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BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR
1963

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)
J. B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Chief Public Health Inspector)

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(Chief Public Health Inspector)

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.1963 - 1964.

Chairman	Councillor F.R. Bennett.
Vice-Chairman	Councillor H.G. Parker.
HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.	...	...	Councillor R. Oakley.
Alderman D. Samuel ...	...	...	Councillor H. Howles.
Councillor J.J. Brown.	...	...	Councillor W.H. Micklewright.
Councillor Mrs. R. Chamberlain	...		Councillor J.S. Perrin.
Councillor C.G. Dance.	...	...	Councillor H. Purcell.
Councillor A.L. Hall..	...	...	Councillor K.R.G. Tomkinson.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Medical Officer of Health:

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B. Bsc.

Public Analyst:

M.M. LOVE, F.R.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J.B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)

Public Health Inspectors:

N. MILLINER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)D. KNIGHT, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)J. HEATON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)Assistant to Public Health Inspectors.
R.A. ROGERS.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1963 and 1962.

	1963	1962
Area of District in Acres	4,694	4,694
Population at Census 1961	40,822	40,822
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate.	43,090	42,470
No. of inhabited houses, estimated	14,112	13,974
No. of persons per house	3.05	3.04
Rateable Value	£1,805,672.	£575,464
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£7,402	£2,330
Number of Marriages	416	383
Number of live births	781	776
Number of still births	11	12
Birth Rate (Live) (Corrected)	18.1	18.5
Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live)	18.2	18.0
Number of illegitimate births	33	43
No. of deaths under one year of age	15	21
of these there were illegitimate	1	3
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS	19	27
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	20.9	20.7
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales.	0.28	0.35
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	Nil	Nil
Number of deaths	532	517
Death rate (Corrected)	12.6	12.2
Death rate for England and Wales	12.2	11.9
Number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	4	3
Number of deaths from Cancer	80	88
Number of deaths from Influenza	2	1
Number of deaths from Measles	Nil	Nil
Number of deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil

Year.	Live Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths Increase.
1954 ...	603	472	131
1955 ...	608	458	150
1956 ...	610	491	119
1957 ...	657	467	190
1958 ...	625	487	138
1959 ...	648	502	146
1960 ...	647	472	175
1961 ...	712	534	178
1962 ...	776	517	259
1963 ...	781	532	249

A N N U A L R E P O R T O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H .
F O R T H E Y E A R 1 9 6 3 .

Lloyds Bank Chambers,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

More is now being written everywhere than can possibly be read by most of us, therefore, these remarks will be brief.

The health services were described in detail in the 1962 Report and have not been altered.

The chief topics of the year have been the Cigarette smoking danger and Fluoridation.

With regard to Smoking, we have continued to tell young people of its dangers, but until tobacco advertising is stopped very little headway will be made. Some mature people have heeded the warnings of the Ministry of Health, much to their credit both literally and metaphorically, but many smokers continue with their addiction, to pollute both their own and other people's lungs.

Fluoridation has shown up two kinds of people - those who credit the medical profession with knowledge of their subject as well as honesty of purpose, and those others who appear to believe that doctors and Ministers of Health are either ignorant fools or knaves.

The body of the report contains the relevant statistics with a brief resumé of the work carried out to further the good health of the town.

I offer my thanks to all who have participated so willingly in this work, and especially to the many people with whom I have come in personal contact.

The Health Committee and all members of the Health Department have been my constant support, and to them I give my grateful thanks.

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS - TRUE OR FALSE?

Figures, especially relating to medical subjects are often regarded with suspicion particularly by those who are only partly informed of their value. But figures are frequently the only instruments available to the thinking mind which allow exploration of regions and ideas otherwise unattainable.

Common examples are in astronomy where only by figures can we grasp the facts of time and space present in the universe.

Similarly we must refer to figures when studying on any medical and socialological problems.

The control of Tuberculosis is a good example where in 1952 there were 9,335 Tuberculosis deaths in England and Wales, and in 1962 there were 2,774. This is a great fall in tuberculosis deaths but shows that tuberculosis is not yet extinct in this country.

The great increase in deaths from lung cancer to the figure of approximately 24,700 in 1963, from 16,330 ten years ago, again shows by figures how serious is this growing menace. Figures have also shown without any doubt the close association of lung cancer and cigarette smoking. Figures show also the relative freedom of dental decay in areas where sufficient flouride is present in the drinking water.

In almost every field of scientific and medical work statistics are essential instruments, and like most specialised tools are liable to be suspect by many who have neither the training, nor have taken the trouble to learn how to use or understand them.

Many figures in this report are given only as facts, because their small size, or lack of suitable controls do not permit valid deductions being made from them.

POPULATION.

Now standing at 43,090 men, women and children, representing an average increase of about 500 per annum.

More babies are being born each year and surviving to old age, so the increase in population is likely to take place at an even greater rate, and in ten years time Kidderminster Borough population may well be 50,000, and even greater if families from outside the Borough move in. This must be taken into account when estimating housing, maternity beds and other welfare requirements.

HOUSING.

The health and happiness of a community is so closely allied to its homes that housing is one of the most important activities of any Council.

The report from the Housing Officer shows what efforts have been made in this direction during 1963.

HOUSING Contd.....Houses Built.

Number of houses built by private enterprise...	...	171
Number of houses built by local authority ...	...	100
Total number of Corporation houses in the Borough at 31st December, 1963. ...	...	3716
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at 1st January 1963 (Reviewed 1963) ...	...	1165
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at 31st December, 1963 ...	...	1027

The total number of Corporation houses completed and occupied during 1963 was 100 in the following types:-

1 bedroom bungalows ...	12
1 bedroom flats ...	22
2 bedroom flats ...	66
No. of houses vacated and re-let during 1963...	123
No. of Aged Persons' Bungalows built up to 31st December, 1963 ...	194
No. of Aged Persons' Bungalows with Warden ...	97

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between 22/3d. for pre-war Aged Persons' Bungalows, to 62/6d. for a five bedroomed post war house.

These include the first 12 storey block of flats to be built in Kidderminster.

With many families having to wait two years or more on the Housing waiting list, and with many very poor houses awaiting demolition, and with all the proposed alterations to Kidderminster in the near future, the work of the Housing Staff is very difficult, and the Welfare Officer requires all the skill and tact she can summon.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Although the pollution of our air is at a minimum from manufacturers' chimneys, there is no limit to the amount of filth discharged into the air from private houses. Kidderminster at this date has no smoke control areas.

WATER SUPPLIES.

This is now under the control of the North West Worcestershire Water Board and has been of good quality and adequate in amount. It is lacking in the element Fluoride so necessary for the formation of decay resistant teeth.

A full report of the water supply will be found on page 23

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Modern safeguards against infectious diseases have kept their incidence at a low level.

Ignorant suspicion of inoculations and vaccinations has almost disappeared, and everyone is enjoying the benefit of modern scientific medical prevention.

The results are shown by the few cases of serious infections notified during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1963.

Diseases	Total cases Notified.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	9	Nil
Pneumonia.	Nil	29
Measles.	460	Nil
Poliomyelitis.	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas.	1	Nil
Food Poisoning.	1	Nil
Diphtheria.	Nil	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 15 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and no case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. 4 deaths were due to Tuberculosis.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.		Death rate (all forms) per 1,000 living.
	New Cases.	Deaths.	New Cases.	Deaths.	
1953	24	6	2	1	.18
1954	19	4	5	1	.13
1955	34	8	Nil	Nil	.20
1956	46	2	2	Nil	.05
1957	29	2	2	Nil	.05
1958	17	3	2	1	.10
1959	16	3	5	Nil	.07
1960	21	6	3	Nil	.07
1961	9	Nil	6	Nil	-
1962	17	3	1	Nil	.07
1963	15	4	Nil	Nil	.07

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Diphtheria.

1415 immunisations were completed.

Poliomyelitis Vaccinations.

Total number of persons in the Kidderminster Division, who since the inception of the Scheme had been given three doses by the Staff of the Divisional Area, at 31st December, 1963 = 19251.

448 were given booster doses.

Tuberculosis.

Over a quarter of a century ago when large quantities of raw milk carried tuberculosis germs, we dreamed of a time when all cattle in the country would be Tuberculin Tested and tuberculosis eradicated from the herds.

In October 1963 the Minister was able to state that since all milk now comes from Tuberculin Tested herds, it is no longer necessary to keep the "Tuberculin Tested Grade" label for milk, and therefore it would cease to be used.

This total eradication of tuberculosis in our cattle is a great step forward in the fight against human tuberculosis, particularly of childhood. It has cost a great deal of money and taken a long time to accomplish, and it should not go unnoticed.

The miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough every Wednesday from 1-30 - 4-Op.m. to examine ante-natal patients, patients referred by general practitioners and other members of the public.

B.C.G. Inoculation was offered to the 13 year old children and was accepted by 89.5%

Typhoid Fever.

All Health Departments were alerted in March on the possibility of Typhoid Fever being brought from Switzerland. Kidderminster had no such imported cases.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Disinfestation and disinfection was undertaken by the Health Department on account of the following:-

Ants	7
Fleas	4
Bugs	8
Cockroaches	2
Tuberculosis	1

See also page 29.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service continues to give invaluable help under the very able guidance of Mrs. Moule, B.E.M. of the W.V.S.
The following table indicates the extent of the help given.

Reason for Help.	No. of cases visited by Home Helps.
Maternity.....	152
Tuberculosis and Chronic Sick.....	20
Others.....	418

MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE.

Without this service many old people would have great difficulty in providing themselves with sufficient cooked meals.

Mrs. G.B. Evans, W.V.S. Centre Organiser for Kidderminster reports as follows:-

"Members will be glad to know that this service continued with unabated enthusiasm and meets a continuous need in the town.

During normal conditions about 80 people are supplied with two meals a week, but during the last winter's severe weather the equipment was strained to the limit, and every time the van went out it was taking over 50 meals for which it was never designed.

The van has never yet failed to go out and even when it was badly smashed by being hit by a skidding car last winter, a substitute van was lent at once and the driver, although shaken (and although the helper was taken to hospital) carried on.

About 36 ladies do one turn each month. Mrs. A. Hill of Baldwin Road organises the rota and Mrs. H. Pritchard of Sutton Park Road looks after the money side.

The paid cook and her helper are excellent and help is given very willingly by the Town Clerk's Staff in small ways such as putting the van away in the garage, and getting the charcoal bricks heated and put in the van in the morning!

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council is responsible for Health Visitors and Infant Welfare Services and for Domiciliary Midwives.

The Community as a whole also have a big responsibility for the care of its mothers and infants, through public health measures and by the personal attention of doctors and maternity units.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE Contd.....

15 babies died in their 1st year of life out of 781 born alive. This is an Infant Mortality rate of 19, a little below the National Infant Mortality rate of 20.9.

<u>Cause of Deaths.</u>	<u>No. of deaths.</u>
Congenital deformities.	4.
Prematurity.	4.
Infections.	3.
Accidental.	3.
Doubtful cause.	1.

DEATHS.

532 townspeople died, the chief cause being due to degeneration of heart and vascular systems, over which there is little control.

However, 94 were deaths due to lung damage, i.e. bronchitis, pneumonia, lung cancer etc.,

1 in 5 men died of lung damage and 1 in 7 women of the same causes.

Two important contributing factors in lung damage are man made and therefore preventable, i.e. atmospheric pollution by chimneys and by cigarette smoke. Until both cease, the deaths from lung damage are likely to continue.

There is no control of domestic coal fires in the area, and cigarette smoking seems as prevalent as ever, and will continue to be so until cigarette advertisements are prohibited.

The ages at which resident deaths have taken place during 1963 are as follows:-

Under 4 weeks.	10.
4 weeks and under 1 year.	5.
Between 1 and 5 years.	1.
Between 5 and 15 years.	Nil.
Between 15 and 25 years.	7.
Between 25 and 35 years.	2.
Between 35 and 45 years.	7.
Between 45 and 55 years.	33.
Between 55 and 65 years.	87.
Between 65 and 75 years.	134.
75 years and upwards.	246.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the Borough and the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment, the Borough can use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough also use the Laboratory at the General Hospital.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Television, radio, papers and magazines are all giving advice on Health matters, much of it being sensible and useful.

In addition the Health Department Staff have given advice and joined in discussion on such subjects as:-

- Smallpox control.
- Typhoid Control.
- Prevention of food poisoning and the proper handling of food.
- Clean atmosphere.
- Cigarette smoking.
- Fluoridation of water supplies.

Much of the advice given is ignored at present, but will become standard practice in time, to the benefit of everyone.

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	2	2
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Nil	Nil
3. Syphilitic Diseases.	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria.	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough.	Nil	Nil
6. Meningococcal Infections.	Nil	Nil
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	Nil	Nil
8. Measles.	Nil	Nil
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	Nil	Nil
10. Malignant Neoplasm. Stomach.	3	5
11. " " Lung, Bronchus.	11	3
12. " " Breast.	Nil	12
13. " " Uterus.	Nil	4
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	22	20
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	1	Nil
16. Diabetes.	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of Nervous system.	37	42
18. Coronary Disease Angina.	65	30
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease.	4	2
20. Other Heart Diseases.	30	67
21. Other Circulatory Diseases.	6	12
22. Influenza.	2	Nil
23. Pneumonia.	8	21
24. Bronchitis.	34	8
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	3	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	5	1
27. Gastritis and Diarrhoea.	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	2	Nil
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	Nil	1
31. Congenital Malformations.	2	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	13	20
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	6	Nil
34. All other accidents.	6	6
35. Suicide.	Nil	2
36. Homicide and Operations of War.	Nil	Nil
Total:	265	267

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Clinic.	Situation and time of Session.	Provided by
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Holy Innocents' Hall, Foley Park - Mondays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. St. Oswalds Parish Hall, Broadwaters. Mondays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Birchen Coppice Church Hall - 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesdays, 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Franché Church Hall, Franché - Tuesdays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Coventry Street Clinic. Thursdays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Comberton Church Hall - Wednesdays 2.0 to 4.0p.m.	County Council.
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital - Wednesday 10-30a.m. and 3-Op.m. Thursday 2.0 to 4.0p.m.	Regional Hospital Board.
Venereal Diseases	Kidderminster General Hospital - Monday 2.0p.m. Thursday -5.0p.m.	Regional Hospital Board.
Ante-Natal	Monday Session at Coventry Street Clinic - 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Friday Session at Stanmore Nurses' Home, 2.0 to 4.0p.m.	County Council.
Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital - Weekly, Wednesday 11-0a.m.	Regional Hospital Board.
Family Planning Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic - Wednesday 2-0 to 4-Op.m. 1st Tuesday of each month 5-3Op.m.	Family Planning Association.
Lip Reading Class.	Coventry Street Clinic Monday 7-Op.m. to 9-Op.m.	Deaf and Dumb Association (Worcestershire and Herefordshire)
Chiropody Service	Wednesday morning, Friday morning and afternoon.	County Council.

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

It is with pleasure that I present the Report on the work accomplished by the Public Health Inspectorate for the year ended 31st December, 1963, coupled with a short Report on that part of the Public Cleansing Service administered by the Department, and which deals with the collection and disposal of household refuse, some trade refuse and salvage.

The main details of the Report, set out in tabular or other form will be found on subsequent pages, but I would mention briefly here one or two items of interest.

The year has been a busy one with Meat and Food Inspection, Refuse Collection and Disposal playing their own particular roles for reasons mentioned in other pages. The duties with which the Department has to grapple are many and of a widely varying nature and seem to increase as year succeeds year, bringing with them their inevitable quota of problems.

The size of the Department does not call for "Specialisation" in duties by any member of its staff, as is the case in much larger Authorities. It is true to state, however, that meat inspection is given some pride of place due to the very nature of the work. Much work of administration is discharged by me and my Deputy and it follows that all the Inspectors on the Staff must be ready to perform any of the duties for which the Department is duly responsible, at all times when required of them.

The only staff change was one addition to the Inspectorate, namely -

Mr. J. Heaton, formerly of Blackburn County Borough, who was appointed as an additional Public Health Inspector.

It is with pleasure that I express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and Officers of other Departments for much help and support during the past year which unquestionably tends to smooth working and avoids time wasting. To the Inspectorate and Clerical Staff I offer my thanks for loyalty and application to duties.

Yours obediently,

J.B. HINTON.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The Borough possesses a complement of 8 private slaughterhouses, but no municipally owned Public Abattoir and the duty of meat inspection was pursued during the year with customary diligence. The erection of a new privately owned Abattoir in 1962 has added in no small measure to the work of meat inspection, as indeed at this Abattoir there was a progressive "build up" in slaughtering during the year which was still increasing at its close. The use of two of these slaughterhouses is restricted to small animals only, in fact the amount of slaughtering at one is very small indeed.

THE MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS 1963.

The coming into force of these Regulations on 1st October, placed an additional burden on the work of the Department. Inter alia the regulations provided that meat must be inspected at Slaughterhouses in accordance with the standard procedure laid down in their 1st Schedule. Meat which is passed must be marked with a stamp bearing the name of the Local Authority and a code No. or letter to identify the officer making the inspection. Thus the responsibility for the first time is specific and placed fairly and squarely on the shoulders of the Local Authority and the Officer concerned. This is an added responsibility, for having once stamped a carcass he has placed upon it what can be described in common parlance as the "hall-mark" of his work and such carcass can be traced back to him wherever it may go.

The scattered geographical disposition of the eight private slaughterhouses in the Borough makes the work of inspection more arduous and of course is a time consumer.

Certain maximum charges which Local Authorities could make for inspection were laid down in the Regulations and this Authority decided to adopt the maximum charges.

The following is a synopsis of the year's work:-

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED.

Disease	Tons.	Cwts.	Lbs.
Pyogenic Abscesses	2	3	89
Oedema & Emaciation	1	15	63
Cirrhosis, Distomatosis	1	6	91
Tuberculosis	1	6	8
Septicaemia		17	110
Hydatid Cysts		12	33
Johne's Disease		7	94
Actinobacillosis		7	58

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED Contd.....

Disease	Tons.	Cwts.	lbs.
Injury, Bruising		5	83
Cysticercus Bovis		5	54
Pleurisy, Peritonitis and Pericarditis		4	54
Parasitic Cysts		3	41
Angiomatosis		3	25
Moribund		2	99
Necrosis		2	92
Strongylosis		2	80
Pneumonia		1	102
Fatty Infiltration and Degeneration		1	5
Jaundice			80
Actinomycosis			74
Immaturity			70
Pyæmia			60
Arthritis			22

Total weight condemned - 10 ton. 14 cwt. 31 lbs.

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

889	Tinned Goods.	55	lbs. Bacon.
550	lbs. Miscellaneous Frozen Foods.	42	lbs. Corned Mutton.
420	lbs. Flour.	33	lbs. Pork Luncheon Meat.
384	lbs. Chopped Pressed Pork.	30	lbs. Ox Tongue.
326	lbs. Tinned Ham.	25	lbs. Steak.
148	lbs. Corned Beef.	24	lbs. Jellied Veal.
88	Packets of Food.	19	lbs. Chicken.
83	lbs. Butter.	16	lbs. Cheese.

7 lbs. Margarine.

SUMMARY.

	T.	C.	lbs.
Total weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned	11.	13.	65.
Total weight (Meat) Condemned	10.	14.	31.

<u>CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.</u>	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	6,240	167	983	34,538	8,058
Number inspected	6,240	167	983	34,482	8,058
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	7	9	26	13
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	729	21	3	466	360
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	11.7	16.8	1.2	1.4	4.6
<u>TUBERCULOSIS:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	198
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	0.6	-	-	2.5
<u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	42	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis.	0.7	-	-	-	-

The table showing the reasons for condemnation of meat and organs is interesting, especially as regards tuberculosis. This disease, for many years a scourge in food animals, is now almost non-existent as is shown by the relatively small amount of 26 cwts. 8 lbs. only condemned for this reason.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

One of the principal requirements of this Act is that persons engaged in the slaughtering of food animals must hold a licence and these licences specify the kind of animals which may be slaughtered and the types of instruments to be used. The licences are for 12 monthly periods and require renewal at the end of that time. Persons holding such licences must be over 18 years of age and competent to discharge their duties.

No. of licences in force - 32.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.Registration of premises - SALE OF ICE CREAM.

Number of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

Manufacturers (Heat Treatment) ...	...	Nil
Manufacturers (complete cold mix only) ...	...	1
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream only is sold		198
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold (Does not include Cafes) ...	...	2
Premises where a Soft Ice Machine is in use		1
Wholesale Storage Depot..	...	1

From the above table it will be readily appreciated that most of the ice-cream sold in this Borough is supplied by large manufacturers whose premises are outside our district. It can also be presumed that quite a quantity of Ice-Cream is sold and consumed from mobile vans trading in the Town, which come in from surrounding districts.

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Ice-Cream - Bacteriological Examination.

No. submitted	Grades			
	1	2	3	4
3	3	-	-	-

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS 1925 - 1953.

Total number of samples (chemical analysis only) taken during the
 year 118 (formal 3)
 (informal 115)

51 Milk	2 Ice-Cream
16 Channel Island Milk	2 Sugar
13 Sausages	2 Cheese spread
4 Malt Vinegar	1 Jam
4 Tinned & Potted Chicken	1 Peanut Butter
4 Tinned & Potted Fish	1 Suet Dumpling Mix
4 Table Jellies	1 Meat Paste
3 Butter	1 Orangeade
3 Tinned & Potted Meat	1 Top of the Milk
3 Tinned Cream	1 Jellie-Creme.

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES NOT GENUINE.

Sample No.	Sample of	Deficiency or condition	Result, Action etc.,
1128	Milk	1.6% Extraneous water	Repeat and formal
1136	Milk	6.6% Deficient in fat	samples genuine.
22	Milk	10% Deficient in fat	" "
23	Milk	36.6% Deficient in fat	" "
24	Milk	36.6% Deficient in fat	" "
72	Milk	26.6% Deficient in fat	" "

The following commodities which were the subject of complaint were forwarded for examination by the County Analyst.

Commodity.	Result.
Bread	Contained highly charred residue of dough from previous baking.
Butter	Satisfactory.
Milk	Tiny fragment of vegetable origin, less than 0.2 parts per 100,000 of milk.
Bread Roll	Small amount of green matter, too small to be identified.
Milk	Satisfactory.
Corned Beef	Foreign body, a moth, was in tin at time of processing.
Orangeade	Satisfactory.
Chocolate Eclair	Contaminated with green mould and filling rancid. Unfit.
Pigs Kidneys	Greenish areas attributed to contact with supporting rack.

Action taken regarding these samples was as follows:-

Corned Beef - Prosecution instituted. See Page 28.
 Chocolate Eclair- Warning letter sent to Confectioner.
 Kidneys - Arrangements made for kidneys to be placed on racks of different material.
 All other cases - No action deemed necessary.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS - OTHER FOODS.

Commodity	Number of samples taken.
Fresh Cream	1
Sausages	9
Pork Pie	1
Brawn	1

WATER SAMPLES.

The following samples were taken during the year -

(a)	Bacteriological	20
(b)	Chemical	5

All of the town supply.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960.

Under the above Regulations, Licences issued on or after 1st January, 1961, will be valid for 5 years from that date and will be renewable for subsequent quinquennial periods.

Number of Licences in force: -

Tuberculin Tested Milk	-	Bottling...	...	1
	-	Dealers (prepacked milk)		15
Pasteurised Milk	-	Pasteurising Plants.		1
	-	Dealers (prepacked milk)		25
Sterilised Milk	-	Processing Plants		1
	-	Dealers (prepacked milk)		70

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Distributors registered (excluding holders of Dealers (prepacked milk) licences) 8

Number of Dairy premises registered. 2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The following is a table showing the number of samples taken and results.

Sample	No	Methylene Blue Test			Phosphatase Test	Turbidity Test
		Passed	Failed	Void	Passed	Passed
Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested	19	19	-	-	19	-
(Pasteurised)	34	32	2	-	34	-
Tuberculin Tested (Raw)	12	7	4	1	-	-
Sterilised	15	-	-	-	-	15.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK CONTD.....

It will be noted from the above that 4 samples of T.T. Milk failed the methylene blue test. The persistent failing of these samples, which were cartoned and obtained from a milk vending machine in the Borough was surprising.

The milk was produced and cartoned at a Dairy Farm many miles outside Kidderminster and the Authority for that District notified of the failures. However, it appears from exhaustive enquiries that milk was brought from the farm to a catering establishment in Birmingham and then on to Kidderminster. This "time-lag" probably had a strong bearing on the failures. At the close of the year the owner of the machine had ceased this supply and had negotiated an alternative one.

In addition to the above, two samples of T.T. (past) milk also failed the methylene blue test. These, too, were cartoned milk from vending machines.

It is singular that the failures on the year's samples were all from this particular style of retailing.

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD PREMISES (OTHER THAN MEAT INSPECTION).

The Department regards food hygiene and inspection as matters of such paramount importance as to require some degree of priority in its functions and as much time is devoted to it as possible.

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination continues to be used to assess the cleanliness of their preparation etc., A table showing the samples taken can be found on page 22.

I cannot stress too strongly upon owners and managers of Food Shops how incumbent upon them it is to keep a regular check on all food stocks, and in particular meat products, pies and other foods prone to deterioration or the growth of mould. Food suppliers and handlers are well advised to pay every attention to the proper storage and handling of food, to protect it from contamination in handling, from flies and from rodents etc., and to keep all food rooms and utensils thoroughly clean and in good repair. I feel that the growing popularity of domestic refrigerators in homes is a move in the right direction and the provision of proper food storage and preparation facilities in all homes should be a "must"; such provisions often found so deplorably lacking in substandard property.

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD PREMISES (OTHER THAN MEAT INSPECTION) CONTD.....

I regret to say that complaints still reach the Department of contraries in food which often result in protracted discussions with firms concerned, in an endeavour to probe into the cause and prevent a further happening. There are, however, occasions when a stiffening attitude by the Department is called for and the rigour of Law is invoked, thus in two cases prosecutions ensued, one in respect of the dried remains of a mouse in a 14 lbs. tin of dried peas and one in respect of a large flying insect in a tin of Corned Beef (Particulars on page 28)

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES - SUBJECT TO INSPECTION.

The table below gives a list of food premises with which the Department is concerned.

Sausage Manufacturers...	...	...	15
Cooked Meats, pies etc., manufacturers	...	...	6
Ice-Cream Manufacturers.	...	...	2
Ice-Cream Retailers	...	...	200
Ice-Cream Wholesale Depot	...	...	1
Fish Friers	...	...	15
Fishmongers (excluding fried fish shops)...	...	...	3
Slaughterhouses	...	...	8
Butchers	...	...	36
Principal Grocers	...	...	47
Bakehouses	...	...	9
Wholesale grocers and provision warehouses	...	...	4
Cafes, restaurants	...	...	23
Licensed Houses	...	...	87
Mobile Shops...	...	...	9
Industrial Canteens	...	...	25

HOUSING.

This is a very important role - perhaps one of the most important in matters of environmental health. The removal of old, worn-out, sub-standard houses, which are usually found to be damp, dilapidated and defective in structure and lacking in sanitary amenities is of major importance, to improve the lot of the unfortunate residents who by dint of circumstances have to occupy them.

A Public Enquiry was held during the year on the Hurcott Road Number 4 Clearance Area, comprising some 6 houses in Stourbridge Road.

The first of 3 blocks of multi-storey flats erected on the Hurcott Road site were occupied in November.

Set out below is a synopsis of the work, viz:

(a) Action under Housing Act during year.

No. of houses represented for Demolition Orders.	8
" " Demolition Orders made.	6
" " houses represented for Closing Orders.	3
" " Closing Orders made (whole houses).	3
" " " " " (part of a building)	-
" " " " changed to Demolition Orders.	-
Undertakings not to use house accepted.	-
" " to repair house accepted.	-
No. of houses inspected, Clearance Areas.	5
" " " represented, Clearance Areas.	-
No. of houses actually demolished during year.	113
No. of persons displaced.	230
Houses inspected under Section 9.	3
Notices served under Section 9 for repair.	3

(b) Public Health Act.

Houses in which defects were remedied.	
After informal action by Local Authority	134
After formal action by Local Authority	29

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary Notices Served ...	126
Intimation letters sent ...	39
Statutory Notices served ...	34

Set out overleaf is a summary of defects remedied.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT, 1957.

One application was received during the year resulting in an undertaking by the owner being given.

SHOPS ACT 1950, Section 38.

Three notices were served during the year for the provision of sanitary accommodation and personal washing facilities at 3 shops.
At the close of the year the work was "under way!"

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED (HOUSES) YEAR, 1963.DWELLING HOUSES.

Roof repairs ...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Chimney stacks repointed/repaired.	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective Spouting repaired, refixed or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	33
House brickwork repointed/repaired	...	...	...	...	...	17
Walls damp-proofed ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Plasterwork repaired or renewed...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Firegrates repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	6
Windows repaired, sashcords provided	...	...	...	...	...	20
Floors repaired or new provided ..	...	...	...	...	...	6
Stairs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Woodwork of doors repaired or new doors provided	...	...	...	...	...	12
Verandahs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	2

WASH-HOUSES.

Wash-house roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Wash-house windows and doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Spoutings repaired or new provided ...	...	...	...	...	...	2

WATER-CLOSETS.

Water-closet brickwork repointed/repaired .	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water-closet roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water-closets reconstructed ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
New pedestals provided...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Flushing cisterns repaired or new provided.	...	...	...	...	...	38
Leaking water-closet joints repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Seats provided.. ...	...	...	...	...	...	17

DRAINAGE.

Obstructed drains cleared ...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Drains relaid or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	10

WATER-SUPPLY.

New sinks provided ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waste pipes repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	11
Burst pipes repaired ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Service pipes renewed....	...	...	...	...	...	7
Water cisterns renewed...	...	...	...	...	...	3

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INTERVIEWS ANDOTHER VISITS.

House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts)...	...	873
Water Supply ...	...	6
Drain Testing ..	...	9
Interview with Owner or Builder...	...	95
Enquiry Inspection ...	...	43
Improvement Grant Inspections ...	...	42
Advance on Mortgage Inspections ..	...	3
Official Searches re Property ..	...	620
Tents, vans, sheds (for human occupation)...	...	20
Common Lodging House Visits ...	...	4
Offensive Trades Visits..	...	2
Factory Act (Sanitary accommodation etc.,).	...	7
Rodent Control..	...	34
Refuse Disposal. ...	...	127
Infectious Diseases ...	...	26
Places of Entertainment..	...	3
Private Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection)...	...	1,717
Private Slaughterhouses (Construction) ...	...	10
Food Preparing Premises .	...	54
Retail Food Shops ...	...	86
Ice-Cream Retailers ...	...	11
Ice-Cream Wholesale Depot ...	...	2
Tinned Food and other articles of food examination .	...	86
Food and Drugs Sampling .	...	73
Interview in office ...	...	207
Other complaints and miscellaneous visits..	...	711
Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act) ...	...	19
Licensing Act (Clubs) ...	...	1
Shops Act ...	...	17
Mobile Vans ...	...	3
Rent Act ...	...	5

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Summary proceedings were instituted in the following cases during the year.

Nature of Offence	Enactment Contravened	Result
Unlicensed caravan site	Caravan Sites & Control of development Act, 1960.	Fined £3. & costs.
Mouse in 14 lbs. tin of dried peas.	Food & Drugs Act 1955 (Section 2)	Fined £50. & Costs.
Insect in tin of Corned Beef	" " " "	Fined £10.
Sanitary Defects -House	Public Health Act, 1936.	Case withdrawn - property changed hands.
Sanitary Defects -House	" " " "	Case adjourned - property changed hands.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING ETC.,

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the local authority mainly combating the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas, cockroaches etc.,

It is usual to spray infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide which contains both "knock-down" and "residual" qualities. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wallpapers are removed, so as to facilitate the work.

Number of houses disinfested by local authority - 21.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have now only two of these houses and they are well kept and ordered, maintaining a reasonably good standard of accommodation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

We have now only one trade being carried on at present which comes within this term - that of a Gut-Scraper. We have no problem as far as this trade is concerned.

MORTUARY.

During the year 107 bodies were received into the Mortuary at the Kidderminster Hospital.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

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

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Inspec- tions.	Number of	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	207	7	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total:	217	10	3	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961. Contd..2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	6	-	6	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	3	-	3	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	7	-	7	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	-	16	-	17	-

THEATRES, CINEMAS ETC.,

The one theatre and one cinema together with several other places of entertainment were inspected for a report on sanitary accommodation etc., to the Licensing Justices in relation to Theatre and Cinematograph Licences. They were found to be satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL, PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two rodent operatives are employed, who in addition to their duties as such also carry out the work of disinfection and disinfestation. The work entailed covers private houses, business premises, refuse disposal sites and main sewers. There are a few cases of business premises where private firms are engaged in rodent control and disinfestations. A summary of the work is set out below:-

<u>RODENT CONTROL</u> <u>PREVENTION OF DAMAGE</u> <u>BY PESTS ACT, 1949.</u>	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses (includ- ing Council Houses)	All other (including Business Premises)	Agricul- tural.
No. of properties in local authority's district	28	13708	2619	7
No. of properties inspected as a result of:				
(a) Notification	6	164	20	-
(b) Survey under the Act	2	15	1	4
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	52	-
No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by (a) Rats-Major Minor (b) Mice-Major Minor	- 6 - -	- 117 - 36	- 56 - 46	- - - -
No. of infested properties treated by local authority	6	151	71	-
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	58	214	554	-
No. of "Block" Control Schemes carried out	28			

PET ANIMALS ACT.

This Act seeks to secure that the offering for sale of animals, birds and fish shall be on suitable premises and that they shall be fed, watered and protected from the risk of fire.

No. of Licences issued for such premises 7

CARAVANS.

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Borough. It is recorded on page 28 that summary action was taken in the case of an unlicensed site. In addition we had the usual problem of certain types of nomadic dwellers surreptitiously occupying vacant pieces of land. Swift concerted action by Council Officers, Police and Land Owners had the effect of "persuading" these people to move. The number of visits paid to such sites is shown on page 28.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Several improvements in industrial plants were effected during the year which resulted in some further reduction of industrial smoke.

In two instances the Department was asked to advise on the height for new chimneys. This was given in accordance with the memorandum on chimney heights issued as a guide under the Clean Air Act 1956.

The part played by domestic chimneys, however, must not be lost sight of. Uneconomical and incomplete combustion in domestic fireplaces, especially those outdated and old, the chimneys from which emit smoke at low level concentration is a pollution hazard of no mean consideration, especially under certain meteorological conditions. Tacit evidence of this can be observed on certain elevated positions on the periphery of the Borough by the pall of smoke hanging over Housing Estates in the vicinity. The relationship between atmospheric pollution and lung diseases is high-lighted in the Medical Officer's section of this Report.

In some mitigation, so far as this is concerned, it is likely that some gradual improvement will accrue from the removal by slum clearance and other activities of old properties and their replacement by modern buildings with improved heating arrangements. Also, private householders voluntarily seeking labour saving and cleaner heating facilities, either by improved and more economical solid fuel appliances or by the use of electricity, gas or oil, will further reduce pollution. Over the years the cumulative results can prove none other than good.

New furnaces.

Four notifications of the installation of new furnaces were received.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus.

Now in operation is the standard smoke filter and volumetric equipment stationed in the Public Health Department Offices in the centre of the town, from which daily recordings are taken.

A trial period of some six months subsequent to a visit by one of D.S.I.R.'s scientific officers proved that the site chosen was satisfactory. A monthly return of the results from this apparatus is sent to Warren Spring Laboratories.

RAINFALL.

Month	Inches		Rainfall	
	1962	1963	for the past ten years Year	Inches
January	2.78	0.75		
February	.68	1.06		
March	1.48	2.10	1954	27.27
April	2.48	2.14	1955	20.90
May	1.42	1.92	1956	22.40
June	.26	1.62	1957	28.05
July	2.98	2.14	1958	28.90
August	4.51	2.03	1959	24.56
September	2.27	1.29	1960	37.08
October	.41	.85	1961	22.73
November	1.88	4.46	1962	22.79
December	1.64	.54	1963	20.90
Total:	22.79	20.90	Average:	25.55

PUBLIC CLEANSING. REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Tipping again proved something of a problem during the year. The piece of land upon which we commenced to tip in the Autumn of 1962 was filled by the middle of the year under review. We were, however, fortunate in being able to obtain another piece of land immediately adjoining and of approximately the same size. As we had already incurred some expense in the provision of temporary buildings and the making of roads etc., this acquisition was indeed fortuitous. A temporary set-back was suffered at the end of the winter, when after long hard frosts and snow came a thaw and rain. Under these conditions the road to the tip face gave way and could not be traversed by the vehicles. While the road dried out and was resurfaced, tipping reverted temporarily to the Hoobrook Site.

A new departure in refuse collection was encountered during the year, at least as far as this Borough is concerned - that of bulk containers in Multi-Storey Flats. This could not be done with the existing vehicles and the Council took delivery of a new freighter with a specially strengthened body equipped with the appliance necessary for lifting and emptying the containers. This is done almost entirely automatically and needs very little man handling. The whole process is clean and almost dustless. It is hoped to extend this system in time to such places as schools, hospitals etc.,

Refuse Destructor Plant. Work on the Town's new Refuse Destructor Plant was commenced during the year.

The work of salvage recovery continues to be carried on at the Hoobrook Depot, this of necessity means that supervisory work is now required at two places - Hoobrook and Puxton. In order to lengthen the life of this site for tipping, the maximum amount of sorting and recovery is being done especially as regards bulky articles such as cardboard, metal drums, tins etc.,

PUBLIC CLEANSING. REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL Contd....

In the main throughout the year a weekly collection of refuse and salvage has been maintained. The following is a list of vehicles and equipment used by the Department.

- 1 S.D. Fore and Aft Container Bulk Loader.
- 5 S.D. Fore and Aft Refuse Freighters.
- 1 S.D. Chelsea type side loading Refuse Freighter.
- 1 Bedford " " " " (used as a spare)
- 1 Bedford covered vehicle for salvage.
- 1 Morris dropside tipping lorry.
- 1 Morris Van (used by Foreman).
- 1 Brayloader Mechanical Shovel.
- 1 Metal Baling Press.
- 1 Paper Baling Press.
- 1 Elevator for loading baled paper.

We have disposed of during the year our baled waste paper, baled scrap and metal, light scrap iron and broken glass. Apart from revenue accruing from the sale of this material we are fortunate in being able to be completely rid of it, especially during the present crucial period.

★ The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and salvage for the year 1963 was £39,812.

★ The income was 4,214.

The net cost being £35,598.

★ Financial year ended 31st March, 1964. These figures do not include administration costs.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Total number of loads of refuse removed	7,912.
Total number of loads of salvage removed	1,948.
Closet pans emptied	780.
Loads of night soil tipped	52.
Loads tipped at Hoobrook Refuse Site	3,046.H
Loads tipped at Puxton Refuse Site	4,866.P

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1963.

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below.

Materials.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	405.	10.	0	3,142.	12.	8
Baled Destructor Scrap....	49.	10.	0.	295.	8.	9.
Cullet (Broken glass)	15.	9.	2.	25.	6.	4.
Bottles and Jars	-	-	-		14.	0.
Light Scrap Iron	64.	13.	3.	174.	3.	6.
Total	535.	8.	1.	£3,638.	5.	3.

REMARKS ON SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1901.
The weights of the salvaged materials have been ascertained and are set out below.

Description of materials salvaged.		Weights in tons.	
Sheet iron plates	.....	10	3.12.15
Plate iron	.....	10	0.12.15
Angles (iron plates)	....	10	0.12.15
Iron rods	.....	10	0.12.15
Iron bars	.....	10	0.12.15

The above quantities of materials were salvaged from the wreck of the ship "H.M.S. "....." on the 1st day of January 1901. The materials were found in the hold of the ship and were in good condition. The weights of the materials have been ascertained and are set out in the table above.

REMARKS ON SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1902.
The weights of the salvaged materials have been ascertained and are set out below.

