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County Borough of Halifax
Health Department

Annual Report
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE BOROUGH
FOR THE YEAR 1956

GEORGE C. F. ROE
M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M., D.P.H., D.P.M.
Medical Officer of Health





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Health Department

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GEORGE C. F. ROE
M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M., D.P.H., D.P.M.
Medical Officer of Health

Health Committee

(as on December 31st, 1956)

MAYOR

Alderman F. H. SWIRE

Chairman: Councillor FRANCIS O'ROURKE.

Vice-Chairman: Alderman F. H. SWIRE.

Alderman E. O. BOWER.

Councillors.

E. C. ASTIN
J. R. AUSTIN
A. BERRY
T. BERRY
L. CHAPMAN
J. CHARNOCK

S. HOLLAND
LAURA A. MAWSON
A. OAKES
J. RAFFERTY
C. G. STREETER
H. WOODHEAD

Sub-Committees

Appointed by the Health Committee

Accounts Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Councillor T. BERRY

Councillor HOLLAND
Councillor OAKES

Sanitary Services Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Alderman BOWER
Councillor ASTIN
Councillor AUSTIN

Councillor CHAPMAN
Councillor CHARNOCK
Councillor HOLLAND
Councillor RAFFERTY
Councillor WOODHEAD

Maternal and Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Councillor AUSTIN
Councillor CHAPMAN
Councillor HOLLAND
Councillor MAWSON

Councillor OAKES
Councillor STREETER
Councillor WOODHEAD
Mrs. DORA I. GREENWOOD
Mrs. GLADYS PICKLES
Mrs. DORIS RHODES

Mental Health Services Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Councillor ASTIN
Councillor A. BERRY

Councillor HOLLAND
Councillor MAWSON
Councillor WOODHEAD

Staff of the Health Department

(as on December 31st, 1956)

Medical Officer of Health.

GEORGE C. F. ROE, M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M., D.P.H., D.P.M.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health.

MARJORIE SMITH WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer,
Maternal and Child Welfare.

MARY TOWNSEND, M.B., B.S., D.C.W., M.R.C.P.
Medical Officer, M.C.W.

Public Analyst.

R. MALLINDER, B.Sc., F.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

H. MARGERISON, M.R.San.I.

Meat and Foods Inspector.

G. A. WOODHEAD.

Lay Administrative Officer.

H. HUDSON.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

H. LEAPER.

District Public Health Inspectors.

F. BURKE.

A. LUM.

J. E. BANKS.

Pupils: T. ASHWORTH and A. SUTCLIFFE.

Housing Inspector.

F. BURTON.

Clerical Staff.

N. BRADLEY.	H. WRIGHT—Senior Clerk	
(Sanitary Section)	E. I. DAVIS.	K. RYDER.
Miss C. BOOTH.	Mrs. E. A. SUNDERLAND.	Mrs. G. BOTTOMLEY.
Miss B. L. MITCHELL.	A. R. PASS.	(Housing Section)
(M. and C.W. Centre)	(Junior Clerk)	Mrs. H. GREENWOOD.
		E. W. PRIESTLEY.
		(Junior Clerk)

Rodent Control.

Senior Rodent Operative—J. T. O'NEIL.

Rodent Operative—R. GARFORTH.

Mental Health Service.

Senior Authorised Officer—S. PARKINSON.
Duly Authorised Officer—L. HOLDSWORTH.

Occupation Centre.

Supervisor—Miss L. BALL.
Three Assistant Supervisors.

Domestic Help Organiser.

Miss J. WILEY.

Ambulance Service.

Ambulance Officer—W. FITTON.
4 Shift Leaders. 16 Driver/Attendants. 2 Switchboard Attendants.

Maternal and Child Welfare.

Superintendent Health Visitor:
Miss V. GRAY.

Health Visitors.

Miss S. E. BRIGGS.	Miss P. VAUGHAN.
Miss N. DINGSDALE.	Mrs. M. WHITELEY.
Miss D. V. STAMPER.	Mrs. E. J. KITCHING.
Miss I. HOLDSWORTH.	Miss P. W. BLANCH.
	Miss P. BENSON.

Clinic Nurses.

Miss J. MARTIN. Mrs. M. WINSTANLEY.

Day Nurseries.

Craigie Lea Day Nursery, Ovenden—
Matron: Mrs. M. R. WILSON.

Ling Bob Day Nursery, Pellon—
Matron: Miss M. GOODWIN.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF HALIFAX

Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR 1956

INTRODUCTION

To the Chairman and

Members of the Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present herewith the Annual Report upon the health of Halifax for the year 1956. The report is the eighty-fourth of the series. It is planned in sections so that the details of any specific service may be readily obtained.

The following table shows the chief Vital and Mortal Statistics for the period under review compared with 1955.

YEAR	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	Mat. Death Rate	No. of Still Births	No. of Illeg. Births	P.T. D.R.	Cancer D.R.
1955 ...	14.29	15.73	21.69	.70	28	93	.15	2.61
1956 ...	15.99	15.50	23.98	.63	34	93	.13	2.22

The number of live births in Halifax in 1955 was 1,383.

In 1956 the number was 1,543.

The major causes of death were as follows:—

No. of deaths from Heart Diseases ...	519 (520 in 1955)
No. of deaths from Cancer ...	214 (253 in 1955)
No. of deaths from Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	316 (282 in 1955)
No. of deaths from Coronary Thrombosis ...	250 (264 in 1955)
No. of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	13 (15 in 1955)

The incidence of infectious diseases was low.

The number of new cases of poliomyelitis was 3 (4 in 1955)

There were no deaths from poliomyelitis.

The incidence of poliomyelitis in Halifax since 1947 was as follows:—

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
6	1	7	3	10	2	3	2	4	3

Cancer causes more than 100,000 deaths in England and Wales each year. That the death rate from cancer has greatly increased in the past 30 years is undoubted but some of this increase may be due

to better diagnosis and more careful death certification. Many deaths which, last century were attributed to intestinal obstruction and jaundice were probably caused by cancer. The increase in cancer has been mostly with respect to cancers of inaccessible parts of the body. Our ignorance of the primary cause (or causes) of cancer is almost completely unrelieved. The theory that cancer is caused by a virus is still only a theory. Cancer is not an infectious disease. Reports of the existence of cancer houses in which many people are stated to have died from cancer, when found to be true, do not establish that cancer is infectious. By the operation of chance some houses in a town may have four or five cancer deaths in a period of 20 to 30 years, while other houses have none. But possibly about as many houses in the town, within the same period, will have had four or five births or marriages, events which are not regarded as infectious.

Heredity may play some part in rendering certain people more prone to develop cancer than others. It is a theory that deserves careful consideration. Apart from precautions to prevent contact of the body (including the lungs and food tract) with carcinogenic (cancer producing) substances, we can do little to prevent cancer. Certain types of cancer are curable in their early stages. Research is very busy with the extremely complex problem of cancer. The day may yet come when arteriosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) senility and accidents will be the universal terminations of life. To-day too many people die from a few diseases (cancer, heart and arterial diseases) before reaching old age. Old age demands a high degree of mental and physical adjustments. If the old are able to make the best use of their failing powers of body and mind, some kind of suitable work should occupy every person up to the threshold of the end.

Lung cancer statistics continue to show a steady increase. Statistically, cigarette smokers have a significantly higher mortality from bronchial carcinoma. Cancer of the bronchus is by far the commonest intra-thoracic new growth. It affects males about six times more often than females, particularly in the 40 to 50 age group, though it may occur in younger persons. Some research workers have suggested a relationship between atmospheric pollution and carcinoma of the bronchus. They point out that city dwellers have a greater chance of developing the disease than those who live in the country. On the other hand, experimental work designed to produce lung tumours in animals has so far been negative. The main symptoms of bronchial carcinoma are cough, sputum, "spitting of blood," pain, shortness of breath and loss of weight. It must, however, be remembered that a patient may be free of symptoms in the early stages of the disease. Diagnosis and treatment are matters for one's doctor. I suggest that there is more than one factor operating in the ætiology of cancer. It is well known that some people have a special liability to certain diseases probably due to genetic constitution. These problems are—for the doctor and research worker—fascinating subjects and, it is gratify-

ing to know that research workers are busy with them. In fact, one visualises the day when the cause (or causes) of cancer may be discovered.

We live in an industrial area and it is perturbing to find that mortality statistics with respect to pulmonary diseases are much higher than in a residential area. It is time that we realised that clean air is at least as important as clean water. There are too many people suffering from bronchitis in our industrial areas. Clean air would reduce the incidence of bronchitis. Also smoke and fog have a depressing effect on our minds. It would need a medical Dickens to adequately describe the condition of the air we have to breathe in an industrial town on a foggy day. Atmospheric pollution presents a challenge to modern social medicine.

I would like to direct your attention to section 2 of the report. Mental Health is going to be the greatest challenge to the Public Health service of the future. The need will be for a preventive policy.

The Halifax Crematorium was opened in November. Towards the end of the year we were checking and signing documents relating to about forty cremations a week.

I wish to again thank the staff of the Public Health Department for the zeal, energy and loyalty which they have one and all displayed during the year.

Also I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee who have always supported me in our common endeavour to be of service to the people of Halifax.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

G. C. F. ROE,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION 1

Statistics

Latitude	53° 44' North.				
Longitude	1° 50' West.				
Mean Height above sea level	...	...	...	...	780
Area in acres	...	...	...	...	14,081
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	98,115
(Males 44,600. Female 53,515.)					
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	98,376
(Males 45,487. Females 52,889.)					
Population (Mid-year, 1956)	...	...	...	...	96,440
(Registrar General's Figures)					
Density of population per acre	...	...	...	...	6.85
Number of inhabited houses (1931 Census)	...	...	...	...	28,488
Number of houses according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	34,162
(31st December, 1956)					
Average number of persons to each occupied house	...	...	...	...	2.23
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1956	...	...	...	...	£1,035,494
Estimated product of a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£4,000

Summary of Vital Statistics

Number of Live Births (R.G's figures)	...	...	Total	1,543
Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	15.99
Number of Stillbirths (R.G's figures)	...	...	Total	34
Rate per 1,000 Total Births	...	...	...	21.56
Number of Deaths (R.G's figures)	M 757	F 738	Total	1,495
Deathrate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	15.50
Infantile Deaths (R.G's figures)				
Deaths of children under one year of age	M 25	F 12		37
Infantile Deathrate per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	23.98
Phthisis deathrate	...	...	...	.13
Deathrate from other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	.00
Tuberculosis deathrate (all forms)	...	...	...	.13
Deathrate from Cancer	...	...	...	2.22

Summary of Deaths.

(Based on the Registrar General's "Short List" of causes of death.)

Cause of Death						M	F	Total
Tuberculis, respiratory						9	4	13
" other forms						—	—	—
Syphilitic disease						1	1	2
Diphtheria						—	—	—
Whooping Cough						—	—	—
Meningococcal infection						—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis						—	—	—
Measles						—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases						—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm—Stomach						19	21	40
" " Lung, Bronchus						35	6	41
" " Breast						1	16	17
" " Uterus						—	12	12
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms						63	41	104
Leukaemia, aleukaemia						3	2	5
Diabetes						5	5	10
Vascular lesions of nervous system						124	192	316
Coronary disease, angina						137	113	250
Hypertension with heart disease						20	11	31
Other heart disease						97	141	238
Other circulatory disease						16	33	49
Influenza						1	—	—
Pneumonia						26	30	56
Bronchitis						70	15	85
Other diseases of respiratory system						8	4	12
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum						7	5	12
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea						7	4	11
Nephritis and Nephrosis						7	6	13
Hyperplasia of prostate						14	—	14
Pregnancy, child birth, abortion						—	1	1
Congenital malformations						9	1	10
Other defined and ill-defined diseases						47	42	89
Motor vehicle accidents						10	1	11
All other accidents						12	27	39
Suicide						9	4	13
Homicide and operations of war						—	—	—
Total						757	738	1495

	Year	Birthrate per 1,000 Total Population	Annual Deathrate per 1,000 Population						Rate per 1,000 Births	
			All Causes	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid	Small-Pox	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years)	DEATHS under one year
England and Wales	1956	15.7	11.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	23.8
HALIFAX	1947	19.9	14.8	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03	5.8	42
	1948	17.7	13.8	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	5.3	29
	1949	16.5	15.4	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.12	1.8	33
	1950	15.9	14.8	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.07	1.3	39
	1951	15.5	15.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.0	28.3
	1952	14.39	14.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.0	27.14
	1953	14.57	15.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.0	29.70
	1954	14.60	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.7	33.05
	1955	14.29	15.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.7	21.69
	1956	15.99	15.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.3	23.98

Vital and Mortal Statistics for Halifax during the last 21 years.

Year	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate	Tuberculosis (all forms)		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Typhoid and Para-typhoid		Cerebro Spinal Fever		Poliomyelitis	
				New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
1936	15.2	68	7.02	206	75	206	12	136	nil	3	nil	2	2	1	nil
1937	14.6	63	2.39	135	38	164	5	162	nil	1	nil	5	5	nil	nil
1938	14.1	57	2.92	165	55	155	6	145	nil	nil	nil	3	1	1	nil
1939	15.3	60	4.4	135	65	129	5	184	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	2	nil
1940	15.6	45	8.8	118	51	311	15	166	nil	3	1	31	9	2	nil
1941	15.7	65	1.5	111	60	230	12	97	nil	nil	nil	16	3	2	nil
1942	14.6	56	3.4	113	56	196	5	669	nil	1	nil	9	4	nil	nil
1943	15.4	50	1.9	123	68	127	4	411	nil	2	2	nil	2	5	nil
1944	14.5	38	2.3	156	54	118	4	481	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	2	nil
1945	16.1	42	2.0	110	53	92	5	173	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1946	14.4	31	1.1	69	41	17	nil	74	nil	73	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
1947	14.8	42	0.52	87	44	21	2	84	nil	2	1	3	1	6	1
1948	13.8	29	0.58	61	32	9	nil	161	nil	•1	nil	2	1	1	1
1949	15.4	33	0.50	77	32	8	nil	222	nil	nil	nil	1	1	7	3
1950	14.8	39	1.23	85	29	1	nil	293	nil	3	nil	nil	nil	3	nil
1951	15.2	28	0.00	179	30	nil	nil	123	nil	15	nil	nil	nil	10	nil
1952	14.1	27	0.69	107	19	nil	nil	119	nil	2	nil	nil	nil	2	nil
1953	15.2	30	0.00	122	22	nil	nil	88	nil	3	nil	nil	nil	3	nil
1954	15.0	33.05	1.38	121	19	nil	nil	90	nil	nil	nil	1	nil	2	nil
1955	15.7	21.69	0.70	105	16	nil	nil	215	nil	1	nil	nil	nil	4	nil
1956	15.5	23.98	0.63	82	13	nil	nil	150	nil	2	nil	nil	nil	3	nil

*Transferred

Vital and Mortal Statistics for Halifax during the last 21 years (continued).

Year	Pneumonia		Whooping Cough		Smallpox		Cancer Deaths	Heart Diseases Deaths	Cerebral Hæmorrhage Deaths
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths			
1936	91	74	nil	4	nil	nil	193	448	74
1937	115	77	nil	2	nil	nil	178	424	73
1938	164	58	nil	nil	nil	nil	186	419	77
1939	182	59	2	2	nil	nil	193	449	89
1940	156	57	185	2	nil	nil	187	408	232
1941	188	66	240	3	nil	nil	235	381	179
1942	226	61	174	nil	nil	nil	216	374	164
1943	236	55	211	4	nil	nil	205	374	179
1944	124	38	201	3	nil	nil	177	366	199
1945	103	43	133	2	nil	nil	219	398	237
1946	69	35	153	2	nil	nil	206	464	182
1947	67	37	237	1	nil	nil	214	455	188
1948	62	39	295	1	nil	nil	206	415	213
1949	85	71	92	1	nil	nil	241	471	203
1950	59	43	374	1	nil	nil	239	505	208
1951	73	49	145	nil	nil	nil	211	468	231
1952	41	30	153	nil	nil	nil	230	454	238
1953	54	65	154	nil	4	nil	261	451	239
1954	23	46	72	nil	nil	nil	244	499	238
1955	80	38	111	nil	nil	nil	253	520	282
1956	71	56	152	nil	nil	nil	214	519	316

Table showing comparative yearly Vital and Mortal Statistics from 1947 to 1956 inclusive.

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Venereal Diseases		Pneumonia	
					New Cases	Death-rate	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	New Cases	Deaths
1947	19.9	14.8	42	0.5	72	.40	95	130	67	37
1948	17.7	13.8	29	0.5	61	.33	70	73	62	39
1949	16.5	15.4	33	0.5	64	.29	48	66	85	71
1950	15.9	14.8	39	1.2	85	.26	40	44	59	43
1951	15.5	15.2	28	nil	162	.30	31	8	73	49
1952	14.4	14.1	27	0.7	99	.17	21	16	41	30
1953	14.6	15.2	29	nil	111	.21	23	30	54	65
1954	14.6	15.0	33	1.4	113	.18	21	25	23	46
1955	14.29	15.7	21.69	0.7	94	.15	10	20	80	38
1956	15.99	15.5	23.98	0.63	77	.13	13	26	71	56

Year	Deaths from Heart Disease	Deaths from Cancer	Deaths from Cerebral Haemorrhage	Deaths from Diabetes	Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever	
					New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
1947	455	214	188	14	21	2	84	nil
1948	415	206	213	13	9	nil	161	nil
1949	471	241	203	8	8	nil	222	nil
1950	505	239	208	9	1	nil	293	nil
1951	468	211	231	14	nil	nil	123	nil
1952	454	230	238	13	nil	nil	119	nil
1953	451	261	239	11	nil	nil	88	nil
1954	499	244	238	13	nil	nil	90	nil
1955	520	253	282	18	nil	nil	215	nil
1956	519	214	316	10	nil	nil	150	nil

Notification.

The following Table shows the number of notifications of infectious disease received during the year:—

Disease	Number	
	Notified	Confirmed
Smallpox	—	—
Dysentry	68	63
Food Poisoning	1	1
Typhoid Fever and Enteric Fever	2	2
Para-Typhoid	—	—
Scarlet Fever	150	150
Malaria	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	13	13
Erysipelas	6	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
Measles	37	37
Whooping Cough	152	152
Pneumonia—Primary-Influenzal	71	71
Meningococcal Infection	1	1
Tuberculosis—		
Respiratory	77	77
Other Forms	5	5
Total	599	594

Road Traffic Accidents.

During the year 1,057 reports of road accidents were received by the Police and 10 deaths were attributable to such accidents. The following table affords a comparison with the number of fatal accidents occurring in previous years:—

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Police Report	12	7	12	7	7	14	6	9	12
R.G.'s. Report for after adjustment Transfers	—	10	14	10	8	14	6	10	11

Sickness Figures.

The figures shown below represent the number of first sickness certificates submitted to the local insurance office by the working population in Halifax:—

1956		
Jan.	10—416	Aug. 7—242
"	17—460	" 14—282
"	24—477	" 21—254
"	31—456	" 28—226
Feb.	7—572	Sept. 4—245
"	14—700	" 11—197
"	21—578	" 18—248
"	28—484	" 25—308
Mar.	6—428	Oct. 2—305
"	13—322	" 9—310
"	20—350	" 16—269
"	27—301	" 23—323
Apr.	3—194	" 30—291
"	10—284	Nov. 6—324
"	17—300	" 13—327
"	24—286	" 20—300
May	1—287	" 27—323
"	8—301	Dec. 4—312
"	15—265	" 11—282
"	22—185	" 18—206
"	29—251	" 25—
June	5—246	549
"	12—236	Jan. 1—
"	19—236	_____
"	26—237	15,921
July	3—221	_____
"	10—216	
"	17—150	
"	24—122	
"	31—237	

Average Weekly — 306.

The Growth of the Borough of Halifax.

Year	Population	Note
1848	40,000	Borough Incorporated.
1861	51,937	
1871	65,510	
1881	63,360	
1891	82,864	
1892	83,364	Borough extended by the additions of Ovenden and Illingworth Wards.
1899	90,934	
1900	96,684	Borough extended by the addition of Copley Ward.
1901	104,936	
1911	101,566	Borough extended by the additions of Warley end Northowram Wards.
1921	100,700	
1931	98,115	
1945	89,390	
1946	93,280	
1947	94,580	Mid-year density of population per acre 6.3
1948	96,420	
1949	97,820	
1950	98,840	
1951	97,490	Mid-year density of population per acre 6.9.
1952	97,320	
1953	97,070	ditto
1954	97,130	ditto
1955	96,870	6.88
1956	96,440	6.85

SECTION 2

National Health Service Act, 1946

Section 22. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Section 23. MIDWIFERY.

Section 24. HEALTH VISITING.

Section 25. HOME NURSING.

Section 26. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Section 27. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

Section 28. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

Section 29. DOMESTIC HELP.

Section 51. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SECTION.

I am indebted to Dr. M. Smith-Wilson for the following report:—

It is disappointing to report that the infant mortality rate for Halifax rose again from 21.69 per 1,000 live births in 1955 to 23.98 per 1,000 live births in 1956, the rate for England and Wales being 23.8. As in previous years, prematurity accounted for the largest number of deaths which occurred in infants during the first month of life. Of these, 6 occurred within 24 hours of birth, 2 between the ages of one day and one week, and 1 between the ages of one week and one month. Prematurity was not a cause of death among the 14 infants who lived for one month but died before reaching their first birthday. This is encouraging and seems to suggest that effort directed towards the care of those premature babies who survive the first month of life is reaping some reward.

As in previous years, broncho-pneumonia accounted for the second largest group of neo-natal deaths and for half of the total number of deaths between the ages of one month and one year.

There was 1 maternal death in 1956 which is the same as the figure for 1955.

Selective visiting in connection with delicate babies, special cases and problem families, was intensified during the year and it is gratifying that an increasing number of general practitioners asked for the services of health visitors to help with such cases. One mother with four children and another with three were sent to Brentwood Recuperative Centre with definite benefit to both families.

Student nurses from the Royal Halifax Infirmary and Halifax General Hospital continued to attend the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, for the public health section of their training which, towards the end of the year was expanded to include home visiting with health visitors and instruction in record keeping and general administration. Arrangements were also made for one of the resident Medical Officers in the Pædiatric Department of the Halifax General Hospital to gain experience in preventive medicine necessary for the Diploma in Child Health.

During the Autumn, the department took part in the nation-wide Environmental Survey of Lukæmia in Childhood.

Two Health Visitors, Miss Stamper and Miss Blanch, attended a course of instruction at the Ewing Clinic in June, and this has proved of inestimable value in helping parents of deaf children to carry out parent guidance at home.

In addition, they accompany deaf children under 5 years of age to the Ewing Clinic, thus ensuring complete liaison.

There were a number of staff changes during the year. In September, Dr. E. J. Simpson left Halifax to take up an appointment

with the Scottish Council for Health Education. She had been Medical Officer in charge of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department for 10 years, during which time she had gained the respect and affection of all. In January, Miss Moore, Senior Health Visitor, retired after 30 years' service, in July, Mrs. Wilkins left for an appointment in Salop, and two of our members were married, Miss Streeter (Mrs. Whiteley), and Miss Farnell (Mrs. Winstanley), both of whom have continued to work full-time.

Once more we are happy to record our indebtedness to the Voluntary Workers who attend the clinics so regularly to assist with the sale of Welfare and other foods, and the keeping of records. Their interest in the mothers and babies, and in the work generally adds considerably to the happy atmosphere of the clinics.

Births.

Total No. of births occurring in the Authority's area during 1956	2,388
No. at Halifax General Hospital	1,888
Local births occurring in Nursing Homes in other areas	—

Care of Premature Infants.—i.e., babies weighing 5½lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of period of gestation. Stillbirths should be excluded.

Number of premature infants notified during the year (including transferred notifications) whose mothers normally reside in the Authority's area:—

- (i) Born at home—23.
- (ii) Born in hospital—102.

Premature Live Births							
Premature still births	Nursed entirely at home					Transferred to hospital	Birth weight
	Died in first 24 hours	Died on 2nd to 7th day	Died on 8th to 28th day	Survived 28 days	Total		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 lb. 3 oz. or less
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	Over 2 lb. 3 oz. up to 3 lb. 4 oz.
6	—	—	—	1	1	2	Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to 4 lb. 6 oz.
2	—	—	—	1	1	1	Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to 4 lb. 15 oz.
—	—	—	—	18	18	—	Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to 5 lb. 8 oz.
18	—	—	—	20	20	3	Totals

Born in Private Nursing Homes in Halifax C.B.—2.

Infectious Diseases.

	Ophthalmia Neonatorum		Pemphigus Neonatorum		Puerperal Pyrexia	
	Domiciliary Confinements	Institutional Confinements	Domiciliary Confinements	Institutional Confinements	Domiciliary Confinements	Institutional Confinements
Number of cases notified during the year ..	1	—	—	—	3	10
Number of cases removed to Hospitals	—	—	—	—	3	—

Number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year, in which:—

(a) Vision was unimpaired	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Vision was impaired	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c) Vision was lost	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(d) The patient died	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(e) The patient was still under treatment at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(f) The patient removed from the district	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS

All mothers desiring home confinement now attend the ante-natal clinics at the Halifax District Nursing Association, which are conducted weekly by the Medical Officers for Maternity and Child Welfare. There is close co-operation with the Consultant Obstetrician who also attends weekly and sees abnormal cases at the Medical Officer's request.

In addition, there are two midwives' sessions weekly and patients are visited by midwives in their own homes.

Relaxation classes have continued to be very popular, also the talks on Mothercraft which the Health Visitors and Midwives give during the course.

Post-natal examinations are undertaken at the conclusion of the ante-natal sessions.

Special attention is paid to interchange of information between the Consulting Obstetrician, the Clinic Medical Officers and general practitioners, and liaison with the Obstetric Dept. at Halifax General Hospital is excellent.

After delivery at home District Midwives visit until the 28th day after which the Health Visitor takes over the care of mother and baby.

Mothers delivered at the Halifax General Hospital are visited as soon as possible after their return home.

1	No. of Clinics provided at end of year (whether held at Child Welfare Centres or other premises)	No. of sessions now held per month at Clinics included in Col 2	No. of women in attendance		Total number of attendances made by women included in col. (4) during the year
			No. of women who attended during the year	No. of new cases included in Col. 4, i.e. for A.N. clinics women who had not previously attended any clinic during current pregnancy and for P.N. clinics women who had not previously attended any P.N. clinic after last confinement	
	2	3	4	5	6
Local Health Authority Clinics operating at a Local Voluntary Organisation's Premises & supervised by L.A.'s Medical Staff					
Ante-Natal clinics	1	12	851	640	4233
Post-Natal clinics	1	4	82	64	82

Arrangements with Medical Practitioners.

We have no arrangements with general practitioners for ante-natal and post-natal mothers to be examined.

Child Welfare Clinics.

Infant Welfare Centres are provided at Broad Street, Queen's Road, Ovenden, Mixenden, Siddall, Northowram and Illingworth. The Broad Street Centre is a whole-time clinic. The other clinics are situated in Church Schools and sessions are held as follows:—

Queen's Road clinic ...	Two sessions weekly Tuesday (A.M. and Aft.)
Ovenden clinic ...	One session weekly (Wednesday) (Aft.)
Mixenden clinic ...	One session weekly (Monday) (Aft.)
Siddall clinic ...	One session weekly (Monday) (A.M.)
Northowram ...	One session weekly (Wednesday) (Aft.)
Illingworth ...	One session weekly (Fridays) (Aft.)

Centres provided by	No. of centres provided at end of year	No. of C.W. sessions now held per month at centres in col. (2)	No. of children who first attended a centre of this L.H.A. during the year, and who at their first attendance were under 1 year of age (4)	No. of children who attended during the year and who were born in			Total no. of children who attended during the year	No. of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were			Total attendances during the year
				1956	1955	1954 ⁵¹		Under 1 year (9)	1 but under 2 (10)	2 but under 5 (11)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
L.H.A.	7	43	1109	986	794	1181	2,961	12,527	2,580	2,621	17,728
Vol. Org.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Artificial Sunlight.

Number of sessions	...	...	...	...	98
Number of cases treated	...	...	...	...	68
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	1,084
Average attendance at each session	...	...	...	...	11

Supply of Dried Milk, etc.

Dried Milk was distributed at the C.W. Clinics to the extent of:—

Cow and Gate	...	...	...	...	3,030 cartons
Ostermilk	...	...	...	...	6,736 „
Trufood	...	...	...	...	2,865 „

In addition, National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, and Orange Juice were issued at all clinics, to the extent of:—

N.D.M.	...	...	...	...	38,153 cartons
Orange Juice	...	...	...	...	66,447 bottles
Cod Liver Oil	...	...	...	...	11,690 bottles
Vitamin A and D	...	...	...	...	4,967 tablets

Infant Mortality.

There were 37 deaths of infants under 1 year.

7 died under 24 hours.

7 died under 1 week.

9 died under 1 month.

14 died between 1 month and 1 year.

Day Nurseries.

The Local Authority provides two Day Nurseries, one at Ling Bob, Pellon, and one at Craigie Lea, Ovenden.

	No.	No. of Approved Places		No. of children on register at end of year		Average daily attendance during year	
		0—2	2—5	0—2	2—5	0—2	2—5
Nurseries maintained by Council	2	50	63	62	79	45	63
Nurseries maintained by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

No. of approved places	...	...	...	Craigie Lea	65
				Ling Bob	48
Average daily attendance	...	...	...	Craigie Lea	66
				Ling Bob	42

Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulation Act, 1948.

	Number registered at 31st December, 1956	Number of Children provided for
Premises ..	—	—
Daily Minders	1	3

Registration of Nursing Homes (Section 187 to 194 of Public Health Act, 1936).

	Number of Homes	Number of beds provided for		
		Maternity	Others	Totals
Homes first registered during 1956 ..	—	—	—	—
Homes on the register at the end of 1956 ..	1	—	12	12

Mother and Baby Home.

The Halifax Rural Deanery Moral Welfare Council Administer a Mother and Baby Home at St. Margaret's House, 8, Balmoral Place, as agents of the Halifax Corporation. Under an agreement between the Council and the Moral Welfare Council the Corporation agree to pay five-sixths of the costs of maintenance.

No. of Beds.

(1) Total Beds (excluding Maternity, Labour and Cots) ...	12
(2) Labour Beds	0
(3) Cots	6
(4) No. of admissions (ignoring re-admissions after confinement during the year)	50
(5) No. of admissions in col. (4) for which the authority was responsible	12

Average Length of Stay.

(a) Ante-Natal	6 weeks
(b) Post-Natal*	6 weeks

No. of cases sent to other homes (payment being made on an "ad hoc" basis).

(1) Expectant Mothers—3.

(2) Post-Natal Cases—0.

*Exclusive of lying in period.

I am indebted to Miss Westwood, Moral Welfare Worker, for the following notes on the work of the Home during 1956:—

Thirty-two people were referred to us from the County Borough during the year, of whom 29 were single girls and three married women. Twelve girls (includes three referred to us the previous year) were resident in St. Margaret's House for varying periods.

All the mothers, with one exception, had their confinements at the Halifax General Hospital. We are always very grateful to the hospital medical and nursing staff and to the Almoner's Department for their readiness to help and co-operate in any way possible for the welfare of the mothers, who may be as young as fifteen, and their babies.

At the end of the year the position of the mothers and the babies was as follows:—

- 5 mothers were living with baby in their parents' home.
- 4 mothers were living with baby in their own home.
- 7 babies were placed with adoptive parents.
- 1 baby was in a foster home.
- 1 mother and baby are in a long-term Mother and Baby Home.
- 4 girls went to Roman Catholic Mother and Baby Home.
- 1 girl left the district.
- 1 had a false pregnancy.
- 1 had a miscarriage.
- 1 baby was stillborn.
- 2 babies died.
- 7 were expectant mothers.

I am indebted to Mr. Franklyn Brook, Speech Therapist, for the following report:—

Speech Therapy clinics have been held on Monday afternoons at Holly House. The chief aim of the service is to prevent serious disorders of speech from developing. Experience has shown that speech disorders often yield readily to gentle corrective measures when these are applied at the right time. The right time is nearly always **before** the child commences school. The disorder known as Stammering, for instance, is often first noticed in the third year of infant life and many well-meaning parents fall into the error of making a direct attack upon the symptom itself; the child soon re-acts by becoming aware of speech difficulties and a more serious form of stammering usually results.

The following summary gives some idea of the work carried out during the past year:—

No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	40
No. of appointments kept	...	...	...	...	130
No. of children seen	...	...	...	...	37

Classification of patients according to symptom:—

Seriously delayed speech	...	...	...	...	8
Aphasia (Language disorders)	...	...	...	...	1
Severe articulative defects	...	...	...	...	8
Cleft palate speech	...	...	...	...	1
Idioglossia (emotional retardation)	...	...	...	...	10
Stammering	...	...	...	...	6
Alalia (without speech)	...	...	...	...	3

Fourteen children were discharged during the year following successful adjustment of their speech problems. By arrangement with the Medical Officers concerned, two children were recommended for transfer to Special Schools for the Deaf. Three others have reached school age and have been transferred to the L.E.A. Speech Clinic. Two children were discharged because their parents did not co-operate with the clinic.

Dental Care.

I am indebted to Mr. F. Richardson (Principal School Dental Officer) for the following details relative to dental care of pre-school children:—

1. No. of sessions (i.e. equivalent to complete half days) devoted to Maternity and Child Welfare patients during the year 94

2. Dental Treatment Return.

- (a) Expectant and Nursing mothers provided with care.

No. examined	...	...	...	...	...	113
No. needing treatment	...	...	...	...	...	112
No. treated	...	...	...	...	...	127
No. made dentally fit	...	...	...	...	...	80

Children Under Five.

No. examined	...	...	...	...	...	143
No. needing treatment	...	...	...	...	...	137
No. treated	...	...	...	...	...	137
No. made dentally fit	...	...	...	...	...	30

- (b) Forms of dental treatment provided.

					Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Children Under 5
Scalings and Gum Treatment	...	...	...	...	20	—
Fillings	...	...	...	...	104	13
Silver nitrate treatment	...	...	...	...	—	14
Crowns or inlays	...	...	...	...	—	—
Extractions	...	...	...	...	478	253
General anæsthetics	...	...	...	...	61	142

Dentures provided—

Full upper or lower	...	...	...	78	—
Partial upper or lower	...	...	...	29	—
Radiographs	...	...	...	5	—

SECTION 23

MIDWIFERY.

The Domiciliary Midwifery Service is carried out through the agency of the Halifax District Nursing Association and I am indebted to the Superintendent (Miss Savage) for the following details.

Midwives.

	Number of Midwives practising in the area of the Authority at 31st December, 1956		
	Domiciliary Midwives	Midwives in Institutions	Total
Midwives employed by the Authority	—	—	—
Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations			
(i) Under arrangements with the Local Health Authority in pursuance of Section 23 of National Health Service Act	7	—	7
(ii) Otherwise (including Hospitals not transferred to the Minister under the National Health Service Act)	—	—	—
Midwives employed Hospital Management Committee, etc.	—	16	16
Midwives in Private Practice	1	—	1
TOTALS	8	16	24

Maternity Cases Attended.

	Number of Maternity Cases in the Area of the Local Supervising Authority attended by Midwives during 1956					
	Domiciliary Cases		Cases in Institutions		Total	
	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses
Midwives employed by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations.						
(a) Under arrangements with the Local Health Authority in pursuance of Section 23 of National Health Service Act	471	28	—	—	471	28
(b) Otherwise (including Hospitals not transferred to the Minister under the National Health Service Act)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees, etc.	—	—	1676	212	1676	212
Midwives in Private Practice	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	472	28	1676	212	2148	240

Medical Aid under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918.

Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, by a Midwife:—

(a) For Domiciliary Cases:—

(i) Where the Medical Practitioner has arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service	151
(ii) Others	68

Medical Aid Forms received during the year on behalf of child 51

Of these:—

Discharging eye(s)	16
White asphyxia	1
Swelling of rt. buttock	1
Infected nail beds	1
Boil on buttock	1
Talipes	2
Prematurity	3
Colds	9
Rapid and shallow respirations	2
Epistaxis	1
Vomiting blood	2
Unsatisfactory condition	5
Jaundice	1
Spina bifida	1
? Imperforate anus	1
Cyanosis	1
Pyloric stenosis	1
Stye and septic spots	1
Abcess of anus	1

Notification received in accordance with C.M.B. Rules:—

Intention to resort to artificial feeding	62
Notification of stillbirth	2
Notification of having laid out dead body	3
Liable to be source of infection	4

SECTION 24

HEALTH VISITING.

Health Visitors no longer confine their work to attendance at Infant Welfare Clinics and the routine home visiting of children under five years of age. The pattern has changed and the Health Visitor is being recognised ever increasingly as the family friend to whom parents can talk and discuss their problems generally. She works in close co-operation with other social workers and is thus able, in many instances, to prevent family breakdown. Her work in the care of premature and delicate babies is invaluable and in great demand.

In Halifax, she is also responsible for the after-care of Tuberculosis families and maintains liaison with the Chest Clinic.

In addition, old people now come under her care and many look forward to the Health Visitor's call and feel cheered by her sympathetic interest in their welfare.

Visiting is undertaken in connection with the Child Minders Regulations Act, 1948 (Section 7).

No. of Health Visitors employed at end of year		No. of Visits paid by Health Visitors during the year						
		Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children between the age of 1—5	T.B.	Other Cases
Whole Time on Health Visiting	Part Time on Health Visiting	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits		
9	—	147	247	1,484	5,982	10,138	1,084	1,898

SECTION 25

HOME NURSING.

The Halifax and District Nursing Association carry out the Home Nursing Service as agents of the Corporation, which is adequate to meet the needs of the Borough. The Local Authority have equal representation on the Joint Committee.

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES (Home Nursing).

	Cases	Visits
On books 1st January, 1956	457	—
Medical	1,565	51,151
Surgical	349	9,174
Tuberculosis	24	1,344
Infectious Diseases (Gen.)	4	27
Complicated Mid and Mat.	5	77
Others	2	6
TOTAL CASES, 1956	2,406	61,779
" " 1955	2,428	58,460

CASES COMPLETED, 1956 ... 1,909

REMAINING CASES 31st December, 1956 ... 497

Number of Home Nurses employed at the end of the year:—

Whole-time on Home Nursing ...	17
Part-time on Home Nursing ...	1
(Equivalent whole-time) ...	17½

SECTION 26

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Children under 5—

Children in this group are immunised either at the Child Welfare Clinic or by doctors (chosen by parents) taking part in the Authority's arrangements. Doctors are supplied free with immunising agents.

Immunisation is encouraged by the Medical Officer of Health, by Public Health Lectures, and by the Public Health Department Staff.

Children of school age—

Children in this group are immunised at the School Clinic or by doctors chosen by the parents. Details will be found in the separate report on the School Medical Service.

No. of Children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the period ending 31st December, 1956			Total No. of Children who were given a secondary or Reinforcing Injection
Age at date of Final Injection		Total	During 12 months ending 31st December, 1956
Under 5	5—14		
816	72	888	461

Vaccination.

Medical arrangements in respect of vaccination are the same as those in operation for immunisation. In the event of an outbreak of smallpox, the Child Welfare and School Clinics will be used as emergency vaccination centres, and general practitioners will be asked to co-operate either at their own surgeries or at the emergency vaccination centres.

The public are kept constantly informed of the facilities provided for free vaccination.

No. of persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during period:—

Age at 31st Dec. 1956	Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total 1956	1955
No. Vaccinated	297	98	13	42	450	407
No. Re-vaccinated	10	23	17	141	191	127

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS.

During the year, the Ministry of Health made available a vaccine of British manufacture which, there is every reason to believe, will give a degree of protection against paralytic poliomyelitis. Each batch of vaccine is subjected to stringent safety tests before released for use. Vaccination was offered to all children born between 1947 and 1954 inclusive and the names of 1,500 such children were registered. By the end of the year, 159 children had received 2 injections (full course) and 4 had received 1 injection.

Section 27

AMBULANCE SERVICE

I am indebted to Mr. W. Fitton, who commenced duties as Ambulance Officer on the 2nd January, 1956, for the following report:—

The Ambulance Service continued to operate throughout the year in accordance with the provisions of Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, as amended by Section 24 of the National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1949.

At the end of the year, the fleet consisted of—

4 Morris Ambulances	...	...	25 h.p.
2 Bedford Ambulances	...	...	27 h.p.
1 Bedford S.C./Ambulance	...	...	27 h.p.
3 Bedford S.C./Ambulances	...	...	12 h.p.
1 Austin S.C. Car	...	...	12 h.p.

The introduction of the lighter type of dual purpose vehicle has certainly helped to reduce the pressure on the service and I recommend that the Austin car be likewise replaced during the next financial year.

Maintenance of the fleet is undertaken by the Transport Department. I am grateful to the Manager for his help and advice.

Staff: The establishment at the end of the year was—

- 1 Ambulance Officer.
- 4 Shift Leaders.
- 16 Driver Attendants.
- 2 Telephonists.

First-aid courses are still run at the Depot under my direction and all the entrants for the Spring examination passed with the exception of one.

Accommodation: The present accommodation is most inconvenient and unsatisfactory and the rejection by the Ministry of the suitable premises, so conveniently situated in Godfrey Road, was somewhat disappointing.

Radio Control: In the majority of ambulance services, radio control has been installed to advantage of both the service and patient and it is hoped that the Committee will give due consideration to the introduction of this asset, in the next financial year.

Traffic: Apart from accidents, the ambulance and car services are on the recommendation of the general practitioners and the hospital authorities.

On medical recommendation, patients are transferred by rail when it is possible. During 1956, 26 patients were so transported, with an estimated road distance of 3,000 miles. Escorts are provided when necessary from the British Red Cross and the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The British Red Cross car service has carried patients for us on three occasions to the extent of 336 miles.

The Corporation's Transport Service has also transferred sitting cases to Storthes Hall when a car from our service has not been readily available.

Although more patients were carried, the mileage was down. This is due to the introduction of the additional lightweight dual purpose vehicles. The following summary gives you a record of the work done by the service fleet over the past seven years:—

		No. of Vehicles in service 31st Dec.	Total No. of Journeys during the year	Total No. of Patients carried during the year	No. of Accidents and other Emergency Journeys incl. in Col. 3	Mileage during the year	Total Mileage for the year
1950	Ambul'ces	8	8,295	10,530	875	87,064	124,715
	Cars Car Amb.	2 1	4,164	8,618	7	37,651	
1951	Ambul'ces	8	8,466	10,263	945	82,624	137,397
	Cars Car Amb.	2 1	4,173	11,495	5	44,773	
1952	Ambul'ces	8	9,351	12,920	894	89,474	135,792
	Cars Car Amb.	2 1	4,244	11,412	2	46,318	
1953	Ambul'ces	8	9,123	12,785	883	83,228	125,828
	Cars Car Amb.	2 1	4,336	11,277	9	42,600	
1954	Ambul'ces	8	9,343	13,076	797	82,926	127,184
	Cars Car Amb.	2 1	4,743	12,589	6	44,258	
1955	Ambul'ces	8	9,297	14,532	928	82,454	133,852
	Cars Car Amb.	2 1	4,543	12,932	20	51,398	
1956	Ambul'ces	6	7,448	14,627	1,058	69,241	126,845
	Cars Car Amb.	1 4	4,646	13,268	430	57,604	

We continue to convey West Riding patients from the Calder Valley area to and from the Halifax Hospitals and the mileage incurred in this respect during 1956 was:—

	Ambulances	Car/Ambs.
	15,266	16,193 = 31,459
As compared with 1955 ...	17,495	18,461 = 35,956

In conclusion, may I express my appreciation and thanks to the Health Committee, Medical Officer of Health, Ambulance personnel, members of the Health Department clerical staff, officials in other departments, the British Red Cross, St. John Ambulance Association and the Hospital staffs for their assistance and co-operation during my first year as your Ambulance Controller.

SECTION 28

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

Convalescent Home Treatment.

Convalescent Home Treatment is available for those who need a recuperation period before returning to their normal duties. A medical certificate is obtained from the patient's own doctor recommending a period of convalescence and if no actual treatment is required, the applications are dealt with as vacancies occur in the Homes at St. Annes-on-Sea and Ilkley. Thirty-eight cases were admitted during 1956.

Loan Equipment.

During 1956, 538 patients were issued with various items of loan equipment. The most called for items included air-rings, bed pans, bed rests, and mackintosh sheets. In addition, urinals, bed cradles, wheel chairs, crutches, feeding cups were issued. Our present list of loan equipment includes the following items:—

Air Rings.	Sputum Flasks.
Bed Rests.	Urinals.
Enamel Bowls.	Water Beds.
Bed Cradles.	Air Beds.
Bed Pans.	Wheel Chairs.
Crutches.	Syringes.
Feeding Cups.	Eye Undines.
Hot Water Bottles.	Bed Tables.
Inhalers.	Spinal Carriages.
Mackintosh Sheets.	Latex Foam Mattresses.

Special equipment is provided for paraplegics for use at their own homes. Periodical checks on the articles are made by the health visitors.

PUBLIC HEALTH LECTURES.

Title	Delivered by
Cancer of the Lung	Dr. G. C. F. Roe
Mental Illness	"
Poliomyelitis	"
Dysentery	"
Premature Arteriosclerosis	"
Disease of the Coronary Artery	"
Some Medical Aspects of Atomic Warfare	"
Diseases Affecting the Respiratory Tract	"
Personal Hygiene	"
Child Welfare	Dr. E. J. Simpson
Family Life	"
Food Hygiene (with film strip)	Mr. H. Margerison, C.P.H.I.
Public Health (with film strip)	"
New Food Hygiene Regulations	"
The Clean Air Act and the Householder	"

Venereal Diseases.

The usual source of infection is a human being suffering from the disease—syphilis or gonorrhœa. Infection is most commonly acquired by sexual intercourse. The control of the venereal disease is as much a social as it is a medical problem. From the strictly medical aspect, the first aim is the prompt diagnosis and efficient treatment of patients with a view to rendering them non-effective. Among the general measures directed towards the prevention of venereal disease, the most important is the provision of instruction for adolescents in sex knowledge and for young adults in the risks of illicit intercourse. A number of infections are contracted while under the influence of alcohol, which not only inhibits the control of the higher centres, but also renders the individual less capable of taking precautions which, if sober, he might use.

The following figures refer to local patients attending Treatment Centres:—

Number of persons dealt with for the first time during the year, and found to be suffering from:—

	Local Clinic	Other Clinics
Syphilis	13	—
Gonorrhœa	26	—
Other Conditions	103	—
Total	142	0

Pathological Work.

Microscopical:—

						Specimens examined at Treatment Centre
For Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	7
Others	...	...	...	...	...	1,259

Attendances.

	Syphilis		Gonor- rhea		Other Conditions		TOTALS		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Total
For individual attention by Medical Officers ..	702	770	159	101	703	328	1564	1199	2763
For intermediate Treatment	587	648	34	15	229	63	850	726	1576

V.D. VISITING AND SOCIAL WORK.

I am indebted to Miss G. E. Davie (W.R.C.C.), V.D. Social Worker, for the following report on her work in the County Borough:—

July 1st, 1956 — December 21st, 1956.

Defaulters from Treatment—Male and Female.

Total—31.

Attended—27.

Removed—2.

Failed—2.

Total number of ineffective visits—23.

Total number of re-visits—15.

Contacts of Infection.

Total—8.

Attended—5.

Failed—1.

Insufficient information and not traced—2.

Ante-Natal Pos. W.R. enquiries at Ante-Natal Clinics.

Total—9.

Number of Clinic Attendances.

Total—41.

Number of Conferences at County Hall, Wakefield, with Dr. Burgess about work in all districts each Monday morning.

Total—41.

Number of Visits for All Purposes.

Total—197.

The Duties of Social Worker at S.T.C. Royal Halifax Infirmary include the attendance at each female clinic, the interviewing and booking in of all new patients and the interview of all patients afterwards at each clinic visit. The assessing and payment of V.D. travelling expenses where necessary. The clerical work of the clinic (including writing to patients defaulting from treatment). The tracing and interviewing of male and female contacts of infection and the contacts of other known patients, e.g., wife, husband, or children.

Visits and enquiries to Ante-Natal Clinics in regard to positive Ante-Natal Wassermanns and help offered to get contacts examined.

Occasional visits to police, probation officer and N.S.P.C.C.

The booking of ambulances when necessary and other work on instruction from Clinic Medical Officers.

TUBERCULOSIS.

I am indebted to Dr. W. Smith (Chest Physician for the following details:—

Chest Clinics at the Royal Halifax Infirmary.

On Mondays	Afternoon
Fridays	Afternoon
Alternate Wednesdays	Morning

Number of patients notified as suffering from Tuberculosis during the year 1956 from the County Borough of Halifax 82

Approximately 1,012 attendances were made by patients of the County Borough of Halifax at the local Chest Clinics during the period under review.

Note.

As far as possible, all contacts of known cases of active tuberculosis are clinically and radiologically examined.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

Statistical Data.

Report on Mass Radiography Survey held in Halifax.
October/November, 1956.

Examinations Carried Out.

	Males	Females	Total
Number of Miniature X-rays taken	4,109	3,118	7,227
Number of large films taken ...	116	54	170

Analysis of Provisional Findings.

Cases of Active Tuberculosis	...	11	7	18
Cases of Inactive Tuberculosis	...	23	9	32
Other Abnormalities	... ..	45	22	67

SECTION 29

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The service is in charge of one Domestic Help Organiser (Miss J. Wiley).

No. of whole-time helps employed at the end of the year 7

No. of part-time helps employed at the end of the year 40

The following details give a bird's-eye view of the work done during the year:—

No. of applications for assistance during the year ... 535

No. of cases where help was given in respect of:—

(a) General and chronic sickness	...	...	...	65
(b) Old people	...	...	...	291
(c) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	3
(d) Blind people	...	...	...	6
(e) Maternity	...	...	...	95

Section 51

MENTAL HEALTH SECTION.

Mental illness and mental deficiency cases now occupy nearly half the hospital beds in this country. There is no sign of any reduction in the incidence of mental illness. Almost a third of all absenteeism from work is due to mental illness. The number of certified patients entering mental hospitals has risen during the past five or six years and is now about 19,000 cases a year. The number of voluntary patients has almost doubled in the past 10 years. With the extension of facilities for early treatment and the scientific treatment of minor mental maladies or maladjustments the numbers of voluntary cases will probably increase. If we could provide for the adjustment of interpersonal difficulties in the home, the factory and in other social groups a great deal of minor mental illness could be prevented.

I am indebted to Mr. S. Parkinson, Senior Authorised Officer for the following report:—

The Service is concerned with persons in the community who suffer from mental disorder or mental deficiency. A primary duty is the ascertainment of the degree of disability and whilst the arrangements for obtaining hospital care for certain types of illness remains an important function, a wider concept of mental ill-health and its attendant problems now comes within the ambit of the Mental Health Service.

There was an increased number of calls in 1956 by patients (or by others on their behalf) where the extent of mental disturbance was found to be of a relatively minor character. The causes could be frequently traced (in respect of mental disorder) to environmental stress of a domestic or occupational nature; whilst in mental deficiency cases, social and behaviour difficulties were prominent. Eighty-eight such persons with mild disorder were seen during the year and in these cases hospital care was neither necessary nor desired. Preventive measures in co-operation with general practitioners were applied in all instances and took varied forms appropriate to the circumstances. In some instances treatment was taken at out-patient departments and for others specialist help was obtained—particularly in connection with housing and employment. This is the largest number of patients to be dealt with by measures directed to prevent mental breakdown in any single year since the inception of the Service in 1948. It is a notable increase and an aspect of the work which is likely to grow as emphasis shifts from the purely "curative" but rather narrow concept to that of the preservation of sound mental health. To some extent the shortage of hospital accommodation has focused attention on such resources as may be available within the community itself, but much progressive thought has certainly emanated from

enlightened public opinion about the nature and causes of mental illness. Together they have combined to produce several schemes in various parts of the country, which though yet of an empirical nature may well become the accepted practice in future years. The time may not be far distant when hospital admissions will decline for all but the most seriously ill. Meantime, a good proportion of all hospital admissions are on a voluntary basis. Over 70% of admissions from Halifax were of voluntary patients in 1956. On the premise that many patients can be adequately assisted in the community with medical and other oversight, one may postulate a diminishing amount of After-care work of hospital patients—a natural corollary of a reduced admission rate. This is noticeable in the Statistics for 1956.

It is pointless for patients to enter mental hospitals to undergo psychiatric treatment unless at the same time a determined effort is made to remedy their circumstances if these have (as in most cases) caused or contributed to the breakdown. To return home from hospital having still to face the same exceptional difficulties as before, negates all that might have been done in the hospital. There are also strong possibilities that a relapse may occur. Where this has unfortunately happened, the patients were often found to be extremely despondent and firmly of the opinion that their illness had become beyond aid.

It has always been the local practice to attempt to remedy circumstances (where this is necessary) as soon as admission to hospital has been arranged, rather than to leave such matters until the patient is about to return home. The experience during the past eight years has proved this the wisest course and the only satisfactory method, and there are strong reasons for the view that the sooner remedial measures are taken in hand, the better for all concerned. Further, there is no doubt that news of developments within the domestic circle stimulates and encourages patients in hospital. In two or three instances during the year families have been rehoused. Patients have returned home to a fresh start in new surroundings or an otherwise improved environment. Whilst in hospital they have been insulated from the upheaval of moving house and on return home have found a domestic routine already established in which it remains only for them to assume their part. Less spectacular perhaps, but of equal importance, were the many instances of employers who agreed (after an explanatory interview) to modify an employee's duties or hours of work for a period in order to give a discharged patient a better opportunity to re-adjust himself to industrial life again. This concession was of great value as the shift system is now fairly widespread throughout industry in the town.

In 1956 as in previous years, it became necessary to enlist the help of various voluntary, religious and ex-Service organisations to meet some special need of a patient. More commonly others were piloted through the plethora of boards, ministries, councils, depart-

ments, etc., which make up and add to the complexity of the present social services.

There is a large number of European workers in this locality and a high proportion of young single persons from other towns attracted to Halifax by the prospects of employment. Whilst both groups have obviously differing needs, they together present a similar problem as regards living accommodation. Some larger manufacturing concerns provide residential hostels for their work-people but the majority are scattered about the town individually in private lodgings. Occasionally European workers have coalesced to a great degree but where an individual has failed to make satisfactory relationships, the existence of a group has only accentuated his position. Persons from both these sources become isolated from their relatives and in their absence a measure of responsibility naturally falls upon such services as may be operating within the community. Always in dealing with patients in these circumstances the question of accommodation and available facilities have to be kept uppermost in mind. During the year circumstances arose concerning patients from this section of the populace and the Mental Health Service became involved in tracing or contacting relatives at a distance from Halifax; and several times when investigating matters concerning persons of European origin, the services of an interpreter had to be obtained before any headway could be made.

The amount of resettlement work with patients is now considerable in extent. The duties are often problematical and always time-consuming. Of course there are supine individuals in any community who would become burdensome and ready to abdicate from all responsibility if allowed—but they are an easily recognisable minority and there are many persons in need of assistance through circumstances beyond their control and certainly not of their own making. The expansion of the Mental Health Service and the increasing number of calls now made upon it seriously curtails the time available to individual cases. At times during the year the mental health officers were working under considerable pressure and had no alternative but to suggest stop-gap measures which later proved ineffective. It is a matter for regret to feel that a solution of a more permanent nature or lasting benefit might have been evolved had there been more time and opportunity to deal at an earlier stage with patients and their frequently complicated affairs.

The Statistics (pp. 8) are a necessary part of this Report but, by their impersonal character are not a true measure of the amount of work accomplished. They cannot be satisfactorily equated with duties concerned with humanitarian principles and social relationships. A figure is but a digit and in any Table or Schedule must remain a mere symbol capable only of expressing mathematical value. Because of that inescapable fact, the statistics do not convey any differentiation as between one patient and another, nor with the time and effort spent on any particular case. The Service may be involved in the illness or resettlement of a certain patient over a

period of hours, days, weeks or, exceptionally, months; yet the nett result is seen as but a digit in a group or column. There is no means of demonstrating the time and effort involved. Another important factor to be taken into account is that the statistics relate only to **reported** cases of mental ill-health. The number of cases of mental disorder and mental deficiency in the community is undoubtedly higher than a mere cursory glance at the statistics might suggest.

The Mental Health Service is under the control and direction of the Medical Officer of Health and embraces (a) mental disorder, (b) mental deficiency and (c) an After-care scheme. The work is at present carried out by two male officers both being 'duly authorised' for the purposes of the Lunacy Acts. They carry out all duties of this comprehensive Service. There is an Occupation Centre for 36 children of school age staffed by a Supervisor and three Assistants in addition to a full-time caretaker/handyman and a part-time meals server. In addition to the Medical Officer of Health the following medical practitioners are ancillary to the Department for mental health purposes:—

Approved by the Board of Control for the purposes of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930:—

H. I. DEITCH, M.S., M.B., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*WILLIAM CRAIG, M.B., ChB.

WILLIS H. CRAVEN, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M.

ROBERT LOGAN, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Approved by the Local Health Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38:—

WILFRID SMITH, M.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Emily J. RUANE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,

(* also Medical Officer to the Halifax Visitors (Justices) pursuant to the Lunacy and Mental Deficiency Acts.)

It continues to be the practice of the Local Health Authority to deal with mental health matters through a special Sub-committee formed from members of the Health Committee. The Sub-committee met at quarterly intervals during the year. No statutory duties in mental health are delegated to voluntary agencies.

As Halifax is in the catchment area of Storthes Hall (mental) Hospital at Kirkburton, the greater part of admissions from the County Borough are to this Hospital, but as in former years, a number of patients have been admitted to other hospitals in the Region. During 1956 these admissions were: The Retreat, York (5)—four admissions were under the Mental Treatment Act and one under the provisions of the Lunacy Acts; Scalebor Park Hospital, Burley-in-Wharfedale (2)—both under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930.

During 1956, 16 patients who normally reside outside the County Borough made use of this Authority's Service whilst temporarily resident in Halifax. Conversely one Halifax resident temporarily absent from the town was dealt with by a neighbouring Authority.

The following table (A) shows the discharges of Halifax patients from Storthes Hall Hospital during the year:—

TABLE "A"

DISCHARGE OF PATIENTS (mental illness)			
Status	Not Improved	Relieved	Recovered
Certified	—	*79%	21%
Voluntary	23%	31%	46%

* Patients discharged from Hospital on application of a relative under Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 72.

The following Table (B) shows in age groups and sexes the cases of mental disorder dealt with during the year. Comparable figures are also shown for previous years and for convenience the incidence is shown in percentile form:—

TABLE "B"

Age Groups	MALES					FEMALES				
	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
Under 21	—	3.97	1.03	5.71	6.67	1.91	3.61	1.85	4.96	2.40
21 to 30	11.47	14.29	14.43	15.24	17.14	15.29	12.65	14.20	19.86	14.40
31 to 40	29.50	28.57	29.91	26.67	25.71	21.66	19.88	12.96	15.60	16.00
41 to 50	20.49	15.08	24.74	22.86	12.38	15.29	14.46	14.82	13.48	9.60
51 to 60	13.03	11.90	11.34	8.57	16.19	17.83	18.67	24.07	20.57	23.20
61 to 70	16.49	12.70	13.40	13.33	14.29	13.37	17.48	17.28	16.31	12.80
Over 70	9.02	13.49	5.15	7.62	7.62	14.65	13.25	14.82	9.22	21.60

TABLE "C"
Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930 by
Duly Authorised Officers:—

	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
Total number of cases referred to Mental Health Service	279	292	259	246	233
Total number of visits paid by Authorised Officers	2564	2668	2633	2807	2762
PREVENTION					
Cases dealt with by preventive measures ...	88	70	62	62	54
CARE					
(i) Cases referred for accommodation under National Assistance Act, 1948 (Part III)	6	1	3	8	5
(ii) Cases referred to Hospital Management Committee under National Health Service Act, 1946	14	17	19	17	22
(iii) Cases dealt with by Authorised Officers under Lunacy Acts, 1890-1:—					
Sections 4 & 5	1				
Section 16	42				
Section 20	36				
Section 21	1				
Section 22	1				
(iv) Cases dealt with under Mental Treatment Act, 1930	81	67	62	88	89
(v) Cases dealt with by this Local Health Authority on behalf of other local health authorities	103	137	118	81	69
(vi) Cases dealt with by other local health authorities on behalf of this Local Health Authority	16	11	19	16	24
	1	6	3	2	4
AFTER-CARE					
Number of patients afforded after-care during the year	36	36	28	41	50

During 1956, 13 new cases of mental deficiency (amentia) were referred of which eight were children notified by the Education Authority. Six of the children were under compulsory school leaving age and two others were referred at the age of 16 years on leaving special schools. The remaining new cases (5) were brought to notice by relatives (in 3 instances); the Magistrates' Court (1); and a neighbouring local health authority (1). This latter source in respect of a patient having removed from that Authority's area and taken up residence in Halifax.

The admissions to mental deficiency hospitals during the year totalled nine—the highest number in any single year—and were equalled by a similar number of discharges, but the facts are not correlated and the figure is purely co-incidental. Despite the discharges (and deaths (3)) during 1956, there remained seven patients still awaiting hospital beds on 31st December. With one exception these were all children with an average age of six years; all were bedfast, totally dependent and in need of cot accommodation in

hospitals. The patients discharged from hospitals during the year were all adults. As many admissions to mental deficiency hospitals are of a long-term nature, there is a corresponding slow turn over in beds, and even with extra accommodation now coming into use in this part of the country, the problems of the waiting list remain. For some types of patient, the position seems to be as formidable as ever. Meanwhile the provisions of Circular 5 of 1952 have again been used to advantage during the year—this provides periods of Short term care for up to eight weeks at a time in special circumstances. Eight patients were so accommodated during 1956, and again the main reasons were: the pregnancy of the mother, illness in the family, and similar domestic crises.

Following a period on licence in the community, nine patients (7 men and 2 women) were discharged from mental deficiency hospitals during the year. With the exceptions of a youth of 16, and a woman of 40 who were both unemployable, all were in full-time regular employment.

In addition, five further patients came on licence in 1956 and were placed in various employments, viz.: textile mills, builder's labourer, farm hand, cinema handyman and driver's mate (haulage firm). In two instances living accommodation had also to be obtained in addition to a situation, and at the end of the year, the five patients appeared to be generally satisfactory in their respective jobs

At the end of the year the Mental Health Service was responsible for some 281 patients who were either in hospital, or in the community on licence or supervision. In connection with these patients, Authorised Officers made 1,185 visits in the course of the year; and in the case of patients on licence, periodical progress reports were furnished to the hospitals concerned. These statistics by no means reveal the total number of persons who sought assistance during 1956, as it is the policy of the Board of Control when discharging patients to request the local health authorities to continue to afford such assistance the ex-patients may from time to time require; consequently a number of discharged patients continue to visit and use the mental health office as an 'advice bureau' when confronted with situations presenting difficulty to them.

The distribution of Halifax patients in mental deficiency hospitals on 31st December, was:—

Hospital and Location					Patients
Aycliffe, Darlington	...	...	...	...	1
Castleberg, Giggleswick	...	...	...	...	3
Dovenby Hall, Cockermouth	...	...	...	...	1
Grenoside, Sheffield	...	...	...	...	2
Hatfield Hall, Wakefield	...	...	...	...	2
Lemmington Hall, Alnwick	...	...	...	...	1
Lisieux Hall, Chorley	...	...	...	...	1
Meanwood Park, Leeds	...	...	...	...	2
Oulton Hall, Leeds	...	...	...	...	8
Rampton, Retford	...	...	...	...	4
Rawcliffe Hall, Goole	...	...	...	...	4
Royal Albert, Lancaster	...	...	...	...	6
Stansfield View, Todmorden	...	...	...	...	14
Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	...	...	...	...	3
St. Catherine's, Doncaster	...	...	...	...	60
St. Joseph's, Sheffield	...	...	...	...	1
The Mansion, Huddersfield	...	...	...	...	1
Westwood, Bradford	...	...	...	...	21
Whittington Hall, Chesterfield	...	...	...	...	1
Whixley Colony, York	...	...	...	...	16
					<hr/> *152 <hr/>

*(includes 9 patients on licence)

The Occupation Centre continued to make steady progress during the year and at one period had 32 children on the register. Due to children leaving during the year on attaining the age of 16 (the present maximum for attendance) the number decreased to 30 by December.

The Centre was visited by an Inspector of the Board of Control on 1st February—the second visit by the Ministry's Inspectorate since the Centre opened in July, 1954. The Inspector's Report subsequently received by the Committee was again one of which the staff could feel proud.

A tarmacadam playground has now been constructed and is sufficiently large to enable outdoor activities to be conducted in a more suitable manner than before, whilst some of the older boys have assisted in making a garden feature. By degrees, some of the waste land surrounding the building has been brought under cultivation, but considerable work is yet to be done with the grounds. Much of this is beyond the capabilities of the staff and children and it was intended that the major part of this work should be undertaken this year by contractors—provision for this had been made in the year's Estimates. However, owing to the fact that the Mental Health Sub-Committee subsequently decided to erect further build-

ings for use as a Women's Industrial Centre on this site, the development of the grounds has been deferred until such time as all building work is completed.

By the end of 1956 considerable headway had been made in drawing up a scheme for the training of women in an adult Centre and details of this will be submitted to the Committee early in 1957. If the necessary Ministerial and other consents are forthcoming it is hoped that building should be under way by the latter half of 1957. The provision of an Adult Industrial Centre for females will mark a considerable advance towards the Authority's plan to provide training facilities for all mentally handicapped persons (irrespective of age) in the community who are able to benefit.

The Harvest Festival was held at the Occupation Centre on 6th September—this was the second event of its kind. Parents, friends and members of the Committee were present and the children contributed appropriate items to the programme. As in the previous year, the fruit, flowers and produce which decorated the building were later distributed to local patients in the nearest mental deficiency hospitals at Bradford and Todmorden.

The Centre was included for the first time this year in the Autumnal distribution of bulbs to schools by the Halifax Gardens Guild. Over 100 daffodils were given by the Guild and planted by the children at the Centre. It is hoped that next Spring the Occupation Centre children may be able to enter the Guild's annual competition for school children.

A system of bus contracts was introduced in August to enable those children who travel from suburban districts to the central assembly point by ordinary service buses to do so without payment of fares. The method has proved satisfactory and is appreciated by parents who escort children on such journeys.

The year closed with the Annual Christmas Party on 19th December provided by the Parents' Group. This was held in traditional style and beginning in the afternoon, continued until early evening. An innovation this year was a pantomime outing during the Christmas holidays. A block of 67 seats was booked at the Palace Theatre, all expenses being defrayed from the Parents' Fund.

Once again the League of Friends of Halifax Hospitals provided gifts of sweets, tobacco, etc., to local patients in mental and mental deficiency hospitals at Christmas time. 457 patients in seven of the nearest hospitals were the recipients of these gifts. This has now become an established practice of the League of Friends each Christmas and is much appreciated by patients away from their homes.

During 1956, we have again been indebted to various voluntary associations whose aid we have sought in dealing with matters falling beyond the ambit of the statutory services. These associations include the Halifax Council of Social Service, British Red Cross Society, Children's Welfare League (Norland Holiday Home) and

the Y.M.C.A. Thanks are also expressed to the local magistrates who willingly give of their time to see patients in their homes or in hospitals at what must be on many occasions most inconvenient times to themselves.

TABLE "D"

Cases dealt with under Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38.

	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
1. (a) New cases notified during year ...	13	20	20	15	22
(b) Cases brought forward from previous year which had not been acted upon ...	—	—	—	—	1
Total cases during current year ...	13	20	20	15	23
2. Disposal of cases notified (as para. 1):					
(a) Admitted to Hospitals ...	2	4	2	4	3
(b) Placed under Statutory Supervision ...	9	15	14	11	19
(c) Placed under Voluntary Supervision ...	—	—	2	—	—
(d) Found not to be defective ...	2	1	2	—	1
	13	20	20	15	23
3. Movement of patients during year:					
(a) Ceased to be under Statutory Supervision on account of:					
(i) Being admitted to Hospitals ...	9	3	3	4	6
(ii) Removal from this area ...	1	1	1	1	—
(iii) Death ...	1	1	—	2	—
(iv) Being placed under Voluntary Supervision ...	—	—	—	7	—
(b) Ceased to be under Voluntary Supervision on account of:					
(i) Being admitted to Hospital ...	—	1	—	—	—
(ii) Removal from this area ...	—	—	1	—	—
(c) Ceased to be under Hospital case (including Licence leave) on account of:					
(i) Discharge from Order (by Board of Control) ...	9	1	1	3	2
(ii) Death ...	3	—	1	1	1
4. Distribution of patients at 31st December:					
(a) In Hospitals ...	143	143	139	140	136
(b) On Licence ...	9	10	8	7	7
(c) Under Guardianship ...	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Under Statutory Supervision ...	118	118	108	98	101
(e) Under Voluntary Supervision ...	11	11	12	11	4
Total number of patients ...	281	282	267	256	248
5. Number of patients under training ...	28	29	27	—	—
6. Cases awaiting admission to Hospitals ...	7	10	8	7	8
7. Patients who received Short-term Care ...	8	7	—	—	—
8. Total number of visits paid by Authorized Officers (cases of amentia only) ...	1185	1186	625	530	589

Miscellaneous

National Assistance Act, 1948.

A few cases have been reported to me under Section 47 of this Act but I have been able to deal with them satisfactorily without compulsory orders.

I am indebted to Mr. G. S. Bradbury, Chief Welfare Officer for the following information:—

FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS.

	Causes of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which Para. 7(c) of Forms B.D. 8 recommends:—				
(a) No treatment ..	15	5	—	27
(b) Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical)	14	4	—	8
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ..	7	4	—	7

The numbers of epileptics under the care of the Welfare Services Department at the 31st December, 1956, were:—

Resident in Homes for Epileptics.

2 Females.

Resident in Part III Accommodation.

2 Males (1 blind and 1 sighted).

Epileptics on Register of Blind Persons.

3 Males (1 in Storther's Hall Hospital, 1 in St. Catherine's Institution, Doncaster, and 1 a boy of 12 (spastic) who attends Quarry House School).

3 Females (two are incapable of work or training, and the third is an M.D. patient in Thornton View Hospital).

Epileptics in Mental Hospitals.

1 Female (sighted)—Storthes Hall Hospital.

Epileptics Resident at Home.

4 Males.

I am sorry I am unable to give you any information regarding the incidence of epilepsy or cerebral palsy in the area.

With regard to the Epileptic Colony at Cookridge Hall, Leeds, this Home is now occupied by 30 male patients. The Welfare Services Committee have been allocated the use of one bed. Only one case has been brought to my notice for admission, but after two weeks, the man refused to stay any longer. The bed is at present occupied by a case from another local authority. The Home is now running satisfactorily, the men being engaged in the garden and on the farm according to their suitability.

Dr. J. M. McAlpin, from the Ministry of Health Department at Leeds, carries out the medical duties at the Home, and is in close liaison with the Consultants of the Leeds Hospital Board. His reports indicate a general improvement in the patients' progress.

The Provisional Management Committee of Cookridge Hall are hoping to provide additional accommodation in the near future.

FOOD POISONING.

Food may be injurious to human beings in various ways:—

- (1) Some foods are **poisonous in themselves**—e.g. fungi eaten in mistake for mushrooms.
- (2) Food may be **contaminated by chemicals**—e.g. metals in tinning processes, arsenic from harmful colouring matters, etc.
- (3) **Parasites** may contaminate food.
- (4) **Bacterial Infection**—much the most important group.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

These include skilled meat inspection at the time of slaughter, thorough cleanliness of food premises, general cleanliness in manufacture, sale and distribution of food. Food handlers should be instructed in food hygiene. Simple precautions—like washing the hands after using the toilet—will go a long way in the prevention of food poisoning.

No. of notifications received=1.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Your Medical Officer carries out the medical examinations of entrants to the staff of the Corporation for superannuation purposes; of those who appear to be medically unfit to continue in employment and of those who have had prolonged or repeated absence on account of illness.

In connection with the last two mentioned categories, it is frequently necessary to correspond with medical and surgical specialists on the staff of hospitals, and with general medical practitioners, and I have pleasure in recording and I have always received from them the greatest assistance and courtesy.

The number of medical examinations during the year were:—
Superannuation, 406; Others, 45.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Mortuary is situate in Hall Street. Arrangements have been made for the badly-needed additional ventilation. There were 104 P.M.s performed during 1956.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. A. L. Gray, Waterworks Engineer and Manager, for the following report:—

- (i) The water supply of the area has been highly satisfactory both in quantity and quality.

- (ii) Bacteriological examinations of raw water:—

380 Samples. Results varying from 0 to 180+ pres.B.Coli.

Bacteriological examinations of filtered and treated water:—

787 Samples. Results highly satisfactory.

These samples were taken and checked at the Waterworks Laboratory. In addition 170 samples were taken independently by the Borough Analyst and the results of his bacteriological analyses were all highly satisfactory. Average chemical analyses for Thrum Hall Filtered and Crude Water are attached.

- (iii) The soft moorland water supplied to Halifax is liable to have plumbo-solvent action. To counteract this the raw water is treated with lime and the pH factor raised to 8.0 to 8.5.

The number of chemical analyses taken is 13 and the results are averaged on aforementioned enclosures.

- (iv) The raw water is chemically treated, filtered and chlorinated before use. All new mains are sterilised by chlorination and flushed out prior to being put into service. Number of yards sterilised: 6,470.

- (v) The number of dwellinghouses and the population supplied:—

(a) Direct to the house—33,500 houses: 99,000 population.

(b) By means of standpipe—5 houses.

SEWAGE.

I am indebted to Mr. C. Lumb, Sewage Works Manager, for the following report:—

Sewage Purification.

The purification of sewage and trade effluent continues to be an essential link in the chain of public health services, without which there would be a retrogression to the notoriously insanitary conditions of past generations. It is a statutory duty which the Corporation must perform under various Acts of Parliament, the latest being the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951.

Apart from minor exceptions, the drainage from the Borough gravitates to the Sewage Purification Works situated on adjoining sites at Salterhebble, Copley and North Dean, where it is efficiently purified, eventually to pass to the River Calder as tributaries of clean water in accordance with the requirements of the Yorkshire Ouse River Board. Treatment comprises scientifically-controlled precipitation followed by bio-chemical oxidation of the precipitated liquor, the latter being accomplished either in bacteria beds or activated sludge (bio-aeration) plants.

The sludge residues produced are mechanically dewatered and further processed to yield sterilised by-products, in the shape of grease and fertilisers. These latter are then sold, thus achieving complete and hygienic disposal of originally objectionable materials, simultaneously with maximum conservation of recoverable raw materials in the national interest.

Due to the presence of trade waste waters, contributed by over 70 manufacturing premises in the Borough, the works are approximately double the size which would otherwise suffice for the domestic population. They are being almost continually modernised and kept up-to-date. Based on the results of research conducted in the Department, a programme is at present in hand for increasing the effective capacity of the bacteria bed installation at Copley by converting certain beds to an intensified system which successfully enables double duty to be obtained from them. The plant is thus being kept abreast of requirements—which tend to show an increasing trend—in a very economical manner.

During last year, no less than 2,125 million gallons of sewage and trade effluents were purified. Fifty-three thousand five hundred tons of wet sludge residues were produced which after dewatering and processing yielded 450 tons of recovered grease and 3,501 tons of fertilisers.

The exceptions referred to above are the Luddenden and Northowram areas, which owing to the topography of the Borough cannot economically be drained to Salterhebble. Drainage from these areas passes to the sewage works of Luddenden Foot Joint Sewerage Board and Brighouse Corporation, respectively, and is dealt with by these undertakings.

CLEANSING.

I am indebted to Mr. B. Fellows, Director of Public Cleansing, for the following notes:—

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

During the year a total of 32,381 tons of house and trade refuse were handled by the Department. Of this quantity 16,747 tons were dealt with at the separation-incineration plant at Charlestown and the remaining 15,634 tons were disposed of by controlled tipping at Birks Hall.

Salvage.

The income from reclaimed materials from house refuse together with processed wastes and offals from Markets and Abattoir realised the sum of £29,090.

Street and Gully Cleansing.

Roadways have received regular cleansing by the use of mechanical sweeper-collectors. Footpaths have received as much attention as possible with the staff available, but the use of the litter receptacles by the public would help in this respect.

During the year 63,847 gullies were cleansed.

SECTION 3

Sanitary Circumstances

Housing

Food

(Inspection and Supervision)

including

Milk Distribution

Food and Drugs Sampling

Meat and other Foods

Ice Cream, etc.

Factories

Rodent Control

Smoke Abatement

Atmospheric Pollution

Sanitary Circumstances and Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. H. Margerison, M.R.S.H., Chief Public Health Inspector, for the following report:—

Inspections and Visits.

Dwellinghouses:—

Primary Inspections under the Housing Acts	...	...	186
Subsequent Inspections under the Housing Acts	...	...	174
Visits re work in progress under the Housing Acts	...	...	127
Visits re removals and disinfestations	...	...	912
Inspections on behalf of Borough Treasurer	...	...	181
Dwellinghouses re sanitary defects	...	...	1,037
Dwellinghouses re notifiable diseases	...	...	225
Dwellinghouses re dirty and/or verminous conditions	...	...	151
Dwellinghouses re overcrowding	...	...	10
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	4
Houses-let-in-Lodgings	...	...	18

Drainage:—

Public sewers inspected	...	...	214
Public sewers tested	...	...	43
Drains inspected (special inspections only)	...	...	529
Drains tested	...	...	204

Factories, etc.:—

Factories (with power)	...	...	85
Factories (without power)	...	...	12
Outworkers' premises	...	...	4
Workplaces (General)	...	...	4
Workplaces (Offices)	...	...	2

Shops:—

Shops (Shops Act, 1950, Section 38)	...	...	4
Shops—other visits	...	...	96

Food Inspection:—

Milk Distributors	...	...	6
Dairies	...	...	47
Milkshops	...	...	13
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	13
Bakehouses	...	...	17
Butchers' Shops	...	...	16
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	74
Restaurants, Cafés, etc.	...	...	47
Other Food Premises	...	...	149

Smoke Abatement:—

Smoke Observations	40
Works, etc., re smoke emission	...	...	...	...	...	45

Sampling:—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	254
Bacteriological Samples—Milk	...	...	...	...	...	55
Bacteriological Samples—Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	42
Biological Samples—Milk	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water	...	...	...	...	...	14
Swimming Baths Water	...	...	...	...	...	32
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	...	...	25

General:—

Premises re Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act	...	...	...	...	...	19
Premises re Pharmacy and Poisons Act	...	...	...	...	...	15
Stables re nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fowls, Swine and other animals	...	...	...	...	...	22
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Places of Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	16
Public Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	269
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	5
Knacker's Yards	...	...	...	...	...	1
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	3
Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	...	1,698
Total number of Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	...	...	7,177
Total number of re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2,870

Sanitary Improvements Effected.

Informal
Action

Dwellinghouses:—

General repairs	...	...	...	...	...	432
Dirty Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	44
Council houses found bug infested and disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	9
Other houses found bug infested and disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	9
Houses cleared of vermin (other than bugs)	...	...	...	...	...	56
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	2

Drainage:—

Sewers cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	111
Drains cleansed and/or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	135
Drains reconstructed or new drains provided	...	...	...	...	...	43
Public sewers repaired and/or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	13

Factories:—

Factories with mechanical power. Nuisances abated or improvements effected	12
Factories without mechanical power. Nuisances abated or improvements effected	...	...	...	...	...	3

Workplaces (General)—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	1
Workplaces (Offices)—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	3
Shops:—	
(General)—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	10
Food Premises:—	
Fried Fish Shops—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	3
Bakehouses—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	2
Butchers' Shops—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	1
Milkshops—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	1
Restaurants, Cafés, etc.—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	5
Other Food premises—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	2
Smoke Abatement:—	
Boiler Plants improved re emission of smoke	2
General:—	
Premises cleared of rats—Dwellinghouses	355
Other premises	272
Premises cleared of mice—Dwellinghouses	197
Other premises	195
Stables—Nuisances abated or improvements effected ...	2
Fowls, Swine and other animals—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	5
Places of Public Entertainment—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	3
Public Sanitary Conveniences—Nuisances abated or improvements effected	44
Noise—Nuisances abated or improvements effected ...	3
Miscellaneous sanitary improvements effected	28

Prosecutions during 1956

Date of Hearing	Act	Offence	Penalty
21/2/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 32 (3)	(a) Selling milk to which had been added at least 8.3% extraneous water.	Defendant fined £5 on each of the two charges (a total of £10) with £2 14s. 9d. costs.
10/4/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 32 (3)	(b) The like offence—8.7%. (a) Selling milk to which had been added at least 12.4% extraneous water (b) The like offence —11.0% (c) do. 8.3% (d) do. 6.1% (e) do. 7.8% (f) do. 7.0% (g) do. 8.7% (h) do. 8.9% (i) do. 5.0% (j) do. 6.4% (k) do. 7.8%	Defendant fined £50 on the first charge, with £2 costs, and given a conditional discharge on the other ten charges.
18/4/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 32 (3)	(a) Having in his possession for the purpose of sale for human consumption milk to which had been added at least 11.6% extraneous water. (b) The like offence—12.1% (c) do. 12.8%	Defendant fined £25 on the first charge, with £1 19s. 6d. costs, and given a conditional discharge on the other two charges.
20/6/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 32 (3)	(a) Offering for sale milk to which had been added at least 19.6% extraneous water. (b) The like offence—18.0%.	Defendant fined £5 on each of the two charges (a total of £10).
20/6/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 32 (3).	Offering for sale milk to which had been added at least 21.0% extraneous water.	Defendant fined £20, with £2 1s. 0d. costs.
13/7/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2.	(a) Selling milk not of the substance demanded, in that it was adulterated by at least 9.0% extraneous water and was also 5.0% deficient in fat.	Defendant fined £2 on the first charge, with 4s. costs, and given a conditional discharge on the second charge.
	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 37 (5)	(b) Selling milk without the use of a special designation where such special designation is obligatory.	
13/7/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 37 (5)	Selling milk without the use of a special designation where such special designation is obligatory.	Defendant given a conditional discharge on payment of 4s. costs.
19/12/56	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2.	Selling milk not of the substance demanded, in that it was 17.0% deficient in fat.	Defendant fined £5, with £4 7s. 2d. costs.

General

Fertilisers and Feedings Stuffs Act, 1926.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Regulations, 1932.

Of the 25 samples obtained during the year, 10 were of fertilisers and 15 were of feeding stuffs. Five of these samples were unsatisfactory, and appropriate action was taken by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.

Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

At the end of 1956 there were 165 registered sellers of Part II poisons, occupying 219 registered premises.

There were 15 inspections of these premises during the year.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

At the end of the year there were 7 premises registered under this enactment.

No samples were taken.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Section 1 of the above mentioned legislation, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1952, enacts that no person shall keep a Pet Shop except under a licence granted by the Local Authority.

Twelve applications were received during the year and licences were granted in each case.

Places of Public Entertainment.

During the year 16 inspections were made of theatres, cinemas and other premises for which theatre licences are necessary and

The Centre was visited by an Inspector of the Board of Control improvements were carried out in three cases.

Swimming Baths.

Every month the swimming bath waters are sampled for chemical and bacteriological examination at the Public Baths and all School Swimming Baths.

Conditions have been greatly improved during the year, and the caretakers at all school baths have been instructed in the chlorination and proper treatment of the bath water.

Public Sanitary Conveniences.

Under the control of the Health Department there are 43 public sanitary conveniences, consisting of 16 sanitary conveniences for males, 15 for females, and 12 public urinals.

At the two main conveniences in town—Bull Green and George Square—where there are full-time attendants and where lavatory accommodation is provided, facilities are available for the

free washing of hands after use of the toilets. For this purpose washbasins with hot and cold water have been installed and cream-soap and paper towels are provided. The service has proved very popular but at the same time has suffered a certain amount of abuse.

A considerable amount of misuse and wanton damage takes place at the unattended conveniences, automatic locks and fittings being in constant need of repair or replacement.

Health Education.

During the year lectures have been given by the Chief Public Health Inspector, as follows:—

“Public Health” (with film strip)—Youth Citizenship Course.

“Food Hygiene” (with film strip)—National Hospital Reserve.

“New Food Hygiene Regulations”—Halifax and District Chamber of Trade.

“New Food Hygiene Regulations”—Halifax and District Master Grocers' Association.

“The Clean Air Act and the Householder”—Women's Advisory Council on Solid Fuel.

Housing

Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 1,495
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 3,338
 - (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 194
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 322
 - (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 194
 - (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... Nil
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 567
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—
 - (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—
 - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 3
 - (2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—
 - (a) By owners ... Nil
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil
 - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—
 - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 30
 - (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—
 - (a) By owners ... 21
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 24
 - (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	46
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	17
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	8
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit ...	2
(e)	Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas ...	44
4.	Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV)—Overcrowding.	
(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	1,125
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein ...	1,160
(3)	Number of "persons" dwelling therein ...	4,190
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	22
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	1
(2)	Number of "persons" concerned in such cases ...	5
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ...	Nil

Eradication of Bed-Bugs.

(1) (a) (1)	Number of Council Houses found infested ...	9
(2)	Number of Council Houses disinfested ...	9
(b) (1)	Number of other houses found infested ...	9
(2)	Number of other houses disinfested ...	9
(c)	Number of houses where furniture was disinfested with HCN gas at Charlestown ...	168

Closing and Demolition Orders: Housing Act, 1936.

Continuing the information given in previous reports, the following Table shows the position on the 31st December, 1956:—

Ref. No.	Situation	Date of Report	Date of Closing Order	Date of Demolition Order	Remarks
328	3, Fieldside, Pellon	23/2/56	—	10/4/56	House vacated
329	4, " "	23/2/56	—	10/4/56	House vacated
330	5, " "	23/2/56	—	10/4/56	House vacated
331	11, Filey Street	23/2/56	27/4/56	—	House vacated
332	1/2, James' Court	22/3/56	—	1/6/56	House vacated
333	3, " "	22/3/56	—	1/6/56	House vacated
334	4, " "	22/3/56	—	1/6/56	House vacated
335	5, Cockcroft's Court	22/3/56	—	1/6/56	House still occupd
336	6, " "	22/3/56	—	1/6/56	House vacated
337	7/8, " "	22/3/56	—	1/6/56	House vacated
338	1, Gleanings	19/4/56	—	27/7/56	House vacated
339	2, " "	19/4/56	—	27/7/56	House vacated
340	3, " "	19/4/56	—	27/7/56	House vacated
341	4, " "	19/4/56	—	27/7/56	House still occupd
342	5, " "	19/4/56	—	27/7/56	House vacated
343	49, Crib Lane	17/5/56	13/7/56	—	House vacated
344	23, Abbey Street	21/6/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
345	16, Gibson Street	21/6/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
346	10, Ovenden Wood Road	21/6/56	—	—	Undertaking to repair accepted
347	1, Thomas Street	21/6/56	19/9/56	—	House vacated
348	20, Angel Road	23/8/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
349	11a, Blackledge	23/8/56	5/10/56	—	House vacated
350	2, Hebble Mill Yard	20/9/56	—	8/11/56	Hse. demolished
351	3/4, " "	20/9/56	—	8/11/56	Hse. demolished
352	5, Crossley's Buildings	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	House vacated
353	6, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	House vacated
354	7, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	Hse. still occupd
355	8, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	House vacated
356	9, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	House vacated
357	9, Shroggs Road	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	Hse. still occupd.
358	11, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	Hse. still occupd.
359	13, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	House vacated
360	15, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	Hse. still occupd.
361	17, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	Hse. still occupd.
362	19, " "	25/10/56	—	1/12/56	House vacated
363	2, Bowling Dyke	25/10/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
364	3, " "	25/10/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
365	4, " "	25/10/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
366	5, " "	25/10/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
367	11, Old Lane	25/10/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
368	13, " "	25/10/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
369	15, " "	25/10/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted

Ref. No.	Situation	Date of Report	Date of Closing Order	Date of Demolition Order	Remarks
370	45, John Street North	22/11/56	30/1/57	—	House vacated
371	55, " "	22/11/56	30/1/57	—	House vacated
372	59, " "	22/11/56	30/1/57	—	House vacated
373	61, " "	22/11/56	30/1/57	—	House vacated
374	20, Ramsden Street	22/11/56	—	—	Undertaking not to re-let accepted
375	1, Senior's Buildings	13/12/56	—	7/2/57	Dem. proceeding
376	2, " "	13/12/56	—	7/2/57	Dem. proceeding
377	3, " "	13/12/56	—	7/2/57	Dem. proceeding
378	6, " "	13/12/56	—	7/2/57	Dem. proceeding
379	8, " "	13/12/56	—	7/2/57	Dem. proceeding
380	10, " "	13/12/56	—	7/2/57	Dem. proceeding
381	12, " "	13/12/56	—	7/2/57	Dem. proceeding
382	1, Lucy Street	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
383	3, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
384	5, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
385	7, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
386	9, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
387	11, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
388	11a, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
389	13, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
390	15, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
391	17, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
392	19, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding
393	21, " "	13/12/56	—	1/3/57	Dem. proceeding

CLEARANCE AREAS.

The Halifax (Brunswick Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1956.

The above Order was confirmed, with modifications, by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 25th October, 1956.

There are 76 houses and 3 other premises in the area with a total population of 179 persons, involving 69 families.

The following Clearance Areas were represented to the Housing Committee on the 25th October, 1956:—

Gibbet Street Clearance Area.

This area comprises 6,135 square yards, or 1,267 acres. It contains 71 dwellinghouses and 16 other buildings with a population of 171 persons, involving 56 families.

Cote Hill Clearance Area.

This area comprises 2,060 square yards, or 0.426 acres. It contains 28 dwellinghouses with a population of 52 persons, involving 24 families.

Skye Alley Clearance Area.

This area comprises 2,022 square yards, or 0.418 acres. It contains 9 dwellinghouses, 2 empty and derelict shops, a joiner's workshop and a paint shop, making a total of 13 properties. There is a population of 25 persons, involving 6 families.

Sunderland's Yard Clearance Area.

This area comprises 1,074 square yards, or 0.222 acres. It contains 13 dwellinghouses with a population of 13 persons, involving 7 families.

Wade Street (Lower) Clearance Area.

This area comprises 474 square yards, or 0.098 acres. It contains 7 dwellinghouses with a population of 14 persons, involving 7 families.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. Certificates of Disrepair.

During the year, 4 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received from tenants of houses. Of these, 3 were granted and 1 refused.

No applications for the revocation of such Certificates were received from owners.

Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946.

No cases were referred by the Housing Committee to the Furnished Houses Rent Tribunal, under the above Act.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is only one Common Lodging House in the Borough, and 4 inspections of same were made during the year. It was found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Houses-Let-in-Lodgings.

At the end of the year there were 49 Houses-Let-in-Lodgings, providing accommodation for 237 families. There were 18 inspections made during the year and conditions generally were satisfactory.

Cleansing Facilities.

There is a Cleansing Station, which operates under the general supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector, at the Disinfestation Station, Charlestown. Hot baths and showers and the usual cleansing materials are provided.

Men are cleansed by the attendant at the Disinfestation Station, and the cleansing of women is carried out under the supervision of a Health Visitor.

Provision exists for the steam sterilisation of clothing and, if necessary, for bedding, etc. Where necessary, houses are treated with an approved vermicide.

Food (Inspection and Supervision)

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

This new consolidating Act came into force on the 1st January, 1956.

Sampling of Food and Drugs.

A total of 254 samples of Food and Drugs was obtained during the year and submitted to the Public Analyst.

These included 127 samples of milk, 34 samples of ice cream and 93 samples of food and drugs.

Samples of milk "not genuine" according to the Sale of Milk Regulations numbered 25, giving a percentage of 19.69.

All the 34 samples of ice cream were reported as satisfactory.

Of the 93 samples of other food and drugs, 5 (or 5.38%) were reported not genuine.

Details of all samples will be found in the following Tables:—

TABLE 1.

Nature of Sample	No. of Samples taken			No. not genuine		
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total
Milk	*126	—	*126	25	—	25
Channel Island Milk ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef Suet—						
Shredded	3	—	3	—	—	—
Flaked	1	—	1	—	—	—
Beer	4	—	4	—	—	—
Butter	4	1	5	—	—	—
Cherries, Glace	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cinnamon, Ground	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cocoa	—	2	2	—	—	—
Coconut Desiccated	—	2	2	—	—	—
Coffee	—	3	3	—	—	—
Cream—						
(Synthetic) Buns	—	1	1	—	—	—
(Imitation) Trifles	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fish—						
Cakes	—	5	5	—	—	—
Paste Salmon	1	—	1	—	—	—
Salmon Fresh Potted	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ginger—						
Crystallised	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ground	2	—	2	—	—	—
Honey	2	—	2	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	34	34	—	—	—
Meat—						
Paste	2	—	2	—	—	—
Potted	11	—	11	2	—	2
Oil—						
Castor	—	1	1	—	—	—
Olive	—	4	4	—	—	—
Tea Seed	—	1	1	—	—	—
Preserves—						
Damson	1	—	1	—	—	—
Lemon Cheese	2	—	2	—	—	—
Lemon Curd	1	—	1	—	—	—
Mincemeat	2	—	2	—	—	—
Strawberry	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rice, Ground... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausages—						
Beef	18	2	20	1	—	1
Pork	3	—	3	1	—	1
Semolina	—	1	1	—	—	—
Soft Drinks—						
Lemon Squash	1	—	1	1	—	1
Orange Squash	1	—	1	—	—	—
Spirits—						
Gin	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rum	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sherry	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whisky (Scotch)	1	—	1	—	—	—
	193	61	254	30	—	30

*Includes 9 "Appeal to Cow" Samples which were genuine.

TABLE 2.

Administrative action taken in respect of samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine or otherwise irregular.

No. of Sample	Nature of Sample, and Result of Analysis, etc.	Administrative Action Taken
1	Milk— 8.3% added water	The matter was reported to the Health Committee, who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 21st February, 1956, when, after pleading guilty, the defendant was fined £5 in respect of each offence, and ordered to pay £2 14s. 9d. costs.
2	Milk— 8.7% added water	
11	Pork Sausages— Deficient in Meat	Formal sample of his own manufacture, obtained from a butcher. No further action.
14	Milk— 12.4% added water	The matter was reported to the Health Committee, who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 10th April, 1956, when the defendant pleaded guilty to all 11 cases. He was fined £50 on the first charge, and granted a conditional discharge on the other ten. In addition, he was required to pay four shillings costs on each of the ten charges i.e., a total of £52 in all.
15	11.0% added water	
16	8.3% added water	
17	6.1% added water	
18	7.8% added water	
19	7.0% added water	
20	8.7% added water	
22	8.9% added water	
23	5.0% added water	
24	6.4% added water	
25	7.8% added water	
40	Milk— 11.6% added water	The matter was reported to the Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 18th April 1956, when the defendant pleaded guilty to three charges. He was fined £25 on the first charge, and ordered to pay £1 17s. 6d. costs. He was given a conditional discharge in respect of the other two charges, on payment of 4s. costs in each case.
41	Milk— 12.1% added water	
43	Milk— 12.8% added water	
64	Milk— 7.6% deficient in fat	A formal sample, being one of four taken from a producer's consignment awaiting collection at the farm. Letter of warning sent by Chief Sanitary Inspector.
65	Milk— 21.0% added water	The matter was reported to the Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 20th June 1956, when after pleading not guilty, the defendant was fined £20, and ordered to pay £2 1s. 0d. costs.

TABLE 2—Continued.

No. of Sample	Nature of Sample, and Result of Analysis, etc.	Administrative Action Taken
66	Milk— 19.6% added water	The matter was reported to the Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 20th June 1956, when the defendant, after pleading not guilty, was fined £10, being £5 on each summons.
67	Milk— 18.0% added water	
83	Potted Meat— Deficient in meat	Formal sample obtained from a butcher, being his own manufacture, reported to contain only 63% of meat. The matter was reported to the Health Committee who instructed the Town Clerk to send a letter of warning to the seller.
87	Milk— 9.0% added water 5.0% deficient in fat	Formal sample obtained from a dairyman. The matter was reported to the Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 13th July, 1956, when after pleading not guilty the defendant was fined £2.
87	Milk— Undesignated	
90	Milk— Raw and undesignated	Formal sample obtained from a dairyman stated to be Pasteurised Milk, but reported to be Raw Milk. The matter was reported to the Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 13th July, 1956 when the defendant pleaded guilty to the offence under Section 37 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, relating to the use of a special designation. He was given a conditional discharge on payment of four shillings costs.
119	Beef Sausages— Deficient in meat	Formal sample of his own manufacture, obtained from a butcher, reported to contain only 45% of meat instead of at least 50% in the opinion of the Public Analyst. Verbal caution given to the manufacturer.
176	Milk— 3% deficient in fat	Formal sample reported to be 3% deficient in fat. No further action.

TABLE 2—Continued.

No. of Sample	Nature of Sample, and Result of Analysis, etc.	Administrative Action Taken
214	Milk— 17% deficient in fat	The matter was reported to the Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Halifax Borough Court on 19th December, 1956, when the defendant pleaded guilty to the offence under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and was fined £5 and ordered to pay costs of £4 7s. 0d.
219	Milk— 5.4% added water	Following the taking of "Appeal to Cow" samples (West Riding County Council Nos. 21167 and 21168) which in analysis were abnormally low in non-fatty solids, and also in freezing point depression, indicating adulteration with a small percentage of water, the matter was reported to the Health Committee, who authorised the Town Clerk to send a letter of warning to the producer.
220	Milk— 5.7% added water	
238	Potted Meat— Deficient in meat	Formal sample, of his own manufacture obtained from a butcher, reported to contain only 57% of meat instead of a recommended 70% by the Public Analyst. The matter was reported to the Health Committee who authorised the Town Clerk to send a letter of warning to the producer.
243	Lemon Squash— Excessive preservative	Formal sample obtained from a manufacturer, reported to contain 512 parts per million, instead of a maximum of 350 parts per million, and to infringe the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations. The matter was reported to the Health Committee on 14th January, 1957, who authorised the Town Clerk to send a letter of warning.

NOTE.—Milk samples, except where stated otherwise, were obtained formally at the "place of delivery" to the Pasteuriser's Plant.

TABLE 3.

Monthly Average Composition of Milk Samples.

Month	No. of Samples	Analytical Data	
		Milk Fat per cent	Non-fatty Solids per cent
January	2	3.14	7.77
February	22	3.39	8.14
March	—	—	—
April	8	3.28	8.28
May	6	3.71	8.76
June	12	3.66	8.10
July	—	—	—
August	18	3.95	8.88
September	20	3.61	8.86
October	22	4.08	8.99
November	2	3.49	8.03
December	6	3.69	8.78
Total	118		
Average for the year 1956 ...		3.67	8.58
" " 1955 ...		3.67	8.79
" " 1954 ...		3.80	8.71
" " 1953 ...		3.68	8.78
" " 1952 ...		3.67	8.78
" " 1951 ...		3.72	8.73
" " 1950 ...		3.66	8.75
" " 1949 ...		3.68	8.77
" " 1948 ...		3.71	8.74
" " 1947 ...		3.88	8.76

NOTE.—9 "Appeal to Cow" samples are excluded from the above Table.

TABLE 4.

Articles of Food examined for Preservatives in accordance with the
Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations.

Food	No. of samples examined	Permitted Preservative	Amount		Remarks
			Allowed	Found	
Milk	127	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Butter	5	Nil	Nil	5-Nil	
Beer	4	Sulphur Dioxide	70 ppm	4-Nil	
Cherries, Glacé	1	Sulphur Dioxide	100 ppm	Nil	
Fish Cakes ...	5	Nil	Nil	5-Nil	
Ginger, Crystallised	1	Sulphur Dioxide	100 ppm	Nil	
Honey	2	Nil	Nil	2-Nil	
Jam	2	Sulphur Dioxide	100 ppm	2-Nil	
Lemon Cheese	2	Nil— except as allowed in ingredients		2-Nil	
Lemon Curd ...	1	do.		Nil	
Meat Paste ...	2	Nil	Nil	2-Nil	
Meat, Potted ...	11	Nil	Nil	11-Nil	
Mincemeat ...	2	Nil— except as allowed in ingredients		2-Nil	
Salmon, Fresh Potted	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Salmon Paste...	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	

TABLE 4—Continued

Food	No. of samples examined	Permitted Preservative	Amount		Remarks
			Allowed	Found	
Sausages ...	23	Sulphur Dioxide	450 ppm	4-Nil	
				1-40 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-42 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-72 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-73 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-120 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-125 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-130 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-133 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-139 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-149 ppm	Satisfactory
				3-160 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-173 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-177 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-205 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-230 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-234 ppm	Satisfactory
				1-304 ppm	Satisfactory
Soft drinks ...	2	Sulphur Dioxide	350 ppm	1-314 ppm	Satisfactory
				-Nil	
		or Benzoic Acid	600 ppm	1-512 ppm	Unsatisfactory. See Sample No. 243 in Table 2.
				-Nil	

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 and 1953.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953.

Milk Distribution.

At the end of the year there were 291 registered distributors of milk (excluding dairy farmers) within the Borough, and there were 15 registered dairy premises.

Licences, under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, were granted as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk—Pasteuriser's Licence	...	...	1
Pasteurised Milk—Dealers' Licences	...	...	73
Pasteurised Milk—Supplementary Licences	...	...	17
Sterilised Milk—Dealers' Licences	...	...	201
Sterilised Milk—Supplementary Licences	...	...	4
Tuberculin Tested Milk—Dealers' Licences	...	...	71
Tuberculin Tested Milk—Supplementary Licences	...	...	16

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

During the year, 55 samples of milk—as shown below— were submitted to bacteriological examination, and all were satisfactory.

Designation	Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	49	49	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	6	6	—
Total	55	55	—

Biological Examination of Milk.

During the year 5 samples of milk were submitted to biological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service, all of which were of milk produced within the Borough.

One (or 20.0%) of the milks gave a positive result.

No notices were served by the Medical Officer of Health, in accordance with Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Manufacture and/or Sale of Ice Cream.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1952.

During the year 74 inspections were made of 337 registered premises:—

Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vendors only	...	...	...	...	...	...	336

A total of 42 samples was submitted to bacteriological examination by the Methylene blue reduction test, particulars of which are given in the following Table:—

Produced	No. of Samples	Grade 1 Highly Satisfactory	Grade 2 Satisfactory	Grade 3 Unsatisfactory	Grade 4 Very Unsatisfactory
In Borough	2	2 (100.00%)	—	—	—
Outside of Borough	40	37 (92.50%)	2 (5.00%)	—	1 (2.50%)
Total	42	39 (92.86%)	2 (4.76%)	—	1 (2.38%)

I am pleased to be able to report that all mobile vans and carts selling Ice Cream in this Borough are so constructed as to comply with the Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and also equipped with means for the provision of hot water and washing of the hands. In addition, towels are provided and sterilising agents for the treatment of the servers.

Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages, etc.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

At the end of the year there were 78 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods.

Fried Fish Shops.

During the year 13 inspections were made of 138 premises. Improvements were effected in 3 cases.

Bakehouses.

The number of bakehouses on the register at the end of the year was 79.

There were 17 inspections made, and improvements were effected in two cases.

Food Hygiene.

During the year a survey was made of the Halifax Borough Market, in order to bring the shops and stalls up to the standards of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1956.

One hundred and twenty-two shops and stalls were inspected and are divided into three kinds:—

- (1) Shops around the side of the market stalls.
- (2) Stalls in the central area of the market.
- (3) External shops outside the market.

A report was prepared on the condition of each stall, giving the type of shop, condition of the walls, floors and ceilings, water supply, drainage and general condition, together with a recommendation for each shop and stall.

This report was presented to the Markets and Parks Committee, who agreed to provide separate drainage with sink and washing facilities and hot and cold water supply to each of the premises.

Following this report several of the stalls have been modernised to comply with the regulations.

In addition, the Health Committee and the Markets and Parks Committee have agreed to build new public sanitary conveniences in the markets, with free use of toilets and hand-washing facilities to the market tenants.

No large-scale survey of the food premises and shops in the Borough has yet been made owing to the serious shortage of Public Health Inspectors, but nevertheless a number of shops have been brought up to standard by arrangement with the owners concerned.

All the travelling vans used by retail grocers and ice cream traders have been equipped with means for the provision of hot water, wash-hand basins and towels.

At the two main conveniences in the town, where there are full-time attendants, and where lavatory accommodation is provided, facilities are provided for the free washing of the hands after use of the toilets. For this purpose wash basins with hot and cold water have been installed and cream soap and paper towels are provided. This service has proved very popular.

The Chief Public Health Inspector has given talks, illustrated with film strips, on Food Hygiene, to the following associations:—
Halifax and District Master Bakers' Association.

Halifax and District Grocers' and Provision Dealers' Association.

Halifax Women's Co-operative Guild.

Various Welfare Officers and Canteen Works.

Rotary Club of Halifax.

Halifax Education Committee School Meals Service.

Halifax General Hospital.

Royal Halifax Infirmary.

St. John's Hospital.

Northowram Isolation Hospital.

Meat Inspection.

The year 1956 has seen a further increase in the number of animals slaughtered, all classes showing an increase with the exception of pigs, which have declined by over a thousand, although the consumption of pork may, in fact, be as much as last year owing to the fact that the average weight of pigs possibly has increased slightly.

Cattle numbers increased by over one thousand and here the increase is due entirely to an increase in the number of cows of manufacturing quality, all of which are marketed outside the borough. Despite this increase, the number of carcasses condemned has risen by ten only, or one per cent.

Pre-war—or even as recently as five years ago—disease was considerable in this quality of cow and it was not uncommon to achieve a total condemnation rate as high as twenty-five per cent.

During the year, nearly twelve hundred beast livers have been condemned because of damage by the liver fluke, whilst many others suffering from partial damage have had to be trimmed; this amounting to well over five tons of good food. Unlike tuberculosis, liver fluke infestation appears to be on the increase, possibly because two out of the last three summers have been unusually wet and pastures hitherto free from the fresh water snail responsible for harbouring the embryo fluke have become snail-infested.

It is, perhaps, unfortunate that cattle—unlike sheep—are almost immune to any ill effects from fluke infestation and appear to be able to withstand quite heavy damage to the liver, otherwise farmers would have them treated, as they have their sheep treated, and thus save a large quantity of valuable food.

Thanks are expressed again to Dr. Phelon and the staff of the Pathological Laboratory at the Royal Halifax Infirmary, for examination of specimens.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

The following Table shows the number of animals slaughtered during the year and the number condemned:—

	Public Abattoir						Private Slaughterhouse—Royd Farm					
	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	3,527	9,129	1,440	28,154	10,188	—	168	—	10	679	161	—
Number inspected ...	3,527	9,129	1,440	28,154	10,188	—	168	—	10	679	161	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B. & Cysticercosis	—	11	5	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	11	5	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	405	1,002	8	624	385	—	10	—	—	46	17	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and cysticercosis ...	11.4	10.9	0.9	2.2	3.8	—	5.9	—	—	6.7	10.6	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY												
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	254	1,338	—	—	184	—	6	—	—	—	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	7.2	15.1	—	—	1.8	—	3.7	—	—	—	2.2	—
CYSTICERCOSIS												
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	10	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following Table shows the total approximate weight of meat and offals destroyed on account of tuberculosis, and from other causes:—

	lbs.
Total amount of Meat destroyed	37,898
Total amount of Offals destroyed	82,218
Total amount of Meat destroyed on account of Tuberculosis	30,113
Total amount of Offals destroyed on account of Tuberculosis	53,625
Total amount of Meat destroyed from other causes	7,785
Total amount of Offals destroyed from other causes	28,593
Total Meat and Offals destroyed	120,116

Food Inspection.

The following Table shows the amount of foods condemned:—

Food Condemned	Quantity in lbs.
50 Carcases of Beef	26,300
Beef not in Carcase	8,778
5 Carcases of Veal	290
4 Carcases of Mutton	202
Mutton not in Carcase	58
7 Carcases of Pork	794
Pork not in Carcase	1,476
Offals	8,2218
Bacon and Ham	296
Canned Provisions	6,987
Cooked Meats	55
Dried Fruits	120
Eggs—frozen	224
Fish	1,029
Fruit	112
Meat Pies	32
Poultry	170
Sausages	109
Vegetables	88
Total Weight	129,338

Disposal of Condemned Food.

Carcase meat is sold by the butchers to a local firm engaged in the manufacture of dog meat, and the meat is coloured green prior to leaving the Abattoir.

On arrival at the dog meat factory the carcasses are boned out and the meat is sterilised by cooking and subsequently canned. The bones are manufactured into bone meal in another part of the factory.

Offal is taken by the Halifax Corporation Cleansing Department and manufactured into fertiliser at the Refuse Disposal Works. The process is carried out in I.W.E.L. melters and the resultant product is sterile.

Numerous requests have been received from mink breeders for permission to buy "flukey" liver, but, so far, these requests have been resisted.

Although considerable sympathy is felt for these people who are attempting to build up a new industry, capable of earning dollars, we believe that in this matter public health should be the first consideration, therefore the present method of disposing of offal should not be changed.

In addition, if this liver were used it would be the duty of the meat inspector, presumably, to grade the liver, so that only liver fit for feeding to mink would be taken. What would be the position of the meat inspector and the Corporation if an outbreak of disease in a valuable pair of mink were traced to liver passed as fit for their food by the inspector?

Other condemned foodstuffs are disposed of by burying by controlled tipping on the Corporation's tips.

Factories

H.M. Inspector of Factories sent 9 notices (comprising 19 items) under Section 9 of the Factories Act, 1937. In addition there were 6 complaints (10 items) brought forward from 1955.

Complaints remedied during the year numbered 5 (6 items). There were 10 outstanding complaints (23 items) at the end of the year.

There were 14 outworkers on the register at the end of the year, and no cases of default in sending lists to the Council were discovered (Section 110). There were no cases of outwork being carried on in unwholesome premises (Section 111).

Table 1.

Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	28	12	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	754	85	8	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority* (excluding outworkers' premises)	29	4	—	—
Total	811	101	8	—

*i.e. Electrical Stations (S.103) (1), Institutions (S.104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

Table 2.
Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	9	3	—	9	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	9	5	—	9	—

Rodent Control

Premises	Inspected		Treated		Outstanding		Cleared	
	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
Local Authority's Premises:								
Abattoir	12	12	12	12	1	—	—	11
Borough Market	17	17	17	17	—	1	11	4
Day Nurseries	2	12	—	1	—	—	—	1
Piece Hall	12	12	12	12	1	1	—	1
Refuse Disposal Works	12	12	10	10	1	—	1	9
Reservoir Embankments	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tips	29	—	16	—	1	—	3	—
School Canteens	17	74	7	35	—	—	4	23
Schools	19	53	9	26	—	—	7	16
Sewage Disposal Works	30	—	15	—	—	—	2	—
Sewers (Public) Manholes	78	—	40	—	—	—	38	—
Other Premises	24	24	15	13	—	—	10	4
Private Business Premises:								
Bone Works	11	—	7	—	1	—	—	—
Canteens	59	63	56	62	1	2	23	26
Factories (with mechanical power)	65	52	62	46	—	—	33	24
Factories (without mechanical power)	32	16	20	15	—	—	10	7
Hospitals	16	15	15	15	1	—	2	12
Hotels	18	11	16	11	—	—	12	9
Houses-let-in-Lodgings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Piggeries	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Places of Public Entertainment	7	2	2	2	—	—	1	1
Sewers (Private) Manholes	108	—	96	—	—	—	78	—
Shops	37	86	37	84	1	4	22	38
Stables	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tips	5	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Other premises	42	29	24	18	—	1	14	9
Dwellinghouses:								
Corporation Houses	50	168	47	145	2	1	32	84
Private Dwellinghouses	651	242	543	198	7	3	323	113
Totals	1,356	900	1,079	772	17	13	627	392
Summary of Operations:				Rats		Mice		Total
Number of Primary Inspections	1,356	900	2,256					
Number of Re-inspections	5,927	3,147	9,074					
Number of Complaints received	287	170	457					
Number of Complaints remedied	288	167	455					
Number of Complaints outstanding	8	7	15					
Number of Local Authority's Premises treated	153	126	279					
Number of Corporation Houses treated	47	145	192					
Number of Private Business Premises treated	336	253	589					
Number of Private Dwellinghouses treated	543	198	741					
				Local Authority		Private Business		Total
Premises test-baited and found not infested	29	16	45					
Visits with District Public Health Inspectors re drainage	—	—	17					
Estimated number of rats killed	—	—	9,301					

Smoke Abatement

The number of smoke observations made during the year was 40. Thirty of these were recorded observations of 30-minutes' duration, details of which are given in the following Table.

Visits to works in connection with smoke emission numbered 45, and the average emission of black smoke was 0.43 minutes per observation or 0.86 minutes per hour.

Boiler plants were improved re smoke emission in 2 cases.

Chimney	No. of observations (30 minutes each)	Average minutes black smoke per observation
Akroyd Place School	1	Nil
Atlas Works, Sedburgh Road	2	Nil
Berkeley House, Lewis Street	1	Nil
Bowling Dyke Dye Works	1	Nil
Bowling Dyke Mills	1	Nil
Brunswick Mills, Savile Park Road	3	Nil
Central Laundry, Wade Street	1	4.0
Drakes Limited, Ovenden	1	Nil
Elmwood Garage	2	Nil
Heath Street Joinery Works	1	Nil
Illingworth Mills	3	Nil
Lewis Street Works	1	Nil
Ovenden Secondary Modern School	1	Nil
Royal Halifax Infirmary	1	Nil
The Biscuit Factory, Ovenden	9	1.0
West Mount Works	1	Nil
Total	30	0.43

TABLE 1—DEPOSITED ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION, 1956.

Month	WADE STREET (Central)				BELLE VUE PARK ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile West)				AKROYD PARK ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile North)				INFIRMARY ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile South)				WEST VIEW PARK ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles West)			
	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Solids	Soluble Solids	Total Solids
January	5.01	12.26	11.40	23.66	4.77	10.35	12.97	23.32	5.05	4.89	9.84	14.73	4.49	5.39	7.48	12.87	5.36	4.95	9.20	14.15
February	1.38	14.41	6.45	20.86	*	*	*	*	1.30	4.61	3.63	8.24	0.67	5.79	3.23	9.02	1.34	6.99	5.70	12.69
March	1.42	15.86	7.13	22.99	1.22	8.93	5.55	14.48	11.99	8.26	7.63	19.62	1.18	7.44	4.79	12.23	*	*	*	*
April	3.47	17.27	7.87	25.14	3.39	9.24	7.60	16.84	3.43	8.06	8.06	16.32	2.13	6.48	4.82	11.30	3.55	6.53	10.17	16.70
May	1.14	11.94	4.71	16.65	0.91	6.57	3.62	10.19	0.99	8.08	5.22	13.30	1.06	5.69	3.59	9.28	1.06	5.11	3.96	9.07
June	2.64	10.00	7.15	17.15	2.64	6.13	4.33	10.46	2.44	10.98	7.64	18.62	2.60	5.72	3.85	9.57	2.96	6.46	5.52	11.98
July	5.80	8.43	9.87	18.30	6.07	4.01	11.64	15.65	5.71	18.08	8.93	27.01	5.32	4.54	8.80	13.34	5.59	4.11	8.02	12.13
August	8.17	9.85	14.70	24.55	8.02	4.56	13.16	17.72	4.69	2.37	7.31	9.68	7.81	4.66	10.48	15.14	8.01	4.57	12.43	17.00
September	3.98	11.98	6.27	18.25	3.94	5.09	5.56	10.65	*	6.93	8.12	15.05	3.55	6.27	4.34	10.61	4.06	4.84	6.16	11.00
October	2.09	7.11	5.00	12.11	2.13	3.94	4.79	8.73	*	*	*	*	2.09	3.26	4.67	7.93	2.17	3.70	7.55	11.25
November	1.26	7.55	5.02	12.57	1.18	3.71	5.35	9.06	1.10	3.97	4.82	8.79	0.99	3.29	3.93	7.22	1.14	2.93	3.97	6.90
December	4.34	10.26	9.51	19.77	3.98	5.66	8.84	14.50	4.34	7.93	10.11	18.04	3.63	4.43	6.72	11.15	4.30	5.34	8.41	13.75
Aggregates...	40.70	136.92	95.08	232.00	38.25	68.19	83.41	151.60	33.34	88.09	81.31	169.40	35.52	62.96	66.70	129.66	39.54	55.53	81.09	136.62
MONTHLY AVERAGES	3.39	11.41	7.92	19.33	3.47	6.19	7.58	13.78	3.03	8.01	7.39	15.40	2.96	5.24	5.55	10.80	3.59	5.05	7.37	12.42

*Records spoiled by unlawful interference.

Monthly Average for whole Borough:—

Rainfall in inches ... 3.28
 Insoluble Solids ... 7.18
 Soluble Solids ... 7.15
 Total Solids ... 14.33

tons per square mile.

Total Annual Deposit for the whole Borough:—172.08 tons per square mile.

**Total Annual Deposit for the whole Borough for
the past ten years.**

					Tons per square mile.
1956	...	...	...	...	172.08
1955	...	...	...	...	159.36
1954	...	...	...	...	186.59
1953	...	...	...	...	154.33
1952	...	...	...	...	171.30
1951	...	...	...	...	185.04
1950	...	...	...	...	174.30
1949	...	...	...	...	202.95
1948	...	...	...	...	183.79
1947	...	...	...	...	241.91

There has been a steady drop in the atmospheric pollution figures during the last few years. Nothing very spectacular, but yet a step in the right direction.

Several firms have been dealt with during past years where plants have been entirely reconstructed, and other firms have been electrified or persuaded to use smokeless fuels.

TABLE No. 2.

SULPHUR POLLUTION — LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD, 1956.

STATION	MILLIGRAMS OF SO ₃ per 100 SQUARE CENTIMETRES—DAILY AVERAGE												Total Daily
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
WADE STREET ... (Central)	3.45	3.58	3.35	3.56	1.79	1.28	1.08	1.40	1.78	2.41	3.06	3.56	2.44
WEST VIEW PARK ... (1½ miles West)	2.63	2.98	3.56	2.15	1.16	0.93	0.69	1.12	1.75	*	2.22	3.10	2.03
BEACON HILL... ... (½ mile East)	5.54	3.90	4.03	3.18	3.39	2.60	1.78	2.45	2.73	4.08	4.62	6.03	3.69
TOTAL DAILY AVERAGE	3.87	3.49	3.65	2.63	2.11	1.60	1.15	1.66	2.09	3.24	3.30	4.23	2.72

* Unlawful interference with instrument.

TABLE 1. MONTHLY ATMOSPHERIC DEPOSIT 1956.
FIVE HALIFAX STATIONS

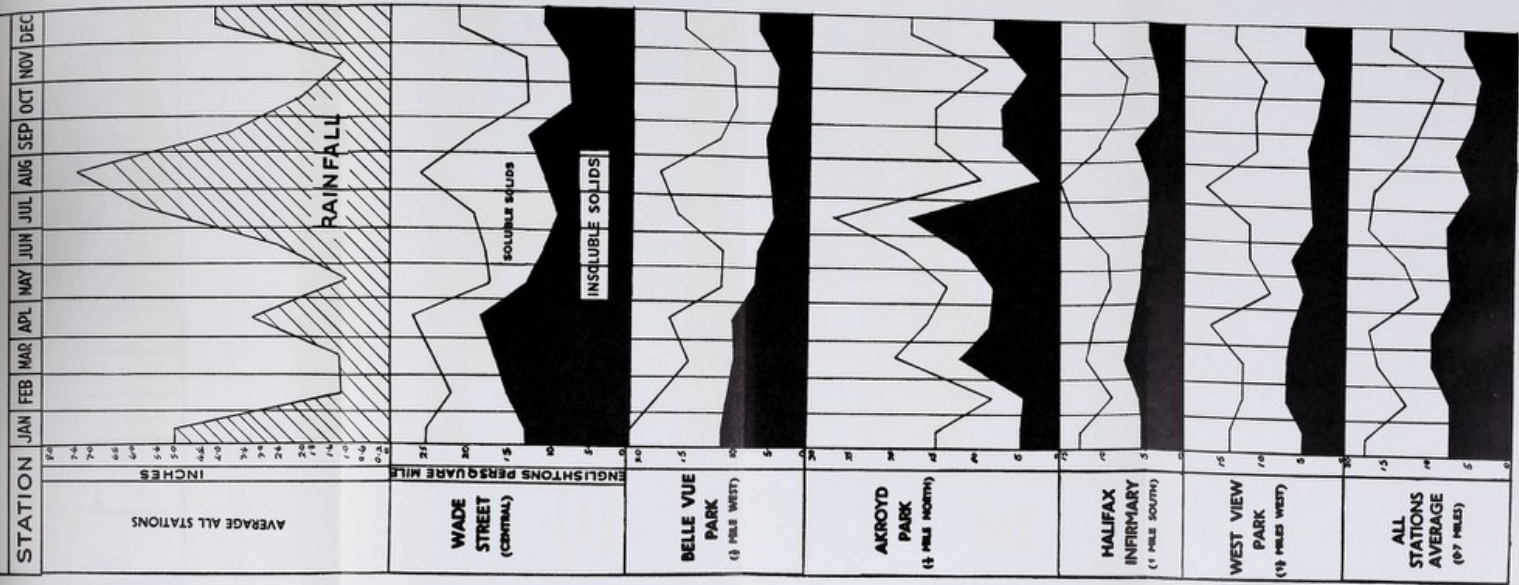
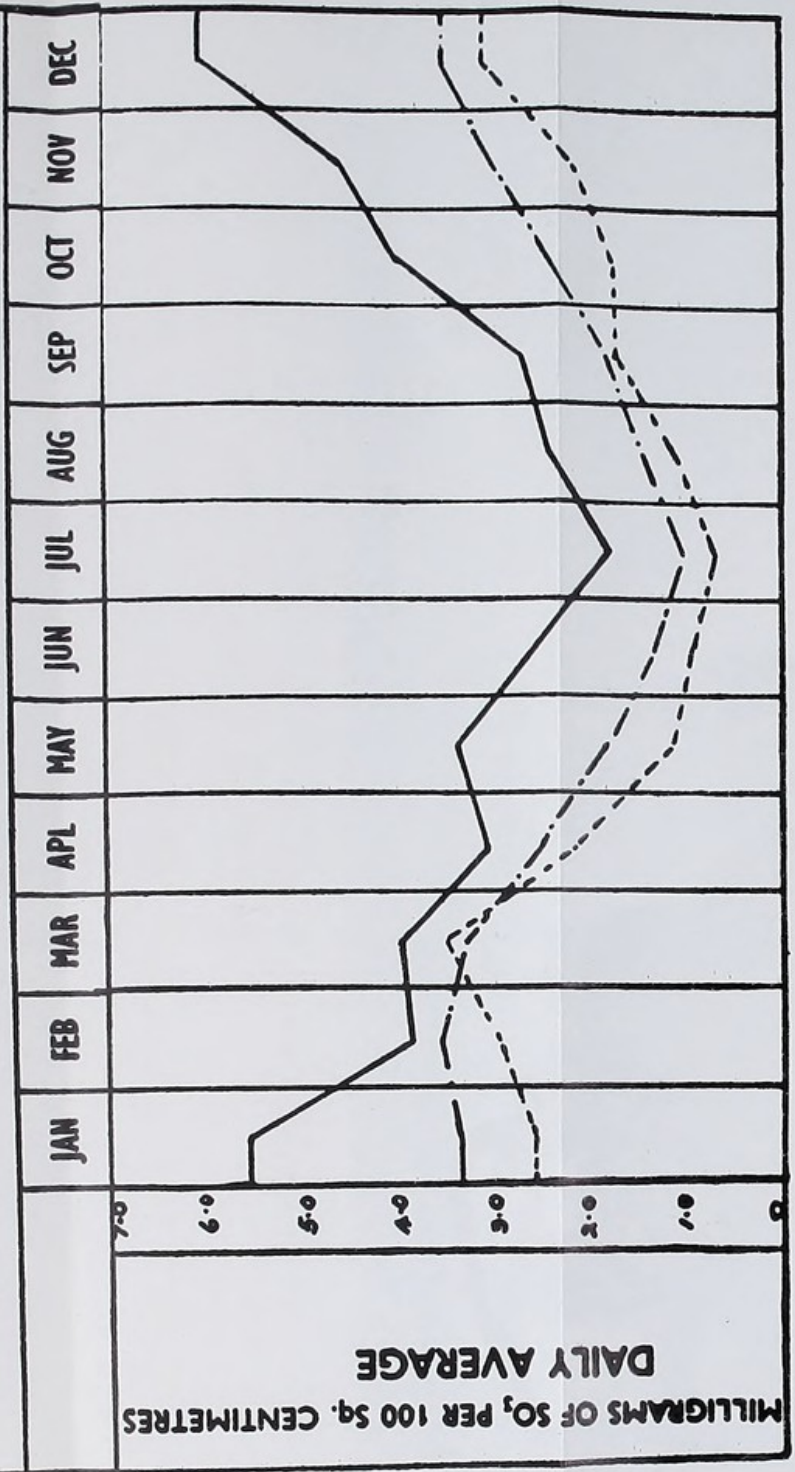




TABLE No. 2A **SULPHUR POLLUTION 1956.**

BEACON HILL _____ WADE STREET _____ WEST VIEW PARK.





General Summary of Meteorological Observations taken at the Central Public Library, Belle Vue, Halifax, from January 1st to December 31st 1956.

I am indebted to Mr. F. C. Pritchard, F.L.A., Chief Librarian, for the following details:

LATITUDE OF STATION: 53° 43 N. LONGITUDE: 1° 52 W. ALTITUDE: 625 FEET (BAROMETER 632 FEET)

1956		Barometer		Air Temperatures						Mean Temperature		Relative Humidity	Vapour Pressure	Mean Reading of Thermometers			Wind										Rainfall	
MONTH	Mean at 32° F. and Sea Level	Range	Maximum	Minimum	Range	Mean			Air	Dew Point	Maximum in sun's rays			Minimum on grass	Earth 4 feet Down	Estimated Strength	Relative Proportion									Mean Amount of Cloud	No. of Raindays	Amount Collected
						Maxima	Minima	Range									N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calms			
January ...	29.813	1.777	48.7	23.5	25.2	41.3	33.3	8.0	37.3	34	88	6.8	53.3	30.6	42	3	0	2	5	6	0	16	7	12	1	6	24	5.24
February ...	30.298	0.891	50.1	16.4	33.7	36.1	27.0	9.1	31.5	29	87	5.4	63.4	27.0	41	2	7	11	10	0	8	1	7	1	6	20	1.17	
March ...	29.982	1.073	58.9	25.3	33.6	47.0	35.5	11.5	41.2	34	75	6.8	74.2	33.3	41	3	1	5	11	19	0	5	1	8	0	6	12	1.38
April ...	29.960	0.764	56.2	28.2	28.0	49.5	34.9	14.6	42.2	34	65	6.6	85.0	32.2	43	3	2	12	4	10	0	4	4	6	0	5	12	3.35
May ...	30.131	0.571	68.4	32.2	36.2	59.3	43.8	15.5	51.5	42	65	9.4	102.7	39.6	47	4	0	4	2	2	1	14	3	19	0	5	11	1.09
June ...	30.010	1.144	75.0	42.0	33.0	59.9	48.0	11.9	54.0	46	73	10.7	98.1	45.3	51	4	0	7	1	5	1	8	7	19	0	6	20	2.65
July ...	29.944	0.814	70.1	45.6	24.5	63.5	52.4	11.1	58.0	50	75	12.3	102.0	50.3	54	4	0	8	5	2	0	6	4	18	1	7	19	5.83
August ...	29.760	1.151	68.3	40.2	28.1	59.6	49.2	10.4	54.4	48	78	11.4	96.2	47.0	55	3	0	8	4	2	0	16	5	14	0	6	20	7.80
September ...	29.914	1.124	70.6	41.8	28.8	61.9	50.5	11.4	56.2	50	79	12.6	94.7	47.9	53	3	0	3	6	9	1	13	2	6	2	6	15	3.81
October ...	30.109	0.869	60.5	33.9	26.6	53.5	43.2	10.3	48.3	43	78	9.5	82.5	39.1	52	3	4	5	0	3	0	11	4	20	2	5	15	2.11
November ...	30.146	1.271	54.0	27.2	26.8	46.8	38.6	8.2	42.7	38	83	7.7	63.3	34.8	47	3	4	6	1	6	1	9	2	18	0	5	11	1.22
December ...	29.982	1.350	53.3	26.8	26.5	45.8	37.8	8.0	41.8	39	89	8.1	51.0	34.7	45	3	0	0	1	9	0	21	0	9	5	7	25	3.90
Annual Means	30.004	1.067	61.2	31.9	29.3	52.0	41.2	10.8	46.6	41	78	8.9	80.5	38.5	48	3	1	6	4	6	0	11	3	13	1	6	Total 204	Total 39.55

