

[Report 1943] / Medical Officer of Health, Wortley R.D.C.

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Wortley (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1943

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**WORTLEY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

INTERIM

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1943.

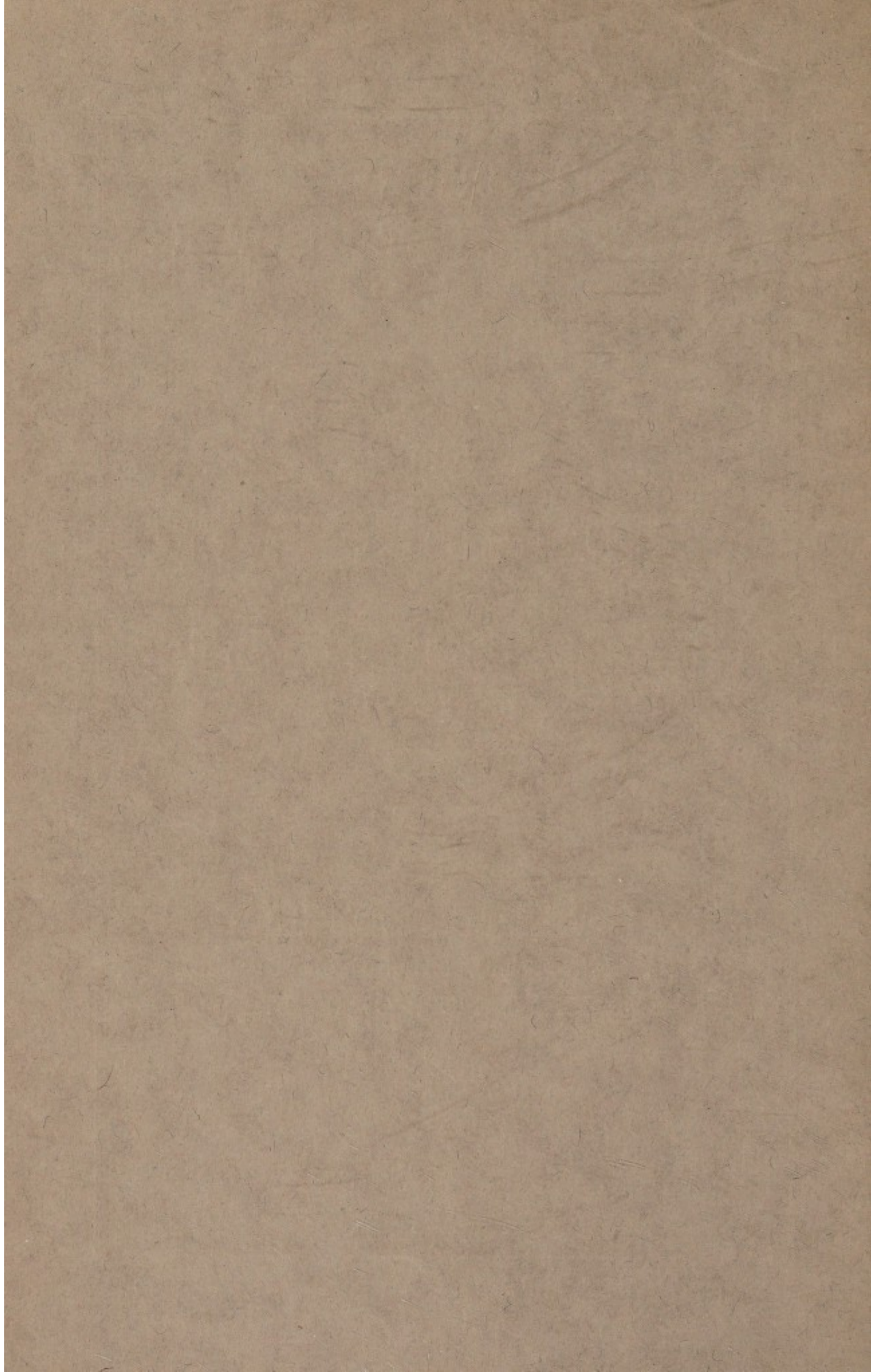
J. MAIN RUSSELL

(M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), B.Hy., D.P.H. Dunelm)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

MEXBOROUGH :
TIMES PRINTING COMPANY LIMITED

1944



**WORTLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1943.**

| | |
|------------|--|
| Councillor | W. P. Green (Chairman). |
| " | H. Ibbotson (Vice-Chairman). |
| " | W. J. Leverington, J.P. (Chairman of the Council). |
| " | Mrs. E. Hayes (deceased 29/6/43). |
| " | Mrs. L. Robinson (elected September, 1943). |
| " | Mrs. E. Stevenson. |
| " | Mrs. E. Wragg, M.B.E., J.P., C.C. |
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| " | T. Whittington. |

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

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| Medical Officer of Health | .. | J. MAIN RUSSELL, M.B., Ch.B.(Edin.), B.Hy., D.P.H. |
| Sanitary Inspectors | | J. W. HARRIS, M.S.I.A. J. C. CHAMBERS, M.S.I.A., Cert.M. & F.I. L. VICKERS, M.S.I.A., Cert.M. & F.I. |
| Clerk | | Miss F. MARSHALL. |

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Wortley Rural District Council.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an Interim Report upon the Health Services of the Wortley Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1943.

Like previous reports, this one must be considered an Interim one only, the mass of statistics being preserved for a fuller report on the health services during the war years, which report should be published after the termination of hostilities.

Restrictions have been again placed upon the publication of statistics which may enable substantial series of populations to be reconstructed. These restrictions, along with the absence of a comparability factor, undoubtedly are apt to lessen the interest in the report generally, for one cannot compare some statistics of one district with those for other parts of the country. One is totally unable to make any comment upon a true death rate.

Might I say, however, that during 1943 the vital statistics were reasonably satisfactory. The birth rate showed an increase, the crude death rate also showed an increase compared to 1942. The maternal mortality rate was nil for 1943 while the infantile mortality rate increased to the figure of approximately 48 per 1,000 live births.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Public Health and Hospital Committees, the Clerk and other officials of this Council and particularly the staff of the Health Department for their unflinching help and co-operation during the past year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. MAIN RUSSELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1944.

STATISTICS.

The Wortley Rural District covers an area of 48,697 acres. The district is divided into four parishes: Ecclesfield, Bradfield, Tankersley and Wortley. The approximate acreage for each is as follows:—

| Parish. | Acreage. | No. of Dwelling Houses. |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Ecclesfield | 6,147 | 5,176 |
| Bradfield | 35,134 | 2,881 |
| Tankersley | 2,436 | 559 |
| Wortley | 4,980 | 184 |
| Total | 48,697 | 8,800 |

The rateable value of the district is £192,226, while the product of a penny rate is £775 5s. 3d. as at December, 1943.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar-General has given a figure, but such cannot be published in this Report as requested in Circular 2604 of the Ministry of Health, dated 24th March, 1941.

The excess of births over deaths was 186.

Births.—During the year there were 540 live births—284 male and 256 female, an increase of 53 over 1942 figures. There were 12 illegitimate births.

Still Births.—During the year there were 17 Still Births, 12 male and 5 female, a decrease of 4 over the 1942 figures. There were no illegitimate still births.

Deaths.—The number of deaths credited to this District in 1943 was 354—169 male and 185 female, an increase of ⁶⁹14 compared to 1942.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS.

| Disease. | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cancer | 47 | 44 | 27 | 38 | 38 | 49 | 44 |
| Heart Disease and other Circulatory Diseases | 75 | 75 | 90 | 101 | 78 | 77 | 81 |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage | 29 | 31 | 31 | 52 | 48 | 40 | 43 |
| Nephritis | 12 | 4 | 5 | 14 | 7 | 9 | 10 |
| Peptic Ulcer and other Digestive Diseases | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 12 |
| Diabetes | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| Rheumatism | 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Venereal Disease | — | 2 | 2 | — | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Senility | — | 12 | 13 | 2 | — | 6 | 2 |
| Violence | 11 | 21 | 13 | 16 | 17 | 13 | 11 |
| Bronchitis | 12 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 21 | 17 | 30 |
| Pneumonia (all forms) | 13 | 17 | 20 | 23 | 13 | 16 | 24 |
| Other Respiratory Diseases | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 5 |
| Epidemic Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) | 13 | 9 | 8 | 13 | 9 | 7 | 28 |

TABLE SHOWING AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

| Age Group. | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Under 1 year | 16 | 10 | 24 | 9 | 20 | 26 |
| 1 — 2 years | 4 | 4 | 3 | 6 | — | 6 |
| 2 — 5 years | 3 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| 5 — 15 years | 13 | 3 | 5 | — | 6 | 11 |
| 15 — 25 years | 7 | 11 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 10 |
| 25 — 45 years | 22 | 22 | 30 | 31 | 20 | 52 |
| 45 — 65 years | 81 | 81 | 82 | 96 | 77 | 75 |
| 65 years and over | 141 | 151 | 192 | 142 | 154 | 190 |
| Total | 287 | 287 | 349 | 298 | 285 | 354 |

Infantile Mortality.—Twenty-six deaths, 10 male and 16 female, occurred amongst infants under 1 year, which is the highest Infantile Mortality rate since 1929. Although this is not in keeping with the gradual decline over the last decade in this district our figures still compare favourably with the rate for England and Wales and the country generally.

From the following table it can be seen at a glance that premature birth caused the largest number of deaths in the infant group.

| Cause of Death. | Under 1 week. | 1 to 2 weeks. | 2 to 3 weeks. | 3 to 4 weeks. | Total under 4 weeks. | 1 to 3 months. | 3 to 6 months. | 6 to 9 months. | 9 to 12 months. | Total under 1 year. |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | Prematurity | 7 | 1 | — | — | 8 | — | — | — | — |
| Congenital & Wasting Diseases | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 3 |
| Convulsions | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 |
| Pneumonia and Bronchitis .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | — | 4 |
| Tuberculosis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Whooping Cough | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 1 | 3 |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Pink Disease | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 7 | 2 | — | — | 9 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 26 |
| 1942 | 9 | — | — | 1 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 2 | — | 20 |
| 1941 | 4 | 1 | — | 1 | 6 | 2 | — | 1 | — | 9 |
| 1940 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 24 |
| 1939 | 8 | — | — | — | 8 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 10 |
| 1938 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 16 |
| 1937 | 11 | — | 1 | — | 12 | 1 | 3 | 2 | — | 18 |

Maternal Mortality.—There were no maternal deaths in the district during 1943.

AREAS OF RESIDENCE.

| District. | Parish. | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
|-----------------|----------------|------|------|------|------|
| Bradfield .. | Bradfield .. | — | — | 1 | — |
| Loxley .. | Bradfield .. | — | — | 1 | — |
| Stannington .. | Bradfield .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Worrall .. | Bradfield .. | 1 | 1 | — | 2 |
| Bolsterstone .. | Bradfield .. | 1 | — | — | — |
| Oughtibridge .. | Bradfield .. | 4 | — | — | 1 |
| Dungworth .. | Bradfield .. | 2 | — | — | — |
| Chapelton .. | Ecclesfield .. | 3 | 1 | 6 | 5 |
| High Green .. | Ecclesfield .. | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Ecclesfield .. | Ecclesfield .. | 7 | 3 | 5 | 1 |
| Grenoside .. | Ecclesfield .. | — | — | — | 2 |
| Birdwell .. | Tankersley .. | — | — | — | — |
| Tankersley .. | Tankersley .. | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Wortley .. | Wortley .. | — | — | — | 2 |

Epidemic Diseases.—The following table shows the principal causes of death in the Epidemic Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) group :

| Disease. | Number. | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Measles | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Diphtheria | — | — | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| Scarlet Fever | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Typhoid, etc. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cerebro-spinal Meningitis | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Influenza | 5 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 11 |
| Smallpox | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dysentery | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |

Inquests were held in 17 instances, and in 2 other instances the cause of death was certified by the Coroner after *Post Mortem* Examination without Inquest.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis.—During the year a total of 941 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified. Set out below are tables which are self-explanatory.

| Disease. | Total Cases Notified. | | | Cases admitted to our Isolation Hospital. | | | | Total Deaths. | | |
|--|-----------------------|------|------|---|------|------|------|---------------|------|--|
| | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | |
| Smallpox | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Scarlet Fever | 32 | 122 | 197 | 35 | 108 | 172 | — | — | — | |
| Diphtheria | 50 | 86 | 70 | 52 | 104 | 84 | 5 | 3 | 8 | |
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 3 | 7 | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Pneumonia (Notifiable) | 49 | 46 | 44 | 2 | 1 | — | 4 | 16 | 24 | |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 1 | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Cerebro-spinal Meningitis | 17 | 7 | 8 | 18 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | |
| Dysentery | 103 | 97 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | |
| Erysipelas | 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | |
| Measles | 263 | 184 | 534 | 4 | 3 | 6 | — | — | 3 | |
| Whooping Cough | 129 | 41 | 69 | 4 | 3 | — | — | — | 3 | |
| Malaria (believed to be contracted abroad) | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Typhoid | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | 4 | — | — | — | |
| Chicken Pox | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Mumps | — | 2 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | |
| Pemphigus | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |

| Age Groups. | D | | H | | D | | H | | D | | H | | D | | H | | D | | H | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | D | H | D | H | D | H | D | H | D | H | D | H | D | H | D | H | D | H | D | H | | | | | | |
| Under 1 year | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 1—2 yrs. | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 2—3 " | 3 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 3—4 " | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 4—5 " | 19 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 5—10 " | 81 | — | 20 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 10—15 " | 48 | — | 10 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 15—20 " | 19 | — | 12 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 20—35 " | 9 | — | 16 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 35—45 " | 3 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| 45—65 " | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| Over 65 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | |
| Totals (Sub) | 197 | — | 69 | 1 | 5 | — | 9 | — | 9 | — | 7 | — | 1 | — | 533 | 1 | 69 | — | 37 | 7 | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | |
| Totals | 197 | — | 70 | — | 5 | — | 9 | — | 9 | — | 7 | — | 1 | — | 534 | — | 69 | — | 44 | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | 2 | — |

D—Wortley Rural District.

H—Wharfedale Emergency Hospital and South Yorkshire Mental Hospital.

| DISTRICT. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Pneumonia. | Puerperal Pyrexia. | Ophthalmia Neonatorum. | Cerebro-spinal Meningitis. | Dysentery. | Measles. | Erysipelas | Whooping Cough. | Typhoid. |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------|----------|------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ecclesfield Parish : | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ecclesfield | 34 | 15 | 8 | — | — | — | — | 150 | 4 | 10 | 2 |
| Chapeltown | 31 | 20 | 3 | 4 | — | 2 | — | 116 | 1 | 24 | — |
| High Green | 36 | 2 | — | — | — | 2 | — | 75 | — | 3 | — |
| Hesley Lane | 3 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| Grenoside | 23 | 11 | 6 | — | — | — | — | 12 | — | 11 | — |
| Warren | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tankersley Parish : | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wentworth Station | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tankersley | 1 | 9 | 6 | — | — | 1 | — | 29 | 1 | 4 | — |
| Birdwell | 1 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 | — | — | — |
| Wortley Parish : | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wortley | 7 | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 10 | — | — | — |
| Bradfield Parish : | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Midhope | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — |
| Oughtibridge | 18 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 37 | 1 | 7 | — |
| Wharnccliffe Side | 13 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 30 | — | 4 | — |
| Worrall | 12 | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 6 | — | 1 | — |
| Loxley | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 13 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Stannington | 13 | 2 | 2 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 32 | — | 3 | — |
| Dungworth | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Hollow Meadows | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bradfield | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 6 | — | — | — |
| S.Y.M.H. & W.E.H. | — | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Total | 197 | 70 | 44 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 534 | 9 | 69 | 2 |

Scarlet Fever.—The year 1943 showed a continuation of the increase in the incidence of Scarlet Fever which has been the general trend in this district since 1940. There were 197 cases notified during the year. The attack rate in this district was more than double that for England and Wales generally.

It would appear therefore that we are once again approaching the crest of the wave of incidence of Scarlet Fever in this district, the last crest being in 1935, when there were 190 cases. The previous crest to that was in 1929, when there were 265 cases. As it is usual for the incidence of Scarlet Fever to follow these waves, the 1943 increased incidence was expected and it is highly probable the peak will not be reached until 1944.

Generally speaking the type of Scarlet Fever seen in this district was mild. Of the number of cases admitted to Hospital I do not think there were more than 6 that could be called "seriously ill." In many cases quite a number of the notified cases had been found to be suffering from Scarlet Fever while engaged in their daily work or while at School.

The areas principally affected during 1943 were High Green, Ecclesfield, Chapeltown and Grenoside.

There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever in this district during 1943.

Diphtheria.—During the year, 83 cases of Diphtheria were either notified by official notification or admitted to the Isolation Hospital for diagnosis. Of these cases 16 proved to be negative, making a nett total of 67 positive cases. Of these 67 cases 4 occurred in Institutions in the area, making 63 "district" cases during the year. This is a decrease of 22 compared with the 1942 figures.

On considering the age incidence of the disease, we again notice the largest number in the age group "5—10" but another interesting fact can be seen from the apparently large incidence of this disease in the "20—35" age group. There was also an increase in the incidence in the "35—45" age group. Another interesting feature about the cases of Diphtheria was the fact that 3 cases of Diphtheria under 1 year were notified. Of these three cases one proved not to be Diphtheria and recovered and was discharged from Hospital. The other two children died. There did not seem to be any doubt that both these children were clinical cases of Laryngeal Diphtheria.

Of the number of cases admitted to Hospital, 6 children under the age of 16 had been immunised. The records of 4 of these cases were found and proof was established that they had been immunised, while in the case of the other 2 no conclusive records could be obtained. All other cases admitted had not been immunised.

There were 8 deaths from Diphtheria during the year in the Isolation Hospital, 6 of these were under the age of 7 and 2 others were respectively 14 years and 21 years. One of the cases who died in the Isolation Hospital was admitted from Stocksbridge. Another case of Diphtheria died in the Children's Hospital in Sheffield—a child of 4. None of these cases had been immunised.

The areas principally affected were Chapeltown and Ecclesfield.

One wonders, when considering even the relatively small number of 9 deaths, what the position might have been had those children previously received protective immunisation against Diphtheria. I think it can be proved beyond doubt that the death rate from this dreadful disease can be more or less eliminated if children receive adequate protection by immunisation. Yet I find that some parents resolutely refuse to give their children this protection. Still I am certain that the public at large are becoming "immunisation minded." It has taken a long while to bring about this state of affairs, but I find generally in this district that there is a marked interest being shown in the matter of immunisation. This is all to the good. During 1943, 1,782 children received protection against Diphtheria—501 were under the age of 5. At 31st December, 1943, I estimate that over 95% of the children between the ages of 5 and 15 and over 68% between the ages of 1 and 5 in this district had received this protection.

I consider this a very satisfactory standard of protection, although I would like to see still more of the younger age group protected.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—There were 5 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia, all of whom were treated in Hospital.

There were no deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—There were 2 cases, both satisfactorily treated in Hospital.

Measles.—During 1943 there were 534 cases of Measles notified, an increase of 371 on the previous year.

The increased incidence of Measles noted in the autumn of 1942 continued well on into 1943, the highest peak of infection being about the months of February and March with a gradual decline towards the end of the year.

The attack rate for Measles in this district was more than twice that for England and Wales generally.

The areas principally affected were Ecclesfield and Chapeltown. There is no doubt whatever that a number of cases of Measles were never notified to my Department, and in fact had never been seen by a Doctor at all. The figures given me, therefore, cannot be taken as a factual record of the Measles incidence in this district but it is enough to indicate that this district was visited during 1943 with a very sharp epidemic. Generally speaking, it was not of a very severe type, but there were 3 deaths, all children under the age of 3.

Measles is not the simple disease that some people think it is. Measles is a very highly infectious disease and its effect on the health of a child may be very serious indeed. It must not be taken lightly.

Whooping Cough.—There was a slight increase in the number of cases of Whooping Cough during the year as compared to the year 1942. The attack rate for this district was less than that for England and Wales. The disease was of a moderately severe type. The age groups chiefly affected were the "5—10" and "2—3" groups.

There were 3 deaths, all children under the age of 1 year.

The districts concerned in the epidemic were Chapeltown and to a lesser degree Grenoside and Ecclesfield.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.—During the year under review 9 cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis were notified either by official notification or admission to Hospital for investigation. Of these 3 proved not to be Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, leaving a nett total of 6 cases for the year. This is one case less than in 1942.

The attack rate in this district is slightly higher than that for England and Wales generally.

There were 3 deaths, 2 of whom died in the Isolation Hospital.

Pneumonia.—There were 44 cases of Pneumonia notified, 7 of which were notified from one of the larger Hospitals. These were sub-divided as 35 Acute Primary Pneumonia and 9 Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

Typhoid Fever.—Two cases of Typhoid were notified in the district during the year. Both cases were resident in Ecclesfield, one was a boy of 17 years reported in June, 1943, and the other a boy of 15 years, reported in October, 1943. Both cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, not as cases of Typhoid Fever but for investigation as possible cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis. They both presented an atypical clinical picture and were diagnosed to be suffering from Typhoid Fever during bacteriological investigation. When the diagnosis was established extensive enquiries were made and no source of infection was found in either case. Both cases were unconnected and no carriers amongst immediate contacts were found. There were no further cases.

There were no deaths.

Erysipelas.—There were 9 cases notified during the year, one more than in 1942. This is still a very low incidence of this infection and compares favourably with the attack rate for England and Wales generally.

There were no deaths.

CLOSING OF SCHOOLS.

Although there were sharp localised outbreaks of various infectious diseases such as Scarlet Fever, Measles and Whooping Cough, it was not found necessary during the year to recommend the closure of any of the Schools.

Tuberculosis.—During the year under review 28 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified in the district, an increase of 5 as compared with 1942 figures. Of these 21 were Respiratory Tuberculosis and 7 were other forms of Tuberculosis.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the Tuberculosis cases and the details of the deaths.

| Age Periods. | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---|-----------|---|--------------|---|-----------|---|
| | Respiratory. | | Non-Resp. | | Respiratory. | | Non-Resp. | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| 0 to 1 year | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 1 to 5 years | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 5 to 15 years | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 15 to 25 years | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | — | 1 |
| 25 to 35 years | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| 35 to 45 years | 5 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 45 to 55 years | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55 to 65 years | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 65 and upwards | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 16 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 |

AREA OF DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

| District. | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | |
|------------------------------|--------------|---|------------------|---|
| | M | F | M | F |
| Parish of Ecclesfield | | | | |
| Ecclesfield | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| High Green | 2 | — | — | 1 |
| Chapelton | — | — | 2 | — |
| Parish of Tankersley | 1 | — | — | — |
| Parish of Bradfield | | | | |
| Oughtibridge | 5 | 3 | — | — |
| Stannington | 3 | 1 | — | — |
| W.R.M.H. | 1 | — | — | — |
| Wharnccliffe Side | 1 | — | — | — |
| Worrall | — | — | 1 | 1 |

During the year 11 cases were admitted to Sanatoria for treatment.

Two deaths occurred in persons who had not been previously notified.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

INFESTATIONS.

Scabies.—Although I have heard unconfirmed rumours of the prevalence of Scabies in the district I have had no direct evidence whatever that there is any marked infestation of the public generally.

The County Medical Officer has asked his Assistant Medical Officers, Health Visitors, etc., to notify any cases of Scabies met with in the exercise of their various duties to the district Medical Officer of Health, and during 1943 there were only 8 such notifications sent to me. There are possibly one or two families where infestation was widespread, but after a course of treatment by their own Doctor, the infestation was controlled.

In this district there is no Cleansing Station for the out-patient treatment of Scabies. As mentioned in my report of last year, the County Emergency Committee gave their consent to the County Medical Officer for the use of Fixed First Aid Posts as Cleansing Stations and I endeavoured to get the voluntary staff at the First Aid Post at Chapelton to offer their services in connection with the cleansing of people infested with Scabies, but was unsuccessful. One is not without sympathy with these volunteer First Aid personnel in their refusal to act in this capacity. There is no doubt at all that a Cleansing Station would be of some value and it might become essential at some future date. In-patient treatment for Scabies on the other hand is largely the responsibility of the County Council. Arrangements can be made for in-patient treatment by application through the district Medical Officer of Health to the County Medical Officer. I have had no requests during the year for in-patient treatment for Scabies.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Influenza.—Like many parts of the country generally, we were visited during the latter part of the year with a fairly sharp Influenza epidemic. I have no official figures, but from information received from the various General Practitioners it would appear that the type was fairly severe. The older age groups were particularly affected.

We had 11 deaths from Influenza during the year. Except for one person aged 30, all deaths ranged from 65 to 88 years. The death rate in this district was equal to the Influenza death rate for England and Wales generally.

Venereal Diseases.—Since we are not an authority for dealing with Venereal Disease services I have no records or statistics to give at all for 1943. During the year we were asked by the County Medical Officer to help in propaganda work by the distribution of literature and the distribution of posters. Everything we could do was done to help in this very important work.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Isolation Hospitals.—There are two Isolation Hospitals provided by the District Council :

- (1) At Grenoside for the commoner type of Infectious Disease ;
- (2) At Hallwood for cases of Smallpox.

At Grenoside, the hospital is roughly divided into sections, one part for Diphtheria and the other part for Scarlet Fever. On the basis of 144 sq. ft. per bed and 72 sq. ft. per cot, there is a total of 18 beds and 8 cots. There are available, however, 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 2 cots for Scarlet Fever cases, and 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 3 cots for Diphtheria cases. There is also a cubicle observation block containing 4 cubicles. Available in this block are 7 beds and 1 cot. At Hallwood there are available 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 5 cots.

HOSPITALS COMMITTEE, 1943.

| | |
|------------|--|
| Councillor | Mrs. E. Hayes (Chairman—deceased 29/6/43). |
| „ | H. Ibbotson (elected Chairman July, 1943). |
| „ | Mrs. E. Stevenson (Vice-Chairman). |
| „ | W. J. Leverington, J.P. (Chairman of the Council). |
| „ | Mrs. E. Robinson (elected September, 1943). |
| „ | Mrs. E. Wragg, M.B.E., J.P., C.C. |
| „ | H. E. Boswell. |
| „ | F. Chambers, J.P. |
| „ | J. F. Frost. |
| „ | W. P. Green, |
| „ | T. W. Hulley, J.P. |
| „ | A. Lomas. |
| „ | D. Mount. |
| „ | W. H. Marlow. |
| „ | G. E. Plant. |
| „ | Col. H. S. Walker. |
| „ | W. Ward. |
| „ | T. Whittington. |

Staff :

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Medical Superintendent | .. | Medical Officer of Health. |
| Matron | | Miss C. Major, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N. |
| Assistant Nurses : | | |
| Category "C" | .. | Miss J. Nicholls. |
| " "D" | .. | Miss B. Boswell. |
| 7 Assistant Nurses | Category "E". | |

There are kitchen and domestic staff, 2 gardeners and porters.

During the year under review a total of 283 cases was admitted to hospital, as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Scarlet Fever or suspected | Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. | 172 |
| Diphtheria | Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. | 84 |
| | Pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| | Measles | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| | Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. | — |
| | Cerebro-spinal Meningitis | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| | Typhoid Fever | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| | Other cases | .. | .. | .. | 7 |

During 1943 we dealt with more patients in the Isolation Hospital than in any previous year. Complete records are not available, but so far as can be ascertained this was our busiest year. A number of these cases were non-civilian.

The Isolation Hospital admissions during the last year might show an increase compared with the average for the past years. This might be explained by the fact that at my suggestion General Practitioners have been sending patients for investigation rather than risk the possibility of infectious disease remaining at home until the Laboratory results were obtained. As a result, therefore, a number of cases come into Hospital and after investigation are proved to be non-infectious and they have returned home. I consider that this is an essential part of the Isolation Hospital's work and that if the principle of isolation is to be fully practicable then it is advisable that all cases with any possibility of being infectious should be admitted to the Isolation Hospital if such cases cannot be efficiently isolated at home.

There were 11 deaths—8 cases of Diphtheria, 2 cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis and 1 case of Broncho Pneumonia. All the other cases recovered. No cases were admitted to Hallwood during 1943.

Laboratory Facilities.—All necessary facilities are available at the County Laboratory, Wakefield, and any urgent diagnostic examinations have been carried out at the Laboratory of the Sheffield University. The cost of the latter examination is met by this Council.

Besides the Laboratory Service at Wakefield there is an emergency Laboratory Service in various parts of the country, which can be utilised in case of national emergency.

Bacteriological Examinations were made by the County Laboratory of 111 specimens during 1943. They were as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Bloods for Cytological Exam. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Bloods for Widal Reaction | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli | .. | .. | .. | .. | 17 |
| Swabs for C. Diphtheriae | .. | .. | .. | .. | 44 |
| Urines and Faeces for B. Typhosus | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14 |
| Miscellaneous specimens | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14 |
| Swabs for Haemolytic Streps | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14 |
| Urines for Friedman Test | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |

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Ambulance Facilities.—This Council possesses two motor ambulances for use at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

In the event of their ambulances being out of commission, this Council have an arrangement with Sheffield Corporation for the use of one of their fleet attached to Lodge Moor Isolation Hospital at a charge of 2s. 6d. per mile for the mileage covered out and home.

Ambulance facilities for cases of sickness are provided by the Sheffield Central Ambulance Services for all contributors to the 1d. in the £ scheme of the Sheffield Joint Hospitals and for all necessitous poor and old age pensioners. The Sheffield Central Ambulance Services are available for non-contributors in the district for any case of sickness as the result of the District Council making an annual contribution to the Service. All street and road accidents are dealt with by the Police.

Clinics.—In the area there are nine Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. They are at Chapeltown, Ecclesfield, Grenoside, High Green, Tankersley, Oughtibridge, Stannington, Loxley and Worrall. The clinic at Stocksbridge is available for those resident in that part of the parish of Bradfield nearest to Stocksbridge.

Hallamshire Maternity Home.—The County Council have a Maternity Home at Chapeltown, which was opened in 1940. This most modern and up-to-date hospital, magnificently equipped, has 22 beds for the reception of cases from the administrative County. Arrangements can be made for the admission of private cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Chapeltown, High Green and Ecclesfield.

Venereal Disease Clinics.—There are 5 Special Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease, particulars of which are given below:—

| <i>Address.</i> | <i>Days and Hours of Attendance.</i> | |
|--|---|--|
| | Men. | Women and Children. |
| Barnsley (Queen's Road) | Mon., 6—8 p.m. | Mon., 2.30—4.30 p.m. |
| | Thurs., 6—8.30 p.m. | Thurs., 2.30—6 p.m. |
| Rotherham (No. 12, Frederick St.) | Tues., 9.30 a.m.— 12.30 p.m., and 5.30—8 p.m. | Tuesday, 2—5 p.m. Thurs., 2—5 p.m. Fri., 5.30—8 p.m. |
| | Fri., 9.30 a.m.— 12.30 p.m. | Sat., 9.30 a.m.— 12.30 p.m. |
| | — | Tues., 4—6 p.m. |
| | — | Thurs., 4—6 p.m. |
| Sheffield (Jessop Hosp. for Women) | — | Sat., 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. |
| | — | — |
| Royal Hospital | Tuesday, 6 p.m. | Thurs., 11 a.m. |
| | Thurs., 6 p.m. | Fri., 6 p.m. |
| Royal Infirmary | Tues., 5—7 p.m. | Tues., 2—4 p.m. |
| | Wed., 5—8 p.m. | — |
| | Fri., 6—8 p.m. | — |

Tuberculosis.—The greater part of the District is served by the Dispensary at Wadsley Bridge. For those patients in that part of Bradfield nearest to Stocksbridge, the dispensary there is available, while the Barnsley Dispensary is available for patients from the Tankersley district.

Mortuary.—The public mortuary and post-mortem room at Grenoside belonging to the District Council is available for the whole area.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

By arrangement between the West Riding County Council and the Wortley Rural District Council I commenced duties as School Medical Inspector in this district on the 1st July, 1943. There are approximately 3,047 children attending the 19 schools with 25 departments.

A report on the School Medical Services for the County is produced by the School Medical Officer, which report will include the statistics for the schools in this area.

I feel that my duties as School Medical Inspector will be a great help in my work as Medical Officer of Health. One has always been conscious of a lack of contact with the children of the district. I always had every help from the parent body and the head teachers in the respective schools and had every facility to visit Schools to make any necessary enquiries. Irrespective of these facilities, there seemed to be a deficiency of detail which one would have liked to possess. As a result of the new arrangement, therefore, I have been given a valuable opportunity of obtaining much reliable information concerning a most important section of the population which will contribute greatly in the final assessment of the health of the district.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply.—The rainfall for the year, recorded at the Sewage Works, Ecclesfield (172 feet above Ordnance datum) was 22.88 inches.

This figure is lower than that for 1942 (24.77 inches) and considerably below the average for the past 17 years, which is 29.04 inches.

The driest month was March and the wettest January.

Of the 8,800 houses in the district, 8,327 obtain their water supply from one or other of the following undertakings :

1. Sheffield Corporation Waterworks.
2. Barnsley Corporation Waterworks.
3. Wortley Estate Waterworks.
4. Dearne Valley Water Board.
5. Wortley Council Hallbroom Supply.
6. Whitley Private Supply.

Supplies numbered 1, 2 and 3 are from upland surface impounding reservoirs. Measures are taken at the Waterworks to counteract the natural plumbo-solvent tendencies of the water.

Supplies 4, 5 and 6 are well supplies and are less acid in character.

All these undertakings provide a wholesome and usually a constant and sufficient supply of drinking water.

The remaining 473 isolated farms and houses obtain their water supplies from private wells and springs. Where pollution is likely to occur, occupiers have received instructions to boil the water before consumption.

The new borehole at Hallbroom which was completed in December of last year at a depth of 450 feet 6 inches is not yet available to augment the supply from the existing borehole. It is expected that arrangements for the installation of the necessary pumping apparatus will be completed during next year. Pumping tests and analyses of the water have shown the supply to be satisfactory as regards both quantity and quality.

During the year, 6 samples of water were taken from various supplies in the district for chemical and bacteriological examination. Two of the samples were unsatisfactory, and immediate steps were taken to eradicate the cause of the pollution.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING.

The following table shows the number of houses, water closets, privies, etc., in the District at the end of the year:—

| Locality. | Water | | Privies. | Pail Closets. | Ash-pits. | Ash-bins. |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Houses. | Closets. | | | | |
| Ecclesfield | 1512 | 1246 | 58 | 1 | 140 | 1247 |
| Chapelton & High Green | 2743 | 2322 | 103 | — | 198 | 2283 |
| Grenoside | 761 | 539 | 126 | — | 156 | 510 |
| Thorpe | 160 | 69 | 43 | — | 42 | 44 |
| Total, Ecclesfield Parish .. | 5176 | 4176 | 330 | 1 | 536 | 4084 |
| Wadsley | 43 | 26 | 2 | — | 6 | 40 |
| Worrall | 279 | 216 | 32 | — | 37 | 210 |
| Oughtibridge | 822 | 656 | 49 | 2 | 114 | 573 |
| Wharncliffe Side | 224 | 169 | 37 | — | 58 | 141 |
| Loxley | 308 | 192 | 88 | — | 93 | 178 |
| Stannington | 900 | 594 | 171 | 7 | 173 | 584 |
| Bradfield | 104 | 10 | 66 | 4 | 59 | 10 |
| Hollow Meadows | 41 | 24 | 13 | 4 | 16 | 10 |
| Midhope | 44 | 3 | 22 | 14 | 26 | 1 |
| Rest of Bradfield | 116 | 23 | 68 | 29 | 82 | — |
| Total, Bradfield Parish .. | 2881 | 1913 | 548 | 60 | 664 | 1747 |
| Tankersley Parish | 559 | 490 | 76 | 4 | 99 | 418 |
| Wortley Parish | 184 | 108 | 97 | — | 83 | 51 |
| Grand Totals | 8800 | 6687 | 1051 | 65 | 1382 | 6300 |

Privy Conversions.—During the year, 11 privies were converted into water closets and 2 additional W.C.'s were provided. Six ashpits were replaced by 12 ashbins.

Scavenging.—The whole of the district with the exception of a few out-lying farms and houses is publicly scavenged by direct labour. Mechanical transport is utilised throughout.

The scavenging staff remains at 19 loaders, 5 drivers and 3 tip controllers. One of the latter is employed part time only.

Six vehicles are utilised for scavenging duties, one of these being hired complete with driver to scavenge the Tankersley and Wortley parishes. During the year, a Ford V8 2 Tonner lorry which had become unroadworthy, was replaced by a new Dennis 4 Ton vehicle.

All refuse collected is disposed of on the tips at Ecclesfield, Westwood, Tankersley, Wortley and Worrall. These tips are controlled by specially engaged staff and no complaints of nuisances from these tips have been received.

An agreement was reached with the L.M.S. Railway to tip on land adjoining the existing Ecclesfield tip. This arrangement does not, however, dispense with the urgent necessity for the acquisition of a new tipping site to serve Ecclesfield and Grenoside.

The estimated weight of refuse collected, removed and disposed of during the year is 10,812 tons at a cost of £6629 3s. 6d.

These figures represent an approximate weight of 1.23 tons and an approximate cost of 15s. 1d. per household per annum.

The increase in cost during 1943 was due chiefly to increases in wages of scavenging personnel.

The service has been satisfactorily maintained despite the extra calls made upon it by the salvage effort and other additional duties.

Salvage.—A total weight of 273½ tons of waste material valued at £1,382 was salvaged by the Council during the year and an additional 116 tons by private enterprise.

These figures which represent a weight of 100 lbs. and a value of 3/1½ per household per annum, show a reduction both in tonnage and value compared with those for 1942.

Articles salvaged included paper (sold in three grades), ferrous and non-ferrous metals, rags, bones, bottles and jars, rubber and twine. All these commodities had a ready sale. Special transport was necessary for the removal of the 50 tons of unbaled tins disposed of during the year and as the price received barely covered this special expense, no value has been allocated to this article in the comparative table set out hereunder.

| Commodity. | Salvage Statistics—1943. | | | | | | Salvage Statistics—1942. | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| | Weight. | | | Value. | | | Weight. | | | Value. | | |
| | T. | C. | Qrs. | £ | s. | d. | T. | C. | Qrs. | £ | s. | d. |
| Paper (Council) .. | 164 | 7 | 1 | 1059 | 5 | 10 | 207 | 8 | 1 | 1164 | 2 | 11 |
| Paper (Priv. Ent.) .. | 116 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | 142 | 5 | 0 | — | — | — |
| Scrap (Ferrous) .. | 20 | 7 | 2 | 43 | 15 | 4 | 29 | 10 | 1 | 72 | 5 | 4½ |
| Scrap (Non-Ferrous) | | 4 | 1½ | 4 | 16 | 2 | | 19 | 3½ | 32 | 0 | 5 |
| Scrap (Unbaled Tins) | 50 | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | 30 | 13 | 2 | — | — | — |
| Bones | 11 | 10 | 0½ | 54 | 9 | 9 | 12 | 6 | 1½ | 45 | 16 | 7½ |
| Rags | 13 | 18 | 3 | 164 | 4 | 8½ | 12 | 7 | 3 | 192 | 13 | 9 |
| Bottles and Jars .. | 6 | 18 | 0 | 39 | 15 | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Rubber | 6 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Twine | | 2 | 1 | | 11 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 389 | 11 | 1¾ | £1381 | 18 | 1½ | 438 | 15 | 1 | £1524 | 0 | 11 |

The hutments at Pack Horse Lane, Mortomley and Mill Road, Ecclesfield, continue to be used as storage and baling depots, one man being employed at each. A disused house at Ecclesfield is utilised for the storage of glass bottles and jars and the more valuable metals.

The special national salvage effort for 1943 took the form of a "Book Recovery and Salvage Drive." A general target of 2 books per household was fixed making the collection of 60,000 books the aim of this district. The total reached was rather disappointing at 31,000. The percentage of bound books collected was very high considering the appeals which had already been made as part of other special efforts and during the ordinary salvage collection, but the number of periodicals handed in was much below expectation. It was unfortunate that the period of the drive coincided with School holidays in some parts of the district. Of the 31,000 collected and scrutinized, 4,750 were earmarked for distribution to the Services, 150 were earmarked by libraries and the remaining 26,100 were disposed of as salvage.

A summary of salvage returns made by all local authorities in Yorkshire for the year ended 31st October, 1943, was compiled by the Honorary District Adviser. Extracts from this and the previous summaries are set out below and illustrate the satisfactory progress of our campaign.

Value of Salvage in £'s per 1000 population.

| Authority. | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | Total. | Annual Avege. over whole period. |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|--------|--|
| Wortley R.D. . . | 17.3 | 29.9 | 47.7 | 46.4 | 141.3 | 35.3 |
| Average of All R.D.'s in Yorks. | 11.3 | 23.6 | 49.4 | 41.1 | 125.4 | 31.3 |

Nuisances.—During the year 1,407 visits were made for the detection and abatement of nuisances and the supervision of work in progress. The number of nuisances dealt with, including 15 outstanding from last year was 184, and of these 166 were abated. 154 Informal Notices and 2 Statutory Notices were served during the year of which 147 and 1 respectively were complied with.

The 169 nuisances reported during the year comprised :—

- 61 choked and defective drains.
 - 35 choked and defective water closets.
 - 45 defective roofs, spouting, etc.
 - 4 defective floors.
 - 7 defective ashbins.
 - 4 defective privies.
 - 6 accumulations of refuse.
 - 2 nuisances arising from the keeping of animals,
- and 5 other nuisances.

VERMINOUS HOUSES.

During the year, 300 visits were made to 161 houses in the district for the purpose of detecting and dealing with bed bugs and cockroaches.

The procedure adopted successfully during the past few years for the treatment of premises infested with bed bugs has been persevered with during 1943, i.e., "Zaldecide" has been used as a contact spray and lethal vapour, and sulphur as a fumigant. A combination of these agents was employed in bad cases.

Following the discovery of several cases of bed bug infestation due to the purchase of infested second hand furniture publicity was given to this danger. Despite the offer of free examination and, if necessary, treatment of such furniture, no requests have been received for the services offered.

Owing to the control of supplies of pyrethrum powder by the Government, none of this very effective insecticide has been available for general use to either local authorities or proprietary insecticide manufacturers since the early part of the year. Sodium Fluoride has been utilised generally as a substitute. Owing to the poisonous nature of this powder to human beings, free distribution of cockroach insecticide by the Council was discontinued. Leaflets recommending the use of Sodium Fluoride, pointing out its poisonous properties and giving directions as to its most effective use have been distributed to infested premises. There are ample supplies of the powder available for this purpose.

The following table gives details of inspections carried out during the year :

| Ward. | No. of Visits. | Houses found | | | | Houses | | Insecticide left. |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------|---------------|-----------|----------|---------|-------------------|
| | | In-spected. | Bugs. | Cock-roaches. | Crickets. | Sprayed. | Stoved. | |
| Chapeltown | 50 | 24 | 13 | 1 | — | 2 | 2 | 14 |
| Ecclesfield .. | 35 | 20 | 5 | 4 | — | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| Westnall .. | 65 | 37 | 6 | 18 | — | 5 | — | 22 |
| High Green | 90 | 42 | 12 | 27 | — | 3 | 6 | 36 |
| Tankersley .. | 15 | 10 | 3 | — | 2 | — | 1 | 6 |
| Grenoside .. | 20 | 9 | 2 | 2 | — | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Stannington | 25 | 19 | 1 | 6 | — | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| Totals .. | 300 | 161 | 42 | 58 | 2 | 18 | 14 | 98 |

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919—Infestation Order, 1943.—

Additional legislation dealing with the extermination of rats and mice came into operation in May 1943. The Infestation Order, 1943, empowers the Ministry of Food to direct local authorities to carry out in their respective areas specified works for the extermination of rats and mice.

Short courses of instruction on the life history and habits of rats and mice were arranged for rodent officers of local authorities by the Ministry of Food and practical demonstrations of the most modern methods of rat extermination were included in each course.

Mr. Vickers, one of the Sanitary Inspectors, attended a course held in Sheffield.

Two "directions" under the order were received by the Council during the year. The first, dated 30th June, directed local authorities to make a survey of their respective districts for the purpose of locating rat and mouse infestations and in the second dated 9th November, instructions were received to take action on specified lines. The object of the latter instruction was to establish a uniform action procedure throughout the country.

The survey referred to above was almost completed in this district by the end of the year. Action was taken in the worst cases which were on Council property with very successful results. 65 visits were made in connection with this work.

Infestations on agricultural property are being dealt with by operatives working under the control of the local War Agricultural Executive Committee.

The distribution of proprietary rat baits free of charge by this Council which has hitherto been the procedure adopted in case of complaint, should, in the light of present experience, be discontinued. Better results can be achieved if disinfection is carried out by, or under the supervision of, this Department with baits recommended by the Ministry of Food. Where, either on request or in default following the service of a notice under the Act of 1919, the work is carried out by the Council, a charge should be made to cover the expense involved. Irrecoverable charges which exceed the 1938 expenditure on rat and mouse destruction will be re-imbursed by the Ministry of Food but no contribution will be made where a free service is operated.

Shops Act, 1930.—Thirty inspections were made under the above Act during the year. There are 103 shops on the register and all have suitable sanitary accommodation. No unsatisfactory conditions were found.

Moveable Dwellings.—There has been a large increase in the number of moveable dwellings in the district during the past year, the total now being approximately 140. With very few exceptions, these dwellings are occupied only at week-ends and during holiday periods.

Applications were received for licences to use 4 sites for moveable dwellings under the provision of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Two of these applications were refused and subsequently one of the applications appealed to the magistrate. The appeal had not been heard at the end of the year. The other two applications are under consideration. The number of licensed sites in the district is 5.

During the year six trailer caravans, which were being occupied habitually, were located on an unlicensed site at Tankersley. Informal action was taken and they were removed. The same dwellings were later found on an unlicensed site at Chapelton and following further correspondence they were removed from the district.

150 visits were made to ensure that the occupants of the moveable dwellings in the district were complying with the requirements.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—During the year 778 inspections of the cow sheds and dairies in the district were made. Thirty-five notices were served on cow-keepers to cleanse and lime-wash the premises and all complied with the terms of their respective notices:

The following are the details of the classification of premises and purveyors in the district:—

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Registered Cow-keepers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 229 |
| Producer retailers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 183 |
| Producer wholesalers | .. | .. | .. | .. | 46 |
| Retailers only | .. | .. | .. | .. | 27 |

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, one licence is in force for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk, and 15 for Accredited milk. Three supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised milk were issued by the District Council. A plant for bottling Pasteurised Milk is in operation in the district.

During the year 52 samples were taken by the West Riding County Council Sampling Officer. Seventeen of these samples were from school milk suppliers, 7 being unsatisfactory. Of the remaining 35 samples, a further 7 were unsatisfactory. Special visits were made to the farms concerned. Shortage of labour is the predominant explanation of the cause of the unsatisfactory samples.

Meat Inspection.—The only slaughtering in the district is for the feeder's personal use under Food Circular F.I.G.107.

281 pigs have been slaughtered for this purpose and inspection of the carcasses was carried out.

Requests for the inspection of small quantities of defective tinned goods have been received from retailers from time to time.

HOUSING.

No dwelling houses were erected during the year either by private enterprise or by the Council.

The total number of dwelling houses in the district is 8,800.

Since 1930, 2,121 have been built by private enterprise and the total number of Council houses is now 1,334.

The distribution of these houses is as follows:—

| | By Council. | By Private Enterprise. |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Ecclesfield Parish : | | |
| Ecclesfield | 298 | 413 |
| High Green | 330 | 392 |
| Chapelton | 220 | 312 |
| Grenoside | 63 | 6 |
| Thorpe Hesley | — | — |
| Bradfield Parish : | | |
| Oughtibridge | 154 | 158 |
| Worrall | 18 | 142 |
| Stannington | 84 | 381 |
| Loxley | 50 | 57 |
| Dungworth | 8 | 4 |
| Middlewood | — | 74 |
| Wadsley | — | 5 |
| Wharnccliffe Side | — | 70 |
| Other parts of the Parish | — | 38 |
| Tankersley Parish | 106 | 58 |
| Wortley Parish | — | 11 |
| Totals | 1334 | 2121 |

Eight empty houses have been requisitioned under the Defence Regulations for the use of families rendered homeless by enemy action. Seven of these houses were the subject of Demolition or Compulsory Purchase Orders and sufficient repairs have been carried out to make them suitable for temporary shelters.

In view of the large number of applications for Council houses received from lodger families, it is to be hoped that permission will be received for the erection of a reasonable number of houses as soon as possible after the cessation of hostilities. It would be imprudent to embark on any slum clearance scheme until the present housing situation has been considerably eased.

Building Byelaws.—During the year 102 plans were approved under the above byelaws. Of this number 29 were concerned with the erection of greenhouses and garden toolsheds, 26 referred to extensions or additions to factories, 10 to garages, 6 to alterations to existing buildings, 6 to porches, 5 to W.C.'s and conveniences, 4 to drainage works, 4 connected with the proposed erection of 15 houses, 3 to works and school canteens, 3 to coalplaces, 3 to farm buildings, 1 to a sports pavilion, 1 to a lock-up shop and 1 to a petrol tank.

Eighteen breaches of byelaws were reported to the Council.

Factories.—There are 77 factories registered in the district under the Factories Act, 1937, and of these 67 utilise mechanical power.

Considerable improvements and additions to sanitary conveniences at 1 factory were carried out and an additional W.C. was provided at another.



