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Borough of  
Morecambe and Heysham

# Annual Report

*of*

The Medical Officer  
of Health

*for the year ended*

**31st December, 1956**





Borough of  
Morecambe and Heysham

# **Annual Report**

*of*

The Medical Officer  
of Health

*for the year ended*

**31st December, 1956**

W. F. LYLE, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., B.Sc., D.P.H.

**HEALTH (including STREET CLEANSING) COMMITTEE**

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor W. H. Brooksbank)

Councillor H. YATES (Chairman)

Councillor S. L. BIRKETT (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman A. KNOWLES

Councillor G. BROWN

Councillor B. ARMSTEAD

Councillor W. H. BURGESS

Councillor H. BATEMAN

Councillor F. KING

Councillor N. H. BROADWITH

Councillor J. F. McHALE

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**HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF**

*Medical Officer of Health :*

W. F. LYLE, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., B.Sc., D.P.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector :*

W. S. MAKIN, a. b. c.

S. A. GIBSON, a. b. c.

T. H. ASHBROOK, a.

A. L. BAXTER, a. c. d.

G. ECCLES, a. b.

Shops Act Inspector 1

Rodent Control Officers 2

Disinfestation Officer 1

Clerical Staff 2

(a) Holder of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board Certificate.

(b) Holder of Meat Inspector's Certificate.

(c) Holder of Sanitary Science and Food Inspection Certificate of School of Hygiene, Liverpool University or Sanitary Science Certificate of Salford Royal Technical College.

(d) National Certificate in Building.

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Morecambe and Heysham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Morecambe and Heysham.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the health services of the Borough during 1956.

The form of the report and the matters dealt with are in accordance with the wishes of the Ministry of Health.

The incidence of infectious diseases was at a low level throughout the year and no single infectious disease was of major importance. There were only three cases of Poliomyelitis and none of the three was of paralytic type. There has not been a case of Diphtheria in the Borough since 1946.

As much time as possible is given to the control and supervision of food and food premises and the understanding and the co-operation of the food traders in the town are admirable, but this is certainly the part of public health administration in which there can be no final feeling of security. The very large numbers of premises in which food is prepared, stored and sold during the holiday season, and the small staff of Public Health Inspectors appropriate to a town of some 37,000 residents, together constitute a problem that is a continual anxiety.

The work done during the year in upgrading the Cleansing Depot at White Lund has provided for the first time reasonable conditions for the men employed there. Because of the war, and difficult conditions since the war, it has taken almost 20 years since the necessity was first recognised to get this work done: it would have gladdened the heart of the late Alderman Walter Townsley to see it now almost completed.

The future of the business of preparing and packing Morecambe's famous shrimps, threatened by the Food Hygiene Regulations, is still uncertain. The Health Department has joined with those concerned in the business in trying to get the troublesome regulation amended and so far its operation has been delayed while the problem is reconsidered.

At the end of my report will be found a Meteorological Report for 1956 for which I am indebted to the Meteorological Officer, Mr. Cooper.

To the officers of various departments who have provided information for this report I am grateful, as I am to the staff of the Health Department for their constant good work throughout the year; and I acknowledge with pleasure, also, the support and appreciation of the Health Committee and of the Council.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. F. LYLE,

Medical Officer of Health

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area in acres (not including foreshore) . . . . .	3,665
Population—Preliminary Census 1951 . . . . .	36,709
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-year 1956) . . . . .	36,740
Number of inhabited houses—Census 1931 . . . . .	5,749
Number of	
(a) inhabited houses 1956 (according to rate books) . . . . .	11,011
(b) shops, warehouses, licensed premises, entertainment and recreational premises, etc. . . . .	3,084
Rateable value . . . . .	£691,829
Sum represented by a penny rate . . . . .	£2,776

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

Total Live Births—423

	Male	Female
Legitimate . . . . .	227	173
Illegitimate . . . . .	9	14
Total	236	187

Total Still Births—5

Legitimate . . . . .	4	1
Illegitimate . . . . .	—	—

### Deaths

Total Deaths—638

Deaths of Infants under one year of age—10

Legitimate . . . . .	8	2
Illegitimate . . . . .	—	—
Total	8	2



Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age—9

Legitimate ... ..	7	2
Illegitimate ... ..	-	-
	—	—
Total	7	2

Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion—2

Deaths from Cancer (including Leukaemia)—97

	Male	Female
Stomach ... ..	9	7
Lung, bronchus ... ..	16	6
Breast ... ..	-	8
Uterus ... ..	-	5
Other sites ... ..	25	20
Leukaemia ... ..	1	-
	—	—
Total	51	46

Deaths from Certain Infective Diseases

Influenza ... ..	4	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	2	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	-	-
Measles ... ..	-	-
Whooping Cough ... ..	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	-	-
Pneumonia ... ..	7	8

There were six deaths from motor vehicle accidents.

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

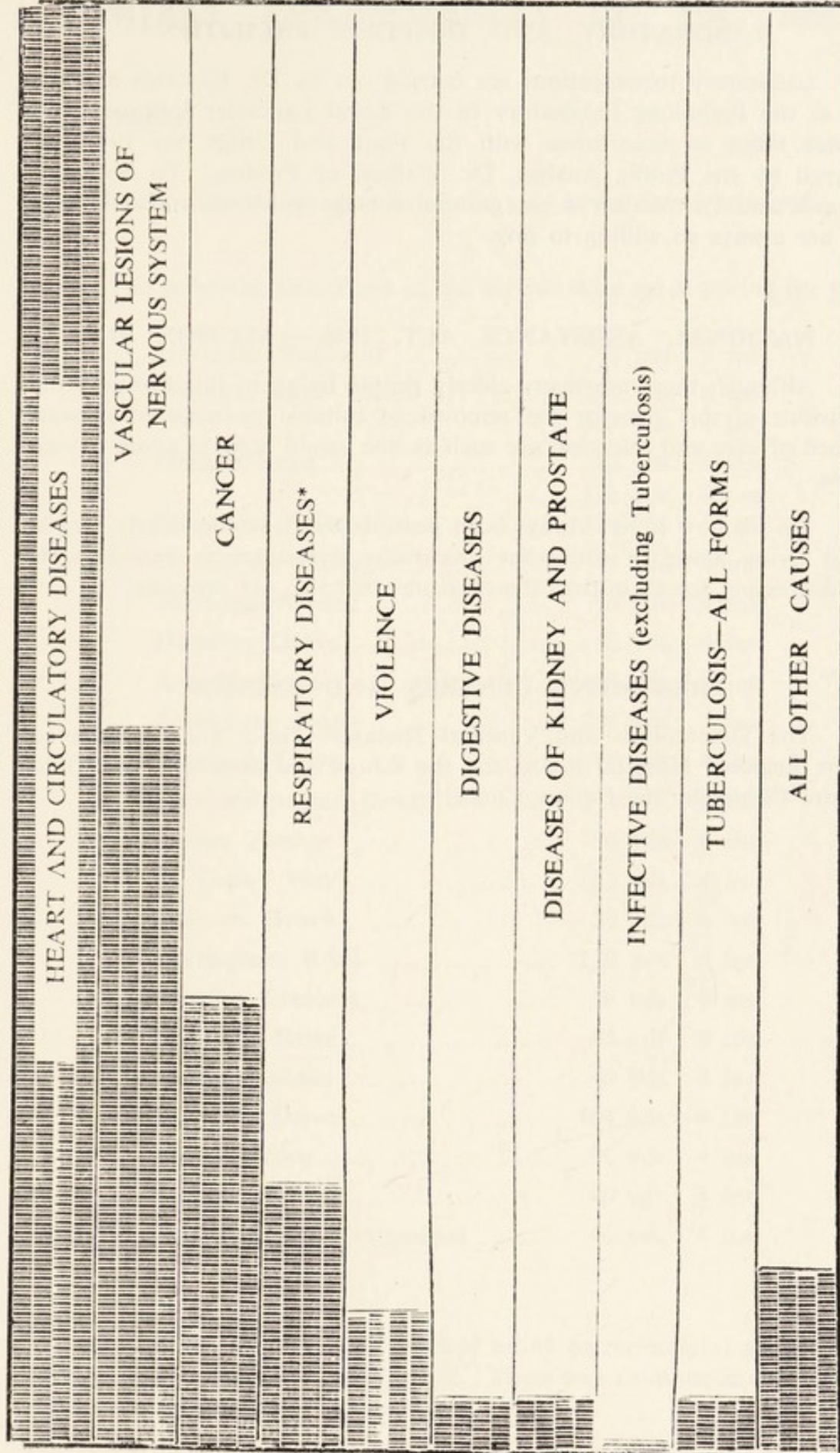
Morecambe and Heysham M.B.	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			Resp. Tub.	Malg. neo- plasms etc.	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal		Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.
									No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births		
Year 1956	423	*11.5	638	*17.4	5	12	2	4.67	10	24	9	21	0.11	2.64
Year 1955	401	10.9	669	18.2	8	20	2	4.89	23	57	21	52	0.19	2.70
Year 1954	393	10.7	641	17.5	12	30	1	2.47	17	43	13	33	0.08	2.57
Year 1953	418	11.5	536	14.8	9	21	nil	nil	16	38	13	31	0.06	2.09
Year 1952	416	11.5	607	16.7	6	14	nil	nil	31	75	10	24	0.14	2.89
Year 1951	428	11.6	751	20.4	22	49	nil	nil	13	30	12	28		
Average 5 years— 1950-1954	—	11.2	—	17.6	—	27.6	—	0.5	—	45	—	28		

\*Adjusted live-birth rate (comparability factor, 1.23) = 14.14  
Adjusted death rate (comparability factor, 0.77) = 13.4

## TABLE OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	2	2	4
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	2	2
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ... ..	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
8. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	9	7	16
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	16	6	22
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	8	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	25	20	45
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	—	1
16. Diabetes ... ..	—	3	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	46	96	142
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	94	38	132
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	8	9	17
20. Other heart disease ... ..	32	69	101
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	7	9	16
22. Influenza ... ..	4	—	4
23. Pneumonia ... ..	7	8	15
24. Bronchitis ... ..	18	7	25
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	6	—	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	2	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	5	—	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	2	2
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	3	—	3
32. Other defined and ill defined diseases ... ..	21	29	50
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	5	1	6
34. All other accidents ... ..	5	7	12
35. Suicide ... ..	4	2	6
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1956 COMPARED



\* Excluding Tuberculosis : including Influenza.

## **LABORATORY AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES**

Laboratory investigations are carried out by Dr. Rickards and his staff at the Pathology Laboratory in the Royal Lancaster Infirmary and samples taken in accordance with the Food and Drugs Act 1955 are analysed by the Public Analyst, Dr. Walker, of Preston. To both Dr. Rickards and Dr. Walker I am grateful for the guidance and help that they are always so willing to give.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 — SECTION 47**

Although there are many elderly people living in this Borough the provisions of this Act for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention are such as one would hope to avoid having to use.

Up till now it has always been possible to make for elderly people found living alone in somewhat precarious circumstances arrangements less distressing for them than the measures that the Act provides.

## **TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS**

The Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital Board and the School and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics by the County Council

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## Water Supply.

There were no changes during the year in the source of supply.

The following extensions of the service were made during the year :

Heysham Reservoir .....	8 yds.	9 ins.
Westgate Park Estate .....	274 yds.	6 ins.
	557 yds.	4 ins.
Oxcliffe Road .....	16 yds.	6 ins.
	192 yds.	4 ins.
Strickland Drive .....	529 yds.	4 ins.
Glen View Drive .....	49 yds.	4 ins.
Fairhope Avenue .....	96 yds.	4 ins.
Homfray Grove .....	40 yds.	4 ins.
Anstable Road .....	100 yds.	4 ins.
Branksome Estate .....	238 yds.	4 ins.
Newlands Drive .....	96 yds.	4 ins.
Stanhope Avenue (South) .....	272 yds.	4 ins.
Fairlea Avenue .....	96 yds.	4 ins.
St. Celia's Way .....	63 yds.	4 ins.
Stainton Grove .....	28 yds.	4 ins.
Corringham Road .....	120 yds.	4 ins.
Brentlea Crescent .....	16 yds.	4 ins.
Parklands Drive .....	32 yds.	4 ins.
Thorpe Avenue .....	40 yds.	4 ins.
Norwood Drive .....	104 yds.	4 ins.
Hutton Grove .....	96 yds.	4 ins.
Bleasdale Grove .....	80 yds.	4 ins.
Christie Avenue (extension) .....	40 yds.	4 ins.

The purity of the water, checked by 69 bacteriological analyses and 55 chemical analyses, was satisfactory. There was continuous chlorination of all water leaving the two filter houses.

Typical chemical and bacteriological analyses of the water are shown in the following tables :

**Chemical Examination :**

Numerical Results all in parts per milliou.

Colour .....	Nil
Turbidity .....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate solution in 4 hours at 27°c .....	0.30
Ammoniacal nitrogen .....	0.01
Albuminoid nitrogen .....	0.06
Nitrite nitrogen .....	Nil
Nitrate nitrogen .....	0.07
Chlorine present as chloride .....	10
Carbonate hardness .....	10
Non-carbonate hardness .....	20
Total hardness .....	30
pH value .....	8.4
Total solid residue dried at 180°c .....	60
Action on lead (24 hours) .....	less than 0.1

**BACTERIAL CONTENTS OF DRINKING WATER**

Senders Identity of Samples	Dept. Ref.	Date Received	Bacterial Colonies per ml. Agar 37°c	COLIFORM BACILLI PER 100 M.L.			
				Total	Faecal B. Coli 44°	I.A.C. Group	Other Organisms
* 1	35353	12/12/56	Nil	Nil	—	—	
* 2	35354	12/12/56	Nil	Nil	—	—	
* 3	35355	12/12/56	2	Nil	—	—	
* 4	35356	12/12/56	1	Nil	—	—	
557	13186	30/4/56	Nil	Nil	—	—	
	Town Hall, Morecambe and Heysham						
558	13187	30/4/56	Nil	Nil	—	—	
	80, Christie Avenue, Morecambe and Heysham						
559	13188	30/4/56	Nil	Nil	—	—	
	6, Beaufort Road, Morecambe and Heysham						

\* From Lancaster Reservoirs.



The following figures give the consumption for the past nine years.

Year	Morecambe	Heysham
1948	408,144,000 gallons	170,287,000 gallons
1949	454,545,000 ..	164,464,000 ..
1950	456,859,000 ..	165,879,000 ..
1951	441,043,000 ..	180,712,000 ..
1952	493,189,000 ..	207,794,000 ..
1953	466,305,000 ..	221,731,000 ..
1954	484,605,000 ..	221,759,000 ..
1955	494,362,000 ..	234,529,000 ..
1956	476,770,000 ..	223,638,000 ..

Daily consumption of Morecambe and Heysham in 1956 : 1,913,683 or 51 gallons per day per head.

#### **Cleansing of Dykes and Watercourses**

All main watercourses have been thoroughly cleaned and, where necessary, graded. A considerable improvement on the Overton dyke has been effected following work by the County Council downstream of the Borough boundary. Further strutting work on the Golf Course dyke has been carried out to prevent bank subsidence.

As in previous years, spraying with Malariol has been carried out at appropriate times.

#### **New Sewerage Scheme**

The Resident Engineer has kindly provided the following summary of the work done during the year :—

##### **1. Schola Green Lane Pumping Station.**

Repairs to the Storage Tanks 6, 7 and 8 were continued.

##### **2. Bare Lane Pumping Station.**

The erection of the pumping plant was completed and tested and the laying of the permanent power cables to the station was also completed. The station was put into commission and has been in full use since the 30th November.

**3. Seaward section of the Outfall Sewer.**

All offices and stores on the Promenade were removed and the reinstatement of the Promenade was completed by Easter.

**4. Main Collecting Sewer between Euston Road Station and Schola Green Lane Pumping Station.**

This work was wholly completed and the sewer put into use during August.

**5. Collecting Sewer in the West End Area.**

- (a) The laying of the sewer in Windsor Grove from Albany Road to Regent Road through Regent Park was completed save for a small amount of work still to be done on the construction of the two chambers for the inverted syphon near Ellesmere Road.
- (b) The laying of 21-in. and 9-in. sewers in Parliament Street, of an 18-in. dia. sewer in West Street, of a 12-in. dia. sewer in Yorkshire Street, and of a 15-in. dia. sewer in Devonshire Road, were completed.
- (c) The laying of a 48-in. dia. sewer in Balmoral Road from Albany Road to Ellesmere Road was completed and the laying of a 45-in. dia. sewer from Albert Road to Alexandra Road was completed to a point almost midway between Regent Road and Devonshire Road.
- (d) In Alexandra Road the laying of a 33-in. dia. sewer from Westminster Road to a point near Clarendon Road was completed.

**6. Collecting sewers in Bare Lane area.**

- (a) This work was continued and at the end of the year the new sewers had been completed from a point in Bare Lane at Fairhope Avenue, under the railway to a point near Mayfield Drive.
- (b) In the opposite direction in Bare Lane the laying of the 33-in. dia. sewer from Fairhope Avenue to the junction with Beaufort Road was almost completed.

- (c) The laying of a 27-in. dia. sewer in Beaufort Road from the junction with Strickland Drive to a point about 130 yards westwards of Farnlea Drive was completed.
- (d) In fields to the east of Bare Lane from the Pumping Station to Low Lane thence along Walton Avenue for a distance of about 70 yards along Michaelson Avenue the laying of 33-in., 30-in., 27-in., 24-in., 21-in. and 18-in. dia. sewers were completed.

**7. Collecting Sewers in Central area.**

A Contract for this work was let and work was commenced in Euston Road early in October. Nine shafts were sunk between Euston Road and Thornton Road to suitable levels and the driving of tunnels between these shafts was begun. Great difficulties were experienced initially, but at the end of the year these were being surmounted.

**Closet Accommodation.**

Number of houses on water carriage system .....	12,362
Number of Fresh Water Closets .....	13,882
Number of Waste Water Closets .....	18
Number of Middens .....	5
Number of Closets attached to Middens .....	5
Number of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens) .....	10
Number of Moveable Ashbins ..... approx.	14,554

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

### Inspections

Complaints received .....	742
Visits .....	794
Defects discovered .....	699
Defects abated .....	640
Referred to other departments .....	93
Re-visits .....	471
Miscellaneous Visits .....	172
Smoke observations .....	15
Informal notices served .....	127
Abatement notices served .....	11
Visits to schools .....	7
Visits to licensed premises .....	4
Visits to entertainment premises .....	37

### Summary of work done.

Drains choked .....	414
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(Many of the drains included in the above are properly named "Sewers" as they served more than one building and legally are maintained either privately or by the Council doing the work at the expense of the owners served. They are classified as drains in this summary to distinguish them from the Council's sewers).

Drains defective .....	64
Sewer choked .....	13
Sewer surcharging .....	3
Gully choked .....	16
Gully defective .....	10
Gully top badly set .....	2
W.C. choked .....	4

W.C. insanitary .....	1
Waste W.C. defective and converted to fresh W.C. ....	2
W.C. seat broken .....	1
W.C. defective .....	1
Ventilating pipe to drain short .....	—
Trough closets insanitary .....	—
Cesspool overflowing .....	2
Inspection chamber cover broken .....	2
Soil pipe cracked .....	4
Waste pipe choked .....	4
Waste pipe discharging improperly .....	2
Waste pipe broken .....	3
Sink, old and worn .....	1
Lavatory basin cracked .....	—
Insanitary surround to kitchen sink .....	—
R.W. downspout broken .....	5
R.W. downspout choked .....	2
Eavesgutter absent .....	1
Eavesgutter broken .....	7
Eavesgutter choked .....	—
Chimney breast damp .....	—
Chimney flue defective .....	5
Chimney stack (defective rendering) .....	2
Roof leaking .....	3
Roof (bay) leaking .....	2
Roof (annexe) leaking .....	2
Roof (W.C.) leaking .....	1
Ridge tiles missing and broken .....	—
Defective valley gutter .....	2
Skylight defective .....	1
Walls, penetrating dampness .....	6
Walls, defective pointing .....	1
Walls, rising dampness .....	4
Walls, external rendering broken .....	1
Walls, defective (cracked) .....	—

Wall plaster, perished and broken .....	—
Ceiling plaster perished .....	5
Windows, perished woodwork .....	1
Windows, no sash cords .....	1
Window frames, pointing defective .....	3
Fireplace defective .....	2
Firegrate broken .....	—
Floor wood, perished .....	1
Back boiler leaking .....	1
Floor wood, woodworm infested .....	—
Floor damp .....	1
Floor defective .....	—
Floor, woodwork rotten .....	1
Floor, dry rot .....	1
Underfloor ventilation inadequate .....	—
Door badly hung .....	1
Door wood rotting .....	1
House generally dilapidated .....	1
Door frame defective .....	—
Rooms dirty .....	1
Water pipe burst .....	4
Cistern leaking .....	1
Water in cellar .....	18
Gas pipe leaking .....	4
Flooded area .....	—
Water over site and under floor .....	2
Accumulation of refuse on vacant land .....	6
Yard surface defective .....	—
Paving defective .....	1

### Drainage

Visits .....	474
Re-visits .....	73
Drains tested .....	95
New drains tested .....	34
Informal notices .....	13
Formal notices .....	7

### Supply of dust bins

Visits .....	7
Re-visits .....	2
Ashpits converted .....	—

### Stables and Piggeries

Visits .....	2
--------------	---

### Disinfestation

Number of verminous houses inspected .....	21
Number of verminous houses re-inspected ...	11
Number of verminous houses disinfested ...	10
Wasps nests destroyed .....	8
Number of premises treated for insects .....	99
Number of visits by inspectors .....	8

### Offensive trades

There are three premises in which offensive trades are conducted ; in two of these the trade is tripe dressing, and in the third it is gut scraping.

All were satisfactorily conducted.

Number of visits .....	7
------------------------	---

### Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Twelve inspections were made during the year. No legal action was necessary.

### Keeping of Animals

Visits .....	11
--------------	----

### Diseases of Animals Act

No notifiable cases of contagious diseases of animals were received during the year.

Number of visits to premises under movement restrictions .....	2
Number of miscellaneous visits .....	28

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

This act, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1952, regulates the sale of pet animals, and provides that no person shall keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority.

The conditions of the licence include :

- (a) That animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.
- (b) Food and drink supply must be adequate.
- (c) That animals will not be sold at too early an age.
- (d) That precautions will be taken to prevent the spread among animals of infectious diseases.
- (e) That appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

Number of premises licensed .....	4
Number of visits .....	18

In all premises the conditions of the Act were being complied with.

### **Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.**

Number of premises registered .....	4
Number of visits .....	4

### **RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION**

Visits by rodent operators .....	3151
Premises visited .....	1026
Visits by inspectors .....	66

### **Rodent Control in Sewers**

Maintenance treatments of sewer manholes were continued in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture. Two treatments were carried out at intervals of six months and the numbers of manholes treated were 140.

The results were as follows :—

First treatment

Number of manholes showing pre-bait take .....	24
Number of manholes showing poison bait take .....	16

Second treatment

Number of manholes showing pre-bait take .....	20
Number of manholes showing poison bait take .....	13

In the following tables the work done during the year is analysed.



**TYPE OF PROPERTY—1956**

NON AGRICULTURAL				
(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	36	3084	14131	112
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of :				
(a) Notification.	10	45	159	4
(b) Survey under the Act.	17	247	296	106
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	8	68	93	14
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections. (To be completed only if figures are readily available).				
IV. Number of properties, inspected (in Sect. II.) which were found to be infested by :	3	1	6	7
(a) Rats (Major)	19	89	168	71
(Minor)	4	3	55	—
(b) Mice (Major)	4	30	81	—
(Minor)				
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV.) treated by the L.A.	27	123	307	68
VI. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments.	42	152	366	74

VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :						
(a) Treatment.	—	7	14	21	—	
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)						
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following issue of notice under Section 4 of Act.						
IX. Legal Proceedings.						
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	1	8	2	11	—	

## Camping Sites

There are eight camping sites licensed by the Council under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and all are kept under supervision.

The addresses of the sites are as follows :—

- Municipal Caravan Site, Westgate.
- Vickers Holiday Camp, Westgate.
- Regent Camping Ground, Regent Road.
- Summerville Camping Ground, Acre Moss Lane.
- Meadowfield Camp, Middleton Road.
- Broadgate Foot, Middleton Road.
- Torrisholme Hall Farm, Slyne Road.
- Encee Precision Co., Westgate.

The total permitted number of caravans on these sites is 664.

Use has again been made of the Town and Country Planning Act to remove permanently occupied caravans from unlicensed sites.

During 1956 there was extended use of the Municipal Caravan site as more ground was prepared and made available. 189 holiday caravans were accepted : of these 90 remained for the full season and 99 for periods varying from 1 day to 2 months; 70 were accepted for winter storage. The profits earned were put back into the venture to prepare further ground and improved equipment, and the satisfaction expressed by caravanners spoke well for future prospects. Because of complaints that the undertaking did not hand over any money to the rate fund in 1956, it may, perhaps, be well to recall the fact that when the project of a caravan site was approved late in 1954, it was decided that, instead of raising and spending initially all the money that would be required to bring the whole site into use, the immediate borrowing should be only what was necessary to prepare part of the site and that the earnings of the first few years should be used to pay for its extension and further equipment. That is what has been done in 1955 and 1956.

Frequent visits were paid to the licensed sites during the season and all were satisfactorily managed.

Visits .....	27
Visits to unlicensed sites .....	11

## Swimming Baths

There is one public swimming bath, the municipally owned Super Swimming Stadium, with a water capacity of 1,250,000 gallons. Included in the establishment is a Remedial and Slipper Bath section.

The water, which is drawn from the sea and stored in a settling tank before use in the bath, is maintained at a high standard of bacteriological purity by means of a Vacuum Solution Chlorinator and a Hydraulic Solution Feeder for Alkali.

In addition to the daily check at the Bath, samples of the water are bacteriologically analysed at intervals throughout the season.

18 bacteriological analyses were made as follows :—

Inlet .....	6
Outlet .....	6
Pool Centre .....	6

The bacteriological reports were all excellent and a specimen is shown below :—

Ref. No.	Date	Bacterial Colonies	Coliform Bacilli per 100 c.c	Location
912	9th August	Nil	Nil	Inlet
913	9th August	Nil	Nil	Pool Centre
914	9th August	Nil	Nil	Outlet

A report on a sample of the water before chlorination shewed a spreading growth of bacterial colonies with over 180 Coliform Bacilli per 100 c.c.

## SHOPS ACT 1950 AND YOUNG PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT)

### ACT 1938

The Shops Inspector paid 1609 visits to premises during ordinary working hours and 40 visits outside these hours.

Examination of the records relating to such matters as weekly half-holidays, seats for female employees, meals and compensatory leave for Sunday employment shewed that the majority of shopkeepers were complying with the regulations. Where records were found to be out of order or defaced the traders were warned of the contraventions and new notices were supplied.

It was found that fewer young persons were employed in the shops than in previous years, especially in the catering trade.

Infringement of Section 47 (Sunday Trading) was again found and, as a result, 6 shopkeepers and 2 shop assistants were convicted and fined a total of £74 with £7 16s 0d. costs. These offenders had all been fined on previous occasions with the exception of a mock auctioneer, who committed 3 offences during the year.

Observations were made on four Sundays of the year in connection with the sale of groceries. One shopkeeper was warned for an offence.

Eight licensed premises were visited in the evenings during the week before Christmas, complaints having been received from two shopkeepers that toys were being sold on the premises after the general closing hour. The Police were informed with a view to their checking any possessor of a hawkers licence who might be involved, but neither the Police nor the Shops Inspector found any offence being committed.

Fairgrounds, funfairs and all places of public entertainment were visited in order to check records relating to the employment of Young Persons under the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938. There was occasion to warn three occupiers of funfairs for failing to keep proper records and repeat visits were made and records checked.

The main complaints received were alleged contraventions of Section 47 (Sunday Trading). In some cases these complaints were justified and in some they proved to be unfounded.

Summing up the year as a whole, it was found that the great majority of business people were quite willing to give full co-operation.

Visits to shops .....	1008
Inspections .....	535
Re-visits to shop premises .....	33
Visits to cinemas and places of public entertain- ment, Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938 .....	33
Informal notices served re absence of and improper keeping of records .....	38
Informal notices served re absence of suitable and sufficient washing facilities .....	2
	(now provided)
Informal notices served re absence of suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences .....	2
	(now provided)
Verbal warnings (Sunday Trading) .....	18
	<hr/>
Total visits made .....	1609

## OFFENCES DEALT WITH AT MORECAMBE POLICE COURT

On 19th June	(Public Court)	Mock Auctioneer	fined £5
1956			£1 1 0d. costs
On 24th July	(Public Court)	Mock Auctioneer	fined £10
1956		(2nd offence)	£3 7 6d. costs
On 24th July	(Public Court)	Mock Auctioneer	fined £10
1956		(3rd offence)	£3 7 6d. costs
On 24th July	(Public Court)	Shopkeeper	fined £4
1956		(2 offences)	
On 24th July	(Public Court)	Shopkeeper	fined £5
1956		(1st offence)	
On 31st July	(Public Court)	Shopkeeper	fined £5
1956		(1st offence)	
On 31st July	(Public Court)	Shop Assistant	fined £10
1956		(2nd offence)	
On 7th Dec.	(Public Court)	Shop Assistant	fined £10
1956		(3rd offence)	
On 7th Dec.	(Public Court)	Shopkeeper	fined £10
1956		(3rd offence)	
On 7th Dec.	(Public Court)	Shopkeeper	fined £5
1956		(2nd offence)	
Total paid into Court :—			
		Fines .....	£74 0 0
		Costs .....	£7 16 0

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

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

Premises	Number On Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	44	23	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	111	74	11	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	3	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	158	97	11	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	2	2	—	1
Overcrowding (S.2.) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	1	1	—	1
Ineffective drainage of floor (S.6) ... ..	—	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ... ..	2	—	—	2
(a) Insufficient ... ..	2	—	—	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork) ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	7	5	—	6

No. of outworkers making wearing apparel ... .. 2

No. of outworkers making brass articles ... .. 1



## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Reconstruction of Cleansing Depot

The new dining room block came into service during the year. This building provides a large well furnished dining room, a specially designed drying room to deal with the workmen's wet clothing, ample toilet facilities and central heating. This accommodation, together with the new offices, garages, etc., brings the department for the first time up to reasonable standards.

### Street Cleansing

An additional gully emptier has been ordered and it is hoped to have the machine in service by April 1957. With this extra vehicle it will be possible to maintain an 8 weeks frequency of gully emptying.

There is a steady increase in the number of untrained, neglected and practically forsaken dogs that continue to foul every footpath in the town and it is deplorable that the owners cannot be made responsible. Complainants frequently blame that convenient entity the Local Authority for not dealing with this nuisance, but, in fact, the owner of an offending dog can only be punished if there is a witness of the offence who knows, or will discover, the identity of the owner, will lodge a complaint and will agree to give evidence in court. Such public spirited citizens do not present themselves. Probably the only measure that might abate the nuisance would be one requiring dogs to be, on main roads at least, kept on leads.

### Salvage

Once again the supply of waste paper exceeds the demand, but in this instance the contractors have organised a system of limiting the tonnage from each Authority rather than cutting the price per ton. This method of dealing with the variations in supply and demand has much to commend it.

### Sickness

The sickness and absence rates for the past three years are as follows:—

		Yearly Average	Highest Monthly Rate	Lowest Monthly Rate
1954	... ..	5.296%	9.2%	1.29%
1955	... ..	6.398%	10.7%	3.57%
1956	... ..	5.344%	10.2%	2.85%

### House and Trade Refuse Collection

	Loads	T.	C.	Q.
House and Trade Refuse ...	8654	15549	5	3
Raw Kitchen Waste ... ..	256	68	2	2
Fish and Shrimp Offal ... ..	592	202	18	2
Slaughterhouse Manure ... ..	231	119	18	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	9733	15940	4	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>		

### Refuse Disposal

Controlled Tip ... ..	7705	15190	9	0
Salvage Plant ... ..	949	358	16	3
Trade Waste Plant ... ..	1079	390	19	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	9733	15940	4	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>		

### Trade Waste Plant Sales

	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Fish Manure ... ..	18	3	2	7	759	12	6
Slaughterhouse Manure ... ..	38	2	3	0	633	9	0
Kitchen Waste ... ..	49	19	0	0	377	6	0
Shrimp Manure ... ..	8	5	0	0	254	14	0
Fat ... ..	2	19	3	0	126	19	5
Bones ... ..	7	12	0	0	40	3	3
Oystershell ... ..	16	19	0	0	21	3	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	142	1	0	7	2213	7	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

### Salvage Sales

Waste Paper ... ..	298	3	2	0	2682	2	1
Textiles ... ..	3	18	0	0	100	6	0
Miscellaneous ... ..	12	0	0	0	3	1	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	314	1	2	0	2785	9	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## HOUSING

### (1) General Observations

In January 1952 the Compulsory Purchase Order made for the acquisition of land and sub-standard dwellings in Railway Avenue and Watson's Avenue was confirmed, and a beginning was made during the year with rehousing the people living there.

A Clearance Order for sub-standard dwellings in Bailey Lane, Heysham, was the subject of a public inquiry in May and was confirmed in September.

Under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936, 8 unfit houses not in clearance areas were demolished with the consent of the owners.

Two groups of houses, 5 in Church Street and 10 in Thornton Road, were declared Clearance Areas but Clearance Orders were not made during 1956.

### (2) Housing Needs

The 674 names on the Housing Officer's list of those living in rooms at the end of the year represented the following family groups :—

Families of 2 (i.e. without children) .....	315
Families of 3 (i.e. with 1 child) .....	230
Families of 4 (i.e. with 2 children) .....	102
Families of 5 (i.e. with 3 children) .....	20
Families of 6 or more .....	7

### (3) Progress of Local Authority Schemes

During the year 331 houses and 64 flats were built in the Borough: of these, 265 houses and 32 flats were built by persons or bodies other than the local authority.

**(4) Inspections**

Housing Act, 1936

Houses inspected .....	60
Houses re-inspected .....	14
Rent books examined .....	22
Rent books not complying (S.4) .....	2

Public Health Act, 1936

Houses inspected .....	742
Houses re-inspected .....	471

**(5) Housing Act, 1949 — Improvement grants etc.**

	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	18	19
(b) Approved by local authority .....	15	
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .....		
(d) Finally approved by Ministry .....		
(e) Work completed .....	9	
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) .....	5	

## HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1956.

### A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).	Houses Demolished	DISPLACED	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	22	56	20
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. . . . .	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under S. 27, Housing Act, 1936 . . . . .	—	—	—
<b>Not in Clearance Areas</b>			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.11, Housing Act, 1936 . . . . .	8	11	5

### B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

	Number		
(5) Under S.11, Housing Act, 1936 and S.10(1) and 11(2), Local Govt. (Misc.Prov.) Act, 1953 . . .	6	17	6
(6) Under S.3(1) and 3(2), Housing Act, 1936 . . . . .			
(7) Parts of buildings closed under S.12, Housing Act 1936 . . . . .			

### C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	By Owner	By L.A.
(8) After informal action . . . . .	358	—
(9) After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts . . . . .	10	—
(b) Housing Act, 1936 . . . . .	Nil	
(10) Under S.5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 . . . . .	—	—

### D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)

Nil

### E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

Nil

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

1. Number of food premises, by type of business, in the district, at end of year :

Type of Business	No.
Boarding Houses .....	3,755 approx.
Restaurant Kitchens .....	600 „
Grocers .....	200 „
Greengrocers .....	40 „
Butchers .....	41 „
Offensive trades .....	3
Shrimp pickers .....	32
Bakehouses .....	70

2. Number of food premises, by type, registered under S.16 of the Food and Drugs Act or under local Acts, and number of dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954 :

Type of Business	No. registered at 31.12.56	No. of inspections of registered premises during year
Fish Friars .....	35	52
Sausages, potted, pressed pickled and preserved food	52	} Not separately recorded
plus		
fish frying .....	2	
Food stores, food hawkers under the L.C.C. (General Powers) Act .....	26	7
Ice-cream .....	202	489
Dairies .....	29	158

3. Special examinations of food stocks or consignments during year : (Nil).

4. Method of disposal of condemned food. (See page 56).

## MILK PREMISES AND PLANT

Register	Distributors	Dairies
Total on Register, 1.1.56 .....	113	28
Transfers .....	13	1
Deletions .....	2	0
Additions .....	7	1
Total on Register, 31.12.56 .....	120	29
Distributors		
Distributors only .....		37
Distributors from shops .....		54
Distributors from dairies .....		29
Licences		
Tuberculin Tested :		
Dealers .....		11
Dealers renewal .....		47
Supplementary .....		6
Pasteurised :		
Pasteurisers .....		9
Dealers .....		4
Dealers renewal .....		53
Supplementary .....		4
Sterilised :		
Dealers .....		15
Dealers renewal .....		44
Supplementary .....		3
Visits and Inspections :		
Distributors .....		308
Dairies .....		116
Pasteurising plant .....		42
Farms (Foods and Drugs Act only) .....		2
Bottling establishments (other than plant) .....		21
Milk bars .....		2
Bacteriological sampling .....		179
Day nursery .....		8
School kitchen .....		Nil
Complaints received .....		1

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

237 samples of milk were taken or purchased involving some 664 examinations. These were carried out at the Public Health Laboratory attached to the Royal Lancaster Infirmary and supervised by Dr. A. G. Rickards.

7 samples were of undesignated milk and the remaining 230 were all licensed. The undesignated were sampled at the processing plant before being heat-treated and of these 4 were of unsatisfactory keeping quality. The quantity of raw undesignated milk sold to consumers in this area is very small indeed. 66 samples were taken from the dairy after pasteurisation: no failures to pass the phosphatase test for heat-treated milk were recorded.

5 out of 8 of the samples of T.T. milk arriving at the plant for pasteurisation or bottling were satisfactory.

24 samples of milk of all grades were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and all were negative.

The quality of the untreated milk arriving at the processing plant remains very similar to that of last year; most of it is sent from farms outside the borough and unsatisfactory samples are reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. "Unsatisfactory" means either the presence of *B. Coli* or failure to pass the methylene blue test, meaning milk of poor keeping quality. 5 out of 8 samples of T.T. milk, and 4 out of 7 samples of raw undesignated milk were unsatisfactory. A local authority's officer is no longer empowered to visit farms in his own area; the authority that once he had was removed by the regulations of 1949 and transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and so it is no longer possible to report on conditions at the farms.

Samples taken also included laboratory reports on milk bottles after cleansing by machine or manually and prior to filling. 2 out of 11 were unsatisfactory and the dairyman was advised accordingly.

63 samples of school milk (Pasteurised) were wholly satisfactory.

The employment of a qualified laboratory technician in their own laboratory at the processing plant has proved to be of great value to the plant, and platform tests of the milk on arrival are taken daily; several churns were returned to the farmers as being unsatisfactory.

A summary of the bacteriological findings in respect of the samples is given in the following table :



Designation	No. of Samples	B. Coli absent in 0.1 c.c.		Methylene Blue Test (Keeping quality)		Phosphatase Test (Heat treatment)		Turbidity Test Satisfactory	Tubercle Bacilli	
		Pass	Satisfactory %	Pass	Satisfactory %	Pass	Satisfactory %		-	+
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	47	47	100.0	47	100.0	47	100.0	—	—	—
Pasteurised	62	62	100.0	62	100.0	61	98.3	—	—	—
Pasteurised (School Milk)	63	63	100.0	63	100.0	63	100.0	—	—	—
Sterilised	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Channel Isles)	8	7	87.5	7	87.5	—	—	—	4	—
Tuberculin Tested (Bottled)	26	24	92.3	18	69.2	—	—	—	11	—
Tuberculin Tested (Bulk)	8	5	62.5	3	42.8	—	—	—	2	—
Undesignated (Bulk)	7	6	85.7	3	42.8	—	—	—	7	—
Total :—	237	214	96.8	203	91.8	171	99.4	16	24	—

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

### Inspection of Food Premises

Bakehouses .....	62
Restaurant kitchens .....	147
Food preparation premises .....	300
Fish friers .....	52
Food stores .....	23
Proposed food premises .....	150
School kitchen .....	2
Snack bars .....	58
Markets .....	37
Public houses .....	4
Miscellaneous .....	181
Other food premises .....	589
Shrimp pickers premises .....	16
Manufacturers of soft drinks .....	2
Boarding houses .....	2

177 visits have been made with contractors to food premises in connection with proposed work or work in progress, and 117 visits have been made to proposed food premises in connection with structural alterations necessary to comply with the requirements of Sections 16-18 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The premises of 32 shrimp pickers employed by 3 registered food preparation firms have been inspected and found satisfactory.

### Notices

Informal .....	15
Statutory .....	Nil

### Defects

Dirty or defective equipment .....	11
Food exposed to contamination .....	5
Lack of personal cleanliness .....	3
Defective drainage .....	3
Defective or inadequate sanitary conveniences .....	8
Inadequate water supply .....	19
{ Inadequate hot water supply .....	41
{ Inadequate wash hand basins .....	87
{ Absence of soap, nailbrushes, towels, etc. ....	13

{ Inadequate sinks .....	16
{ Inadequate hot water supply .....	13
{ Absence of soap, cloths, etc. ....	4
Absence of first aid materials .....	4
Absence of clothing accommodation ...	3
Inadequate lighting .....	1
Inadequate ventilation .....	2
Food rooms used as sleeping place ...	Nil
Defective construction of food rooms ...	88
Lack of cleanliness of food rooms .....	15
Inadequate refuse accommodation .....	1
Improper storage of food .....	1
Improper wrapping of food .....	1
Food and domestic premises .....	5

### Stalls

Absence of name and address .....	20
Inadequate screening .....	8
Defective construction .....	1
Inadequate water supply .....	4
Inadequate sinks .....	4
Absence of soap, towels for persons .....	1
Inadequate hot water supply .....	4

### Registered premises

	Register 1.1.56	Transfers 1956	Addit'ns 1956	Deletions 1956	Register 31.12.56
1. Fish friers ... ..	33	-	2	-	35
2. Sausages, pressed, pickled and preserved food ... ..	57	3	3	8	52
3. Sausages, pressed, potted, pickled and preserved food plus fried fish ... ..	2	-	-	-	2
	92	3	5	8	89
	-	-	-	-	-

During 1956, 1 bakehouse was discontinued and removed from the register. One bakehouse was re-opened. There are now 70 bakehouses on the register, 58 in use and 12 not in use.

## **Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

This Act came into operation on the 1st January, 1956, and consolidated the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the Food and Drugs (Milk Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, and the Food and Drugs Amendment Act, 1954, together with certain other enactments amending and supplementing Part V of the said Act of 1938 in relation to slaughterhouses and knackers yards.

## **Food Hygiene Regulations 1955**

These regulations take the place of section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (which is repealed by the Food and Drugs Amendment Act, 1954), and add a number of new provisions in respect of the hygienic handling of food and the construction and maintenance of premises, stalls, vehicles, etc., where food is handled. They do not apply to slaughterhouses and cold stores or to a number of other types of premises (e.g., dock premises, warehouses, carriers' premises), except in so far as activities such as staff canteens or retail shops, etc., may be carried on there. They also replace regulations 19, 20 and 21 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, in respect of the transport and carrying of meat.

The regulations lay down requirements in respect of (i) the cleanliness of food premises and stalls, etc., and of apparatus and equipment, (ii) the hygienic handling of food, (iii) the cleanliness of persons engaged in the handling of food and of their clothing and the action to be taken where they suffer from, or are carriers of, certain infections, (iv) the construction of food premises, the repair and maintenance of food premises, stalls, vehicles, etc., and the facilities to be provided, and (v) the temperature at which certain foods that are particularly liable to transmit disease are to be kept in food premises.

They prescribe the higher maximum penalties provided for in section 106 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The operation of certain of the regulations which may require alterations to premises or substantial changes in existing practices is made subject to a delay of 6 months and local authorities (who are enforcing authorities) are empowered to give certificates of exemption from the requirements of certain regulations if through special circumstances compliance with the provisions concerned cannot reasonably be required. There is an appeal to a court of summary jurisdiction against the refusal or withdrawal of a certificate.

## **Shrimp Picking**

The restrictions on the preparation and packing of food in or about domestic premises as provided for by Regulation 7 of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, have been further postponed until the 1st January, 1958, in so far as they apply to the peeling of shrimps, prawns and onions. It is anticipated that amending legislation will be introduced before that date with respect to the peeling of shrimps, prawns and onions in domestic premises.

## **EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY**

During the year 6 lectures were given by the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector on the application of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, to Food Traders Associations, which included butchers, bakers, licensed victuallers, hoteliers, electrical technicians, sales staff and women's guilds. In addition, special lectures on food poisoning and the general principles in regard to storage, preparation and handling of food and pest control were delivered to a class of food handlers in connection with an adult Hygienic Food Handling Course organised by the St. John Ambulance Association in collaboration with the Morecambe and Heysham Association of Hotels and Boarding Establishments.

Co-operation with the St. John Ambulance Association was also rendered in conducting an examination of 9 boys and 8 girls after a preliminary course in Hygiene, including hygienic food handling.

It is hoped that before long we may be able to provide more extended courses in food hygiene and related matters for food handlers in the Borough, perhaps under the approval and with the assistance of the Education Authority.

## SAMPLING AND EXAMINATION OF FOOD

### Chemical Examination

When an article of food has been purchased and the procedures set out in Section 91 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, have been observed, the sample is said to be a formal one. This involves the separation of the sample into 3 parts, each of which has to be labelled and sealed. To do this with every sample would take considerable time and entail a great deal of work. Time, and labour also, would be spent on many samples on which proceedings would not be taken, since the great majority are found to be genuine. The purchase, moreover, of a formal sample is relatively expensive, because enough of each article must be bought to allow it to be divided into three portions. For these reasons many samples are bought without compliance with the full requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, and are submitted to the Public Analyst, and these are known as test, or informal, samples. If the result of analysis of such a test sample should be unsatisfactory then the food concerned would be formally sampled to obtain evidence acceptable in a court of law.

162 samples were purchased or taken during the year and analysed by the Borough Analyst, as follows :—

Informal samples of milk .....	4
Formal samples of milk .....	86
Informal samples of food .....	60
Informal samples of ice-cream .....	6
Informal samples of drugs .....	6
Miscellaneous samples .....	0
	—
	162
	—

100% of the formal milk samples purchased and 75.6 % of the informal milk samples were genuine as compared with 91.5% and 78.7% in 1955.

## EXAMINATIONS BY THE PUBLIC ANALYST

### MILK :

#### Formal samples :

##### Tuberculin tested :

Genuine ... ..	14	
Genuine, but low in solids-not-fat ... ..	7	
	—	21

##### T.T. (Channel Islands) :

Genuine ... ..	4	
	—	4

##### T.T. (Jersey) :

Genuine ... ..	1	
----------------	---	--

##### T.T. (Pasteurised) :

Genuine ... ..	17	
Genuine, but slightly low in solids-not-fat	2	
Genuine, but low in solids-not-fat ... ..	2	
	—	21

##### Sterilised :

Genuine ... ..	10	
Genuine, but slightly low in solids-not-fat	1	
	—	11

##### Pasteurised :

Genuine ... ..	20	
Genuine, but slightly low in solids-not-fat	3	
Genuine, but low in solids-not-fat ... ..	5	
	—	28
		— 86

#### Informal Samples :

##### Undesignated milk :

Genuine ... ..	2	
Genuine, but low in solids-not-fat ... ..	1	
Contained added water ... ..	1	
	—	4
		— 90

Of the milk samples purchased, apart from 18 which showed a normal seasonal decrease in the solid-not-fat content, 1 only was found to be adulterated. This sample, an informal one taken at a dairy, showed the presence of added or extraneous water. The percentage was small, 0.6%; no legal action was taken, but the farmer and dairyman were notified and warned.

All the formal samples and 75% of the informal samples were genuine (last year 91.5 % ; 78.7%).

Other foods :	Genuine	Not genuine	Total
Ale ingredients, dry home brewed	1		
Bilberries in syrup (canned) ... ..	1		
Butter ... ..	2	1	
Breakfast spread ... ..	1		
Cake mixture (sweetened) ... ..	2		
Chicken fillets (canned) ... ..	1		
Cream, double ... ..	1		
Custard powder ... ..	1		
Dripping ... ..	1		
Eggs, Scotch ... ..	1		
Fat, cooking ... ..	1		
Fish cakes ... ..	1		
Fish paste ... ..	-	1	
Flour (self raising) ... ..	1		
Ginger flavouring ... ..	1		
Grape jam ... ..	1		
Hamburgers ... ..	1		
Horseradish sauce ... ..	1		
Honey ... ..	1		
Jelly crystals ... ..	1		
Lard ... ..	2		
Malt, milk and cocoa beverage ...	1		
Margarine ... ..	1		
Marmalade ... ..	2	1	
Meat, luncheon (canned) ... ..	1		
Molasses, crude sugar cane ... ..	1		
Orange drink ... ..	1		
Pancake and Yorkshire pudding mixture ... ..	1		
Polony ... ..	1		
Rice, creamed (canned) ... ..	1		
Rose-hip syrup ... ..	1		



Salmon spread ... ..	1		
Sausage, beef ... ..	4		
Sausage, pork ... ..	6	1	
Sausage, tomato ... ..	-	1	
Sausage, salami ... ..	1		
Sausage, liver ... ..	1		
Sausage meat, pork ... ..	1		
Savoury batter mixture (powder) ...	1		
Shrimps, potted (carton) ... ..	1		
Soup (canned) ... ..	1		
Stout ingredients dry home brewed	1		
Sugar, icing ... ..	1		
Sugar, soft brown ... ..	1		
Tomato ketchup ... ..	1		
	55	5	60

**Drugs :**

Cough mixture ... ..	3		
Herbal medicine ... ..	1		
Vitamin tonic ... ..	1		
Vitamin capsules ... ..	1		
	6		66

**Ice-cream :**

Genuine ... ..	6		72
Number of visits and re-visits ... ..			297

**Action taken**

1. Pork sausage.

This sample contained 40 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without the required declaration.

After notification to the occupier, the statutory notice was displayed in the shop.

2. Tomato sausage.

Contained 100 parts per million sulphite preservative without declaration.

After notification, the statutory notice was displayed in the shop.

3. Beef sausage.

Contained 25 parts per million sulphite preservative without declaration.

The manufacturer was interviewed and cautioned.

4. Fish paste.

The fish content was only 46%. The manufacturer was interviewed and the fish content was adjusted to the requirement.

5. Marmalade.

Deficient 1.8% soluble solids. The manufacturer was cautioned and the deficiency made good.

6. Butter.

Mould present in sample purchased.

The stock was examined and as a result was withdrawn from sale and surrendered to the department. The stock consisted of 32 —  $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. packets of unsalted Dutch butter.

7. This sample was reported in 1955 and related to the presence of a dead housefly in a bottle of pasteurised milk. The council appealed against the dismissal of the case by the local magistrates. This appeal was heard in the Queens Bench Division and the magistrates in their stated case said, "we were of the opinion that there was no sale to the prejudice of the purchaser as defined by section 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the purchaser having demanded milk and having been supplied with milk and we accordingly dismissed the said information." The Queens Bench allowed the appeal of the council and found that the respondents did sell to the prejudice of the purchaser a pint bottle of milk which was not of the quality demanded by the purchaser in that the said bottle contained a housefly.

The case was re-heard in the local court and the defendants fined.

8. Shrimps.

A carton of shrimps was purchased for consumption but when opened was found to be putrifying. The stock was examined and the whole (42 cartons) were surrendered to the department. (These were Norwegian peeled shrimps— $3\frac{1}{4}$ ozs.).

9. Pork pie.

A pork pie was purchased by a local resident for consumption but was found to contain a foreign body. The pie was manufactured outside the town and was forwarded to the appropriate local authority for action. As a result, the manufacturer received a caution ; the purchase money was refunded, accompanied by a letter of apology.

10. Mince meat.

A small quantity of mince meat was purchased at a local butcher's shop. The purchaser found that the mince contained several foreign bodies and a complaint was made to the health department. The extraneous matter proved on examination to be poultry dressings. The butcher was visited, and it was found that because of the Christmas rush, and a certain amount of carelessness on the part of an assistant, prepared mince meat had been placed on a dish from the poultry room. A strict warning was given to the proprietor that a future contravention would be dealt with in the appropriate manner. The money was refunded.

11. Bread.

A portion of a loaf was brought to the department containing a foreign body. This loaf was baked outside the Borough and the bakers were informed. The bread was sent to the laboratory employed by the bakery and the extraneous matter was found to be a dried sultana.

12. Bread.

A 2lb. wrapped sliced loaf when opened was seen to be covered with green spotted mould. Enquiries from the bakery concerned showed that the mould was due to wrapping before proper cooling had taken place.

**Regulations, etc., issued during 1956 included :—**

1. Food and Drugs Act, 1955
2. Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

## LABELLING OF FOOD ORDER, 1953.

Number of visits ..... 77

### 1. Crude Sugar Cane Molasses.

The label claimed tonic properties and the presence of essential elements without disclosing the nature and minimum quantities of the elements per ounce present. The packers in this country were contacted and as a result the tin was redesigned and the wording revised to comply with the order.

### 2. Rose-hip syrup.

Declaration not expressed in terms of milligrams of Vitamin C per fluid ounce. The label was redesigned.

## ICE-CREAM

### Bacteriological Examinations :

153 samples of ice-cream were examined as follows :

#### Methylene Blue Reductase Test (with provisional gradings) :

Grade 1	.....	148
Grade 2	.....	1
Grade 3	.....	4
Grade 4	.....	Nil

In the tables that follow are given the results of bacteriological and chemical analyses.

#### Bacillus Coli in 0.1 c.c.:

Absent	.....	153
Present	.....	Nil

Type	No. of Samples	Provisional Gradings				B. Coli Absent in O.1.c.c.
		1	2	3	4	
Bulk	52	49	1	2	—	52
Pre-packed	101	99	—	2	—	101
Complete Cold Mix	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	153	148	1	4	—	153

The figures in the above table and the tables that follow do not include "repeat" samples. By repeat samples is meant samples taken at various stages of manufacture and storage after receipt of an unsatisfactory laboratory report on a particular sample. Such repeat sampling is of help to the traders. Manufacturers are without exception very co-operative and are supplied with copies of all reports on their products. If a sample is graded 2 they are quite disappointed (although grade 2 is, in fact, satisfactory) and are alarmed at an odd 3 or 4 grading.

Type	% Graded 1 or 2				
	1956	1955	1954	1953	1949
Bulk	96.1	85.5	82.5	86.4	51.7
Pre-packed	98.0	97.2	94.1	97.9	72.0
Complete Cold Mix	No samples	72.7	88.8	66.6	41.3

#### Comparative Figures :

Year	Grade 1 or 2 %	B. Coli absent in 0.1 c.c. %
1949	60.0	97.8
1953	93.2	100.0
1954	90.0	100.0
1955	90.3	100.0
1956	97.3	100.0

No samples were graded "4" as compared with 7.6 in 1955, 1.6 in 1954 and 21.1 in 1949.

	Provisional Gradings				% graded 1 or 2		
	1	2	3	4	1956	1955	1949
Local	55	1	1	—	96.5	85.5	51.9
"Imported"	92	1	3	—	96.8	95.6	67.2
Total	147	2	4	—	97.3	90.3	60.0

The total number of samples examined this year shows an increase of 8 over last year.

**Composition :**

6 samples were analysed by the Public Analyst and all were satisfactory, and of local manufacture.

Sample No.	Fat %	Total Solids %
1	10.4	35.9
2	6.9	31.1
3	10.8	38.2
4	9.4	35.8
5	7.4	31.6
6	11.6	37.0
Average :	9.4	34.9

## ICE-LOLLIES

### Locally manufactured :

Sold unwrapped ... ..	8
Pre-packed ... ..	1
(All satisfactory)	

### Imported :

Pre-packed ... ..	15
(All satisfactory)	

### Visits :

Dealers premises ... ..	259
Manufacturers premises ... ..	42
Storage premises ... ..	18
Proposed premises ... ..	2
Cinemas ... ..	27
Street traders ... ..	7
Sampling ... ..	131
Informal notices ... ..	3

### Registered premises :

	1955	Ceased	New	1956
Manufacture, storage and sale ... ..	5			5
Manufacture and storage ... ..	2	1		1
Manufacture and sale ... ..	7			7
Storage and sale ... ..	3			3
Storage ... ..	4			4
Sale ... ..	85	4	1	82
Sale of pre-packed (by agreement) ...	98	3	4	99
	204	8	5	201

During the year 8 premises ceased to be used for ice-cream purposes and the certificates of registration were withdrawn. The Council approved the transfer of 8 certificates.

## MEAT

Number of visits to slaughterhouses ... ..	1304
Number of visits to Heysham Harbour slaughterhouse	98
Number of visits to butchers shops ... ..	173
Number of visits to other food shops ... ..	572

	Town	Heysham	Total
Beasts (excluding cows) ... ..	3227	64	3291
Cows ... ..	76	—	76
Calves ... ..	185	—	185
Sheep and lambs ... ..	15632	2740	18372
Pigs ... ..	2426	44	2470
	21546	2848	24394

### Meat Condemned (including Heysham Harbour) :

#### Cattle :

##### Tuberculosis :

Beast Carcase ... ..	1
Part Beast Carcase and Offal (302 lbs.) ... ..	1
Beast Head and Tongues ... ..	62
Beast Lungs ... .. sets	116
Beast Livers ... ..	54
Beast Skirt ... ..	12
Beast Stomachs ... ..	4
Beast Spleens ... ..	37
Beast Intestines ... ..	1
Beast Heart ... ..	11
Beef forequarters ... ..	1
Brisket (lbs.) ... ..	13



Other Diseases :

Beast Carcase (severe bruising) .....	2
Beast Carcase (casualty) (fever) .....	2
Beast Carcase and Offal (moribund) .....	1
Beast Carcase and Offal (peritonitis) .....	1
Beast Carcase and Offal (gangrene) .....	1
Beast Livers (cirrhosis) .....	lbs. 20255
Beast Livers (abscesses) .....	4
Beast Head and Tongue (C. Bovis) .....	1
Beast Heart (C. Bovis) .....	1
Beast Skirt (C. Bovis) .....	1
Beast Tongue (actinomycosis) .....	7
Beast Lungs (pleurisy) .....	sets 2
Beast Lungs (pneumonia) .....	sets 2
Beast Spleens (peritonitis) .....	2
Beef (bruising) .....	lbs. 1942
Sidebeef (bruised) .....	1
Beef (bone taint) .....	lbs 217

Cysticercus Bovis :

1 case of C. Bovis was discovered (as compared with 3 in 1955, 7 in 1954, and 48 in 1950).

Calves :

Carcase and Offal (fevered) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (tumours) .....	1

Sheep :

Carcase and Offal (moribund) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (rickets) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (ill bled) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (septic) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (fever) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (emaciation) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (abscesses) .....	1
Livers (flukes) .....	lbs 448
Livers (abscesses) .....	5
Kidney (abscesses) .....	1
Lamb Carcase (rickets) .....	1
Lamb Carcase (bruised) .....	1
Lamb Carcase (emaciation) .....	2
Lamb Carcase (fevered) .....	1
Lamb (bruising) .....	lbs. 880
Mutton (bruising) .....	lbs. 232

Pigs :

Carcase and Offal (fevered) .....	3
Carcase (swine erysipelas) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (bruised) .....	2
Carcase and Offal (pyaemia) .....	1
Carcase and Offal (decomposing) .....	1
Lungs (inflammation) .....	sets 2
Liver (cirrhosis) .....	4
Liver (milk spots) .....	12
Liver (cysts) .....	lbs. 49
Livers (inflammation) .....	6
Heads (tuberculosis) .....	14
Heart (inflammation) .....	1
Kidney (inflammation) .....	1
Pluck (cirrhosis) .....	2
Pork (bruised) .....	lbs. 1503

**UNSOOUND FOOD (other than carcase meat) surrendered.**

**Meat :**

	Tins	lbs.	Quantity
Meat .....	59		
Meat, luncheon .....		19½	
Veal .....		6	
Pork luncheon meat .....		58	
Pork, roast .....		103½	
Pork, pressed .....		20	
Pork, loins .....		89	
Beef, corned .....		191	
Beef, pressed .....		4	
Steak .....	1		
Steak, stewed .....		25	
Tongue, Ox .....	237		
Tongue Ox .....			8
Bacon .....		56½	
Ham, boiled .....		45½	
Ham, cooked .....		593½	
Ham shoulder .....		84	
Ham, chopped .....		4	
Sausage .....		164	
Chickens (box) .....			1
Chicken .....		17	
Puddings, Black .....		113½	

**Fish :**

Fish (boxes) .....			2
Fish .....	8		
Halibut .....		97	
Pilchards .....		4	

**Shell Fish :**

Shrimps .....		9	
Prawns .....		34	
Whelks .....		280	
Lobsters .....		30	
Cockles .....		70	

**Fruit :**

Fruit .....	157		
-------------	-----	--	--

**Vegetables :**

Vegetables .....	55		
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**Confectionery :**

Filling .....		18	
Butter .....		16	
Toffee .....		61	

**Provisions and Miscellaneous :**

Milk .....	9		
Cream (gallon) .....			1
Cheese .....		$\frac{1}{4}$	
Pickle (jars) .....			12
Meat Pies .....			3
Soup .....	4		

**Disposal of condemned meat :**

Carcase beef is sold, after impregnation with green dye, to a retail processor of animal feeding stuffs, about whose consignment the Medical Officer of Health of the district is informed.

Beef livers which are found tubercle free and not affected with any septic condition are collected for pharmaceutical purposes. The remainder of the condemned meat and offal is regularly collected by the Authority and treated by the fertilizer processing plant operated by the Cleansing Department.

**CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED :**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ... ..	3291	76	185	18372	2470
Number inspected ... ..	3291	76	185	18372	2470
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole Carcases condemned ... ..	7		2	6	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	1558		—	301	31
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ... ..	50.59		1.68	1.66	1.58
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	1		—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	71		—	—	14
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	2.18		—	—	0.56
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	1		—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	1		—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—		—	—	—

NOT SEPARATELY RECORDED

## LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT, 1951

This Act requires the registration of all persons who sell, offer or expose for sale any food from a vehicle, basket, pail, tray or other receptacle and for the registration of all premises used as storage accommodation for such food.

Number of hawkers on register as at 1st January ... ..	83
Number of transfers during year ... ..	Nil
Number of new registrations ... ..	2
Number of hawkers on register at 31st December ... ..	85
Number of hawkers premises on register as at 1st January	26
Number of new registrations ... ..	Nil
Number of hawkers premises on register at 31st December	26
Number of visits made ... ..	7

### Merchandise Marks Act, 1926

The provisions of this Act require amongst its provisions an indication of origin to be given in the case of certain imported goods.

Number of visits made ... ..	11
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### Dogs in Food Shops, Restaurants, etc.

During the year the distribution of cards for display in shops has been continued. Shopkeepers welcome the idea, but the public do not respond as well as the department would wish.

## FOOD POISONING AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD

### Notified Cases

A child age 1½ was admitted to hospital in January with infantile eczema and had positive specimens for Salmonella typhi-murium. The mother was in the Maternity ward and specimens, all negative, were obtained from her, from the father and from another child.

No further infections occurred.

### Other Suspected Cases (not notified)

Number of specimens examined all negative .....	19
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**Foods examined (suspected)**

Polony .....	1
Pie, meat .....	2
Meat pies .....	3
Chinese egg albumen .....	1
Frozen lamb liver (raw) .....	1
Frozen lamb liver (cooked) .....	1

**Foods examined (routine)**

Crab paste .....	1
Flour .....	2
Orange drink .....	1
Sausage .....	7
Cockles .....	2
Mussels .....	10 (1 unsatisfactory)
Oysters .....	7
Shrimps .....	7

A typical examination at the Laboratory of shrimps prepared and packed locally after boiling, after cooling, and after filling, gave the following result :—

“Culture” : No *Bacillus Dysenteriae* or *Salmonella* organisms isolated.

No *Staphylococcus pyogenes* or *Clostridium welchii* grown.

B. Coli : Average Nil per fish.

# PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

## Visits and disinfection

Visits of inquiry into notified cases .....	81
Re-visits .....	23
Miscellaneous visits .....	11
Visits re disinfection .....	71
Premises disinfected .....	31
Articles disinfected .....	639
Rooms disinfected .....	54
Number of times steam disinfectant used .....	68

## Paratyphoid contacts

Visits .....	4
Specimens examined .....	12

## Sonne Dysentery

On 20th March a family of 7 were notified as suspected cases of food poisoning. Enquiries shewed that there was no common factor to account for the symptoms and faecal specimens were all negative.

On the 22nd and 23rd, further suspected cases were reported and specimens from 3 families were examined. One of these specimens proved to be positive for Sh. Sonnei and this was from a child who had been attending the Day Nursery. It was then found that there had been one other case of diarrhoea at the nursery and so specimens were obtained from all the children and staff.

Specimens were collected daily from April 3rd. On that day 35 specimens were examined and those from 7 children were positive for Sh. Sonnei. These 7 children were excluded from the nursery and their parents informed that they would not be readmitted until 3 consecutive negative specimens had been obtained. Some of the mothers had to cease work to look after their children, and two parents who returned positive specimens and who worked in food premises ceased work until they were bacteriologically clear. No member of the staff of the Day Nursery was infected.

On the 11th May, when the outbreak seemed to be over, a nursery child who had returned negative specimens since April 12th, produced a positive specimen and this was followed by a fresh group of cases.

In all, 614 specimens from 211 persons were examined and of these 62 were positive. 31 people had a mild illness of a few days' duration and it was the end of July before the final negative specimen was obtained.

Number of visits to houses ... ..	134
Number of visits to Day Nursery ... ..	17



CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR,

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS—YEARS										Total Deaths		
		0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25 and over	Age unknown			
Scarlet Fever	13			1	2	3	6	1						
Whooping Cough	8	1	1	3	1	2								
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic														
Non-Paralytic	3							1	2					
Measles (excluding Rubella)	27		3	5	2	3	14							
Diphtheria														
Dysentery	29	1	1	6	5	2	5	1	1	1	8			
Meningococcal infection														
Ophthalmia Neonatorum														
Acute Pneumonia (prim. & infl'z)	8		0—	5—	15—	45—	65 and over	Age unknown						1
Smallpox														
Acute Encephalitis—infective														
Post-infectious														
Enteric or Typhoid Fever														
Paratyphoid Fevers														
Erysipelas	6						5	1						
Food Poisoning	1	1												
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	21			1	11	6	3							4
Meninges and C.N.S.														
Other	2				1		1							
Puerperal Pyrexia														
Malaria B.T.	1				1									
Other notifiable diseases (specify)														

### IMMUNISATION

	No. of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation						No. who were given a reinforcement injection
	Age at date of final injection						
	0—	2—	Total under 5	Total 5—14 incl.	Total 15 and over	Total — all ages	
Against Diphtheria	321	6	327	12	—	567	
Against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	289	1	290	5	—	55	
Against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	123	—	123	2	—	9	

## TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during the year.

	Respiratory		Meninges and C.N.S.		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years						
5 — 14 years		1				
15 — 24 years	1	1			1	
25 — 44 years	4	5				
45 — 64 years	3	3				
65 and over	3					1
Age unknown						
<b>Total (All Ages)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

### EIGHTEEN YEARS' TABLE OF NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Pulmonary Tuberculosis :

Year	Cases Notified		Deaths	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	16	9	5
1940	17	15	6	4
1941	27	19	13	3
1942	20	7	12	3
1943	25	10	12	1
1944	24	15	10	6
1945	19	13	8	5
1946	26	16	6	4
1947	24	12	15	7
1948	31	10	16	6
1949	17	14	16	1
1950	19	20	6	7
1951	19	11	8	—
1952	10	5	6	—
1953	17	11	3	—
1954	13	11	3	—
1955	5	9	3	3
1956	11	10	2	2

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :

Year	Cases Notified		Deaths	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	3	1	-
1940	6	3	1	1
1941	6	4	1	-
1942	5	8	-	3
1943	4	6	3	2
1944	7	6	4	2
1945	7	6	1	2
1946	6	4	2	2
1947	9	8	3	4
1948	5	8	-	-
1949	3	4	-	-
1950	-	5	-	1
1951	5	3	1	-
1952	3	1	-	-
1953	5	1	-	-
1954	4	4	-	-
1955	1	1	2	-
1956	1	1	-	-

**VENEREAL DISEASES**

Treatment of patients suffering from venereal disease is given at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

The figures in the following table were kindly supplied by Dr. J. F. Mackay.

	Non-Venereal Conditions	Gonorrhoea	Syphilis	Total Cases
Males	22	3	4	29
Females	3	2	2	7
Totals	25	5	6	36

# PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The general administrative arrangements were unchanged, and the usual work was satisfactorily carried out.

There were 206 vessels from foreign ports of which 173 were oil tankers, boarded and inspected.

There were no cases of infectious diseases landed from any vessel.

Number of visits to Heysham ... ..	176
* Number of beasts examined ... ..	64
* Number of cows examined ... ..	Nil
* Number of calves examined ... ..	Nil
* Number of sheep examined ... ..	2740
* Number of pigs examined ... ..	44
Number of visits to slaughter-house ...	98

\* Also included in figures on page 53.

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## SECTION I — Staff.

### TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Appointment Nature of	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
W. F. LYLE	Medical Officer of Health	1938	M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.	Medical Officer to Port Health Authority

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health :—  
Public Health Department, Town Hall, Morecambe and Heysham, Tel. :  
Morecambe 720.

**SECTION II — Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.**

**TABLE B**

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By Medical Officer of Health	By the Public Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports	206	635,320	—	173	Nil
Coastwise	1309	1090,130	—	—	Nil
Total	1515	1725,450	—	173	Nil

**SECTION III — Character of shipping and trade during the year.**

**TABLE C.**

Passenger Traffic: Number of passengers INWARDS ... .. 209,784  
 Number of passengers OUTWARDS ... .. 202,070

In addition, during the month of August, 5,872 passengers were transported on day trips to Douglas, I.O.M., and 5,798 passengers returned to Heysham.

Cargo Traffic: Principal IMPORTS—Cottons Linens, Tobacco and Sundry Merchandise.

	Total Imports Tons
Ex Belfast (Coastwise) ... ..	79941
Ex Londonderry (Coastwise) ... ..	4465
Oil ex Tankers (Foreign) ... ..	1352485

Principal EXPORTS — Sundry Merchandise and Chemical Fertilisers. Oil imports are from Ports around Suez, the Persian Gulf and North Africa and South America.

	Goods Cargo Tons	Bunker Coal Tons	Total Exports Tons
To Belfast(Coastwise) ... ..	145263	43069	188332
To Londonderry (Coastwise) ... ..	15183	—	15183
Oil ... ..	683146	—	683146

## Livestock — Imports and Exports

### Imports

	Horses	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Others
Ex Belfast ... ..	615	63458	58960	8078	64
Ex Londonderry .....	26	5869	40193	4840	5

### Exports

To Belfast ... ..	38	45	26	24	6
To Londonderry ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

Principal Ports from which ships arrive : Belfast, Londonderry, and Ports around Suez and Persian Gulf.

## SECTION IV — Inland Barge Traffic

Nil.

## SECTION V — Water Supply

1. Source of supply for (a) the district; (b) shipping.  
Town supply for both.
2. Reports of tests for contamination.  
Bacteriological and chemical satisfactory.
3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.  
Usual.
4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by Authority.

None employed.

## SECTION VI — Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

### 1. LIST OF INFECTED AREAS (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

### 2. RADIO MESSAGES.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

Not ordinarily needed but arrangements have been made for messages to be given immediately by Railway Executive and Shipping Agent to Waterguard Office.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 [1] and [2]).

See notes to (a) above

### 3. NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO (Regulation 14 [1] [b]).

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

This is usually received by the Customs Officer and handed later to the Local Authority.

### 4. MOORING STATIONS (Regulations 22 to 30).

Situation of stations, any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

(a) Inner Mooring — for cases of smallpox and typhus (Easterly end of North Side).

(b) Outer Mooring — for cases of cholera, yellow fever and plague (at Lune Deeps).

### STANDING EXEMPTIONS.

(a) All ordinary notifiable infectious diseases other than those specified above.

(b) Ships otherwise clean, which have arrived from a listed port in an infected area.



## 5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR —

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox — See Section VII).

An infectious disease hospital at Lancaster is available for all cases except smallpox. For smallpox cases the Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements.

- (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts.

Contacts requiring to be kept under surveillance would be kept on board or accommodated at hospital.

- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

A steam disinfecter is provided for bedding and clothing.

Appliances and materials are available for the disinfecting of ships and this would be carried out by the Health Department Staff.

### SECTION VII—Smallpox

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

A special motor ambulance is available with attendants.

3. Name(s) of smallpox consultant(s) available.

Dr. D. C. Liddle, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Submitted to pathologists ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the pathologist attached to the Royal Infirmary, Lancaster.

### SECTION VIII—Venereal Diseases

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

No special arrangement for sailors. There is a clinic at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

**SECTION IX—Cases of Notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.**

**TABLE D**

Nil return.

**SECTION X — Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.**

Nil return.

**SECTION XI—Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.**

None needed.

**SECTION XII — Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.**

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

Ships with expired certificates sent to Barrow.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Submitted to pathologist ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the Pathologist attached to the Royal Infirmary, Lancaster.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Not carried out.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Not carried out.

**TABLE E**

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Not known.

## TABLE F

Deratting certificates and Deratting Exemption certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Nil.

## SECTION XIII—Inspection of ships for nuisances.

### TABLE G

#### Inspections and Notices.

Vessels boarded—no action necessary.

## SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948.

Information respecting any shell-fish beds or laying within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

Under the Heysham and Morecambe Bay (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1926, an area of Morecambe Bay was prescribed and any mussels taken from this area must be subjected to an approved process of cleansing or sterilisation before being made available for human consumption. The cleansing process is carried out at Lytham Saint Annes.

No further action under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948 has been necessary.

## SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens (applicable only to ports approved for the landing of aliens).

Nil—Not a port approved for the landing of aliens.

## SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious diseases.

Nil.

# METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

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From readings taken at the Super Swimming Stadium.

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During the year 1956, meteorological work continued as in previous years, readings being taken at 09.00 hours, 10.00 hours and 17.00 hours in Summer, and 0.900 and 18.00 hours in Winter G.M.T.

Monthly reports are sent to the Meteorological Office.

Morning and evening Code Weather telegrams are sent to the Air Ministry.

Reports sent weekly to Morecambe Visitor, Morecambe Guardian and Morecambe Times. Daily readings are sent to the Lancashire Daily Post.

A daily weather report was exhibited during the Summer at the Information Bureau.

The year 1956 was a poor one in respect to weather. The highest temperature recorded over the year being only 75° F. on the 16th July and the 24th September.

Most sunshine was in May—217 hours. In July 1955—326 hours 12 mins. were recorded. In the year under review only 126 hours 12 mins. in July. The yearly comparison between 1955 and 1956 (1955—1,742 hours 12 mins., and 1956—1,384 hours 24 mins.) does not indicate in itself the bad Summer. From a study of the sunshine tables, it will be seen that July, August and September collectively was where the difference in sunshine occurred (approx. 350 hours).

The large amount of 9.71" rainfall was recorded in August, and it needs little comment when the figure for August 1955 was 1.63". The figure of 9.71" rainfall for August was the highest total for August since records were kept (from 1898). The previous highest was 8.15" in 1917. February was the month with the least rainfall in 1956—.26".

Most winds came from the N.E.—79, which has been found usually to be a favourable wind direction for Morecambe. In 1955 there were 104 N.E. winds.

Summarising, although the year was a bad one, the average temperature for the year was approximately the same as 1955, but 1956 had little sunshine and much rain during the summer months, making a poor year for outside entertainment and activity.

**BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (Millibars)**

1956	Mean of the Month	Highest Reading	Date	Lowest Reading	Date
January ... ..	1007.97	1031.1	4th	970.3	10th
February ... ..	1025.55	1038.9	3rd	1008.9	13th
March ... ..	1013.67	1029.6	8th	993.1	24th
April ... ..	1015.06	1029.8	19th	1002.5	13th
May ... ..	1019.50	1029.6	26th	1009.8	10th
June ... ..	1015.82	1032.0	23rd	992.3	4th
July ... ..	1011.64	1024.8	11th	984.0	29th
August ... ..	1007.21	1026.9	31st	984.1	25th
September ... ..	1012.87	1028.0	1st	987.4	28th
October ... ..	1018.99	1037.7	31st	1004.3	17th
November ... ..	1019.69	1036.2	1st	992.2	28th
December ... ..	1012.77	1029.7	21st	985.5	30th
Year ... ..	1015.06	1038.9	3rd Feb.	970.3	10th Jan.

**SUNSHINE (Recorded by Campbell-Stokes Instrument)**

1956	Greatest Total daily amount Sunshine of sun		Date	Days on which sun shone Sunless days	
	h. m.	h. m.			
January ... ..	43.42	6.18	18th	15	16
February ... ..	94.06	8.42	25th	23	6
March ... ..	144.12	10.12	31st	27	4
April ... ..	165.42	13.18	28th	25	5
May ... ..	217.00	15.36	26th	30	1
June ... ..	174.42	14.36	15th	28	2
July ... ..	126.12	15.24	10th	28	3
August ... ..	136.30	14.42	4th	26	5
September ... ..	98.18	9.54	8th	26	4
October ... ..	114.30	8.12	18th, 29th	26	5
November ... ..	60.30	6.36	5th	22	8
December ... ..	7.00	1.24	19th	9	22
Year ... ..	1382.24	15.36	26th May	285	81

Average daily—3 hours 46 minutes.

NOTES.—Record for 1 day—16 hours 12 mins., 22nd June 1937.

Highest yearly sunshine—1911—1,999 hours 40 minutes.

Lowest yearly sunshine—1954—1,241 hours 48 minutes

**SHADE TEMPERATURE °F.**

1956	Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Highest Max.	Date	Lowest Min.	Date
January ... ..	42.4	35.5	49	1st	27	25th
February ... ..	38.3	28.2	46	8th, 28th, 29th	18	2nd
March ... ..	50.1	38.5	62	26th	29	14th
April ... ..	51.2	38.5	56	22nd, 23rd	32	16th, 18th
May ... ..	58.5	46.9	67	22nd, 28th	35	19th
June ... ..	61.2	50.4	71	23rd	41	15th
July ... ..	65.2	54.8	75	16th	47	11th
August ... ..	60.8	51.1	69	10th	43	31st
September ...	63.7	53.2	75	24th	40	1st
October ... ..	54.7	45.4	63	15th	34	27th
November ...	48.5	39.4	54	2nd, 8th	29	23rd
December ...	46.4	39.8	55	12th	29	22nd

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Year ... ..	53.4	43.5	75	16th Aug. 24th September	18	2nd Feb.
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NOTES.—Recorded highest temperature—89° F.—on 20th July, 1901, 29th July, 1948, and 6th June, 1950.

Record lowest temperature—8° F. on 26th January, 1945.

**RAINFALL (in inches and hundredths)**

Height above sea level—O.D. 27.96 feet.

1956	Total amount inches	Days of rain .01 in. or more	Greatest fall in 24 hrs.	Date
January ... ..	3.06	21	.56	28th
February ... ..	.26	6	.08	4th
March ... ..	1.07	9	.33	1st
April ... ..	1.16	9	.32	10th
May ... ..	2.20	11	.67	9th
June ... ..	1.70	11	.62	27th
July ... ..	4.37	15	.56	28th
August ... ..	9.71	22	1.23	1st
September ...	2.74	12	.80	27th
October ... ..	3.43	10	1.54	19th
November ...	1.48	9	.36	10th
December ...	4.11	21	.51	14th
Year ... ..	35.29	156	1.54	19th Oct.

NOTES.—Highest rainfall ever recorded in 24 hours—3.72" on 15th August, 1916; 2.52" fell on 9th October, 1941.

Highest yearly rainfall—56.73" 1928.

Lowest yearly rainfall—27.07" 1941.

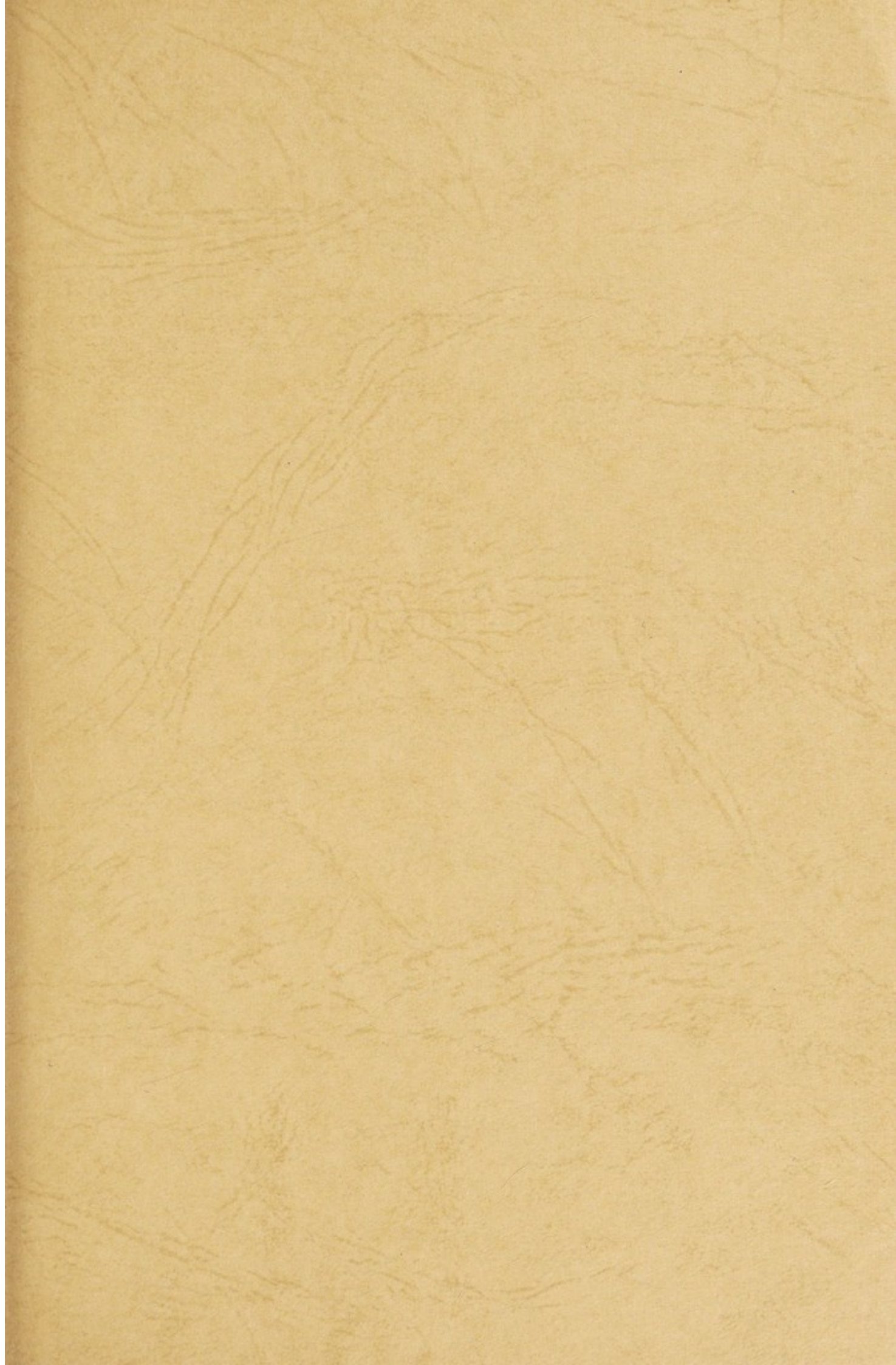
**CLOUD**

**WIND**  
(Measured by Beaufort Scale)

1956	Mean amount of cloud 0-10	Mean force of wind 0-12	Gale force 8 or over
January ... ..	6.25 Oktas	1.80	—
February ... ..	5.82 „	1.55	—
March ... ..	4.81 „	2.13	—
April ... ..	4.80 „	1.60	—
May ... ..	4.42 „	1.97	—
June ... ..	5.50 „	2.20	—
July ... ..	5.81 „	2.00	1
August ... ..	5.61 „	2.13	1
September ... ..	5.10 „	2.11	1
October ... ..	5.51 „	2.19	1
November ... ..	5.80 „	2.03	—
December ... ..	7.06 „	2.09	—
Year ... ..	5.54 „	1.98	4

**WIND DIRECTION.**

1956	S	SW	SE	W	NW	N	NE	E
January ... ..	3	6	5	5	4	1	4	3
February ... ..	1	2	2	2	4	—	10	8
March ... ..	1	2	17	2	2	—	3	4
April ... ..	2	4	2	2	4	—	9	7
May ... ..	2	8	—	11	2	1	5	2
June ... ..	2	2	1	6	11	1	7	—
July ... ..	3	3	6	5	5	—	8	1
August ... ..	4	2	1	6	5	—	12	1
September ... ..	6	2	4	2	3	—	9	4
October ... ..	3	3	6	4	5	1	7	2
November ... ..	3	2	6	7	5	1	4	2
December ... ..	4	12	7	3	—	—	1	4
Year ... ..	34	48	57	55	50	5	79	38





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VISITOR MODERN PRESS, MORECAMBE

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