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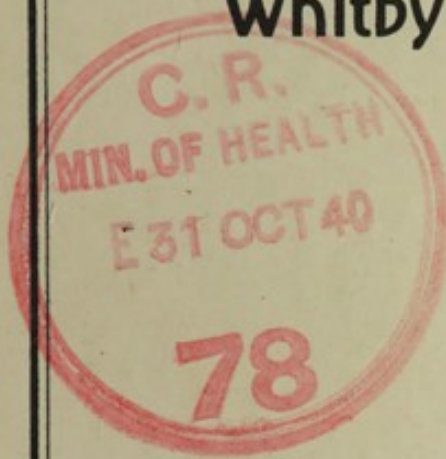
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Whitby Urban District



REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1939

OF THE

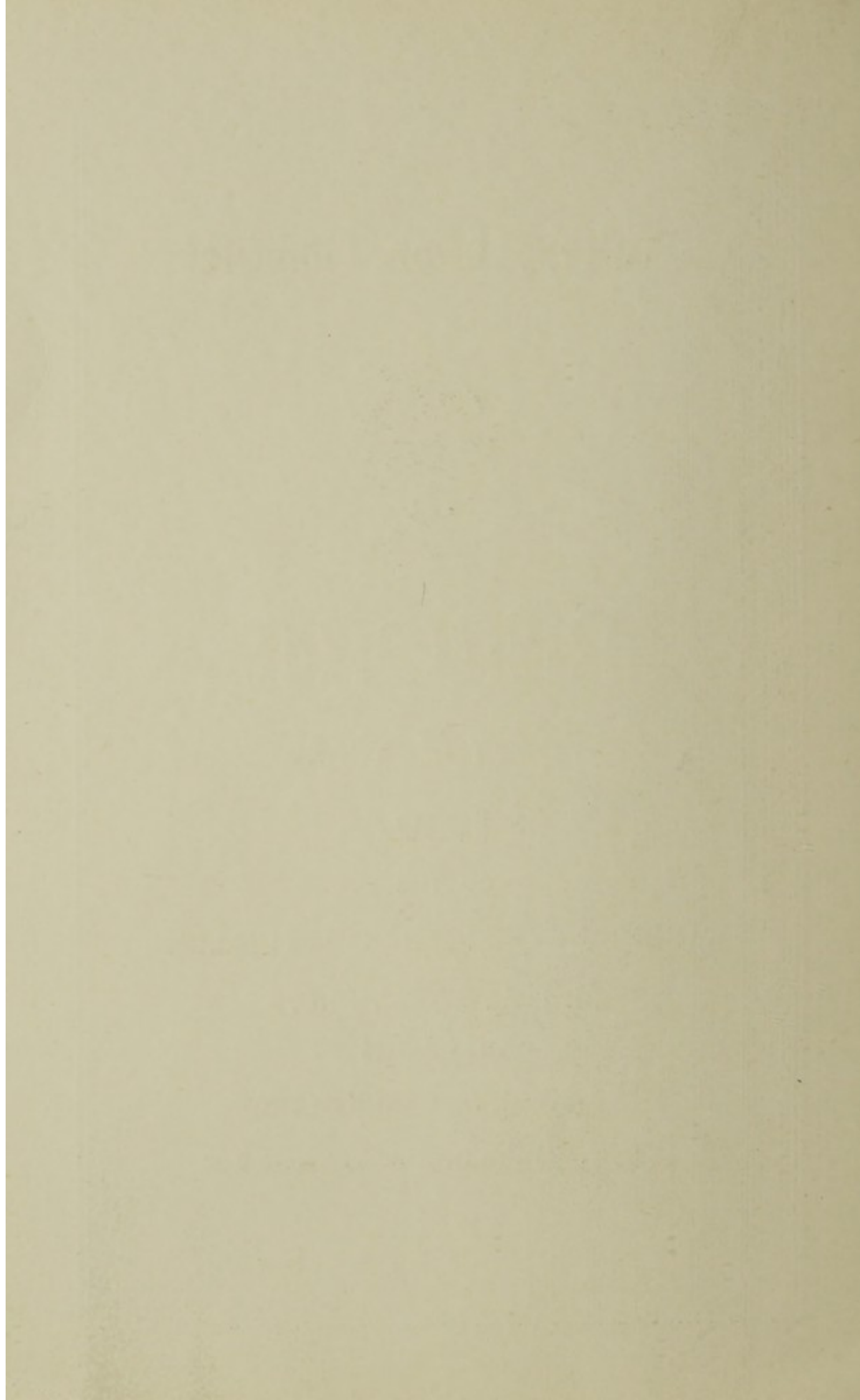
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

M. Dale Wood, M.D.

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

O. E. Graham, M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.



Whitby Urban District



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O. E. Graham, M.S.A., M.P.H.C.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

Owing to the outbreak of hostilities in September, 1939, the curtailment of many activities became at once necessary; so far as the Health Department was concerned, the essential services were carried on, while many additional duties fell upon the staff in connection with A.R.P. reception of Evacuated Children and Mothers from other Areas, etc.

It will be noted that the general health of the town was well maintained, and that so far as Infectious Disease was concerned, the incidence was slight.

In view of the increasing pressure of work in the public health department, the Minister of Health considers that an interim report only should be made for 1939, confined to essential and urgent matters. Consequently, less detail is presented than usual, all records are, however, being carefully preserved, in order that a more continuous and complete report may, as far as practicable, be made later, dealing with the period from the beginning of 1939.

Your obedient servant,

M. DALE WOOD.

Grape Lane,
Whitby,
Yorks.

October, 1940.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Name.	Qualifications	Office held	Whole or part time	Other Public Offices held
M. DALE WOOD	M.D., B.S.	Medical Officer of Health, Medical Officer of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital.	Whole	Medical Officer of Health Whitby Rural District Council. School Medical Inspector North Riding Yorks. County Council.
O. E GRAHAM	M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C., Cert.R.S.I. Diploma Meat and Food, Cert.Inst.Public Cleansing	Sanitary Inspector, Director of Clear:sing Department.	Whole	
Miss D. M. JOHNSON	S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert.H.V.	Health Visitor.	Whole	
Miss A. G. ROBBINS	S R.N., S.C.M.	Maternity Nurse.	Whole	
Mrs. M. O. GOAD	S.R.N. General & Fever, F.B.C.N.	Matron Isolation Hospital	Whole	

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area.—The Area of the District in acres (inclusive of land covered by water) is 2,793.8 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of Population:—

1939 ...	11,560	1938 ...	11,500	1937 ...	11,630
	1936 ...	11,720	1935 ...	11,690	

Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of the year:—

1939.	1938.	1937.	1936.	1935.
3,886	3,834	3,828	3,817	3,750

Number of New Houses built in 1939.—115.

Rateable Value **£83,344**

Sum represented by a Penny Rate.—£320.

Social Conditions:

The town's chief sources of prosperity are:—

- (1) Catering for Visitors during the Season. The 1939 season was considerably curtailed by the outbreak of hostilities.
- (2) The Fishing Industry.

The value of fish landed for the past five years has been:

1935	£16,635
1936	£18,841
1937	£19,728
1938	£17,085
1939	£17,948

Unemployment, Whitby and District:—

Total estimated "Insured Population"
3,002.

Total unemployed on December 31st, 1939:

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
625	166	37	46	874

Number of Applicants for Unemployed Assistance
(Means Test):

220 (included in above).

Maximum "Live Register" during 1939:
978 on January 16th.

EVACUATION OF CHILDREN under A.R.P. Scheme.

Whitby Urban District was a Reception Area under the scheme. The following were received:—

Date. 1939.	Received from	School Children.	Helpers & Teachers.	Mothers.	Infants.	Total.
Sept. 1st	Hull	386	91	—	—	477
Sept. 2nd	Hull	9	4	109	153	275
Sept. 8th	W. Hartlepool	486	44	—	—	530
Sept. 9th	W. Hartlepool	—	—	69	118	187
		881	139	178	271	1,469
Remaining at date of this publication:		127	14	3	3	147

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year 1939:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births	89	81	170
(Legitimate)	87	77	164
(Illegitimate)	2	4	6
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..			14.7
Still Births	4	0	4
(Legitimate)	4	0	4
(Illegitimate)	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ..			22.9
Deaths	66	70	136
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..			11.5.
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)			0

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Total	1	3	4
	—	—	—

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	23.3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births...	24.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births..	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	14
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

1939:

For the whole of England and Wales per 1,000 of total population:—

Live Birth Rate	15.0
Death Rate (all causes)	12.1

DEATHS AT SPECIFIED AGES.

Age in Years	1935.		1936.		1937.		1938.		1939.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	5	5	3	7	7	3	5	1	1	3
1 to 4 ...	2	3	3	1	0	0	3	0	2	0
5 to 14 ...	6	5	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	1
15 to 24 ...	3	2	2	1	0	0	5	4	0	1
25 to 44 ...	8	5	2	6	3	5	4	4	7	0
45 to 64 ...	18	23	19	20	23	17	24	13	15	16
65 & over ...	45	63	37	41	44	55	44	46	40	49
All ages	87	106	66	76	78	81	86	70	66	70
Total ...	193		142		159		156		136	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1939.

According to Registrar-General's Classification:—

	Males.	Females.	T'tl.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0	0	0
2. Measles	0	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
4. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
5. Diphtheria	1	1	2
6. Influenza	2	7	9
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0	0
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0	1	1
10. Other Tubercular Diseases	0	1	1
11. Syphilis	0	0	0
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	0	0	0
13. Cancer, malignant disease	5	9	14
14. Diabetes	0	1	1
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	7	8	15
16. Heart Disease	17	25	42
17. Aneurysm	1	0	1
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	4	2	6
19. Bronchitis	2	1	3
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	2	2	4
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	0	1
22. Peptic Ulcer	0	1	1
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years of age)	0	1	1
24. Appendicitis	1	0	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	0	1
26. Other diseases of Liver	0	1	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	2	0	2
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	2	5
29. Puerperal Sepsis	0	0	0
30. Other Puerperal Diseases	0	0	0
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	1	1	2
32. Senility	3	2	5
33. Suicide	1	0	1
34. Other Violence	3	0	3
35. Other Defined Diseases	9	4	13
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	0	0
All Causes	66	70	136

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

Ambulance Facilities.

Nursing in the Home.

No change from last year.

Treatment Centres:

Maternity and Child WELFARE CENTRE:

Sessions held	42
1st Attendances of Infants	132
1st Attendances of Toddlers	42
Total Attendances Infants	1378
Total Attendances Toddlers	2311
Total	3,689

Average Attendance per session	87
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Ante-Natal Clinic:

Sessions held	44
Expectant Mothers	107
Total Attendances	339
Hot Baths taken	13

Post-Natal Clinic:

Total Attendances	79
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“ Sunlight ” Clinic:

Cases treated	5
Applications	111

Minor Ailment Clinic:

Treatments	392
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Hospitals—Public and Voluntary:

The Whitby War Memorial Cottage Hospital.

The Whitby Public Dispensary.

The New Isolation Hospital, Stainsacre Lane, was opened on January 17th, 1940, it consists of Administration, Cubicle and Ward Blocks of modern design, and is administered by a Joint Committee of the Whitby Urban and Rural Councils.

The daily average of occupied beds was in:—

1939.	1938.	1937.	1936	1935.
10.3	24.1	5.8	4.5	17.4

WHITBY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1939.**

Patients.	Urban.	Rural.	T'tl.
Remaining 31st Dec., 1938:—			
Scarlet Fever	8	0	8
Diphtheria	1	0	1
Admitted, 1939:—			
Scarlet Fever	41	32	73
Diphtheria	7	8	15
Enteric Fever	0	1	1
Observation Cases	2	1	3
Discharged cured, 1939:—			
Scarlet Fever	42	30	72
Diphtheria	7	8	15
Enteric Fever	0	1	1
Observation	2	1	3
Died during 1939:—			
Diphtheria	1	0	1
Remaining December 31st, 1939:—			
Scarlet Fever	6	2	8
Observation	1	0	1
Average stay of Patients in Days ...	39.9	42.1	40.9
Daily average of occupied beds	5.4	4.8	10.3
Number of Patient-Days for the Year			3,767

SUMMARY OF "PATIENT-DAYS" DURING 1939.

Month.	Urban.	Rural.	Total.
January	317	50	367
February	257	116	373
March	83	48	131
April	42	34	76
May	39	203	242
June	90	426	516
July	189	195	384
August	179	113	292
September	72	44	116
October	227	102	329
November	314	285	599
December	186	156	342
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	1995	1772	3767
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(f) **Midwifery and Maternity Services.**

Two Municipal Midwives are provided by this Authority.

During the year the Council's Maternity Nurses attended:—

As Midwife	74 cases
As Maternity Nurse	58 cases

Operative Treatment.—During 1939 six Obstetric cases, requiring operation, were treated at the Whitby Cottage Hospital.

During 1939, one patient, in an unsuitable home, was admitted for confinement in the Whitby Institution.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No patient required Institutional treatment during the year 1939.

Milk Meals.—The free supply to necessitous cases during 1939 amounted to:—

For Expectant Mothers	168 gallons
For Nursing Mothers	399 gallons
For Infants and Children	1440 gallons
	<hr/>
Total	2,007 gallons
	<hr/>

Dental Treatment.—At the Dental Clinic, the following received treatment:—

Expectant Mothers	37
Pre-School Children	5
Extractions under general anæsthetic Nitrous Oxide Gas	20
Fillings—	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	3
Pre-School Children	1

Maternal Mortality.—According to the Registrar-General's Returns there have been no deaths from Puerperal causes since the year 1930.

(g) Health Visitors.

The visits paid by the Health Visitor were, in 1939:—

First Visits to Expectant Mothers	151
Total Visits to Expectant Mothers	611
First Visits to Children under 1 year of age	160
Total Visits to Children under 1 year of age	1746
Total Visits to Children between 1 and 5 years .. .	1879

(h) Child Life Protection.

Number of Persons on Register who received Children for reward at the end of the year 1939

2

Number of Children on Register:—

(1) At the end of 1939

(2) Who died during the year

2
0

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—(i) Water.

The water undertaking, owned by the Whitby Waterworks Company, maintained a plentiful supply during the year.

The Report of the Analysts, after making Chemical, Microscopic and Bacteriological Examinations, was as follows:—

Presumptive B.Coli test

Negative in 100 ml.

Clostridium Welchii test

Negative in 40 ml.

B.Enteriditis Sporogenes

Negative

B.Paratyphosis

Negative

and states:—

“The sample affords no evidence of any undesirable

form of pollution, and it is of good and wholesome quality

for human consumption.”

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

The Carr Hill Lane and Briggswath drainage and sewerage system has been entirely remodelled, and the main sewer has been connected by pipes below the bed of the River Esk with the sewerage system recently installed by the Rural District Council, at Sleights, and the effluent is dealt with at the treatment works and filter beds belonging to that Authority.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

This subject is dealt with at the end of this Report by the Sanitary Inspector, who is also in charge of the Public Cleansing Department.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

During 1939 no further Compulsory Purchase Orders have been made. Steady progress with re-housing displaced families has gone on. Of the total number of 334 families living in condemned houses, only 44 remained to be rehoused on December 31st, 1939.

Following upon formal action taken by the Council, an undertaking not to re-let for human habitation was accepted from the owner of Nos. 1 to 9 Olive Buildings and No. 9, Spital Bridge. Five of these dwellings are now empty, four families having been re-housed by the Council.

During the year, nine cottage-flats have been completed on the site of the old Smales Warehouse, in order to make provision for persons whose occupation rendered it necessary that they should live near the River. The rents charged for these are:—10/6d. inclusive for the three-bedroom type, and 12/- for the four-bedroom type. These are now all occupied.

Of the 284 houses which were to be demolished, only 52 have so far been pulled down, while of the 50 dwellings subject to Closing Orders 49 are empty.

DETAILS OF ACTION TAKEN ON INDIVIDUAL UNFIT PROPERTIES DURING 1939.

Address.	Closing orders made	Under-takings accepted	Date of Order	Remarks
12, Tate Hill Bank	1	1	7.2.39	Undertaking Completed
13, Tate Hill Bank	1	1	7.2.39	do.
19, Henrietta Street . . .	1	1	7.2.39	do.
		1		Order
1, Oswy Square	1		7.2.39	Determined
73a (1) Church Street..	1		1.8.39	Closed
73a (2) Church Street..	1		1.8.39	
Totals	6	4		

OVERCROWDING.

Number of Houses Over-crowded at end of 1939	134
Number of Families dwelling therein	134
Number of Persons involved	639
Number of New Cases of Overcrowding reported in 1939	4
Number of Cases of Overcrowding relieved in 1939	56
Number of Persons concerned	270

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There has been no undue incidence of Infectious Disease during the year 1939.

Free Immunisation against Diphtheria was given to 74 children, the Alum Precipitated Serum (single dose injection) is used.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	58	41	0
Diphtheria	8	7	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0
Pneumonia	25	0	4
Erysipelas	4	0	0

ANALYSIS OF AGE GROUPS.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysi- pelas.	Puerperal Pneumonia.	Pyrexia.
Under 1 year	0	0	0	3	0
1 year	1	0	0	2	0
2 years	2	0	0	1	0
3 years	2	0	0	1	0
4 years	3	2	0	2	0
5 years	22	4	0	3	0
10 years	26	1	0	4	0
15 years	15	0	0	1	0
20 years	5	1	1	2	0
35 years	3	0	1	1	1
45 years ..	2	0	1	4	0
65 years ..	0	0	1	1	0
Total	81	8	4	25	1

TUBERCULOSIS, 1939.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1 year...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 to 15 years...	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
15 to 25 years...	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 to 35 years...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 to 45 years...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 to 55 years...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
55 to 65 years...	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	4	2	1	2	0	1	0	1

Five Years:

1935	6	9	1	5	1	3	1	0
1936	5	7	3	4	3	6	1	1
1937	4	5	5	4	3	2	0	1
1938	8	2	8	5	5	2	1	0
1939	4	2	1	2	0	1	0	1
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Totals	27	25	18	20	12	14	3	3

SHIPPING.

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT OF WHITBY DURING 1939.

FOREIGN—

Steamers	0
Motor	1
Sailing	0
Fishing	5

COASTWISE—

Steamers	6
Motor	75
Sailing	0
Fishing	4

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, YEAR 1939

WHITBY	Air Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit.				Rain				Sunshine.		
	Means of		Mean of	Absolute Maximum and Minimum	Total Fall inches, Most in day	Days with .04 ins. or more	Days with .01 ins. or more	Days with No Rain	Most in a Day	Daily Average	Total Hours
	A Max.	B Min.									
1939											
January ...	43	35	39	55	3.99	.70	17	24	5	1.3	41.2
February ...	47	36	41	56	1.18	.47	4	8	15	3.0	86.1
March ...	48	37	43	57	1.73	.52	9	19	10	2.7	84.3
April ...	53	41	47	73	1.39	.25	10	14	14	5.7	171.7
May ...	57	43	50	77	1.84	.86	5	9	17	5.7	178.0
June ...	62	48	55	76	3.20	1.38	12	16	12	7.0	211.8
July ...	65	52	58	73	2.12	.47	9	15	12	5.5	172.4
August ...	66	53	59	71	2.5	.88	8	12	15	5.0	156.7
September ...	61	52	56	79	1.22	.20	12	19	9	3.1	94.1
October ...	53	43	48	59	5.7	1.02	19	24	5	2.7	84.3
November ...	50	42	46	59	2.72	.80	12	19	9	1.9	59.6
December ...	44	34	39	57	2.06	.41	11	17	13	1.3	40.4
Year ...	54	36	48	79	28.57	1.38	128	196	136	3.75	1380.6
Average for last 5 years.	53	42	47		29.13						1363.6

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Twenty-three private drains were reconstructed during the year.

Closet Accommodation, etc.

Accommodation in the District at present:—

Water Closets	4399
Dust Bins	3098
Dry Ash-Pits	232
Privies with removeable pans	120

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

There is a weekly collection, and in parts of the old town, bi-weekly, as is also the case throughout the Visiting Season.

All refuse is dealt with at the new Disposal Works, where it is mechanically screened, saleable materials salvaged, and screenings and cinders disposed of to farmers and gardeners.

By arrangement, refuse from certain parts of the Whitby Rural District is dealt with at these works.

MATERIALS SALVED DURING PAST 12 MONTHS.

	£	s.	d.
Screenings	142	3	0
Clinker	17	2	0
Cinders	28	9	0
Bones	5	14	2
Bottles and Jars	90	16	3
Heavy Scrap Metal	15	12	8
Rags	23	6	2
Cullet Glass	20	3	2
Baled Tins	188	18	0
Non-ferrous Metals	26	16	9
Miscellaneous	0	3	10
Hire of Wagon	9	12	0
Disposal of Rural Refuse	34	13	9
	£603 10 9		

Trade Refuse is not collected, but when delivered by tradesmen at the works is destroyed free of charge.

DETAILS OF COLLECTION OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE, 1939.

Month.	House Refuse (Freighter Loads).	Trade Refuse. (Loads).
January	157½	62
February	149½	66
March (five weeks)	197	91
April	169½	72
May (five weeks)	217	95
June	179	97½
July	219	110
August (five weeks)	306½	115
September	205½	68
October	147	59
November (five weeks)	192	70
December	147½	55
	2287	960½

Street Cleansing.

A regular staff of sweepers work on the beat system, they also cleanse street gullies. They work an average week of 47 hours. During Winter 44 hours, and during Summer 50 hours.

Public Lavatories.

There are six of these giving accommodation for both sexes. Two with accommodation for males only. A large new Public Convenience has been brought into use on the New Quay Road, near the Car Park and Bus Station.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

General	3076
Respecting Overcrowding Provisions ...	1393
Slaughter-houses	1103

WORKS CARRIED OUT.

Under Public Health and Housing Acts	34
Drainage	67
Housing repairs, renovations, etc.	227
Dairies and Cowsheds, improvements and renovations	55

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

There are 35 registered cow-keepers and 55 milk retailers in the district, the same number as last year. A large part of the town's milk supply is brought in from the surrounding Rural District.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Under the provision which came into force on October 1st, requiring the registration of premises used for the sale, preparation or manufacture of Sausages, Potted and Preserved Food, Ice-Cream, etc., fifty-two applications were received, and of these 32 have been put on the register.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The number of animals killed for food in Whitby during 1939, was estimated to be:—

Beasts	1000
Calves	150
Sheep	4000
Pigs	2600

The quantity of unfit food condemned was:—

Meat	461 st.
Offal	340 st.
Tinned Food	8 st.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Thirty-nine slaughter-men's licences were issued at a fee of one shilling in each case.

Offensive Trades.

There are now no offensive trades carried on in Whitby.

SECTION E--INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

There are 25 registered cowsheds and 23 milk
factories in the district. The same number as last year. A
large part of the county's milk supply is brought in from the
neighbouring Royal District.

Food and Drug Act, 1938.

Under the provisions which came into force on October
the 1st 1938 the Registrar of Companies had for the sale,
preparation or maintenance of packages, bottles and
containers for food, for liquid, etc., 1112 applications
were received and of these 22 have been put on the register.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The number of animals killed for food in Wiltshire
during 1938 was estimated to be--

Beef	1,200
Lamb	1,500
Pork	1,000
Other	500
Total	4,200

The quantity of such food consumed was--

Meat	400,000
Other	200,000
Total	600,000

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Thirty-nine slaughtermen's licences were issued at a
cost of one shilling in each case.

Offensive Trades.

There are now no offensive trades carried on in Wiltshire.

