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BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the




MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1959

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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)

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Medical Officer of Health:

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

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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.

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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.

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Pupil Public Health Inspector:

J. OGDEN.

---

Clerk:

MRS. K. THOMAS.

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(1)

(2)

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND WATER COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR WM. STARKIE, C.C.,

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR E. DINSDALE.

Councillors:

MISS A. ALSTON

C. E. ANGUS.

H. ATKINSON.

W. ATKINSON.

W. BENNETT. (from May, 1959)

E. BROXUP.

W. DENT.

E. T. EDDLESTONE.

MRS. E. FIELDEN.

G. W. FOX.

T. LANE.

F. PICKLES.

T. PYE.

W. ROBERTS.

T. SMITH.

J. STANWORTH, M.B.E.  
(to March, 1959)

D. H. J. STUTTARD.

H. SUTCLIFFE.

J. WALTON.

Clerk:

MRS. K. THOMAS.

(3)

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1959.

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To the Chairman and Members of the  
Burnley Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very happy to present my Annual Report for the year 1959.

It was quite a good year for the people living in Burnley Rural. The incidence of infectious diseases was low. It is true there was a small epidemic of measles, but it was of a very mild type. The pattern of the infectious fevers has been steadily changing since the beginning of the century and the tempo of this has increased noticeably during the last fifteen years. Apart from tuberculosis the number of notified cases of infectious disease has dropped and practically all the common children's conditions are much milder. Owing to the presence of the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit, and a very determined drive during the Survey of 1958 when every clue was pursued and treated, there were more tuberculosis notifications, but the overall picture was good.

This year the Infantile Mortality rate is 27.5. Still too high! Here again the emphasis is now not on the infantile mortality but on the peri-natal mortality.

What man eats concerns his sense of well-being, or otherwise. It is, therefore, very important that food shops and food preparing centres should be constantly supervised. The Public Health Inspectors are still our first line of attack of unsavoury standards of food hygiene. Unfortunately, distances are quite considerable in the area of the Burnley Rural, and much time is taken to cover the whole area. Food poisoning is still a very serious hazard.

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,  
Mr. Chairman, Ladies  
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, 1959.....	16,170
Area of the district.....	39,841 acres
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1959, according to rate books.....	6,063
Rateable Value (as at 1st April, 1960).....	£245,735
Sum represented by ld. rate (actual for year ended 31st, March, 1960).....	£994.3429

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

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Live Births</u>			
Legitimate.....	115	94	209
Illegitimate.....	4	5	9
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population, mid-1959.....			15.5

<u>Stillbirths.</u>	
Rate per total (live and still) births.....	9.1

<u>Deaths</u>			
Number of deaths (all causes).....	118	104	222
Death rate per 1,000 population, mid-1959.....			12.7

<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes.</u>		
Puerperal sepsis.....		0
Other maternal causes.....		0

<u>Infant Deaths.</u>		
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.....		6
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age.....		5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....		27.5
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....		22.9

Total deaths from cancer (all forms)..... 33

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
Syphilitic disease.....	1	0	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases..	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	4	0	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	6	0	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	0	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	9	9	18
Leukaemia.....	0	1	1
Diabetes.....	0	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	21	17	38
Coronary disease, angina.....	28	10	38
Hypertension with heart disease.....	2	2	4
Other heart disease.....	12	18	30
Other circulatory disease.....	4	3	7
Influenza.....	0	1	1
Pneumonia.....	2	2	4
Bronchitis.....	5	4	9
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	0	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	2	0	2
Congenital malformations.....	2	0	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases..	10	15	25
Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	5	6
All other accidents.....	6	5	11
Suicide.....	0	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	118	104	222

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

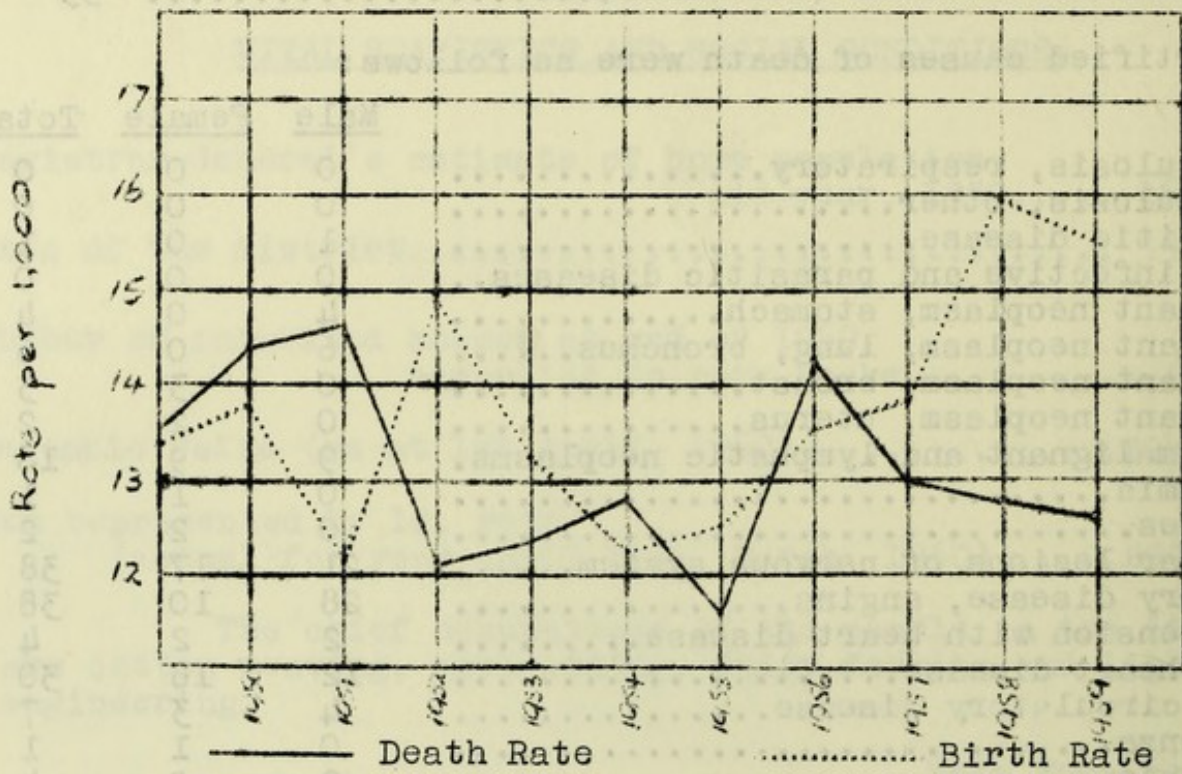
#### FOR THE AREA.

#### 1. Laboratory Facilities.

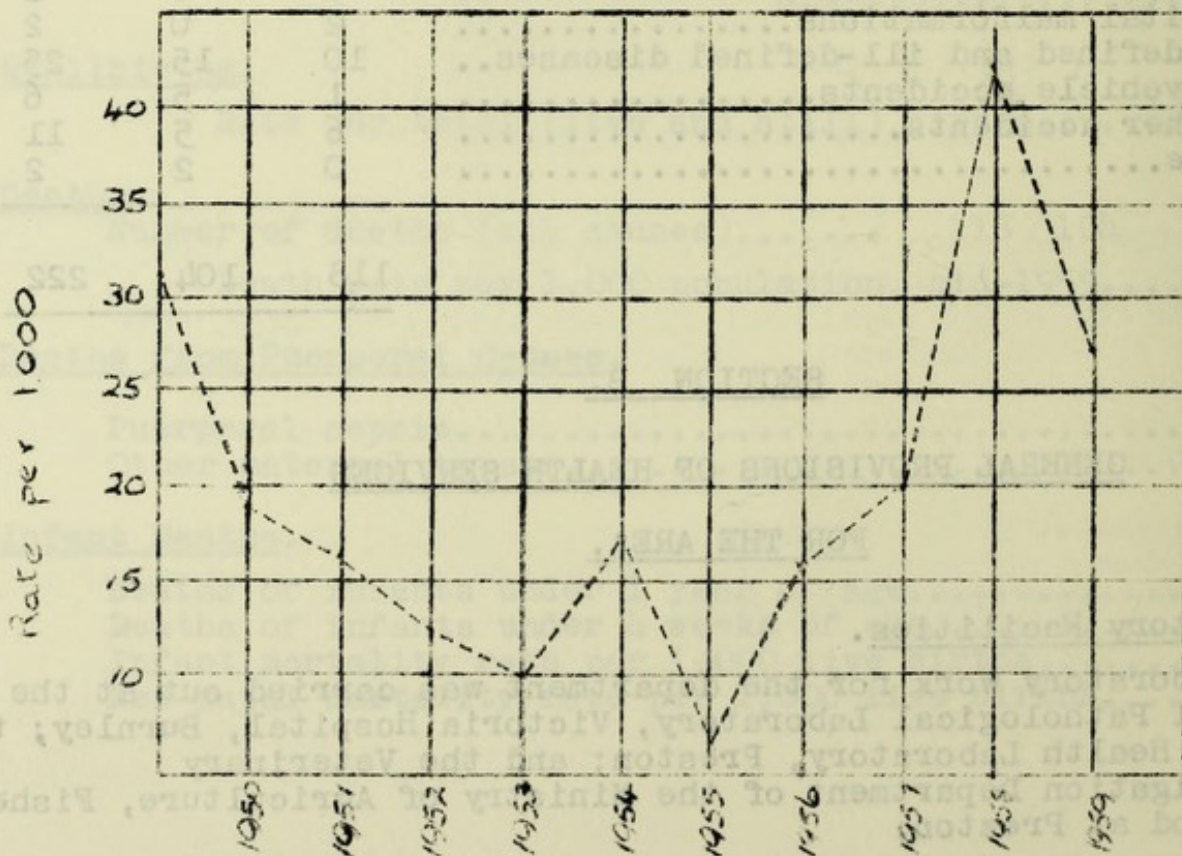
The laboratory work for the department was carried out at the Central Pathological Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Burnley; the Public Health Laboratory, Preston; and the Veterinary Investigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at Preston.



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, 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, 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 OVER

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Diseases.

The infectious diseases notified during the year were:

Scarlet Fever.....	16
Whooping Cough.....	9
Measles.....	121
Dysentery.....	1
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.....	20	1	21
Un-notified cases (obtained from Death Returns).....	0	0	0

Localisation of Disease.

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	11	9	20
Meninges and C.N.S.....	0	0	0
Other (Cervical lymph nodes).....	0	1	1
	11	10	21

Occupations.

Newsagent.....	1	0	1
Labourer.....	1	0	1
Clothlooker.....	1	0	1
Coal miner.....	1	0	1
Maintenance mechanic.....	1	0	1
Sheet metal worker.....	1	0	1
Retired.....	1	0	1
Company secretary.....	1	0	1
Labourer, chemical works.....	1	0	1
Farmer.....	2	0	2
Weaver.....	0	2	2
Clerk.....	0	1	1
Housewife.....	0	5	5
Caretaker.....	0	1	1
Machinist.....	0	1	1
	11	10	21

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

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

SECTION D.CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORTSANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA1. 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:

<u>Bacteriological:</u>	Public supplies:	23
	Private supplies:	13
<u>Chemical:</u>	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	
Altham.....	226	226	-
Barley.....	80	28	52
Blacko.....	187	159	20
Briercliffe.....	876	861	6
Cliviger.....	628	536	83
Dunnockshaw.....	125	37	94
Foulridge.....	502	472	26
Goldshaw Booth....	85	41	42
Habergham Eaves...	258	231	25
Hapton.....	605	574	28
Higham.....	211	166	40
Ightenhill.....	48	48	-
Northtown.....	31	18	12
Old Laund Booth...	257	215	42
Read.....	316	303	13
Reedley Hallows...	276	244	32
Roughlee.....	115	52	62
Sabden.....	446	392	54
Simonstone.....	238	228	10
Worsthorne.....	616	611	5

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

In all, 36 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:

23 samples taken for bacteriological examination.

Number reported excellent.....	14
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	9

Private Supplies.

13 samples taken for bacteriological examination.

Number reported excellent.....	4
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	9

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 twenty-three pails existing which are within 100 ft. of the sewer. Efforts are being made to persuade the 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 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.

The sewerage of the Lane Bottom area of Briercliffe has now commenced and schemes are being prepared for Dunnockshaw and Newchurch-in-Pendle.

A large septic tank and filter situated at Altham has been inadequate for a number of years and thus prevented the conversion of several pails in Hawthorn Bank. However, the tank has now been renovated and efforts are being made to bring about the conversion of these pails to fresh water closets.

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. This 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, which ever 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. Od. 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.....	6
Trough closets to fresh water closets.....	0
Waste water closets to fresh water closets.....	35



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

Fresh water closets.....	3271
Waste water closets.....	2296
Pail closets (including tank closets).....	856
Trough closets.....	4

It is anticipated that the conversion of pail closets to fresh water closets will be speeded up since the payment of standard grants has now commenced.

#### 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 their holidays 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 which is 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 a back yard and back street.

Vehicles and Labour.

The five-day week is still operating successfully.

Refuse is collected as follows:

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

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

One 10 cu. yd. Shelvoke and Drewry Side Loader (nine 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 a considerable saving in fuel costs.

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, plus privies and cesspools.

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 Worsthorne.

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.....	64
Galvanised B.S.S. dustbins.....	141
Galvanised sanitary pails.....	42

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 201 tons, 9 cwts., and the total income was £1,352. 9. 1d.

Weight and Value of Salvage sold during the year.

	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper.....	193.	5.	0.	0.	1167.	18.	0.
Aluminium.....		15.	2.	0.	42.	0.	0.
Battery.....			1.	14.		7.	0.
Brass.....		5.	3.	7.	24.	8.	3.
Burnt healds.....	(1 load)				1.	0.	0.
Copper.....		4.	2.	10.	29.	2.	2.
Lead.....		1.	1.	24.	4.	2.	0.
Radiator (1).....						3.	4.
Rags.....	4.	4.	0.	21.	65.	13.	2.
Scrap iron.....				20.		2.	6.
Tins.....	2.	9.	0.	0.	6.	5.	6.
Woollens.....		2.	2.	25.	11.	2.	0.
Zinc.....			1.	3.		5.	2.
	<u>201.</u>	<u>9.</u>	<u>0.</u>	<u>12.</u>	<u>£1352.</u>	<u>9.</u>	<u>1d.</u>

The men are paid a bonus on salvage sales, which amounted to £12. 15. 7d., 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 eighteen 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.

Many contraventions of the Clean Air Act have been reported to the Committee, but no legal proceedings have been taken. An application for a certificate of exemption from the provisions of the Clean Air Act was granted to a coke works in the area, the certificate to expire on the 31st December, 1959.

Many cotton mills in the district are fitted with Lancashire boilers which are hand fired. This gives rise to the 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 was carried out twice during the year and below are given details of infestations in sewer lengths treated up to the end of December, 1959.

During the past two years, paranitrophenol was used in sewer treatments as a mould inhibitor. Previously, sewer treatments had not been very successful, due to some extent to the fact that the bait turned mouldy very quickly in the damp atmosphere. 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. This arrangement works quite satisfactorily.

Treatment - October, 1959.

	<u>Manholes Treated</u>	<u>Manholes Infested</u>	<u>% Infested</u>
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane....	50	11	22
Briercliffe.....	57	23	40.4
Cliviger.....	148	16	10.8
Foulridge.....	55	15	27.2
Hapton.....	57	22	38.6
Read and Simonstone.....	69	10	14.5
Sabden.....	48	18	37.5
Worsthorne.....	89	39	43.8

Treatment - April, 1959.

Altham.....	18	0	0
Altham West.....	12	0	0
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane....	50	4	8
Briercliffe.....	57	5	8.7
Cliviger.....	148	10	6.7
Foulridge.....	55	10	18
Habergham Eaves.....	22	4	18.2
Hapton.....	57	9	15.8
Higham.....	60	0	0
Read and Simonstone.....	64	3	4.7
Reedley.....	20	0	0
Sabden.....	48	9	18.8
Worsthorne.....	89	5	5.3

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.

Briercliffe.....	57	17	29.8
Cliviger.....	148	23	15.5
Worsthorne.....	89	15	16.9

(This was a 10% test bait only.)

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.

Thirty-three houses were disinfested, one council house and thirty-two other houses. Thirty were infested with cockroaches and one with bugs, and two with bluebottles and flies. Three wasps nests were destroyed. In addition, one mill, one school and one laundry were disinfested for cockroaches.

11. Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Appendix A on page 29 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 144 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.

Below is given a table of factory inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, and cases in which defects were found under Part 1 of the Factories Act, 1937.



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....	3	3	0
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority (not included above).....	136	11	4
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.....	5	5	0
TOTAL....	144	19	4

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.....	4	1	3
c) Not separate for sexes.	0	0	0
TOTAL..	4	1	3

SECTION E.

HOUSING

Thirteen houses were erected during the year by other bodies or persons.

Fifty-three applications have been received for two and three-bedroomed houses and fifty-one applications 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.

During the year, one certificate of disrepair was issued. 269 dwelling houses were inspected during the year, and 538 re-inspections were carried out. 37 informal notices were served requiring repairs to be carried out, and 26 informal notices were complied with. Proceedings were taken under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, in respect of nine houses.

Particulars of housing inspections and repair work carried out are given in Appendices B and C on pages 31 and 32.

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 responsibility 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....	42
No. of dairies in the district.....	22
No. of shops in the district other than dairies.....	17
No. of dealer's licences issued in respect of:	
a) the distribution of tuberculin tested milk.....	17
b) the distribution of pasteurised milk.....	17
c) the distribution of sterilised milk.....	22

b) Biological Examination of Milk Samples.

Raw Milk

No. of samples taken for tuberculosis tests..	7
No. reported negative.....	7
No. reported positive.....	0

No. of samples taken for methylene blue tests..	8
No. reported satisfactory.....	6
No. reported unsatisfactory.....	1
Result not obtained.....	1

No. of samples taken for brucellosis tests.....	239
No. reported negative.....	138
No. reported positive.....	95
Result not obtained.....	6

Heat Treated Milk.

No. of samples taken for phosphatase tests.....	3
No. reported satisfactory.....	3
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 1959 are shown in Appendix E, on page 35.

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 fertilisers.

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 84 samples was obtained, consisting of 64 samples of milk (one of which was Channel Island milk) and 20 others comprising:-

1 Arrowroot	1 Pickles
1 Compound syrup of Hypophosphites	1 Grapefruit juice
1 Butter	1 Syrup
1 Sauce	1 Jam
2 Treacle	2 Tea
1 Honey	2 Coffee
1 Fruit, canned	1 Double cream
1 Suet	1 Table jelly
	1 Ice cream

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>
1 formal milk	Fat content 2.80 per cent. Deficient 6.6 per cent fat.	Vendor notified.

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 were taken practically every week so that a close watch could be kept on the bacteriological purity of the finished product.

No. of Food Premises, by type of business, at end of year.

General grocers and provision dealers.....	84
Greengrocers and fruiterers.....	12
Meat shops.....	14
Bakers and/or confectioners.....	15
Fried fish shops.....	8
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, etc.....	16
Licensed premises, canteens, cafes, etc.....	41
Others.....	39

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.

Sixteen samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the Central Pathological Laboratory, Burnley, for analysis. Twelve of the samples were reported Grade 1, one was reported to be Grade 2, one Grade 3 and two Grade 4.

f) Bakehouses.

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

SCHOOLS.

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

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

Sanitary Accommodation.

No. of schools with -

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

Refuse Disposal.

No. of schools with -

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

Water Supply.

No. of schools supplied from -

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

No. of private supplies considered  
unsatisfactory..... 0

No. of schools where washing facilities  
are considered unsatisfactory..... 16

Drainage.

No. of schools with drainage to -

Public sewers..... 17  
Private treatment works..... 2

Dinners are now cooked on the premises at most of the school Kitchens have been enlarged and modernised and there has been considerable improvement generally. 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 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.....	310
Inspections and visits under Public Health Acts.....	228
Disinfection of rooms.....	18
Visits to verminous premises.....	10
Visits re water supplies.....	9
Visits re refuse and salvage disposal.....	211
Visits re dustbins, pails, etc.....	100
Visits re septic tanks and filters.....	53
Interviews with property owners, etc.....	86
Smoke observations.....	17
Old drains tested.....	22
Old drains inspected.....	128
Miscellaneous sanitary visits.....	153
Shops inspected.....	73
Visits re conversions.....	29
Visits re certificates of disrepair.....	10
Visits to factories re sanitary accommodation.....	19
Visits re smoke.....	40
Inspections and visits in connection with I.D. cases.....	149
Visits re accumulations and deposits.....	31
Visits re infected milk supplies.....	24
Visits re caravans and movable dwellings.....	4
Visits re Clean Air Act.....	2
Premises inspected for vermin.....	12
Visits re waste food plants.....	1
Visits to dirty houses.....	1
Smoke abatement visits.....	2
Visits re Standard Grants.....	59
Visits re piggeries.....	1
Visits re colliery tips.....	7
Visits re burial of body.....	13

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

Meat inspection.....	698
Ice cream premises inspected.....	26
Food preparing premises inspected.....	25
Miscellaneous food visits.....	28
Butchers' shops inspected.....	3
Fishmongers' shops inspected.....	1
Grocers' shops inspected.....	4
Greengrocers' shops inspected.....	2
Fried fish shops inspected.....	3
Confectioners inspected.....	1



Visits re ice cream registrations.....	2
Vehicles inspected.....	1
Bakehouses inspected.....	1
Licensed premises inspected.....	2
Visits to liquid egg plant.....	3

Sampling.

Milk samples taken.....	250
Water samples taken.....	36
Liquid egg samples taken.....	27
Faeces samples taken.....	42
Ice cream samples taken.....	16
Frozen egg samples taken.....	46

Meat and Food Inspection and Inspection of Food Premises and Vehicles

Meat inspection.....	698
Ice cream premises inspected.....	26
Food preparing premises inspected.....	25
Miscellaneous food visits.....	25
Butcher shops inspected.....	2
Meat markets inspected.....	1
Meat shops inspected.....	4
Meat shops inspected.....	2
Meat shops inspected.....	3
Meat shops inspected.....	1

APPENDIX B.SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.Dwelling Houses.

Floors repaired or renewed.....	1
Rainwater gutters provided or repaired.....	2

Bakehouses and Food Shops.

Wash basins, with hot and cold water, provided....	1
Working surfaces covered with Formica.....	1

Factories, Workshops and Shops.

New sanitary conveniences provided in factories...	1
New automatic stokers fitted to Lancashire boilers.....	1

Water closets, Dustbins, etc.

Pails converted to fresh water closets.....	6
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets.....	35
Defective dustbins renewed.....	1
Additional water closets provided.....	10
Trough closets abolished.....	6

Drainage.

Choked drains cleansed.....	13
New inspection chambers constructed.....	2
Drains repaired or reconstructed.....	2
New private drainage disposal installations constructed.....	1

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)..... 269
- (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose..... 538
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..... 5
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..... 37

2. Houses Demolished.

(a) In Clearance Areas:	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
1. Houses unfit for human habitation.....	-	2	1
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.....	5	4	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>	Houses Closed	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
1. Under S.16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957.....	4	5	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....		26	-
2. After formal notice under			
(a) Public Health Acts.....		-	-
(b) S.9 & 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 Sections 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 &amp; Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1948.</u>			
Action taken during the year.....			Nil.
8. <u>House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. - Standard Grants.</u>			
(a) Submitted to local authority.....			180
(b) Approved by local authority.....			151
(c) Work completed.....			7

## APPENDIX D.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority premises.	Dwelling Houses	All other including business premises.	Agri-cultural
1. Number of properties in the district.....	14	6431	910	510
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of				
(a) Notification.....	-	54	11	43
(b) Survey under the Act..	14	24	10	165
(c) Otherwise.....	-	-	-	-
3. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspection.	63	193	61	236
4. Number of properties inspected in Section 2 found to be infested with				
(a) rats.....	10	50	11	39
(b) mice.....	4	16	12	4
5. Number of infested properties treated (S.4)..	14	66	23	43
6. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments.	14	76	25	45
7. Number of notices served under S.4 of the Act.....	-	-	-	-
8. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.....		N O N E		

180 (a) Submitted to local authority  
151 (b) Approved by local authority  
7 (c) Work completed

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

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed.....	1329	372	5	8011	301
Number inspected.....	1329	372	5	8011	301
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	0	5	1	6	2
Organ or part of carcass condemned.....	94	76	0	160	7
% of number inspected affected.....	7.1%	21.8%	20%	2.1%	3%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	0	0	0	0	0
Organ or part of carcass condemned.....	71	33	0	0	10
% of number inspected affected.....	5.3%	8.9%	0%	0%	3.3%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.....	6	2	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.....	6	2	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned.....	0	0	—	—	—

APPENDIX E.

CARCASSES AND ORGANS INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

Category	Number Killed	Number Inspected	Wholes carcasses condemned	Organ or part of carcass condemned	Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Generalized and locally condemned
Diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis	1229	1229	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuberculosis only	71	71	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cysticercosis	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wholes carcasses condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Organ or part of carcass condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Generalized and locally condemned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....





