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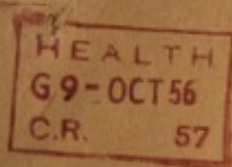
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BOROUGH OF CASTLEFORD



ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

Year ended 31st December, 1955

Medical Officer for Health and Divisional Medical Officer for Maternity
and Child Welfare and School Medical Services:

J. M. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

E. J. WINFIELD, M.R.S.H., F.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.



THE MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF CASTLEFORD

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer
for Maternity & Child Welfare
and School Medical Services:

J.M. Paterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

E.J. Winfield, M.R.S.H., F.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

THE HISTORICAL RECORD OF CASTLEBROOK

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1912

REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1912
AND SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES

W. E. HARRISON, M.D., and J. H. HARRISON, M.D.

REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1912

W. E. HARRISON, M.D., and J. H. HARRISON, M.D.

MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF CASTLEFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

as at 31st December, 1955.

Chairman.

Alderman A. Pickersgill

Vice-Chairman.

Cr. J. Smart

Aldermen.

E. Taylor, M.B.E., J.P. (Mayor)

W.D. Cartwright (Deputy Mayor)

Mrs. A. Dodsworth, J.P.

G. East

J.R. Howard

A. James

T. Walsh

M. Whittock

H. Woodall

Councillors.

H. Astbury

A. Ball

J. Beedle, B.Sc.

Mrs. R. Belcher

W.E. Broxup

J. Budby

W. Burns

G. Byrne

B. Cartwright

W. Clarkson

R. Clayton

C. Dews, J.P.

H. Goodall

A. Hanson

W. Harrison

W. Limbert

Mrs. V. Lowe

H. Martin

Mrs. W. McLoughlin

Mrs. H. Parker

F.I. Pennington

A. Poulter

H. Redman

P.H. Roberts, J.P.

R. Stocks

Mrs. M.E. Taylor

J.F. Tumelty

J.A. Walsh

Mrs. B.M. Ward

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DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

J.M. Paterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICERS
FOR MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE, AND
SCHOOL MEDICAL WORK.

D.J. Anderson (nee Haiste), M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
J.E. Fahy, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I. L.M.

PART-TIME MEDICAL OFFICERS - Maternity & Child Welfare.

E.W.L. White, M.B., Ch.B. - Medical Officer for Sagar Street Ante-Natal Clinic.

C.M. Hawick, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B. - Medical Officer for Airedale Infant Welfare
and Ante-Natal Clinics.

D.K. Shuttleworth, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. - Medical Officer for Glasshoughton Infant Welfare
and Ante-Natal Clinics.

J.D. Sutcliffe, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. - Medical Officer for Sagar Street Infant
Welfare Clinic.

I. Butler, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. - Medical Officer for Hightown Infant Welfare
and Ante-Natal Clinics.

PAEDIATRICIAN.

J.D. Pickup, M.D. (Distinc.), Ch.B., D.C.H.

OPHTHALMIC SURGEON.

L. Wittels, M.D. (Vienna) D.O.

E.N.T. SURGEON.

K.M. Mayall, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.L.O.

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON.

A.J.S. Bell-Tawse, B.A., M.B., B.Chir., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

HEALTH VISITORS.

E. Cooke, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V.
F.G. Wrightson, S.R.N., S.C.M.N., H.V.
J. Brooks, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
E.W. Hilton, S.R.N.
I.J. Robinson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
M.A. Dalton, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Telephone Numbers.

Featherstone 245
Pontefract 3583
Castleford 2005
Castleford 2217
Castleford 2689
Castleford 2689

TUBERCULOSIS HEALTH VISITOR.

A. Eades, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Pontefract 2649

TEMPORARY ASSISTANT HEALTH VISITORS.

G.M. Willshaw, S.R.N. - Resigned 24th July, 1955.
B.A. Morgan, S.R.N.
I. Ransome (nee Hartley) S.R.N. - Appointed 15th August, 1955.

Castleford 2689
Castleford 2689
Castleford 2689

SCHOOL NURSE.

M.E. Kelly, S.R.N.

Castleford 2689

MIDWIVES.Telephone Number.

M. Ball, S.C.M., 16, Churchfield Lane, Glasshoughton.	Castleford	2077
D. Tomlinson, S.C.M., 47, School St., Wheldon Road, Castleford.	"	2344
* D. Cousins, S.R.N., S.C.M., 1, Barnsdale Estate, Cutsyke, Castleford.	"	2314
E.J. Dawson, S.C.M., 47, Beancroft Road, Castleford.	"	2087
* B.M. Fukes, S.R.N., S.C.M., 128, Smawthorne Lane, Castleford.		
Retired - 28th February, 1955.	"	2413
D.H. Taylor, S.C.M., 23, Ferrybridge Road, Castleford.	"	2703
M. Wylie, S.C.M., 25, Hulme Square, Airedale, Castleford.	"	3485

* Relief Midwives.

HOME NURSES.

F. Farber, S.R.N., S.C.M., "Normanhurst", Hightown, Castleford.	Castleford	2555
* E. Kellett, S.R.N., Q.I.D.N., 3, Firville Street, Normanton.		
P. Tinker, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.I.D.N., 18, Lancaster St., Airedale, Castleford.	"	3427
P. Grindel, S.R.N., 77, Pontefract Road, Castleford - Appointed 3/3/55.		
N.C. Lee, S.R.N., S.C.M., 163, Holywell Lane, Glasshoughton - Appointed 8/8/55.	"	2707
✓ E. Slayton, S.R.N., A.R.R.C., 169, Fryston Road, Airedale, Castleford.		

* Relief Home Nurses. ✓ Part-time Home Nurse.

ASSISTANT HOME NURSES.

L. Ainsworth, S.E.A.N., 6, Victoria Street, Whitwood Mere, Castleford.	Castleford	2470
J. Baxter, S.E.A.N., Cawood Villas, Barnes Road, Castleford.	"	2074

MEMBERS

Telephone Numbers

307	Castleton	W. Hall, S.O.M., 16, Greenfield Lane, Greenfield.
304	"	E. Tomlinson, S.O.M., 47, Sandoz St., Sandoz Road, Castleton.
311	"	D. Gosselin, S.O.M., 7, Barabois Estate, Chicago, Castleton.
303	"	M. J. Hanson, S.O.M., 47, Deseronto Road, Castleton.
347	"	R. M. Fisher, S.O.M., 130, Cambridge Lane, Castleton.
370	"	Retired - 1938 February, 1939.
363	"	E. H. Taylor, S.O.M., 13, Newbridge Road, Castleton.
	"	A. Wyke, S.O.M., 20, Police Square, Alameda, Castleton.

* Relief Committee.

NAME INDEX

353	Castleton	E. Fisher, S.O.M., S.O.M., "Hawthorn", Upper, Castleton.
345	"	E. Kellie, S.O.M., S.O.M., 3, Private Street, Hawthorn.
	"	F. Fisher, S.O.M., S.O.M., 18, Lancaster St., Alameda, Castleton.
370	"	T. Gosselin, S.O.M., W. Rochester Road, Castleton - Appointed 3/3/35.
	"	W. G. Lee, S.O.M., S.O.M., 163, Holwell Lane, Greenfield - Appointed 8/3/35.
	"	M. Elston, S.O.M., A.R.S.C., 183, Preston Road, Alameda, Castleton.

* Relief Home Nurses. A Part-time Home Nurse.

ASSISTANT HOME NURSES

347	Castleton	L. Alderson, S.O.M., 6, Victoria Street, Whitton Lane, Castleton.
303	"	J. Baxter, S.O.M., 11, Camwood Villa, Barrow Road, Castleton.

THE MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF CASTLEFORD

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

1955

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour of presenting to you this, my fifteenth Annual Report, being a report on the health of your district for the year 1955.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres)	4,394
Population (Estimated R.G. 1955)	41,900
Population (Estimated R.G. 1938)	43,090
Number of Inhabited houses 1955	12,757
Number of Inhabited houses 1938	11,026
Rateable Value	£204,728
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£785
Density of Population	9.53 persons per acre.

The Borough of Castleford is divided into 10 Wards, namely:-

Airedale, Carlton, Fryston, Glasshoughton, Half Acres,
Redhill, Smawthorne, Wheldale-Lock Lane, Whitwood and
Whitwood Mere.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live. Legitimate	304	284	588
Illegitimate	10	12	22
	<u>314</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>610</u>
Still. Legitimate	12	7	19
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>19</u>
Total Births	<u>326</u>	<u>303</u>	<u>629</u>
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home Population	-	14.56	(Corrected 13.98)
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home Population	-	.45	(Corrected .43)

LIVE BIRTH RATES (per 1,000 Home Population).

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Live Birth Rate for Castleford	16.6	16.5	16.99	15.45	15.83	14.56
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0
Live Birth Rate for the West Riding) Administrative County)	16.3	15.8	15.4	15.7	15.1	15.4

STILL BIRTH RATES (per 1,000 Live & Still Births).

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Still Birth Rate for Castleford	34.6	19.4	30.6	29.5	24.6	30.21
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales	22.7	23.0	22.6	22.4	23.4	23.1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE - NEO-NATAL DEATHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

Death Rates of infants under 4 weeks of age
per 1,000 live births.

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Castleford	20.63	21.28	17.8	13.11
England & Wales	18.3	17.7	17.7	17.3

DEATHS OF INFANTS FROM PREMATUREITY (included in Neo-Natal Deaths).

<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
2	2	4

Death Rates of infants from prematurity
per 1,000 live births.

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Castleford	4.13	12.15	2.97	6.56

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	7	9	16
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>16</u>

Castleford. England
& Wales.

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 related live births	-	26.23	24.9
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DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
<u>All infants per 1,000 live births.</u>						
Castleford	38	23	41	38	28	26
England & Wales	30	30	28	27	26	25
<u>Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.</u>						
Castleford	38	20	40	35	26	27
<u>Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.</u>						
Castleford	50	57	67	103	69	-

DIARRHOEAL DEATH RATES OF INFANTS
UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE.
(Per 1,000 Live Births).

<u>Year</u>	<u>Castleford</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
1951	4.24	1.4
1952	0.00	1.1
1953	0.00	1.1
1954	1.5	0.8
1955	0.00	0.75

DEATH RATES (per 1,000 Home Population).

	<u>Castleford.</u>	
	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
All causes (Corrected - 12.45)	10.17	10.12
Infective and parasitic diseases, excluding Tuberculosis	0.02	0.10
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	0.26	0.17
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.00	0.02
Tuberculosis - all forms	0.26	0.19
Cancer	1.76	1.86
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	1.34	1.50
Heart and Circulatory	3.41	3.60
Respiratory Diseases	1.50	1.53

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS - 1955.

<u>Maternal Mortality Rate</u> <u>(per 1,000 live & still births).</u>	<u>Castleford.</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
Maternal causes, excluding abortion	-	0.54
Due to abortion	-	.10
	-	0.64

Death Rates per 1,000 Home Population.

All causes (Corrected - 12.45)	10.12	11.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.02
Whooping Cough	0.00	1.78
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.19	0.15
Influenza	0.02	0.07
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)	0.00	0.14
Pneumonia	0.33	0.49

DEATHS.

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
237	187	424

CAUSES OF DEATH.

(Deaths taken from the Registrar General's Tables).

	<u>Male</u>	<u>1955.</u> <u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, Respiratory.	7	-	7
Tuberculosis, Other forms.	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections.	-	2	2
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Measles.	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	10	5	15
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	16	2	18
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	16	15	31
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	3	4
Carried forward:	51	39	90

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Brought forward:	51	39	90
Diabetes.	2	4	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	35	28	63
Coronary disease, angina.	48	13	61
Hypertension with heart disease.	7	5	12
Other heart disease.	20	45	65
Other circulatory disease.	6	7	13
Influenza.	1	-	1
Pneumonia.	6	8	14
Bronchitis.	18	5	23
Other diseases of respiratory system.	3	2	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	2	2	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	3	-	3
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate.	3	-	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.	2	2	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	18	18	36
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	3	4
All other accidents.	9	2	11
Suicide.	1	3	4
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-
TOTAL:	<u>237</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>424</u>

TUBERCULOSIS.

Notifications 40	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
At all ages	28	10	1	1	6	-	-	1
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	5	5	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	6	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
55 - 65	8	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	4	1	-	-	2	-	-	-

Comparison between numbers on
Tuberculosis Register
in 1954 and 1955.

	1954			1955		
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
(a) Number of cases on register 1st January.	297	54	351	285	49	334
(b) New cases notified during the year.	26	9	35	38	2	40
(c) Restored to register.	1	-	1	-	-	-
(d) TOTALS:	324	63	387	323	51	374
(e) Number of cases removed from register during the year.	39	14	53	21	4	25
(f) Number of cases left on register at the end of the year.	285	49	334	302	47	349

PROVISION OF HOUSES FOR TUBERCULOUS PERSONS.

During the year, 13 houses were provided for tuberculous persons by the Borough Council House Letting Sub-Committee.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT FOR TUBERCULOUS PERSONS.

Provision is made by the County Council to supply supplementary nourishment, such as milk to notified domiciliary bed cases of tuberculosis, and during 1955, 73 Castleford cases of tuberculosis were in receipt of either one or two pints of free milk daily as was ordered by the Chest Physician.

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

All children in the 13 - 14 age group are given the opportunity of being tested by means of the tuberculin test to show if they are non-reactors to tuberculosis and if so are then offered protection by means of the B.C.G. vaccine. The table below shows the result of this work during the year 1955.

No. of 13 year old children on school register at beginning of year		815
No. offered tuberculin testing and vaccination if necessary		815
No. of acceptances		525
No. tested		461
No. found positive (i.e. had already had contact with T.B.)	142	
No. negative	307	
No. not ascertained	12	461
No. vaccinated		304
% of positive reactors in 1955	=	32%
" " " " 1954	=	38%

MINIATURE MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Castleford on the 8th August, 1955 and the survey lasted until the 24th August, 1955. The general public as well as the priority groups attended sessions arranged for them at the Welbeck Street School situated in the centre of the town. Out of the 1,310 persons x-rayed then, 47 persons were recalled for further examination by larger film, and 22 persons were clinically examined by the Medical Director of the Unit.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY.

Cases of Tuberculosis.

Referred to Chest Clinic for further investigation:

Presumed active	2
Presumed inactive	4
Inactive, referred to own Doctor	1

Other Abnormalities.

Referred to Chest Clinic for further investigation:	4
Referred to own Doctor	9
No further action required	7

Details of Other Abnormalities.

Scoliosis	1
Bronchiectasis	1
Chronic Bronchitis	2
Post Inflammatory Fibrosis	1
Pneumoconiosis	6
Congenital abnormality of pulmonary artery	1
Aortic Incompetence	1
Congenital Cardiac Failure	1
Mitral Stenosis	1
Old Empyema	1

HOME HELP SERVICE.

During the year it was found possible to assist 8 active cases of tuberculosis by means of this service.

TUBERCULOSIS AFTER CARE COMMITTEE.

The Castleford Tuberculosis After Care Committee continued its good work and during the financial year of this Committee which ended on the 31st May, 1955, provided various forms of assistance for approximately 30 families and expended a total of £120. In addition, an excellent Christmas Party was provided for children from tuberculous households and extra nourishment in the form of Virol was provided for 38 persons. The Committee was very grateful for the increased grant of £80 by the County Council.

HOME NURSING.

During the year the Home Nurses carried out the home treatment of 60 cases of tuberculosis, totalling in all 1,920 visits.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

There has not been one confirmed case of Diphtheria in Castleford for over six years. At present 55% of the 0 - 5 population and 97% of the 5 - 15 population are already immunised against the disease.

WHOOPING COUGH.

The following table for the 0 - 5 age groups shows the number of children who have been immunised against Whooping Cough during the years 1952 - 1955.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Under 6 months</u>	<u>6 months to 1 yr.</u>	<u>1 - 2 years.</u>	<u>2 - 3 years.</u>	<u>3 - 4 years.</u>	<u>4 - 5 years.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1952 (Commencing 1st April)	-	44	51	9	8	-	112
1953	-	174	105	43	22	-	344
1954	1	254	81	13	10	2	361
1955	3	236	66	4	5	4	318
	4	708	303	69	45	6	1135

SMALLPOX.

The following table shows the vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out since 1951:-

<u>Year.</u>		<u>Under</u> <u>1 year.</u>	<u>1</u> <u>year.</u>	<u>2 - 4</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>5 - 14</u> <u>years.</u>	<u>15 years</u> <u>or over.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
1951	Vaccinated.	26	1	4	4	22	57	} 104
	Re-vaccinated.	-	-	1	4	42	47	
1952	Vaccinated.	24	1	1	12	15	53	} 76
	Re-vaccinated.	-	-	-	-	23	23	
1953	Vaccinated.	46	7	25	77	153	308	} 444
	Re-vaccinated.	-	-	-	17	119	136	
1954	Vaccinated.	30	4	4	2	19	59	} 71
	Re-vaccinated.	-	-	-	1	11	12	
1955	Vaccinated.	31	5	7	5	17	65	} 83
	Re-vaccinated.	-	-	1	4	13	18	

FOOD POISONING.

I am pleased to be able to report that during the year under review there was not one confirmed case of Food Poisoning in Castleford.

SONNE DYSENTERY.

During the year there was an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery in Castleford. The infection commenced about the middle of March and continued until June. Originally the outbreak appeared to be limited to the Redhill Infants' School where it first appeared on the 18th March, but it was subsequently notified in the Airedale Infants' and still later in the Airedale Junior and Secondary Modern Schools. It was evident during this infection that a considerable number of the adult population was similarly afflicted, though the actual number of notifications received was small. The total number notified was in the region of 55, of whom 14 were under school age, 27 of school age and 14 adults. In all, 92 bacteriologically confirmed cases were obtained but there can be little doubt that many cases escaped notice.

Those affected suffered from symptoms of vomiting and sickness, colic pains in the abdomen, diarrhoea and a tendency to become temporary carriers for varying periods of time - in some the duration of this phase was as long as 42 days. To prevent the general spread of infection, whilst at the same time keeping in mind the menace of the symptomless carrier, called for the institution of an intensive system of personal hygiene, and any success in this direction demanded that there should be a close liaison between the officers of the Health Department and the teachers. A unit towel system was introduced whereby each child was provided with a towel or, if that was impracticable, with a paper one. In addition, suitable disinfectants were also provided. The main purpose of these precautions was to ensure that each child washed its hands after a visit to the toilet or before a meal. Instructions were also given regarding the action that should be taken in regard to communal articles used in school and the segregation of acute cases. Food handlers and canteen workers were, of course, excluded until it was ascertained that any existing infection had been completely eliminated, and there is no doubt whatsoever that all these precautions had a most salutary effect in limiting the further spread of the disease.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1955, IN AGE GROUPS.

Notified Diseases.	Under 1 yr.	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 & Over.	No age.	Total	Removed to Hospital.
Measles	48	153	276	255	6	2	-	-	740	5
Whooping Cough	2	4	5	13	-	-	-	-	24	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	2	2	3	2	-	-	-	9	6
Poliomyelitis	-	2	1	4	-	1	-	-	8	8
Polioccephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notified Diseases.	0 - 5	5 - 14	15 - 44	45 - 64	65 & Over	No age	Total	Removed to Hospital.
Dysentery	22	24	8	1	-	-	55	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	6	5	4	-	15	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Meningitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

Supply.

Water is purchased in bulk from three neighbouring authorities, namely, Wakefield County Borough, Pontefract Municipal Borough and Tadcaster Rural District. An average of 683,000 gallons per day were obtained from Wakefield, 487,000 from Pontefract and 34,000 from Tadcaster during the year. The supplies from Wakefield and Tadcaster are soft in character but that from Pontefract is very hard, the former having a total average hardness of 5.0 degrees clark respectively and the latter of 13.0 degrees clark.

Purification.

Apart from the purification undertaken at the source of supply, no further action is taken locally for additional chlorination of water in the reservoirs.

Consumption.

In 1955, the average daily consumption for Castleford was 1,204,000 gallons, of which 843,000 gallons were used for domestic purposes and 361,000 gallons industrially. There was a sufficiency of water for all uses.

A survey has revealed the fact that the residents of 6 houses collect their water supply from communal standpipes.

Bacterial Purity.

During the year 482 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these, 10 were reported on as being unsatisfactory, i.e. 2.07%. The highest count of coliform was 18 + and the highest count of faecal coli was 9. No real cause could be found to account for these infected samples and in any case their persistence was of short duration.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948-1951.

Removal to Hospital or other suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

During the year under review it was found necessary to invoke the powers granted under Section 47 of the above Acts to remove one old lady. This lady was living alone under very poor conditions. All efforts to recruit the aid of relatives proved abortive but I am pleased to report that after a period of time in Headlands Hospital her condition improved and she was subsequently discharged to the care of her daughter who lives at an address outside the Castleford Borough.

RELAXATION EXERCISES CLINIC.

During 1955, five sessions were held at "Castledene"; 34 patients attended with a total of 229 attendances compared with 462 in 1954.

During 1955, 18 classes were held in Airedale, 11 patients attended, with a total of 52 attendances.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE	Days & times of sessions.	No. of sessions during year.	ATTENDANCES				Attending for first time	
			0 - 1	Average per session	1 - 5	Average per session	0 - 1	1 - 5
Airedale Methodist Church.	Mondays. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	48	3821	79.6	448	9.3	217	4
Glasshoughton St. Paul's Institute.	Tuesdays. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	48	2041	42.5	517	10.8	85	5
Sagar Street, Castleford.	Mondays & Thurs. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	96	3615	37.7	1034	10.8	181	-
Whitwood Oxford St. Methodist Church.	Mondays. 1.30 p.m. - 4 p.m.	48	1960	40.8	258	5.4	125	-
		240	11437	47.7	2257	9.4	608	9

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

<u>CENTRE.</u>	<u>No. of sessions.</u>	<u>No. of attendances.</u>	<u>Average per session.</u>	<u>No. attending for first time.</u>
Airedale	32	474	14.8	112
Glasshoughton	21	90	4.3	27
Sagar Street	46	289	6.3	73
Whitwood	48	257	5.4	54
	147	1110	7.6	266

Details are given below of the proprietary brands of foods etc. and their uses, which were available at cost price to all women attending the clinics.

Baby Rice	}	Weaning Foods.
Robrex		
Farex		
Trufood Cereal		
Nestles Bone & Veg. Broth		
Nestles Chicken Broth		
Scott's Twin Pack		
Colact	}	To increase lactation in nursing mothers.
Lactagol		
I.C.D. Tablets		
Ambrosia Tablets		
Fersolate Tablets		
Ovaltine		
Horlicks		
Glucose	}	Baby tonics and Vitamin Concentrates.
Maltoline & Iron		
Virol		
Adexolin Drops		
Minadex		
Robeleine		
Cow & Gate Full Cream	}	Dried Milk.
Ostermilk No.1.		
Ostermilk No.2.		
Trufood Humanised		
Trufood Follow-on		

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

	<u>Castleford.</u>	
	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
Total number of deliveries - as Midwife	270	243
Total number of deliveries - as Maternity Nurse	12	12
Total number of patients ante-natally examined	303	306
Number of cases delivered under Gas & Air Analgesia	226	221
Percentage of domiciliary confinements in Castleford where Gas & Air Analgesia was used	80.14	86.66

PREMATURE INFANTS (i.e. babies weighing under 5 lbs. 8 ozs. at birth).

	<u>Died.</u>	
Number born at home and nursed at home	5	1
Number born at home and nursed in hospital	-	1
Number born and nursed in hospital	36	4
	<u>41</u>	<u>6</u>

Number of premature stillbirths	-	9
Number of premature babies who died in the neo-natal period, including 4 who died directly as a result of prematurity.	-	6

ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT CLINIC.

Sessions were held at the Divisional Public Health Office each Tuesday and Friday for children up to 15 years of age, and the rate of attendance was twice per week.

The following are the numbers of new cases and attendances in the 0 - 4 and 5 - 15 age groups during the year:-

<u>New Cases.</u>		<u>Total Number of Attendances.</u>	
<u>0 - 4.</u>	<u>5 - 15.</u>	<u>0 - 4.</u>	<u>5 - 15.</u>
97	173	1338	2803

HOME HELP SERVICE.

During the year the equivalent of 31½ full-time Home Helps were allocated to this Division and the number of cases in Castleford provided with the services of a Home Help was 298, made up as follows:-

<u>Type of case.</u>	<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>No. of hours.</u>	<u>%</u>
Maternity	17	1532	3
Tuberculosis	8	1585	3
Chronic	253	45094	91
Others	20	1369	3
	<u>298</u>	<u>49580</u>	

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>Total number of visits.</u>
1954	634	17,622
1955	626	19,144
Average case load in Castleford per Home Nurse	-	3,829
Average accepted case load per Home Nurse	-	3,000

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

<u>Number of Schools.</u>	<u>Number of Schools inspected.</u>	
	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
32	22	31
<u>Number of pupils on roll as at 31st December, 1955.</u>	<u>Number of children inspected.</u>	
	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
8,335	2,511	3,456

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.

There are still nine Centres where Minor Ailments Clinics are held in the District, the main one being at Sagar Street. Subsidiary clinics are held at Ashton Road, Cutsyke, Airedale, Fryston, Hightown, Glasshoughton, Whitwood Mere and Wheldon Lane Nursery

schools.

Defects treated.

Total number of attendances.

1,682

4,004

MENTAL HEALTH OCCUPATION CENTRE.

The Centre re-opened on January 6th with 47 children on the register, 18 from the Castleford area, 15 from the Pontefract area, 5 from the Rothwell area, 5 from Wetherby, 3 from Ossett and 1 from the Hemsworth area. The attendance was good up to the end of July and although the weather was good when the Centre re-opened on August 29th, the attendances were down and continued low until Christmas, the average attendance being 31 per day.

During the course of the year, 7 boys left the Centre having reached the age of 15 years, and 2 girls of that age also left to help at home. One of the boys obtained work at the local Brick Works and another got work at a dairy in Pontefract. When the Hemsworth Centre opened one boy was transferred there and another child was admitted to Westwood Hospital, Bradford.

It was gratifying to find that following the reassessment of the I.Q. of one of the children attending the Centre, this child was transferred to a residential special school, whilst at a medical inspection of the children carried out in March, the Medical Officer remarked on the continued improvement of the children.

Mrs. Milne Redhead, Inspector of the Board of Control, visited the Centre on May 18th and was impressed with the work of the Centre as a whole. She was agreeably surprised with the Maypole Dancing and was pleased to see that the girls were continuing with plain sewing and darning.

During the year prior to the opening of the new Hemsworth Centre, Home Teachers and the Junior Staff spent some weeks at this Centre for training and experience.

Thirty children were taken to the Leeds Theatre Royal Pantomime on February 7th and considering this was the first time many of the children had been to a theatre the general behaviour was quite good. The staff were most surprised that the younger children were more interested than the older ones. This outing was financed by the Parent Teachers Association.

Owing to the variety of ages of the children it was decided to have the Annual Outing in two parts - the older children were taken to Filey on July 5th and the Younger ones were taken on July 12th. The weather was ideal on both occasions, and the older children were able to have more freedom of movement than in previous years when the whole Centre went together. The behaviour was excellent. Everyone thought this arrangement and outing was the best ever. The outings were financed by the Mental Health Sub-Committee and the Parent Teachers Association.

A May Day and Bring and Buy Sale was held on May 12th, the proceeds of which went to swell the funds of the Parent Teachers Association. This was the first time a real May Day with Queen and attendants had been held, and the Maypole Dancing, after two years of constant practice was mastered to perfection much to the satisfaction of the staff and the delight of the audience. This event was attended by some 60 parents and friends and a repeat performance of the dancing was requested for the Open Day held on July 21st. The Open Day was attended by about 50 parents and visitors. It was opened by the Mayor, County Alderman E. Taylor, accompanied by the Mayoress, Mrs. W.C. Stokes. Also present were Dr. Wood-Wilson the County Medical Officer, the Town Clerk of Castleford and his wife along with several members of the Castleford Borough Council and myself. The Mayor commented on the high standard of the work, especially the P.T. Display, and the Mayoress admired the needlework and was presented with a set of mats made at the Centre by one of the girls. Tea was provided and served by the parents.

The Rev. G. Craven, Curate of the Castleford Parish Church, again conducted the Harvest Festival Service on September 30th. There was a good attendance of parents and friends, including County Alderman Whittock and Councillor Lowe. The produce brought by the children was afterwards sold and the proceeds of £7. 12s. 5d. given to the Parent Teachers Association Fund.

A sale of children's handwork was held on November 22nd, realising £22. 12s. 0d. This brought the total sales of handwork for the year to £32. 19s. 11d. The standard and variety of handwork continues to improve, especially the plain sewing done by the girls.

The Christmas Party and Nativity Play was held on December 20th and although the weather was extremely bad the party was a huge success. Some 50 parents and friends attended, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Castleford and other officials. County Alderman Whittock played the role of Santa Claus distributing gifts to the children bought by the Parent Teachers Association. The hard work entailed was amply rewarded by the messages of congratulations and appreciation received.

The Parent Teachers Association continues to run smoothly and has had its second successful year. Various functions have been held including Beetle Drives, a Bring and Buy Sale and a Jumble Sale. Two of the Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Newbould and Mrs. Gould have supported us well and have been most generous during the year. The Association presented the Centre with a new Singer Sewing Machine for the use of the older girls. They also bought a Santa Claus outfit for use at our Christmas parties.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, once again I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Senior Sanitary Inspector and other inspectorial staff, to the other departments of the Borough Council and to the staff of my department for their co-operation and willing assistance throughout the year.

Yours faithfully,

J.M. PATERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF CASTLEFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent
E.J.WINFIELD, M.R.S.H., F.S.I.A., M.INST.P.C.

YEAR ENDED 31ST. DECEMBER, 1955

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ANNUAL REPORT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY, 1922

BOROUGH OF CASTLEFORD

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year ended 31st. December, 1955, being a report of the sanitary conditions of the town as a Borough and as an Urban District.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to place before you my Twelfth Annual Report in which is given a brief review of the sanitary conditions obtaining in the district during the year 1955.

The year 1955 is undoubtedly a momentous one in the history of our town, for an ambition of years was achieved with the granting of the Royal Charter. Overnight we were translated from an Urban District to a Borough. The change of status thus causes this report to relate to a part year with the town as an Urban District and a further part with the town as a Borough, but in the compilation the statistics are kept in continuous form.

During the year there was published a new Act dealing with Food and Drugs, an Act of Repeal and Consolidation with an operative date of 1st. January, 1956. This Act gives power to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Minister of Health to make regulations for securing observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions, and practices in the sale, preparation, storage and transportation of food and further protection of public health. Certain such regulations were in fact laid before Parliament in December, 1955 and became operative on 1st. January, 1956. It is hoped that this revised legislation will strengthen our work in the field of food hygiene.

The year also gave indication of new legislation to Atmospheric Pollution and undoubtedly the next Annual Report will include some note of this.

There were several changes in the personnel of the Department during the year. Mr. J. H. Cooper joined the Department in April as an Additional Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. J. F. Ellison in May. They replaced Mr. C. Rhodes, who left in August, 1954 and Mr. J. Lucas who left in December, 1954. Mr. H. Burton joined the Department in January, 1955 as a Technical Assistant. In November, 1955 Mr. A. J. Lindsay, Additional Sanitary Inspector, left to take up a new appointment and had not been replaced by the end of the year. It will be seen that throughout the year the Department was compelled to function with a reduced and changing staff. Despite this handicap a survey of the Report and its statistics will reveal to your Council that all services were maintained at a high level.

HOUSING

It is inevitable that in a report of this nature housing should be first reviewed. The standard of housing accommodation available to the people is of paramount importance to the well being of the community, and it gives both pride and pleasure to be able to report a steadily improving standard.

The problem must be viewed in three parts, viz:-the development of new housing, without which clearance of bad housing is not possible, the actual clearance of unfit houses and the improvement and repair of property generally.

The progress made at the Ferry Fryston Estate, which in 1954 had done so much to resolve domestic overcrowding, was continued in 1955, when 248 were completed by the Local Authority. Private enterprise was responsible for the erection of a further 9 houses during the year.

The sustaining of the building programme made possible the stepping up of the "slum clearance" programme and as forecast in my previous report, considerable progress was made during the year. The action taken included the declaring of certain areas to be "clearance areas", followed up in certain cases by application for compulsory purchase of the sites, and by demolition or closure of individual houses. A summary of the work during the year is as follows:-

Slum Clearance Areas

<u>Clearance Orders</u>		<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of persons</u>
York Street/Castle Street	Completed and demolished	56	118
Aketon Road No.1	-do-	6	16
Prospect Terrace	Reported upon and Clearance Order made. Enquiry awaited.	7	21
Fords Row	-do-	9	29
Aketon Road No.2	-do-	6	14
Rockhill No.1	-do-	11	25
Rockhill No.2	-do-	4	10
<u>Compulsory Purchase Order</u>			
Byfords Row	Reported upon and Compulsory Purchase Order made. Enquiry awaited.	5	11
Half Acres No.1	-do-	92	304
Albion Street No.1	Reported upon and declared Clearance Area. Compulsory Purchase Order to be made in 1956.	33	87
Albion Street No.2	-do-	5	15
Half Acres No.2	-do-	91	276

Individual Action

<u>Housing Act, 1936. Section 11</u>	<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of persons rehoused</u>
Demolition orders made in 1954 but houses demolished in 1955	16	45
No. of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made in 1955 and persons rehoused in 1955 (but not demolished in 1955)	16	39
No. of houses closed by undertaking from owner	1	3
No. of houses reported upon but decision not made in 1955	12	-

Individual Action (continued)

Housing Act, 1936 - Section 11 and
Local Government (Miscellaneous
Provisions) Act, 1953 - Section 10.

	<u>No. of</u> <u>houses</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>persons</u> <u>rehoused</u>
No. of houses closed and tenants rehoused in 1955	2	7
No. of houses where closing orders were made and tenants not rehoused in 1955	2	7

Housing Act, 1936 - Section 12

No. of parts of buildings where action was taken in 1954 and tenants rehoused in 1955	7	9
No. of parts of buildings closed in 1955 but tenants not rehoused until 1956	1	4

It will be appreciated that 1955 was a year of much "paper work" and that the "practical results" will accrue during 1956 and even later. I would emphasise that this was not merely a sporadic burst but was in fact part of a continuous programme to be continued in 1956 and onward.

Having dealt with "new housing" and "slum clearance", I would now refer to the improvement and repair of other properties. In my last report I indicated that there seemed to be a growing interest in the "Improvement by Grant" schemes and that a greater number of applications could be anticipated. This forecast proved in a measure correct. During the year 38 applications were received and all approved, the cost being estimated at £6147. 3. 11d. At a later date 15 of these schemes were withdrawn and a further 2 were not proceeded with. In the main the schemes were for owner/occupied dwellings. Some however did apply to investment properties, but these were subsequently withdrawn. It would seem that the permissible increase in rent is insufficient to induce property owners to make the capital investment and whilst I believe that greater use will be made of the scheme in the future, it will be by the owner/occupiers of our town. Nevertheless, results to date show that the improved amenities so secured are converting what would otherwise be "very plain" dwellings into desirable residences, particularly in an era of rising costs and interest rates. A more widespread application of the principle could greatly improve our housing standards at very reasonable cost to all.

During the year 17 schemes were completed and grants valued at £2390. 6. 8d passed for payment.

In the field of ordinary property repair the picture is much the same as it has been in all the post-war reports. The conflict between static rents and constantly rising building costs makes it more and more difficult to secure essential repairs. Our statistics will show that much was secured during the year, but even so the problem is one of great seriousness. The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 does not appear to have materially improved the position. It would seem that many owners, having considered the provisions of the Act, are of the opinion that to claim the permitted increase would entail an overgreat outlay on repairs and consequently have not proceeded on a widespread basis. In certain cases attempts to secure the permitted increase have resulted in applications by the tenants for Certificate of Disrepair, 21 such certificates being issued during the year. Fourteen certificates were revoked on the satisfactory completion of the repairs.

One cannot submit a report of this nature without emphasising the seriousness of the repair and rent position. There has been steady deterioration in each of the post-war years. The new Act has done little to meet the situation and as one can only envisage increase and not decrease in costs, the position becomes ominous. All bad houses cannot be cleared overnight. Many must remain for years to come, whilst even the more reasonable standard of dwelling calls for repair and maintenance. Property owners are thus faced with serious difficulties, which are in turn translated to the Department when complaints are received. The problem is a national one and in my opinion demands careful and impartial study by all parties at Parliamentary level. Finally, I append a tabulated report of the activities of the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

No. of dwelling-houses in the district.....	12757
No. of back-to-back houses included in above.....	213
1. Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts).	1572
(b) No. of inspections for that purpose....	3607
(2) No. of dwelling-houses needing further action.	
(a) No. considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	704
(b) No. (excluding above) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.	561
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....	476
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 16, Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served.....	4
(2) No. rendered fit:- (a) By L.A.....	-
(b) By owners.....	23
Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	177
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Local Authority.....	-
(b) By owners.....	121
Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) No. of representations, etc. made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation.....	29
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	16

- (3) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... 16
- (4) No. of houses closed under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953..... 4
- (5) No. of houses closed by undertaking of owner..... 1

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... 3
- (2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit..... -

NEW HOUSES.

No. of new houses provided during the year.

By the Local Authority: Permanent type.... 248
Temporary type.... -

By Private Enterprise..... 9

The following is a summary of the return submitted of the action taken under the Housing Acts, 1930/36 and the position at the 31st. December, 1955.

Part III of the Act. Clearance Areas.

No. of unfit dwelling-houses demolished..... 130
No. of persons displaced..... 377

Part II of the Act. Individual Unfit Houses.

No. of dwelling-houses demolished.

By formal action..... 165
By informal action..... 32

No. of dwelling-houses closed..... 43

Parts of buildings closed..... 24

No. of persons displaced from above..... 998

No. of houses made fit.

By formal action..... 328
By informal action..... 3116

SUMMARY OF NOTICES

Section	Informal Notices	Complied with without Stat'y Notice.	Statutory Notices.	Statutory Notices complied with.	Out standing
Housing Act, 1936 Section 9	4	-	-	23	9
Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 92/3	232	129	86	122	111
Section 75	74	56	5	9	24
Section 47	1	-	-	-	1
Section 45	210	163	40	44	34
Section 39	114	74	28	43	35
Others	30	12	12	13	19

Key

Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 is used to require the thorough reconditioning of houses.

Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936 deals with such matters as blocked or defective drains, sink waste pipes, etc.

Section 45 is used for water closets which are defective but which can be repaired without reconstruction.

Section 47 deals with the conversion of privies, waste water closets, etc., to proper washdown water closets.

Section 75 enforces the provision of proper dustbins.

Sections 92/3 deal with premises in such a state as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance, and are used for general repairs to houses.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued.....	21
No. revoked.....	14

Housing Act, 1949 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. Grants for the Improvement of Existing Houses.

No. of applications.....	38
No. granted.....	38
No. withdrawn.....	15
No. not proceeded with.....	2
No. completed in the year.....	17
Value of Grants approved during the year.....	£6147

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

It will be appreciated that with so much of the Department's time and effort devoted to slum clearance, other services have had to be maintained on a more routine basis.

In the supervision of the town's food supplies strict vigilance has been maintained, but no new schemes have been possible. In the light of the changing legislation this is probably not unwise, for in the past years we have secured greatly improved standards and I feel that before anything is done Government policy should be clearly defined. The passing of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the making of Regulations should secure this and at the same time give solid support to officers when carrying out their duties.

One cannot but feel that in the post-war years public opinion has proved particularly variable. Much has been said and written of the need for better standards in the preparation, storage and sale of food and undoubtedly support has been given both by progressive minded traders and by discriminating shoppers, but it would be equally true to say our endeavours have often been met by indifferent (or even complete lack of) co-operation on the part of traders and by criticism from the public in whose interest the work is being undertaken. It does now seem that the need for hygiene, both general and personal, in food handling has become recognised and it is hoped that in the application of the new Act and Regulations we shall have the wholehearted support of both supplier and consumer. Undoubtedly the weight of public opinion can secure better and quicker results than any official action.

The food premises in the town follow the pattern of previous years and are as follows:-

Butchers.....	57
Bakers and Confectioners.....	42
Wet Fishmongers.....	12
Fried Fish Shops.....	32
Greengrocers.....	36
Grocers.....	149
Cafes and Restaurants, etc.....	11

There appears to have been little change during the year.

In addition the following premises have been registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:-

For the manufacture of Ice-cream	4
For the sale of Ice-cream.....	104
For the manufacture of Sausages, Potted, Pressed, Pickled and Preserved Foods, including the preparation of Shell Fish.....	21
As Dairies.....	6

The following premises are actively engaged in food manufacture without being actually registered:-

Sweet confectionery.....	2
Maltsters.....	3
Flour Millers.....	1
Tripe Dressers.....	2
Fat Refiners.....	1

In supervising these food premises the following visits have been recorded:-

Ice-cream premises.....	88
Food preparing premises.....	83
Dairies.....	90
Food Shops.....	1005
Cafes, restaurants, etc.....	53
Slaughterhouses.....	1079
Market shops and stalls.....	222
Street vendors.....	15

Food Hawkers. Registered under the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951 - Section 76.

Trade	From within the District		From outside Districts
	No. of vehicles registered.	No. of premises registered.	No. of vehicles registered.
Ice-cream	-	-	8
Greengrocers	14	12	-
Grocers	6	5	-
Butchers	4	2	-
Confectioners	9	5	2
Fishmongers	1	1	1

A review of the various sections may prove of interest to your Council.

The following tables show a summary of animals killed in the district during the year and the results of inspection.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1135	1019	44	4872	3325
Number inspected	1135	1019	44	4872	3325
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned			1	1	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	117	138	-	208	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.3	13.5	2.3	4.0	1.1
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	5	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	59	139	-	-	37
Percentages of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.2	14.1	-	-	1.1
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Carcases, Part-Carcases and Organs Condemned

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Carcases	6	1	1	10	18
Forequarters	4	-	-	2	6
Heads and Tongues	110	-	-	31	141
Lungs	132	-	-	-	132
Plucks	-	-	112	15	127
Hearts	2	-	-	-	2
Udders	50	-	-	-	50
Livers	268	-	-	-	268
Kidneys	6	-	-	-	6
Loins	-	-	-	4	4

Diseases

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Tuberculosis	209	-	-	39	248
Cirrhosis	214	-	-	-	214
Mastitis	50	-	-	-	50
Abscesses	56	-	-	1	57
Angioma	4	-	-	-	4
Parasitic	-	-	109	1	110
Bruising	3	-	-	1	4
Actinomycosis	3	-	-	-	3
Pericarditis	3	-	-	-	3
Inflammation	-	-	-	5	5
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1
Nephritis	4	-	-	-	4
Peritonitis	1	-	-	1	2
Congestion	3	-	-	10	13
Necrosis	1	-	-	-	1
Cysticercus Bovis	1	-	-	-	1
Chronic Swine Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	1
Pleurisy	-	-	-	1	1
Flukes	6	-	-	-	6
Fatty Degeneration	1	-	-	-	1
Pyæmia	-	1	-	1	2
Uraemia	-	-	-	1	1
Septicaemia	-	-	-	1	1
Anthrax	-	-	-	3	3
Metritis	-	-	-	1	1
Moribund	-	-	1	2	3

Meat Supplies. 1955 was the first complete year with the meat trade free of control, and it may well be claimed that in the period the trade settled down to a stabilised basis. Your Council continued to operate the former C.W.S. slaughterhouse as a public abattoir and there dealt with the bulk of animals slaughtered. Three private slaughterhouses were licensed during the year, but slaughtering at one was discontinued at the end of June and it was not subsequently relicensed. The number of animals killed in the private slaughterhouses was not particularly high and inspection of carcasses was always possible.

A full report of the year's activities at the public abattoir is an essential part of this report and will follow at a later stage, but for the moment I would confine myself to reporting on our normal duties of meat inspection.

As in former years all carcasses were inspected as near to the time of slaughter as possible and the foregoing tables give details of the work. These tables relate to all animals killed in the district and not merely to those killed at the public abattoir.

In recent Annual Reports I have commented upon the incidence of disease found in the animals slaughtered and the figures for 1955 are interesting, particularly when compared with recent years.

In 1955 Cattle other than Cows was much the same as in 1954, namely 1135 as against 1178, with a figure of 1425 in 1953. Cows, which in 1953 numbered 311 and 342 in 1954, rose steeply to 1019, whilst calves decreased from 148 in 1954 and 317 in 1953 to 44. Sheep and lambs were similar to 1954, 4872 as against 4921, but in 1953 these numbered 7296, whilst the figures for pigs were 3325 in 1955, 3286 in 1954 and only 2236 in 1953.

Of the cows slaughtered only 5 were affected by Generalised Tuberculosis and condemned in entirety, whilst 139 were found to be affected in part only. These combined figures show that 14.1% of cows slaughtered were affected in some measure by Tuberculosis, a much improved position on either the years 1954 or 1953 where the comparable percentages were 35.6 and 40.6

Cattle other than cows again showed improvement; only one full carcase was condemned on the grounds of Generalized Tuberculosis, whilst 59 were found to be affected in part only. The combined figures give 5.2% for 1955 as against 6.4% in 1954 and 9.4% in 1953.

In the case of other animals the figures shown were quite light; 4.0% of the sheep slaughtered were affected with disease, all of course non-tubercular, whilst 2.3% of calves were affected with disease, again non-tubercular. The corresponding figures for 1954 were 2.2% and 3.4% respectively.

Of the pigs slaughtered 1.1% were affected with Tuberculosis and 1.1% with other diseases. Again the comparable figures for 1954 were 2.4% and 7.4%

It will also be seen that one case of Cysticercosis occurred. All carcasses are examined carefully for this condition and that we should have only one isolated carcase gives rise to a sense of satisfaction.

From the foregoing statistics I feel that we are entitled to conclude that the quality of the animals being killed in our slaughterhouses ensures the general public of a sound and reliable supply of meat.

Slaughtering - The Public Abattoir. The organization as set up in 1954 continued to operate throughout 1955, the work being undertaken by two whole-time slaughtermen and one yardman, augmented at weekends and on Mondays by part-time assistance. The demands of the trade continued to make Sunday slaughtering imperative, followed by extensive operations on Mondays, the two days being almost entirely devoted to cattle and sheep, leaving the remainder of the week for the pork trade and casual requirements.

Endeavour was made during the year to improve operational conditions and your Council installed electrical stunning equipment for pigs and sheep and an electric saw for the splitting of beast carcasses. These two items naturally figure largely in the Accounts for the year and cause the trading figure for the twelve months ended 31st. March, 1956 to show a loss.

One incident calling for special report was the presence in the slaughterhouse of a case of anthrax. This occurred in a large sow brought in for emergency slaughter and which showed none of the customary symptoms of lesions of the disease; diagnosis only being secured by laboratory examination of specimens. The confirmation of the disease caused a short closure of the premises, thorough disinfection of building and equipment and precautionary medical treatment of all who had been in contact with the carcase, and no outward results followed.

This incident only served to emphasise the need for establishing precautionary measures in the slaughterhouse. Although the animal was known to be a "casualty", there was no indication that it was in fact so serious a case and as a result of our experience it became standard for casualty killings to be held back until the last of the day when all previous carcasses were completed and hung outside the slaughtering hall.

The management of the abattoir remained vested in my Department and the Sunday killings necessitated my Deputy and myself attending each weekend. As in 1954 the Sunday work was divided into morning and afternoon supervision, each of us taking one session. This arrangement remained in force throughout the year, but in December slight adjustment was made in the appointment of a foreman slaughterman, capable of undertaking day to day supervision. He did not however take up duties until the beginning of 1956.

The following table shows the animals slaughtered during the year.

Public Slaughterhouse

	Bulls	Bullocks	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Sows
January	-	89	4	101	3	204	307	9
February	-	61	-	93	3	152	271	9
March	1	53	1	77	10	109	319	10
April	2	56	-	72	9	94	291	3
May	-	62	1	84	2	145	299	4
June	-	40	1	85	-	151	241	8
July	-	51	2	74	-	367	190	-
August	-	81	2	78	1	562	189	6
September	-	76	4	66	2	512	150	3
October	-	87	3	108	-	603	176	3
November	-	86	1	84	-	678	205	-
December	-	64	2	76	3	592	366	5
Totals	3	806	21	998	33	4169	3004	60

In the Abstract of Accounts for the Financial Year ending 31st.March,1956, the Abattoir Account is as follows:-

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	£	s	d	<u>INCOME</u>	£	s	d
Wages	2952.	4.	4	Charges	3868.	1. 11	
Equipment and Tools	492.	16.	8	Fees, M.O.F.	28.	15.	8
Compensation	466.	15.	3	Sale of Waste	288.	16.	1
Gas & Electricity	82.	5.	10	Telephone	1.	9.	11
Cleaning Materials	9.	1.	8				
Bedding & Fodder	31.	2.	4				
Postage & Telephone	34.	3.	1				
Repairs & Alterations	62.	1.	8				
Adverts. & Stationery	16.	10.	10				
Rates	125.	18.	0				
Other Expenses	24.	12.	11				
Transport	86.	15.	4				
Grant (J.Rooke)	25.	0.	0				
	£4409.	7.	11		£4187.	3.	7

Private Slaughterhouses. The three private slaughterhouses in use were those licensed in 1954. The number of animals slaughtered during the year was as follows:-

Private Slaughterhouses								
	Bulls	Bullocks	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Sows
January	-	32	3	6	5	51	30	-
February	-	28	1	4	2	43	27	-
March	-	27	3	2	2	56	24	-
April	-	24	2	3	2	54	35	-
May	-	27	3	2	-	53	23	-
June	-	22	3	3	-	92	23	-
July	-	16	1	-	-	61	10	-
August	-	20	4	-	-	79	9	-
September	-	22	-	-	-	59	15	-
October	-	26	-	-	-	68	5	-
November	-	17	3	1	-	42	7	-
December	-	18	1	-	-	45	53	-
Totals	-	279	26	21	11	703	261	-

Milk. The town's milk supply in 1955 was on much the same basis as in 1954. There 142 registered distributors, only one of whom retailed raw milk and that of Tuberculin Tested standard; delivery in all cases is in sealed bottles and none from open cans.

The C.W.S. Retail Society continues to be our largest single supplier, operating from its own plant at Ashton Road. Here every care is taken to maintain the quality of the supply.

The Manorcroft Dairies and their Associate Company, Express Dairies, Sheffield, continue to supply both pasteurised and tuberculin tested (pasteurised) milk to many of our small retailers, whilst much "sterilized" milk is sold by shopkeepers, 135 persons being registered for the sale thereof.

In my last report I commented upon the condition of milk bottles and the treatment meted out to them by consumers. During the year a complaint was received of milk being delivered in dirt lined bottles. Your Council took serious view of the incident and legal proceedings were instituted, as a result of which the suppliers were fined £20.

Although this was the only direct complaint, one is frequently chided about the condition of milk bottles, and it is apparent that the present system of machine washing cannot guarantee complete cleansing of every bottle. This can well be due to the filthy condition of so many bottles when returned to the plant, and if the supervision at the delivery end is in any way relaxed, an unclean bottle can be passed into the filling machine. It is difficult to see how these occurrences can be completely eliminated, and one is forced to the conclusion that the time has arrived when thought should be given to an alternative form of container. Surely in the day of cellophane, waxed board, etc. it is not too much to hope that someone will produce at an economic price a container for milk which can be discarded after use.

Throughout the year the Department has continued its active policy of sampling, by bacteriological, biological and chemical examination. The results of this are appended in tabular form.

It will be seen that of the 375 samples submitted for biological examination, 12 gave a positive result. In previous years I have drawn attention to both this figure and the incidence of Tuberculosis in animals killed for human consumption. Whilst there may be some little fluctuation, the general position would indicate that our milk herds are still in need of thorough veterinary inspection.

During the year 82 samples of milk were submitted for chemical analysis, and 14 were found not to comply with legal standards.

The following tables summarise this section of our work:-

Registration of Producers, Distributors and Dairies.

Pasteurised Milk

No. of Producers of pasteurised milk..... 1
No. of inspections of pasteurising plant.....60

Distribution

No. of Distributors on register.....142
No. selling Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk..... 1
No. selling Pasteurised Milk..... 39
No. selling T.T. Pasteurised Milk..... 36
No. selling Sterilized Milk.....135

Sampling of Milk for Bacteriological Examination.

Raw Milk.

No. of samples submitted to Methylene Blue Test..557
No. of samples which satisfied Methylene Blue
Test....321
No. which did not satisfy the above Test.....236

Tuberculin Tested Milk

No. of samples submitted for the prescribed test.187
No. of samples which satisfied Methylene Blue
Test....163

Pasteurised Milk

No. of samples submitted to prescribed tests.....102
No. satisfying Methylene Blue Test.....100
No. satisfying Phosphatase Test.....100

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk

No. of samples submitted to prescribed tests.....102
No. of samples satisfying Methylene Blue Test....100
No. satisfying Phosphatase Test.....102

Sterilized Milk

No. of samples submitted to prescribed tests..... 9
No. satisfying Methylene Blue Test..... 9
No. satisfying Turbidity Test..... 9

Milk - Biological Examination for Tuberculosis.

No. of samples submitted for above test.....375
No. giving negative result.....361
No. giving positive result..... 12
No. of samples void..... 2

The results of the investigation of the positive samples of milk are shown in tabulated form. 64

Sample No.	Date of Sample	Type of Supply	Result of Investigation
42	11.1.55	Raw milk to pasteurising plant.	Infection not traced. Further samples taken which proved negative.
76	18.1.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
403	5.4.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
404	5.4.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
517	10.5.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
521	10.5.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
723	5.7.55	-do-	Report subsequently received that samples proved non-tubercular.
826	3.8.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
845	9.8.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Milk still found to be positive but meanwhile one further cow had been slaughtered and when remainder were tested they proved negative.
939	30.8.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
1124	25.10.55	-do-	Two cows slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.
1170	8.11.55	-do-	One cow slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order. Rest certified clear.

Sampling of Milk for Chemical Analysis.

Samples taken - Informal..... 66
 Formal..... 16
No. of samples - Informal..... 12
Adulterated - Formal..... 2

Details of Adulterated Samples

Sample No.	Date	Analysis	Action taken
1B	17.3.55	2.51% Fat 8.61% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.22 Reported as Genuine.
3A	17.3.55	2.68% Fat 8.34% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.19 Reported as Genuine.
3B	17.3.55	2.95% Fat 8.35% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.20 Reported as Genuine
4A	17.3.55	2.95% Fat 8.44% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.23 Reported as Genuine
4C	17.3.55	2.63% Fat 8.51% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.24 Reported as Genuine.
5A	17.3.55	2.95% Fat 8.45% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.21 Reported as Genuine
5B	17.3.55	2.67% Fat 8.49% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.16 Reported as Genuine
6C	17.3.55	2.97% Fat 8.83% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.18 Reported as Genuine
7A	17.3.55	1.73% Fat 8.49% Solids not Fat	Followed up by Formal Sample No.17 Reported as Genuine
17	21.3.55	2.77% Fat 8.69% Solids not Fat	Followed by samples 210B & 210C Reported as Genuine
201C	2.11.55	2.33% Fat 8.15% Solids not Fat	Followed up by samples Nos.32 A & B Reported as Genuine
204A	2.11.55	2.58% Fat 8.28% Solids not Fat	Followed up by samples Nos.33-39 Reported as Genuine
206C	2.11.55	2.97% Fat 8.63% Solids not Fat	Followed up by sample No.214A Reported as Genuine
33	8.11.55	2.86% Fat 8.06% Solids not Fat	Followed up by samples Nos.34-39 Reported as Genuine

Ice-Cream. It would seem that ice-cream has now become an established all-the-year-round commodity, sold mainly from shop premises, which now number 104 in the district. These are augmented by sales by itinerant vendors who visit the district, particularly in the summer season.

There is very little local manufacture, only four premises being now registered for this purpose, not all of which are in use.

During the year the condition of one of these premises gave cause for dissatisfaction and the occupier pressed for structural alterations and improved methods. Subsequently your Health Committee interviewed the occupier along with representatives of the Ice-Cream Alliance (acting as advisers to the occupier) and by the year end the desired improvements were being undertaken.

Despite the staff problems sampling was carried out throughout the year, both for bacteriological and chemical examination, and the results indicate that a good standard has been maintained.

On the bacteriological side, of 100 samples taken, 87 were classified Grade I, 10 Grade II, 3 Grade III and none Grade IV, whilst the 8 samples submitted for chemical analysis were all reported genuine.

The following tables summarise the work.

No. of premises registered for sale during the year.....	4
No. of premises registered for manufacture during the year.....	0

Position at end of 1955

No. of premises registered for sale.....	104
No. of premises registered for manufacture.....	4

Sampling for Bacteriological Examination

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
No. of samples taken	100	192	297	277
No. of samples classified Grade I	87	144	252	199
No. of samples classified Grade II	10	23	28	50
No. of samples classified Grade III	3	16	12	22
No. of samples classified Grade IV	-	7	5	6

Sampling for Chemical Analysis

No. of samples taken.....	8
No. of samples adulterated.....	Nil

Fish. The town continues to be well supplied with all forms of fish. Three wholesalers supply the bulk of the trade receiving supplies at their warehouses, cleaning and preparing and then passing on to the retailers. By this means little trouble exists with the disposal of fish offals. In addition curing and preparation continues at prepared factories. Here fish is smoked and boiled, whilst shell-fish such as crabs and mussels are prepared and packed for retail sale.

Fried fish and chips remain a popular dish with our townspeople, although one or two businesses appear to have closed down.

Premises used in the fish trade are generally of good standard and provided with refrigerated storage where required and refrigerated show cases.

Other Foods. The Department continued to exercise general supervision over all shop premises and dealing with the inevitable unsound articles which occur. As in former years traders generally were very ready to seek our assistance in dealing with such goods. The following articles were dealt with either at the shop premises or were brought to the office for inspection:-

205 tins Tomatoes
 107 tins Fruit
 31 tins Beans
 27 tins Peas
 5 tins other vegetables
 1 tin Spaghetti
 944½ lbs Beef
 14 lbs Pork
 37 tins & 5¼ lbs Corned Beef
 17 tins & 25 lbs Ham
 10 tins Luncheon Meat
 25 tins & 10 lbs 6 ozs Tongue
 1 tin Veal
 57 lbs Bacon
 6½ lbs Sausage

13 lbs Liver
 1 tin Chicken
 54 tins Other Meats
 62½ lbs Cheese
 58 tins Milk
 4½ lbs Butter
 10½ lbs Lard
 3 tins Cream
 4 tins Soup
 201 lbs Yeast
 17 Tea Cakes
 8½ lbs & 4 doz. Cakes
 2 tins & 17 lbs Jam
 22 tins Fish
 32 Fish Cakes

Samples were also taken under the terms of the Food and Drugs Act and the following table covers this work:-

	<u>No. of samples taken</u>		<u>No. of samples adulterated</u>	
	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Beef Sausages	5	-	-	-
Pork Sausages	1	-	1	-
Lard	1	-	-	-
Butter	2	-	-	-
Potted Beef Paste	1	-	-	-
Tea	1	-	-	-
Ground Almonds	1	-	-	-
Fish Cakes	1	-	-	-
Ice Cream	-	8	-	-
Nut Mix	1	-	-	-
Totals	14	8	1	-

Details of Adulterated Sample

Sample No.	Date Taken	Analysis	Action Taken
14	17.3.55	26.7% Lean Meat 15.8% Fat 42.5% Meat	Proceedings taken. Defendant pleaded "guilty" and was fined £20. A further charge of making sausages on unregistered premises was also heard and resulted in a fine of £5.

A complaint was received from a purchaser, of a foreign body present in a Date and Walnut Cake. This proved to be a box nail and your Council authorised proceedings to be instituted. The suppliers accordingly appeared before the Local Bench of Magistrates who found that a technical offence had been committed and imposed a fine of £5.

A general assessment would, I feel, justify an opinion that the town's food supply is well organized, well managed and of good quality. That so many people from outside our boundaries visit the town for the purpose of shopping, indicates the confidence they have in our traders. Generally speaking the Department and its officers maintain excellent relationship with the trade, carrying out all duties in an atmosphere of co-operation and goodwill. As we face up to the new legislation the preservation of this spirit is in the best interest of the town, its people and its trade.

Water Supply. There was no change in our supply system during the year. The town continues to draw its water supplies from Wakefield and Pontefract Corporations, with some slight assistance from the Leeds Corporation.

Although water undertakings today check and maintain their supplies at a high standard, the Department continues to maintain weekly sampling, the results of which revealed the need for continuing systematic chlorination.

No. of samples taken from reservoirs..... 153
 No. showing coliform organisms..... 2
 No. of samples taken from consumers taps..... 332
 No. showing coliform organisms..... 8

The following is a tabulated list of unsatisfactory samples found during the year.

Date of sample	No. of sample	Address	No. of coliform organisms	
			Non-Faecal	Faecal
10.5.55	143	Redhill Old Reservoir	16	2
10.5.55	144	Redhill New Reservoir	18+	9
16.8.55	304	Mexborough Terrace	16	9
16.8.55	305	Cutsyke Pumping Stn.	1	1
16.8.55	311	Treasurer's Department	2	-
16.8.55	312	Town Hall	2	-
19.8.55	324	Cutsyke Pumping Stn.	2	2
19.8.55	325	Mexborough Terrace	9	1
25.8.55	340	Altofts Lane Main	6	3
25.10.55	442	Carr Lane Pumping Stn.	1	1

Public Water Supply. Samples submitted for Chemical Analysis.

Supply	Total Solids	Total Hardness	Free Ammonia	Albuminoid Ammonia	Nitric Nitrogen
Wakefield	80	45	0.01	0.01	0.5
Pontefract	200	125	0.01	0.01	5.65

Water Fryston Village. This hamlet continues to be served by the public supply fed to an iron storage tank to reduce pressure.

Carr Wood. The natural spring still exists at Carr Wood, but the communal standpipe is believed to be generally used by the persons resident in the area.

Swimming Baths. The Public Baths constitute the sole swimming facilities of the district, no private pools being in existence. Swimming is limited to the period April to October and during this period regular sampling of the pool water is carried out by the Department. This sampling comprises weekly examination for bacterial count, supported by monthly samples for chemical analysis. During the whole of the season no sample revealed the presence of coliform bacilli, a result upon which the Baths Superintendent and his staff are to be greatly complimented.

No. of samples submitted for bacteriological examination..... 40
 No. showing coliform bacilli.....Nil

Chemical Analysis

Date of sample	Total solids	Parts per million			
		Chlorides	Free Ammonia	Albuminoid Ammonia	Oxygen Absorbed
8.6.55	740	260	0.15	0.60	4.2
5.7.55	860	338	0.15	0.75	6.2
5.8.55	900	430	0.15	0.50	6.8
1.9.55	1000	500	0.15	0.60	6.8

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

In my last Annual Report I referred to possible new legislation; throughout 1955 much has been heard of the "Clean Air Bill", its submission to Parliament, the criticisms, the discussion and the progress it has made. Although not reaching the Statute Book by the end of the year, it has created enormous interest and one would say that at long last the nation, as a whole is "Clean Air" conscious.

This trend in public opinion frequently causes the question to be posed "What are you doing", or "What have you achieved so far". To either of these questions I believe we can say that we have made progress and in support of this I produce statistics for the past thirty years. In 1925 my predecessor, Mr. T.E. Birtwistle, M.B.E., installed the first soot recording gauge in Castleford. For many years it was sited in a private garden adjoining Castle Fields, but in 1943 it was transferred some 200 yards to a site in Carlton Street. Month by month this gauge has shown the sootfall on the approximate town centre, and from its returns have been assessed the annual tonnage of deposit. These figures show that there has been a great improvement in the period. In the last few years there has certainly been some slight fluctuation but even the yearly total is now little more than half of what it was twenty to thirty years ago. I append a graph covering the thirty years in which is shown the year by year figures.

How then has this reduction been secured? Very largely, I would say, in the industrial field, with some assistance from the domestic side. Over the years industry has come to appreciate the economics of the position. Smoke is not a sign of prosperity, but of wasted heat values. Consequently there have been widespread improvements with greater efficiency in steam raising and similar plants. Today our industrial chimneys show vastly improved emissions. In previous reports I have referred to some of the changes made and 1955 is in no way different to any other. At the glassworks referred to in my last report, a waste heat boiler was installed, displacing the former hand fired boiler. This has virtually eliminated smoke emission. Alterations were also commenced to the steam raising plant at a sweet confectionery manufactory, although the new plant was in operation at the year end. The colliery chimneys appear to indicate that the improvements planned are steadily taking place. Our observations indicate that whilst emissions of dark or black smoke do from time to time occur, there is greatly improved standard. It would be folly, however, to believe that all troubles are remedied. Not only is it imperative that present standards are maintained, but equally so that certain outstanding problems are resolved. At one of our chemical works the chimney of a boiler producing high pressure steam is a fairly constant emitter of dark to black smoke, fundamentally because the demands for steam are greater than boiler capacity, but as a new boiler is planned

this source of trouble should shortly be eliminated.

The kilns of one of our potteries are also the source of much heavy smoke. They are of an old type and hand fired, and whilst one appreciates the technical difficulties arising from their use, one would wish that they could be eliminated or replaced by non-smoke producing appliances.

Of all our problems, however, the coke oven plant at Glass Houghton remains the greatest. Its circumstances have been reviewed year by year but 1955 has produced some degree of hope. Following several meetings between your Council's representatives and officials of the National Coal Board, we were informed at the latter end of the year that a scheme of rebuilding had been approved. This work, which we hope will shortly commence, will take several years to complete, but we can now look forward to the day when that part of the district is not subjected to dark clouds of smoke accompanied by unpleasant effluvia.

Smoke is not the only pollutant of our atmosphere. Chemical fumes from one of our acid manufacturing plants have long proved an irritation, and during the year were of such magnitude that interviews were sought by your Council with both the management and H.M. Alkali Inspector. The management undertook large scale overhaul and part of the plant was closed down during the year. This produced an immediate reduction in the emissions. It is understood that a further phase of overhaul is in course of progress and it is hoped that on completion the very well known plume will not inconvenience our people.

I said earlier that the domestic field had contributed some small measure of assistance to the cause of clean air. This has been secured by the voluntary installation by householders of such appliances as gas and electric cookers, fires and water heaters and by the purchase of "approved type" firegrates. These changes undoubtedly help but they are unfortunately far too small in number. The use of raw coal in the 12,000 houses of our town must contribute very largely to our pollution problem and if a really clean atmosphere is to be secured, each and everyone must assist. It is however very difficult to convince the individual that he or she has a responsibility and to advocate alternative fuels or means of heating is not always popular. This is understandable in an area where "concessionary" coal is a predominant factor and one cannot expect the mineworker to replace this very cheap (to him) fuel with another to be paid for at market price. If we are to secure the co-operation of such a large section of our townspeople, some alternative arrangements must be made. This is not just a local problem, but national, and will be required to be settled at national level.

However, despite the magnitude of the problem one feels that the tide of opinion has turned in favour of cleaner atmosphere and that the day is not now so remote when it can be secured. In the meantime we must maintain vigilance in observation and action allied to unremitting energy in the field of propaganda.

Sootfall - Tons per square mile

Month	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
January	-	10.01	12.41	20.48
February	19.20	8.85	14.97	14.22
March	35.91	13.27	12.18	22.60
April	37.02	14.10	13.48	15.19
May	-	20.44	19.75	23.65
June	28.86	10.80	8.63	12.97
July	15.64	5.51	4.45	4.92
August	45.27	18.78	8.50	17.55
September	13.35	16.87	9.13	13.85
October	17.18	19.32	11.58	19.27
November	13.09	-	9.66	25.98
December	19.83	29.29	-	17.72
Totals	245.35	167.24	124.74	208.40

Sulphur Trioxide Estimations - Milligrammes per Day

Month	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
January	7.95	2.79	4.33	2.84
February	8.08	1.64	2.58	3.03
March	7.68	1.10	1.73	3.85
April	4.71	2.85	2.81	3.59
May	4.40	1.63	1.91	2.35
June	6.33	1.76	1.72	2.38
July	4.71	0.86	1.08	1.38
August	3.96	1.14	1.21	1.65
September	1.42	1.88	1.30	1.68
October	3.98	2.08	3.11	4.23
November	4.41	3.64	4.06	2.54
December	3.48	3.54	3.97	4.34
Averages	5.09	2.03	2.48	2.82

Sootfall - Shown in tons per square mile per annum

Year	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
1955	245.35	167.24	124.74	208.40
1954	266.10	183.12	144.82	198.12
1953	141.99	168.98	125.83	178.76
1952	194.55	258.20	139.24	204.70
1951	216.27	285.72	155.42	243.16
1950	165.76	185.61	150.37	242.70
1949	190.51	172.97	147.52	321.44
1948	237.13	257.32	212.90	352.26
1947	176.32	269.19	217.74	307.11
1946	204.72	249.72	161.52	254.04

Sulphur Trioxide Estimation - Average for year - milligrammes per day

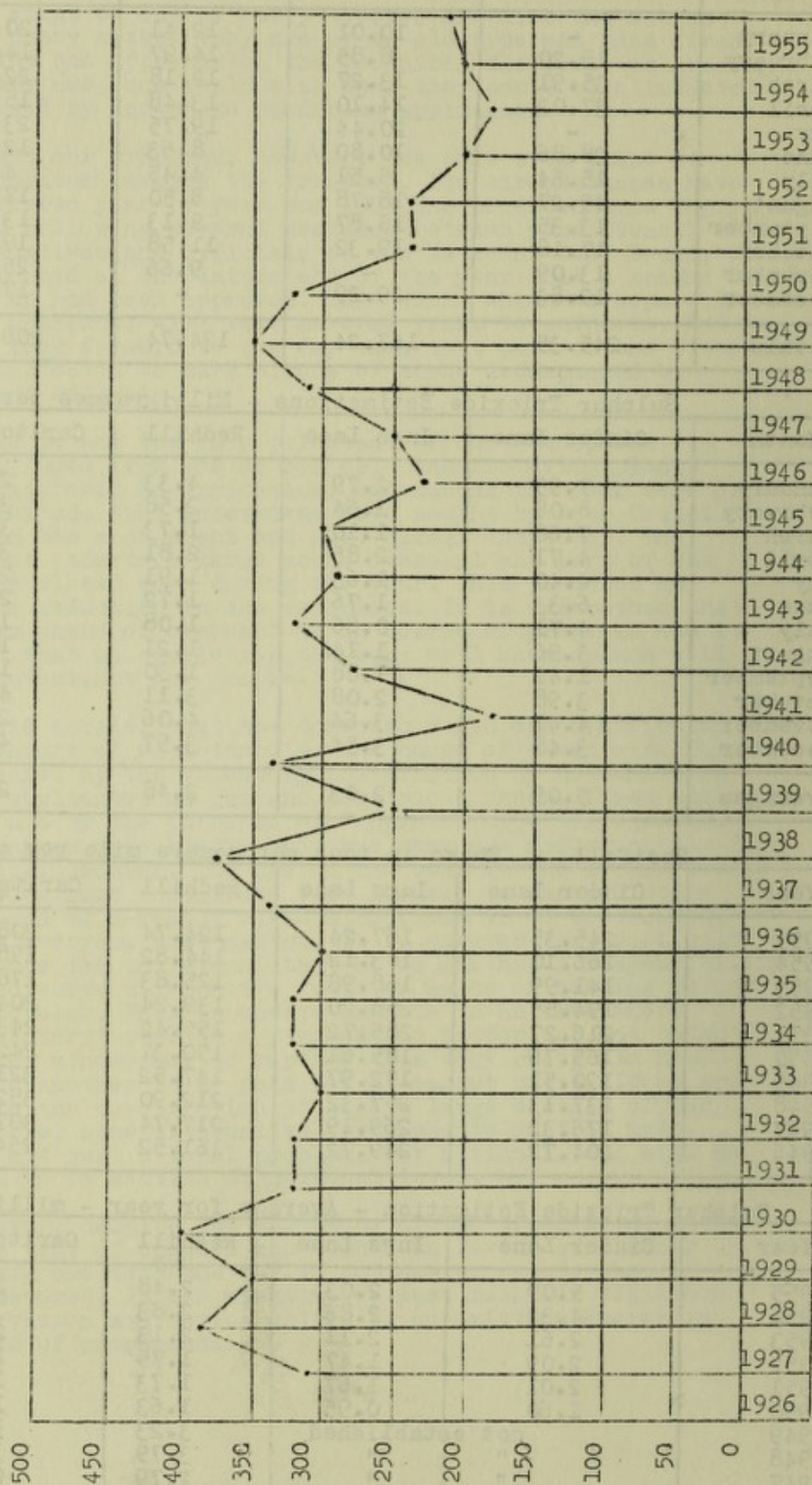
Year	Cinder Lane	Ings Lane	Redhill	Carlton Street
1955	5.09	2.03	2.48	2.82
1954	4.32	2.86	2.83	3.50
1953	2.61	2.11	2.13	2.30
1952	2.09	1.47	1.79	1.91
1951	2.01	1.67	1.73	1.91
1950	1.60	0.95	1.63	1.98
1949	not established		3.23	3.18
1948	"	"	3.79	3.37
1947	"	"	2.79	2.91
1946	"	"	2.51	2.19

ANNUAL SOOTFALL IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE FROM 1926 to 1955 ON THE CENTRE OF CASTLEFORD

1926 - 1943 SITUATED AT CAMBRIDGE STREET, CASTLEFORD

1944 ONWARDS SITUATED AT CARLTON STREET, CASTLEFORD.

SCALE: 1" = 100 tons



RIVERS AND WATERCOURSES

Once again we experienced some localised flooding in various parts of the district during heavy rain, but the town as a whole did not suffer any experience of general flooding.

During the year those streets of the town bordering the river and adjacent to the dam suffered the effects of detergent foam. This invariably occurs when the wind is from the east or north and with the waterwheel at rest. So frequent and unpleasant was the occurrence that representatives of your Council met representatives of both the British Waterways and the Ouse Catchment Board in an effort to eliminate the nuisance. Certain forms of experiment are to be tried. The matter will not, however, be easily resolved. It occurs in many rivers and at many sewage disposal works and is of such national importance that a Departmental Committee has sat to consider the effects of the increasing use of synthetic detergents. Its report is awaited with interest as the possible key to the situation.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Operations have continued as in previous years. The Department disinfected all premises after cases of notifiable disease and after deaths or removals of pulmonary cases. The treatment being the spraying and fumigation of the house with the bedding subjected to steam treatment.

The disinfectant plant at Cinder Lane continues to give good service and once again undertook work on behalf of neighbouring authorities.

Premises affected with vermin are still sprayed with solution containing D.D.T. and Pyrethrum with satisfactory results.

The policy of dealing with all Council houses on first occupation and upon change of tenancy has been continued.

Generally speaking we receive very few complaints of infestation by bed bugs, modern treatment appearing to have most satisfactory results. We are however frequently asked for assistance with other forms of insect pests, varying from cockroaches to ants, and beetles to wasps. Probably the most difficult to deal with are ants, for unless the nest can be found and destroyed, the infestation seems never ending.

As in former years certain industrial premises were treated with Hydrocyanic Acid Gas, the work being done by contractors. After treatments however the Department took the usual confirmatory samples of the foodstuffs manufactured.

The following shows the work carried out during the year:-

Disinfection after Infectious Disease..... 45

Disinfestation of verminous premises:

Privately owned..... 31

Local Authority owned..... 2

Council houses treated upon the creation
of new tenancy.....335

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SANITARY ALTERATIONS

As in former years the Department continues to supervise the construction of drainage built to private houses and by private enterprise, and to deal with complaints of blockage and defect. These seem to be ever increasing in number and one cannot but feel that underground movement has and is having serious effect on both sewers and drains alike.

During the year the main development of sewerage schemes was very naturally in the Ferry Fryston Estate. In the Chapel Street area trouble continues to exist with sewer serving that particular street, and the mechanical appliances of the Department have continued to give twice weekly service to prevent flooding. Your Engineer and Surveyor has in hand a new scheme of sewerage for this area and although paper work was well advanced during the year, no actual works were commenced.

As in former years the cleansing of cesspools was routine, These exist in number in various parts of the district, and whilst the sewerage of some would be an almost impossible task, other sections could be dealt with. I have stressed the need for this in several reports and would again use the occasion to urge forward a programme of providing sewers for those areas now served by cesspools.

During the year several pail closets and privies were abolished and others converted to water closets.

Works carried out during the year were as follows:-

Pail closets abolished.....	5
Privies abolished.....	4
Privies converted to water closets.....	3
Slop closets converted to water closets.....	2
Water closets abolished.....	61
Additional water closets provided to existing buildings.....	20
Water closets provided to new buildings.....	257
Drains and water closets reconstructed or repairs.....	207
Drains, water closets, etc., opened, cleansed, etc.....	117
Ashpits (wet) abolished.....	3
Ashbins abolished.....	82
Ashbins provided to new buildings.....	257

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

As in former years the inspection of factories was carried out and our activities were directed to cleanliness in non-mechanical factories and to sanitary accommodation and escape in case of fire in all factories. The following is a copy of the Annual Return submitted to the Ministry of Labour regarding the work under this heading:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>Notices Served</u>
Factories without mechanical power.	21	45	Nil
Factories with mechanical power.	128	247	Nil
Other premises.	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Nil</u>
Totals	<u>150</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>Nil</u>

Cases in which defects were found:-

<u>Defects</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Ref. to H.M.I.</u>	<u>Ref. by H.M.I.</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable	2	2	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	1	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>

Number of outworkers on register - 1

THEATRES AND CINEMAS

The town is served by six cinemas all of which are well maintained. The one theatre existing in the town has closed its doors. Whether this will be a temporary closure is not known. When it was in use, however, it was always found to be well maintained.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

The two common lodging houses are still existent in the district and both continue to cater for men only. They are visited regularly and have always been found to be extremely clean, well maintained and well managed.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

As in former years it has been necessary to exert constant vigilance over this form of dwelling. In spite of the improved housing conditions we continue to find individuals wanting to make permanent homes in so called moveable dwellings. As we are now taking action against the older colonies of van dwellers, it would be folly to permit the siting of new vans. All possible steps are taken to prevent the insidious creep in of this type of dwelling.

The travelling hawker again gave rise to difficult. It would seem that certain individuals have connection with the district and attempt repeatedly to establish themselves on certain sites with or without permission of the site owners. The conditions they create are a nuisance and unless firmly dealt with are difficult to remove. During the year the co-operation of both owners and the police force has prevented over-long visitations.

As in previous years travelling showmen used sites in the town as winter quarters in addition to visiting for the seasonal fairs. Whilst the vans and sites are always well maintained, local residents complain of the smoke from the van chimneys. This winter quartering may possibly call for closer supervision.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

There has been no change in our system during the year. Two rat catchers are employed full-time in the Department and we are thus able to carry out regular inspection and treatments. In all cases the methods and materials prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were employed and it would seem that this continuing vigilance has reduced the rat population very considerably. Infestations naturally occur and as in former years were found to be scattered throughout the whole of the district and to be varying in season. During the spring and summer the rat population appears to drift to the river bank and the agricultural lands, returning in the autumn to sewers and buildings.

Here treatments are called for and each winter sees the need for continuing the battle.

The town's sewers were treated and baited as in former years and whilst the results do not show serious infestation, they do show the value of regular and consistent treatment. If this were to be in any way restricted one cannot but believe that the rat population in the sewers would return to its former strength.

The service to domestic dwellings continues to be provided free of charge, but services rendered to business premises are still re-chargeable upon the owner or occupier. We continue to receive excellent co-operation from our townspeople and I am satisfied that this regular and systematic service is well worth its cost.

The Council continues to retain its membership of the Local Advisory Group and your officers attend the meetings.

Sewer Treatment

1955/56 Test Baiting.

No. of manholes baited.....	112
No. of clear takes.....	-
No. of part takes.....	10

1955/56 Maintenance Treatment I

No. of manholes baited.....	62
No. of clear takes.....	6
No. of part takes.....	12

1955/56 Maintenance Treatment II

No. of manholes baited.....	60
No. of clear takes.....	11
No. of part takes.....	10

Premises inspected and found infested during the 12 months ended 31st.March, 1956:-

<u>Property</u>	<u>Rats</u>		<u>Mice</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>		
Corporation Property	4	11	3	18
Business Premises	4	37	29	70
Dwelling Houses	3	131	39	173
Agricultural Property	-	1	-	1

No. of treatments:-

Corporation Property.....	60
Business Premises.....	98
Dwelling Houses.....	242
Farms.....	1
Total	391

	<u>No. of Properties Inspected.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>
Corporation Property	37	160
Business Premises	499	598
Dwelling Houses	1804	2386
Farms	12	30
Totals	2352	3174

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT

The inspection and supervision of premises storing petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures was carried out on a normal basis. Sixty-two premises are licensed to store, the licences authorising the storage of 129,806 gallons of petrol and 373,082 gallons of petroleum mixtures.

TOYS FOR RAGS

In former years I have commented on the activities of rag gatherers from outside the district visiting the schools within our area at dispersal times. During the past year there has been very little evidence of the existence of this practice and no proceedings were taken. Nevertheless the Department continues to keep an ever watchful eye on this form of trading.

MARINE STORE DEALERS

This trade continues to be well established in the area, five premises being registered. In addition to the staff of the Department, several police officers are authorised to act as officers under this section of the Act; consequently all premises are regularly visited.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There has been no change in this class of business and the premises registered comprise two gut scrapers, two tripe boilers, one fat melter, and two rag and bone dealers. All premises were visited and were found to be well maintained.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Again there is no change to report, three premises being registered under this Act and all of which are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

As in previous years the registration provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951 have been applied and 51 premises are now registered under this section.

RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

As in former years one premises in the town is used for upholstering work and is registered accordingly. There are no factories actually preparing rag flock.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTION 50.

I continue to be the authorised officer of the Local Authority for this section of the Act. During the year enquiries were made concerning the interment of certain persons, but it was not necessary for the Local Authority to undertake responsibility for the burial.

MORTUARIES

Our needs continue to be served by the two mortuaries at Cinder Lane and Glass Houghton and whilst every effort is made to maintain them in the best possible condition, the fact remains that they are extremely limited in capacity and are devoid of the ancillaries which modern practice demands. I would again urge, most strongly, that a new central mortuary be provided complete with refrigerated storage accommodation and post-mortem room and other necessary facilities.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES FOUND

	<u>Informal</u>	and	<u>Formal Action</u>
Nuisances found in 1955....	525		181
Nuisances left over from 1954	225		107
Total requiring abatement..	750		288
Abated during 1955.....	570		229
Outstanding at end of 1955.	180		59

PUBLIC CLEANSING

As in former years this section of the report covers the work of refuse collection and disposal, street cleansing and public conveniences. All the figures refer to the financial year ended 31st.March, 1956.

This very vital health service was maintained throughout the year on a fairly normal basis, although difficulties were experienced from one cause and another. Not the least important of these was the variability of the English weather. In the summer months of June, July and August, so warm was the weather that space heating of dwellings was unnecessary, fires were eliminated with a resultant depreciation in the ash content of our refuse, causing in turn difficulties at our disposal tips. Although some seasonal variation always occurs in the composition of our refuse, it does not usually have such marked effect. The hot summer was later followed by a rather severe winter. Although the snowfall was not unduly heavy at any one time, the repeated falls occurring as they did during the long periods of low temperature caused gritting and cleaning to be a very regular feature. These practical difficulties were surmounted only by using the whole of the resources of the Department as occasion demanded, and the year, I feel, shows the advantage of a comprehensive cleansing service; its mobility and flexibility are invaluable in times of stress. This point was further emphasised by the difficulty experienced in maintaining adequate and suitable staff. Manpower changes occurred with great frequency during the year, and whilst we have many on the outdoor staff with long years of service and who remain loyally with the Council, they can only be supported by a changing minority. Enquiries show that the earnings available in this class of work do not compare with wage rates in industry and newcomers are quick to appreciate this and consequently take the first opportunity of moving to increase their earnings. Even the wage increases granted during the year failed to stop this drift.

As in former years increase in wage rates and material costs occurred, increasing in turn the overall cost of the service. It is a condition general to the country and consequently has to be regarded as inevitable.

Refuse Collection. As in former years this was based on a once weekly collection with the Department working a five day week from March to October and five and a half day week from November to February. The steady growth of the Ferry Fryston Estate has necessitated an extension of the service, and the vehicles engaged now comprise two Dennis Paxit rear loaders, two Karrier C.K.3 side loaders, one Karrier Gamecock side loader, two Karrier Bantam side loaders and one Morrison Electricar, this latter being engaged solely on the collection from shop property.

The quantity and weight of refuse to be removed continues to be generally high in relation to our population, and we are still afflicted with the dross deposits from miners loads of coal. I have referred to this in past reports and the problem remains unchanged. Suffice it is to say that the depositing of this material on the verges and at the kerbsides of our housing schemes creates a most unsightly appearance.

A feature of note has been the deterioration of ashbins. In this area the heavy nature of our refuse, plus the quantity, throws great strain on these portable containers, and their life is comparatively short. The cost of renewal is another item in the repair and maintenance of property and owners are reluctant to provide new dustbins until not only are the existing ones worn out, but they in turn are threatened by legal action from the Department. A damaged or collapsed bin not only fails to act as a hygienic holder of waste material, but becomes a threat to the person and clothing of the men engaged on collection work. One very disappointing feature of the year was the levying of purchase tax on these indispensable pieces of apparatus which added materially to our renewal difficulties. By no stretch of imagination can one consider an ashbin as a luxury and one wishes that such influence could be brought to bear on central government which would get the tax remitted.

In the light of our experiences there appears to be a growing case for Municipal ownership of ashbins. The Corporation is now responsible as owner for about one quarter of the ashbins in the district. These are maintained by the Department and a good standard is secured. This in turn exposes the low standard and difficulty of replacement in many privately owned houses. If the Council was to accept responsibility for ashbin maintenance, even taking advantage of the right to make an annual charge, the standard achieved at Council houses could become general throughout the district. I would urge the Council to give serious thought to this possibility, which would not only improve the amenities but would also aid the economies of refuse collection.

Controlled Tipping. This naturally remains our main means of disposal, some 95% of our refuse being so dealt with. During the early part of the summer the Destructor was put out of action and for a period all refuse was dealt with at the various tips. This added to our difficulties. The warm summer weather, combined with the high organic content of the refuse gave rise to abnormal odour and to insect pests and particular care was taken to secure the best possible cover for refuse and to treat all tips with chemical sprays. This work is reflected in the expenditure for the year.

At the Redhill Drive tip filling of the old limestone quarry proceeded steadily and a considerable area was brought up to finished level. This tip still retains some of its cricket population, although not to the same extent as the previous year. Despite continuous treatment and winter temperatures, these pests manage to survive from one summer to the next to cause some irritation on the fringes of the tip.

At Oxford Street the work of filling the old clay quarry was completed and the area turned over to the owner for his usage. This work has taken several years and has produced its varying of drifting paper, obnoxious gases from the water content and some insect nuisance, but despite all these the work is undoubtedly worthwhile. There has been removed from a small centre of population a danger point of considerable magnitude.

At Three Lane Ends a considerable area of stripped land was filled in and raised in level, so much so that it justified the hiring of a tractor scraper to deal with surface covering. An adjoining area was stripped ready for filling and the soil spread over the filled in area, this being augmented by further supplies from the stockpile. Two small areas still remain at this site and would have been quickly completed but for the withdrawal of work to enable us to assist in lagoon construction at the Wheldale Sewage Works.

At the Healdfield Quarry the owners had considerably reduced the water present and work of tipping was commenced. An access road was established to the quarry bottom and a certain degree of filling achieved when summer conditions, including a serious outbreak of fire, caused the work to be suspended. It was resumed later in the year and continues. This quarry should give several years disposal facilities and like other similar projects will, when complete, convert a potential dangerous spot to a useful site.

Destructor. As previously stated the destructor at Wheldon Road was put out of action by an explosion in the flues, which destroyed part of the flue system and also damaged the furnace itself. For a period the material normally dealt with by incineration was sent to various tips, but gave rise to difficulties. In order to try and meet the position an experiment was made with the former boiler chimney at Cinder Lane. The flues were opened up and a suitable burning chamber constructed from sections of a former air raid shelter. By the process of trial and error this improvisation produced a reasonably efficient chamber, but of limited capacity. The problem arose then of the future of the destructor, the point at issue being repair at Wheldon Road or transfer to Cinder Lane. At the year end this had not been resolved.

The experience has, however, proved the need for means of incineration. Although the bulk of our refuse can be disposed of by tipping there is a certain proportion demanding incineration and the existence of at least one cell is imperative. I cannot but feel that the Cinder Lane offers both the better site and the better chimney for the purpose.

Salvage. The separation, baling and sale of waste paper and cardboard once again played an important part in our disposal arrangements. 624 tons of paper worth £5169 were despatched to the mills, whilst 26 tons of scrap metal worth £66 were sold to dealers. The income derived from this activity shows a profit over expenditure and greatly helps our disposal costs. The bonus scheme operating in connection with waste paper collection again proved an incentive to the men and is, I feel reflected in the increased tonnage figure.

The following statistical information will be found of interest.

Collection. Refuse collected during the year was as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts
Ashbins (estimated weight)	20,324	5
Ashpits (dry) " "	460	10
Ashpits (wet) " "	24	-
Shop Refuse and Salvage. " "	680	6
Total	21,489	1

The gross cost of this service was £21,483.

In addition the Department removed 163 tons 7 cwts of refuse from the Market premises, the cost of which was borne by the Markets Committee.

As in previous years tradespeople and others conveyed material to the destructor and to the tips. That to the destructor was estimated at 85 tons 3 cwts, but that to the tips was not ascertainable.

The emptying of cesspools was carried out as required and it is estimated that 3955 tons 10 cwts of sewage was so removed at a cost of £755.

Tips. Materials disposed of at the tips were as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts
Ashbins	20,324	5
Ashpits (dry)	460	10
Ashpits (wet)	24	0
Destructor Waste	114	7
Street Sweepings	1765	4
Gully Cleansing	887	0
Total	23,575	6

Destructor.

Shop Refuse	152	15
Market	163	7
General Trade Waste	85	3
Total	401	5

Materials salvaged during the year were as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts	£
Waste Paper	624	0	5169
Scrap Metal	26	0	66

The gross expenditure on disposal was £8302, but with the income from salvage and trade refuse of £5264 this was reduced to a net figure of £3038.

Street Cleansing. During the year a number of streets on the Ferry Fryston Estate were incorporated in the street cleansing service and it is now estimated that we cover some 48 miles of road and some 8300 street gullies.

Street sweeping continues to be partly manual and partly mechanical. Two mechanical sweeper collectors are engaged whole-time, mainly on open traffic roads, but with occasional use in side streets. Both have been in operation several years; one in particular shows excessive wear. As its performance often leaves much to be desired, it is hoped to replace it in the near future and during the year demonstrations were witnessed from makers of various types of machine.

The staff of manual sweepers numbers 13, some operating on the gang system and some on the beat. During the year a second pedestrian controlled electrically propelled orderly cart was put into commission and we have now two gangs each of three men working with this type of appliance.

Particular attention is still paid to the centre of the town where the shopping and side streets are swept every day between 7-0 a.m. and 9-0 a.m.

During the year there was a noticeable increase in the amount of litter strewn over the streets and it is a sad admission that despite widespread publicity, our townspeople remain quite indifferent to the untidy appearance (and increased costs) created by the depositing of cigarette cartons, papers, and general litter into the streets and footpaths.

Street gullies continue to be cleansed by our two vacuum gully emptier machines. These also undertake many other duties and with the growing demands on their services the two machines have proved inadequate. A third machine has been ordered, but was not in commission at the year end. Its services are now much needed.

The hot summer again made street washing something of a necessity and the sluicing of carriageways with water containing disinfectant was much appreciated in the shopping centre.

This review could not be complete without some extensive reference to winter operations. From shortly before Christmas until mid-March we were required to either grit the road surfaces against frost or alternatively thaw out and remove snow. As in former years the working habits of the area necessitated care and attention from 4-0 a.m. until midnight, and a gritting service was maintained on this basis. At the commencement of the autumn the Department purchased four trailer gritters of the spinner type and these used in conjunction with the three existing trough type gritters gave excellent service. As in former years refuse collection gangs were employed, particularly first thing in the morning, and we were able to employ six to eight gangs simultaneously. On several occasions night gangs were in operation and proved most successful. Our gritting material varied from sharp quartzite to a mixture of sand and ashes, both with the addition of a proportion of salt, the combination giving excellent results.

The various snowfalls were dealt with expeditiously by using ploughs for removal and salt (with sand and grit) for thawing purposes. Once again the whole of the staff was mobilised for the purpose and was augmented by men and vehicles from the Highways Department, the Parks Department, the Housing Direct Works Department, local building contractors, road hauliers and highway contractors. By the use of all possible aids and by working long hours we were able to maintain the roads in good condition. These conditions throw great strain on the Department and particularly on the men, so many of whom are prepared to work long hours with little rest. The thanks and compliments of the townspeople frequently received indicate that our efforts are well worthwhile and well appreciated.

Cost Statement 1955/56.

(a) Refuse Collection and Disposal

Item	Particulars	Collection	Disposal	Totals	% of total gross expenditure
	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>	£	£	£	%
1	<u>GROSS EXPENDITURE</u>				
	(i) Labour	12816	6490	19036	64.8
	(ii) Transport	8654	795	9449	31.7
	(iii) Plant, etc.	13	1017	1030	3.5
	(iv) Other Items	-	-	-	-
	(v) Total Gross expenditure	21483	8302	29785	100
2	GROSS INCOME (including £.... received from other local authorities.	60	5264	5324	-
3	NET COST	21423	3038	24461	-
4	Capital Expenditure met from revenue (included above)	-	-	-	-
	<u>UNIT COSTS</u>	s d	s d	s d	
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only.	11. 11	6. 0	17. 11	
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only.	8. 1	8½	8. 9½	
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton.	19. 11	2. 10	22. 9	
		£	£	£	
8	Net cost per 1000 population.	511	73	584	
9	Net cost per 1000 premises.	1527	217	1744	

(b) Street Cleansing.

Item	Particulars	Street Sweeping and Watering	Street gully Cleansing	Total	% of total gross expend- iture
	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>	£	£	£	%
1	<u>GROSS EXPENDITURE</u>				
	(i) Labour	6067	269	6336	58.97
	(ii) Transport	3536	617	4153	38.65
	(iii) Plant, etc.	254	2	256	2.38
	(iv) Other Items.	-	-	-	-
	(v) Total gross expenditure	9857	888	10745	100
2	GROSS INCOME (excluding reimburse ments from Ministry of Transport and the County Council.	-	-	-	-
3	NET COST	9857	888	10745	-
4	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE met from revenue (included above)	-	-	-	-
5	GROSS EXPENDITURE on snow clearance not included previously.	6237	-	-	-
6	<u>UNIT COSTS</u> Net Cost (per street mile cleansed).	s d 27. 10			
7	Net cost per 1000 gullies cleansed.	£	£ 107	£	
8	Net cost per 1000 population.	235	21	256	

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The accommodation provided in the town remained the same during the year. At Bradley Street the women's section is provided with an attendant who is responsible for cleaning and supervision at the weekends and at certain hours during the week, whilst the men's accommodation is cleansed each morning and evening, but has no permanent attendant.

In other parts of the town urinal accommodation is provided for men at Wheldon Road, Bridge Foot, Carlton Street, Cambridge Street, Whitwood Mere and Glass Houghton.

Accommodation is provided for both males and females at Airedale in the grounds of the Airedale Hotel.

The need continues for additional accommodation, and I would again urge the commencement of a programme to deal with this.

STAFF

Deputy Sanitary Inspector -	Mr.J.Rooke
Additional Sanitary Inspectors:	Mr.A.J.Lindsay - to 31.10.55
	Mr.J.F.Ellison - from 2.5.56
	Mr.J.H.Cooper - from 18.4.56
Technical Assistants:	Mr.J.D.Hill
	Mr.H.Burton
Clerks:	Miss D.J.Lane
	Mrs J.Chappell
	Miss V.A.Davison

CONCLUSION

In conclusion I would again express to the Council my appreciation and again thank my colleagues in all Departments for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

To the staff of the Department, both indoor and outdoor, I would express thanks for the loyal assistance given at all times, and particularly in times of stress. To my Deputy, Mr.Rooke, I would give particular thanks for his assistance through the year and in the preparation of this report, and to Miss D.J.Lane, senior member of the clerical staff, for the lead given in the routine work of the Department.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

E.J.WINFIELD

Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

Sanitary Department,
Cinder Lane,
Castleford.
30th.August,1956.

The accommodations provided in the town remained the same during the year. An auxiliary street car service was provided with an attendant who is responsible for cleaning and supervision of the vehicles and at certain points during the week, while the main accommodation is cleaned and maintained and evening, but no permanent attendant.

In some cases of the town, initial accommodation is provided for men at Madison Road, Bridge Road, Carleton Street, Cambridge Street, Windsor Road and Elms Road.

Accommodation is provided for both males and females at all times in the grounds of the Alameda Hotel.

The need continues for additional accommodation, and I would again urge the commencement of a program to deal with this.

STAFF

Deputy Sanitary Inspector - Mr. J. H. Jones
Additional Sanitary Inspectors: Mr. A. J. Lindsay - to \$1.10.55
Mr. J. T. Wilson - from \$1.0.55
Mr. J. M. Cooper - from \$1.0.55
Technical Assistant: Mr. J. E. Hill
Mr. J. Wilson

Clerical

Miss D. J. Lane
Mrs. J. H. Jones
Miss V. A. Davidson

CONCLUSION

In conclusion I would again express to the Council my appreciation and again thank the various health departments for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

To the staff of the Department, both health and sanitary, I would express thanks for the loyal assistance given at all times and particularly in times of stress. To my Deputy, Mr. J. H. Jones, I would give particular thanks for his assistance throughout the year and in the preparation of this report. To Mr. J. E. Hill, senior member of the clerical staff, for the lead given in the routine work of the Department.

I wish to remain,

Your obedient servant,

E. J. WILSON

Sanitary Inspector and
Chief Sanitary Officer

Sanitary Department,
City of London,
England.
November 1955.



