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RURAL DISTRICT OF WETHERBY

ANNUAL REPORT
1968




MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council:

G. L. Ezart, Esq., J.P., Kingbarrow, Wetherby

Vice-Chairman :

The Hon. Mrs. Lane Fox, Bramham Park

Public Health Committee:

Chairman: W. F. Alton, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: W. C. Hill, Esq.

The Full Council

Medical Officer of Health :

W. Duncan Dolton

Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector:

John Marriott, C.Eng., F.I.Mun.E., M.T.P.I.,

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

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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
1968

To the Chairman and Councillors.

This, my third, Annual Report, again falls into two sections. In the first I comment on those health matters of particular interest to the Council administered by the West Riding County Council. The second part of the report is that of the Chief Public Health Inspector, and relates to the sanitary circumstances of the District.

During 1968 there were a number of changes in the administration of the personal health services. From the first day of the New Year, all children born within the area were recorded on a computer file at County Headquarters. Later in the year the computer began to send out to the parents invitations to have their child immunised, either by the Family Doctor or Local Health Authority. Later in the year the computer was also used to see that all children within the Division had their hearing tested at about 9 months of age.

A complete review was undertaken of the Child Welfare Clinics and Health Visitors' case loads. Following this a number of Clinics were closed and others were held less frequently. I hoped to be able to withdraw Doctors from these Clinics the Health Visitor undertaking immunisations and giving advice about the well babies. There is no question that sick children should be seen by the family doctors. In practice all Clinics have been visited, from time to time, by a Doctor, but many are now staffed most of the time by a Health Visitor and helper. These administrative re-arrangements were made on the grounds of efficiency rather than economy. Clinic Doctors should not duplicate the work of the family doctor, and towards the close of the year plans were being drawn up for Clinic Doctors to see children, by appointment only, for regular assessment of developmental progress — a plan in the best traditions of preventive medicine and a service not yet undertaken by most family doctors. The review of Health Visitors' work disclosed that most were responsible for populations in excess of 5,000 with between four to six hundred pre-school children, for which of course they are directly responsible. The Health Visitors' areas were adjusted and attachments to family doctor practices made whenever possible.

At the end of the previous year, routine school medical examinations had given place to selective examinations, while all children received a pre-school medical at about the age of

4½. These arrangements worked well during the year and allowed school nurses and doctors to concentrate, during visits to schools, on those children with special needs.

Health Education has been a priority topic during the year. Study Groups of Field Workers have met to discuss how best health education may be given to the school child, the expectant and new mother, and the aged. There is now a library of health education material — booklets, leaflets, articles, film strips, at the Garforth Health Centre — for use within the Division. Health Education continues, of course, to be a vital part of the Public Health Inspector's work in advising food traders, householders and the general public on general hygiene.

At the turn of the century Parliament expressed the concern of the public for the then under-privileged children of our nation by setting up the School Health Service. Only very recently has our attention turned to the unmet needs of the under 5's. Your Medical Officer feels that it is time that a service, similar to the School Health Service, was established for those past retiring age. While many school children and many at 70 years are fit, there are some who would, and do, benefit from a medical inspection. Simple defects of hearing and vision can be remedied and add much to the enjoyment of life. Some degenerative conditions can be arrested, or appliances, such as walking aids, provided to make life more tolerable. During 1968 two family doctors within the Division have held regular Clinics for retired folk within the Practice — one in a Local Authority Clinic and the other in the doctor's own surgery. Both have been a success, both in terms of patient satisfaction and the saving of the family doctor's time. I hope that this service will extend in the future.

In previous reports I have refrained from more than general comments on the environmental health of the urban and rural districts which make up the Division. I feel, however, that at this moment of time, when the future of the Medical Officer of Health is uncertain, and indeed, the need for the post debated, that I should place on record some of the environmental problems seen during 1968, without stating specifically which district was involved.

Even to-day the quality of both private and public water supplies leaves something to be desired. On my desk, as I write, are four consecutive water samples in which the type 1 B. Coli counts are 180+, 90, 160, 160 per 100 ml. These were private farm supplies which have long been known to be unsatisfactory from time to time. Unsatisfactory samples of public water supply from another district disclosed that birds had ready access to a water storage tank. The possibility of contamination, not only by bacteria, but pesticides and agricultural chemicals

from surrounding agricultural land, is cause for concern. Turning to the disposal of waste water, the situation is little more satisfactory. Many householders in several districts are periodically subjected to the unpleasantness of sewage discharged over their land. As sewers overflow with storm water, or carry a greater volume than that for which they were designed many years ago, sewage backs up through manhole covers.

It is worthy of comment that while loan sanction has been granted for one large sewage improvement scheme to serve a rapidly expanding urban area, permission has not been granted for the installation of even the most primitive Sewage Works in some rural villages. As I write, some rural streams are nothing more than open sewers. While this may be of little hazard to health, it is unpleasant, and in one case wells for drinking water are situated not far from such a polluted beck.

Animal excreta can of course be as potentially hazardous as that from human beings. In one market town cattle trucks, bringing the animals to market, are hosed down on a hard standing by the public highway. On the days of the cattle market, animal waste products cover the pavement and highway and are transported on boots and shoes to nearby cafés and public houses. It is most gratifying to record that this situation will shortly cease, but even so one cannot be happy when one considers the close proximity of the cattle market to food shops and dwelling houses. The distance can present no barrier to flies and other insects capable of carrying animal diseases to the general population.

During the year dysentery, which one regrets to have to record is now endemic in the area, became epidemic on two occasions. The most impressive thing was how powerless we seem to be in the control of this all too common illness. Cases of food poisoning occur from time to time, but a full scale investigation of a meat processing factory within the area was undertaken during the summer, following the death of a Leeds resident from a salmonella stanley infection. Eleven other people were involved, all of whom had eaten the meat products of this factory. Investigation disclosed poor factory layout, with opportunities of contamination of unprocessed, uncooked and cooked products, and also poor personnel management, in that some of the staff had little appreciation of the necessity for clean food handling.

The importance of cleanliness in commercial food establishments cannot be over-stressed. During the year successful action was taken against one hotel management in respect of the appalling hygiene conditions in the kitchen. In general I continue to be astonished at the apparent public indifference and tolerance of poor standards of hygiene in the food retail trade, and indeed in the ordinary home.

The Division contains a number of potentially hazardous industries, perhaps that most frequently complained of by local residents being a Lead Works. By the very nature of the process unpleasant fumes are emitted, and a certain amount of lead is inevitably discharged into the atmosphere. Indeed, lead levels of over 20,000 parts per million are recoverable from the public highway near the Works. It is a matter of concern to the Medical Officer of Health that the responsibility for the individual health of workers is that of the appointed factory doctor, and that nobody is obliged to report cases of lead poisoning to the Medical Officer. From the point of view of the Chief Public Health Inspector the situation is equally unsatisfactory, as some aspects of factory control lie with the Alkali Inspectorate and others with the Factory Inspectorate. While no cases of lead poisoning are known to have occurred in the public, cases do occur from time to time among the workers.

While appreciating that the Districts are Housing Authorities but not Welfare Authorities, I have been dismayed, from time to time, by the eviction of unsatisfactory tenants. Plainly, even the "problem family" must live somewhere and eviction solves no problems in the long term.

I am pleased to record that, during the year under review, arrangements have been made with the Housing Managers with regard to seeking medical support for rehousing. For the first time there has been a system for a medical inspection and report. It must be stressed that when I do not support, on medical grounds, an application for housing, this does not prejudice the individual's chances and when his application is supported this is not intended, in any way, to force the Committee to allocate a council house. Relations with the Housing Department have been cordial and are becoming steadily closer, and an understanding of each other's problems steadily deeper.

Housing, of course, continues to exert a most profound influence, not only on the life of the individual, but on his happiness.

It is a pleasure to record a year of loyal and conscientious work from the many people who work in the Divisional Offices, in the District Health Departments, and perhaps most important of all, in people's own homes. The many changes have been suffered with good humour and enthusiasm. I thank too the Health Committee for its interested support and guidance during the year.

W. Duncan Dolton,
Medical Officer of Health.

Summer 1969.

TABLE 1
PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1968

	Garforth Urban District	Rothwell Urban District	Stanley Urban District	Tadcaster Rural District	Wetherby Rural District	Divisional Totals
Population (Mid-year 1968)	20,720	27,540	19,410	33,170	29,790	130,630
Live Births:						
Total	543	426	353	618	418	2,358
Legitimate	524	402	338	591	400	2,255
Illegitimate	19 (3.5%)	24 (6.8%)	15 (4.2%)	27 (4.4%)	18 (4.3%)	103 (4.4%)
Stillbirths	4	5	13	4	3	29
Deaths of Infants:						
Legitimate	11	7	5	9	6	38
Illegitimate	—	1	—	2	—	3
Under one week	8	5	3	5	4	25
Under four weeks	8	5	4	5	4	26
Total — under one year	11	8	5	11	6	41
Deaths (All causes)	183	401	181	351	247	1,363

CRUDE AND ADJUSTED RATES

Live Births	26.2	15.5	18.2	18.6	14.0	18.1
Live Births (Adjusted)	23.6	15.8	18.0	18.6	15.0	—
Illegitimate Births per 1000 live births	35.0	68.0	42.5	43.7	43.1	43.6
Deaths (All causes)	8.8	14.6	9.3	10.6	8.3	10.4
Deaths (Adjusted)	12.9	10.9	11.1	12.3	10.5	—
Maternal Mortality	—	2.32	—	—	—	0.42
Stillbirths	7.3	11.6	35.5	6.4	7.1	12.1
Perinatal Mortality	21.9	23.2	43.7	14.5	16.6	22.6
Neo-natal Mortality	14.7	11.7	11.3	8.1	9.6	11.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality (under 1 week)	14.7	11.7	8.5	8.1	9.6	10.6
Infant Mortality:						
All infants per 1000 live births	20.3	18.8	14.2	17.8	14.4	17.4
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	21.0	17.4	14.8	15.1	15.0	16.8
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0.0	41.7	0.0	74.0	0.0	29.1
Tuberculosis — respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis — other	—	—	—	0.03	—	0.01
Tuberculosis all forms	—	—	—	0.03	—	0.01
Cancer (all forms)	1.74	2.25	1.49	2.11	1.88	1.94
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	0.97	3.59	1.18	1.30	1.31	1.71
Heart and Circulatory Disease	3.57	4.32	3.61	3.68	2.45	3.51
Respiratory	1.11	2.29	1.55	1.66	1.31	1.61
Comparability Factors:						
Births	0.90	1.02	0.99	1.00	1.07	—
Deaths	1.46	0.75	1.19	1.16	1.27	—

All the maternal mortality stillbirth and peri-natal mortality rates are per 1000 live and stillbirths.

Divisional Vital Statistics

The National Birth Rate continues to fall year by year, being 17.7 per thousand inhabitants in 1966, 17.2 in 1967 and 16.9 in the year under review. The Divisional Birth Rate, while higher than the National average, has fallen from 18.9 in 1967 to 18.1. Even when adjusted for the average age of the population, there are considerable differences between the five districts comprising the Division (See Table 1), ranging from a rate of 23.6 in Garforth to 15.0 in Wetherby.

TABLE 2
RECORD OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS 1968

	GARFORTH URBAN DISTRICT			ROTHWELL URBAN DISTRICT			STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT			TADCASTER RURAL DISTRICT			WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Under 1 year ..	6	5	11	6	2	8	2	3	5	8	3	11	2	4	6
1—4 years ..	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	2
5—14 years ..	-	1	1	1	2	3	-	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	2
15—24 years ..	2	-	2	4	-	4	2	-	2	2	2	4	2	-	2
25—34 years ..	-	-	-	3	1	4	3	3	6	2	-	2	2	3	5
35—44 years ..	2	1	3	7	6	13	4	3	7	9	7	16	4	1	5
45—54 years ..	6	5	11	15	5	20	4	5	9	15	8	23	12	11	23
55—64 years ..	22	11	33	34	21	55	13	15	28	35	22	57	25	12	37
65—74 years ..	36	21	57	55	55	110	34	18	52	64	40	104	34	29	63
75 and over ..	29	36	65	67	116	183	21	50	71	56	75	131	40	62	102
	103	80	183	193	208	401	83	98	181	194	157	351	124	123	247

The National Death Rate has been almost unchanged for many years. For 1968 it was 11.9 per 1,000 inhabitants, the Divisional Rate for the same year was 10.4. The high crude rate for Rothwell was almost certainly due to the excess of elderly folk who find their last home in St. George's Hospital, most of whom were previously resident outside the area. The adjusted rates of the five districts are all close to the National average.

The ages of death are shown in Table 2. The pattern calls for very little comment. The years between the first and thirty-fifth birthdays are now very safe for both males and females.

The causes of death are shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3
CAUSES OF DEATH, 1968

	GARFORTH URBAN DISTRICT		ROTHWELL URBAN DISTRICT		STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT		TADCASTER RURAL DISTRICT		WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Other Tuberculosis, incl. late effects ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm :										
Stomach ..	1	1	5	1	1	1	4	4	—	3
Lung, bronchus ..	8	2	13	3	5	—	11	3	12	7
Breast ..	—	2	—	6	—	3	—	6	—	6
Uterus ..	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2
Leukaemia ..	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	3	—
Other malignant neoplasms, etc. ..	8	10	18	13	7	12	22	16	13	10
Benign and unspecified neoplasms ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes mellitus ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—
Other endocrine etc., diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Anaemias ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Other diseases of blood, etc. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Mental disorders ..	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other diseases of nervous system, etc. ..	1	—	4	—	1	3	3	1	1	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease ..	3	1	2	1	1	3	1	—	—	2
Hypertensive disease ..	3	2	2	1	2	1	3	3	3	1
Ischaemic heart disease ..	28	15	40	34	25	19	58	33	29	25
Other forms of heart disease ..	5	5	9	17	3	10	7	9	1	3
Cerebrovascular disease ..	7	13	26	73	10	13	20	23	18	21
Other diseases of circulatory system ..	8	4	7	6	2	4	3	5	6	3
Influenza ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ..	5	4	17	16	6	4	16	17	7	14
Bronchitis and emphysema ..	8	2	21	7	7	10	14	4	10	6
Asthma ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	1	—	1	2	1	1	1	—	2
Peptic ulcer ..	2	—	4	—	3	—	2	—	2	—
Appendicitis ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of the liver ..	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of the digestive system ..	—	3	1	6	—	1	3	2	—	—
Carried forward ..	91	74	175	194	75	87	174	137	110	109

TABLE 3—continued

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1968	GARFORTH URBAN DISTRICT		ROTHWELL URBAN DISTRICT		STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT		TADCASTER RURAL DISTRICT		WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Brought forward ..	91	74	175	194	75	87	174	137	110	109
Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	—
Hyperplasia of prostate..									1	—
Other diseases, genito- urinary system ..	1	—	1	4	—	3	1	1	—	1
Other complications of pregnancy, etc. ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of skin, sub- cutaneous tissue ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of musculo- skeletal system ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Congenital anomalies ..	1	2	2	1	—	3	3	2	1	2
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc. ..	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	2
Other causes of perinatal mortality ..	3	2	3	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Symptoms and ill- defined conditions ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	—	2
Motor vehicle accidents ..	2	1	6	1	3	—	5	2	3	1
All other accidents ..	2	—	3	2	2	2	7	6	5	3
Suicide and self- inflicted injuries ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	2	1
All other external causes..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ..	103	80	193	208	83	98	194	157	124	123

Of the 1,363 deaths in the Division 682 were due to diseases of the heart or circulatory system, 244 to various types of cancer and 210 to diseases of the respiratory tract. About half the deaths from heart disease were due to the now familiar "coronary." 244 were certified as due to cerebro-vascular disease, more commonly known as "a stroke." Each of these fatal but non-infectious diseases killed more people than all the diseases of the respiratory system put together. Indeed, such has been the decline in the importance of pneumonia (106 deaths in the year under review) that it ceased to be notifiable during the year.

Of the 244 deaths from cancer 64 were from cancer of the lung, this is an increase of 16 from 1967, equally divided between males and females. This, of course, means that proportionately there has been a great increase in deaths from lung cancer in women (7 in 1967, 15 in 1968). Epidemiologists have long since forecast an increase in deaths of women from this cause, following the widespread use of cigarettes in the Women's Armed Forces in the 1939-45 war.

While there were 7 deaths from cancer of the womb there were 23 from cancer of the breast. This emphasizes the need of self examination of the breast as a life saving measure. Cervical Cytology is, of course, available to detect early cancer of the neck of the womb. Since this service was offered to women in this Division in 1966, 8 have had the womb removed for malignancy. It would not be unfair to claim that this represents 8 lives saved.

There were 24 deaths from motor accidents during the year, an increase of 5 from 1967. Again, 8 people took their own lives during the year. Even the most optimistic would agree that life can become an intolerable burden at times. Sadly it seems that many folk in this position continue to suffer bravely and uncomplainingly to the end. Those who take their own lives are often, if not always, mentally disturbed. To them life may seem intolerable, while to the outsider there is still much to live for. These people need help. They must be encouraged to discuss their problems with a Mental Welfare Officer, or other skilled Worker, as soon as there is any hint of suicidal tendencies. Unfortunately it is not true that those who threaten suicide never take their own lives.

Table 4 shows that 41 children died in the first year of life — that is 17.4 per thousand live births. This is very close to the National Infant Mortality Rate of 18 per thousand (see Table 1). The causes of death of these children are shown in the table. Again the most common cause of death has been prematurity. Probably the only useful step we could take to reduce this waste of infant life would be for expectant mothers to rest from the 30th week of pregnancy until delivery. This, of course, does not necessarily mean giving up work. A housewife with young children may well find an office job more restful than her home.

TABLE 4
INFANT MORTALITY IN 1968
Deaths from stated causes under one year of age

Cause of Death		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
1.	Prematurity ..	14	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	14
2.	Congenital Abnormalities										
	(a) C.N.S. ..	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	1	5
	(b) C.V.S. ..	1	-	1	-	2	3	1	-	-	6
	(c) Other ..	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
3.	Infection										
	(a) Respiratory tract	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	4
	(b) Alimentary tract	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
	(c) Other ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Haemorrhage ..	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
5.	Asphyxia										
	(a) Neonatorum ..	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
	(b) Inhalation of vomit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
		25	-	1	-	26	8	4	2	1	41

Infectious Diseases

There were again very few deaths from infectious diseases during the year (Table 3). The notifications of infectious diseases are shown in Table 5. During the year there was a change in the notifiable diseases, Pneumonia becoming no longer notifiable and Infectious Hepatitis becoming notifiable for the first time. It is sad to relate that one of the reasons for making this latter disease notifiable was an attempt to control the illegal self-administration by injection of 'hard drugs.' I am happy to say that there is no suggestion that any of the cases of Infectious Hepatitis recorded in Table 5 were due to this cause.

TABLE 5
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1968

	DISEASE	Total all ages 1966	Total all ages 1967	Total all ages 1968	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	15-45 years	46-64 years	Over 65 years	Age unknown	Cases admitted to hospital
GARFORTH U.D.	Scarlet Fever ..	33	32	10	—	4	5	1	—	—	—	—
	Pneumonia ..	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
	Meningococcal Infection ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Whooping Cough ..	6	18	13	1	11	1	—	—	—	—	—
	Erysipelas ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	Measles ..	158	102	54	3	33	18	—	—	—	—	—
	Sonne Dysentery ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Food Poisoning ..	—	1	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
ROTHWELL U.D.	Scarlet Fever ..	63	54	24	—	7	17	—	—	—	—	—
	Pneumonia ..	7	19	14	1	1	—	2	3	7	—	—
	Erysipelas ..	7	4	5	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—
	Whooping Cough ..	17	101	32	2	17	13	—	—	—	—	—
	Measles ..	210	202	141	6	104	31	—	—	—	—	1
	Sonne Dysentery ..	12	9	107	2	23	38	37	5	2	—	—
	Food Poisoning ..	1	1	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
	Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Infective Hepatitis ..	—	—	9	—	1	2	6	—	—	—	—
	Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
STANLEY U.D.	Scarlet Fever ..	15	13	12	—	7	3	—	—	—	2	—
	Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	Erysipelas ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Whooping Cough ..	2	24	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Measles ..	91	114	99	5	65	29	—	—	—	—	—
	Sonne Dysentery ..	—	—	8	1	2	1	3	1	—	—	1
	Infective Hepatitis ..	—	—	5	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—
TADCASTER R.D.	Scarlet Fever ..	40	27	7	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—
	Whooping Cough ..	19	51	7	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	—
	Measles ..	200	447	129	7	73	48	—	—	—	1	—
	Sonne Dysentery ..	36	4	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
	Pneumonia ..	9	9	7	1	1	1	3	—	—	1	—
	Erysipelas ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	Infective Hepatitis ..	—	—	15	—	2	7	4	1	1	—	—
WETHERBY R.D.	Scarlet Fever ..	29	17	16	—	2	14	—	—	—	—	—
	Whooping Cough ..	5	22	17	1	10	6	—	—	—	—	—
	Measles ..	196	420	395	14	225	156	—	—	—	—	—
	Sonne Dysentery ..	16	9	24	—	5	10	9	—	—	—	—
	Pneumonia ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Erysipelas ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
	Infective Hepatitis ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

It can be no source of pride that almost without fail industrial Yorkshire has the highest incidence of dysentery in the country. There can be no doubt that this is in large measure due to poor personal toilet hygiene.

In the Urban District of Rothwell there were 107 recorded cases, 83 of these occurred in the month of October in one sharp epidemic. Washing of the hands after visiting the toilet, and before preparing or eating food, is the only effective way of preventing the spread of this unpleasant, and sometimes dangerous, illness.

While there are only 6 recorded cases of food poisoning in the district it is sad to record that 1 death occurred in Leeds in a person who had consumed meat products prepared in a factory situated in this area (see preface).

Some common diseases of animals rarely infect human beings. During the year we had evidence of Anthrax and Brucellosis in cattle, Leptospirosis in rats and Psittacosis in birds. Fortunately there were no known cases of human Anthrax or Leptospirosis, but I suspect infection of bird breeders and handlers by Psittacosis and cattle men by Brucellosis is more common than many of them realise.

The figures for notification of Tuberculosis are recorded separately in Tables 6 and 7.

TABLE 6
TUBERCULOSIS — NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1968

		Garforth U.D.				Rothwell U.D.				Stanley U.D.				Tadcaster R.D.				Wetherby R.D.			
AGE		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
10 - 14 years	..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	..	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 54	..	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 and over	..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	..	1	1	-	-	3	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	-

There were 15 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, compared with 19 in 1967.

TABLE 7

DISTRICT	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Garforth Urban District	19	18	1	4
Rothwell Urban District	52	28	12	2
Stanley Urban District	5	10	2	1
Tadcaster Rural District	30	19	4	5
Wetherby Rural District	13	16	5	5
	119	91	24	17

The number of cases on the register at the end of the year can be seen in Table 7.

Satisfactory as these figures are we should not become complacent about this disease. In one small village there were four cases on the register in 1963. The following year an inhabitant developed Tuberculous Meningitis. During the next year the village postman died of massive, previously undiagnosed, Pulmonary Tuberculosis. In the year previous to this report another inhabitant was found to have extensive Pulmonary Tuberculosis at postmortem, and yet another case was discovered in the village. In view of this the entire child population of the village was surveyed by the local Health Visitor.

Over 20% (48 of 238 children) of the children were Heaf positive. A Heaf survey of the area in 1966 had shown rather under 5% of children of this age group to be positive. 23 of the children had had B.C.G. as a routine measure and 14 as contacts of a case of Tuberculosis. One of the children had had Tuberculosis in infancy. Of the 9 other positive cases 5 had evidence of a tuberculous infection of the lungs. I am pleased to report that they are now in good health. Many thanks are due to the parents, from whom there was only one refusal, and to the Health Visitor who completed this valuable piece of work single-handed.

It is a sad commentary on human behaviour that nationally Gonorrhea is now the second most common infectious disease, only exceeded by measles. There can be no doubt that within the next year or so when the effects of measles immunisation are felt, that the sexually transmitted diseases will, for the first time in the history of this island, be the most common infectious diseases. These diseases are not recorded in Table 5 because they are not notifiable. However, during the year 56 males and 24 females from the Rural Districts of the Division attending the special Venereal Disease Clinic, and 93 males and 99 females from the Urban Districts were found to have an infection.

My staff, who are in daily contact with our young people, have the impression that sexual experience in teenage is becoming ever more common. The latest reliable national figures are already some years out of date, but the Schofield Report covering over 1,800 teenagers, showed that by the age of 16, 14% of boys and 5% of girls had had sexual intercourse.

Personal Health Services

Care of Mothers and Young Children. It will be seen from Table 8 that there has been a welcome increase in the percentage of hospital deliveries during the year. However, within the Division there are marked differences between the districts. While 16% of Wetherby mothers have their children at home, 44% of those in Stanley still have home confinements. It is of course less important to ensure that all women are confined in hospital, than that all women who need hospital confinement receive it. I am pleased to record that the great majority of family doctors are now following the admission policies suggested by the Royal College of Obstetricians and the Ministry of Health. There are however, still a few unnecessary tragedies, one such during the year being a baby of a Rhesus Negative mother who was severely affected due to rhesus incompatibility. With closer co-operation between hospital, family doctor, Local Authority and mother, this could never have happened.

Domiciliary midwives continue to be very hard worked, in the Garforth area in particular, where 40% of the 543 births took place in the patient's home.

Health Visitors visited 10,025 children under the age of 5 during the year. Towards the end of the year some of them were already taking their own clinics and giving immunisation in them, without the attendance of a doctor. They have of course been responsible for certain screening tests (deaf testing and phenylketonuria) for some years. Plans for regular developmental screening by Health Visitors were completed during the year ready for operation on the 1st January, 1969.

Case Conferences continued to be a most useful method of liaison with other voluntary and statutory bodies concerned with the care of mothers and children. The Co-ordinating Committee was not called during the year but three extremely well attended luncheon groups, open to all working in this field, were held at Garforth Clinic. It is hoped they will continue in future years.

During the year there was continued expansion of play-groups, of which 27 were known to be in the Division at the end of the year. There were 6 registered child minders.

TABLE 8

	Domiciliary Deliveries		Hospital Deliveries		Percentage of Domiciliary Deliveries	
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
Garforth Urban District	203	217	315	324	39.2	40.1
Rothwell Urban District	155	96	278	328	35.8	22.6
Stanley Urban District	199	153	197	192	51.2	44.3
Tadcaster Rural District	170	160	431	458	28.3	26.0
Wetherby Rural District	96	68	343	350	21.9	16.3
	823	694	1564	1652	34.5	29.6

Care of the School Child. Following a policy of totally selective medical examinations introduced in 1967, 3,655 pupils received full medical examinations, as compared with 5,034 in the previous year. It is felt that by selection of cases and reduction of the quantity of our service, we can improve its quality.

Of the 43,026 examinations undertaken by school nurses, 145 children were found to be infested. While this is a reduction of 259 from the previous year, examining staff have found isolated areas within the Division where infestation is common even among the pre-school children. This problem is by no means solved. Visual defects were found in 1,100 children, 582 of whom had spectacles prescribed. The hearing of 2,213 children was tested, of whom 58 were referred for further special tests. 37 children were known to be in school with hearing aids — 27 of these being at Bridge House School for the Deaf.

It is slowly being appreciated that emotional upsets can impede learning as much as physical or mental handicap. The team at the Child Guidance Clinic saw 173 children (an increase of 27) during the year.

Care of the Mentally Subnormal and Mentally Ill. The four Mental Welfare Officers and two Senior Mental Welfare Officers who work within the Division have continued to be fully occupied. Cases are mainly referred from hospitals, Consultant Psychiatrists and family doctors. There are a few self referrals and members of the public are urged to get in touch with these officers if they have serious doubts about their own mental stability or those of their friends. The eight suicides which took place during the year might have been saved if skilled help had been available. It should always be remembered that those who threaten suicide, often commit suicide, despite the widely held belief to the contrary.

Care of the Aged. While the home help and home nurse give help wherever it is needed, the great proportion of their time is spent in caring for the aged. Of the 67,331 home nurse visits (62,300 in 1967), 40,321 (39,377 in 1967), were paid to the aged. Our 263 home helps worked a total of 147,067 hours. Chiropody and pads for the incontinent were services which continued to be widely used and much appreciated.

Prevention of Disease

Health Education. The Health Visitors and Midwives have continued to give much Health Education. We have tried to emphasise in the Division that good ante-natal care is not solely preparation for confinement but preparation for parenthood. The former lasts hours only, the latter at least 20 years. Youth Clubs, Wives Groups, other local organisations and of course, schools, have received advice on many subjects. There has been a noticeable increase in interest in the problems of drug taking and sexual behaviour but the public does not seem to be greatly interested in food hygiene, nutrition or the dangers of smoking and obesity. The unnecessary and preventable dental caries experienced by the children in the Division has apparently been of even less concern to those who are in a position to take the important step of fluoridation of the public water on their behalf.

Vaccination and Immunisation. For many years we have been able to protect our children against polio, tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, smallpox and tuberculosis by these measures. During the year measles was added to this list as vaccine became available for priority groups. It is to be expected that measles will become uncommon within five years and if the campaign is pushed energetically, we can hope for total eradication within 10 years. The number of children immunised can be seen from Tables 9, 10 and 11. There has been a considerable drop in the number of primary immunisations undertaken during the year, but this has been due to a change in County policy in that immunisation is now started when the baby is six months of age and not three months as previously. The computer situated at County Headquarters, Wakefield, is now responsible for sending the invitations to parents for their child to receive immunisation, whether it be from the family doctor or the Local Authority Clinic. Only 755 children received smallpox vaccine during the year, compared with 2,028 in 1967. Whilst smallpox vaccination must continue to be of great importance in the general population around our sea and air ports and in centres of immigration, it is at least arguable whether we should continue to advocate this as a routine procedure to our parents.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

TABLE 9

Primary Immunisation Course	Children born in Year :—					Total
	1968	1967	1966	1965	Pre-1965	
Poliomyelitis	470	628	48	17	129	1292
Diphtheria	472	726	37	14	111	1360
Pertussis	472	724	33	13	17	1259
Tetanus	472	726	37	14	146	1395

TABLE 10

Re-inforcing Doses	Children born in Year :—					Total
	1968	1967	1966	1965	Pre-1965	
Poliomyelitis	—	228	424	47	2552	3251
Diphtheria	—	222	507	54	2506	3289
Pertussis	—	212	452	27	81	772
Tetanus	—	222	507	56	2531	3316

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

TABLE 11

Age at date of vaccination	Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated during year)	
	Number Vaccinated	Number Re-vaccinated
0—3 months	2	—
3—6 "	6	—
6—9 "	3	—
9—12 "	8	—
1 year	509	—
2—4 years	186	6
5—14 "	41	36
TOTAL	755	42

Protection against T.B. is given by B.C.G. and 841 school-children were vaccinated during the year, in addition to 66 children who were contacts of known cases.

Early Detection of Disease. Whilst all are agreed that "a stitch in time saves nine," the application of this principle to the pre-symptomatic detection of disease has not been as easy as was at first hoped. Cervical Cytology has been much publicised to detect early cancer of the womb. There can be no doubt if this procedure was undertaken regularly for all women at risk, many lives would be saved. However, the efficiency in practice of this procedure is now in some doubt. It is imperative that the medical profession does not make promises to the public which it cannot fulfil.

Similarly your Medical Officer is not convinced of the wisdom of screening for phenylketonuria. Plainly any measure designed to reduce human suffering must be considered on humanitarian as well as cost benefit grounds. While it is arguable that a mass phenylketonuria screening programme may save the cost of a lifetime in an institution for the mentally defective, some parents whose children have phenylketonuria have been so upset at the necessity to stick to a strict and unpalatable diet, that the family unit has been seriously threatened by this medical interference.

During the year there was public interest in the possibility of determining the presence of certain congenital abnormalities in babies before birth. Examination of the "water" in which the baby lies in the uterus can disclose abnormalities of the foetal chromosomes. It has been suggested that mongols detected in this way might be aborted. Horrified as I am at present public attitudes to the legislation of murder of babies in utero, I am forced to the conclusion that for the sake of these very babies abortion might be the correct line of action in some cases. It is sad to record that rejection of these children, often by middle class parents, seems to be on the increase. It appears that parents do not realise that one in 40 children are born with a serious abnormality and that this is one of the responsibilities and risks one takes when embarking upon parenthood. If our parents continue to feel that they have the right to repudiate their offspring if they are not to their entire satisfaction, I will with sorrow join the ranks of those who advocate a freer use of abortion.

WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
ENGINEER, SURVEYOR AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1968

Council Offices,
Wetherby.
July, 1969

To : The Rural District Council of Wetherby.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my 23rd Annual Report detailing the work of my department during the year ending 31st December, 1968 (Public Cleansing for the year ending 31st March, 1969).

The work of the Council has during the year been dominated by the economic policy of the Government and as a result in the middle of the year your Council decided to defer a substantial part of the Housing Programme for 1968 until the following year. Despite the adverse circumstances, however, it is with some astonishment I have to report that the number of houses completed in the district during 1969 is a record. 608 new houses have been completed of which 497 were private enterprise houses. The houses under erection at the end of the year were somewhat lower than the previous year but this is accounted for entirely by the reduced number of Council houses under construction. The number of private houses under construction (268) is again a record.

The year has been one of steady progress in all services of the Council, although at somewhat reduced rate. There were signs however that work done in connection with the private street works scheme will show accelerated results in the ensuing year.

The recruitment of labour is a most difficult matter and is now becoming one of our most pressing problems. It has not been possible to maintain the full establishment of labour and due to illness, holidays and other absences a grave shortage has been experienced. Consequently many operations which

the Council require to be carried out have been unduly delayed, and it would appear that until the situation improves, work which can be more readily done and effectively by Council labour will have to be put to Contract.

Detailed consideration has been given to sewerage and sewage disposal facilities for the central area of the district which will require augmentation in the next few years. A comprehensive report will be submitted to the Council during 1969 on this subject.

I have again to express my appreciation of all the help and assistance given to me by members and officers of the Council and by the staff of my department.

I am, Mr. Chairman,

Yours faithfully,

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

TABLE 1 GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT, 1968

TOWNSHIP	Estimated extent (acres)	Population 1961 + 1968 (Census) (Est.)	Dwellings No. of	Rateable *Value £	Product of *Penny Rate p s 3	SERVICE TO DWELLINGS						CLOSETS All W.Cs except :	
						WATER SUPPLY		DRAINAGE					
						All mains supply except :		All sewered except :					
						PRIVATE Piped	Other	PRIVATE Septic tank	Land	Chemical and Earth Closets			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9					
Angram	521	47	65	16	627	2 6 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bardsey-cum-Rigton	2752	1556	1998	704	67191	275 1 9	2	24	1	1	—	—	
Bilton and Bickerton	2999	346	386	111	5406	21 7 9	1	22	—	—	—	—	
Boston Spa	883	2426	3752	1429	86653	359 0 2	—	5	—	—	—	—	
Bramham/Oglethorpe	4112	1230	1407	405	23719	96 7 5	—	57	—	—	—	—	
Clifford	742	1221	1302	421	30366	108 1 7	—	12	—	—	2	—	
Collingham	2842	1715	2240	790	93901	380 18 0	20	17	—	—	—	—	
Deighton North	1471	117	96	34	2348	9 9 0	2	5	—	—	—	—	
Harewood	8154	1338	3183	1227	112723	426 12 0	10	94	1	6	—	—	
Hutton Wandesley	1233	81	89	28	1865	7 10 9	—	4	—	—	—	—	
Kearby with Netherby	1422	143	148	53	4283	16 15 6	1	4	—	—	—	—	
Keswick East	1290	734	814	313	25404	99 12 0	2	16	1	4	—	—	
Kirk Deighton	2276	481	514	183	14420	53 16 6	6	32	—	—	—	—	
Kirkby Overblow	2224	296	378	125	8949	35 7 1	5	19	—	—	—	—	
Long Marston	2850	302	373	111	6586	26 8 8	—	12	—	—	—	—	
Ribston Little	858	183	193	65	2640	10 8 3	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Rigton	3058	365	403	148	12169	48 8 8	9	60	1	6	—	—	
Scarcroft	1073	523	714	268	31089	127 10 1	—	24	—	—	—	—	
Sickinghall	1495	287	290	91	7870	28 16 9	6	24	—	—	—	—	
Spofforth	5468	786	930	378	25685	100 8 10	18	40	3	6	—	—	
Thornor	2461	1165	1265	511	31324	136 6 0	—	28	3	3	—	—	
Thorp Arch	1529	658	697	194	48601	182 1 1	—	14	—	2	—	—	
Tockwith	3186	493	626	212	20377	78 13 1	2	46	—	2	—	—	
Walton	1590	172	212	68	63889	210 11 10	—	5	—	—	—	—	
Weeton	1373	718	790	313	26787	107 7 0	6	15	1	1	—	—	
Wetherby	2460	4179	6581	2345	219316	880 17 8	1	25	1	1	—	—	
Wighill	2247	220	247	71	4194	17 3 8	—	12	—	—	—	—	
Wilstop	1080	37	51	9	482	1 14 11	1	6	3	3	—	—	
Wothersome	772	25	46	12	445	1 14 0	—	12	—	—	—	—	
Totals	64424	21844	29790	10639	1006396	3961 11 11	93	625	15	40	—	—	

I. GENERAL

(a) General Statistics :

The following is a summary of the principal details contained in Table No. 1

Description	No of houses	Percentage of total
Water supply from public mains	10526	98.94
Piped water supply (including private sources)	10637	100% (less 2 houses)
Drainage to public sewers	10014	94.00
Satisfactory drainage to public sewers or private sewage disposal schemes	10624	100% (less 15 houses)
Water Closets	10599	
Earth Closets	40	0.40
Baths	10540	99.14
Hot Water Supply	10530	99.13

(b) Staff :

The only development during the year has been the resignation of the Junior Draughtsman and in view of the economic situation it has been decided to defer the filling of this appointment for the time being.

(c) Manual Workers :

As I have already indicated in my introductory letter this is a problem of some magnitude. The establishment is 50 and 46 manual workers were employed at the year end. During the year 14 workmen left the service of the Council and this represents a 33% turnover of labour and is fairly typical of the National situation in this field of employment. It is extremely difficult to obtain any labour, particularly men of age likely to give long service to the Council. A particular difficulty arises in the recruitment of drivers and the problem here is very acute indeed. The competition in industry for drivers is accentuated by the marked difference in remuneration levels of local government and private industry.

(d) Legislation :

New legislation includes the Town and Country Planning Act, 1968, the Countryside Act, 1968, the Health Service and Public Health Act, 1968 and the Clean Air Act, 1968.

II. TOWN PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL

(a) Applications :

566 applications were dealt with under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1962 compared with 626 in the preceding year. These were as follows :—

Approved	...	270
Conditional Approval	...	196
Refused	...	79
Withdrawn	...	13
Pending	...	8
		<hr/>
		566
		<hr/>

Approvals included 8 agricultural houses, 10 shops, 12 factories and industrial premises, 5 offices and 11 large housing estate developments.

825 applications were received under the Building Regulations, 1965 (the same as in the preceding year), of these 4 were rejected and one was withdrawn. 272 objections were received in respect of 27 planning applications. 25 appeals were made against planning decisions with the following results :—

Allowed	...	4
Dismissed	...	12
Withdrawn	...	1
Pending	...	8

(b) Development Plan :

The village policy map for your district as prepared by the West Riding County Council was approved with the exception of Bardsey where certain objections were made. The Draft Boston Spa Village Map and the Draft Tockwith Village Map were received and certain observations on these were made to the West Riding County Council and these are now under their consideration.

(c) Highways :

The National Traffic Survey to which I referred last year is still being carried out and no firm proposals have been made regarding the A.58 Bypass Scheme or the Wetherby—M1 Motorway Spur. Improvement works have been carried out to the A1 trunk road (road junctions) and also on parts of the A58.

(d) Miscellaneous :

The Council still awaits the Ministry's decision regarding the application of planning consent for land at Wetherby to

be used for a country park. The Golf Course at Wike to which I referred last year has now been commenced. Other developments approved during the year are a Health Centre at Wetherby, a G.P.O. Telephone Servicing Depot at Wetherby and new Schools at Kirk Deighton, Thorner, Wetherby and Boston Spa. At the end of the year your Council had completed the purchase of the railway land in the centre of Collingham Village.

(e) Private Street Works :

Progress has been made with the private street works scheme and this is indicated in the attached table. Towards the end of the year there was an appeal against the Magistrate's approval of a provisional apportionment to Quarter Sessions and the result of this (related to the inclusion of degree of benefit in provisional apportionments) will mean a change of policy that has been adopted in previous cases. It may mean the re-issue of provisional apportionments in certain cases. The Council during the year considered a further priority schedule of streets and agreed 13 streets in 10 groups in the Parishes of Boston Spa, Wetherby, Wigton, Thorner, East Keswick and Collingham to be dealt with in the next stage of the programme.

New streets on private housing estates under the Advance Payments Code of the Highways Act, 1959 has involved 3 estates with agreements amounting to £23,210. 10 streets have been formally adopted as public highways with a total length of 2966 yards and 18 new streets have been named.

(f) Tree Preservation :

Tree Preservation Orders are in course of preparation for Boston Spa, the Railway site, Bardsey, Linton Springs and Shaw Barn Lane, Wetherby.

An increasing amount of work is now necessary in connection with landscaping conditions attached to planning consents and 11 such schemes were dealt with during the year. Five applications to fell were considered. I must express my appreciation to the Forestry Officer of the West Riding County Council Planning Department who so readily gives assistance in this connection.

(g) Industrial Areas :

The Trading Estates in the district continue to develop and during the year five new factories have been established and three substantially extended. The Wetherby Trading Estate has been extended by planning consent to a further 6.92 acres.

(h) Car Parks :

The Boston Spa Parking Order was made in August. At Boston Spa and Wetherby it is obvious attention must shortly be given to the fringe areas round the parking control area as conditions are steadily deteriorating.

TABLE II. HIGHWAYS ACT, 1959—PRIVATE STREET WORKS OF 1892.

Resolution to make up	Scheme estimate or Provisional Apportionment						Final Cost or Apportionment					
	Estimated Cost £	Total Frontage ft.	Cost per ft. Frontage		Tenders Invited	Works in hand	Works Completed	Final cost £	Total Frontage ft.	Cost per ft. Frontage		Street Adopted
			s.	d.						£	d.	
Bardsey :												
First Avenue	)	12599	1694	66/11	1967	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Second Avenue	)	To revise after Quarter Sessions Appeal 1968										
Wayside Avenue	)	In preparation										
Wayside Crescent)											
Collingham :												
Hollybush Green		12192	3674	64/-	1966	1967	1968	—	—	—	—	—
Garth End		805	203	76/7	1966	1967	1968	—	—	—	—	—
Upper Langwith	(1)	3332	741	88/8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Upper Langwith	(2)	3745	713	114/7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Upper Langwith	(3)	719	208	66/6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Upper Langwith	(4)	1574	437	82/3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Langwith Drive		4494	1229	71/9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Langwith Valley Road (E)		5238	1185	84/1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Keswick :												
Hillcrest	(1)	4707	1156	82/8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hillcrest	(2)	2950	1153	50/6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Langwith Valley Road (W)		1894	691	59/9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harewood :												
Emville Avenue		968	557	34/6	1967	1968	1968	595	963	38/-	1968	
Church Lane		3167	890	69/-	1968							
Thorner :												
Kirkfield Lane		6460	1590	80/-	1966	1966	1968	—	—	—	—	
Kirkhills		3870	1000	76/-	1966	1966	1968	—	—	—	—	
Wetherby :												
Barleyfields Road (N)		5701	2880	36/10	1967	1968	—	—	—	—	—	
Ainsty Garth		614	802	13/6	1967	1968	—	—	—	—	—	
Barleyfields Road (S)		4879	2242	43/4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Foxhill		2988	863	67/4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Audby Lane		20758	3500	118/6	1968							

III. HOUSING

(a) New Housing :

The capital assets of the Council as at 31st March, 1969 were £389,712. As I indicated the programme for 1968 was abandoned in the middle of the year and in consequence only 33 houses were under construction at the end of the year, although 111 units were completed. Three unusual schemes have been dealt with during the year :—

(a) **Boston Spa** A special development at Royal Terrace involving two terraces of six aged persons houses each consisting of one bedroomed two storey units. Despite the popularity of this type of unit the Ministry are reluctant to allow an extension of this form of development.

(b) **Collingham** A special scheme dealing with some derelict land ran into difficulty by encountering running sand in the foundations. This was successfully stabilised but the cost of foundation work will be increased. The overall cost however of this development will not exceed what would normally have been expended on a normal site.

(c) **Bramham** A special slum clearance site of very limited area was used for the erection of three, 2-bedroomed houses designed to fit in with the architecture of the locality. This has been a special challenge and I think it has been met successfully.

Private sites have been made available by the Council for purchase in the Parishes of Boston Spa, Clifford, Thorner and Rigton and it is hoped that shortly sites will be available at Bardsey on the Collingham station site.

The cumulative house building position since 1945 is as follows :—

Private housing	...	4131
Council	...	1896
		<hr/>
		6027
Houses cleared	...	684
		<hr/>
Nett increase	...	5343
		<hr/>

57% of your houses have been erected since the War and 80.5% in the last 50 years.

(b) Existing Houses :

(1) Slum Clearance

A further 8 houses were reported to the Council as

being unfit for human habitation and 4 Demolition Orders were issued and 4 Undertakings accepted to recondition the dwellings.

Since 1945, 893 houses have been dealt with and the following action has been taken :—

160	Closed
368	Demolished
328	Reconditioned
4	Awaiting Demolition
13	Awaiting Improvement
16	Improvement works in hand
4	Awaiting rehousing

893

The Council has now completed the demolition of 15 Flats at Chestnut Grove, Boston Spa, and has closed 5 Flats at Hallfield, Wetherby.

(2) Improvements

Despite the period of financial stringency there has been a welcome increase of work under this heading.

There were 51 applications for Discretionary Grants and 5 for Standard Grants and eventually all were approved.

30 houses have been improved with grants and 62 without grant. At the year end work was in progress in respect of 20 grant aided schemes. 931 houses have been subject to grant application and 881 have been approved. 796 houses have now been improved with grant aid and grants total £235,931 of which £202,523 has been paid (£14,436 being paid during 1968).

(3) Repairs

110 houses have been repaired mainly as a result of informal action : only 6 Statutory Notices being issued.

There are a number of houses in the area where action is required and it is hoped that legislation now before Parliament will enable the Council to take effective steps in the ensuing year.

(c) Housing Capital Schemes :

Architectural work carried out in my Department is as follows :—

	Houses & Flats	Improvement	Garages
Schemes in preparation	52	3	23
Schemes in Tender	11	3	36
Schemes Contract let	—	—	—
Schemes under construction	33	—	26
Schemes completed	111	—	94
	207	6	179

HOUSING WORK AT 31st DECEMBER, 1968

TABLE III.

PARISH	COMPLETED		UNDER CONSTRUCTION		RECONDITIONING			SLUM CLEARANCE	
	New	Private	New	Private	Appl- cations †D.G.	Completed S.G.‡	without grant	Works in hand	Demolished or Closed
Angram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bardsey	16	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Boston Spa	55	—	—	—	6	1	6	5	3
Bilton	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Bramham	8	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	4
Clifford	3	1	3	1	2	1	3	1	2
Collingham	34	—	—	—	5	1	5	—	—
Deighton North	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Harewood	144	1	—	—	4	1	—	4	—
Hutton Wandsley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keswick East	1	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	1
Kirk Deighton	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—
Kearby	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Kirkby Overblow	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Long Marston	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
North Rigton	—	—	—	1	2	—	4	—	2
Ribston Little	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sicklinghall	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	—
Spofforth	24	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	—
Scarcroft	5	2	10	—	1	—	1	2	—
Thornor	51	1	23	—	4	—	4	—	—
Thorp Arch	18	—	2	—	1	—	2	1	—
Tockwith	3	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	—
Wetherby	104	2	35	—	10	1	8	—	8
Wighill	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Weeton	13	—	8	—	—	1	—	—	—
Walton	1	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	1
Wilstrop	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wothersome	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	490	7	111	265	51	7	62	20	27

(497) (111) (268) (33)

(608) (301)

* Includes rehabilitated dwellings

† D.G. Discretionary Grants

‡ S.G. Standard Grants (Full)

From the end of 1968 Parker Morris standards became mandatory, but generally the Council have applied these for some years. Restrictions will have to be introduced during the ensuing year in schemes to go forward in 1970.

Housing units for elderly persons now total 382 of which 196 are in Flats and 16 in one-bedroomed two storey dwellings. At the year end the Ministry officials had reluctantly agreed to the Council building more of this latter type in the 1969 programme. The improvement of pre-war Council houses has proceeded and this work is approaching completion.

The Council have acquired railway land at Thorner for housing purposes and during the year the railway embankment and two bridges over the highways were removed. Additional railway land is being purchased at Collingham and Bardsey.

(d) House Purchase :

The strict financial regulations by the Government of this work has reduced the number and value of advances made. £41,322 was advanced in respect of 39 dwellings.

IV. DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Drainage Work :

Work under this heading is an important and onerous duty included :—

- 591 new sewer connections
- 31 redrainages of existing houses
- 621 drainage repairs
- 168 blockages to drains relieved.

An unauthorised connection to the public sewer resulted in the collapse of the trench and blockage of the sewer serving the village of Bramham and emergency works lasting for several days had to be taken to deal with the situation.

As I reported last year the individual occupier of premises does not realise that blocked private drains are not the responsibility of the Council to clear. Your staff are being called out increasingly to alleged "blocked sewers," generally after working hours.

(a) Sanitary Conveniences :

There has been a further reduction in the number of houses provided with earth closets which now total only 40 and work is in progress with a further 4 conversions. Action is being taken to completely eliminate these in the not too distant future.

Adequacy of facilities in shops, offices, catering premises, licensed premises and workplaces is a constant duty and much progress has been achieved as is recorded under the special headings.

(c) Sewerage :

The Council now own 166 miles of public sewer including 2972 manholes, 7 major river crossings, 15 storm overflows and 13 pumping stations. One large pumping station at Wigton and sewers on 5 private housing estates were vested in the Council during the year.

The assessment of drainage plans for 16 new private housing schemes to ensure a comprehensive sewerage network has been a task of some magnitude.

Several schemes require major amendment and two schemes were required to be enlarged at Council's expense to ensure that future development can be integrated into the system. Detailed internal inspection of the sewers by T.V. Camera has been carried out at Weeton, Bramham and Boston Spa and major cleansing operations of silted sewers and river syphons carried out in 9 cases. The result of this work indicated that the scheme for relaying the Weeton sewers is now a matter of some urgency and design data is now being obtained.

The augmentation of the main foul water sewer from Wetherby to the outfall works at Thorp Arch has been the subject of a feasibility survey and it would appear practicable to design a sewer to convey the whole of the sewage from Wetherby Sewage Works by gravity to Thorp Arch and by extension of the new sewer to Wetherby relieve the pressure on the trunk sewer which serves Parishes south-west of Wetherby. If this scheme proves to be an economic proposition it would enable (eventually), all treatment of foul sewage to then be concentrated at Thorp Arch Sewage works and Wetherby Sewage Works would then be retained for treatment of storm water only. Further investigations (including subsoil borings) are necessary before a detailed report can be submitted, but there is now some urgency in this matter and work will proceed subject to the pressure of other more immediately important engineering schemes. There is a steady increase in the work of remedying sewer blockages and defects, and considerable problems arise when these are reported after working hours, especially at weekends. Workmen are generally very reluctant to turn out, and considerable delays often arise for this reason. It is becoming very apparent that the Council must consider some form of standby duty on a rota basis for workmen — at least two men —

a driver and a labourer should always be available if a satisfactory service is to be assured to the ratepayers.

(d) Surface Water Sewers:

The provision of surface water outfall facilities continues and 2 large schemes are in progress at Wetherby. The Boston Spa Scheme has been completed and two small schemes are in tender for Linton and Wetherby.

(e) Land Drainage:

Collingham Beck between Harewood Road and the River has been cleansed and regraded at a cost of £1,200. A scheme upstream of Harewood Road has been prepared at an estimated cost of £6,800, and this matter was under consideration at the year end.

(f) Trade Effluents:

Two Trade Effluent Agreements have been made. Progress on the farm survey has not been possible.

(g) Sewage Treatment:

The dry weather flow to sewage works is now 1.2 million gallons per day from a population of 27,000.

Maintenance of the plant, structures and fencing at all the sewage works continues to be an increasingly costly matter. The two large works being affected by the obsolescence of plant and inability to obtain spare parts. Wetherby works is now 37 years old and Thorp Arch 27 years old. The scheme being considered for sewerage augmentation would enable the extensions and rehabilitation of Thorp Arch Works to proceed as a second stage. This is now a matter of some urgency in view of the long period required for design and approval of plant.

The installation of tertiary treatment at Long Marston still awaits sanction of the Ministry although the cost is relatively modest (£4,500).

A new sewage pump has been installed at Wetherby to enable the maximum quantity of sewage to be transferred therefrom to Thorp Arch for treatment. The new sludge tanker has been brought into use with excellent results with a material improvement in quality of effluents at the outlying small works. The Officers of the Yorkshire Hull and Ouse River Authority have been exceptionally helpful during a difficult year and their advice has been invaluable.

(h) Financial Statement:

The total cost for year ending 31st March, 1969 was £44,047 which included loan charges amounting to £19,911. The capital assets amount to £525,350.

V. WATER SUPPLY

(a) General:

Few problems have arisen during 1968.

(b) Private Supplies:

Seven houses previously served by wells have been connected to public mains and at the year end only 95 houses are supplied from private sources (33 of these being piped supplies). 75 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological analysis and all but 17 were satisfactory.

(c) Public Supplies:

Leeds Corporation supply the Parishes of Harewood, and Weeton and the Claro Water Board the remainder of the district. During the year the Claro Water Board have been preparing a water development plan to augment supplies and improve distribution. In this work my department has been consulted and have supplied considerable information. The water softening scheme of the Water Board is now completed. 29 samples were taken for bacteriological examination. All except one were satisfactory. Five samples were taken from chemical analysis and as an investigation of current hardness of distributed water.

VI. PUBLIC CLEANSING AND TRANSPORT

(a) Public Cleansing Service:

No major charges have occurred and the weekly collection has been maintained; although it must be stated with increasing difficulty due to labour problems. The recruitment of efficient and competent workmen (especially vehicle drivers) becomes increasingly more difficult, particularly in view of the wide discrepancy in the wage rates which the Council can legally pay and those paid by private employers (which the incentive bonus scheme does not bridge). The incentive bonus scheme only applies to this service and where drivers are engaged in other services the difficulties are greater.

Nearly half the domestic premises are now served by the "sack system" of storage and where bins are still in use renewal of the bins is now made with larger plastic bins.

Salvage, especially paper and cardboard has increased. This is mainly collected from tradesmen or is delivered by traders to the Disposal Plant.

The free monthly collection of household discards continues with an increasing number of requests. The total weight of material collected is approximately 390 tons.

All householders can have bulky material removed from their homes by a simple form of written request for the service.

Under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967 an authorised dump has been established at the entrance to the Refuse Disposal Plant at Thorp Arch. This is intended to be used when the Plant is closed and a considerable quantity of material has been disposed of there. This dump is intended for household rubbish only — but it is increasingly being used as a means of disposal of trade refuse.

Trade refuse continues to increase in amount and a survey is now in progress to obtain a realistic assessment of the position, when I hope to make recommendations to the Council to regularise the service.

The bulk collection system utilising containers continues to grow and 37 containers are now in use. In addition two containers have been used experimentally for the reception of garden waste from Council Housing Estates with a great deal of success — some 40 tons of material being collected.

The collection and disposal of derelict and abandoned vehicles is an increasing problem. 38 abandoned vehicles were dealt with and a further 11 vehicles were delivered and surrendered to the Council. The Council has decided to receive or collect all such vehicles without charge.

(b) Refuse Disposal:

Your Refuse Disposal Plant has operated effectively and is now achieving the desired results. As the first of this type of plant in Britain it has created considerable interest and we have had over 200 official visits from Local Authority Officers in Britain and from overseas.

Negotiations for purchase of the experimental trade refuse incinerator attached to the Plant were finalised at the year end and it is hoped that the modifications required by the Council will be quickly executed in order that the discharge of material from the treatment plant can be more effectively operated and that bulky combustible materials can be disposed of by incinerator. When this is done it will be necessary for the Council

to review the transport arrangements for dealing with processed material as these at present are uneconomic and create numerous operational problems.

The material produced from the plant after windrow fermentation is an excellent compost, free from detectable glass content and having an excellent manurial analysis. Your Council has agreed for a limited period to dispose of this material without charge to farmers and others for experimental purposes. A number of field trials in the use of this material are being conducted by a number of national organisations with promising results.

The Plant is receiving approximately 40 tons of refuse per day (including 10 tons from Tadcaster R.D.C.) and this is being processed on average in a period of $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours. By extended hours of operation there would appear to be adequate reserve capacity in the Plant.

I must pay tribute to the Plant Operators (Messrs. A. Wardingley and M. Barton), as much of the success in operation has resulted from their willing work (often at personal inconvenience) to eliminate problems.

(c) Transport:

New vehicles acquired during the year are:

- (1) 1500 gallon cesspit emptier.
- (2) 1 — 50 cubic yard Packamatic Refuse Vehicle.
- (3) 1 — $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton commercial lorry (replacement).
- (4) 1 — Housing Pick-up Van (replacement).
- (5) 1 — Sewage Works Attendant's Van (replacement).

It has been a particularly bad year for vehicle defects despite efforts to secure a high standard of maintenance and heavy costs have been incurred in engine replacement and repair of hydraulic mechanisms.

The considerable increase in the volume of refuse is having a marked effect on the loading and compression apparatus of refuse vehicles which Manufacturers are aware of and which they are endeavouring to improve.

The increasing statutory control of commercial vehicles (except for tyres) has not yet been applied to refuse vehicles, these are intended to apply in 1972 and subject to the Council continuing its policy of one replacement per year, it is certain

that in 1972 at least 3 of the present fleet will then have to be replaced to comply with regulations. Some of the increase in maintenance costs undoubtedly arises from the difficulty of maintaining an adequate number of competent and efficient drivers.

(d) Litter:

175 litter receptacles are in use, an increase of 7 since 1967, 12 have been replaced under normal maintenance but 16 have had to be replaced as a result of vandalism.

(e) Salvage:

312 tons of baled tin, carpets, paper, cardboard and miscellaneous scrap metals have been sold for £2,017.

(f) Refuse Receptacle Provision:

The Councils scheme for replacement to domestic premises as a general rate charge continues 346 dustbins and 40 sack-holders were replaced and in addition 402 plastic bins have been sold (especially to occupiers of new houses), mainly in connection with the plastic sack liner scheme which is proving to be a great success.

(g) Financial Statement:

The total net cost of the service was £72,224 and includes:

Transport	...	...	£10,034
Labour	...	...	£33,203
Disposal	...	...	£18,126

(The operational costs of disposal excluding loan charges is £10,543).

The average annual cost per property served is £5 12s. 6d. (or a fraction over 2/- per week) and the service includes as a charge on the rates:—

- (1) A regular 7 day refuse collection direct from *all* premises in the district. (50% of premises now on sack scheme).
- (2) A modern system of refuse disposal.
- (3) Maintenance and replacement of domestic storage receptacles.
- (4) Removal and disposal of bulky household discards.
- (5) Provision and servicing of litter receptacles (175).
- (6) Cleansing of septic tanks at 625 premises.
- (7) Disposal of obsolete motor vehicles.
- (8) Clearance of unauthorised dumped material in the countryside.

VII. ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

This is unspectacular but very important, and constant attention is necessary to the many complaints received. Most complaints are solved by informal action, some raised intricate technical problems and an increasing number concern neighbours disputes over which the Council has no jurisdiction.

410 inspections were made during the year, 113 informal notices and 6 statutory notices were issued and legal proceedings taken in one case (dog-keeping). Certain types of complaint are increasing and these include bonfires, dog-keeping, noise of various kinds, obstruction of light from trees, and litter.

Complaints dealt with under this heading were many and diverse, and most did not fall within the definition "statutory, nuisance," but were rather due to the complainant being annoyed with a particular action. The public becomes increasingly intolerant and demands the attention of your Officers on matters which, in many cases, are personality problems of the complainant and not "nuisances" within the statutory purview of the Public Health Inspector.

"Nuisance" complaints included indiscriminate tipping, dilapidated buildings, smoke problems, defective drains, emission of fumes, flooding, condensation, and illegal use of buildings for living purposes and all complaints require time and tact to resolve.

VIII. SUPERVISION OF WORKPLACES

(a) Factories Act, 1961:

The number of factories in the district is ever increasing and existing premises are constantly expanding resulting in discussion and negotiations on matters relating to toilets and compliance with building regulations. The Thorp Arch Trading Estate continues to flourish and 39 separate firms occupy premises on the Estate. There is a total of 114 factories throughout the district and all problems arising during routine inspections are dealt with informally through the management.

The statutory form relating to factory inspection is contained in Appendix A.

(b) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963:

A total of 11 new premises were registered during the year making the total registered premises at the year end to 245. 142 premises received a general inspection requiring 275 separate visits. Classification of registered premises is as follows :—

Offices	...	...	...	...	65
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	128
Wholesale Shops & Warehouses	...	...	...	...	13
Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	34
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...	5
					<hr/>
					245
					<hr/>

During routine inspections 60 contraventions of the Act and Regulations were dealt with informally. 5 accidents were notified and investigated. There is no specific law relating to the operation of coin operated laundrettes and dry cleaning machines and during the year much time was spent in discussion and negotiation with operators of this type of premises to ensure the safety of the public particularly when using dry cleaning machines.

(c) Agricultural Premises:

During the year routine inspections were carried out in connection with the provision of sanitary accommodation on farms.

IX. SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) General

The standard of premises under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 is satisfactory and a general surveillance is maintained of the 211 food premises in the district. A new food factory began to operate in Sandbeck Lane, Wetherby, shops were opened at Ainsty Road, Wetherby and at Slaid Hill and new shops were nearing completion at Elizabeth Court, Collingham. A new food supermarket was opened on the Thorp Arch Trading Estate, and the planned scheme for the modernisation of all the public houses in the area was nearly completed. Export Certificates are provided in connection with the export of canned food products to a variety of countries. Eight complaints were received of "foreign bodies" found in food ranging from alleged glass in a cooked sausage which on analysis was found to be albumen naturally present in the food, to a piece of metal in a can of meat. The metal was in fact the protective cap to the 'soldered dot.' Items condemned as being unfit during the year including meat and offal from the private slaughterhouses, and canned food products where your Public Health Inspectors were requested to give their formal advice.

Three years ago all 53 public houses in the area were surveyed along with surveys undertaken by the Licensing Magistrates and at the completion of that survey 39 premises

were classified as "needing attention." Since then negotiations have taken place with the various owners and I can now report that of the present 54 public houses only two remain with outside toilet facilities and representations are being made for improvements in those two final cases. Customer facilities provided at public houses throughout the district are maintained at a high standard. There is also an increased tendency for meals of various types to be provided at licensed premises and these catering facilities maintain a good standard.

(b) Milk supply:

Seven farmers produce untreated farm bottled milk in your area and samples are taken for Ring Test in connection with any possible brucellosis infection. Nearly all milk produced in the area is sent for pasteurisation and a high standard of milk hygiene is maintained. The Government has still not introduced a satisfactory scheme for indicating brucellosis. Such a scheme is long overdue.

(c) Ice Cream:

Ice Cream sales in the area are restricted to the pre-wrapped varieties and a high standard of hygiene is maintained. All routine samples sent to the Public Health Laboratory produce satisfactory results.

(d) Meat:

100% inspection of meat has been maintained at the 3 private slaughterhouses in the district and 1,593 animals have received a full post mortem inspection during the year.

The statistical details below indicate that 46% of bullocks inspected were "affected with disease," but this high percentage can be attributed to condemnation of livers due to liver fluke infestation.

All slaughterhouses have received a general inspection in company with a Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Veterinary Surgeon.

Meat is examined at a canning factory in connection with the eventual issue of Export Certificates for canned meat products being sent abroad.

The statistics relating to the inspection of animals is given below:—

**POST MORTEM EXAMINATION
OF ANIMALS IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES**
Period January 1st, 1968 to 31st December, 1968

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	264	—	—	1277	52	—
Number inspected	264	—	—	1277	52	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned		—	None	—		
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	124	—	—	65	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and cysticerci	46%	—	—	5%	0%	—
Tuberculosis only :—						
Whole carcasses condemned—		—	None	—		
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned		—	None	—		
Percentage of the number inspected that were affected		—	None	—		
Cysticercosis :—						
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned		—	None	—		
Carcasses submitted for refrigeration		—	None	—		
Generalised and totally condemned		—	None	—		

MEAT INSPECTION
Principal Grounds for Condemnation of Offal

	Bovine lbs.	Sheep lbs.	Pigs lbs.
Fascioliasis	839	—	—
Abscesses	211	—	—
Echinococcus Cysts	—	7	—
Pericarditis	6	—	—
Actinobacillosis	30	—	—
Degen. Cyst. Bovis	2	2	—
Congestion	2	2	—
	1,090	11	—

Revenue received for meat inspection at Slaughterhouses amounted to £58 11s. 0d.

(e) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958:

13 slaughtermen were licensed to slaughter and stun animals.

(f) Other foods:

During the year the following foods were classified as unfit:—

	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Meat slaughterhouses ...	11	22
Cooked meat & meat products	—	25
Canned meats ...	—	60
Fish (fresh) ...	1	—
Other foods (various) ...	—	48
Total weight ...	13	43

X. MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960:

There are 7 licensed sites for holiday and recreational purposes only, on which there are 248 caravans. One additional licence was issued during the year in respect of a site for one caravan only at Kearby, and approval was given to an increased number of caravans on another site in the same village. The Caravan Club utilises two official club sites in the area.

All caravan sites maintain a very high standard of amenity.

There have been no problems with itinerant traders parking on grass verges during the year.

(b) Public conveniences:

The public conveniences have been maintained in a fair condition despite increasing abuse and vandalism but it has been impossible to reach the high standard I would desire.

The Wetherby (Shambles) conveniences are now 24 years old and should, in the near future, be completely reconditioned as the sanitary fittings and drainage will shortly require replacement. They have become increasingly shabby and difficult to maintain to a satisfactory standard.

The maintenance of coin locks is extremely expensive and it is questionable whether the Council would not secure an economic advantage by abolishing all charges. In any case the conversion in due course to metric coinage will be a very expensive matter as new locks will be necessary.

(c) Bathing Pools:

The Council still await a decision on the planning application to develop land at Wetherby Ings.

(d) Land Charges:

1,235 Land Charges Requisitions have been dealt with compared with 1,093 in 1967.

(e) Markets:

The total income from the hire of stalls for the last financial year amounted to £603 10s. 0d. plus £118 0s. 0d. for occasional hire to local organisations in connection with galas and fetes. Expenditure on erection, dismantling and clearing up after the market amounted to £709 2s. 7d.

(f) Car Parks:

The Crossley Street Car Park, Wetherby received a final macadam surface during the year and along with the Hallfield Lane Park and the car park in High Street, Boston Spa, was well used and provided good service to the public.

(g) Rodent Control:

The revenue from Rodent Control for the last financial year amounted to £475 0s. 0d. and a further £59 0s. 0d. was received in respect of miscellaneous treatments.

During the year 1,324 properties were inspected following notification or as a matter of notice to check for rodent infestation and 700 properties were found to be infested and treatments carried out.

(h) Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963:

11 premises were licensed under the Act and all are maintained in a satisfactory manner.

(i) Street Lighting:

The Council maintain lighting schemes at Wigton Moor and Walton.

(j) Petroleum (Regulations) Acts, 1928 - 36:

There are 62 licensed installations for the storage of petroleum spirit and all premises receive a comprehensive survey prior to the renewal of the licence each year. I am indebted to the Fire Prevention Officer of the West Riding County Council for his

help in carrying out technical inspections and for his recommendations on petroleum installations generally. A very high standard is being maintained by this annual inspection routine.

(k) Disinfection and Disinfestation:

Ever increasing requests are made for a service to destroy wasps' and bees' nests and 24 such requests were received necessitating 68 separate visits. Reports of horticultural pests increased and the Department has dealt with earwigs, ants and clover mites as well as the domestic insects, cockroaches, silver fish, carpet beetles, etc.

Investigations were carried out following notification of salmonellosis and dysentery.

(i) Contracts:

Work under this heading has continued at a high rate and is indicated in the following table:

CONTRACTS

(year ending 31.3.69)

					£
Completed	...	...	...	24	397,000
Under Construction		...	...	38	484,960
In contract — not started			...	2	27,000
Out to tender	...	...	...	2	6,000
In preparation	...	...	...	12	121,000
Preliminary reports approved	...			9	110,000
				<hr/> 87	<hr/> £1,145,960

The comparative figures for the current and the previous five years are:—

	TOTAL		COMPLETED	
	CONTRACTS	VALUE	CONTRACTS	VALUE
1968	63	1,484,960	24	397,000
1967	79	1,186,900	25	116,500
1966	88	1,113,539	24	284,702
1965	95	1,056,992	25	280,579
1964	88	640,747	24	142,146
1963	89	608,625	22	125,890

APPENDIX A

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

- | | |
|---|------|
| (a) No. of factories in the district in which Section 7 is enforced by Council (sanitary conveniences) ... | 114 |
| (b) Factories not included in (a) in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Council (factories in which mechanical power is not used) | Nil. |

Total number of visits and inspections for all purposes	156
--	-----

Cases in which defects found:—

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred in which by H.M. prosecutions Inspector Instituted	No. of cases
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	10	9	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	17	17	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
	28	27	—	—	—



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