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BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT


of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1958

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



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(1)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.
(with qualifications)

Medical Officer of Health:

R. E. Robinson, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Superintendent of Public Cleansing:

H. WOODCOCK.

Certified Sanitary Inspector
Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector,
Royal Sanitary Institute.
Associate Member of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

Assistant Public Health Inspector:

R. ISHERWOOD.

Certified Sanitary Inspector,
Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector,
Royal Sanitary Institute,
Member of the Institute of Housing.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

J. OGDEN.

Clerk:

MRS. K. THOMAS.

(2)

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND WATER COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR WM. STARKIE, C.C.,

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR E. DINSDALE.

Councillors:

MISS A. ALSTON (from 20/5/58)

C. E. ANGUS.

H. ATKINSON.

W. ATKINSON.

J. BROUGHTON (to 20/5/58)

E. BROXUP.

W. DENT.

E. T. EDDLESTONE (from 20/5/58)

Mrs. E. FIELDEN.

G. W. FOX (from 6/10/58)

T. LANE.

F. PICKLES.

T. PYE.

W. ROBERTS.

T. SMITH.

J. STANWORTH, M.B.E.

D. H. J. STUTTARD.

F. SUTCLIFFE (to 20/5/58)

H. SUTCLIFFE (from 20/5/58)

J. WALTON (from 20/5/58)

R. WOOD (to 30/1/58)

C. E. WHITTAKER (to 11/8/58)

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Burnley Rural District Council.

Madam Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1958.

Throughout the year the records show steady improvement in most departments of the Burnley Rural District Health Department. There are, however, disturbing features in two series of figures. The first of these is the deaths from:-

- I A - Heart and Circulatory Diseases
- B - Cancer.

II High Infantile Mortality Rate.

Concerning I A and B above, much anxiety and early fatality could be avoided if people would have check-ups on their health as often as they overhaul their cars.

II - The high Infantile Mortality Rate is due to the deaths of nine infants, all in hospital, all under one month and, incidentally, it is also the Neo-natal rate. There is no one cause for this, but the nutritional background of the parents of the mothers of these babies has much to do with the causes. Furthermore, a reference to the graph on page 6 shows that where the numbers of births are few, the average of ten years reflects a truer picture.

It was a normal year for the number of Infectious Fevers, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis which showed twice the number of notifications. It is difficult to label the cause of this, but it does show the need for an early follow-up with Miniature X-ray Units.

I am grateful to the Members of the Health Committee for their interest and help and to my staff for their ever ready help and co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be,
Madam Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

R. E. ROBINSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Registrar-General's estimate of home population, mid year, 1958.....	16,170
Area of the district.....	39,841 acres
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1958, according to Rate Books.....	6,040
Rateable Value (as at 1st April, 1959).....	£245,748
Sum represented by ld. rate..... (actual for year ended 31st March, 1959).....	£771.3499

The chief occupations of the people in the district are cotton weaving, coal mining and dairy farming.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Live Births.</u>			
Legitimate.....	100	116	216
Illegitimate.....	4	3	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population, mid-1958.....			15.9

<u>Stillbirths.</u>	
Rate per total (live and still) births.....	17.6

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Deaths</u>			
Number of deaths (all causes).....	119	106	225
Death Rate per 1,000 population, mid-1958.....			12.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal sepsis.....	0
Other maternal causes.....	0

Infant Deaths

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.....	9
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age.....	9
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....	40.4
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....	40.4

(5)

Total deaths from cancer (all forms)..... 48

Other certified causes of death were as follows:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, other.....	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	6	2	8
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	9	2	11
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	0	1	1
Other lymphatic neoplasms.....	12	12	24
Diabetes.....	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	12	21	33
Coronary disease, angina.....	30	10	40
Hypertension with heart disease.....	1	2	3
Other heart diseases.....	8	19	27
Other circulatory diseases.....	8	12	20
Pneumonia.....	3	1	4
Bronchitis.....	10	2	12
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	4	0	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	12	11	23
Motor vehicle accidents.....	0	1	1
All other accidents.....	1	3	4
Suicide.....	0	1	1
	<u>119</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>225</u>

SECTION B.

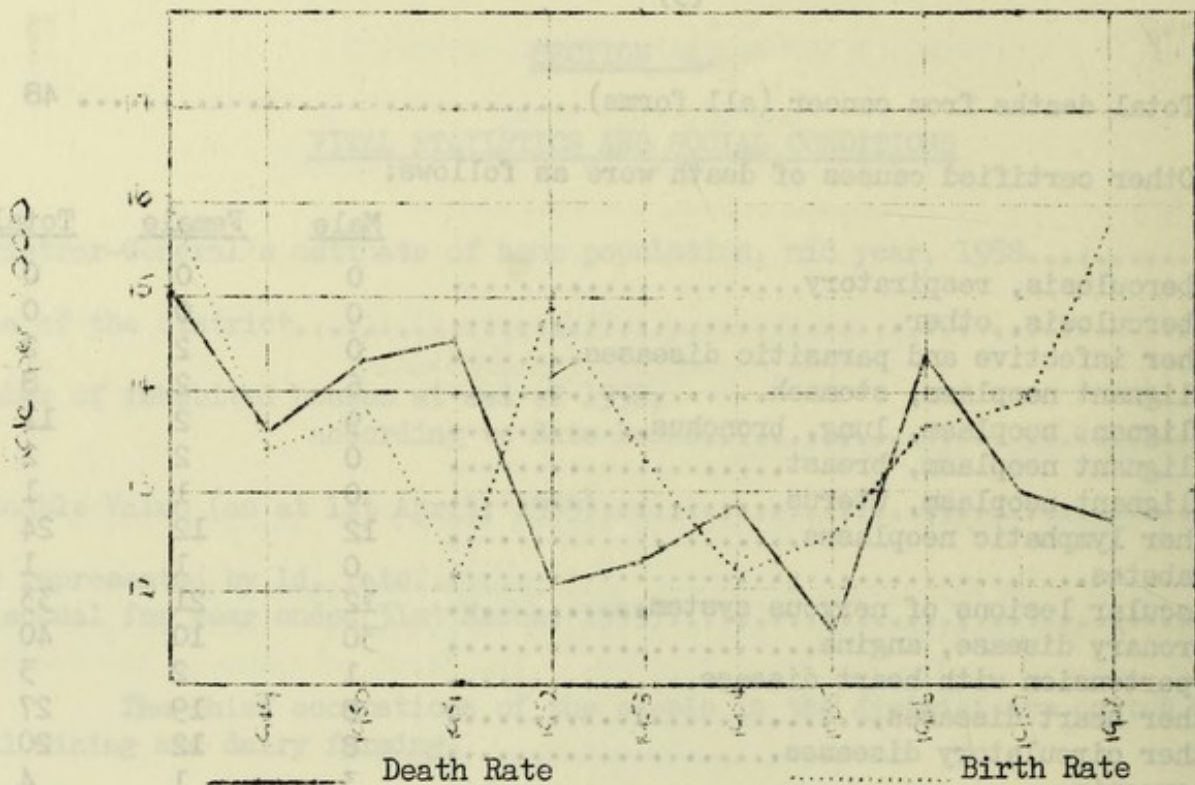
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA

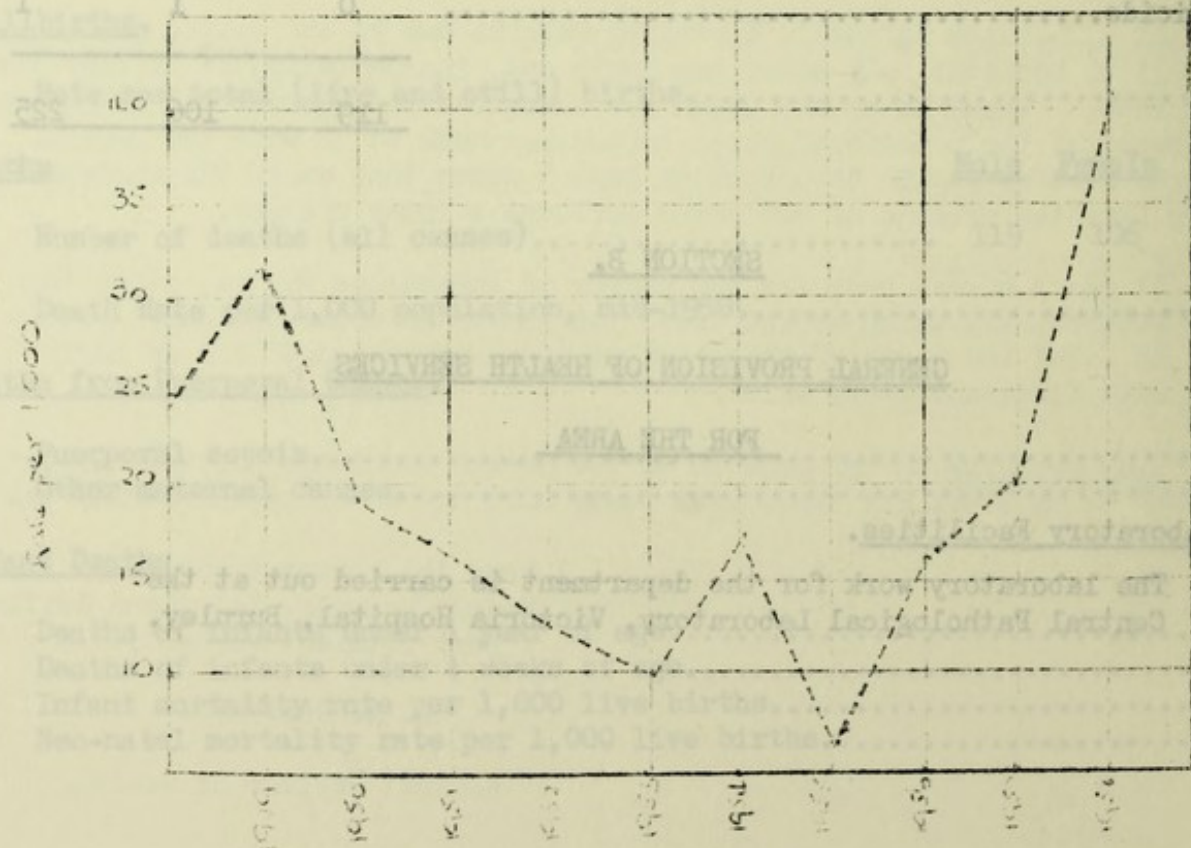
1. Laboratory Facilities.

The laboratory work for the department is carried out at the Central Pathological Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

GRAPH SHOWING BIRTH AND DEATH RATE FOR PAST 10 YEARS.



GRAPH SHOWING INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE FOR PAST 10 YEARS.



2. Ambulance Facilities.

All the ambulance undertakings for this district are carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

3. Nursing Services.

The nursing services provided for this district are carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

4. Immunisation and Vaccination Services, Home Helps, etc.

All these are under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

5. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Child Welfare Centres:

Barrowford U.D.C.	.....	Co-operative Rooms, Barrowford.
Brierfield U.D.C.	.....	Town Hall Annexe, Brierfield.
Burnley R.D.C.	.....	Methodist Chapel, Briercliffe. Village Hall, Holme, Cliviger. Co-operative Rooms, Warehouse Lane, Foulridge. 7, Town Gate, Higham. Methodist Sunday School, Sabden. do. Worsthorne.
Colne M. B.	.....	Bank House, Albert Road, Colne.
Nelson M. B.	.....	9/11, Carr Road, Nelson.
Padiham U.D.C.	.....	West Bank House, Padiham.
Trawden U.D.C.	.....	Guild Room, Co-operative Rooms, Lane Ends, Trawden.

School Clinics:

Elizabeth Street, Burnley.
West Bank House, Padiham.
9/11, Carr Road, Nelson.
Bank House, Albert Road, Colne.
259, Manchester Road, Nelson.

Tuberculosis:

Cases of suspected tuberculosis are now seen at the Chest Clinic, Marsden Hospital, Burnley.

Venereal Diseases:

At the Out-Patient Department, Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

Institutional Accommodation for Maternity Cases:

Christiana Hartley Hospital, Colne.

Fern Lea, Nelson.

Bank Hall, Burnley.

All these are under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

SECTION C.PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVERINFECTIOUS DISEASES.Infectious Diseases

The infectious diseases notified during the year were:

Scarlet Fever.....	5
Whooping Cough.....	3
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic.....	2
do non-paralytic.....	1
Measles.....	11
Dysentery.....	35
Acute pneumonia.....	3
Food poisoning.....	1

Tuberculosis

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-pulmonary</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of primary notifications received from medical practitioners on Form A.....	6	2	8
Un-notified cases (obtained from Death Returns).....	0	0	0

Localisation of Disease.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	4	2	6
Meninges and C.N.S.....	1	1	2
Other.....	0	0	0
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

Occupations

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Manufacturer.....	1	0	1
Labourer.....	1	0	1
Fire Beater.....	1	0	1
Retired.....	1	0	1
Weaver.....	0	1	1
Housewife.....	0	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

There were no cases of scabies notified to this authority during the year.

SECTION D.CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.1. Water Supply.

The area is supplied chiefly by water from the Council's own waterworks and from those of adjoining local authorities, but, in addition, there are also several privately owned water supplies.

The number of samples taken during the year was:

Bacteriological:

Public supplies: 35
Private supplies: 18

Chemical:

Public supplies: 0
Private supplies: 0

Details of the estimated number of houses with a piped supply of water are as follows:

Parish	Piped supplies			Not Piped
	No. of dwelling houses	From public water mains	From Private supplies	
Altham.....	226	226	-	-
Barley.....	80	28	52	-
Blacko.....	187	159	20	8
Briercliffe.....	876	860	6	9
Cliviger.....	620	527	84	9
Dunnockshaw.....	125	37	94	4
Foulridge.....	502	472	26	4
Goldshaw Booth.....	85	41	42	2
Habergham Eaves.....	257	230	25	2
Hapton.....	605	574	28	3
Higham.....	211	166	40	5
Ightenhill.....	48	48	-	-
Northtown.....	31	18	12	1
Old Laund Booth.....	257	215	42	-
Read.....	316	303	13	-
Reedley Hallows.....	276	244	32	-
Roughlee.....	115	52	62	1
Sabden.....	446	392	54	-
Simonstone.....	238	228	10	-
Worsthorne.....	612	607	5	-

The department has been engaged during the year checking on the purity of water supplies.

In all, 53 samples of water, from public and private supplies, were taken and submitted to the Central Pathological Laboratory, Burnley, for analysis.

The results of these samples were as follows:

Public Supplies:

35 samples taken for bacteriological examination.

Number reported excellent.....	30
Number reported good.....	3
Number reported suspicious.....	1
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	1

Private Supplies.

18 samples taken for bacteriological examination.

Number reported excellent.....	10
Number reported good.....	2
Number reported suspicious.....	1
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	5

In cases where water is reported unsatisfactory, the users are requested to boil all water to be used for drinking purposes. Unsatisfactory sources are investigated and where possible, advice is given to owners so that improvements may be effected.

Where there are several springs running into one private supply, samples are taken from each spring and where one or more is found to be unsatisfactory, then such spring can be disconnected, leaving only those where pure water is delivered.

In several cases it has been found that water issuing from a spring is piped for varying distances in field drain pipes to the tank which is used for storage, and an improvement has been carried out in some cases by the construction of a brick tank properly covered to receive that water from the spring, the water then being conveyed to the storage tank by properly jointed earthenware pipes.

2. POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

When any septic tanks are emptied an inspection is made and where improvements or repairs are necessary, the appropriate notice is served on the owner. Filters require constant attention, especially in the vicinity of trees, as choking is caused by leaves falling in the Autumn.

The Cliviger sewerage scheme was completed in January, 1954, and there are now only twelve pails existing which are within 100 ft. of the sewer. Efforts are now being made to persuade the property owners to convert their pails to fresh water closets.

Approximate number of houses connected to the sewer..... 368.

In these cases the pails mentioned previously are outstanding but the sink drainage from these twelve houses has been connected to the sewer.

The chief source of river pollution is still from unsewered villages as follows:

Barley, Briercliffe (Lane Bottom area), Dunnockshaw, Ightenhill, Newchurch-in-Pendle, and Roughlee.

A scheme for the sewerage of the Lane Bottom area of Briercliffe has been prepared and sent to the Ministry for approval and a scheme is being prepared for Dunnockshaw.

Another source of pollution is caused by drainage from farms. Sink drainage is usually piped direct to the nearest stream and liquid manure tanks are, in the majority of cases, fitted with overflow pipes, again which discharge into adjoining streams. In some cases heavy pollution is caused by faulty outlet valves on these liquid manure tanks. Such outlets are generally stopped up with a sack. When emptying takes place, the farmer manoeuvres his tank box under the outlet and removes the sack. The liquid manure runs from the outlet. When the tank box is full it is carted on to the land, but the liquid continues to run to the nearest stream until the box is again placed in position. The procedure continues until the tank is empty and it is not possible to re-stop the outlet until the tank is empty.

3. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In April, 1950, the Council decided to give financial assistance towards the cost of converting privies and pail closets to fresh water closets. A grant of £8 or half the cost of the conversion, whichever was the lesser, was paid towards the cost of these improvements. The Council have now increased the grants as follows:

- a) Where the property is connected to a sewer
not more than 100 ft. away..... £12. 10. 0d. per w.c.
- b) Where the property is connected to a sewer
more than 100 ft. away..... up to £25 per w.c.
- c) Where the conversion involves the construction
 of a septic tank and filter intended to serve
 one house only..... £25 per w.c.
- d) Where the conversion involves the construction
 of a septic tank and filter which will be
 shared by two or more houses, or in any other
 approved case, e.g. schools, factories, etc.... £20 per w.c.

In all cases the amount shown is maximum. The grant will be that amount, or half the cost, whichever is the lesser.

The following table shows the number of conversions carried out during the year:

Privy closets to fresh water closets.....	0
Privy closets to pail closets.....	0
Pail closets to fresh water closets.....	11
Trough closets to fresh water closets.....	6
Waste water closets to fresh water closets.....	38

The approximate number of the different types of sanitary conveniences in the district are as follows:

Fresh water closets.....	3207
Waste water closets.....	2331
Pail closets (including tank closets).....	862
Trough closets.....	4

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

For practically the whole year, refuse was collected weekly, although following the Christmas, July, Easter and September holidays when the department closed down, collections deteriorated slightly for approximately two weeks in each case.

It should be remembered that when a dustman takes his holiday he comes back to practically double the amount of refuse. Many owner/occupiers spend the holiday in house repairing and decorating, and consequently more refuse is produced.

A lot of houses are equipped with solid fuel cookers which burn twenty four hours per day. Such properties produce more ash than houses with open fires.

Occasionally, when investigating a complaint of a full dustbin, it has been found that the tenant has placed a large cardboard carton in the bottom of the bin, thus leaving very little room for any other refuse to follow.

Every new house built adds greatly to the work of the men because the bins have to be carried a much greater distance than in the case of the conventional terraced house with the back yard and back street.

Vehicles and Labour.

The five-day week is still operating successfully.

Since July, 1958, the cleansing service has operated without a foreman.

Refuse is collected as follows:

One 18/20 cu. yd. Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper
(seven years old), staffed by a driver and four men.

Collections from: Worsthorne, Pike Hill, Red Lees,
Overtown, Holne, Walk Mill, Dunnockshaw,
Habergham Eaves, Hapton, Read and
Simonstone.

One 10 cu. yd. Shelvoke and Drewry Side Loader (eight years
old), staffed by a driver and four men.

Collections from: Sabden, Fence, Blacko, Foulridge,
Reedley and Briercliffe.

One 7 cu. yd. Ford Diesel (four years old), staffed by
a driver and two men.

Collections from: Altham, Barley, Roughlee, Goldshaw
Booth, Ightenhill, and from isolated
properties around the villages.

This vehicle has shown considerable saving in fuel, but
repair costs have been high. There is excessive vibration
because the engine is idling for much of the day and it is
not practical to stop the engine whilst loading bins, as too
low a temperature is reached for efficient working.

One 2 cu. yd. Bedford Side Loader (two years old), staffed by
a driver and one man.

Used for refuse collection when necessary to assist other
vehicles, tip maintenance, collection of full salvage bags
from vehicles and collection of metals from tips.

Nightsoil Collection and Emptying of Cesspools.

One 800-gallon Shelvoke and Drewry Cesspool Emptier (eight years old), staffed by a driver and one man.

Approximately 650 pails are emptied weekly.

This vehicle is employed fifty-two weeks per year as pails cannot be left for two weeks. Some tenants use Elsan type closets and the containers are not as large as the pails sold by the Council, consequently when such people have visitors they soon find that the container is full.

We have trouble with the 8" outlet valve on this vehicle which has to be renewed at least once per year. This is due to the type of material carried and to the fact that some tenants deposit anything objectionable into the pail. On one occasion we found half a bed sheet wrapped around the worm in the valve.

Pail emptying is most objectionable work and every credit is due to the two men who carry out the work and to those who fill the breach at holiday times.

Numerous calls are made for septic tanks to be emptied. Some of these have a large capacity and may take a whole day to empty. Consequently there is a limit to what can be done as the pail service must not be interrupted and cesspools and privies also need emptying at regular intervals.

Refuse Disposal.

Household refuse is deposited on tips in the parishes of Foulridge, Reedley, Hapton, Dunnockshaw, Old Laund Booth, Briercliffe, Sabden and Worsthorpe.

The tip at Reedley was extended by culverting a further length of the stream.

There is also need for a tipping site at Read and Simonstone. Since the vehicles return to the depot from each village with practically a full load of waste paper, it is important that there is a sufficient number of tips situated close to the more densely populated parts of the district.

At intervals, a Bristol tractor is hired from Nelson Corporation for tip maintenance.

Difficulty is experienced at Hapton by people depositing wallpaper, builders' refuse, etc., in the gateway, which leaves the approach very unsightly.

At Briercliffe, the tip is used by factory owners for depositing flue dust. This has caused vehicles to be stuck on several occasions. This tipping site is now practically filled and work should commence on a proposed extension.

Sale of Galvanised Ware.

Dustbins and pails were sold to householders during the year as follows:

Galvanised light dustbins.....	48
Galvanised B.S.S. dustbins.....	167
Galvanised sanitary pails.....	29

5. SALVAGE.

A market was found for all the paper salvaged during the year, at an average price of £6. 10s. per ton.

The total weight of salvage last year was 182 tons, 18 cwts., and the total income was £1,226. 19. 3d.

Weight and Value of Salvage Sold during the year.

	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper.....	158.	2.	3.	0.	989.	18.	6.
Aluminium.....		12.	2.	1.	42.	3.	7.
Bottle Tops.....				18.		6.	0.
Brass.....		3.	1.	13.	12.	16.	2.
Brass and Copper.....		2.	2.	18.	11.	3.	6.
Copper.....		2.	3.	13.	14.	14.	3.
Lead.....		1.	1.	9.	3.	14.	6.
Rags.....	2.	19.	2.	5.	48.	3.	6.
Sacking.....		1.	3.	20.		12.	6.
Scrap Iron.....		4.	0.	0.		16.	0.
Tins.....	4.	17.	2.	0.	14.	10.	1.
Woollens.....		2.	0.	18.	6.	19.	2.
	167.	10.	3.	3.	£1,145.	17.	9.

The men are paid a bonus on salvage sales, which amounted to £13. 11. -d., for a man who worked the full period.

6. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There is still a great need for sanitary conveniences in the district as only two parishes, Foulridge and Briercliffe, are so provided. The greatest need is in the parishes which attract numerous visitors at the week-ends and public holidays. It seems equitable that the Rural District should provide conveniences for townspeople on holiday when the towns provide conveniences for rural dwellers when out shopping.

7. DISINFECTION.

During the year fourteen houses were visited for the purpose of disinfection. Formaldehyde was used in all cases except in the case of tuberculosis, where a 5% Izal solution was used.

Bedding is removed for steam disinfection, where necessary, to Burnley County Borough Cleansing Station.

8. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The Clean Air Act has taken away from local authorities responsibility for gas manufacturing plants, with the exception of those parts of the works used for steam raising.

New economisers and a new charging car which were ordered in 1957 for the gas manufacturing plant in the district, are expected to be installed in 1959.

Many cotton mills in the district are fitted with Lancashire boilers which are hand fired. This gives rise to the regular emission of black smoke and is the cause of several complaints in various parishes. However, many mills are now being fitted with automatic stokers which will greatly reduce the smoke.

9. RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent control in private dwellings and business premises was carried out during the year.

A free service was given in the case of private dwellings but a charge was made for the treatment of business premises and farms.

Rat destruction in the sewers has been carried out twice during the year and below are given details of infestations in sewer lengths treated up to the end of December, 1958.

During 1958, Paranitrophenol was used in sewer treatments as a mould inhibitor. In the past, sewer treatments have not been very successful, and this is due to some extent to the fact that bait turns mouldy very quickly in a damp atmosphere. It is then unattractive to rats. This year, however, with the addition of paranitrophenol, the results appear to have improved.

The rodent operator acts as a relief driver on the refuse collection and nightsoil vehicles. The arrangement works quite satisfactorily.

Treatment, October, 1958.

	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Treated</u>	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Infested</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Infested</u>
Altham.....	18	4	22.2
Altham West.....	12	3	25
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	50	8	16
Briercliffe.....	57	10	17.5
Cliviger.....	148	19	12.8
Foulridge.....	55	25	45.5
Habergham Eaves.....	22	13	59.1
Hapton.....	57	14	24.6
Higham.....	60	6	10
Read and Simonstone.....	64	4	6.3
Reedley.....	20	5	25
Sabden.....	48	19	39.6
Worsthorne.....	89	7	7.8

Treatment, April, 1958
(10% test bait only)

	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Treated</u>	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Infested</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Infested</u>
Briercliffe.....	57	17	29.8
Cliviger.....	148	23	15.5
Worsthorne.....	89	15	16.9

Comparison is made with the figures obtained when these lengths of sewers were previously treated:

Treatment, October, 1957.

Altham West.....	12	4	33.3
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	50	14	28
Briercliffe.....	57	10	17.5
Cliviger.....	148	27	18.2
Foulridge.....	55	29	52.7
Habergham Eaves.....	22	7	31.8
Higham.....	60	7	11.6
Hapton and Altham.....	76	25	32.9
Read and Simonstone.....	64	12	18.8
Reedley.....	20	6	30
Sabden.....	48	19	39.6
Worsthorne.....	89	7	7.9

Treatment, April, 1957.

Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	12	3	25
Briercliffe.....	14	4	28.6
Cliviger.....	48	21	43.8
Foulridge.....	38	16	42
Hapton and Altham.....	12	3	25
Higham.....	8	0	0
Read and Simonstone.....	29	6	20.6
Reedley.....	6	3	50
Sabden.....	13	8	61.5
Worsthorne.....	7	5	71.4

Advisory Committee for Rodent Control,

The North-East Lancashire Advisory Committee was formed in 1954. This covered Workable Area No. 11, which comprised Colne, Nelson, Trawden, Brierfield, Barrowford, Burnley, Padiham and Burnley Rural District, together with Workable Areas No. 10 and 15. Each district is represented by a member of the local authority and the Public Health Inspector. Half-yearly meetings are held in the respective districts when problems are discussed.

10. OTHER VERMIN.

Nineteen houses were disinfested, two council houses and seventeen other houses. Eleven houses were infested with cockroaches, six were infested with silverfish, one with bugs and one with fleas. Three wasps nests and a hornets nest were also destroyed and a nuisance caused by rabbits was dealt with.

11. SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Appendix A on page 28 shows the number of inspections carried out during the year.

12. TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are two main sites on which vans and sheds are situated in addition to a number of movable dwellings on single sites in other parts of the district. Two of these sites are licensed by the Council.

Arrangements were made for the owner to collect nightsoil from the vans and this is then transferred to the Council's cesspool emptier for disposal. Campers deposit refuse in communal bins and these are emptied regularly.

Occasionally complaints are received of gypsies parking on the grass verges for short periods.

There are often caravans parked on open cast coal sites in the district. These belong to employees of the companies who work the sites and they are stationed there for only a short period.

13. FACTORIES.

There are 143 factories in the district, chiefly cotton mills, and these are inspected regularly. Many of the factories have had modern sanitary accommodation installed in place of existing insanitary types.

There has been some difficulty in the parish of Altham where there are two factories with insufficient sanitary accommodation and it has not been possible for the owner to install additional accommodation because of the lack of facilities for sewage disposal in that part of the district. It is intended to remedy this by the enlargement of the existing septic tank and filter which takes the sewage from this part of the district.

Factory inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authority.....	4	4	0
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority (not included above).....	136	7	1
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority....	3	3	0
TOTAL.....	143	14	1

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. in which defects were found.	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary conveniences:			
a) Insufficient.....	0	0	0
b) Unsuitable or defective.....	1	1	0
TOTAL.....	1	1	0

SECTION E.

HOUSING

Six houses were erected by the Council during the year, and nineteen houses were erected by other bodies or persons.

One hundred applications have been received for two and three-bedroomed houses and forty-one applications have been received for old people's bungalows. These totals include a few applications submitted in 1951 which are now due for reconsideration.

Inspection and Repair of Houses.

Reports of housing defects are not as numerous as they were pre-1939. During the past ten years many tenants have purchased the houses in which they live and landlords who had houses empty took advantage of their increased value to put them up for sale. Many of these houses, which were in a poor state of repair when occupied as tenanted houses, have been given a new lease of life by the money spent by the owner-occupiers, and, in many cases, by their own efforts.

There is, however, one disadvantage to owner-occupied houses. Old couples often find themselves unable to work on their own property and are without sufficient funds to pay for repairs to be carried out. In such cases, houses seem to deteriorate rapidly and people have to live under most unsatisfactory conditions. It is also important to realise that the owner-occupiers feel there is no point in complaining to the Public Health Inspector as there is no landlord to complain about.

Rent Increases and Certificates of Disrepair.
Rent Act, 1957.

The Rent Act, 1957, came into force on the 6th July, 1957.

During the year, 18 certificates of disrepair were issued. 162 dwelling houses were inspected during the year, and 335 re-inspections were carried out. 48 informal notices were served requiring repairs to be carried out, and 58 informal notices were complied with. 4 houses were made fit after formal notice under the Public Health Act. Proceedings were taken under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, in respect of 8 houses.

Particulars of housing inspections and repair work carried out are given in Appendices B and C on pages 29 and 30.

SECTION F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

a) Milk Supply.

On the 30th September, 1949, many of the duties in connection with milk supplies were taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The inspection of dairy farms is now no longer the concern of the local authority, but the local authority is responsible for the supervision of dairymen and milk distributors other than dairy farmers. The local authority is also responsible for the sampling of milk for biological tests.

No. of milk distributors in the district.....	35
No. of dairies in the district.....	16
No. of shops in the district other than dairies.....	16
Premises outside the district.....	3

No. of dealers' licences issued in respect of:

a) the distribution of tuberculin tested milk....	18
b) the distribution of pasteurised milk.....	20
c) the distribution of sterilised milk.....	24

b) Biological Examination of Milk Samples.

Raw Milk

No. of samples taken for tuberculosis tests.....	43
No. reported negative.....	41
No. reported positive.....	0

(Two guinea
pigs died)

One positive sample of raw milk was reported by an adjoining authority and a notice was served on the farmer concerned restraining the sale of raw milk for human consumption unless suitably heat treated. No further action was taken as the farmer ceased production of milk and all the cows were sold for beef.

No. of samples taken for methylene blue tests.....	75
No. reported satisfactory.....	54
No. reported unsatisfactory.....	18
(Three tests were reported void)	

Heat Treated Milk.

No. of samples taken for phosphatase tests.....	30
No. reported satisfactory.....	30
No. reported unsatisfactory.....	0

c) Meat and Other Foods.

Since July, 1954, the Council have licensed five slaughterhouses, one each in the parishes of Dunnockshaw, Cliviger, Higham, Read and Sabden. At two of the slaughterhouses, regular week-end killing is carried out. This necessitates both Inspectors working alternate week-ends, for which extra payment is received.

The butchers' shops were inspected and generally found to be clean and well maintained.

Details of meat inspected and condemned within the district during 1958 are shown in Appendix E, on page 33.

Condemned Meat.

In the case of meat condemned at slaughterhouses and butchers' shops, small amounts are buried at the tip and, in some cases, at the slaughterhouses. Larger quantities of condemned meat are sent for manufacture into fertiliser.

Meat is coloured green at the time of condemnation.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and thus deals with the adulteration of food.

A total of 81 samples was obtained, and of these, 55 samples were of milk and the 26 others comprising:

1 Mustard sauce	1 Ground ginger
2 Coffee	1 Margarine
1 Cocoa	2 Glycerine
1 Treacle	1 Mixed spice
3 Whisky	1 Tincture of iodine
1 Jam	1 Throat lozenges
1 Fruit curd	1 Rice
1 Sugar	1 Dessicated coconut
3 Vinegar	1 Butter
1 Fruit, dried	1 Mincemeat

The samples were analysed by the County Analyst and below are given details of those on which he reported adversely:

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Milk	Fat 2.9% deficient, 1.6% low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified.
Milk (I)	Freezing point indicated the presence of 5.8% of extraneous water.	Formal sample obtained - proved "genuine".

d) Food Preparing Premises.

Regular visits were made to canteens and food shops which are generally kept in a satisfactory manner.

There are, however, one or two exceptions and these are not easily improved. It does not seem possible to make a person handle food in a hygienic manner if he, or she, has not received adequate training.

The most effective remedy is for visits to be made daily and to set the food handler certain specific tasks to be carried out each day. In this way improvements can be brought about, but it involves expense in

travelling if one particular shop or canteen has to be visited for a long period.

Where the premises do not comply with the Food and Drugs Act, the necessary notices are served on the occupier.

An egg freezing plant is operating in the district. It was constructed by the owner after consultation with the Public Health Inspectors and eggs are broken under most hygienic conditions. Samples are taken practically every week so that a close watch can be kept on the bacteriological purity of the finished product.

Number of Food Premises, by type of business, at end of year.

General grocers and provision dealers.....	84
Greengrocers and fruiterers.....	13
Meat shops.....	14
Bakers and/or confectioners.....	15
Fried fish shops.....	9
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, etc.....	14
Licensed premises, canteens, cafes, etc.....	41
Others.....	42

e) Ice Cream.

The necessary attention was given to premises where ice cream is prepared and/or sold, with special attention being given to the preparation.

Three samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the Central Pathological Laboratory, Burnley, for analysis. All three samples were reported to be Grade 1.

f) Bakehouses.

There are fifteen bakehouses on the register and routine inspections were carried out during the year.

SCHOOLS.

During the year the twenty-four schools in the district were inspected and the following information may be of interest:

Number of schools with unsatisfactory yard surfaces..... 11

Sanitary Accommodation.

Number of schools with -

Fresh water closets.....	19
Waste water closets.....	0
Trough closets.....	0
Pail closets.....	5

Refuse Disposal.

Number of schools with -

Dustbins.....	24
Ashpits.....	0

Water Supply.

Number of schools supplied from -

Public mains.....	22
Private supplies.....	2

Number of private supplies considered unsatisfactory.. 0

Number of schools where washing facilities
are considered unsatisfactory..... 18

Drainage.

Number of schools with drainage to -

Public sewers.....	19
Private treatment works.....	0

Dinners are now cooked on the premises at most of the schools in the district. Kitchens have been enlarged and modernised and generally there has been considerable improvement. Meat is freshly cooked and refrigerators have been installed for the storage of perishable food. Previously, meals were prepared in a central kitchen. Dinners were cooked early in the morning (meat having been cooked the previous day) and then taken out in special containers to the different schools. Considerable time was taken in delivery.

APPENDIX A.SANITARY INSPECTIONS MADE.General Sanitation.

Inspections under the Housing Acts.....	137
Inspections and visits in connection with I.D. cases.....	128
Disinfection of rooms.....	14
Inspections under Public Health Acts.....	198
Visits to dirty houses.....	5
Visits re water supplies.....	62
Visits re refuse and salvage disposal.....	196
Visits re dustbins, pails, etc.....	123
Visits re septic tanks and filters.....	73
Visits re accumulations and deposits.....	3
Interviews with property owners, etc.,.....	159
Smoke observations.....	82
Visits re smoke.....	6
Old drains inspected.....	111
Miscellaneous sanitary visits.....	191
Shops inspected.....	404
Visits re conversions.....	95
Premises inspected for vermin.....	6
Visits to factories re sanitary accommodation.....	7
Visits re certificates of disrepair.....	32
Old drains tested.....	26
Visits re caravans and movable dwellings.....	3
Visits re ponds, ditches and watercourses.....	5
Visits under Clean Air Act.....	5
Visits to verminous premises.....	25

Meat and Food Inspection and Inspection of Food Premises and Vehicles.

Meat inspection.....	727
Ice cream premises inspected.....	5
Food preparing premises inspected.....	19
Miscellaneous food visits.....	30
Butchers shops inspected.....	22
Dairies inspected.....	3
Milk vehicles inspected.....	1
Bakehouses inspected.....	17
Grocers shops inspected.....	82
Green grocers and fruiterers shops inspected.....	12
Fried fish shops inspected.....	6
Licensed premises inspected.....	37
Liquid egg plants inspected.....	2

APPENDIX B.SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.Dwelling Houses.

Defective plaster repaired.....	4
Walls repointed or repaired.....	2
Dampness abated.....	3
Roofs repaired or new roofs provided.....	1
Rainwater gutters provided or repaired.....	3

Water Closets, Dustbins, etc.

Waste water closets abolished.....	2
Fresh water closets provided.....	1
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets.....	38
Additional fresh water closets provided.....	10
Pail closets converted to fresh water closets.....	11
Water closets provided with water supply.....	1
Defective water closet pedestals replaced.....	1
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed.....	1
Trough closets converted to fresh water closets.....	6
Houses provided with new storage tanks for water.....	9

Drainage.

Choked drains cleansed.....	22
Drainage disposal installations cleansed or repaired.....	3
Drains repaired or reconstructed.....	1

Miscellaneous

Nuisances from offensive smells abated.....	1
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APPENDIX C.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)..... 162
- (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose..... 335
2. Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit;
- (a) Number found during year..... 14
- (b) Total number (or estimated number) existing at end of year..... 34
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..... 48

2. Houses Demolished.

(a) In Clearance Areas:	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
1. Houses unfit for human habitation.....	12	17	4
2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.....	-	-	-
3. Houses on land acquired under S.43(2) Housing Act, 1957.....	-	-	-
(b) Not in Clearance Areas:			
4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.17(1), Housing Act, 1957.....	2	12	2
5. Local authority owned houses certified unfit by M.O.H.....	-	-	-
6. Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts.....	-	-	-
7. Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders.....	-	-	-

3. <u>Unfit Houses Closed.</u>	<u>Houses Closed</u>	<u>Displaced during year</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
1. Under S. 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957.....	6	9	2
2. Under S. 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957.....	-	-	-
3. Parts of buildings closed under S. 18, Housing Act, 1957.....	-	-	-
4. <u>Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied.</u>			
		<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
1. After informal action by local authority.....		58	-
2. After formal notice under			
(a) Public Health Acts.....		4	-
(b) S.9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957.....		-	-
3. Under S.24, Housing Act, 1957.....		-	-
5. <u>Unfit Houses in Temporary Use. (Housing Act, 1957).</u>			
			<u>No. of houses</u>
Position at end of year.			
1. Retained for temporary accommodation			
(a) Under Section 48.....			0
(b) Under Section 17(2).....			0
(c) Under Section 46.....			0
2. Licensed for temporary occupation under S.34 or 53.....			0
6. <u>Purchase of Houses by Agreement.</u>			
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year.....			
			0
7. <u>Housing Act, 1949 and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958</u>			
Action during the year.....			Nil.

APPENDIX D.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority premises.	Dwelling Houses	All other including business premises.	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district.....	14	6418	910	510
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:				
(a) Notification.....	-	56	28	17
(b) Survey under the Act.....	9	-	-	141
(c) Otherwise.....	-	23	-	-
3. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections.....	50	172	67	183
4. No. of properties inspected in Section 2 found to be infested with				
(a) rats.....	9	51	15	45
(b) mice.....	-	28	13	3
5. No. of infested properties, in Section 4, treated.....	9	79	28	46
6. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments.....	12	82	29	49
7. No. of notices served under Section 4 of the Act.....	-	-	-	-
8. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out.....		- None -		

APPENDIX E.CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed.....	1404	446	11	8,244	365	1
Number inspected.....	1404	446	11	8,244	365	1
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.....	2	3	6	13	2	0
Organ or part of carcass condemned.....	42	24	0	215	12	0
% of number inspected affected..	3.1%	6.1%	54.5%	2.8%	3.8%	0%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.....	0	5	0	0	0	0
Organ or part of carcass condemned.....	104	41	0	0	13	0
% of number inspected affected..	7.4%	10.3%	0%	0%	3.6%	0%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.....	7	0				
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.....	7	0				
Generalised and totally condemned.....	0	0				

