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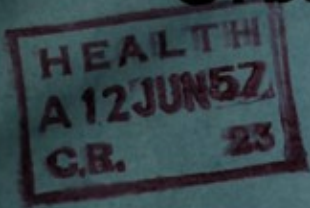
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Lebury
Urban District Council of Penrith



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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1956



HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

I. S. JONES.

M.R.C.S., L.R.P.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health
Penrith Urban and Wigton Rural
Districts also Assistant
County Medical Officer.

R. N. SHARP.

Certificate Royal Sanitary
Institute and Sanitary Inspectors
Examination Joint Board.
Certificate Royal Sanitary
Institute of Meat and other
Foods.
Public Health and Meat Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
PENRITH.

May, 1957.

To the Chairman and Councillors
of the Urban District of Penrith.

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1956. The Report has been drawn up in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

Both the Death Rate and Birth Rate are very little different from those of the previous year.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is much higher than that of 1955. Unfortunately six infants died as compared with two the previous year.

There were no Maternal Deaths in 1956.

The town was practically free from infectious diseases during the year under review.

It is pleasing to note that there were no deaths from tuberculosis.

From Mr. Birkbeck's Report it will be seen that a lot of work has been carried out to improve the towns water supply, but from recent experiences it is obvious that much more will have to be done to overcome the recurrent shortages in the town.

Housing has received the earnest consideration of the Council and progress has been made, but I am rather disappointed that the proposed Old Peoples dwellings are not yet commenced.

The Council has had under consideration for a number of years the provision of more Public Conveniences for the town. Whilst I realise this is important I think that the provision of proper sanitation for the Market Hall is more urgent having regard to the Food Hygiene Regulations.

My thanks are due to my colleagues on the staff and to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued support.

I am, Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

I. SPEDDING JONES
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area of District in acres ...	...	...	...	...	7,576
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population 1956.	...	...	...	...	10,560
Population at Census of 1931	...	...	...	...	9,063
Population at Census of 1953	...	...	...	...	10,490
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1956)	...	...	...	...
according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	3,290
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£75,541
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£286

POPULATION:

The Registrar-General's 1956 estimate of resident population of 10,560 shows an increase of 70 on the previous year.

The following table gives the estimated population for the last ten years :-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Registrar-General's estimated population.</u>
1947	9,730
1948	10,500
1949	10,410
1950	10,670
1951	10,620
1952	10,350
1953	10,470
1954	10,520
1955	10,490
1956	10,560

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE DISTRICT:

LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total live births ...	174	75	99
Legitimate ...	161	71	90
Illegitimate...	13	4	9

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of estimate resident population 16.48

STILL BIRTHS:

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate ...	2	1	1
Illegitimate...	1	1	0
Total still births...	3	2	1

RATE PER 1,000 (live and still births) ... 16.95

DEATHS:

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
All causes ...	153	64	89

DEATH RATE per 1,000 of estimated population ... 14.49

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from other Maternal Causes ...	...	...	...	...	Nil

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	...	34.48
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	...	24.84
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	...	153.4

There were thirteen illegitimate infants born in 1956, one more than in the previous year. Two of these infants died.

The high Infantile Mortality Rate of 34.48 is due to the fact that six infants died in 1956 as compared with two the previous year. The following table gives the causes of death :-

	1-24 hours	1-4 days	4 weeks	6 - 12 months	Total.
Prematurity ...	2	2	-	-	4
Sub Dural Haemorrhage	1	-	-	-	1
Congenital Malformation (Congenital Absence of Bile ducts, Hepatic Failure)	-	-	-	1	1
TOTALS :-	3	2	-	1	6

<u>DEATHS</u> from Cancer (all ages) ...	...	...	...	...	20
Measles (all ages)...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	...	...	...	...	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).	...	...	...	...	Nil

TABLE SHOWING THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES AS A WHOLE AND CERTAIN GROUPS IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND FOR THE YEAR 1956 :-

	Birth Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
England and Wales	15.7	11.7	23.8
Administrative County of Cumberland	16.9	12.2	30.4
Urban Districts of Cumberland (including Boroughs of Workington and Whitehaven).	17.5	12.3	32.5
Rural Districts of Cumberland ...	16.5	12.1	29.0
URBAN DISTRICT OF PENRITH ...	16.48	14.49	34.48

The following table shows the birth rate, death rate and infantile mortality rate per thousand of the population during the past ten years :-

Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
1947	20.14	15.93	35.71
1948	19.23	12.47	24.75
1949	17.39	15.00	38.67
1950	18.65	12.72	15.62
1951	16.64	13.18	29.41
1952	15.60	12.90	24.70
1953	15.14	12.22	24.70
1954	17.87	12.73	21.28
1955	16.9	14.39	11.62
1956	16.48	14.49	34.48

MATERNAL MORTALITY:- There were no deaths from this cause during 1956. The following table gives the maternal mortality rate for the last ten years :-

Year.	No. of births (live & still)	Deaths.	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births.
1947	200	NIL	NIL
1948	204	NIL	NIL
1949	184	NIL	NIL
1950	196	NIL	NIL
1951	170	NIL	NIL
1952	168	NIL	NIL
1953	168	NIL	NIL
1954	195	NIL	NIL
1955	175	NIL	NIL
1956	177	NIL	NIL

TUBERCULOSIS:

The following table gives particulars of cases notified during 1956. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year :-

Ages	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respirat-ory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respirat-ory.		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-

The following table gives the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1956 :-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary ...	35	36	71
Non-Pulmonary ...	9	9	18
All forms of Tuberculosis :-	44	45	89

At the end of 1955 there were 93 cases of Tuberculosis on the Register. Five new cases were notified during 1956 and there were five inward transfers of patients from other districts. Two patients were removed from the register as having recovered. Twelve patients left Penrith to other areas.

Below is a table giving the number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis in the area during the past ten years :-

Year.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1947	1	4	-	2	7
1948	3	1	1	-	5
1949	3	1	-	-	4
1950	1	4	-	-	5
1951	2	-	-	-	2
1952	-	-	-	-	-
1953	1	-	-	-	1
1954	-	-	-	-	-
1955	1	-	-	-	1
1956	-	-	-	-	-

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS:

The BCG vaccination of the thirteen year old group of school children was continued during the year. The following tables shows the work done in the Penrith Schools.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Penrith again in February - March. A total of 2412 people were X-rayed as compared with 2356 the previous year. These totals include people from the neighbouring areas as well as Penrith residents. Two new cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered by this means in 1956 as compared with one case in 1955.

RESULTS CF B.C.G. VACCINATION FOR 13/14 YEAR AGE GROUP. MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY OF CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS RETURNED CONSENT FORMS FOR MANTOUX TESTING AND B.C.G. IF NECESSARY.
YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1956.

PENRITH, CUMBERLAND.

Sanitary District Penrith Urban District	Number of children Mantoux Tested	Number of those with satisfactory M.M.R.	Number of those with unsatisfactory M.M.R.	Number who did not have M.M.R.
Penrith Grammar	62	54	-	8
Tynefield	75	65	-	10
Total.	137	119(86.9%)	-	18(13.1%)

SCHEME OF B.C.G. VACCINATION FOR 13/14 YEAR AGE GROUP (1942)
MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY PENRITH, CUMBERLAND.

Sanitary District Penrith Urban District	Total number of children in 1942 age group as shown on Nominal Roll	Total number of children in 1942 age group who had Mass Radiography Report	Total number of consents given for B.C.G. Vaccination	Total number of children in 1942 age group with satisfactory Mass Radiography Report	Total number of children in 1942 age group with unsatisfactory Mass Radiography Report and called for Large Film
Penrith Grammar	81	72	63	70	1
Tynfield	122	84	75	83	1
Total.	203	156 (76.8%)	138 (67.9%)	153 (98.1%)	2 (1.3%)
					1 (.6%)

RESULTS OF MANTOUX TESTING AND B.C.G. VACCINATION FOR CHILDREN
IN 13/14 YEAR AGE GROUP (1942) IN PENRITH UP TO AND
INCLUDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1956.

Sanitary District Penrith Urban District	No. of children Mantoux Tested	No. absent after first Mantoux Test	No. found to be Mantoux Negative	No. found to be Mantoux Positive	No. given B.C.G. Vaccin- ation	No. Positive to Post B.C.G. Test	No. Negative to Post B.C.G. Test	No. did not have Post B.C.G. Test
Penrith Grammar	62	-	38	24	38	38	-	-
Tynefield	75	-	54	21	54	52	-	2 (Left the county)
Total.	137	-	92 (67.2%)	45 (32.8%)	92 (67.2%)	90 (98%)	-	2 (2%)

ow that our Milk supply is safe as far as Tuberculosis is concerned here should be no more cases of bovine T.B. in humans.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES: The incidence of infectious diseases was extremely light as will be seen by the following table. There was no epidemic during 1956.

Disease	Ages.							Total.	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 up wards			
Measles.	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	Nil
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	4	-	Nil
Whooping Cough.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	Nil
Dysentery-Sonne.	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	Nil
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	Nil
Pneumonia	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	5	4	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	Nil
TOTALS:-	1	4	5	2	3	6	-	21	4	2

PARATYPHOID: The case of Paratyphoid deserves special mention. On the 18th of May 1956 I received a notification that a lady aged 64 years was suffering from Paratyphoid. The lady had been ill "on and off" for a fortnight. The Family Doctor had a specimen of faeces sent to the Pathological Laboratory at Carlisle and the diagnosis was confirmed bacteriologically.

The patient had not been out of Penrith during the month previous to her illness and had no meals away from home during this period. She did her own baking and bought no cakes from shops. The patient, a widow, had her son living with her and he was not affected by this illness. Faeces of all known contacts were examined at the Laboratory at Carlisle.

The Lady's son was negative. Her two married daughters who looked after their Mother but did not live in the house were positive carriers but developed no symptoms of illness. One grandchild was also a positive carrier but he was not ill. The rest of the contacts had negative stools. The patient did well and made a complete recovery. Negative stools were obtained from her on July 20th.

Specimens from the positive carriers were taken at weekly intervals until three negative results were obtained for each case. They were all clear by August 11th. All the four homes connected with the case were scrupulously clean and had modern sanitation including bath and hot water system. The people themselves were very intelligent and carried out all instructions given to them to prevent the spread of infection. Had the home conditions not been so excellent one would have had to consider hospital isolation of patient and contacts.

There were no other cases.

In my opinion the daughters received their infection by nursing the Mother and one of the daughters infected her child.

ANTHRAX: On February 6th, 1956, a cow which had died on a farm in Westmorland was brought into the Knacker Yard of Wildriggs Bone and Chemical Company Limited, Penrith, for manufacturing purposes. Anthrax was diagnosed by a Veterinary Surgeon but not until the carcass had been cut up. The Police were informed and I was also notified of the case.

This carcass along with all other carcasses on the premises were burnt under Police Supervision. Also all utensils and protective clothing which had come in contact with the infected carcass were destroyed by burning.

I saw all the employees and advised them to report to their own doctor if they developed a sore. I also contacted the Doctors and warned them what might happen. One man did develop a sore fourteen days later in an unusual place, namely the base of the nose, and this proved to be Anthrax. He was admitted to the Cumberland Infirmary at Carlisle and made a complete recovery.

DIPHTHERIA: Immunisation against the disease was continued during the year. 169 children were immunised for the first time and 298 children received booster or reinforcing doses.

Again the town has been free from the disease, the last reported case being in 1947.

POLYOMYELITIS: Vaccination against the disease was commenced during the year. Twenty-six Penrith children were vaccinated and at the end of the year 124 consent forms were held by the County Authority for Penrith Children. These will be vaccinated as soon as the Ministry of Health releases more vaccine.

We were lucky in Penrith in not having any case of Polyomyelitis during 1956.

It will be remembered that there was an outbreak in West Cumberland in the early part of the year.

PNEUMONIA: The two deaths from the disease were of Old People. They died of Hyperstatic Pneumonia and not from Primary Pneumonia.

The town was practically free from Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet fever during 1956, but at the time of writing this report we are just coming to the end of an Epidemic of Measles which started in January 1957.

CAUSE OF DEATH:

	Cause.	M.	F.	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough... ..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases... ..	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach... ..	2	2	4
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast... ..	-	-	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus... ..	-	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm... ..	6	9	15
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes... ..	-	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous systems	11	24	35
18.	Coronary disease, angina	15	11	26
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
20.	Other heart diseases... ..	10	20	30
21.	Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
22.	Influenza	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	1	1	2
24.	Bronchitis	3	4	7
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases... ..	7	9	16
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34.	All other accidents	1	-	1
35.	Suicide	-	-	-
36.	Homicide and operation	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES:-		74	89	153

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS.
(Corrected).

FOOD POISONING: No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

MEAT INSPECTION AT PENRITH PUBLIC ABATTOIR:

Full particulars regarding this work will be found in Mr. Sharp's Report.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS 1955:

I am indebted to Mr. Garratt, Chief Executive Officer of the County Council for the administration of these Acts for the following report on the number of samples taken in the area during the year 1956 :-

Number of Samples taken in the area of the Penrith
Urban District Council under the Food and Drugs
Act, 1955, from 1st January to 31st December, 1956

Milk		Other than Milk		Total Samples
Genuine	Not Genuine	Genuine	Not Genuine	
18	Nil	11	Nil	29

Schedule of Articles Sampled
Other than Milk.

Beef Sausage
Beef Suet
Butter Mints
Custard Powder
Desicated Coconut

Tomato Soup

Jelly Crystals
Margarine
Pork Sausage
Raspberry Jam
Soft Herring Roe

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955:

Part of this regulation became operative on January 1st, 1956, and the remaining part on July, 1st, 1956.

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.

A start was made during the year on the work of inspecting all food premises and on advising the Proprietors of the requirement to bring their premises up to the new legal standard. This survey has not been completed yet but particulars of the number of food premises in the area by type of business is given in the Public Health Inspector's report.

No new educational activity on food hygiene was undertaken but when visits of inspection are made the opportunity is taken of talking to the Proprietors on the necessity of food hygiene and especially on the part played by personal hygiene for the prevention of illness.

During the year the Council provided sinks and water supply to the various shops in the Town's Market Hall. Unfortunately there is no sanitation accommodation for the use of these shopkeepers. I hope this state of affairs will be rectified in the near future.

HOUSING:

During the year 112 Council Houses were completed. In addition five Police Houses were erected and eight private dwellings were built.

SLUM CLEARANCE:

In March 1956 I represented the Meetinghouse Lane (20 dwellings) and Brewery Yard areas (16 dwellings) for Slum Clearance. The Orders have not been confirmed yet as negotiations are still in progress.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Fourteen dwellings were represented as being unfit for human habitation.

The following tables give particulars of the action taken by the Council.

Demolition Orders, (Section 11 Housing Act 1936.)

No. 19 West Lane, Penrith. (Partly demolished)

Closing Orders (Section 12 Housing Act 1936.)

Nos. 2 and 3 Wrights Yard, Penrith.

Closing Orders (Section 10, Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953.

No. 7A Brook Street, Penrith.

32 Burrowgate, "

1 Scott Yard, "

6 Nevison Yard, "

19 Milton Street, "

6 St. Andrews View, "

5 Fell Lane, "

4 Fell Lane, "

5 Harrison Street, "

5 Southend Terrace, "

Smithy Cottage, Brook Street, Penrith.

CARLETON CAMP:

During the year twenty-eight families were rehoused from these sub standard dwellings. On 31st December, 1956, there were thirty-seven of these dwellings still occupied.

HOUSING ACT 1949, SECTION 20:

Eleven Improvement Grants were sanctioned by the Council during 1956 as compared with sixteen the previous year. The following table gives a list of properties improved :-

34	Arthur Street, Penrith.	
26	Brougham Street,	"
1	Alexander Road,	"
3	Musgrave Street,	"
11	Crown Square,	"
4	Musgrave Street,	"
9	Hunter Lane,	"
39	Arthur Street,	"
50	Lowther Street,	"
18	Musgrave Street,	"
13	Musgrave Street,	"

NEW HOUSES:

The following table shows the number of houses built since 1946.

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
By the Council	-	10	56	24	32	24	70	28	22	14	112
Private	6	4	10	5	5	8	14	12	10	1	13
TOTALS:	6	14	66	29	37	32	84	40	32	15	125

Total number of houses completed by the Council and privately since 1946 is 540.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Part I of the Act.

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

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspect- ions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	12	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	74	32	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	2	1	-	-
TOTALS:-	88	36	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

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

I am indebted to Mr. F. Birkbeck for the following report :-

Water Engineer's Department,
Town Hall,
Penrith.

24th May, 1957.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting the following report for the year 1956.

Headworks.

The work of repairing the Dam at Lake Hayeswater continued during the summer months of 1956. Unfortunately erosion during the winter damaged much of the surface of the access road and it was found necessary to reinstate this damage before any form of haulage could pass. The weather during the summer was inclement and this caused delay on the Site and final abandonment of the programme for the season.

Despite these difficulties 50% of the spillway and rear face of the dam was re-concreted and the footbridge replaced. A reinforced concrete slab was laid over the bridge on the access road.

During operations the water entering the intake well was chlorinated.

The perimeter of the lake and the gathering ground has been inspected, and action taken on matters requiring attention.

Filterhouse.

In view of the impending completion of the first installment of the Trunk Main Duplication Scheme it was necessary to make a complete overhaul of the Filtration Plant. 144 new strainers were fitted, the four filters were re-sanded, all plant, engines, pressure guages, meters and sampling equipment were overhauled, repaired or replaced as found necessary. The Filterhouse itself was repaired structurally and re-decorated.

The Filters were then put into service on 28th July 1956.

Unfortunately, towards the end of the year, Nos. 1 and 4 Filters were found to be faulty. This was traced to fractures

in the central column and main distribution tubes. The concrete in the base of the Filters was found to be in poor condition and contained large voids. The whole was broken out and the centre blocks and tubes replaced, the supporting concrete being renewed. After re-assembly of the overhead agitating gear and replacement of the sand the Filters were brought into service and are now working satisfactorily.

After all operations all the Filters were well washed out and chlorinated.

It should be noted that one of the main objects of the partial Trunk Main Duplication Scheme has been fulfilled, that was to allow the uninterrupted use of the Filters at all times thus ensuring a supply of Filtered water to the Service Reservoir in all conditions of demand, as mentioned in my report for the year 1952.

Trunk Main.

During the year only two blown joints were repaired on the whole of the 18 miles of Trunk Main - a very low figure. Dresser leak clamps have been fitted.

Trunk Main Duplication Scheme. On Monday 23rd April 1956 a portion of the new duplicate trunk main from the Filterhouse for approximately 1200 yards towards Penrith was brought into use by connecting it into the existing 8" diameter pipe line. This measure resulted in an increased flow to Boardale Break Pressure Tank of approximately 1300 gallons per hour or about 30,000 gallons per day. On Friday, August 10th, 1956 the whole of the new trunk main was turned on, the Filters having been brought into use on 26th July when I was able to report that the frictional loss due to the filtration process was as anticipated. Subsequently due to an accumulation of debris - stones and pieces of rock - left in the new main inadvertently by the Contractor the ball valve at Boardale Break Pressure Tank became blocked. This matter recurred and on occasion caused a complete stoppage of supply and consequent reduction in local storage. In October the Ball Valve was repaired and since then there has been no evidence of a recurrence of the trouble.

It is now possible as a result of the partial duplication Scheme to keep Boardale Break Pressure Tank full, a state which has not existed within my knowledge of the Undertaking.

All sections of the new pipeline were tested and chlorinated before use.

Barton Break Pressure Tank. In May I drew the Water Committee's attention to damage to locks and ventilators at this tank. It would be advisable to provide adequate fencing against trespass and to erect new ventilators in order that the possibility of contamination of the water may be eliminated.

Local Storage.

At the beginning of the year the service reservoirs held in storage 1,312,728 gallons, early in March the figure fell to 666,180 due principally to wastage caused by defects the result of frosty weather conditions. The situation rapidly improved and no difficulty was experienced until the blockage at the Ball Valve at Boardale Head when storage fell to 858,264 gallons. The situation again improved and on 31st December 1956 the amount in storage was 1,395,906 gallons.

The maximum storage figures for the year was recorded on 21st June 1956 as 1,493,157 gallons.

The total rainfall for the year was 28.43 inches.

During the year the Storage Reservoirs were washed out and Chlorinated.

Distribution.

The Watermain Extension Schemes at Brent Road, Scaws Drive, Eden Mount, Stoney Beck, and Carleton Avenue were completed. 3289 dwelling houses are supplied and a population of approximately 10,558 is served by the distribution system.

There is only one dwelling in the Urban District which is not served by the Water Undertaking.

There are approximately 30.74 miles of distribution mains in service.

Five defects causing a wastage of water were located and repaired.

A section of watermain was relaid near the Maidenhill Reservoir to reduce it below the hydraulic gradient.

Where possible, when water has been available, the ends of the watermains have been washed out to remove sediment.

Water Services.

13 new water communication pipes were connected to the distribution mains.

38 communication pipes which were in an incrustated condition were renewed.

5 defects causing waste were located and repaired.

The total number of consumers meters in use is 197.

Water Consumption.

Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,558	
Average daily consumption	...	...	...	...	...	...	412,941	gallons
Domestic Consumption			...	...	...	...
Industrial	...	...	...	...	...	...	31.13	
Agricultural	...	...	...	...	...	...	.86	
General Business	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.62	
Municipal and Public Services	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.78	
							2.71	
Total Gallons per head per day								<u>39.10</u>

There has been an increase of 1.19 gallons per head per day on the previous year, and this has been accounted for in Domestic and Municipal and Public Services consumption. There has been a slight decreased in Industrial, Agricultural and General Business consumption.

General.

In August 1956 the Deputy Clerk, Mr. H.R. Rayworth, and I visited the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in order to put before them several proposals involving Engineering Works for the improvement of the Water Undertaking.

These were :-

- (a) The improvement of the headworks particularly regarding drawoff arrangements and means of reducing the level of the Lake.
- (b) Further duplication of the Trunk Main.
- (c) Additional Service Reservoir facilities.
- (d) Repair of the High and Low Reservoirs.

The impression was gained that whilst the Ministry appreciated that all the schemes were necessary from an engineering point of view and would receive consideration if submitted in detail, it was probably that (b) in particular due to the cost involved would not receive approval due to restrictions on capital expenditure.

It is interesting to note that the preparation of the Trunk Main partial duplication Scheme was commenced in August 1950, supply from this scheme commenced in August 1956, a period of six years. The longest delay was caused by protracted delivery periods for pipes which in some cases were up to three years. If development of the town continues at the present rate it is obvious that it will be necessary to increase the capacity for supply from the headworks to Penrith, this in particular to meet demands in times of excessive consumption.

Other works are incidental to this need and should proceed concurrently with further duplication of the Trunk Main.

EXAMINATION OF WATER

CUMBERLAND PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY

Time and place of sample taken from Filtered Water Tap, Filterhouse, Hayeswater at 8.30 a.m. on 13th August, 1956.

Chemistry.

Appearance in a 2-ft. tube clear and colourless.

	<u>parts per million</u>
pH. 6.9	
Ammoniacal nitrogen.....	0.008
Albuminoid nitrogen.....	0.018
Nitrogen as nitrites.....	
Nitrogen as nitrates.....	
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate in 15 mins. at 27°C.....	0.060
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.....	0.080
Dissolved solids dried for 1 hour at 180°C	36
Suspended matter.....	

Hardness - Total..... 21
 Carbonate..... 1
 Non-carbonate..... 20

Chlorine present as chlorides..... 7.0

Free chlorine.....

Free carbon dioxide.....

Heavy metals..... 0.0

Opinion:

This is chemically a Satisfactory Water.

(Signed) W. EDWARDS.
 GEO. S. GRAHAM.

Biochemists

Bacteriological Examination.

Time and place of sample taken from Tap, Low Reservoir Zone
 9.30 a.m. on 3rd September, 1956.

Result

Plate Count 2 days at 37°C

Probable number of coliform bacilli per 100ml. Nil

Probable number of faecal coli per 100 ml. Nil

Opinion:

Bacteriologically an excellent water.

pH 7.0

(Signed) D.G. DAVIES
 Medical Research Council,
 Public Health Laboratory,
 Carlisle.

I remain, Sir,
 Yours faithfully,

(Signed) F. BIRKBECK.

F.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., M.I.H.E.
Water Engineer.

Statistical Tables

on the

Work Carried Out

by the

Public Health Inspector

during the year.

To Dr. I. S. Jones,
Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

Once again I have the pleasure of presenting to you my report for the year, much of which is in the form of statistical tables. As in past years work has centred around Housing, Meat and Food Inspection, Food Hygiene and Rodent Control.

HOUSING:

Work done in this department has been of a routine nature and there is nothing outstanding to report except maybe to mention that the number of houses completed during the year for the Council was by far the highest in the last ten years.

MEAT INSPECTION AND BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS:

Another busy year of meat inspection at the Public Abattoir. The slaughterhouse at Myers Lane has only been used about a dozen times throughout the year so there has been very little to inspect at these premises.

I think one of the most important items of interest regarding Meat Inspection at the Public Abattoir was that during the year, not one animal bought in the "Tuberculosis Eradication Area", was found on postmortem inspection to be affected in any way with Tuberculosis.

The number of animals killed at the Public Abattoir and found to be affected with Tuberculosis were "imported" from outside the attested area, on special licence issued by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food. These animals were licenced to be brought from outside the attested area to the Penrith Public Abattoir and had to be killed within a specified time. No such animal, brought in on licence can be removed from the Abattoir premises alive.

Another point of interest is, that with the consent and agreement of all the users of the Abattoir, any meat or offal found to be unfit for human consumption is seized by the Council and disposed of through approved channels. No "condemned" meat is released for sale to animals or pets.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR - LAIRAGE:

During the year work was commenced on building additional covered lairage and when this is complete the Council should have no further trouble in housing animals for slaughter, particularly during the peak periods.

RODENT CONTROL:

During the year all the sewers were examined for Rats. Where infestation was discovered the Rodent Operator carried out the necessary treatment. Thacka beck and all open culverts received regular attention from the Rodent Operator and a marked reduction of these pests was achieved.

The refuse tip at Red Hills was kept under constant supervision and in my opinion the Rodent Operator did a very good job of work there.

The Public Abattoir was kept free of rats.

FOOD HYGIENE:

The following information is given in accordance with circular 19/56 issued by the Ministry of Health.

(i) Shops and Premises where food is sold or prepared.

Confectioners	44	Greengrocers	12
Grocers	25	Wet Fish	3
Restaurants & Cafes		Hotels & Boarding	
(Unlicensed)	18	Houses - (Unlicensed)	16
Butchers	15	Licensed Houses	
Bakehouses	6	and Clubs	32
Fish and Chip Shops	7	Licensed Hotels	8

(ii) Premises Registered under Sect. 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Sale of Ice Cream	43
Manufacture of Ice Cream	4
Manufacture of Sausage etc.	12
Fried Fish	7

(iia) Dairies. Premises registered.

Raw T.T. Milk	2
Pasteurised Milk	1
Farm Bottled T.T. Milk	1

(iii) The number of visits made in connection with premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act are included in the summary of inspection.

(iv) Education.

No special activity in this field took place during the year BUT the opportunity to talk and discuss the

various aspects of food and personal hygiene with the shop managers and assistants was never allowed to pass by.

(v) Disposal of Condemned Food.

All food condemned at places other than the two slaughter houses are collected by the Council and buried at the Refuse Tip. All necessary precautions such as holing the tins are taken.

All condemned meat from the slaughterhouse is removed by Messrs. Cumpstey's Kendal, and is manufactured into bone meal and fertilizers. This entails heat treatment.

No condemned meat from the abattoir is sold for dog food.

(vi) Bulk examination of food.

During the year there was no occasion to examine any special consignment of food.

(vii) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations 1947 - 52.

Of the four manufacturers of ice cream only one uses the Heat Treatment method. The other three use the manufactured "cold mix".

(viii) Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 - 56.

The complete survey of all shops and places where food is sold, prepared or served has not yet been completed. Of the number inspected and of which advice was given, thirty-nine premises were in one way or another, improved to bring them up to the required standard.

ICE CREAM:

The following table gives the results of samples taken for examination since 1949.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Grade I. Good	7	10	12	8	8	8	6	8
Grade II. Fairly Good	5	4	2	1	6	-	-	2
Grade III. Poor	2	2	4	6	6	1	-	-
Grade IV. Very Poor	3	1	-	2	2	3	-	-

MILK SUPPLY:

The Milk (Special Designations) Specified Areas Order.

The above regulations made no change in the retailing of milk in the Urban District as the only milk retailed is either T.T. bottled milk, Pasteurised or Sterilised Milk.

Eleven samples of raw milk were sent to the laboratory for examination and of these nine were satisfactory but two failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test. (Keeping quality)

TABLE I.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Under Public Health and Housing Acts	124
Re Housing and Housing Applications	430
Cinemas... ..	2
Public Conveniences... ..	136
Rodent Control..	124
Schools... ..	10
Factories	31
Outworkers	1
Smoke Abatement	4
Camping... ..	32
Refuse Tip	12
Licensed Premises	26
Infectious disease inquiries	36

TABLE II.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

<u>FOOD & DRUGS ACT. 1955</u>	1143
Dairies	18
Ice Cream Manufacturers	6
Ice Cream Retailers	35
Meat Retailers... ..	42
Fishmongers	12
Grocers	96
Fruiterers	35
Food Manufacturers (S.16 - Food & Drugs Act, 1955)...	65
Catering Establishments	96
Bakehouses	16
Fried Fish Shops	12
Markets	76
Knacker Yard	6
Public Abattoir (Meat Inspection)...	628

TABLE III.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Carcasses inspected and
condemned at Penrith Abattoir.

Particulars.	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Calves	Horses
Number killed.	2255	1834	9220	3349	333	Nil
Number Inspected.	2255	1834	9220	3349	333	Nil
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	9	30	53	3	20	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	462	625	369	97	4	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	20.8%	37.1%	4.5%	2.9%	7.2%	Nil
<u>Tuberculosis Only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	4	-	1	-	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	9	81	-	-	-	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	.49%	4%	-	.02%	-	Nil
<u>Cysticercus.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	5	-	-	-	-	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	5	-	-	-	-	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	Nil

TABLE IVA - CATTLE AND COWS.
SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL GROUNDS OF CONDEMNATION
OF WHOLE CARCASSES AT THE PENRITH ABATTOIR.

<u>Diagnosis.</u>	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u> <u>cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>
Moribund	-	-
Pathological Emaciation	-	9
Dropsy	2	3
Johne's Disease... ..	-	-
Septicaemia	1	2
Fevered	2	6
Internal Congestion	-	-
Multiple fractures - fevered	1	1
Tumours	1	-
Uraemia	-	1
Septic Peritonitis	-	-
Gassed - Internal Congestion..	-	-
Pyæmia	-	2
Deformity... ..	1	-
Pathological Degeneration	1	6
	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 30
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>	-	4

TABLE IVB - SHEEP.

SHOWING THE PRINCIPLE GROUNDS OF CONDEMNATION
OF WHOLE CARCASSES AT THE PENRITH ABATTOIR.

<u>Diagnosis.</u>	<u>Number.</u>
Pathological Emaciation	14
Fevered	3
Moribund	7
Uraemia	4
Dropsy	1
Septicaemia	1
Internal Haemorrhage	1
Smothered	5
Multiple Injuries	2
Pathological Degeneration	15
	<hr/>
	53
	<hr/>

TABLE IVC - CALVES AND PIGS.

SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL GROUNDS OF CONDEMNATION
OF WHOLE CARCASSES AT THE PENRITH ABATTOIR.

Calves.

<u>Diagnosis.</u>							<u>Number.</u>
Immature	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<u>20</u>
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Pigs.

Acute Erysipelas..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fevered	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<u>3</u>
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

CARCASSES INSPECTED AT MYERS LANE SLAUGHTERHOUSE

Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sheep and Lambs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	66

There were no whole carcasses condemned and there was no case of *Cysticercus bovis*.

TABLE V (A)

Particulars of Foodstuffs Condemned as Unfit for Human
Consumption at Places other than the Public Abattoir

A. Tins Blown.

9	tins	of	Corned Beef	56	tins	of	Milk
10	"	"	Cooked Ham	5	"	"	Meat Roll
327	"	"	Fruit	8	"	"	Pork Luncheon Meat
3	"	"	Fruit Pudding	2	"	"	Pilchards
62	"	"	Fish	29	"	"	Soup
10	"	"	Fruit Juices	31	"	"	Steak
4	"	"	Irish Stew	9	"	"	Salmon
65	"	"	Luncheon Meat	11	"	"	Tongue

B. Goods Decomposed.

6 $\frac{1}{2}$	lb.	Cooked Ham	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	lb.	Bacon
1	lb.	Chicken Pie	4	lb.	Jam
2 $\frac{1}{2}$	lb.	Cooked Pork	56	lb.	Kippers
3	lb.	Cheese Pieces	2	lb.	Luncheon Meat
3	pkts	Cheese	7	lb.	Sausage
3	lb.	Boiled Bacon	91	lb.	Wet Fish

Yours faithfully,

RONALD N. SHARP.

Public Health and Meat Inspector.

