disease	20	33	53
20. Other Circulatory Diseases	5	4	9
21. Bronchitis	5	7	12
22. Pneumonia	4	4	8
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
24. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1	2
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis	—	—	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	—	1	1
28. Nephritis	—	1	1
29. Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	—	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth	—	—	—
32. Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Diseases	3	4	7
33. Suicides	1	—	1
34. Road Traffic Accident	1	1	2
35. Other Violent Causes	3	3	6
36. All Other Causes	4	12	16
Total:	84	104	188

From the Registrar-General's list of causes of death in the District during 1948, it will be seen that the most frequent causes of death, the number of deaths so registered, and the corresponding death rates per thousand of the population were:—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	53	deaths equivalent to a death rate of 2.7
Cancer	...	...	...	37	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1.9
Intra Cranial Vascular					
lesions				23	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1.18
Bronchitis	...	...	...	12	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 0.61
Other Circulatory Diseases				9	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 0.46
Pneumonia	...	...	...	8	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 0.41
Congenital malformations					
Birth injuries	...	...	...	7	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 0.35
Infantile Diseases	...	...	...

Tuberculosis, all forms, accounted for 6 deaths during the year.

It is interesting to notice the reversal in sex incidence of Intra Cranial Vascular lesions and heart disease in the list given as compared with last year.

Relatively speaking "other violent causes" in category 35 show a marked increase on last year.

Deaths from infectious disease were notably few.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Officer reports in detail on the sanitary circumstances of the District later in this Report, and it is only necessary to refer to general matters here.

Progress in house construction, although by no means as rapid as the Council would wish, has been appreciable, and recent lettings in some parishes have solved the housing need as far as inadequacy is concerned. Other more populous parishes are not yet in this happy position. Much remains to be done throughout the District to raise the standard of amenity in existing houses.

Water supply problems in the Council's area are of prime urgency to secure potable, adequate and pure supplies, but it is good to be able to report that the solution to many of them appears to be available in the none too distant future.

Substantial progress continues to be made in sewerage the

district, and much of the credit must be given to my predecessors in this respect. It is therefore with regret one reports the unsatisfactory outcome of the Western Area Scheme Enquiry. Reconsideration of this matter by the Ministry of Health has been sought without avail to date. Wiser counsel must eventually prevail on economic and sanitary grounds if the best solution of what must be a costly proposal is to be obtained.

A welcome addition to the sanitary amenities of the area is the proposal to provide a cesspit emptier in the district. Provision of conveniences in Boston Spa is making progress, and one hopes for better usage there than has occurred in Wetherby.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year:—

Name	Total	Cases sent to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	40	28	—
Whooping Cough	58	—	—
Dysentery	6	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—
Measles	71	1	—
Acute Pneumonia	14	—	8
Erysipelas	10	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals ...	202	31	8
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The total number of cases notified shows a reduction of 192 as compared with 1947. This reduction is mainly the result of the reduced incidence of measles.

The inauguration of a hospital service under the control of the Regional Hospital Board on the 5th July, 1948, has not affected admission of infectious cases to hospital, except in so far as it is not now the policy of the Public Health Department to seek admission for all cases of Scarlet Fever. Each case is considered on its merits, and where admission is necessary on medical or domestic grounds, such admission has been obtained without difficulty.

Epidemiological events during the year were:—

(a) An outbreak of food poisoning in January, 1948, in the Huby, Weeton, North Rigton, East Keswick part of the district, appeared to have a relationship to local festivities in one of the villages, but despite investigation no bacteriological evidence was forthcoming. The outbreak assumed much greater importance when one of the medical gentlemen involved succumbed to the infection.

(b) Scattered cases of infective Hepatitis occurred over a period of several weeks without evidence of contact or causation being found.

(c) An interesting collection of four cases of Bohnholm's Disease was discovered as a result of collaboration between the certifying practitioner, General Hospital and the Department. It was possible to trace the source of infection, and to confirm many of the observations made by Dr. Pickles, the illustrious Medical Officer of Health of the Aysgarth authority, on this disease.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following figures show the state of the register at 31.12.1948:—

Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
24	32	19	17	92

This is a decrease of 16 cases over the figures at 31.12.1947.

Analysis of new notifications and deaths from Tuberculosis during year:—

Civilian Tuberculosis

Age	New Cases		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary
0	0	0	0	0
1	1	2	0	0
5	1	2	0	0
15	4	1	1	1
25	5	1	3	0
35	1	1	0	1
45	1	0	0	0
55	1	0	0	0
65 over	1	0	0	0

Service Cases:—

NIL

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Reproduced herewith is a Table showing the number of children in age groups immunised in each half year since 1943:—

Year	Age Groups																Refresher Doses
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	
1943	20	149	115	96	107	202	139	109	95	93	85	89	81	55	10	27	
1944																	
1st	2	26	3	Nil	2												
2nd	6	25	4	2	3												
1945																	
1st	12	6	1	1													
2nd	27	17	2	1	Nil	2	1	Nil	1	Nil	1						
1946																	
1st	8	30	3	1	2	1	Nil	1									
2nd	Nil	24	2	Nil	2	2											
1947																	
1st	2	15	5	7	1	Nil	2	Nil	1	1	1						
2nd	3	46	18	10	5	12	10	13	12	12	4	11	9	4	3	7	6
1948																	
1st	2	61	76	15	14	9	8	10	5	3	1	3	2	1	Nil	7	13
2nd	4	67	13	9	4	14	4	6	13	11	8	6	3	2	1	1	215

This table only includes children for whom a diphtheria immunisation record card can be produced. One has good reason to believe the total number of children in the area who have been immunised exceeds the number calculated from the above table, viz.: 508 under 5 years and 1,417 between 5-15 years of age at 31-12-48.

The position is the Department can substantiate a statement that 32 per cent. of children under 5 years of age and 46 per cent of children between 5-15 years of age in the district on 31-12-48 have been immunised, but has reason to believe the true figures are appreciably higher.

PART II. REPORT AS DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the complete information of members of each Council in Division No. 9 it is considered appropriate to incorporate a full account of the Divisional Medical Officer's work in the Council's Report.

Education Act, 1944

Arrangements for School Medical Inspections throughout the area resulted in 1,747 children being examined in routine age groups, 72 children as special cases referred by the Head Teacher, and 1,320 as re-inspection of defects found at previous School Medical Inspections. Of the 1,819 children examined routine and as special cases, 251 were found to have defects requiring treatment. At the end of the year 1,098 items of defect remained for re-inspection at future examinations.

Of the 1,747 children examined routine 10% were regarded as below average nutrition.

At school cleanliness examinations carried out by the Nurses, it was found that 155 children out of 3,813 examined had signs of infestation with head lice, but using modern methods of cleansing it was not necessary to exclude any children from school under formal notice.

Minor ailment clinic facilities for school children continue to be provided in Wetherby, Tadcaster and Swillington. These clinics are by no means as popular as similar ones in more urban areas, and as a result only 209 cases received attention there during the year.

It is gratifying to be able to report an expansion of work at the **Consultative Clinics** held for the most part at the Multiple Clinic, Tadcaster:—

At the Eye Clinic, which is held at Wetherby and Tadcaster twice each month, 287 cases were seen during the year. Glasses were ordered in 196 cases, and up to the 5th July, 90 pairs of glasses had been obtained. It is unfortunate spectacles provided for school children are not returned through this office since 5th July last, and in consequence one cannot estimate the percentage of cases in which glasses ordered are actually obtained.

The Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic had 107 cases for the following troubles:—

Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	97
Ear	...	...	...	...	...	10

These cases made 130 attendances, and arrangements were made with appropriate hospitals and operations were carried out in 29 cases. Division 9 is fortunate in not having any undue delay in operative treatment for Ear, Nose and Throat cases.

We were sorry to lose the services of Dr. Beavan at the Paediatric Clinic during the year, and we welcome Dr. Henderson in his stead. 29 cases made 32 attendances, and it is felt the value of this clinic far exceeds the statistical information presented.

At the Orthopaedic Clinic, Dr. Russell continued his very long service at the Tadcaster Clinic, and saw 109 children on 8 occasions. The treatment session for Orthopaedic cases and remedial exercises, including breathing exercises, was held on 38 occasions, and it is reported that 264 cases made 1,148 attendances. Miss Sugden reports she also paid 86 visits to children in their own homes.

A Speech Therapist, Mrs. Snow, started work part-time in Division 9 in June, 1948, and it has been noteworthy that cases presented to her have increased rapidly since that time.

The Tuberculosis Officer continues to make regular attendances at the Tadcaster Clinic as indicated on the 1947 report, although he has since the 5th July, 1948, worked under the auspices of the Regional Hospital Board instead of the West Riding County Council. Attendance at this clinic is not restricted to school children.

National Health Service Act, 1946

As was indicated in the last Annual Report, it is the duty of the Divisional Medical Officer to conduct day by day administration on behalf of the County Medical Officer of Health. Following a policy of gradual decentralisation of sections of the County Medical Officer's work to the Divisions, 1948 saw a gradual growth in the responsibility passed to the periphery. In my view, in the light of experience, the formation of Divisional Health Committees by combined representation from the County Council and the two Rural District Councils is very necessary, if constructive local interest in the Divisional Health Scheme is to be fostered.

Section 21. Health Centres

Although much of the Division does not lend itself to establishment of Health Centres, a request from practitioners in Tadcaster for the provision of accommodation in conjunction with the Local Authority's clinic there, was received and encouraged. As a result, it is understood the Executive Council has made an official request to the County Council for an experimental Health Centre to be established in Tadcaster.

Sections 22 and 24. Care of Mothers and Young Children, and Health Visiting

Primarily dependent on the Health Visiting staff, arrangements have been continued along the lines set out in the 1947 Report. Some improvement in the staffing position took place during the year, but further augmentation is required to implement the establishment suggested for this area.

Minor changes had to be made in the Clinics, as a result of which we moved from the Rectory at Barwick to the Methodist Schoolroom. The clinic formerly held at South Milford was transferred to new premises in the Methodist Schoolroom at Sherburn, and arrangements were made for provision of a clinic in the Methodist Schoolroom at Tockwith in January, 1949.

We were glad to welcome Mr. Owen to the Division as a Dental Officer, working mainly in the Wetherby area, and his advent has enabled us to give greater attention to expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five. Better facilities for the practice of Orthodontics in the Division are now provided by the part-time services of Miss Sclere.

Sections 22 and 25. Midwifery and Home Nursing

Before the 5th July, most of the Division looked to the staff of numerous Nursing Associations for the conduct of domiciliary midwifery in the area. The same staff was entirely responsible for District Nursing in those parts of the Division where such a service had been introduced by voluntary endeavour.

On the 5th July, 1948, the Local Health Authority became responsible for Home Nursing throughout the County, and it was agreed at a County level that the County Council should directly employ the staff concerned.

This transfer involved purchase of living accommodation, transport and equipment, and much detailed negotiation was conducted, in the main, from County Hall.

At a Divisional level we had pleasure in welcoming the former members of the staffs of District Nursing Associations into the Divisional scheme, and it is good to know that the team spirit is becoming more and more pronounced.

Originally the intention was to divide the duties of Midwifery and Home Nursing, but in the light of experience, such a course has not yet been considered desirable.

Section 26. Vaccination and Immunisation

Prior to the 5th July, 1948, immunisation in the area was done by General Practitioners either on payment of a private fee or by reimbursement by the County Council, as well as by whole-time officers of the County Council. Similar arrangements continued during the rest of the year, and in fact, a special drive from the Divisional Health Office helped to produce the favourable figures given in the table elsewhere in the report.

Vaccination was carried out entirely by General Practitioners who were remunerated privately except when holding an official appointment as Vaccination Medical Officer. Since the 5th July any General Practitioner can carry out vaccination.

It had been assumed from Section 26 of the Act the Local Health Authority would pay General Practitioners for immunising and vaccinating, and one regrets the delay in such fees being negotiated, if for no other reason than that the integrity of the Medical Officer in this matter might come to be doubted by his General Practitioner colleagues.

Statistical records of immunisation carried out in 1948 are given in the table previously mentioned.

The total number of vaccinations reported from the 5th July, 1948, to 31st December, 1948, was 112, of which number 89 were primary and 23 secondary vaccinations.

Section 27. Ambulance Service

Details of the ambulance service available in the Division were given in the 1947 report, and the arrangements continued in 1948 along the same pattern.

This service has been under a great strain due to increased calls, but the words of commendation received at intervals suggests the service is fulfilling its function.

At the request of both Rural District Councils in the Division, arrangements were made to publish notices in each Parish on how the services of an ambulance are to be obtained.

Section 28 and 51. Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care

It has been found since the 5th July, 1948, increasing numbers of requests for assistance by practitioners and hospitals have extended the duties of the Health Visiting staff.

The part-time appointment of Miss Buck, the Mental Health Social Worker in the Division has been of great value to the Department, and we believe to the patients and their friends.

Section 29. Domestic Help

One of the first surprising re-actions to the introduction of the National Health Service Act was the number of requests for payment for services rendered by relatives of persons who were sick. Such requests have invariably been declined, but the attitude displayed has made it necessary to investigate each case in great detail to prevent abuse.

At the same time, as a result of other factors, many cases of real hardship caused by temporary or chronic illness, have been brought to light. It is substantially correct to say that all such cases have been given assistance, but the amount of time which it has been necessary to spend to obtain the services of persons to act as Home Helps, together with the various safeguards which of necessity have had to be imposed by the County Council, continues to make great inroads into the time of the Department.

In an area such as this the ideal must be to have at least one woman prepared to give service from time to time as required in each Parish, and the assistance of anyone willing to help to reach this position will be much appreciated.

The Divisional Medical Officer will be pleased to outline details of the scheme at any time, on request.

National Assistance Act, 1948

It is the intention of the County Council that staff administering the National Assistance Act and the National Health Service Act shall be accommodated under the same roof. It is believed Division No. 9 is one of the few areas where the Divisional Medical Officer and the District Welfare Officer work in the same building, and one must report on the very happy position which has been brought about as a result of this arrangement.

Not only is my colleague, Mr. Herrington, responsible for administering the National Assistance Act, but he is also the duly authorised Officer for Mental Health purposes, and many have been the occasions on which our close proximity has been of mutual assistance and I believe, of greater service to the community.

Children's Act, 1948

Similarly the presence of Miss Barry, who is now responsible in this area for Adopted and Boarded Out Children, is also mutually advantageous. Whatever might be the arguments against separation of the responsibility for the care of children from the overall responsibility of the old style Welfare/Medical Officer, it is fortunately still appreciated in field work that Nursing and Medical staff have got a contribution to make to the welfare of children in all groups. Close working proximity does much to overcome the difficulties intrinsic in the present legal position.

Section 25. Domestic Help. The first survey of the situation of domestic help in the United States was made in 1912. It was then found that the situation was very different from what it is now. At that time, the majority of domestic help was of foreign birth, and the majority of them were from the South and West. They were usually paid very low wages, and they were often treated very badly. The situation has changed very much since then. The majority of domestic help is now of American birth, and they are usually paid higher wages. They are also treated much better. The situation is still not perfect, but it is much better than it was in 1912.

Section 26. National Assistance Act 1912

The National Assistance Act 1912 was passed by the British Parliament. It was the first time that the British Government had passed a law to provide financial assistance to the poor. The law provided that the local authorities were to be responsible for providing financial assistance to the poor. The law also provided that the local authorities were to be responsible for providing other services to the poor, such as housing and medical care. The law was a very important step in the development of the welfare state in Britain.

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WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Officer

For the Year 1948

Council Offices,

WETHERBY,

August, 1949.

To the Rural District Council of Wetherby:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

For your information and consideration I submit my third annual report on the work of my Department for the year ended 31st December, 1948, (Public Cleansing for the year ended 31st March, 1949).

The year has been noteworthy (1) by the operation from the 1st July of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, which introduces revolutionary changes in the ownership and use of land and property, and (2) the very rapid development of the Council's schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal, which reflect great credit on the vision of the Council.

Marked progress has again been made in every section of the work of the Department and full details of the year's achievements will be found in the appended report.

May I take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the continued support and generous assistance given by the Chairman, Members and Officers of the Council, and in particular Mr. L. R. Burrell, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, my Deputy, Mr. Barnsley and the Officers of the various Public Authorities with which the work of the Department is associated.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN MARRIOTT,

M.Inst.Mun.E., A.M.T.P.I.,

M.Inst.P.C., M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.,

Engineer and Surveyor, and

Chief Sanitary Officer,

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APPENDIX A. Summary of Inspections, including annual statement of Sanitary Inspector,

2. Statistics of District AREA, POPULATION, DWELLINGS, SERVICES AND RATEABLE VALUE OF INDIVIDUAL PARISHES, 1948

Township	Estimated extent acres	Population 1931	Population 1948 (Est.)	Dwellings No. of	Rateable Value £ per head	Penny Rate Product £ s. d.	Public Cleansing Houses	Services Piped Water Pop.	Sewerage Houses Pop.
Angram	521	51	66	16	3.045	16 0	do.	66	+
Bardsey-cum-Rigton	2752	796	1015	418	7.994	33 0 3	do.	410	995
Bickerton-with-Bilton	2299	357	355	98	3.030	4 7 4	do.	76	275
Boston Spa	880	1435	2064	712	5.895	47 13 2	do.	712	2064
Bramham-cum-Oglethorpe	4112	1042	1034	316	3.749	15 17 6	do.	284	274
Clifford	742	1110	1132	297	3.627	16 11 2	do.	293	1036
Collingham (inc. pt. Linton)	2842	884	1105	400	7.984	35 8 6	do.	397	1102
Deighton North	1475	106	120	26	3.291	1 15 1	do.	25	106
Harewood (inc. Dunkeswick, Weardley, Wigton & Wike	8154	1161	1090	347	8.388	35 19 4	do.	319	1000
Hutton Wandesley	1233	88	116	27	5.181	2 8 7	do.	26	112
Keswick East	1290	503	581	199	4.395	2 19 0	do.	190	556
Kearby-with-Netherby	1422	146	167	48	5.936	14 0 1	do.	45	158
Kirkby Overblow	2224	255	303	92	5.493	8 17 8	do.	87	297
Kirk Deighton	2276	349	401	139	4.681	6 0 9	do.	118	339
Long Marston	2850	254	254	73	3.838	4 9 11	do.	63	216
Ribston Little	858	158	143	45	2.489	1 17 4	do.	21	67
Rigton North	3058	318	385	113	3.254	4 16 3	do.	48+	115
Scarcroft	1073	358	505	143	6.564	13 8 2	do.	140	494
Sicklinghall	1495	235	331	67	3.392	4 16 5	do.	61	319
Spofoforth-with-Stockeld	5468	793	877	247	4.937	16 7 4	do.	237	801
Thorner	2461	1113	1274	363	4.755	23 12 4	do.	336	1177
Thorp Arch	1529	428	441	95	23.356	41 18 11	do.	92	431
Tockwith (inc. Cowthorpe)	3188	496	532	176	8.791	19 3 6	do.	142	435
Walton	1590	192	190	55	14.005	57 14 2	do.	54	186
Weeton	1373	617	707	224	7.093	20 5 5	do.	222	689
Wetherby (inc. Micklethwaite and part Linton	2460	2305	3956	940	6.368	101 8 7	do.	938	3952
Wighill	2247	180	186	53	6.650	5 3 6	do.	55	179
Wilstrop	1080	49	55	13	2.563	10 10	do.	1+	4
Wothersome	772	40	30	14	4.500	10 8	do.	1	3
	64424	16317	19470	5756	34656	542 3 2		5407	18149
					75.249				4769
									15299

† Scheme in course of preparation or awaiting approval.

* Scheme approved by Ministry of Health.

** Scheme under construction.

I. GENERAL

a. Statistics of District

See foregoing table.

b. Legislation

New legislation during the year has been as follows:—

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947

Appointed day, 1st July, 1948. Regulations made under this Act are numerous and include:

Statutory Instrument	Regulation
-------------------------	------------

1948

- | | |
|------|--|
| 711 | (Making of Applications). |
| 902 | (Claims for Depreciation of Land Values). |
| 954 | (Use Classes). |
| 955 | (Use Classes, Third Schedule). |
| 958 | (General Development). |
| 1126 | (Ribbon Development). |
| 1188 | (Development Charge Exemptions). |
| 1189 | (Development Charge). |
| 1213 | (Registration of Orders and Lists of Buildings). |
| 1236 | (Transfer of Property and Officers). |
| 1283 | (Local Land Charges). |
| 1309 | (Industrial Buildings). |
| 1348 | (Stopping Up of Highways). |
| 1380 | (General Regulations). |
| 1436 | (Tree Preservation Orders). |
| 1437 | (Minerals Direction No. 1). |
| 1461 | (Local Authorities' Land—Exceptions to Sec. 82). |
| 1520 | (Ribbon Development). |
| 1521 | (Minerals). |
| 1582 | (Extinguishment, etc., of Easements). |
| 1613 | (Control of Advertisements). |
| 1766 | (Building Preservation). |
| 1767 | (Development Plans). |
| 2302 | (Development by Local Planning Authorities). |

Other Regulations affecting the Department, made during the year, are as follows:—

- Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948.
- Bisulphide of Carbon (Conveyance) Regulations, 1948.
- Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Amendment Regulations, 1948.
- Milk (Special Designations) Amendment Regulations, 1948.
- Knackers Yard Order, 1948.
- Transfer of Functions (Food and Drugs) Order, 1948.
- Public Health (Imported Food) Amendment Regulations, 1948.
- Building Byelaws (Extension) Order, 1948.

In addition, a Special Order was made under the Water Act, 1945, transferring to Leeds Corporation from your Council the rights of water supply for a small part of the parish of North Rigton, adjoining the Weeton parish boundary.

II. ORGANISATION AND STAFF

a. Clerical and Technical Staff

The names and qualifications of the staff will be found at the commencement of the report.

The following changes and developments have taken place during the year:—

- i. **Clerk of Works (Civil Engineering).** Mr. L. Whitaker terminated his appointment on the 12th August, 1948, to take up an appointment with the Ministry of Works. Two temporary Clerks of Works were appointed for a very short period, and on the 14th December, 1948, Mr. F. Clarkson, of Crossgates, was appointed and commenced duty. Mr. Clarkson was formerly in the service of Leeds Corporation.
- ii. **Assistant Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.** Mr. P. Telford, who was previously a Junior Assistant in the Department, during the year completed his training under the Government Post War Training Scheme for Ex-Servicemen, and passed the qualifying examination as a Sanitary Inspector. Mr. Telford returned to duty in October, and in view of the heavy incidence of work and the need for the early completion of the Rural Housing Survey, your Council appointed Mr. Telford, as from the 28th October, 1948, as Assistant Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for the specific purpose of completing the Rural Housing Survey.

Work in collaboration with the Consultant Engineer on various sewerage and water schemes, and with the Consultant Architects on new housing works, has been considerable and shows no sign of diminishing, whilst the routine work of the department as a whole is extremely heavy, as is indicated as follows:—

Reports to Council and Committees ...	40
Special Reports to Council	3
Attendance at Meetings	191
Official Returns	62
Postal Packets Dispatched	6612
Outgoing Telephone Calls	1253
Statutory Notices Issued	87
Informal Notices Issued	863
Legal Proceedings Taken	2
Government Public Inquiries	2

b. Manual Workers

One additional workman has been appointed and five workmen have been appointed to replace four who have terminated their employment and one man who was dismissed. Twenty-seven workmen are now employed by the Council.

During the year, decisions of the Joint Industrial Council have resulted in:—

- (a) From the 1st October, the workmen have operated a forty-four hour week, and there has been a demand from the workmen for working this in a five day week.
- (b) A wage increase of 6/- per week from the 1st July.

The demands of the workmen regarding a five day week were being considered by your Council at the year end.

I am glad to report that the incidence of sickness amongst the men has been generally small.

I am also pleased to report that the relationships between the workmen and my staff and the Council are excellent and labour troubles are practically non-existent. I have to thank the Council, on behalf of the workmen, for the generous way in which the Council have considered the welfare of their employees.

A scheme for the establishment of a central garage, stores and depot was in active preparation at the end of the year, and will ensure more efficient control of your Council's employees.

III. TOWN PLANNING AND BUILDING BYELAWS

a. Legislation

The Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, came into operation on the 1st July, 1948, and from that date all previous town planning legislation was revoked, the County Council becoming the local planning authority. The County Council, however, decided to operate the new Town and Country Planning Act on the basis of maximum delegation consistent with adequate control of planning, and accordingly a Delegation Agreement was entered into between the County Council and the Rural District Council with the approval of the Minister of Town and Country Planning, as follows:—

- 1. The County Council delegates to the Rural District Council the functions of the County Council in relation to:—
 - (a) Applications and consents for planning permission, except applications relating to the working of minerals.
 - (b) The determining of applications under Section 17 of the Act, whereby a developer can require a decision as to whether planning permission is required in any particular case.

- (c) The keeping of the planning register under Section 14 of the Act.
 - (d) The exercise in concurrence with the County Council of powers of enforcement relating to planning control, contained in Sections 23, 24 and 75 of the Act.
 - (e) The exercise in concurrence with the County Council of the powers contained in Section 33 of the Act, requiring the proper maintenance of gardens, vacant sites or other open or waste land.
 - (f) The exercise of powers contained in Section 28 of the Act relating to tree preservation orders, subject in each case to the prior consent of the County Council.
 - (g) The conduct of the hearing of appeals against any planning decision subject to the consent of the County Council.
2. The conditions subject to which the Council shall exercise the above named functions are briefly:—
- (a) The Council are required to submit all applications for planning permission to the Area Planning Officer and he shall in turn supply the Council with technical advice, in writing, thereon before the Council proceed to consider the application.
 - (b) At each meeting when planning applications are under consideration the County Planning Officer shall have the right to attend.
 - (c) In the event of the Council being unable to accept the technical advice of the County Planning Officer and his staff, they shall not make a final decision in the matter but shall return the same to the County Council for determination, and in referring the same shall make such written representation as they may consider desirable. Not more than two representatives may attend the meeting of the County References Sub-Committee in order to put forward the views of the Council.
 - (d) All decisions on planning applications shall be recorded in the register and a copy of the decision shall be sent to the County Planning Officer.
 - (e) Where the Council propose to exercise their powers of enforcement they shall keep the County Council fully informed in writing of action proposed to be taken and taken by them and similarly the County Council shall inform the Rural District Council of any action which is taken by the County Council.

A modification of the Scheme of Delegation was issued on the 20th December, 1948, in regard to applications for planning permission in respect of certain forms of development which would not raise planning considerations having a bearing on the County Development Plan. In future the decision on these

applications will rest with the Rural District Council. The types of development to which the relaxation of delegation conditions apply are:—

- (a) Garages where no new vehicular access is involved.
- (b) Sheds and small buildings of non-permanent construction and of less than 200ft. super or 15ft. to the ridge and not within the curtilage of a dwelling house.
- (c) Minor additions to houses, e.g., porches, conservatories, bay windows.
- (d) Additions to industrial undertaking, not being extensions of actual working space.
- (e) Advertisements, whether or not in a special area, except advertisements of other than a local character.

b. Harrogate and District Regional Planning Committee

The Harrogate and District Regional Planning Committee held its last Meeting in June, 1948, and the members of the Committee and officials concerned were entertained to luncheon by the Mayor and Corporation of Harrogate.

Very considerable regret was expressed at the ending of associations which had been beneficial to all the constituent authorities, and tribute was paid to the extremely high standard achieved by the Regional Planning Committee in its work.

c. Development Control

Since the 'appointed day' your district has been included for Town Planning purposes within the West Riding County Council Planning Area No. 2, which area comprises the Municipal Boroughs of Harrogate, Pudsey and Ripon, the Urban Districts of Aireborough, Horsforth, Ilkley, Knaresborough and Otley and the Rural Districts of Nidderdale, Ripon, Pateley Bridge, Tadcaster, Wetherby and Wharfedale.

The Area Planning Officer is the former Planning Officer to the Regional Planning Committee, Mr. J. W. Clarke, A.M.T.P.I., and the cordial relationships which previously existed will continue.

The year has been one of re-adjustment and the setting up of administrative machinery to deal with the new planning powers.

The keeping of registers and the very considerable detailed work involved in dealing with planning permissions has made a considerable increase of work for my department and this work could not have been carried out without additional staff had it not been for the fact that the appointed day coincided with a decision of the Government to lift the free building limit, and so considerably reduce the volume of work under building licensing. I have to strongly emphasise that the relief so afforded has been

more than offset by the increase in planning control.

A very important part of the Statutory Planning Register is the keeping of an index in the form of a map on which planning applications must be indicated, and in connection with this it is very important that during the ensuing year a complete set of ordnance sheets should be brought up to date and on these sheets should be recorded all applications for development and the development as carried out. This will inevitably involve a considerable amount of draughtsmanship and I have to indicate that the equipment for dealing with the increasing amount of work in this direction is inadequate.

It is also necessary for town planning permissions to be obtained for all Council development, such applications being determined directly by the County Council.

I append tables giving details of interim development applications up to the 1st July and development applications received since the 1st July:—

Development Applications

	Applications received Up to 1st July, 1948		Applications received After 1st July, 1948	
	Construction	Change of use of land and buildings	Construction	Change of use of land and buildings
Brought forward from 1947 ...	14	4		
Received during 1948 ...	101	24	94	21
	<hr/> 115	<hr/> 28	<hr/> 94	<hr/> 21
Approval ...	62	21	46	15
Conditional Approval ...	26	5	20	5
Approval subject to later submission of details ...	7	0	1	0
Temporary Buildings ...	13	1	20	0
Application Postponed ...	0	0	0	0
„ Referred Back ...	3	0	0	0
„ Refused ...	4	1	3	0
„ Outstanding ...	0	0	2	0
„ Withdrawn ...	0	0	2	1
	<hr/> 115	<hr/> 28	<hr/> 94	<hr/> 21

Summary

Construction ...	209
Change of Use ...	49
	<hr/> 258

For the information of the Committee, I append a table outlining the procedure necessary to obtain permission to develop:—

APPLICATIONS FOR PERMISSION TO DEVELOP

List of Possible Permits Required

Development may involve obtaining all, or a combination of, the following permissions, viz:—

1. Planning permission.
2. A Board of Trade certificate in respect of certain industrial development.
3. A determination of the appropriate development charge by the Central Land Board and a certificate that the charge has been paid or that none is payable.
4. Public Health Act and Building Byelaws permissions.
5. A building licence under Defence Regulations 56A.
6. Consent under Defence Regulations 68CA where business use is to be made of residential buildings occupied as such at any time since December 31st, 1938.

Elimination

Considering first the necessity or otherwise for obtaining a planning permission the following questions should be asked:—

1. Do the proposals constitute development within the meaning of s.12 of the Act, as further explained in the interpretation section (s.119)?
2. If there is a doubt and a definite ruling is desired application for determination should be made to the Council under s.17.
3. If the answer to question 1. appears to be in the affirmative, can any assistance be derived from the Use Classes Order. This is a simple procedure which does not involve the submission of plans, etc., but a bare statement, in broad outline of the proposals on which a ruling is sought. If the planning authority decided that development would be involved, an application for permission must be made.
4. If it still appears that development will be entailed within the above mentioned interpretation can the requisite planning permission be obtained under and by virtue of the General Development Order, 1948, whereby certain development is "permitted" without formal consent by the Council?
5. If the Development Order appears to cover the point and permission is "deemed" to have been granted thereunder, the question should be asked "has the Minister (or the local planning authority with his consent) made a 'direction' (Article 4) negating any such 'deemed' consent, either directed to development in any particular area or to any particular development?"
6. Can any use be made of any permission already granted

under pre-Act planning control? This will normally only happen where such permission was granted subsequent to July 21st, 1943 (s.77). Check should also be made that permission was also given under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935, where necessary. If this is not done, the interim permission is valueless.

7. Where the development in question has already taken place or the "Use" had already commenced before the appointed day, i.e., July 1st, 1948, it may still be necessary to ask the question as to whether such development or use contravened previous planning control and, if so, whether application ought now to be made under s.18 or under the Building Restrictions (Wartime Contraventions) Act of 1946, to regularise the position.
8. Likewise, where limited or conditional consent was given whether by the former planning authorities or under the Act of 1947, it may be advisable to consider whether or not application should now be made for renewal, extension or variation of any conditions imposed, to avoid the risk of service of enforcement proceedings.

If it is clear that "development permission" is required within the meaning of s.12 it will immediately become necessary to consider further whether a development charge is payable under Part VII of the Act. It does not follow that because development permission is required a charge is always payable; nor does it invariably happen that a charge is only payable when a development permission is obtained under this Act; permissions granted under the old planning control, but not acted on, may attract a charge, so also may deemed permissions under the Development Order. In general, however, a "Development Charge" is essentially a valuation of planning permission, and this in turn demands great care in the wording of such permissions.

Method of Applying for Planning Permission

Having once determined that an express development permission is required under the Act it will be necessary to submit an application for the consideration of the planning authority. The Minister has now made the Making of Application Regulations (SI 1948, No. 711) which prescribe the methods of applying for planning permission and the determination of the development charge. Separate applications must be made in respect of these two permits using separate forms, issued by the local planning authority and by the Central Land Board respectively, both of which may be obtained from the local planning authority or from the council with whom the application is to be lodged.

Separate application is also necessary for Byelaw approval and building licences.

There has been only one appeal to the Minister of Town and

Country Planning against a decision of the Council, as follows:—

Appeal of A. Bergan against the refusal of the Council to permit the erection of a shop for the sale of vegetables at Wike Ridge in the parish of Harewood.

Appeal dismissed.

d. Building Byelaws

Independant consideration of plans for compliance with the Building Byelaws continues, and the following table gives details of the same:—

Plans Submitted Under Building Byelaws	
Received 1948	238
Brought forward from 1947 ...	31
	<hr/>
	269
Plans approved	223
Plans conditionally approved ...	44
Plans refused	0
Plans withdrawn	2
	<hr/>
	269

During the year the Minister of Health issued an Order extending the operation of your Building Byelaws until the 31st December, 1949, and it is therefore anticipated that during the ensuing year reconsideration of your Building Byelaws will become necessary.

The work of building inspection has been very heavy and shows an increase on the previous year. 1,241 inspections having been made (apart from the inspection of Council houses in course of erection) and in this connection it has been necessary to employ the Clerk of Works to relieve other members of the staff.

IV. HOUSING

a. Housing Progress

The housing situation in the district, although far from satisfactory is, I am happy to say, beginning to show improvement, due to the appearance of new houses.

The new houses have provided considerable satisfaction to those who are fortunate enough to occupy them, and afford some hope for those who are still patiently awaiting their turn for accommodation.

In this connection it is interesting to note that notwithstanding the restrictions enforced on private enterprise development, a very considerable addition to the housing accommodation of the district has been achieved by the conversion of large houses into two or more flats and by the conversion of outbuildings, etc., into dwelling houses. This, together with the numerous applications for building licences to erect new houses, indicates the pent-up demand from persons who are anxious to make their own contribution to solving the housing problem and by their own

initiative attempt to satisfy their personal needs, and it is regrettable that greater freedom cannot be given to private individuals to build their own houses at no cost to the ratepayer or to the exchequer. The policy of the government is of course that the greater number of houses shall be provided for letting, and as the erection of houses for letting is not attractive to the private developer, the majority of the houses must therefore be built by local authorities. This may be necessary in the industrial areas, but the circumstances which operate in your district demand a more flexible control, and representations have been made to the Ministry of Health on a number of occasions for an additional allocation of licences for houses by reason of the following factors:—

1. That this district is one which normally attracts residential development by persons who can afford to erect houses of individual design, and that the one in four ratio of licences for private development operates most unfairly compared with circumstances which may apply in industrial and urban areas.
2. The greatest number of applications for building licences are from persons at present resident or having their business in adjoining urban centres and who are anxious to 'escape' for residential purposes to the country.
3. The Council, in fairness to their own ratepayers have had to adopt a fairly rigid policy of restricting the licences which are available to persons at present resident in their district or having business connections therewith.
4. The Housing Bill which it is expected will be placed on the Statute Book during the ensuing year, acknowledges the need for provision of houses for persons other than those previously termed "working classes." It seems anomalous that this Bill will enable private houses to be built for letting by local authorities to those persons who are well able to erect houses of individual design at their own cost.

The following tables give details of:—

Table I. Housing progress at 31st December, 1948.

Table II. Analytical Statement of Houses under Erection at 31st December, 1948.

Table III. Housing Progress Compared with other Authorities.

Table IV. Detailed Housing Progress since the end of the War.

In considering these tables, and in particular Table II (Houses under Erection at 31st December, 1948) it should be borne in mind that the Council have the following houses allocated as part of the 1948 housing programme and these are not yet under contract:—

North Rigton	4
Weardley	2
Wetherby	10 (Kirk Deighton allocation)
Wike	2

TABLE I
HOUSE CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1948

	COMPLETED				UNDER CONSTRUCTION				TENDER OR LICENCE (not yet started)				TOTAL
	Private		Council		Private		Council		Private		Council		
	Trad.	Convers.	Trad.	Airey	Trad.	Convers.	Airey	Trad.	Convers.	Airey	Trad.	Convers.	
Angram	—	—	—	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	6
Bardsey	4	1	—	—	—	—	12	8	—	—	—	5	20
Bilton	3	—	2	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	3	12
Boston Spa	2	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	57
Bramham	—	1	—	—	16	2	20	4	—	—	—	4	30
Clifford	2	—	6	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	8	2	13
Collingham	6	—	6	6	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	9	16
Deighton North	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Harewood	—	1	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
Hutton Wandesley	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	6	—
Kirkby Overblow	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
East Keswick	—	2	2	6	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	4	14
Kearby	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Kirk Deighton	1	—	—	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	6
Long Marston	—	—	—	2	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	16
North Rigton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ribston Little	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sicklinghall	—	1	—	—	—	2	12	—	—	—	—	3	12
Spofforth	—	1	6	8	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	8	16
Scarcroft	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	1	4
Thornor	—	2	—	4	—	4	14	4	—	—	—	6	22
Thorp Arch	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Tockwith	2†	—	8††	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	4	14
Walton	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Weeton	—	—	—	6	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	16
Wetherby	3	18**	10	—	—	2	26	24	—	—	6	26	66
Wighill	—	2	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	6
Wothersome	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
	25	31	46	54	16	21	172	40	1	12	6	97	383
	56				40		249		19			480	
							37§*						

** Includes conversion of 15 huts to married quarters (R.N.) § Conversion of mansion to flats. † War damaged house.
 * Conversion of Service huts to temporary bungalows. †† Includes two Swedish timber houses.

TABLE II
ANALYTICAL STATEMENT OF HOUSES UNDER
ERECTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1948

PARISH	Contract not Started	Started	D.P.C. Level	Eaves Level	Roofed	Plastered	Total
Traditional							
Bardsey	—	—	—	—	6	2	8
Bramham	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
Thorner	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Wetherby	6	4	6	2	10	2	30
	6	4	10	2	20	4	46
Aireys							
Angram	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Bardsey	—	—	—	—	12	—	12
Bilton	—	—	—	—	5	5	10
Bramham	—	10	—	2	8	—	20
Cowthorpe	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
Clifford	8	—	—	—	—	2	10
Collingham	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
East Keswick	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Kirkby Overblow	—	—	—	—	5	5	10
Little Ribston	—	—	—	—	8	—	8
Long Marston	—	—	—	—	10	4	14
North Deighton	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
Scarcroft	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Sicklinghall	—	—	—	—	6	6	12
Spofforth	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Thorner	—	—	—	—	8	6	14
Wighill	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Walton	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Wetherby	—	—	20	—	6	—	26
Wothersome	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Weeton	—	—	—	—	—	10	10
	12	10	20	4	90	48	184
Conversions							
Boston Spa					Completed		37

TABLE III
HOUSING PROGRESS COMPARED WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES
(Extracted from Ministry of Health Housing Report 31/12/49)

Position of Wetherby R.D.C.

	Houses on tender	Numerical Comparison Houses under construction	Houses completed	Houses on tender	Comparison per 1,000 population Houses under construction	Houses completed
in relation to 49 Rural Districts in Yorkshire	4th	3rd	9th	5th	4th	11th
in relation to 21 Rural Districts in West Riding	4th	3rd	5th	4th	3rd	7th

**Progress Abstract—
Council Houses**

	Population	On Tender	Average number of houses per 1,000 persons Under Construction	Completed
49 Rural Districts in Yorkshire	655,000	13.0	4.4	6.9
21 Rural Districts in West Riding	405,000	12.2	4.55	6.15
Wetherby Rural District	19,000	20.4	10.41	9.05

Private Houses on Licence

	Numerically	Relative position of Wetherby R.D.C. Per thousand population	Average number of licences issued by each Rural District
All 49 Rural Districts in Yorkshire	6th	2.8	10
All 21 Rural Districts in West Riding	10th	3.05	21

TABLE IV

DETAILED HOUSING PROGRESS SINCE END OF WAR

Completed since the end of the War

Private:	New houses—Traditional	...	...	...	...	56	
	New houses—Prefabricated	...	...	...	...	2	
	Conversions	...	...	...	...	59	
						—	117
Council:	New houses—Traditional	...	...	...	...	104	
	New houses—Prefabricated	...	...	...	...	54	
	Conversions	...	...	...	...	23	
						—	181
	Total	...	...	...	...		298
	Demolished or Closed	...	...	...	...		23
	Net Balance	...	...	...	...		275

In hand at Year End

Private—All types	...	...	...	...	...	41	
Council—All types	...	...	...	...	...	267	
						—	308

Since V.J. Day, a new house has been provided for each 19.4 houses existing at that date, or allowing for demolition, one in 21 houses.

b. Acquisition and Preparation of Sites

Again considerable work has been incurred in connection with the acquisition and preparation of sites.

At Wighill, the Minister of Health agreed to the Council's application for compulsory purchase of a housing site and houses are now being constructed on this site. After some delay agreement has been reached in respect of a site at Linton.

Discussions with the Consultant Architects and the Area Planning Officer relative to layouts and provision of services has necessitated a considerable volume of work and involved 399 visits, surveys and inspections.

There are a number of villages where sites are still required in order to meet immediate and future needs. These villages are:—

Harewood, Kirk Deighton, Spofforth, Thorp Arch and Weeton.

It is hoped that this matter will receive attention early in 1949.

c. Finance

The cost of construction remains unchanged and there is no evidence at the moment of any decline in the high cost of building. A careful estimate of financial commitments of the Council at the 31st March, 1949, is as follows:—

1923-1939 Programme	£	£
682 houses (including land, roads, etc.)		352,558
Post War Programme		
388 houses	504,900	
Hallfield House —conversion to six flats ...	5,400	
Chestnut Grove, Boston Spa—		
Conversion to 37 bungalows	13,077	
Conversion to 15 flats	7,516	
Police House, Tockwith		
Purchase and estimated cost of recon- ditioning	1,000	
	<hr/>	531,893
Land and Services:—		
Sites already purchased	28,283	
Sites in process of purchase	2,300	
Road and sewer tenders accepted	48,735	
Road and sewer estimate of proposed works	11,500	
Fencing of sites	1,500	
Provision of electricity	3,000	
Planting	3,000	
Legal Expenses, Loan Charges, Architect and Quantity Surveyor's Fees	11,765	
	<hr/>	110,083
		<hr/>
		£994,534
		<hr/>

d. Council Houses

The Council now own 866 houses, 6 permanent flats, 3 temporary flats, 16 temporary bungalows and 4 miscellaneous dwellings, making a total of 895 occupied houses. The Council have continued to give priority in the letting of houses to agricultural workers, but this policy is a very difficult one to operate in view of the urgent need for housing non-agricultural families. The financial statement for housing for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1949, is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Outstanding loans	769,759	5	6
Re-payment 1948/49 principal	6,134	18	5
Re-payment 1948/49 interest	18,606	9	11
Rents received 1948/49	32,318	5	8

Your Council, towards the end of the year, gave serious consideration to the question of repair and maintenance of houses and were concerned regarding the progressive increase of expenditure in this connection. The following table gives details of the Housing Revenue Account for the last eight years:—

	Income £	Expenditure £	Surplus C/F. £
Year to 31st March, 1942 ...	2,872	1,875	8,805
" " " " 1943 ...	2,972	1,829	9,948
" " " " 1944 ...	3,058	1,548	11,458
" " " " 1945 ...	3,777	2,424	12,811
" " " " 1946 ...	3,729	3,878	12,662
" " " " 1947 ...	3,905	5,264	11,303
" " " " 1948 ...	4,224	7,662	7,865
" " " " 1949 ...	9,886	5,313	12,388

I estimate that in addition to the normal annual repairs, the cost of outstanding accumulated work which must be carried out within the next few years will approach £10,000. In order to enable the Housing Revenue Account to meet this expenditure your Council have decided to increase the annual contribution to this Account from £5 per house to £10 per house and by so doing it is hoped that the outstanding accumulated repairs can be dealt with in the ensuing four years.

A careful examination of the older Council houses has been commenced, and from the results received it is hoped that the Council will approve a comprehensive policy in respect of arrears of housing repairs.

e. Building Licensing

The routine work of the department was considerably interrupted by the carrying out of duties of licensing work, until without prior warning, the free limit for building work was raised in July from £10 to £100; thereafter the volume of licence applications was considerably reduced.

Although the small repair items no longer require licence, the applications which have in the past (and at the present time) called for detailed investigation, are those involving expenditure of some magnitude, and although the actual number of licence applications has been considerably reduced, a considerable amount of work is still necessary in investigating the need for licences for reconditioning, comprehensive repair, etc. Although few refusals of these licences are made by your appropriate Committee, it should be understood that each licence application has been vetted before presentation to the Committee, and in numerous cases a scaling down of the original licence application has been achieved.

The following table gives details of licences issued:—

Building Licences Issued

Month	Number of Licences								Monthly Total £
January	66	...	...	...	5,698
February	67	...	...	...	1,352
March	83	...	...	...	10,796
April	90	...	...	...	7,491
May	93	...	...	...	6,001
June	59	...	...	...	6,352
*July	11	...	...	...	4,023
August	3	...	...	...	1,870
September	14	...	...	...	10,384
October	9	...	...	...	3,665
November	5	...	...	...	4,412
December	6	...	...	...	2,460
					506				£64,504

*Free limit raised

f. Rural Housing Survey

The Rural Housing Survey has been continued and again until the end of the year, not with the progress which I desire. At the end of October, however, your Council appointed an Additional Inspector for the purpose of completing the Survey and since that date progress has been accelerated. The present position of the Survey is as follows:—

Total number of houses in District	...	...	...	5,591
Estimated houses included in Survey	...	...	...	4,600
Houses inspected to date	...	...	...	3,251
Analysis of houses inspected to date				
Special types	...	...	...	136
Satisfactory	...	...	...	789
Minor defects	...	...	...	986
Require reconditioning	...	...	...	952
Unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	388
				<hr/> 3,251

g. Existing Houses

The abatement of unsatisfactory conditions due to housing defects has made little headway during the year, beyond dealing with those urgent matters of abatement of nuisance. In many of the worst cases the only remedy under present legislation is

the demolition of the structure concerned as it would not be reasonable for the Council to ask for any extensive reconditioning at the present time. It is obvious that your Council will have to consider the making of Demolition Orders in the near future in order to re-house families living in very unsatisfactory conditions and/or to ensure that where the Council re-house such families the unfit houses are not re-let.

The problems which confront your officers in connection with this matter are:—

- (a) in view of the considerable housing shortage, only in the most extreme cases is it prudent to require demolition, and
- (b) that the re-occupation of unfit houses after the previous tenant has been re-housed in a Council house, does nothing to solve the overall unsatisfactory position of housing, although it may have an influence on the degree of moral overcrowding which exists in the District.

With this in mind, very careful consideration has been given to the matter, by the Medical Officer of Health and myself, and it has been agreed that from time to time, where re-housing is to take place, and in appropriate cases, official representations will be made to your Council, regarding the condition of houses, and your Council will then have the responsibility of deciding the action to be taken. In this connection, I have to strongly recommend that the onus be placed on the owner, namely of requiring him to appear before the Council and show cause why the house should not be demolished, and it is hoped by this means, and by previous discussion with the owner, that schemes of reconditioning will be submitted to the Council. It is suggested that where such schemes are submitted, the Council should sympathetically consider granting the appropriate building licence.

This problem is intimately linked with the amenities and planning of the district and, not ignoring the public health aspect, I would strongly deprecate the wholesale demolition of many of the unfit houses in our villages, as by so doing the essential character of the English countryside would be lost. I advocate the proper and thorough reconditioning of these old cottages to make them into satisfactory dwellings, to give them another period of usefulness, and to retain the traditional character of our villages.

The new Housing Bill to which I have previously referred proposes to assist financially the reconditioning of dwellings, and it is expected that the Council will administer these powers (instead of the County Council as formerly). This is all to the good, and I sincerely hope that your Council will take the fullest advantage of these powers.

Referring to the question of repairs to individual houses, the rent income of these houses remains at its pre-war level, although the cost of maintenance of property has been considerably increased. The existence of the gap between cost of repairs and rents received demands very careful consideration prior to the issue of notices requiring works of repair and reconditioning, and in every case before notices are served, careful enquiry is made to ensure that the works are essential. The good standard of new houses being erected in the District is raising the general standard of housing, and this will directly necessitate a higher standard of reconditioning than has operated formerly. The Council should be aware that in considering reconditioning generally, under the terms of the Housing Acts, due regard must be given to the general standard of housing in the district.

During the year I was invited by the Minister of Health to become a member of the working party dealing with the inspection and recording of inspections of new houses, but owing to the very considerable pressure of work, it was, with regret, that your Committee decided that I could not be spared to sit on this Committee.

During the year, it has been possible to secure the reconditioning of thirty houses which has resulted in the up-grading of seven houses from the demolition class to the satisfactory class. In addition to this four hundred and eighty-five houses had repairs carried out under the provisions of the Public Health Act.

One demolition order has been issued and five houses the subject of demolition orders have been demolished.

In addition, another house has been demolished voluntarily and four houses converted to non-residential use.

h. Overcrowding

Although numerous inspections have been made of alleged overcrowding, only three cases of statutory overcrowding have been discovered, and these, together with three cases outstanding from 1947 have been abated.

Although the register was clear at the end of the year it is very probable that cases exist of which we have no details and notwithstanding this, I am not complacent regarding this question, as although statutory cases of overcrowding are few in number, the legal standard takes into account the use of living rooms as bedrooms, therefore when overcrowding is considered on a commonsense basis, by means of bedroom standards, it is known that there is an appreciable degree of overcrowding in the district.

V. DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

a. House Drainage and Earth Closet Conversion

A considerable volume of work has again been carried out in connection with the drainage of new houses, earth closet conversions, and in connection with the new sewerage schemes.

Details of the work are as follows:—

Sewer connections—new houses	...	...	...	...	...	165
Sewer connections—existing houses	...	...	...	...	...	7
Houses with blocked drains	...	...	...	...	...	54
Existing houses completely re-drained	...	...	...	...	...	43
Houses with defective drains—replacement drains and drainage to earth closet conversions	...	...	...	...	...	127
Defective septic tanks and cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	12
New septic tanks	...	...	...	...	...	33
Drainage removed from streams	...	...	...	...	...	4
						<hr/> 445
Earth closets converted to water closets	...	...	...	...	...	83
Additional water closets	...	...	...	...	...	14
						<hr/> 97

Fifty-five of the foregoing conversions have been as a result of statutory notices, at a cost to the Council of £677 14s. 8d. or an average of £12 6s. 6d. per convenience.

Outstanding statutory notices provide for the conversion of sixteen earth closets and for the provision of five additional closets and in connection with these notices, contributions will, in due course, be made. At the year end the Council was carrying out work on behalf of owners in eight cases, at a total cost to the Council of £107 2s. 10d. In my later remarks regarding contracts will be found details of the contracts by the Council on behalf of owners.

This work ensures the rapid and comprehensive conversion of earth closets and your Council have decided that in connection with the new sewerage schemes, comprehensive schemes of earth closet conversion shall be prepared and work carried out without delay, on completion of the sewerage scheme. In this connection instructions have now been given for me to prepare a scheme for Long Marston and Hutton Wandesley to be followed at a later stage with schemes for Sicklinghall, Spofforth, Little Ribston and North Deighton.

Forty-two defective sanitary conveniences have been repaired and three factories and two shops have had conveniences provided in accordance with the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Shops Act, 1934.

b. Drainage and Sewage Disposal—Existing

i. Sewers

The additional supervision of sewers, which has now become possible with the comprehensive rodent treatment of sewers and by the reversion to the pre-war practice of periodical inspection, has enabled the number of blockages and consequent nuisance to be reduced to a minimum. During the year, eight blocked sewers have been dealt with and seven defective sections have been repaired.

Large extensions of sewers have again been made in connection with the new housing estates and each year the length of sewers is increasing. In general, however, the condition of sewers throughout the district is exceedingly good and the sewers are in general adequate to deal with the flow of sewage and in no case have I any evidence of surcharge of sewers taking place. At Bramham, however, a section of sewer is admitting a large quantity of infiltration water from the soil. All sewer overflows are subject to regular inspection and during the ensuing year sewer gaugings are to take place in order to guard against discharge of sewage direct to water courses.

During the year the Council adopted as a public sewer the private sewer constructed at Scarcroft to serve Scarcroft Golf Club.

ii. Sewage Disposal

4,619 houses are now connected to your public sewers representing eighty per cent of the total houses in your district. In addition there are 150 houses with private sewerage schemes and these, together with houses connected to public schemes give a total of eighty-three per cent of the total houses in the district.

I have again to report that the older works, and in particular the Wetherby Joint Sewage Outfall Works are being operated well over capacity, and satisfactory effluents are only being produced by constant supervision and careful attention. In order to assist in positive control of effluents the Council have provided a Water Pollution Research Department's Field Testing Outfit for sewage effluents and the results given by this testing kit have been extremely useful. The site test results compare very closely with actual laboratory examination.

Sludge disposal is still a very acute problem and in view of the reluctance of farmers to remove this material, I have to advise the Council that it will be necessary at an early date to provide transport for this service.

At the moment we are using the stand-by refuse vehicle but this vehicle is not entirely suitable for the work and can only carry a very small quantity of sludge at any one time.

250 inspections of sewage disposal works have been made during the year, in addition to constant supervision by the general foreman.

iii. Financial Statement

Expenditure	£	s.	d.	Income	£	s.	d.
Wages	2,130	2	9	Unemploym't Grants			
Loan Charges				Committee Grant			
Principal	2,923	12	3	for year	1,141	14	4
Interest	2,333	6	5	Sundry income ...	171	11	0
Repairs, mainten-				General Rate Fund			
ance and opera-				Contribution ...	7,298	19	5
tional expenses	1,318	3	4				
	£8,885	4	9		£8,885	4	9

c. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal—Proposed

The Council have made considerable progress in the provision of satisfactory sewerage for your district and the ultimate plan is now becoming clear.

Briefly, on completion of the present proposals the whole of the Wetherby Rural District which can reasonably be served with sewers, will have a sewerage scheme and the sewage will be treated at five sewage disposal works and the length of sewers will total 105 miles.

I have given in the appended tables for purposes of record, details of the existing sewerage schemes and of the schemes under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944.

Developments during the year are as follows:—

i. Angram

Ministry of Health Inquiry held on the 14th April, 1948, for an independent village scheme. The Ministry refused to approve the scheme on considerations of cost, but subsequent representations regarding the danger of pollution of nearby supply boreholes induced the Ministry to agree to a scheme for the pumping of the sewage from the village to Long Marston Sewage Disposal Works and the engineering details were under preparation at the year end.

ii. Crimble Beck

The construction of this scheme is progressing satisfactorily and approximately seventy-five per cent of the work has been completed.

iii. Central Area Scheme

This scheme was submitted to the Ministry late in 1947 in outline, and an agreement for the lease of the Sewage Disposal Works at Thorp Arch Royal Ordnance Factory has been discussed and agreed with the Ministry of Supply during the year.

Your Council adopted the scheme on the 28th October, 1948, and this has now been submitted to the Ministry of Health and it

is expected that a public inquiry will be held in the ensuing year. Work in connection with this scheme has been extremely heavy and has involved several visits to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Supply in London to discuss the leasing of the Ordnance Factory Sewage Disposal Works, and considerable progress has been achieved.

iv. Eastern Area Scheme

This scheme, for Long Marston and Hutton Wandesley, has now been completed except for outstanding minor works.

v. Tockwith

Work on the construction of the Tockwith Scheme to serve Tockwith, Bilton and Bickerton commenced in March and approximately 50% of the work has been completed.

vi. Western Area Scheme

This scheme which was the subject of an inquiry in 1947 has been under discussion with the Ministry of Health and the West Riding County Council during the whole of 1948. The Ministry of Health stated that they were not prepared to agree to a combined scheme for these parishes (namely Kirkby Overblow, Kearby, North Rigton, Weeton and Harewood) and stated that a modification of the scheme to allow for grouping of North Rigton and Weeton into a sewage disposal works at Weeton and the remainder of the parishes into a sewage disposal works at Kearby. The saving being the elimination of a length of connecting sewer between Weeton and Kearby. Your Council's representatives in an interview at the Ministry of Health tentatively agreed to this suggestion, but in view of developments involving the use of Bridge House, Harewood, by the West Riding County Council as a residential school and the need for sewage disposal at these premises, together with the general unsuitability of the Weeton Sewage Disposal Works site, caused the Council to make further representations to the Ministry with a view to them approving the original scheme. At the year end negotiations were proceeding with however, no indication that the Ministry of Health were prepared to accede to the Council's request.

vii. Wigton

Earth closet conversions have been carried out to thirty properties connected to the new sewerage scheme which was completed in 1947.

viii. General

As will be detailed in the section dealing with privy conversions, your Council accepted my recommendations regarding the provision of a scheme for cleansing of cesspits and septic tanks and have placed an order for a mechanical cesspit emptying machine.

SEWERAGE SCHEMES—EXISTING

Name	Parishes Served	Constructed & Extended (Year)	Total		Present D.W.F. (Gallons)	Sewerage System	Sewerage Length (miles)	Sewage Disposal Method	Condition
			Capital Cost (£)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Boston Spa	Boston Spa Bramham Clifford	1894 1913 1940	16,900	126,520	Combined	10.4	Tank and Land Treatment	*Inadequate	
Harewood	Harewood (Harewood and Weardley)	—	—	10,000	Combined	3.0	None	*None	
\$† —do—	Wigton	1938 1947	4,500	10,000	Partly Separate	2.3	To sewers of Leeds Corporation		
Kirkby Overblow	Kirkby Overblow	1913	500	6,000	Combined	1.1	Tank and Ditches	*Inadequate	
\$Long Marston	Long Marston Hutton Wandesley	1949	16,000	10,000	Separate	2.8	Tanks and Filters	Excellent	
Spofforth	Spofforth	1912	4,065	16,000	Combined	2.6	Tanks and Filters	†Obsolete	
Thornor	Thornor	1904	4,300	36,450	—do—	3.9	—do— and Land	*Inadequate	
Tockwith	Tockwith	1900	1,973	10,500	—do—	1.3	Tanks and Land	†Obsolete	
Thorp Arch	Thorp Arch	1919	1,000	6,000	—do—	1.0	Tanks and Land	*Obsolete	
Weeton	Weeton (North Ripton part)	1913	4,600	21,730	—do—	3.8	Tanks and Filters	*Inadequate	
**Wetherby Joint	Bardsey Collingham East Keswick Kirk Deighton Scarcroft Wetherby	1932 1940	84,267	300,000	Partly Separate	36.3	Tanks and Filters	*Good but Inadequate	
Wighill	Wighill	1913	500	4,530	Separate	0.5	Tanks and Land	*Obsolete	
Walton	Walton	—	—	4,000	Combined stone	1.5	None	*None	
			139,205	561,730	70.5				

** Incorporates sewers constructed in 1893 and 1909 at Wetherby and East Keswick where the original sewage disposal works have been abolished.

† Original sewage disposal works abolished 1947.

* Incorporated in schemes now under construction by Ministry of Health.

† Incorporated in schemes now under construction.

\$ See also adjoining table as works constructed under Rural Sewerage and Water Act, 1944.

SEWERAGE SCHEMES UNDER RURAL WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE ACT, 1944

Name 1	Parish Served 2	Stage of Proposal 3	Proposals 4	Estimated			Sewers System 7	Length 8	Contractor 9
				Cost (£) 5	Weather Flow (galls) 6	Dry			
Angram	Angram	Approved by M. of Health	Sewerage of village and pumping sewage to Long Marston sewage disposal works	3,400	2,800		Separate	1.3	
Crimple Beck	Spofforth, Sicklinghall, North Deighton, Little Ribston	Inquiry 4/1/46. Commenced 1/12/46. Value of work done £41,000	Abolition of Spofforth sewage disposal works. Sewerage of three parishes. Provision of new sewage disposal works	38,031	60,000		Partly Separate	8.6	Kettlewell & Charnock
Central Area	Boston Spa, Bramham, Clifford, Thorp Arch, Walton, Wighill, Wetherby, Kirk Deighton, Collingham, Bardsey, Scarcroft, East Keswick	Submitted in outline to Ministry of Health Nov., 1947	Abolition of Sewage Disposal Works at Boston Spa, Thorp Arch, Thorne and Wighill, re-sewerage of Walton, connection of Thorne sewers to Wetherby Joint Scheme and diversion of surplus sewage from Wetherby sewage disposal works, and connection to and use of modern sewage disposal works at Royal Ordnance Factory Thorp Arch	49,000	220,000		Partly Separate	7.2	
Eastern Area	Long Marston, Hutton Wandesley	Completed 29/3/45. Inquiry commenced 1/6/47	Sewerage of Long Marston and Hutton Wandesley and construction of modern sewage disposal works	13,970	10,000		Separate	2.8	Yorkshire Builders Ltd.
Tockwith	Tockwith, Bilton	Inquiry 4/2/47. Commenced 22/3/48. Value of work done £7,616	Sewerage of Bilton (including Bickerton). Extensions of sewers in Tockwith. Replacement of obsolete sewage disposal works at Tockwith	15,244	22,500		Partly Separate	4.6	Harrison Freeman Ltd.
Western Area	Kirkby Overblow, Harewood, North Ripton, Weeton	Submitted to Ministry. Inquiry held 24/9/47. Negotiations actively proceeding	Re-sewerage of Kirkby Overblow. Sewerage of Kearby and North Ripton. Abolition of Weeton sewage disposal works.	59,430	60,000		Partly Separate	14.2	
Wigton	Harewood (Slaid Hill)	Completed 1947	Abolition of sewage disposal works and re-sewer to Leeds City sewers	730	2,500		Separate	0.2	A. Graham & Son Ltd.
				179,805	177,800			38.9	

VI. WATER SUPPLY

a. Private Supplies

Of twenty water samples taken for water analysis from private wells and other supplies, ten have been reported as being unsatisfactory and I regret to report that the list of unabated unsatisfactory water supplies has further increased and now stands at one hundred and fifty-four. All these, however, will be abated by the proposed water schemes now under construction.

Thirty-four houses have been supplied with satisfactory water supplies and of these sixteen have been as a result of statutory notice.

b. Public Supplies—Existing

All the public water supplies of the district are kept under constant supervision, and have necessitated one hundred and ninety-nine visits and inspections. Fifty-six water samples have been collected and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

Satisfactory	...	...	...	56
Doubtful	...	...	...	4
Unfit	...	...	...	6

Seven samples have been submitted for chemical examination and all were satisfactory.

There are now five thousand, four hundred and seven houses with satisfactory piped water supplies from public or private sources, giving a percentage of 93.9 of the houses in the district. The doubtful and unsatisfactory samples are all dealt with speedily by adjustment of chlorinators and exclusion of surface pollution.

Matters of importance affecting various schemes are:—

- I. **Wetherby R.D.C. North Rigton Council House Supply.** This scheme continues to give considerable trouble, and in addition the declining water levels are such that it is with the greatest difficulty that a supply is maintained to the houses.
- II. **Wetherby R.D.C. Eastern Area Scheme.** This scheme continues to give excellent service.
During the year your Council have acquired from Major York at a cost of £400, the water supply scheme provided for the village of Angram and have negotiated with the Ministry of Supply a new agreement for a bulk supply of water to this village.
- III. **Wetherby R.D.C. Sicklinghall, Spofforth and Kearby Supply.** The water levels in this scheme have further receded, and at the year end the scheme was operating at a working water level of only eighteen feet above the suction of the pumps.
During the year your Council ordered a new submersible pump to enable water to be lifted in adequate quantity from lower in the borehole, and delivery of this pump will be made early in 1949, after

which instructions have been given for the overhaul of No. 1 pump and desludging and repair of the borehole.

I have, however, to again indicate that the new pump and remedial works will only enable the supply to be maintained with difficulty and will not overcome what is obviously an inadequacy of general availability of water.

Increasing water consumption, coupled with a succession of years of low rainfall, have accelerated a position which appears would have arisen inevitably, as the supply from the Sicklinghall boreholes is, for geological reasons, a very restricted one, and the Council have been drawing on underground reserves of water rather than on current inflow of water. The capacity of this supply now appears to be somewhere within the region of thirty gallons per minute, which is generally inadequate to meet the present-day needs of the three parishes. Since the inception of this scheme in 1932 there has been each year a decline in the working water level, and this tends to bear out the theory I have propounded.

In August an Order under Section 16 of the Water Act, 1945, was made prohibiting the use of hose pipes for purposes of watering gardens and washing private motor cars.

- IV. Wetherby R.D.C. Financial Report.** The cost of maintenance of waterworks was £1,836 8s. 6d., the water revenue was £2,129 11s. 0d., and loan repayments were £675 10s. 9d. principal, and £568 3s. 6d. interest. The outstanding debt on your water undertakings at the 31st March, 1949, was £21,417 2s. 3d.

During the year your Council revised the scale of water charges, and this is now as follows:—

2s. 6d. in the £ on rateable value.

2s. 3d. per thousand gallons.

Minimum charge 12s. 6d. a quarter, plus meter rent.

- V. Wetherby District Water Company.** The year has brought successive small complaints relating to inadequacy of pressure and dirty water, and at the year end the Council were giving active consideration to the whole situation.

- VI. Lascelles Estate Company.** The Council's scheme for the acquisition of the water supply to the above-named Company and provision of water in bulk from Leeds Corporation has been abandoned in view of the decision of Leeds Corporation to themselves carry out this scheme (which is within their statutory area) and, as a result, the Council are being asked to guarantee, in accordance with the terms of the Water Act, 1945, the expenses of the Corporation in providing this supply. This matter was under consideration at the year end.

- VII. Leeds Corporation.** This supply has been satisfactory. An extension of area by the inclusion of Cliff Bank House Farm, North Ripton, was agreed and authorised by the Leeds (Wetherby Rural Water Supply) (No. 3) Order, 1948.

- VIII. Harrogate Corporation.**
IX. Ministry of Supply. } These supplies have been satisfactory.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

Source of Water Supply and Supplier	Parish	Houses in area of supply	Houses Supplied at 31/12/48	Estimated Popul. supplied at 31/12/48	Metered Supplies
Wetherby District Water Company. Boreholes at Bard- sey, Scarcroft and East Keswick.	Bardsey	418	410	991	
	*Boston Spa	559	536	1614	
	Bramham	316	272	916	
	Clifford	297	293	1036	
	Collingham	400	384	1070	
	Deighton North ...	26	23	106	
	*Harewood (Brandon)	12	12	36	
	Keswick East	199	186	535	
	Kirk Deighton	139	106	409	
	Ribston Little	45	20	64	
	Scarcroft	143	140	494	
	*Spofforth	1	1	4	
	Thorner	363	336	1177	
	*Thorp Arch	70	67	348	
	*Walton	53	52	180	
	*Wetherby	937	932	3934	
	Wothersome	14	—	—	
		3992	3770	12914	291
Wetherby R.D.C. Boreholes at Sick- linghall (3), Long Marston (2), North Rigton (1) †. Bulk supply from Leeds Corporation to Wike (Harewood).	Angram	16	16	66	
	Bilton	98	71	259	
	*Huton Wandesley ...	26	22	103	
	*Harewood (Wike) ...	23	25	79	
	Kearby	48	44	153	
	*Long Marston	72	62	213	
	*Rigton	103	10	35	
	Sicklinghall	67	50	178	
	*Spofforth	231	201	723	
	Tockwith	176	124	405	
	*Wighill	52	46	153	
	Wilstrop	13	—	—	
		930	671	2372	146
Leeds Corporation. Upland surface water.	*North Rigton (part)	7	6	20	
	*Harewood (Wigton and Dunkeswick)	93	77	243	
	Weeton	244	214	665	
		344	297	928	7
Lascelles Estate Company Limited. Spring supply at Hollin Hall, Stanks and North Park, Harewood,	*Harewood (Hare- wood, Dunkeswick and Weardley ...	214	179	565	1

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES—Continued

Source of Water Supply and Supplier	Parish	Houses in area of supply	Houses Supplied at 31/12/48	Estimated Popul. supplied at 31/12/48	Metered Supplies
Harrogate Corpora- tion. Upland sur- face water.	Kirkby Overblow ...	92	81	280	
	*Spofforth	15	15	53	
	*North Rigton	3	3	9	
		<hr/> 110	<hr/> 99	<hr/> 342	
Ministry of Supply (R.O.F.) Boreholes.	*Boston Spa	153	153	450	—
	*Hutton Wandesley ...	1	1	4	1
	*Thorp Arch	25	25	83	1
	*Long Marston	1	1	3	1
	*Walton	2	2	6	—
	*Wetherby	3	3	7	2
	*Wighill	1	1	4	1
		<hr/> 186	<hr/> 186	<hr/> 557	<hr/> 6
ALL UNDERTAKERS—WHOLE DISTRICT		<hr/> 5776	<hr/> 5202	<hr/> 17678	<hr/> 451
	Boston Spa	712	712	2064	
	Harewood	348	293	923	
	Hutton Wandesley ...	27	23	106	
	Thorp Arch	95	92	431	
	Spofforth	247	217	785	
	Rigton	113	19	64	
	Wighill	53	47	151	
	Long Marston	73	63	216	
	Walton	55	54	186	
	**Wetherby	940	935	3941	

** Two large Naval Establishments are supplied by the Ministry of Supply in this parish.

† One additional house and farm supplied in Nidderdale R.D.C. area.

* More than one public supply.

c. Public Supplies—Proposed

The following developments have occurred:—

North Rigton Water Scheme

After considerable pressure from the Council and the local member of Parliament, Col. L. Ropner, the Ministry of Health after considerable delay, have agreed to the carrying out of the North Rigton Scheme. Tenders were invited and subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health the tender of Mr. G. R. Saynor, of Selby, at a cost of £13,490 has been accepted.

Wilstrop Scheme

On the 14th November, work commenced on the construction of this scheme which provides for a supply to the scattered farms and cottages in the parish and to provide a link with the water scheme of Nidderdale Rural District. By the year end useful progress had been made. The contractors are James Duncan and Sons, Morley, Leeds, and the contract figure is £5,171.

Wighill Scheme

An extension of mains to serve premises in Wighill Park has also been approved. The contract is for £2,185 and construction commenced on the 14th November, 1948. The contractors being Messrs. James Duncan and Sons, Morley, Leeds.

Harewood and Dunkeswick Scheme

Early in the year, Leeds Corporation declined to proceed further with the scheme for a bulk supply in order to enable the Council to provide for the needs of this parish. Later in the year a formal application (including a deputation) to the Leeds Water Committee was made, and as a result proposals are under consideration for the carrying out of the work directly by Leeds Corporation in accordance with their Statutory Powers, subject to the Council guaranteeing their expenditure in accordance with the terms of the Water Act, 1945.

Spofforth Scheme

A branch main extension at Spofforth has been approved and will be constructed early in 1949. The contractor being Mr. G. R. Saynor, of Selby, and the contract sum £455 16s. 8d.

Wothersome

The Council have under consideration the waterless area which includes the small parish of Wothersome and adjacent properties in the parishes of Bramham, Barwick (Tadcaster R.D.C.), Bardsey and Scarcroft, and in May requested the Wetherby District Water Company to submit their terms for the supply of water to this area. These terms were submitted to the Council in November and the Council considered that the scheme of the Company was not satisfactory and their estimated costs unduly heavy. In addition the Company requested the Council to assist in the provision of capital to enable this scheme to be carried out in lieu of the usual guarantee. As a result of this the Council submitted a formal request to the Water Company to grant the Council freedom to supply this area direct.

General

Representatives of the Council met the Senior Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Health relative to the Water Survey

of Yorkshire. As a result of the introduction of this Survey the last meeting of the Working Party in respect of water supplies was held early in the year. The work of the Working Party has provided a clearer pattern of the development of the district regarding water supplies and your Council's policy is based on this, namely co-ordination of water supplies throughout the district with reduction in the number of individual supplies by interlinking of mains together with augmentation and improvement of the water supply of the district by means of bulk supplies from either Leeds or Harrogate. Your Committee have on a number of occasions sent Deputations to meet the Water Committees of Leeds and Harrogate to discuss various matters and at the year end very earnest consideration was being given by your Council to the question of the Council acquiring the Wetherby District Water Company as a first step to implementing their policy of co-ordination of supplies throughout the District.

VII. PUBLIC CLEANSING, TRANSPORT AND SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1949

a. Development of the Service

This year has been the first complete year of operation of the comprehensive scheme for the entire district by direct labour. With the exception of outlying properties and isolated farms and cottages, the whole district is now receiving a regular fortnightly service, (with the exception of four rural villages which have a monthly collection).

The scheme is operating with success, but experience has revealed certain weaknesses, upon which I have to report below:—

b. Organisation

The Council own five refuse collection vehicles, four of which are in regular service, the oldest vehicle being used as a reserve vehicle.

The district is divided into four collection areas and each collection vehicle operates with a driver and two loaders. It has been found, however, that by the steady increase in number of new houses (which is not being offset by the saving in time produced by the conversion of earth closets to water closets) it is only with the greatest difficulty that the regularity of the service can be maintained and a very great effort has to be made to make up arrears due to Bank Holidays, illness, etc. Since the service was inaugurated approximately four hundred additional houses have been completed, and the growth of houses since 1945 represents approximately one additional house for every twenty previously existing and therefore the service is being called upon

to undertake five per cent more work than for which it was designed.

In addition to this the isolated farms and cottages are demanding a service and every effort is being made to accede to the requests. Due to these factors the vehicles and men are operating up to capacity and there is no reserve time available for dealing with the many other items which demand attention.

In view of these developments and also the fact that the ratepayers, particularly in the more urbanised parishes, such as Wetherby, Boston Spa, Collingham, Bardsey, Scarcroft and Thorner, are now concerned regarding the fortnightly collection and requests are being received in an increasing number for a weekly collection, I am of opinion that the Council, at an early date, should give full consideration to the further organisation of the service with a view to:—

- (a) Providing a complete service to all isolated houses.
- (b) Making adequate provision to deal with the maintenance of the service during the holiday periods, breakdown, painting and maintenance of vehicles, winter conditions, etc.
- (c) Consider the advisability of introducing a weekly collection in at least part of the district.

c. Transport

During the year, your Council accepted my recommendations regarding cesspit cleansing and placed on order a Dennis Cesspit Emptier, which I understand will be delivered in May.

In my opinion, your Council have been very wise in deciding on the acquisition of such a vehicle, as it will fill a very serious gap which has existed for many years in the public services of your Council.

The transport used in the department is as follows:—

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------|----|------|------|--------|------------|
| 1 | 1943 | Scammell | 6 | cub. | yard | refuse | collector. |
| 1 | 1945 | " | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1 | 1946 | Dennis | 10 | " | " | " | " |
| 1 | 1947 | " | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1 | 1948 | " | " | " | " | " | " |
| 1 | 1948 | Jowett | 10 | cwt. | van. | | |
| 4 | Salvage Trailers for attachment to refuse collection vehicles. | | | | | | |
| 2 | Royal Enfield motor cycles. | | | | | | |

In addition, hired transport is employed one day per week in the collection of salvage from parish depots to the central depot.

The Scammell vehicles have proved to be most costly in maintenance and for operating conditions which apply in your district, do not appear to be a suitable type of vehicle. It has

been found that the larger capacity Dennis refuse vehicle is giving excellent service and is very adaptable and I have to recommend that in future purchases, the Council should not obtain vehicles of less power or capacity.

The ten cwt. van is being used primarily for rodent control work, but has of necessity had to be called in for collection of salvage, and in connection with waterworks and sewage disposal maintenance. In this connection there is an urgent need for an additional vehicle in order that a proper rodent control service can operate and that other services of the Council are not hampered by lack of transport.

It was hoped that the stand-by refuse collector would be available for occasional work at sewage works and for other haulage work by the Council, but the vehicle is slow and unsuitable for long journeys from point to point and for operating on rough un-made roads. In addition to exigencies of the public cleansing service are such that its use is being more and more required as a stand-by vehicle for refuse collection. I have, therefore, to point out that in respect of services other than public cleansing, in view of the development of sewerage schemes, there is a substantial case to be made out for the provision of a three ton capacity commercial tipping truck. Such a vehicle would also be of considerable advantage to the Council in eliminating entirely the use of hired haulage on salvage collection (which at the moment is costing the Council £200 per annum), and also in view of the development of housing estates and the attention which hedges, open spaces, etc., will demand, there will be a considerable increase in the haulage required. I propose to report more fully on this matter during the year to the appropriate Committee of your Council.

A very considerable development has taken place during the year in the adaptation of premises at Hallfield, Wetherby, into a central garage, stores and depot, and the erection of a new garage providing accommodation for five vehicles has released the original garage which is now being used as a salvage depot. A foreman's office has also been erected and for the first time the whole of the labour and vehicles of the Council operate from a central depot and all the various stores of the Council are kept under proper control.

d. Labour

I have previously outlined under the heading of "Staff" at the commencement of this report, developments in this respect, but I am pleased to state that there has been little difficulty during the year with regard to labour other than that caused by an inadequate labour force to meet growing demands due to holidays, sickness and new work, and I have to emphasise that

in order to give adequate attention to tips, so that these can be properly controlled, additional labour will inevitably be required. It is pleasing to report that there is an excellent team spirit amongst workmen who generally carry out their duties in an agreeable and courteous manner, and I have not received a single complaint from any ratepayer during the year relating to lack of courtesy or of inefficiency.

Voluntary absenteeism amongst workmen is for all practical purposes non-existent and I am satisfied that the Council's sickness scheme is not being abused in any way.

This pleasing report has only been achieved by the establishment of good relationships with the workmen, by the interest which has been demonstrated that the Council, as distinct from their officers, take a personal interest in the work which the men carry out and in the men themselves, and I have to pay special tribute to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Councillor L. R. Burrell, for the very considerable interest which he has shown in the welfare of your Council's manual employees.

In view of the expansion of the Council's labour force, it is hoped that during the year an informal Works Committee can be established so that representatives of the men can from time to time be met and difficulties, grievances, suggestions for improvement of services, etc., be discussed and dealt with.

e. Refuse Disposal

Refuse disposal is by controlled tipping and thirteen tips are now in use. The Clifford tip has been discontinued and a new tip opened at East Keswick in substitution for a tip in Harewood Park which has been discontinued.

I have to direct the Committee's attention to certain conditions which are arising in connection with sites for tipping. The Council's collection services are based on the assumption of tipping sites being available approximately four miles apart in suitable locations near to the village centres, but the absence of tip sites in the Western part of the district is now presenting serious problems. As I have stated, the central tip at Harewood is now discontinued and a tip with an approximate capacity of twelve months collection has been opened at East Keswick as an interim arrangement.

The Bardsey tip is rapidly approaching completion and the Kirkby Overblow-Kearby-North Rigton area is without a tip and refuse has to be conveyed to Wetherby or to the district boundary at Huby.

It is, therefore, important that two new tipping sites be obtained, one in the Dunkeswick-Harewood area and one in

the East Keswick-Bardsey-Scarcroft area, but a detailed survey has revealed an astonishing lack of suitable tipping sites, unless low lying land is taken for this purpose. Very few quarries exist and where there are suitable quarries other objections from farmers and land owners are such that it is extremely improbable that the quarry could be rented voluntarily. Unless two additional tips are obtained within the next twelve to eighteen months it will be necessary to convey refuse longer distances to the larger tips at Wetherby, Boston Spa and Huby and this will incur an increase in travelling costs and time with a consequent slowing down of collection. This matter will have to be seriously considered by your Council in relation to the carrying capacity of future refuse vehicles and a solution to the problem may be the purchase of large capacity pantechnican type vehicles which only require to visit the tip once per day. Such vehicles have a capacity of up to 20 cubic yards and usually have means of compressing refuse to increase the carrying capacity.

Thorner Tip

At Thorner tip very serious damage was caused by the depositing of surplus material from a military camp. After much negotiation with the War Department, the sum of £95 was paid to the Council for damage caused and remedial works were carried out immediately and the tip is again in a good operating condition.

f. Financial and General Statement

It is pleasing to report that my estimates of expenditure for the current year, given in my previous report, have not been substantially exceeded, notwithstanding increases in wage rates and reduction in working hours during the year, and the following table gives actual costs for the year under review. I am grateful to your Financial Officer, Mr. Webster, for the valuable assistance given, particularly in relation to financial checks on the service during the course of the year:—

	£	s.	d.
Labour	3,734	13	3
Refuse disposal	230	0	0
Motor vehicle depreciation and operational costs	1,720	9	8
Rents, rates and sundries	148	10	0
Insurance, etc.	261	5	2
	6,094	18	3
Sundry income	134	13	1
Net cost	£5,960	5	2

Annual cost per house 20/8d.

Details relating to collection and disposal are as follows:—

*Mileage of motor vehicles	21,962
*Petrol used (in gallons)	3,272
Bins emptied	174,514
Middens cleansed	4,451
Pail closets emptied	13,389
Loads removed	2,517

*These figures include the collection of salvage

g. Salvage

The collection and segregation of waste and dormant materials has continued and there has been a very pleasing and considerable increase in the recovery of materials during the year, to which the greatest contribution has been made by your Council's workmen.

In April, 1948, your Council decided to introduce the payment of incentive bonus to the workmen, based on increased collection over the amount collected in the year 1947-48. After deduction of the additional costs from the increased sales your Council divide 75% of the increase in revenue amongst the workmen, according to the time engaged on salvage work. Details of salvage collected and sold during 1948 are appended, together with details of salvage bonus paid:—

Salvage Collected and Sold, Financial Year, 1948

	£	s.	d.
Sales of Salvage	1392	16	4
Expenditure	1002	5	2

Salvage sold is equivalent to £71 10s. 8d. per 1,000 population or 1/5 per head of population.

Since the inception of the salvage scheme the value of materials sold is:—

£9,774 18s. 8d.

Salvage Bonus Paid, Financial Year, 1948

	£	s.	d.
April, May and June	62	6	11
July, August and September ...	64	15	10
October, November, December ...	92	16	11
January, February and March ...	77	12	9
	<hr/>		
	£297	12	5

h. Dustbins

The replacement and provision of dustbins is an integral part of the refuse collection service. Defective dustbins and miscellaneous receptacles such as boxes, tin baths, etc., delay collection and involve a potential risk of accident to the men who handle the bins.

The replacement of dustbins is becoming a matter of increasing importance and bins must be regarded as part of the equipment of public cleansing rather than a household fitting. It is hoped that your Council will give earnest consideration at an early date to the desirability of operating either:—

- a. a complete scheme of Council ownership of dustbins, or
- b. a dustbin hiring scheme.

The Council's scheme for facilitating the supply of bins to private owners and on housing estates has been of considerable value and details of the scheme for the year are as follows:—

Bins in stock, 31st March, 1948	518
Bins purchased during year	—
Bins allocated to Council houses	54
	<hr/>
	464
Bins sold to private owners	143
	<hr/>
Bins in stock, 31st March, 1949	321
	<hr/>

VIII. ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

The work of abatement of nuisances has not been neglected due to incidence of other demands on the time of the department, but the work is becoming more difficult. Although in a number of cases unwilling owners are using present restrictions on the use of building materials and labour as an excuse for not carrying out works, it is obvious that many owners have financial problems in meeting requests for repairs. Many thrifty owners of property have most of their capital tied up in the cottages they own and income is insufficient to cover the depreciation in purchasing power of money and the increase in cost of repairs.

The effect of rent restrictions is such that unless the government make some early concession to owners, the standard of property maintenance will deteriorate rapidly and create further problems for local authorities and the State. Whilst there are bad owners of property, the greatest consideration is extended to genuine owners who are willing to attempt to meet the reasonable requests of the Council and increasing care is being exercised before requesting the carrying out of work.

I have, however, to emphasise the fact that as a Public Health Official it is my duty, irrespective of external considerations, to report to your Council those circumstances in respect of individual properties which need attention, and the use of statutory notices and enforcement procedure will, in my

opinion, become increasingly necessary in the coming years, unless some financial concessions are made to property owners.

In Appendix A I have given a detailed statement of nuisances dealt with during the year and a resume of this is as follows:—

Nuisances outstanding, 31/12/47	...	358
Nuisances found, 1948	...	1343
Nuisances abated, 1948	...	1399
		<hr/>
Nuisances outstanding, 31/12/48	...	302

In dealing with the foregoing it has been necessary to issue eighty-seven statutory notices, of which the following is a summary:—

STATUTORY NOTICES

	Out-standing 31/12/47	Issued 1948	Abated 1948	Out-standing 31/12/48
Public Health Act, 1936.				
Section 138 Provide water	23	7	16	14
„ 89 Additional W.C.	1	4	—	5
„ 47 Conversion E.C. to W.C. ...	49	13	46	16
„ 44 Conversion E.C. to P.C. ...	—	—	—	—
„ 45 Defective closets	4	11	5	10
„ 93 Nuisances	22	13	15	20
„ 75 Provision of dustbins	56	23	69	10
„ 59 Provision of paving	7	1	1	7
„ 39 Provision of drainage and/or sinks	11	13	10	14
„ 59 Fire exit	1	—	1	—
„ 58 Dangerous structures	2	—	2	—
Factories Act, 1937.				
Provision of W.C.	2	—	2	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1938.				
Cowsheds and dairies	4	1	2	3
Housing Act, 1936.				
Section 9 Repair	1	—	1	—
Demolition	—	1	1	—
	<hr/> 183	<hr/> 87	<hr/> 171	<hr/> 99

Notices complied with by the Council in default or on behalf of owners	89	£1,044 15s. 2d.
Notices in progress by the Council in default or on behalf of owners	42	£511 17s. 7d.

IX. SUPERVISION OF FOOD

a. Food Hygiene

Regular inspections of premises where food is manufactured, stored, prepared and sold have been made during the year and the work in this connection has been intensified.

Again a number of minor contraventions of the Food and Drugs Act have been dealt with, but I am glad to report that although there is room for improvement in certain respects, the general standards operating in the district are reasonably high.

A record of catering establishments has been compiled and the following is an analysis of the various types of catering establishment which exist in the district:—

Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	16
Transport Cafes	...	...	2
Canteens	...	...	3
Day School Canteens	...	...	9
Boarding Houses	...	...	8
Inns	...	...	18
Residential Hotels	...	...	5
Clubs	...	...	4
Residential Schools	...	...	5
Hostels and Institutions	...	...	9

It is hoped to compile a similar record of premises where food is stored, manufactured and sold, to be followed by a very thorough inspection of the whole of these premises.

The following premises are registered for the manufacture, storage or sale of food in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:—

	Premises on register, 1947	Added to register, 1948	TOTAL
Sale and storage of ice-cream	7	3	10
Manufacture of ice-cream	2	1	3
Manufacture of preserved food	20	—	20
Fish frying	4	1	5

b. Food Inspections

The restrictions imposed by the Ministry of Food on the use of local slaughter houses by butchers for the slaughter of livestock continue. The only use to which these buildings are put is the occasional slaughter of pigs for private owners and on occasions of emergency slaughter being necessary. The Council continue their policy of keeping in force licences granted in respect of these slaughterhouses under the Food and Drugs Act, 1948, bearing in mind the promise of the Government to restore the rights of private butchers with regard to slaughtering their own livestock in due course.

I feel, however, that the Council should give consideration to the formulation of plans for a public slaughterhouse,

properly sited and conforming with modern standards, so that if and when the rights are restored to private butchers for slaughter of their own livestock, the Council will be in a position to provide them with a building in which proper facilities are available and **in which adequate supervision can be given.**

The meat received for distribution in the district comes from the Leeds Distribution Centre. The methods of distribution leave much to be desired, although due to efforts made by the Council during the year, there has been some improvement, but I again reiterate that the system of distribution is generally unsatisfactory.

There were thirty instances during the year of food being found unfit for human consumption, as follows:—

Condemned Food

Commodity	Reason for Condemnation					Weight
Pig (carcase)	Septicemia	...	...	200 lbs.
Pig (head)	Tuberculosis	...	...	15 "
Minced beef	Putrefaction	...	...	9 "
Ox kidneys (frozen)	do.	...	...	119 "
Oats	Mouldy	...	...	2 "
Cheese	do.	...	...	25 "
Gherkins (bottled)	do.	...	...	1 "
Tinned foods	Blown tins	...	...	155 "
						<hr/> 526 lbs. <hr/>

c. Milk Production and Distribution

It has been possible to maintain reasonable control over the production and distribution of milk and the increased use of milk analysis for effective control has assisted materially in this work. It is regretted that the results of the official milk testing scheme carried out by the County Agricultural Committee are not available to local authorities for control purposes. Very considerable overlapping exists in the collection of samples from producers and it is possible on any one day for four individual officers to visit a farm to collect milk samples for different purposes. I am glad to say that generally there has been an improvement in production and methods throughout the district and it has been possible during the year to ensure the repair of nine defective cowsheds, including the full reconditioning of six; six dairies have been repaired and two new dairies have been provided; fifty-four cases of dirty utensils, cowsheds and milk stools have been dealt with; one statutory notice has been issued and two statutory notices

complied with, leaving three such notices outstanding at the year end.

It is understood that the transfer to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the functions of local authorities with reference to milk production will take place in July, 1949, and this will possibly be the last occasion on which a report on a full year's working will be given to your Council.

It is with real regret that after fifty years responsibility for this work, local authorities are no longer to be responsible for conditions of production, and in future local authorities will only have control of milk after it leaves the farm gate. Had local authorities been granted the statutory powers which will be available to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries to control milk production, the criticism levelled at local authorities in respect of neglect of this section of their duties would not have arisen. Local authorities were being expected to fully control milk with inadequate legal powers and in your district it is astonishing the progress which has been achieved by persuasion and encouragement, but unfortunately it was not possible adequately to deal with persistent producers of unsatisfactory milk.

The following table records licensed and registered premises and milk producers at the year end:—

Designated Milk	Premises No. of	Cowsheds No. of	Population Cow
†T.T. Milk Producers	28	52	647
†Accredited Milk Producers ...	30	70	789
*Pasteurised Milk Producers ...	1	—	—
*Pasteurised Milk Retailers ...	1	—	—
*T.T. Milk Retailers	6	—	—
Ordinary Milk			
Wholesale Producers	131	240	2156
Retail Producers	64	85	564
Retail Purveyors	17	—	—
Total of Producers ...	275	445	4200
Total of Retailers ...	24	—	—

† Licenses issued by West Riding County Council.

* Licenses issued by Wetherby Rural District Council.

84 samples of ordinary milk have been submitted by the Department for bacteriological examination, and of this number 20 did not satisfy the test.

6 samples of pasteurised milk have been examined and five of these were satisfactory. Details of samples collected are given below:—

	Presence of T.B.	Past.	Methylene Blue Test Accred.	T.T.	Ord.	Total
Fit	8	5	22	21	8	64
Unfit	1	1	10	2	6	20
	9	6	32	23	14	84

d. Food and Drugs Adulteration

The responsibility for this work rests with the West Riding County Council. It is regretted that your officers are not informed of the collection of samples or the results of analysis of such samples, and greater liaison between the two authorities would enable your officers to more effectively control the standard of food administration throughout the area.

There is a substantial case to be made out for delegation of duties under this heading to County Districts and it is hoped that your Council will give consideration to this matter.

e. Ice-cream

At the close of the year ten premises were registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drug Acts, 1938, for the sale of ice-cream, three of these premises also being registered for the manufacture of ice-cream. The Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, require that subject to certain qualifications ice-cream shall be heat treated after being mixed and the mixture cooled until the freezing process is begun and that ice-cream which has risen above 28 degrees F. shall be again heat treated and cooled before sale.

There is, however, great difficulty in obtaining adequate apparatus and this is a defence in respect of alleged offences with regard to the cooling of the mixture, whilst regulations regarding installation of thermometers have not yet been brought into operation.

Exemption is also allowed in cases where a complete cold mix is used with no local addition except water, and in this case the product, when reconstituted, shall be converted into ice-cream within one hour of mixing. The regulations, in general, made little alteration in methods of manufacture in this district where the normal operations necessitated the boiling of the mixture during manufacture.

Peripatetic or itinerant vendors of ice-cream are causing certain anxiety in view of the fact that the Food and Drugs Act gives no power to control this trade, and it is hoped that your Council will, as soon as model byelaws are issued, take the opportunity of making byelaws under Section 15, securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practises in connection with the non-wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption. Model byelaws are now being prepared by the Ministry of Food and will be available to local authorities during the ensuing year.

Samples of ice-cream have been taken and examined by the Public Health Laboratory at Wakefield by the methylene blue reduction test and with only one exception these samples were satisfactory.

X. SUPERVISION OF WORKPLACES

a. Factories Act, 1937

The following is a brief outline of the work achieved under this heading:—

	Registered	Inspections	Defects Found	Remedies
Factories with power ...	91	75	6	7
Factories without power	79	108	6	7
Other premises	62	164	5	5
	232	347	17	19

Defects found were:—

Want of cleanliness	6
Insufficient sanitary conveniences	7
Dirty conveniences	4

b. Shops Act, 1934

74 inspections have been made and two shops were found to be without sanitary conveniences, one was provided and one was outstanding at the year end.

c. Offices

Beyond general routine observations in the course of other duties, no action has been taken under this heading.

XI. DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

a. Disinfection.

The work of routine disinfection of premises after removal of cases of infectious disease to the Isolation Hospital has continued, sixty-eight disinfections having been carried out during the year.

b. Bed Bugs

I am glad to report that during the year I have not had a single case of infestation by bed bugs brought to my notice.

c. Other Pests

During the year some minor infestations, particularly of cockroaches and crickets occurred, and in every case successful treatment was given.

d. Rodent Control

The Council adopted my recommendations under this heading and this has resulted in the appointment of a full-time rodent operative and the training of several manual workers to assist in extensive operations. The scheme has had the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture and will qualify for the grant from the Government towards the cost of the work for the current fiscal year. This grant will be 50% of the total cost to the Council of rodent control measures, subject to the Council obtaining reimbursement for work carried out on non-domestic premises and to the carrying out of two maintenance treatments of sewers during the year.

Since the inception of the scheme, four complete villages have been fully treated by block control methods and it is hoped to extend this block control treatment in association with the Pests Department of the County Agricultural Committee. 112 cases of individual rodent infestation have been dealt with. The whole of your Council's sewers have been given their first maintenance treatment and the second treatment is in hand. A number of sections of the sewer were found to be infested and have had a complete treatment. 420 bodies have been recovered but the estimated kill is considerably in excess of this number. I hope to be able to report on a full year's working in my next report, but I desire to take this opportunity of commenting on the careful survey work which is necessary in connection with every reported case of rodent infestation. Much of this work involves several properties and the cost cannot easily be apportioned between individual properties.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Camping and Moveable Dwellings

The work of supervision of camping and moveable dwellings has again been continued and the work of enforcing conditions imposed in respect of ten sites in the previous year and the closure of three sites, has involved considerable supervision.

There is an increase in the number of cases of individual moveable dwellings being situated in the District without permission and remaining for longer than the statutory free period. During the year nine cases were discovered and in five the structures were ultimately removed. In the remaining four cases the Council have given temporary permission to

remain for periods of from three to twelve months, according to the individual circumstances of each case.

b. Public Conveniences.

Constructional work on the Wetherby Public Conveniences has been unduly delayed, first by the non-availability of materials and fittings and secondly by undue delay on the part of the contractor. At the year end, although work was for all practical purposes complete, there were still a number of outstanding items, and it may be necessary, early in 1949, for the Council to cancel the contract. The alterations have been favourably commented upon by the local and travelling public and are a very great asset to the town.

For the year ending 31st March, 1949, the following financial statement applies:—

Expenditure, including loan repayments	£233 12 11
Income	£114 13 1

In considering these figures it should be borne in mind that the women's conveniences were not completed until late in the financial year, and it is expected that the forthcoming financial year's income will more nearly equal expenditure.

During the year discussion took place regarding the provision of public conveniences at Boston Spa. A site and type plans were approved by the Council and by the Boston Spa Parish Council. The Ministry of Health has approved the scheme in principal, subject to the later submission of details and estimates.

A petition was received from certain residents at Boston Spa protesting against the choice of the site, and an alternative site was under consideration at the year end.

c. Petrol Supplies

I have continued to deal with the Council's petrol supplies and the following are details of issues and mileage:—

	Petrol (Gallons).	Miles Travelled.
Refuse Collection	3,266	21,765
Water	110	1,054
Housing	30	1,815
Sewerage	79	1,316
General Health	70	937
Rodent Control	98	3,579
Salvage	6	197
	<hr/> 3,359	<hr/> 30,663

d. Petroleum Act, 1928

Forty-eight petrol storage licences have been issued for the total storage of 50,540 gallons of petrol. One carbide storage licence has been issued for the storage of 800 lbs. of carbide.

During the year a careful review of petroleum storage licences and storage buildings has been carried out and I am satisfied that the regulations are being properly observed.

The amendment of storage licences to include the storage and use of cellulose and petroleum mixtures for spray painting has been secured in a number of cases. It is not fully realised that the storage of cellulose requires a licence under this Act as this material comes within the definition of a petroleum mixture.

e. Civil Defence

Work under this heading for all practical purposes is at an end and only five shelters now remain to be disposed of, but in view of the restrictions on capital expenditure the Home Office will not allow further work to be done.

f. Schools

Inspection of schools in your district continues and a number of minor nuisances and defects have been dealt with during the year.

Supervision of the quality of water supplied from private sources to two residential schools in the district continues.

The unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences at Wetherby Council School to which I referred in my last report have now been dealt with.

g. Dangerous Buildings

The attention of owners has again been directed to a substantial number of dangerous structures, twelve of these structures were made safe or demolished during the year, leaving two outstanding at the year end.

h. Land Charges

In view of the provisions of the new Town and Country Planning Act it is now necessary for the Town Planning register to be scrutinised in every case of Land Charge Requisition. Requisitions are usually accompanied by a questionnaire asking for certain additional information. In a number of cases very considerable work has been involved in scrutinising and abstracting details from old records of the Department.

i. Contracts

Work under this heading is continuing to increase and the number of specifications and contracts for which I have been responsible has involved a considerable amount of work. The number and value of contracts are detailed below:—

	No.	Value
Contracts brought forward from 1947	20	£3,212 6 8
Contracts entered into during 1948	45	£5,407 16 1

APPENDIX A

Statement required by Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935

HOUSING NUISANCES	Outstanding 31/12/47	Found 1948	Abated 1948	Outstand. 31/12/48
Dirty and/or verminous	—	3	3	—
Dis-repair	22	269	240	51
Drainage:				
Defective	2	77	75	4
Inadequate	7	125	127	5
Blocked	8	46	54	—
Defective sinks	11	49	56	4
Light & Ventilation (inad.) ...	—	16	14	2
Overcrowding	3	3	6	—
Paving (inad./defective) ...	9	39	45	3
Refuse Storage:				
Bin renewals	10	141	135	16
Bin provision	12	128	129	11
Pail closet renewal	—	10	10	—
Middens abolished	40	40	72	8
Sanitary Conveniences:				
Defective	4	41	42	3
Inadequate	5	7	14	5
Conversions to W.C. ...	52	47	83	16
Conversions to pail closets	—	—	—	—
Serious Dampness	3	47	41	9
Sewage Disposal:				
Unsatisfactory	9	28	35	2
Direct to streams	—	6	4	2
Water Supply (unsatisfactory)	147	41	34	154
Miscellaneous:				
General	2	12	13	1
Rodent infestation	—	47	47	—
Food storage (unsatis'ry)	—	16	14	2
Total Housing Nuisances	346	1238	1293	298

GENERAL NUISANCES(total of premises or
cases dealt with)

	31/12/47 Outstanding	1948 Found	1948 Abated	31/12/48 Outstand.
Accumulation (offensive) ...	—	2	2	—
Animal keeping	—	5	5	—
Dangerous buildings	3	11	12	2
Food premises (defects) ...	1	14	15	—
Factories	2	17	19	—
Rodent infestation	—	17	17	—
River and stream pollution ...	1	—	1	—
Sewerage:				
Blocked sewers	—	21	21	—
Defective sewers	—	5	5	—
Shops (defects)	—	2	2	—
Miscellaneous	5	11	14	2
Total General Nuisances ...	12	105	113	4
TOTAL ALL NUISANCES	358	1343	1406	302

GENERAL PROVISION OF SERVICES

Piped water supply ...	27	Baths	27
Water closets (new) ...	97	Hot water	36
Re-drainage	43	Sewer connections ..	7
Septic tanks	33	Sinks	26

NOTICES ISSUED, ETC.

Statutory Notices outstanding, 1947	183
„ „ issued, 1948	87
„ „ complied with, 1948	171
„ „ outstanding, 31/12/48	99
Legal Proceedings	2
Informal notices by letter	863
„ „ complied with	812

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Buildings Byelaws (new buildings)	1241
Building licensing	579
Cowsheds and Dairies	862
Conversions of earth closets	856
Camping	146
Disinfection	68
Factories Act	347
Food Premises	276
Nuisances General	279
Housing Nuisances	943
Housing (incl. Rural Housing Survey)	666
Housing Programme (New Houses)	399
(see also Building Byelaws)	
Infectious Disease Inquiry	51
Meat and Food Inspections (unfit)	49
Public Cleansing	241
Salvage	81
Rodent Control	64
Sewerage	257
„ proposed schemes	177
Schools	18
Shops (sanitation)	74
Town Planning	275
Waterworks	199
„ proposed schemes	115
Miscellaneous	136



