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Borough of



Accrington

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

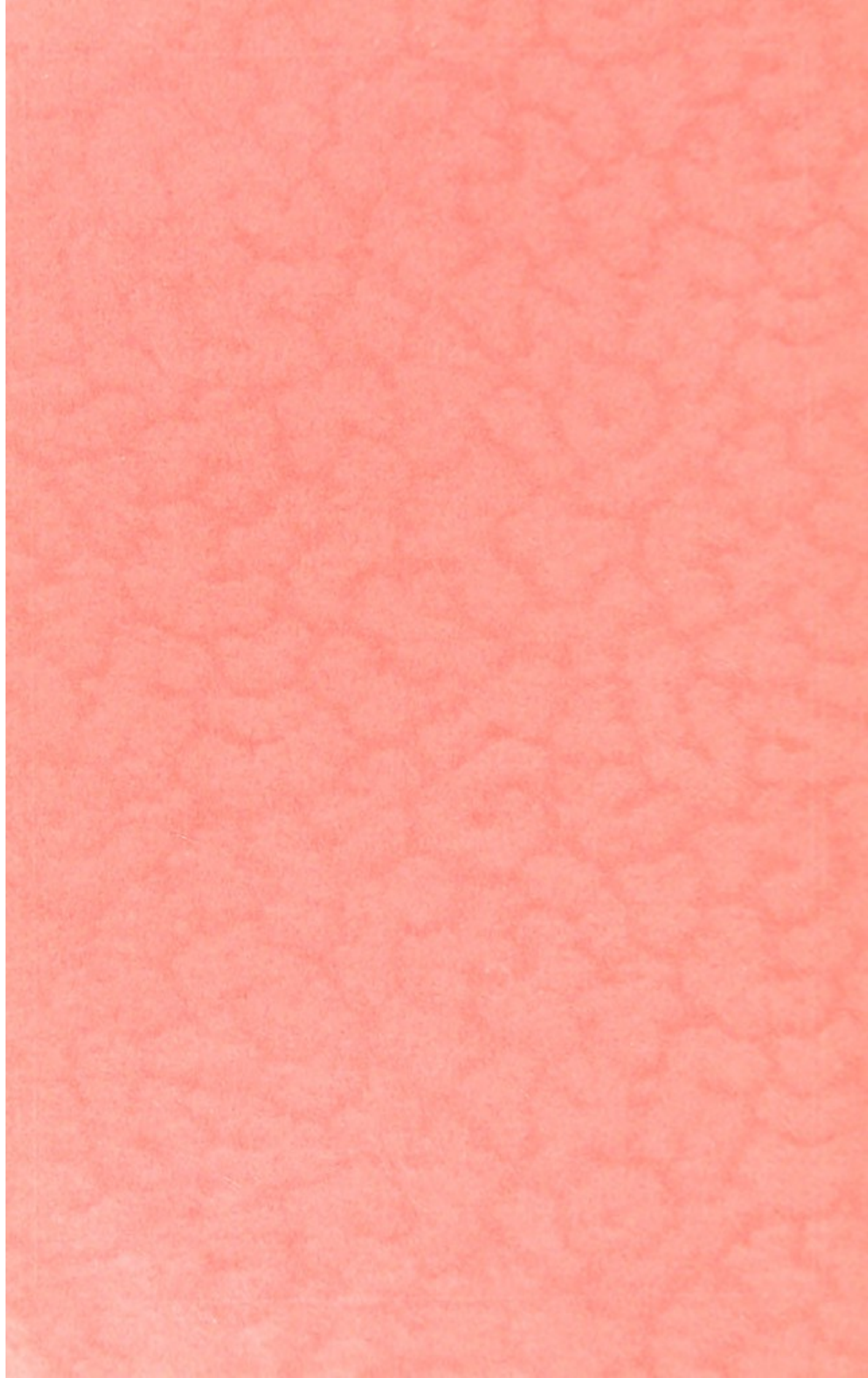
REGINALD C. WEBSTER, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

including the

Reports of the Chief Public Health
Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

FRANK KENNIFORD, M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

1957-58.

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR G. WALKER, J.P.

(ex-officio)

Chairman:

*COUNCILLOR J. B. BIRCH

Vice-Chairman:

*COUNCILLOR W. M. SPROUL

ALDERMAN W. BROWNBILL

,, F. CAREFOOT

* ,, A. DAWSON

*COUNCILLOR N. BENTLEY

,, H. BROWN

,, J. W. CHADWICK

,, R. LIVERSAGE

,, W. RIDEHALGH

,, Mrs. TAYLOR

* ,, A. WADE

* Members of the Health Sub-Committee.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH AND CLEANSING DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

REGINALD C. WEBSTER, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

FRANK KENNIFORD, M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent:

KEITH FODEN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

JOHN EDDLESTON, Cert.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

TREVOR RILEY, Cert.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Appointed 11th July, 1957)

KENNETH SHACKLETON, Cert.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Resigned 5th June, 1957)

Student Public Health Inspectors:

JAMES M. PILKINGTON

DEREK H. WESTWELL

KEVIN H. BAILEY

Senior Foreman and Mechanical Supervisor:

ERNEST LIVESEY

CLERICAL STAFF:

Public Health Offices:

ROBERT McCONNELL, D.M.A. (Chief Clerk)

JOHN WALMSLEY (Senior Clerk)

Mrs. A. THORNLEY

Cleansing Dépôt:

ROBERT A. WALMSLEY

Refuse Disposal Works:

WALTER OGDEN

19 St. James' Street,

Accrington.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors

of the Borough of Accrington.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1957.

I am glad to say that Infant Mortality showed a reduction on the previous year, but even at 29 there are no grounds for complacency; in these days it could very well be lower. For the whole of No. 5 Health Division the figure is 24.6, which compares not unfavourably with the rate for the whole country of 23, and, although in terms of deaths per thousand 6 may seem a small thing, it represents nevertheless 3 actual babies.

The general incidence of Infectious Disease was low with two striking exceptions: one of these was measles, but as this disease is expected to occur with considerable regularity in alternate years and as it is no longer fatal, this is not important. Sonne dysentery was, however, extremely prevalent towards the end of the year, and, although the figures shown of reported cases—488—is itself large, I am quite certain that this is, in fact, only a proportion of the actual number of cases which did occur. Although this disease is not, except in rare cases, fatal, it is troublesome because of its high infectivity and the considerable discomfort which it may cause in many victims. Coupled with

the fact that 63 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, it does indicate that there is room for improvement in our general standards of hygiene.

So that although, on the whole, the year was a satisfactory one in matters of health, I would not have it thought that the picture is a completely satisfactory one or that we have any reason to believe that we can relax our efforts.

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector shows a very substantial list of housing defects dealt with, continuing effort to keep down rodent infestations, and perhaps most important of all our health measures the continuing supervision exercised on food, and more particularly on our meat supplies.

As always, I have experienced during the year, and I am grateful for, the pleasant co-operation of my colleagues in the Corporation's service, and I thank you, Mr. Mayor, and the Chairman of the Health Committee and the Members of his Committee, for their kindness and support throughout the year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

REGINALD C. WEBSTER.

Medical Officer
of Health.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Ambulances	}	Provided by Lancashire County Council
Home Nursing		
Home Helps		
Maternity & Child Welfare		
School Medical Service		
Tuberculosis (Home Visiting)		
Welfare of Aged		
Hospitals	}	Provided by Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Venereal Diseases Treatment		
Tuberculosis Treatment		
Laboratory		At local hospitals and Manchester Public Health Laboratory

Acting Public Analyst - - - Mr. T. W. Lovett, F.R.I.C.

Public Analyst - - - - - Mr. H. Dediccoat, F.R.I.C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

Housing.

See Public Health Inspector's Report. The problem remains very large.

A. No. of New houses built in 1957:—

1. By the Corporation, Nil.
2. By other bodies or persons, 13.

B. 1. No. on waiting list for houses, 510.

2. No. of applicants known to be living in lodgings,
62.

- C. 1. No. of cases of overcrowding brought to notice during the year, 1.
2. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year, 1.
-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-six (26) new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year; of these 21 were respiratory cases and 5 non-respiratory.

The incidence of males to females infected was as follows:-

Respiratory, 10 males, 11 females.

Non-Respiratory, 5 males, 0 females.

Five (5) deaths were caused by this disease in 1957, and these were made up as follows:—

Respiratory, 4 males, 0 females.

Non-Respiratory, 1 female.

The age groups into which these deaths fall can be seen on the statistical sheet on Tuberculosis.

Total number of cases on the active register at 31st December, 1957:—

Respiratory	males	98	females	70	=	168
Non-Respiratory	„	24	„	16	=	40
						<hr/>
						208
						<hr/>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications were received in respect of 1,340 cases during the year 1957. There were 6 cases of Scarlet Fever, 673 cases of Measles, 20 cases of Pneumonia, 82 cases of Whooping Cough, 2 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis, 63 cases of Food Poisoning, 488 cases of Dysentery, 3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and 3 cases of Erysipelas.

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF DEATH.

There were 584 deaths registered in the Borough in 1957. Of these 305 were males and 279 females. The Death Rate for the year was 14.7 as compared with that for the country as a whole which was 11.5.

Heart Diseases headed the list as the cause of death, being responsible for 200 of the registered deaths. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System came second with 84 deaths and Cancer came third with 81 deaths.

It will be seen then that

34.25% of deaths were due to Heart Diseases.

14.38%	„	„	„	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.
--------	---	---	---	--

13.87%	„	„	„	Cancerous Diseases.
--------	---	---	---	---------------------

0.86%	„	„	„	Tuberculosis.
-------	---	---	---	---------------

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres), 4,418.

Population (Census 1931), 42,991.

Registrar-General's estimate of Resident population, mid 1957,
39,610.

Population—Preliminary Census, 1951, 40,671.

No. of inhabited houses (Census 1931), 12,019; (1957, 14,605).

Rateable Value, £360,285.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £1,433.

The social conditions of the Borough are generally good. Chief industries are textile weaving, finishing and printing, textile and general engineering, etc.

VITAL STATISTICS (Provisional).

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births—Legitimate	263	265	528
Illegitimate	12	11	23
	—	—	—
	275	276	551
	—	—	—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Stillbirths	10	4	14
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	10	6	16
Deaths (all ages)	305	279	584
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			13.9
Stillbirths—Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) ...			25
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			14.7

Deaths from puerperal causes:	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal & post-abortive sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other maternal causes	Nil.	Nil.

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	29.04
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...	30.30
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	81
„ „ Measles (all ages)	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	0
„ „ Pulmonary tuberculosis (all ages)	4
„ „ Other forms of tuberculosis (all ages)	1

**TOTAL NUMBERS OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, INFANT
DEATHS AND INFANT MORTALITY
FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.**

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Infant Deaths.	Infant Mortality.
1957	551	584	16	29.0
1956	560	588	21	37.5
1955	513	578	9	17.5
1954	543	579	21	38.7
1953	547	531	16	29.3
1952	551	563	14	25.4
1951	581	675	23	39.6
1950	564	614	22	39.0
1949	652	652	32	49.1
1948	690	548	23	33.3

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF ACCRINGTON RESIDENTS DURING 1957

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	4	—	4
Tuberculosis, Other forms	—	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	—	1	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases...	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm:			
Stomach	7	6	13
Lung, Bronchus	11	3	14
Breast	—	5	5
Uterus	—	6	6
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	24	19	43
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	4	2	6
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	43	41	84
Coronary Disease, Angina	53	42	95
Hypertension with Heart Disease	4	13	17
Other Heart Disease	36	52	88
Other Circulatory Disease	10	11	21
Influenza	2	2	4
Pneumonia	20	9	29
Bronchitis	25	13	38
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	7	1	8
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	2	7
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	1	4	5

Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	3	6
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	0	4
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	4	6
Other defined & ill-defined Diseases...	21	22	43
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	3	7
All other Accidents	9	8	17
Suicide	6	3	9
Homicide and Operations of War ...	—	—	—
	<hr/> 305	<hr/> 279	<hr/> 584
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1957.

	Total cases notified.
Smallpox	—
Scarlet Fever	6
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	—
Food Poisoning	63
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	—
Measles (excluding German Measles)	673
Whooping Cough	82
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	20
Puerperal pyrexia	3
Meningococcal Meningitis	—
Acute poliomyelitis	2

Acute polio-encephalitis	—
Encephalitis lethargica	—
Dysentery	488
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—
Erysipelas	3
Malaria (contracted in this country)	—
(Abroad)	—
	—
Total ...	1,340
	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during the year 1957.

NEW CASES.

Age Periods Years.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	2	—
10	—	—	—	—
15	—	3	1	—
20	—	—	—	—
25	2	4	—	—
35	1	1	2	—
45	4	—	—	—
55	2	2	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—
	<hr/>			
Totals ...	10	11	5	—
	<hr/>			

DEATHS.

Age Periods Years.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	1
Age unknown	2	—	—	—
Totals ...	4	—	—	1

FOOD POISONING.

Sixty-three cases were notified during the year.

SUPERANNUATION EXAMINATIONS.

In 1957 the following examinations were carried out, viz:—

	By M.O.H.	By Assistant M.O.
Superannuation Acts	89	30
Other examinations	11	—

**PUBLIC HEALTH
AND PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES.**

ANNUAL REPORT, 1957.

Public Health and Cleansing Department,

44, Union Street,

ACCRINGTON.

To the Mayor and Members of the Town Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Third Annual Report on the work of the Borough's Public Health Inspectors for the year 1957, and on the Public Cleansing Services for the year ended 31st March, 1958.

By the time this report appears in print much of its informative value will have been lost, and its usefulness will be confined to a statistical record of the Department's activities.

As regards the staffing position there was some improvement when compared with last year: we had two additional public health inspectors for the majority of the year, although the establishment provides for three inspectors. I should like to refer to the invaluable assistance which was given by the pupil inspectors in helping to cope with this deficiency.

The continued increase in throughput at the Public Abattoir required the full-time attendance of at least one inspector, which left only one inspector available for general district work. It must be emphasized that the amount of meat

which has to be inspected is greatly in excess of Accrington's requirements, probably about $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as this town's needs.

This was recognised by the Government when there appeared in April, 1957, a scheme for the payment of exchequer grants towards the cost of meat inspection. The scheme was designed to assist local authorities on which the inspection of meat imposed an unduly heavy burden because much of the meat was not for local consumption; this was regarded as "export meat".

At the time of writing there is a full complement of three additional public health inspectors, but there is a great deal of leeway to be made good. We have endeavoured to concentrate on the inspection of food premises in the town so as to ensure their compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. Priority must now be given to slum clearance and smoke abatement.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied by the Accrington and District Water Board from upland sources (Reservoirs: Dean Clough, Mitchell's House, Burnley Road and Plantation Mill), and from underground sources (Altham Borehole and Rishton Colliery). In addition bulk supplies are obtained from Burnley Corporation and Manchester Corporation (Haweswater Aqueduct).

All public water supplies are passed through pressure filters and are chlorinated. Water from one reservoir (Mitchell's House) is soft moorland (peaty) water, having a low pH value, and is treated with lime and chalk after filtration to neutralise acidity. Water from the other sources is not liable to plumbosolvency, and daily examinations are carried out by the Water Board to ascertain pH value, a standard of 8.0 being sought,

The Board are always vigilant for contamination and exercise all due care in ensuring a safe and wholesome water supply. Routine samples are taken by the Board at monthly intervals from every source of supply, such samples being submitted for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service. The Water Engineer, Mr. R. Jackson, has kindly supplied the information that, during the year under review, 647 samples of water were submitted by the Board for bacteriological examination, together with 13 samples for chemical analysis, the results being satisfactory. One sample of treated water for chemical analysis and one for bacteriological examination were certified satisfactory by the Public Analyst.

The number of houses in the Borough which do not receive a mains' supply but have private supplies, e.g. wells, springs, etc., is approximately 50, these premises being situated in the rural parts of the town.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The number of waste water closets was further reduced during the year, 276 having been converted to the fresh water flushed type.

The various types of sanitary convenience in use at dwelling-houses in the Borough are as follow:—

	1957
Fresh water closets	10,489
Waste water closets	4,503
Pail closets	95

The substitution of the fresh water flushed type for these 4,503 antiquated waste water closets is the principal sanitary requirement of the Borough.

Although much remains to be done in this direction, nevertheless a great deal has been accomplished in recent years. In 1950 the Corporation received the first loan sanction for this type of work since the Treasury ban on capital expenditure at the outbreak of war. In the last 8 years 1,588 conversions have been carried out as compared with 653 in the previous 10 years. The 276 conversions in 1957 is the highest number for 20 years.

Further progress is still chiefly limited by the inability of the local building trades to cope with an appreciable increase in the number of conversions, owing to their other, and often more pleasant, commitments.

REFUSE STORAGE ACCOMMODATION.

It is now 25 years since the ashpit conversion scheme was carried out, and many bin-shed doors and locks are now in need of repair or renewal. Their defective condition gives an untidy appearance to many back streets, while the bin-men are often blamed for not replacing doors which are incapable of being fastened. These matters can only be properly corrected by making a survey of some 14,000 premises.

The cleanliness of many bin-sheds still leaves much to be desired. One should not have to tell people that the dustbin is the place for refuse not the floor.

HOUSING ACTS AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

The following Table gives a summarised list of nuisances and housing defects discovered in dwelling-houses during the year and dealt with by the service of notices. It will no doubt be appreciated that where the number of defects, etc., remedied ex-

ceeds the number discovered, this is due to the fact that many such defects discovered in the previous year have been remedied during the year under review.

In many cases owners are persuaded to voluntarily remedy defects without the necessity of written notices. Such informal action occupies much of the inspectors' time, but results are usually worth-while.

In addition to the defects referred to in the table, blockages were removed by the Department's employees from drains and sanitary conveniences at 1,716 premises.

DEFECTS AND NUISANCES DISCOVERED AND ABATED.

DWELLING-HOUSES.

INTERNAL.

	By Notice		Otherwise	
	Discovered	Remedied	Discovered	Remedied
Windows:				
Woodwork	24	7	0	1
Cords	24	16	0	0
Fasteners	2	1	0	0
Glazing and putties ...	3	6	0	0
Mastic pointing	8	2	0	0
Doors:				
Doors	2	2	0	0
Casings	0	0	0	0
Thresholds or weatherboards	0	0	0	0
Hinges and fittings ...	0	0	0	0
Pointing	0	0	0	0
Floors:				
Boarded	7	1	0	0
Flagged	8	2	3	3
Damp	2	0	0	0
Water under	0	0	30	24
Walls:				
Plaster	58	32	6	7
Skirting boards	4	3	0	0
Damp	15	9	7	6
Ceilings:				
Plaster	56	25	2	4
Raining-in	22	11	2	3
Pantries, etc.:				
Walls	0	0	0	0
Ceilings	0	0	0	0
Staircases:				
Walls	0	0	0	0
Ceilings	0	0	0	0
Treads or risers	0	0	0	0
Handrails or balustrades	5	3	0	0
Open to bedrooms	0	0	0	0

	By Notice		Otherwise	
	Discovered	Remedied	Discovered	Remedied

Fireplaces :

Fire-ranges (ironwork)	1	0	0	0
Firegrates	2	0	1	0
Tiling	0	0	0	0
Fire backs	3	0	2	1
Flues (chimney or oven)	0	0	2	1
Side boilers	1	1	0	0
Ovens	1	1	0	0
Jambs or Lintels	1	1	1	0
Insufficient light	0	0	0	0
Insufficient ventilation ...	0	0	0	0
Electrical fittings	2	1	0	0
Gas fittings	0	0	0	0
Sinks	1	0	0	0
Lavatory basins or baths...	0	0	0	0
Waste pipes—sinks, etc. ...	3	1	0	0
Insufficient water supply...	2	0	0	0
Water pipes or fittings ...	0	0	0	0
Cooking facilities	0	0	0	0
Washing facilities	0	0	0	0
Food Storage facilities ...	0	0	0	0
Water in cellar	0	0	0	0
Carried forward	257	125	56	50

DWELLING-HOUSES.**EXTERNAL.**

	By Notice		Otherwise	
	Discovered	Remedied	Discovered	Remedied

Dustbins or Bin-sheds :

Bins	331	200	450	491
Lids	132	75	239	280
Doors	18	3	5	5
Locks	0	0	0	0
Frames	0	0	0	0
Structures	0	0	0	0
Misuse of Dustbin	0	0	3	3

	By Notice		Otherwise	
	Discovered	Remedied	Discovered	Remedied

Sanitary Accommodation, Drains, etc.:				
Waste water or trough closets	33	34	263	264
Fresh water closets ...	0	0	0	0
W.C. pedestals	4	3	0	0
W.C. water pipes or fittings	1	0	2	2
W.C. flushing cisterns.	1	1	0	0
Soil pipes	0	0	0	0
Closet structures	9	4	2	0
Closet doors or fittings.	1	3	0	0
Door casings	2	1	0	0
Pails or privies	0	0	1	0
Cesspools or sewage disposal plants	0	0	0	0
Drains	4	2	40	38
Gullies, channel dishes	0	0	0	0
Coal Storage:				
Structures	2	2	0	0
Doors or fittings	3	2	0	0
Door-casings	4	2	0	0
None provided externally	0	0	0	0
Yard:				
Doors or fittings	4	2	0	0
Door jambs or lintels...	0	0	0	0
Walls	2	0	1	0
Surfaces	1	1	0	0
Drainage	2	2	1	1
Slate Hangings	1	1	0	0
Cellar Gratings	1	1	0	0
Roofs	26	12	0	0
Eaves gutters	21	15	6	6
Rain water pipes	16	11	11	11
Waste pipes	2	2	0	0
Chimney stacks or pots ...	5	2	0	0
House walls (external) ...	4	1	0	0
Wall pointing	10	5	0	0
Cement rendering	2	2	0	0
Doorsteps or window or door jambs	3	0	0	0

Other structures	1	0	0	0
Refuse accumulations ...	0	0	3	3
Barge boards	0	0	0	0
Brought forward	257	125	56	50
	<u>903</u>	<u>514</u>	<u>1083</u>	<u>1154</u>

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of houses erected during the year:—

	Houses	Flats
(a) By the local authority	—	—
(b) By other local authorities	—	—
(c) By other bodies or persons	13	—

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	355
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	592
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:—	
(a) Number found during the year	2
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year	113
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	245

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished during the year:—	
(a) Unfit houses	3
(b) Other houses	Nil
(2) Number of persons displaced	1

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas :—

(1) Houses demolished or closed during the year :—

(a) Housing Act, 1936 :—

	No. of Houses	No. of Persons Displaced
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11) ...	2	4
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	Nil	Nil
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12).	Nil	Nil

(b) Housing Act, 1949 :—

(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2)	Nil	Nil
---	-----	-----

(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :—

(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)	Nil	Nil
---	-----	-----

No. of
Houses

(2) Repairs during the year :—

(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	254
---	-----

(b) Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice—Houses in which defects were remedied :—

(i) By owners	Nil
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

(c) Housing Act, 1936—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16). Houses made fit :—

(i) By owners	1
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	3

(d) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 :—

Houses re-constructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	Nil
---	-----

4. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :—

- (1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7. Nil
 (2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above Nil
 (3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6) Nil

5. Housing Act, 1949 — Improvement Grants, etc. :—

Action during year :—

	Private bodies or individuals		Local authority	
	No. of Schemes	No. of Dwelling- houses or other Buildings affected	No. of Schemes	No. of Dwelling- houses or other Buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	42	42	—	—
(b) Approved by local authority	42	42	—	—
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(d) Finally approved by Ministry ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(e) Work completed	43	43	Nil	Nil
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

RENT ACT, 1957.

One of the effects of the Rent Act, 1957, is to enable the landlord of a house with a rateable value of up to £30 to increase the rent after due service of notice on his tenant.

At the same time a tenant upon whom such a notice has been served, and who is dissatisfied with the state of repair of

his house, is enabled to serve a notice on his landlord requesting that what he considers to be defects of repair ought reasonably to be remedied.

If, following service of this notice by the tenant, the landlord fails either to satisfy the tenant by not carrying out repairs within six weeks or to give an undertaking within that period that he will carry them out within six months, then the tenant is entitled to apply to the Local Authority for a "Certificate of Disrepair", which, if issued, will act as a stopper to a rent increase.

Upon an application for a "Certificate of Disrepair" the Local Authority is required to decide whether or not such a certificate shall be granted by reason of the defects listed by the tenant and having regard to the age, character and locality of the premises.

A preliminary notice from the Local Authority to the landlord precedes the issue of a "Certificate of Disrepair", and a landlord may still give an undertaking to carry out repairs before the date when the actual certificate would be served.

Both the landlord and the tenant have a right of appeal against the Local Authority's decision to issue or refuse a certificate or against individual items that may have been included or excluded therefrom.

146 visits were paid by Public Health Inspectors in connection with the Act, and the following table gives details of the results of applications for "Certificates of Disrepair" dealt with to the end of the year.

Applications dealt with to 31st Dec., 1957	46
Undertakings from landlords accepted	22
Undertakings from landlords rejected	3
Certificates of Disrepair issued	24
Applications for cancellation granted	2
Applications for cancellation refused	Nil

NOTICES SERVED.

Form of Notice:—	1957
Intimation (preliminary)	468
Statutory	Nil
	<hr/>
	468
	<hr/>

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are in the Borough 2 registered common lodging houses, their condition and conduct being satisfactory.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

413 visits were paid in connection with cases of infectious disease and the disinfection of infected articles and premises. The following table gives details of disinfections, etc., carried out during the year.

Rooms of dwellinghouses	217
Schools	2
Books	101
Beds	11
Articles of Bedding	166
Articles of Clothing	290
Miscellaneous Articles	22
	<hr/>
	809
	<hr/>

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year 3 houses were disinfested. Satisfactory results were obtained by the use of "D.D.T." solution.

DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE.

The surface infestations which arise in dwelling-houses, business and industrial premises, etc., and originate chiefly as the result of rats gaining access by way of defective drains from the public sewers, have been treated as usual by the whole-time Rodent Operator working under the direction of the Inspectoral Staff. Although a charge is made for disinfestation work at business and industrial premises, a free service is afforded to dwelling-houses.

Since 1945, regular bi-annual sewer treatments have been carried out to deal with rats at their source by the laying of poison bait in manholes. These treatments have had a considerable effect in reducing the rat population of the sewers, and consequently of surface premises, two men being engaged thereon for the greater part of the year.

2,286 sewer manholes were baited during the period, in conjunction with which 312 manholes were "test-baited".

The methods of control adopted were those recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, from whom grant-aid was available to the extent of 50% of the approved net expenditure incurred.

194 visits were paid by Public Health Inspectors in connection with rodent control measures.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The Act provides for the licensing of pet shops, and, in deciding whether to grant a licence, the local authority is required to have regard to the need for securing that there will be provided accommodation suitable as regards size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness; that there will be an adequate supply of suitable food and drink; that the animals will not be sold at

too early an age; that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases; and that appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

Licences were granted in respect of 7 pet shops.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Two gut scrapers and three tripe dressers carry on scheduled offensive trades on five separate premises. The conduct of these trades was, on the whole, satisfactory, and repairs and improvements were effected at all the tripe dressers' premises.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

It appeared that the national publicity given to the Clean Air Act, 1956, in conjunction with the Department's increased activity in relation to atmospheric pollution, had already made an impression on local industry generally. This was indicated by the number of enquiries received about the Act, and the improvements in equipment and efficiency effected by certain firms.

As a result of our efforts effective action was taken by two firms to reduce smoke emission from what were two persistently offending boiler plants, by the installation in both cases of completely new firing equipment. Co-operation was also obtained with regard to a third offending steam-raising plant, where the use of alternative fuel, and the provision of additional boiler-house equipment produced satisfactory results. In order to ensure that the reconstructed Refuse Disposal Works complied with the Act, the Council decided that the existing dry type dust-catcher should be replaced by a water trap grit arrester at a cost of over £4,000; this proved to be most successful in reducing grit emission.

Notification to the local authority of intention to instal a new furnace is compulsory under the Act, and applications may be made for the prior approval of such new installations. The approval of a furnace means that the local authority are satisfied that the furnace is so far as practicable capable of continuous operation without emitting smoke, when using the type of fuel for which it was designed.

71 visits in connection with atmospheric pollution were paid by Public Health Inspectors during the year.

Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution.

For the past five years the Council have participated in the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution along the lines recommended by the Fuel Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. A standard deposit gauge has been erected on the Town Hall roof and its contents measured and analysed each month.

Effective action to reduce pollution in the atmosphere must be based on reliable knowledge of its nature and extent. Only by continuous measurement by scientifically standardised methods can the effect of such action be estimated. Any attempt to alleviate the damage and loss to the nation caused by smoke and other impurities in the air therefore requires a scientific investigation of the facts of pollution.

Many other local authorities in the country are participating in the scheme, the Fuel Research Station co-operating with authorities and acting in an advisory and co-ordinating capacity. Results of investigations are collated and circulated monthly to local authorities, thereby enabling an overall view of pollution throughout the country to be obtained in addition to comparisons between authorities.

Tons per Square Mile.				
Month.	Water inches rain.	Total Water Insoluble Matter	Total Water Soluble Matter	Total Solids
January		Accident to gauge — No results.		
February	3.11	5.67	7.82	13.49
March	2.96	9.24	4.94	14.18
April	0.36	8.78	3.84	12.62
May	1.73	10.64	4.37	15.01
June	1.89	7.82	4.54	12.36
July	5.40	6.99	9.40	16.39
August	6.11	15.77	11.42	27.19
September	5.99	7.52	9.68	17.20
October	4.73	8.02	10.41	18.43
November	2.63	4.60	7.14	11.74
December	3.19	9.91	7.89	17.80
TOTAL	38.10	94.96	81.45	176.41
Monthly				
Average :				
1953		8.12	9.59	17.71
1954		7.46	10.18	17.64
1955		7.29	6.91	14.20
1956		6.77	6.76	13.53
1957		8.63	7.41	16.04
Monthly Average				
over 5 year period		7.66	8.17	15.83

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The number of Factories on the Register is as follows:—

(i) Factories with mechanical power	236
(ii) Factories without mechanical power	42
(iii) Other premises under the Acts (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	6

420 visits were paid in connection with the conduct of Factories. In 5 instances it was necessary to call the attention of occupiers or owners to sanitary defects, in all cases the remedy being applied without resorting to formal action.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT AND CARBIDE.

19 visits were paid to premises where petroleum spirit and carbide are stored, one new installation for the storage of petroleum spirit being approved during the year.

Licences were issued as follows:—

To store Petroleum Spirit	73
To store Carbide	3
To store Petroleum Mixture ...	5

The Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regulations, 1957, require the taking of certain safety precautions in transferring petrol from a carrying tank. Dipsticks and fill pipes have to be numbered in relation to the storage tanks served. The licensee must ensure that the receiving tank is attended by a competent person, who must take certain steps to prevent overflow of petrol, and must certify deliveries.

During the year the Home Office produced a Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions relating to the storage of petrol. The recommendations will be adhered to by the Department for new installations, and our objective must be to bring up to the same standard all existing installations.

Through the courtesy of the Chief Fire Officer of the Lancashire County Fire Brigade we continue to receive the co-operation of the District Fire Prevention Officer in the inspection of petrol storage installations.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950.

Since 1st January, 1956, the Police Authority have carried out the various duties under this Act on behalf of the Council, including issuing licences and ensuring animal movements in accordance with licensing conditions. I am convinced that administration of the Act by the Police is in the best interests of all concerned.

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957, requires that waste food must be boiled in licensed plants before being fed to animals and poultry. Police Officers inspected and reported on four boiling plants and licences were issued in each case.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

(a) Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Shown below is a Return of all samples of food and drugs analysed by the Public Analyst under the provisions of the Act during the year.

175 visits were paid by Public Health Inspectors in connection with the sampling of food and drugs.

Article of food or drug	Number analysed	Number adulterated or non-standard.	Percentage adulterated or non-standard.
Milk	79	2	2.53
Potted Meat	2	—	—
Pork Sausage	1	—	—
Beef Sausage	1	—	—
Beef Paste	1	—	—
Strained Beef	1	—	—
Fish Paste	2	—	—
Butter	3	—	—
Margarine	4	—	—

Desiccated Coconut	1	—	—
Ground Rice	2	—	—
Semolina	1	—	—
Nut Mix	2	—	—
Self-Raising Flour	2	—	—
Fruit Cake Mix	1	—	—
Yorkshire Pudding and Pancake Mix	1	1	100.0
Bakewell Filling	2	—	—
Ground Almonds	2	—	—
Ground Nutmeg	1	—	—
Gravy Browning	1	—	—
Tomato Ketchup	1	—	—
Sage	2	—	—
Parsley	1	—	—
Tea	1	—	—
Bemax	1	—	—
Biochemically Balanced Salt	2	2	100.0
White Pepper	1	—	—
Malt Vinegar	2	—	—
Jam	3	—	—
Marmalade	1	—	—
Pure Honey	1	—	—
Dates	1	—	—
Glucose Drink	1	—	—
Aspirin Tablets	1	—	—
Lung Tonic	1	—	—
Cough Mixture	1	—	—
Honey Cough Syrup	1	—	—
Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	1	—	—

Olive Oil and Raspberry Vinegar	1	1	100.0
Elder Flowers and Peppermint with Composition Essence	1	1	100.0
Spanish, Honey and Butter Toffee	1	—	—
Glucose, Honey and Lemon Toffee	1	—	—
Treacle Toffee	1	—	—
Homemade Butter Drops	1	—	—
Butter Almonds	1	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	140	7	5.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The sub-standard milk samples were retail samples which were reported deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.0% and 2.2% respectively, one being also deficient in fat to the extent of 10%. The vendor was cautioned.

An informal sample of Yorkshire Pudding and Pancake Mix was reported to contain the cocoon and pupa of an insect. The retailers voluntarily surrendered their entire stock of this commodity and a cautionary letter was sent.

An informal sample of Biochemically Balanced Salt was reported to be deficient of iron to the extent of 85% of the declared amount and of iodine to the extent of not less than 73% of the declared amount. The contents of many of the other declared ingredients also showed considerable differences from the amounts declared on the label, in consequence of which a formal sample was taken. This was reported to be deficient of iron to the extent of 80% of iodine, and of calcium to the extent of 32% of the declared amounts. The label did not comply with

the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order, 1953. A letter was sent to the manufacturers drawing attention to the deficiencies and the unsatisfactory label, and requesting assurance that all unsatisfactory labels would be withdrawn. The manufacturers gave the requisite assurances and stated that an amended label had, in fact, been in use for several months.

An informal sample of Olive Oil and Raspberry Vinegar was considered by the Public Analyst to be deficient of Olive Oil to the extent of 50%, as an article so described should contain at least 50% Olive Oil. A letter was sent to the manufacturers pointing out that a more correct description would be Raspberry Vinegar and Olive Oil and requesting them to state what action they proposed to take either in respect of the labelling or the composition of the ingredients. The manufacturers proposed, in future, to produce an article containing 50% Olive Oil and 50% Raspberry Vinegar.

An informal sample of Elder Flowers and Peppermint with Composition Essence was reported to contain Benzoic Acid which was not declared in the list of contents. A letter was sent to the manufacturers drawing their attention to this discrepancy and requesting assurance that the label would be amended. The necessary assurance was given.

(b) Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

All bacteriological examinations of milk samples continue to be carried out by the Department of Pathology, Royal Infirmary, Blackburn.

During the year 16 samples of pasteurised milk and 15 samples of tuberculin tested (pasteurised) milk were submitted for the phosphatase, methylene blue and coliform tests; all samples satisfied the legally prescribed tests.

9 samples of sterilised milk were taken and were reported to comply with the turbidity test.

53 samples of tuberculin tested milk were submitted for the methylene blue and coliform tests. Six samples failed the prescribed test and appropriate action was taken in respect of them.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

(a) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

In accordance with these Regulations duties in connection with the supervision of milk production on farms were transferred from local authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in 1949.

Local authorities, however, retained their duties in connection with the control of milk distribution, including the registration of distributors.

181 milk distributors were registered under the Regulations.

(b) Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

The special designations permitted are "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" for heat-treated milk and "Tuberculin Tested" for raw milk.

The following licences were granted under the Regulations, viz:—

Dealer's Licence (Sterilised)	160
„ „ (Pasteurised)	50
„ „ (Tuberculin Tested)	28
Supplementary Licence (Sterilised)	2
„ „ (Pasteurised)	2
„ „ (Tuberculin Tested)	2
Pasteuriser's Licence	1

MEAT INSPECTION AND THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

Each year since the end of Ministry tenancy in 1954 I have had to report increases in the number of animals slaughtered at the abattoir, and this year proves to be no exception. The throughput of 21,465 cattle units in 1957 is an all-time record and a 100% increase on the number recorded in 1953—the last complete year of government control, when a population of 100,000 was being catered for. It is also an increase of 73% on the 1939 throughput of 12,420 cattle units.

Progress in animal health measures in recent years is indicated by Tables I and IV, showing (a) the continued decline in the incidence of diseased conditions, particularly tuberculosis, and (b) the corresponding reductions in condemnations. This is a most encouraging state of affairs from a public health point of view.

The detection of diseased conditions and the subsequent rejection of unfit meat are the work of your inspectoral staff, who ensure the fitness for human consumption of all meat leaving the abattoir.

The continued increase in throughput imposes a great strain on the inadequate lairage accommodation, and only the construction of new lairages will relieve this state of affairs. I am engaged on preparing a scheme for modernising the abattoir, including the provision of new lairage accommodation.

TABLE I.—Annual Comparisons.

	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Number of cattle slaughtered and inspected	8,334	8,416	7,624	6,469	5,011
Percentage affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticercosis	7.4%	5.1%	9.4%	18.2%	24.0%
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	11.0%	13.3%	17.8%	21.3%	26.8%
Percentage affected with Cysticercosis	0.3%	0.6%	—	—	—
Total Disease Percentage	18.7%	19.0	27.2%	39.5%	50.8%

TABLE II.—Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle other than Cows			Sheep and Lambs		Pigs
Number of animals slaughtered and inspected	4415	3919	107	58732		2699
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	6	1	15		4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	289	319	—	111		20

Percentage of the number
inspected affected with
disease other than
Tuberculosis and
Cysticercosis

6.5%	8.5%	0.9%	0.2%	0.9%
7.4%				

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses
condemned

—	18	—	—	2
---	----	---	---	---

Carcasses of which some
part or organ was
condemned

193	709	—	—	28
-----	-----	---	---	----

Percentage of the number
inspected affected with
Tuberculosis

4.4%	18.5%	—	—	1.1%
11.0%				

Cysticercosis only

Whole carcasses
condemned

—	—	—	—	—
---	---	---	---	---

Carcasses of which
some part or organ
was condemned

6	8	—	—	—
---	---	---	---	---

Carcasses submitted to
treatment by
refrigeration

11	1	—	—	—
----	---	---	---	---

Percentage of the number
inspected affected
with Cysticercosis

0.4%	0.2%	—	—	—
0.3%				

TABLE III.—Conditions Necessitating Condemnation of
Whole Carcases and Organs.

Diseases	Cattle other than		Sheep and		Pigs
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	
Tuberculosis	—	19	—	—	1
Pyæmia	—	—	—	3	—
Uraemia	—	—	—	1	—
Oedema	—	2	—	—	1
Fever	—	3	—	4	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—
Emaciation	—	—	—	3	2
Moribundity	—	—	—	2	—
Immaturity	—	—	1	—	—
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	1
Putrefaction	—	—	—	1	—
Total	—	24	1	15	6

TABLE IV.—Comparison of Condemned Meat and Offals.

Weights of Condemned Meat and Offals.				
	1957		1956	
	Meat lbs.	Offal lbs.	Meat lbs.	Offal lbs.
Tuberculosis	24,675	14,231	33,395	18,198
All diseases except Tuberculosis	5,107	11,518	5,857	9,688
Total Home Killed	29,782	25,749	39,252	27,886
Add Imported	—	—	—	—
Total Weight Condemned	29,782	25,749	39,252	27,886

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

1,164 visits were paid to miscellaneous food premises for the purpose of examination of food and inspection of premises. In no instance was it found necessary to resort to formal seizure of unsound food, all being surrendered voluntarily. The articles of food which were given up for destruction as being unfit for human consumption were as follow:—

Miscellaneous Canned Foods	3924 tins
Miscellaneous Glass-packed Foods	50 articles
Fish	672 lbs.
Lard	14 „
Butter	25 „
Margarine	14 „
Fruit	182 „
Pepper	8 pks.
Salt	1 „
Baking Powder	2 „

FOOD PREMISES

The table which follows is a classification of the various types of food premises in the town:—

Type of Business	Number
Grocers and Provision Dealers	205
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	44
Fishmongers	7
Meat Shops	50
Bakers and Confectioners	170
Fried Fish Shops	39
Sweets, Minerals, Ice Cream, etc.	56
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens, Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars ...	140
	—
	711
	—

The above-mentioned food premises include certain ones which require registration under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, viz:—

Manufacture of Ice Cream	3
Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	121
Preparation of Sausage, Preserved Foods, etc.	125
	—
	249
	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951.

No action was necessary during the year under the provisions of the above-mentioned Acts for the removal of persons in need of care and attention.

Section 50 of the 1948 Act imposes on the local authority the duty of causing to be buried or cremated the body of any person who has died in its area, in any case where it appears to the authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body will be made otherwise than by the authority. No action was necessary during the year under review.

CLEANSING SERVICES.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

Year Ended 31st March, 1958.

REFUSE DEALT WITH.

(1) Refuse Collected.

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.
House and Shop Refuse	8,572	4	2
Clinker from Schools, etc.	433	17	3
Market Refuse	294	15	2
Fish and Trade Refuse	1,524	15	3
	<hr/>		
	10,825	13	2
	<hr/>		

(2) Methods of Disposal of Refuse.

Taken to Tips (94.4%)	10,217	9	2
Dealt with at Disposal Works			
(a) Separation and			
Incineration (5.6%) 608 4 0			
(b) Direct Incineration —			
	<hr/>		
	608	4	0
	<hr/>		
	10,825	13	2
	<hr/>		

(3) Weight of Refuse.

Actual weight	608	4	0
Estimated weight	10,217	9	2
Estimated weight from test weighings		—	
	<hr/>		
	10,825	13	2
	<hr/>		

CLEANSING SERVICE.

House and Trade Refuse.

Table showing Costs for the year ended 31st March, 1958.

Item	Particulars. 1	Collection 2	Disposal 3	Total 4
1	Revenue Account.			
	Gross Expenditure:	£	£	£
	(i) Labour	12,110	8,246	20,356
	(ii) Transport	10,303	1,192	11,495
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	2,985	3,883	6,868
	(iv) Other items	25	62	87
	(v) Total gross expenditure	25,423	13,383	38,806
2	Gross Income	4,009	6,127	10,136
3	Net Cost	21,414	7,256	28,670
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (in- cluded above)	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Unit Costs.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only	22 4	15 3	37 7
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only	19 0	2 2	21 2
7	Net cost (all expendi- ture) per ton	39 7	13 5	53 0
		£	£	£
8	Net cost per 1,000 popu- lation	540.6	183.2	723.8
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises	1359.0	460.5	1,819.5

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Area (statute acres) | 4,418 |
| 2. Population at 30th June, 1957 | 39,610 |
| 3. Total refuse collected (tons) | 10,826 |
| 4. Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day
(365 days to year) | 15.1 |
| 5. Number of premises from which refuse is collected | 15,757 |
| 6. Average haul by collection vehicle to
disposal point ... approx. | 1½ miles |

CLEANSING SERVICE.

Street Cleansing.

Table showing Costs for the year ended 31st March, 1958.

Item	Particulars 1	Street Sweeping & Watering 2	Street Gully Cleansing 3	Total 4
1	Revenue Account.			
	Gross Expenditure:	£	£	£
	(i) Labour	4,599	591	5,190
	(ii) Transport	2,868	1,161	4,029
	(iii) Plant, Equipment, buildings, etc.	1,054	242	1,296
	(iv) Other items	22	—	22
	(v) Total gross expendi- ture	8,543	1,994	10,537
2	Gross Income (exclud- ing reimbursements from Ministry of Transport and the County Council)	772	354	1,126
3	Net Cost	7,771	1,640	9,411
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (in- cluded above)	Nil	Nil	Nil
5	Gross expenditure on snow clearance not included previously	2,150	—	—
6	Unit Costs			
	Net cost per street mile cleansed	£ s. d. 106 15 4	—	—
7	Net cost per 1,000 street gullies cleansed	£ —	£ 65.9	£ —
8	Net cost per 1,000 popu- lation	196.2	41.4	237.6

1. Mileage of streets cleansed 72.78

2. Frequency of cleansing: %

(a) At least once daily 9.6

(b) Three to five times weekly 2.8

(c) Twice weekly	—
(d) Once weekly	15.8
(e) Less than once weekly	71.8
	— 100.0%
3. Number of street gullies cleansed	6,549
4. Number of gully cleansings during the year	24,879
5. Percentage of street cleansing done mechanically ...	63.0
6. Percentage of gully cleansing done mechanically ...	100.0

VEHICLE PERFORMANCE TABLE.

Vehicle	Purchased	Actual hours worked	Repairs	Cleaning	% Hours Running	Hours Holidays	Hours rained off, etc.
S. and D. OTC 910	June 1952	2167½	174	37½	87.1	99	11
S & D, PTE 70	May, 1953	2274½	57½	43¾	91.6	99	9
Dennis 1 ATC 439	September 1935	2019	153	138	80.5	123½	74½
Dennis 4 FTJ 18	November 1945	1719¼	360	22¾	66.2	51	445½
Dennis 5 JTD 464	May 1948	2178¾	185½	42½	86.4	99	14
Dennis 6 LTJ 528	June 1950	2220	246½	18¼	85.5	99	11
Karrier 1 FTD 769	January 1944	2261	3	46	93.9	99	
Karrier 2 JTF 386	September 1948	1836½	383	41	74.5	99	104
Karrier 3 KTF 954	August 1949	2102½	217	47	84.8	99	16
Karrier 4 JTJ 308	March 1953	2248¾	193¾	34¼	88.6	54	7½
Lewin MTE 126	December 1950	1065¼	162½	117¼	46.8	126	746*
Lewin VTC472 Tractor	April, 1955 May	1460½	702	80¾	57.0	99	220
KTB 638	1956	2591	88½	3	94.6	54	3
Total		26144½	2926¼	732	80.0	1200½	1660½

* This vehicle was converted to a salt/grit spreader during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION — DISTRICT EFFICIENCY.

DISTRICT :					
	Spring Hill & Higher Antley	West and North	East and South	North, Peel Park & Huncoat	Centre
Total emptyings	125,835	126,535	125,750	129,257	108,334
Total tonnage	1 830.0	1,757.4	1,650.0	1,880.6	1,367.8
Bins per man per hour	11	14	14	11	12
Weight per man per hour... (excluding weight of bin)	lbs. 358	lbs. 432	lbs. 406	lbs. 360	lbs. 338
Weight per bin (lbs.)	33	31	29	33	21
No. of bins for District.....	3,408	3,049	2,968	3,407	2,503
Frequency of emptyings	37	42	42	38	43

REFUSE DISPOSAL WORKS.

SALES.

Year Ended 31st March, 1958.

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	571	18	0	4045	18	0
Scrap Iron	36	6	0	58	6	3
Lime Mortar	396	1	3	904	1	1
				£5,008	5	4

The receipts from sales this year showed a decrease of £817 despite increases of £340 from lime mortar and £349 from waste paper. The increased revenue from lime mortar was due to an increase of £1 per ton in the sale price. The reduction in gross income was caused by suspending the production of baled metal scrap from March, 1957, to April, 1958, during which

period the Refuse Disposal Plant was closed down. The sale of this type of metal scrap realised £1,195 during the previous year, when receipts from other metal scrap and textiles were £304 more than in the present year.

At the end of the year the sum of £960 15s. 3d. had been distributed among the Department's employees through the Incentive Bonus Payment Scheme in respect of waste paper, as compared with £801 7s. 6d. during the previous year.

For a period of 12 months the whole of the town's refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping on the site of the old Plantation Mill. When finally levelled off this site will form a useful piece of land instead of dangerous ruins.

The reconstructed Refuse Disposal and Salvage Plant came into operation at the end of the year under review, and comprised new incinerators and separation plant. In addition to increased salvage potential, much better working conditions for the Department's employees resulted from dust extraction equipment, the elimination of many laborious operations and the provision of a messroom and washing facilities.

The reconstruction scheme was prepared by my predecessor, Mr. J. A. Hindle, and, when put into operation, the new plant fulfilled all expectations.

At this point I should like to express my appreciation to all who assisted me in bringing the scheme to a successful conclusion. In particular I wish to thank Mr. E. Livesey, the Department's Senior Foreman and Mechanical Supervisor, Mr. J. Pickup, the Lighting Superintendent and Electrical Engineer who was responsible for all electrical work to the plant, and Mr. G. Oldham, Architectural Assistant, who was responsible for the messroom and toilet annexe.

In conclusion I should like to thank, on behalf of the Department, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the

Health Committee for their support and encouragement during the year. I thank also the Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer, Borough Engineer and other colleague officials for their usual co-operation and assistance. My personal thanks are also due to Dr. Webster for his continual support and willing assistance at all times, and, finally, to a capable and loyal staff and body of employees for services rendered.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

F. KENNIFORD,

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

