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BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer

of Health

1959

BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1959

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Councillor R.J.Gibbons

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Miss M.E.Langford

The Mayor

Alderman G.H.Stevens, J.P.

Councillor H.J.Booker

Councillor Mrs. M.A.P.Newman

Councillor Miss D.L.W.Warren

Alderman A.G.Whittaker, J.P.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

V.P. Geoghegan, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and Engineer.

H.W. Simmonds, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.

Clerical Staff

R.A. Pryke

Miss G.A.E.Osgood

Health Department,
Council Offices,
ARUNDEL.

August, 1960.

TO: His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the
BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Twelfth Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department during 1959.

The principal vital statistics for the year, together with comparative figures for 1958, are :-

	<u>Arundel Borough.</u>		<u>England and Wales.</u>	
	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
Estimated Home Population ..	2,620	2,620	45,386,000	45,109,000
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	13.74	16.03	16.5	16.4
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	20.61	17.55	11.6	11.7

In a small population fluctuation in annual birth and death rates are of no significance.

The continuing importance of Diphtheria Immunisation and the opportunity now offered for Poliomyelitis Vaccination are stressed in Section VI of the Report.

Discussion of the Sewage Pollution of Coastal Waters which had decreased to some extent after the publicity given to it in 1958, received a sudden fillip with the publication in December 1959, of the Report by a Research Committee of the Public Health Laboratory Service directed by the Medical Research Council. The findings of this Committee, which can be summarised in one paragraph of the report : "The Committee's studies suggest that, with the possible exception of a few aesthetically revolting beaches round the coasts of England and Wales, the risk to health of bathing in sewage-contaminated sea-water can, for all practical purposes, be ignored", were received with satisfaction in some quarters and disappointment in others, and public discussions after the report was published revealed a sharp division of opinion in the public health world.

Round the shores of Britain the coastal waters are in many places heavily polluted with crude sewage. Nobody can contest this fact. The only question which remains to be answered is "does the degree and extent of pollution justify the expenditure of very large sums of money to prevent it?".

The Medical Research Council apparently intended to give a clear answer in the negative to this question by seeking to show that sea-water pollution could not be proved to have caused disease in man. Unfortunately however, the phrases "for all practical purposes", and "except for a few aesthetically revolting beaches" reveal that the Committee found themselves unable to confine their attention entirely to the scientific aspect of the matter and admitted the aesthetic undesirability of allowing the public to bathe in recognisable sewage.

In fact, the Committee's report leaves the whole question very much as it was except perhaps for the charming suggestion that comminution of sewage solids before discharge into the sea would reduce the chances of the nuisance being detected by the bathing public. It is pertinent, therefore, to repeat the remarks made in the Annual Report of the neighbouring Rural District of Chichester for 1957 :

".....although it has been stated that there is no evidence that sewage pollution has in fact caused any outbreaks of disease, is this the only criterion by which the problem should be judged? Is the situation to continue to be accepted on this lack of evidence?many people have seen enough gross evidence for themselves to feel that it is high time even on aesthetic grounds alone that the problem should be tackled. Wherever a crude sewage outfall exists the question of replacing it with a proper treatment works should be seriously considered, no new outfall should be contemplated, nor should any works or development which will add to the existing volume of discharge be entertained. Nothing should be done to add to the problem and everything possible should be done to reduce it".

Although Arundel is not on the coast, there is no doubt that the River Arun contributes a share to the sewage which finds its way on to the Sussex beaches. The Consulting Engineers appointed by the Council have now completed a detailed survey of sewage disposal in the Town and submitted

plans for works which will supersede the present outworn and antiquated arrangements.

I wish to express my thanks to Members of the Council for their help, and to Mr. H.W. Simmonds, your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, who has supplied most of the material for the report.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

V.P. Hughes

Medical Officer of Health.

Year	Total number (after adjustment for transfers)		Sex		Birth Rate per 1,000 population
	M	F	M	F	
1928	2	2	1	1	0.0
1929	-	-	-	-	0.0

Year	Total number (after adjustment for transfers)		Sex		Birth Rate per 1,000 population
	M	F	M	F	
1928	2	2	1	1	0.0
1929	-	-	-	-	0.0

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

This small country town lying on the banks of the River Arun is a shopping centre for the surrounding villages.

The population finds employment in agriculture and its ancillary industries, on the Norfolk Estate and in the retail and catering trades encouraged by the increasing number of summer visitors.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	2,054
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population:	
Mid-year 1958	2,620
Mid-year 1959	2,620
Number of Inhabited Dwellings	989
Rateable Value (31st December, 1959)	£ 44,640
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£ 174

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

ARUNDEL BOROUGH							Birth Rate per 1000 population			
Total number (after adjustment for transfers)						Birth Rate per 1,000 population		West Sussex Districts		England and Wales
Year	Total	Sex		Illegitimate		Crude	Corr.	Rural	Urban	Wales
		M	F	Number	%					
1958	42	24	18	2	4.76	16.03	19.39	13.06	15.43	16.4
1959	36	16	20	3	8.33	13.74	16.62	13.89	14.90	16.5

Stillbirths

ARUNDEL BOROUGH				Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births		Rate per 1,000 population	
Total number (after adjustment for transfers)				Arundel Borough	England and Wales	Arundel Borough	England and Wales
Year	Total	Sex					
		M	F				
1958	2	2	-	45.45	21.6	0.76	0.36
1959	-	-	-	-	21.0	-	0.35

Vital Statistics (Contd.)

Total (live and still) Births.

<u>1959</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births ..	16	20	36
Still Births ..	-	-	-
TOTAL BIRTHS	<u>16</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>36</u>

Infant Mortality - Deaths of Infants under 1 Year.

INFANT DEATHS					RATES PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS			
ARUNDEL BOROUGH					Arundel Borough	West Sussex		England and Wales
Year	Total	Sex		Illegit- imate		R.D's.	U.D's.	
		M	F					
1958	1	1	-	-	23.8	19.	17.	22.5
1959	-	-	-	-	-	17.	16.	22.0

Infant Mortality Rates - Arundel Borough		
Year	Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births
1958	25.0	Nil
1959	Nil	Nil

	Neo-natal Mortality (Deaths under 4 weeks)		Early Neo-natal Mortality (Deaths under 1 week)		Perinatal Mortality (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week combined)	
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Total Deaths / ..	Nil	1	Nil	1	Nil	3
Mortality Rate per 1000 total live births ..	Nil	23.8	Nil	23.8		
Mortality Rate per 1000 total live & still births					Nil	68.1

Vital Statistics (Contd.)

Maternal Deaths (including Abortion).

Arundel Borough		Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 total births			
Year	Total Deaths	Arundel Borough	West Sussex		England and Wales
			R.D's.	U.D's.	
1958	-	-	0.49	-	0.43
1959	-	-	0.47	0.28	0.38

Deaths

ARUNDEL BOROUGH				WEST SUSSEX DISTRICTS		ENGLAND AND WALES		
Total Deaths (after adjustment for transfers)			Death Rates per 1000 population		Death Rate per 1000 population		Death Rate per 1000 Population	
Year	Total	Sex		Crude	Corr.	Rural		Urban
		M	F					
1958	46	26	20	17.55	13.16	13.09	14.22	11.7
1959	54	26	28	20.61	14.83	13.66	14.55	11.6

The chief causes of death were :-

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
(i) Diseases of heart and circulatory system	17	14
(ii) Cancer	16	6
(iii) Diseases of respiratory system ..	8	7
(iv) Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	11

The above four causes accounted for 48 or 89% of the total deaths recorded during the year.

Of the total deaths, 37 or 69% occurred in persons aged 65 years or over, and of these, 21 or 39% of the total deaths were in persons aged 75 years or over.

A table showing the causes of death, ages and sex distribution, is set out on page 9.

Table of Causes of Death at different Periods of Life - 1959.

R.G. List No.	Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Y e a r s						
				1-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-
	ALL CAUSES	M	26	-	1	-	8	8	7	2
		F	28	-	2	2	4	8	10	2
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Ditto lung, bronchus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Ditto breast	F	4	-	-	-	1	2	1	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	7	-	-	-	2	4	1	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
		F	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
		F	5	-	1	1	-	1	2	-
18	Coronary disease, angina	M	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
		F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
20	Other heart disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
		F	8	-	-	-	2	2	3	1
21	Other circulatory disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
22	Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	3	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
24	Bronchitis	M	3	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
32	Other defined & ill- defined diseases	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
		F	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
35	Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

No deaths were recorded as due to: (1) Tuberculosis, respiratory; (2) Tuberculosis, other; (3) Syphilitic disease; (4) Diphtheria; (5) Whooping Cough; (6) Meningococcal Infections; (7) Acute Poliomyelitis; (8) Measles; (9) Other infective and parasitic diseases; (13) Malignant neoplasms, uterus; (16) Diabetes; (19) Hypertension with heart disease; (25) Other diseases of respiratory system; (27) Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea; (28) Nephritis and Nephrosis; (29) Hyperplasia of Prostate; (30) Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion; (31) Congenital malformations; (33) Motor vehicle accidents; (34) All other accidents; (36) Homicide and operations of war.

Section II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Hospitals.

The hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents of the Borough are administered by the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board and are as follows :-

Hospital	Telephone Number	Number of Beds
<u>General Hospitals.</u>		
St. Richard's Hospital, Spitalfield Lane, Chichester	Chichester 2671	400
Royal West Sussex Hospital, Broyle Road, Chichester	Chichester 2685	202
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea	Shoreham 2381	411
Worthing Hospital, Lyndhurst Road Worthing	Worthing 7282	
Arundel and District Hospital, Chichester Road, Arundel	Arundel 3243	27
<u>Infectious Disease Hospital:</u>		
Swandean Isolation Hospital, Arundel Road, Worthing	Swandean 1821	* 19
<u>Tuberculosis Sanatoria:</u>		
Aldingbourne Chest Hospital, Norton, Near Chichester	Eastergate 2229	64
Bognor Regis Annexe, Hawthorn Road, Bognor Regis	Bognor Regis 151	45
<u>Maternity:</u>		
Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington, Sussex	Rustington 1515	50
Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, 80 Buckingham Road, Brighton	Brighton 25741	62
* 59 beds also available for Geriatric Cases.		

Laboratory Service.

Examinations carried out for this Authority by the Public Health Laboratory at Portsmouth during 1959, were as follows :-

Milk	..	33
Water	..	34

General Provision of Health Services.

Ambulances.

The Local Health Authority (the West Sussex County Council) provides an ambulance service with ambulances operating from Littlehampton.

Home Nursing and Midwifery.

The West Sussex County Council provides nursing services.

One District Nurse in Arundel is responsible for Home Nursing, Midwifery, School and Health Visiting duties.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Held at:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|--|
| Infant Welfare Centres | -) | Arundel, |
| Ante-Natal Clinics | -) | Chichester, |
| School Clinics (Minor Ailments) | -) | and |
| Eye Clinics | -) | Littlehampton. |
| Orthopaedic Clinic | -) | Littlehampton |
| Speech Therapy Clinic | -) | |
| Chest Clinic | - | Aldingbourne
Chest Hospital |
| Venereal Diseases Clinics | - | Worthing Hospital,
and St. Richard's
Hospital, Chichester. |

National Assistance Act, 1948.

Sections 47 and 50.

No action was necessary during the year.

Section III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the Borough is provided by the Duke of Norfolk's Estate, from a borehole and well situated in Mill Road, near Swanbourne Lake, and is pumped unfiltered to reservoirs in Arundel Park and Herons Wood.

The quantity of water available is estimated to be sufficient for the steady development of the district for many years to come.

It was interesting and reassuring to note that the water level in the borehole varied little during the exceptionally dry summer and no difficulty was experienced in maintaining supplies, although the demand during this period exceeded all previous records.

It was also fortunate that the electrical pump was installed in 1958. Consumption this summer has been so heavy that it is doubtful if the old pumps would have been capable of dealing with the load.

Water consumed in the Borough is purchased in bulk at 1/- per thousand gallons. Unfortunately the main meter was out of action for nearly three months due to a breakdown and consumption during this period had to be estimated.

All water pumped is chlorinated at the Waterworks before distribution and a constant supply is maintained to almost every house in the Borough. Only one very isolated cottage in the Borough is not on mains supply - this house depends on underground rainwater storage tanks for a water supply.

The chlorination plant which is maintained by the Corporation consists of an Ammoniator, a Chlorinator and Reagent Feeder using Sodium Hypochlorite. Constant supervision is maintained of this plant by a resident engineer. The plant is regularly serviced by Messrs. Wallace and Tiernan, Limited, under contract with the Corporation.

One new 4" main with a total length of 108 yards was laid by direct labour during the year with three new sluice valves and one existing valve replaced. In addition, two new fire hydrants were installed and one replaced.

Specimens of raw water from both the borehole and the well, and of chlorinated water from consumers' taps, were submitted for bacteriological examination at regular intervals. Thirty-four samples were submitted and the following table gives details of the reports received :-

Water Supply (Contd.)

No. of Samples Taken	Source	PATHOLOGIST'S REPORT		
		Raw Water		Chlorinated Supply
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		Satisfactory
13	Borehole	-	13	-
8	Well	-	8	-
13	Distribution Mains	-	1	12
34	TOTALS	-	22	12

A sample from the borehole was also submitted for full chemical analysis. The Analyst reported the waters clear and bright in appearance, hard in character and containing no excess of mineral constituents in solution. The water was also reported as being of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Twelve of the samples of chlorinated water taken from consumers' taps were found to be of satisfactory purity and one suspicious. The bacterial quality of the water is therefore at most times dependant upon efficient chlorination. Interruption of chlorination is avoided as far as possible by careful supervision of the plant and its operation.

Water Statistics for the Year ending 31st March, 1959.

Water Consumption in the Borough.

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
(1) Domestic and unmetered supplies ..	35,191,090	96,413
(2) Industrial and trade supplies by meter	<u>4,398,680</u>	<u>12,051</u>
Total for area of supply	<u>39,589,770</u>	<u>108,464</u>

Supplies through Corporation mains for the Duke of Norfolk's Estate under Water Agreement.

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
(a) Tortington	385,460	1,056
(b) Lyminster	<u>27,058,770</u>	<u>74,134</u>
Totals	<u>27,444,230</u>	<u>75,190</u>

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
Increased consumption of water supplied through Borough mains over 1958 to outlying areas	1,213,070	3,324
Decreased consumption of water supplied by Corporation over the year 1958 ..	1,292,070	3,540

Water Statistics (Contd.)

Maximum weekly consumption	..	..	959,030 gallons
Minimum weekly consumption	..	..	715,520 gallons
Gallons per head per day (exclusive of metered supplies)	..	..	31.5 gallons
Gallons per head per day (inclusive of metered supplies)	..	..	35.5 gallons
Number of metered supplies	..	..	40
New metered supplies during the year	..	..	2
Length of mains owned by the Corporation			6.63 miles
Estimated population supplied	..	..	3,075
Number of Consumers	..	..	1,140

During the year detection of waste and misuse of water continued. A number of defective appliances were found and rectified, and leaks remedied. There was only one major water mains burst during 1959. Sundry maintenance works to valves, renewals of meters, etc. were also carried out.

Byelaws for the prevention of waste, misuse of water, etc. were confirmed by the Ministry and came into operation on the 19th April, 1956. Further amendments to these Byelaws were made by the Corporation and received the Minister's approval early in 1957.

By agreement, the Corporation provide water to their Stewards Copse Housing Estate and private estate development in Tortington Parish situated within the statutory supply area of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council.

The Borough is served by two reservoirs : Castle Park reservoir (O.D. 142), and Herons Wood reservoir (O.D. 200).

The Castle Park reservoir serves the old town area and outlying area in Worthing Rural District. The Herons Wood reservoir serves approximately a third of the Borough mainly the western part of the District where ground levels are highest.

The mains from each reservoir are linked and controlled by a series of valves which in an emergency would enable the entire area to be served from either reservoir.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Council have two sewage disposal works - a small works in Fitzalan Road on the south-east side of the River, and the main works in Ford Road on the north-west side.

In addition, there are two small works installed by a private estate developer which will ultimately take the drainage from approximately 24 new houses.

A further small works was put in during the year for a private estate capable of dealing with ten future houses.

All outfalls are to the River Arun which necessitates holding tanks as the river is tidal.

There are several direct outfalls from soil and rain water sewers to the River apart from the sewage works. The majority of these are penstock controlled, some manually and some automatic. Nearly all these outfalls are in the old town section of the Borough.

The sewers are partially separated, some rain water is received into the sewage works, the remainder runs into separate sewers which discharge into the River Arun.

As in past years complaints of bad smells were received from residents in the neighbourhood of the Ford Road Sewage Works. Treatment of the sewage in the summer months with Sodium Hypochlorite is carried out at the detritus tank. This has proved partially satisfactory and has reduced to some extent the complaints except in very humid weather.

The main sewage works are very antiquated, being designed for chemical precipitation and sludge pressing - a method long since abandoned by local authorities. The sludge pressing machinery has not been used since about 1914. The volume of sewage increases each year with new houses being erected and improved sanitary appliances in the older houses. In addition, with the growth of the Torton Hill Estate, the works are rapidly becoming surrounded and are no longer isolated as they were when established some 50 years ago.

During the year the Corporation invited Messrs. Howard Humphries Ltd, Consulting Engineers of London, to examine and report on the sewage disposal works and general sewerage system. A survey has been carried out of the existing arrangements, but at the close of the year the report had not been received.

No works of alteration were carried out at either of the sewage works during the year.

There has again been considerable activity during the year in laying new foul and storm water sewers, principally in connection with proposed private and estate development.

Drainage and Sewerage (Contd.)

Foul sewers laid within the Borough during the year totalled 25 yards of 4" diameter. In addition, foul sewers totalling approximately 150 yards of 9" diameter and 160 yards of 6" diameter, were laid outside the Borough in connection with private estate development and connected to the Corporation's sewers by agreement.

Storm water sewers laid in the Borough amounted to 40 yards of 12" diameter; 300 yards of 9" diameter, and 30 yards of 6" diameter. Storm water sewers were also laid outside the Borough as in the case of the foul sewers mentioned above and again connected to the Corporation's mains. These included 205 yards run of 12" diameter.

One of the manually operated penstocks in the soil sewer outfalls to the River broke down and had to be renewed.

Repeated back flooding of the soil and storm water sewers again took place in Surrey Street, Queens Lane and River Road. This unfortunately occurs when there is heavy rainfall coupled with high tides which lock the sewer outfalls.

There are eight premises still using bucket closets with soakaway drainage for sullage water, whilst 31 other premises have water carriage sanitation and either run to cesspools or soakaways. All these premises are situated in positions which make it impossible to connect to a sewer or where main drainage is not available.

Public Conveniences.

The Corporation owns two public conveniences - one on the Town Quay and the other in Mill Road.

Both are satisfactorily maintained.

Rivers and Streams.

No action was necessary to check pollution of streams in the area.

A varying number of vessels are moored to wharves on the River Arun. Whilst these craft are mainly for Summer use, two such vessels are used permanently for habitation.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse throughout the Borough is carried out weekly by the Corporation. Trade refuse is also removed by agreement.

Public Cleansing (Contd.)

With the addition of over 300 houses since the war this important service has become a full-time occupation. Four men are permanently engaged on refuse collection and disposal.

The salvage of waste paper which had to be abandoned in 1958 owing to the lack of an economic market was recommenced in April, 1959. The following materials were salvaged and sold during the year :

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Revenue</u>		
				<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
Baled Waste Paper	9	13	3	33.	18.	1.
Non-ferrous Metals	1	1	2	20.	16.	1.
Ferrous Metals		7	-	1.	16.	0.
	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>£ 56.</u>	<u>10.</u>	<u>2.</u>

The revenue from salvaged materials shows an increase of £32 compared with the income for the previous year.

Refuse tipping has been carried out during the year on the Spring Ditch site and good progress has been made in reclaiming this waste land. Every effort has been made to carry out "controlled tipping" and one employee is engaged full-time on the tip for this purpose.

From June to October full use was made of the Scotland Barn tip which is normally retained for the occasional disposal of articles not wanted on the Spring Ditch site, i.e. sawdust, old iron, etc.

In the late Autumn the Corporation were fortunate enough to obtain a large quantity of surplus earth which has been utilised to seal and level off the remaining section of the Canada Road refuse tip. The total area of reclaimed land which is made up on this tip is about three acres. Four Old Folks dwellings and a Scout Hall have been erected on part of the land leaving just over 2½ acres for an open space. It is hoped to effect final levelling and grass seeding of this land in the Spring of 1960.

Every effort is made to keep under control the potential menace of flies and rats on the tips. They are sprayed for flies and regularly treated for rats.

Unfortunately a large section of the Scotland Barn tip caught fire in July necessitating the services of the Fire Brigade. They were unable to extinguish the fire but succeeded in keeping it under control. Every endeavour was made to smother the fire with earth but it burst out again in October when the Fire Brigade was again called upon to control

Public Cleansing (Contd.)

the outbreak. At the close of the year it was still alight in a small section but under control. The cause of this fire was suspected to be a discarded cigarette end.

The Fire Brigade was also called upon to extinguish a fire in Canada Road suspected of being caused by children setting the rubbish alight.

The Council continued to give assistance to the West Sussex County Council in the clearance of snow and dealing with icy conditions of all roads in the Borough.

The scavenging of both County and District Roads has been continued as well as the routine emptying of street gullies in the District Roads.

By agreement with the Worthing Rural District Council, the Corporation commenced the disposal at their Tips of refuse brought into the Borough by the Rural District Council from neighbouring Parishes.

Shops Act.

Four visits were made to shops under the above Act and no contraventions were observed.

The Council have by order waived the half-day closing for a period of four months during the Summer.

In addition, the closing time is relaxed over the Christmas period.

Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary in this direction.

Eradication of Bed Bugs, Fleas, etc.

One complaint of infestation by cockroaches was received during the year. This proved a very severe and stubborn infestation necessitating several treatments before being finally cleared.

One flea infestation was also reported and treated.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Numerous enquiries are received, particularly in the Summer months for sites for caravans and campers. Most of them find accommodation in the rural area to the South of the Borough.

One site in the Borough is licensed for camping purposes

Tents, Vans and Sheds. (Contd.)

under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It comprises .715 of an acre, is licensed for three movable dwellings and has main water supply and dry conservancy facilities.

No formal action was necessary during the year.

The Corporation have not adopted Byelaws to control Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Swimming Baths.

The Corporation propose to provide an open air Swimming Pool on land which has been kindly given by His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, E.M.

By the end of the year tenders had been invited for the majority of the necessary works and the successful Contractor was expected to commence any day. The necessary extensions of the water main and sewer and other ancillary works had already been completed by direct labour. The Corporation hope that the pool will be in use for the 1960 season.

The miniature pool at the Roman Catholic School continues to be used by the pupils for swimming instruction. The pool is filled with mains water and chemically treated by the staff.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

The West Sussex No. 2 Workable Area Committee set up in 1944 has continued to meet quarterly in Littlehampton, the Public Health Inspector being the representative of the Borough on this Committee.

Matters regarding rodent control are dealt with by the Council's part-time Rodent Operator. As a result of independent investigations, block control and complaints received, only a few minor infestations were discovered and dealt with.

It was not found necessary to report any infestations during the year to either the Agricultural Executive Committee or the West Sussex Rivers Board.

Council properties are regularly treated as a precautionary measure.

The part-time Rodent Operator attended a refresher training course arranged by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Schools.

The sanitary conveniences at the Church of England School were reorganised during the year, and both schools in the Borough now have modern sanitary facilities.

Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959.

Prescribed Particulars on the
Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health :

Premises (1)		Number on Register (2)	Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities ..	11	10	-	-
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. ..	25	39	-	-
(iii)	Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ..	4	3	-	-
Total		40	52	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Ref. to H.M. Inspector (4)	Ref. by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding(S.2) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	1	1	-	-	-
Total	4	4	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel (Making, etc.)	1	-	-	-	-	-

(No other Outworkers notified)

Street Lighting.

The Corporation is responsible for street lighting in the Borough and operates 150 street lamps illuminated by gas. During the year one lamp was added to the lighting system.

Nine lamps were damaged during 1959 by motor traffic and five claims made in respect of such damage.

Forty visits of inspection in regard to street lighting were made, including four night inspections.

The Corporation has a seven year contract with the South Eastern Gas Board for street lighting which was renewed as from the 1st April, 1952.

Mortuary.

The Corporation own and maintain a mortuary which is situated in Ford Road adjoining the Cemetery. The building is well equipped and kept in a satisfactory condition.

Petroleum and Carbide.

Nine licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were issued during 1959, and nine visits of inspection were made for this purpose. The storage arrangements of the applicants were found to be satisfactory.

Civil Defence.

The Public Works Committee now deals with Civil Defence matters. The Borough Surveyor is Civil Defence Officer and Controller designate and the Headquarters Section is under the control of the Mayor - Alderman G.H. Stevens, J.P.

The position of Evacuation and Billeting Officer is still vacant. Mr. F.E. Langston is the Head Warden for the Borough.

Training courses for Headquarters, Wardens, Welfare and Rescue continued throughout the year.

Summary of Visits and Inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts.

Infectious Disease	..	..	4
Butchers' Shops	..	..	12
Dairies	..	..	3
Other Food Premises	..	..	31
Shops Act	..	..	4
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	3
Offices	..	..	2
Marine Stores	..	..	2
Public Conveniences	..	..	26
Water Supplies and Appliances	..	..	131
Refuse Disposal Tips	..	..	89
Sewage Works and Sewers	..	..	29
Building Byelaws	..	..	649
Dangerous Structures	..	..	9
Miscellaneous	..	..	289
Re-visits	..	..	212
Improvement Grants	..	..	35

Other Visits:

Re Council House tenancies	..	..	31
District Roads	..	..	219
Street Lighting	..	..	40
Petroleum Regulations	..	..	9
Town Planning	..	..	40
Advertisements	..	..	8
Allotments	..	..	12
Sports Field	..	..	81

Summary:

Total Inspections made for all purposes 2128

Notices served:

(a) Informal	..	..	21
(b) Statutory	..	..	1

Summary (Contd.):

Complaints received	..	..	43
Nuisances found and abated	..	..	24

Work and Improvements.

Rooms disinfected after infectious disease			Nil
Bedding destroyed	..	..	Nil
Dustbins provided	..	..	9
Drains re-laid	..	..	11
Drains tested	..	..	31
Drains cleared	..	..	8
New drains laid	..	..	23
Premises connected to main drainage	..	..	23
Premises connected to water main	..	..	21
Bucket closets renewed	..	..	2

Interviews:

Re: Building Byelaws	..	..	58
Town Planning	..	..	63
Sewers and sewage disposal	..	..	7
Housing Repairs etc.	..	..	28
Housing Tenancies	..	..	14
Housing - Improvement Grants	..	..	18
Water	..	..	13
Refuse collection and disposal	..	..	7
District Roads	..	..	18
Miscellaneous	..	..	63
Total			<u>289</u>

Section IV.

Council Housing.

Rehousing.

Further steady progress was made during the year towards better housing conditions.

Ten families were rehoused by the Corporation - two families into new houses and eight to fill casual vacancies occurring in existing houses.

At the close of the year the Council's waiting list recorded 66 applicants.

Council Houses - Repairs and Maintenance.

Works of repair and maintenance to the Corporation properties are carried out by direct labour. Five men are permanently employed for this purpose.

Each house contributes £15 per annum to the Housing Repairs Fund and a further £1,000 has been allotted from balances for the pre-war Houses Improvement Scheme.

In addition to the direct labour scheme, the Council operate a free issue scheme for decorating materials as they do not undertake internal decoration of houses.

Pre-War Council Houses - Improvement Scheme.

The Corporation owned before the war some 81 houses, 37 being terrace houses and the rest semi-detached three bedroomed houses. All these houses lacked modern facilities, particularly the terrace houses. At the end of 1957 the Corporation decided to effect improvements and modernise the houses by direct labour.

This scheme has been put into effect and by the end of the year 30 terrace houses had been improved. The works comprised the provision of indoor sanitation, hot and cold water supply, wash basin, removal of kitchen ranges, the installation of back boilers, tiled hearths and surrounds, linen cupboards, electrical points, etc., the basic standard being as far as possible to provide the facilities given in the modern Council House.

Successful application was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, for grants in respect of six of these houses. Grants were obtained for the provision of standard amenities equalling £36 per annum. The average cost per completed house to-date has been approximately £210.

Although a rent increase of 2/- per week has resulted from these improvements, the general reaction of the tenants has been that it is well worth while.

New Council Houses and Future Development.

Two 3-bedroomed dwellings were erected and occupied during the year.

With the conclusion of the 1958 Scheme, the Stewards Copse Housing Estate has no further land available for Council Houses.

The Estate which is of some 26 acres, up until eight years ago, contained nearly 20 acres of woodland. It now houses 164 dwellings, 12 garages and a Scout Hall. Areas are further reserved for 3 Police Houses, a Shopping Centre, further garages, and public open spaces.

As a result, the Corporation resolved to negotiate with His Grace the Duke of Norfolk for an extension of the Estate by the acquisition of a further $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land. This land, together with land already owned by the Corporation, would have made it possible to develop and erect some 38 dwellings. An outline layout of the area has been produced and development consent obtained.

The Corporation, however, decided in November not to proceed with the acquisition of the land.

Garages.

Nine lock-up garages were erected off River Road during the year, and a further six on the Pearson Road site. The Corporation now own 21 garages.

Owing to the number of vehicles found to be parked around the Stewards Copse Housing Estate, and the demand for further garages, the Housing Committee have instructed the Borough Surveyor to prepare a scheme for a further six garages to be sited adjacent to those already existing off Pearson Road.

Summary of Housing Accommodation administered by the Corporation.

Set out herewith are details of accommodation administered by the Corporation as at 31st December, 1959 :-

Council Houses:

Erected pre-war	..	..	81	
Erected post-war	..	..	<u>172</u>	253
Almshouses	..	..	6	
Miscellaneous	..	..	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>
		Total		<u>261</u>

Three chimney fires were reported by the Fire Brigade at Council Houses. No claims were made on the Council's Insurance Company in respect of damage caused by fires.

Private Housing.

A considerable number of works of alteration, repairs and improvements of the older houses has again taken place.

Since 1946, the Corporation have acquired 20 sub-standard houses with the object of demolition. Of these, 19 have been demolished and the other remains occupied.

The Corporation have endeavoured to continue an effective policy of demolition and closing of houses in such a condition as to be unfit for human habitation. During the past eleven years, 40 such houses have been demolished in the Borough and a further 13 closed. Wherever possible, however, the Council welcome the submission of schemes of improvement and modernisation of such buildings. By this means 10 demolition or closing orders have been revoked and good houses resulted. Undertakings have been accepted in respect of 2 further such houses and works were in progress at the end of the year.

A summary of the position regarding sub-standard houses at the end of 1959 was as follows :-

Demolition Orders:

Undertakings to recondition accepted	..	2
Undertakings to use only as stores accepted	.	1
Still occupied	.. ..	3
Standing empty	.. ..	9

Closing Orders:

Orders revoked	.. ..	2
Undertakings to recondition accepted	..	1
Undertakings not to relet accepted	..	1
Still occupied	.. ..	1
Standing empty	.. ..	6

The Corporation informed the Minister of Housing and Local Government in August, 1955, that they proposed dealing with 40 sub-standard houses in the following five years. So far, 35 such dwellings have been dealt with as follows :-

Closing Orders:

Orders made	.. ..	10
Houses closed	.. ..	6
Families rehoused	.. ..	7
Still occupied	.. ..	1
Orders revoked after reconditioning	..	3
Undertakings to recondition accepted	..	3

Housing (Contd.)

Demolition Orders.

Orders made	..	..	..	25
Houses demolished	..	..	..	9
Houses closed	..	..	..	15
Families rehoused	..	..	..	14
Still occupied	..	..	..	5
Orders revoked after reconditioning	..	..	..	7
Undertakings to recondition accepted	..	..	..	1

Improvement Grants.

The introduction of "Standard Grants" under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, has undoubtedly stimulated interest in respect of improvement grants. This has been evident from the number of enquiries and subsequent applications for grants.

A summary of applications received and dealt with during 1959 is as follows :-

	<u>Standard</u> <u>Grants.</u>	<u>Discretionary</u> <u>Grants.</u>
Number of applications	7	5
Total maximum amount approved	£875	£1204
Total amounts paid	£ 80	£ 664

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair under the above Act.

One certificate issued in 1958 is still outstanding.

New Houses - Private Enterprise.

Eleven houses were completed by private enterprise and a further 17 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year.

In addition, plans had been approved for a further 12 dwellings, and outline approvals for another 2 houses.

Twelve houses were erected and one more was under construction, together with roads and services, on a private estate adjoining the Borough boundary in the Chichester Rural District.

This makes some 88 houses in Tortington Parish now linked with the Corporation's sewers and water mains.

Dangerous Structures - Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 58.

Informal Notices regarding the repair or renewal of four dangerous buildings or structures were served during the year and entailed nine visits.

One matter was outstanding at the end of the year.

Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	53
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	114
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses under sub-heading (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regs., 1925	21
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	53
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	47

2. Remedying of defects without service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority	49
---	----

3. Remedying of defects with service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action taken by the local authority	1
---	---

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1957 :

Demolition Orders.

(i) Demolition Orders made	1
(ii) Houses demolished	-
(iii) Undertakings accepted	1
(iv) Houses closed and awaiting demolition	1
(v) Demolition Orders revoked	1

Housing Statistics (Contd.)

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

Closing Orders.

(i) Closing Orders made	..	..	-
(ii) Houses closed	..	..	-
(iii) Undertakings accepted	..	..	1
(iv) Closing Orders revoked	..	..	2
(v) Work in progress	..	..	1

5. Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	..	..	4
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	..	..	5
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	..	..	31

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported .. Nil

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	..	..	Nil
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	..	..	-

(d) Number of cases in which dwelling houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding -

Section V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

All farms in the Borough are supplied with mains water, and the position at the end of the year was as follows :-

Number of farms in the Borough	..	6
Number actually producing milk	..	3
Number of Dairymen (Milk Sellers)	..	6
Number of inspections made of Milk Shops		3
Number of contraventions found	..	Nil

Milk Sampling.

Thirty-three samples of milks were taken during the year with the following results :-

Designation	Number of Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		Samples Void
			Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test	
Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested	16	13	-	1	2
(Pasteurised) Tuberculin Tested	9	8	-	-	1
Tuberculin Tested	8	7	1	-	-
Totals	33	28	1	1	3

No samples were taken by the Corporation for biological examination. One sample of Tuberculin Tested milk was, however, taken from a cowkeeper in the Borough by a neighbouring authority and was reported negative to the Brucella Ring and Tuberculosis Tests.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

The following Supplementary Licences were granted during 1959 :-

(a) Tuberculin Tested milk	..	..	3
(b) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	..	..	1
(c) Pasteurised Milk..	..	..	7
(d) Sterilised Milk .	..	..	2

The Borough was included in a "Specified Area" as from the 1st April, 1954. The effect of the Order defining this Specified Area is to make illegal the sale in the Borough of any milk which is not designated, i.e., Sterilised, Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested. In fact, no undesignated milk has been sold in the town for some years.

Meat and Other Foods.

There is no longer a slaughterhouse in the Borough, the last such premises having closed during the year.

Periodic inspections of butchers' shops and vehicles have been carried out and details of such inspections are as follows :-

(a) Butchers' Shops	..	..	12
(b) Vehicles	..	..	3

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954.

Seven renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted by the Corporation during 1959. No new licences were issued.

Food Premises.

Byelaws concerning the "Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air" originally made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and brought into operation on the 14th June, 1950, still apply.

There are 66 food premises in the Borough as follows :-

Bakehouses	..	..	2
Butchers' Shops	.	..	4
Catering Establishments	..	..	13
Chemists	..	..	2
Confectioners	..	..	10
Dairies	..	..	2
Fishmongers	..	..	1
Grocers	..	..	12
Greengrocers	..	..	4
Licensed Premises	..	..	15
Corn Stores	..	..	1

Forty-six visits of inspection were made to food premises during the year. Generally, the cafes and food shops maintain a high standard of cleanliness.

Two offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations were observed and remedied by informal action.

Condemned Food.

The following items of food stuffs, weighing a total of 18 lbs., were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned :-

- 1 Tin Pork Luncheon Meat
- 1 Tin Corned Beef
- 1 Stone Huss.

Bakehouses,

There are two bakehouses in the borough. Four visits were made to these premises and two defects were observed and later remedied.

Ice Cream

Twenty-four premises in the Borough are registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice cream. No ice cream is manufactured in the Borough.

All ice cream is sold wrapped as delivered to the retailers by the manufacturer.

The results of ice cream samples taken by the Food and Drugs Authority for fat content are not available for inclusion in this report.

Fried Fish Shop.

The one Fish Frying Establishment in the Borough was discontinued during the year.

Food Adulteration.

The West Sussex County Council is the Authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Details of the samples taken in the Borough are not available for inclusion herein.

Water Cress.

Visits of inspection were made to the watercress beds in the Borough and no complaints were received during the year.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF DISEASES.

Details of notifications of infectious diseases received during the year are set out on page 35.

All children and adults up to the age of 40 years are now eligible for vaccination against Poliomyelitis. Both American and British Vaccines are available, and experience both in this country and in America shows the great safety and efficiency of the vaccines in use.

Parents who neglect to have their children vaccinated against Poliomyelitis shoulder a very heavy responsibility, and although the age limit is at present set at 40 years, all adults below this age should accept the offer of vaccination for themselves because the mortality of poliomyelitis and the incidence of paralysis in the age groups between 25 and 40 years is high.

No case of Diphtheria has been notified in the Borough since 1945, but it is still necessary to remind parents to have their children protected by immunisation against this disease. The danger of any child catching diphtheria at the present time may be small, but this danger will progressively increase over the years if the level of protection continues to fall.

Cancer.

Sixteen deaths (10 males, 6 females) were attributed to Cancer during the year (6 in 1958).

The Cancer Death Rate for 1959 per 1,000 of the estimated home population is 6.10 (2.29 in 1958). Corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex are 2.62., 2.67 and 2.55 respectively.

Diphtheria.

(a) Notifications. No cases of Diphtheria were notified during 1959, nor were any deaths registered as due to this cause.

(b) Immunisation. Forty-five children under five years of age and two children over five but under fifteen years, received a complete course of protective immunisation in 1959. In addition, ten children received 'follow-up' injections.

Measles.

Three cases were notified (85 in 1958).

Pneumonia.

Two cases were notified (4 in 1958).

Poliomyelitis.

No cases were notified in the Borough. The attack against this disease in the community is now two fold. Firstly, all children and young people should be registered for vaccination against Poliomyelitis, and secondly, everyone should realise that the disease is largely spread from person to person by infected fingers. Everyone should always wash their hands after using the lavatory.

Tuberculosis.

One primary notification of respiratory Tuberculosis was received during 1959, but no deaths were recorded as due to this cause.

The following table gives details of the number of cases on the notification register at the end of the year :-

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total Cases		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Cases on Register 1.1.59.	3	9	12	1	2	3	4	11	15
Primary Notifications-1959	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Transfer Cases	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTALS	5	9	14	1	2	3	6	11	17
Cases removed - 1959	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number on Register 31.12.59	5	9	14	1	2	3	6	11	17

Other Diseases.

No notifications were received during the year of the under-mentioned diseases :-

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Cholera | Food Poisoning | Plague |
| Diphtheria | Malaria | Poliomyelitis |
| Dysentery | Membranous Croup | Puerperal Pyrexia |
| Encephalitis(Acute) | Meningococcal | Relapsing Fever |
| Enteric Fever | Infection | Smallpox |
| Erysipelas | Ophthalmia | Typhus Fever |
| | Neonatorum | Whooping Cough |

Table showing Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during
the Year 1959.

Disease	Cases Notified		Age Distribution												TOTAL		
	M	F	Total	Age													
				0-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-				
Measles	1	2	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	4	1	5	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Tuberculosis-Resp.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTALS	6	5	11	-	1	1	2	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	11

Details of Notifications received of
Measles, Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough since 1950.

Disease	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Measles	7	127	7	61	-	39	27	-	85	3
Scarlet Fever	14	-	8	2	7	4	-	-	8	5
Whooping Cough	1	44	-	5	39	4	1	-	-	-

