

**[Report 1958] / Medical Officer of Health, Pontefract Borough.**

**Contributors**

Pontefract (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1958

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BOROUGH  
OF  
PONTFRACT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

**1958**

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Medical Officer's Section,  
Health Department,  
Bughill House,  
Walkergate,  
Ponterfract.

BOROUGH

OF

PONTEFRACT.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Council of  
of the Borough of Ponterfract.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration,  
a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Borough during the year  
1958.

The Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector dealing with  
the Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough, Housing and the Inspection and  
Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1958.

It will be noted that there has been a marked increase over  
those of previous years. This is due to the introduction of a new  
method of allocating deaths now used by the Registrar General. The  
Borough contains a large number of patients in the hospital. After a  
period of more than six weeks residence in hospital, his death is  
allocated to the Borough, and is not transferred to his normal place of  
residence as happened formerly. During the first six weeks of the year,  
was incorrectly applied by the Registrar General's department with the result that 168  
deaths have been wrongly assigned to the Borough. It was not possible to  
have this error corrected, though a method is now being correctly  
applied. During the period of correct application of the method, the  
number of deaths in Haslelands Hospital was 136 and of these 131 were  
transferred.

Applying a similar ratio to the first six weeks of the year when  
the total number of deaths in Haslelands Hospital was 230, the number of  
deaths which ought to have been transferred was 168. Subtracting these  
deaths from the total, the number of deaths properly assignable to the  
Borough would have been 204, and the death rate would have been 13.7 as  
against the Registrar General's figure of 20.4. If all deaths occurring  
in Haslelands Hospital, other than those of Ponterfract residents are  
ignored, the number of deaths for the year for the Borough would be 207  
and the death rate 14.1.

For your information, certain details of the personal health  
services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

BY

J. F. FRASER,

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer of Health.



REPORT  
OF  
FORFEITURE

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1901

11

A. N. TAYLOR  
M.D., D.P.H., D.O.

Medical Officer's Section,  
Health Department,  
Baghill House,  
Walkergate,  
Pontefract.

To:- The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Pontefract.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration, a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Borough during the year 1958.

The Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

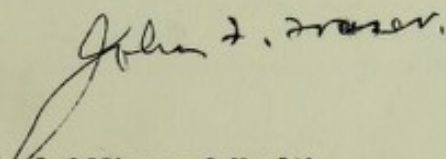
It will be noted that the death rates show a marked increase over those of previous years. This is due to the introduction of a new method of allocating deaths now adopted by the Registrar General. The Borough contains a large hospital for the chronic sick, Headlands Hospital, which serves a very wide area. If an individual dies after a period of more than six months residence in hospital, his death is allotted to the Borough, and is not transferred to his normal place of residence as happened formerly. To make matters worse, during the first six months of the year, the new method of allocation was incorrectly applied by the Registrar General's department with the result that 168 deaths have been wrongly assigned to the Borough. It was not possible to have this error corrected, though the new method is now being correctly applied. During the period of correct application of the method, the number of deaths in Headlands Hospital was 156 and of these 131 were transferred.

Applying a similar ratio to the first six months of the year when the total number of deaths in Headlands Hospital was 200, the number of deaths which ought to have been transferred was 168. Subtracting these deaths from the total, the number of deaths properly assignable to the Borough would have been 344 and the death rate would have been 13.7 as against the Registrar General's figure of 20.4. If all deaths occurring in Headlands Hospital, other than those of Pontefract residents are ignored, the number of deaths for the year for the Borough would be 287 and the death rate 11.41.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

  
Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer's Section,  
Health Department,  
Bathurst House,  
Wellington,  
London.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councilors  
of the Borough of Pontefract.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present for your information and consideration,  
a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Borough during the year  
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The Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector dealing with  
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Registration of Food Suppliers, is complementary to this Report.

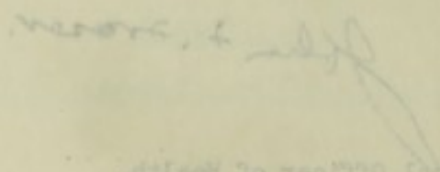
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Hospital, which serves a very wide area. If an individual dies after a  
period of more than six months residence in hospital, his death is  
allocated to the Borough, and is not transferred to his normal place of  
residence as happened formerly. To make matters worse, during the first  
six months of the year, the new method of allocation was incorrectly  
applied by the Registrar General's department with the result that 153  
deaths have been wrongly assigned to the Borough. It was not possible to  
have this error corrected, though the new method is now being correctly  
applied. During the period of correct application of the method, the  
number of deaths in Headlands Hospital was 156 and of these 134 were  
transferred.

Applying a similar ratio to the first six months of the year when  
the total number of deaths in Headlands Hospital was 200, the number of  
deaths which ought to have been transferred was 158. Subtracting these  
deaths from the total, the number of deaths properly assignable to the  
Borough would have been 246 and the death rate would have been 17.7 as  
against the Registrar General's figure of 20.4. If all deaths occurring  
in Headlands Hospital, other than those of Pontefract residents are  
ignored, the number of deaths for the year for the Borough would be 237  
and the death rate 17.4.

For your information, certain details of the personal health  
services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.



PONTEFRAC T B O R O U G H.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1958.

Chairman: Ald. B. Wood.  
Deputy Chairman: Cr. G.E. Poppleton.

Ald. C. Dyer. (Mayor)

Ald. J. Blackburn, O.B.E.

Ald. T.W. Hill.

Ald. J. Rhodes.

Cr. R. Cunningham.

Cr. J.H. Masterman.

Cr. Mrs. V. Pritchard.

Cr. W.H. Street.

Cr. C.A. Wileman.

Cr. G. Wilkinson.



PORTERACT BOROUGH

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1958.

Chairman: Ald. B. Wood.  
Deputy Chairman: Cr. G.K. Popperton.

Ald. C. Dyer (Mayor)

Ald. J. Blackburn, O.B.E.

Ald. F.W. Hill

Ald. J. Roper

Cr. R. Compton

Cr. J.H. Kesteven

Cr. Mrs. V. Pritchard

Cr. W.R. Street

Cr. C.A. Wilson

Cr. G. Wilkinson

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PART ONE.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the Borough: 4,865 Acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of civilian population: 25,140.

Number of Inhabited houses (end of 1958) according to rate books 7,530.

Rateable value: 1958 - £245,058.

Sum represented by penny rate: 1958 - £1001.

VITAL STATISTICS. (Registrar-General's - Registered during the year)

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1957.

BIRTHS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	257 (257)	250 (222)	507 (479)
Illegitimate.	14 (15)	6 (15)	20 (30)
Totals:-	<u>271 (272)</u>	<u>256 (237)</u>	<u>527 (509)</u>

Birth rate per 1000 estimated civilian population 21.0 (20.7)

Percentage of illegitimate births 3.79. (5.89)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	5 (11)	4 (9)	9 (20)
Illegitimate.	1 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)
Totals:-	<u>6 (11)</u>	<u>5 (9)</u>	<u>11 (20)</u>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 20.4 (37.8)

Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population 0.44. (0.81).

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All age groups.	296 (135)	216 (105)	512 (240)

<u>Infants under one year.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	9 (4)	4 (3)	13 (7)
Illegitimate.	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Totals:-	<u>9 (4)</u>	<u>4 (3)</u>	<u>13 (7)</u>

MATERNAL DEATHS. 1 (Nil).

Death Rates.

General Rate per 1,000 population.	20.4	(9.7)
All infants per 1,000 live births.	24.7	(13.8)
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	25.64	(14.6)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	Nil.	(Nil.)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births.	1.86	(Nil.)

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table:-

TABLE I.

<u>Cause of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	2	-	2.
Syphilitic Disease.	1	-	1.
Meningococcal Infection.	1	-	1.
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases.	1	-	1.
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach.	5	7	12.
" " Lung, Bronchus.	14	-	14.
" " - Breast.	-	4	4.
" " - Uterus.	-	2	2.
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasm.	27	12	39.
Diabetes.	-	1	1.
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	71	49	120.
Coronary Disease - Angina.	36	23	59.
Hypertension with Heart Disease.	12	19.	31.
Other Heart Diseases.	30	29.	59.
Other Circulatory Diseases.	7	4	11.
Pneumonia.	25	23	48.
Bronchitis.	27	16	43.
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	1	1	2.
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum.	2	1	3.
Nephritis & Nephrosis.	3	1	4.
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	3	-	3.
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	-	1	1.
Congenital Malformation.	2	2	4.
Other Defined & Ill-defined diseases.	15	8	23.
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	1	2.
All Other accidents.	8	11	19.
Suicide.	2	1	3.
<b>TOTALS:-</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>512.</b>



The local death rate during the past 11 years is shown in the following Table:-

Years.	Death Rate.
1948 - 1950	10.9
1951	10.5
1952	14.7
1953	16.2
1954	10.5
1955	9.2
1956	9.2
1957	9.7
1958	20.4

Infant Mortality.

The following Table gives causes of infant deaths during the year 1958, classified into age groups:-

TABLE II.

Cause of Death.	Age Groups.							All ages Under 1 yr.		
	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mths	M.	F.	Total
Asphyxia Neonatorum.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1.
Suffocation.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1.
Broncho-pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1.
Acute Bronchitis.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1.
Multiple Congenital Abnormalities.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1.
Atelectasis.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3.
Haematoma.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1.
Meningitis.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1.
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1.
Bilateral Adrenal Haemorrhage.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1.
Congestive Heart Failure.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1.
<b>TOTALS:-</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13.</b>



COMPARISON OF PONTEFRACT VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING AREAS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY, AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Ponte- fract Borough	Aggregate West Rid- ing Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County.	England & Wales (Pro visional figures.
BIRTH RATE (Per 1,000 estimated Population).	21.0	16.3	16.7	16.4
DEATH RATE (Per 1,000 estimated Population) All Causes	20.4	12.8	11.9	11.7
Infective & Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl., Syph. and other V.D.	0.12	0.04.	0.05	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09
Tuberculosis Other.	Nil.	0.01	0.01	0.01
Tuberculosis All Forms.	0.08.	0.09	0.09	0.10
Cancer.	2.82	2.11	1.97	2.12
Vascular Lesions of the nervous system.	4.77	2.13	1.93	*
Heart & Circulatory.	6.36	5.0	4.59	*
Respiratory Diseases	3.70	1.40	1.33	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births.	1.86	0.41	0.43	0.43
Infant Mortality.	24.7	23.2	24.4	22.5
Still Births (Per 1,000 live and still births)	20.4	23.0	22.8	21.6

\* Figures not available.

PART TWO.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIVE AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table gives details of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

T A B L E IV.

Disease.	Jan/ Mar.	Apr/ Jun.	Jul/ Sep.	Oct/ Dec.	Total.	Deaths.	No. of Cases Admitted to Hosp.
Chicken Pox.	97	60	14	36	207	-	21.
Scarlet Fever.	6	9	9	27	51	-	18.
Whooping Cough.	2	6	-	4	12	-	-
Measles.	13	2	7	187	209	-	2.
Poliomyelitis.	-	1	2	1	4	-	4.
Dysentery.	1	67	10	5	83	-	13
Meningococcal Infection.	3	-	1	-	4	1	4.
Pneumonia - Acute Primary & Influenza	1	-	-	1	2	-	1.
Food Poisoning.	-	-	1	-	1	-	1.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS:-	124	146	44	261	575	1	64

DIPHTHERIA.

No case of diphtheria occurred during the year.

Immunisation.

218 children received a full course of primary immunisation against the disease. The diphtheria immunisation programme will be intensified towards the end of 1959., when the pressure in the department caused by the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme has eased.



TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of tuberculous persons.

TABLE V.

Number of Cases In Register.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total in Register.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
At the commencement of 1958.	112	86	20	22	240
Notified for the first time during 1958.	10	6	-	-	16
Transfers - Inward	4	2	-	1	7
Removed from Register	11	9	2	1	23
At the end of 1958.	115	85	18	22	240

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:-

TABLE VI

Entries Relating To:	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Totals.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Persons who have died.	1	1	-	-	2.
Persons certified by the medical practitioner in attendance.	4	5	2	1	12.
Revised Diagnosis. Not T.B.	-	1	-	-	1.
Persons who have ceased to reside permanently in the district.	6	2	-	-	8.
<b>TOTALS:-</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>

In the following Table, new cases and mortality are classified according to Age, sex and site of the disease:-

TABLE VII.

Ages.	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 45	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 65	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Over 65	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS:-</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was necessary to apply to the Pontefract Borough Justices for an Order commuting an old lady of 83 to Headlands Hospital, Pontefract, on the 1st February, 1958.

She was in urgent need of medical care but was unwilling to go into hospital voluntarily.

Unfortunately, she died within a few days of admission.

Regidorsen Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

1958.

BY

J. P. FRANK,

M.B., B.S., R.F.S., D.Ost., R.C.S.D.



APPENDIX

The following table contains particulars relating to the patients who were admitted to the hospital during the period...

TABLE I

National Assistance Act Section 4A	Number of patients		Total
	Admitted	Discharged	
Section 4A	101	101	202
It was necessary to apply to the Portenot-Borough Justice for an Order commencing an old lady of 85 to Madeline Hospital, Portenot, on the 1st February, 1953.	1	1	2

She was in urgent need of medical care but was unwilling to go into hospital voluntarily.

TABLE II

Total	Admitted		Discharged	
	M	F	M	F
12	4	8	4	8
1	1	0	1	0
4	2	2	2	2
13	7	6	7	6

In the following table, the cases are classified according to age, sex and date of admission.

TABLE III

Age	Admitted		Discharged	
	M	F	M	F
Under 15	1	2	1	2
15-20	1	0	1	0
20-25	2	0	2	0
25-30	1	1	1	1
30-35	1	0	1	0
35-40	0	2	0	2
40-45	2	1	2	1
TOTALS	7	6	7	6

PART III.  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.  
DIVISION 12.

Pontefract Municipal Borough.  
Featherstone Urban District.  
Knottingley Urban District.  
Osgoldcross Rural District.

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DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

1958.

BY

J. F. FRASER.,

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

PART III  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE  
DIVISION IN

Doncaster Municipal Borough.  
Rotherham Urban District.  
Huddersley Urban District.  
Ossett Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

1952.

BY

J. P. WALKER,

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.O.M.S., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31.12.58.

Divisional Medical Officer.

J.F. FRASER M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer  
and School Medical Officer.

G.M. MAYHALL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant County Medical Officer  
and School Medical Officer.

J.C. White M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss E.M. Atkinson.	Miss M.H. Osborne.
Mrs. P.M. Brice.	Miss B.K. Porter.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.	Mrs. M.K. Walsh.
Miss B.N. Kennington.	Miss B. Wright.

Assistant Health Visitors.

Miss L.O.I. Day.	Mrs. J.K. Smith.
Miss M.W. Thornley.	(Clinic Nurse)

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E.W. Fetch.

Midwives.

Miss K. Ault.	Miss C. Norton.
Mrs. A. Atack.	Mrs. A.M. Randall.
Miss R.G. Fielder.	Miss C.A. Roberts.
Mrs. E. Glover. (Relief)	Mrs. J.R. Wilford.
Mrs. B. Lister.	Miss M. Wright.

Home Nurses.

Mrs. F. Green.	Miss E. Lumley.
Miss E. Leach (Relief)	Mrs. A. Moiser.

Home Nurse/Midwives.

Miss B.M. Butterworth.	Miss D.A. Sutcliffe.
------------------------	----------------------

Mental Health Social Worker.

Mrs. M. Myers.

Speech Therapist.

Miss K. Wade.

Duly Authorised Officer.

Mr. G.F. Townend.

Senior Clerk.

Mr. W. Carver.



## INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Services Act.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1958 was 1138, an increase of 32 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 19.5 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 19.2 for the previous year was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 16.7 and the England and Wales birth rate of 16.4.

### Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 797, an increase of 205 compared with 1957.

It should be pointed out that this is due to the method of allocating deaths now adopted by the Registrar General. The Borough of Pontefract contains a very large hospital for the chronic sick, serving a very wide area. If an individual dies after a period of more than six months residence in hospital, his death is allotted to Pontefract Borough and is not transferred to his normal place of residence.

This must be kept in mind when considering both the general death rate and the deaths from individual diseases to which old people are particularly liable.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 13.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 10.3 for the previous year. The West Riding Administrative area is 11.9 and England and Wales 11.7.

### Infant Mortality.

In 1958 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 27. The infant mortality rate was 23.7 as against 20.8 in the previous year.

### Maternal Mortality.

There was one maternal death in the Divisional area during the year.

## MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

### Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1128 notified live births, 492 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 54 of these cases.

### Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the Division:-

Death of Mother.	-
Death of Child.	2
Still Births.	8
Artificial Feeding.	105
Liability to be a source of infection.	5

### Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by midwives during 1958 numbered 92, all of these being domiciliary.



The following preliminary report was available at the time of the meeting of the Division of Women attending at the Division of Women.

Gas and Air Analgesia.

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Gas and air analgesia only was given in 63 cases. Pethidine only was given in 92 cases, and gas and air and pethidine was given in 272 cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

There are four ante-natal clinics in the Division which are held at Pontefract, Featherstone, Knottingley and Ferrybridge, and during the year 498 patients attended, of which 360 were new patients. The total number of attendances was 2,659.

At all of these clinics post-natal examinations are carried out and 118 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley clinics.

These have continued to be well attended and the number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 593. Some difficulty was experienced in running these classes at Pontefract due to the shortage of midwifery staff. The staffing position has now improved and this difficulty should not continue.

Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this Division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

Little difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation although it has not always been possible to secure admission to the hospital of the patient's choice. Due to travelling difficulties there is a preference for the Castleford Maternity Home, although our allocation of beds is much smaller than at Southmoor.

CHILD WELFARE.

During the year a new multiple clinic was completed at Trinity Street, Pontefract. This was erected to serve the needs of Pontefract residents for maternity and child welfare services, and the whole divisional health area for specialist services. This fine building has been welcomed both by the staff and the mothers.

The Featherstone and Knottingley clinics, which are both County owned, have been re-decorated and improved structurally during the past two years. It is hoped that some improvements may be made in the near future to the premises which are rented for clinic purposes at Streethouse, Ferrybridge and Carleton.

The mobile clinic visits Monk Fryston, Brotherton, Hensall, Whitley Bridge and Fairburn each fortnight and is proving very popular. It had been hoped to include visits to other parishes during 1958, but the additional mobile clinic has not yet come into operation.

The following preliminary report was available at the time of the meeting of the Division of Women attending at the Division of Women.



The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price to all women attending at the clinics:-

Ostermilk	Viol
Trufood	Maltoline
Ovaltine	Scotts Twin Pack
Cow & Gate	Farex
Glucose 'D'	Robinson's Groats
Horlicks	Robinson's Patent Barley
Minadex	Colact
Lactagol	Robrex
Bemax	Robsoup
Cerex	Bovril Weaning Food
Trufood Cereal	Roboleine

The annual turnover of baby foods etc., is approximately £5,000.

The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets	Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
Viteolin Tablets	A & D Liquid
Vitamin 'C'	Lactation Tablets

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

#### Premature Babies.

During the year 91 babies weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division and 25 were born at home.

#### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

##### Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups i.e., the entrants (5 years +) second age group (7 years +) intermediate years (10 years +) and leavers (14 years +) continued throughout the year at the 54 schools in the division.

Re-examinations of children who, at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 4442 periodic inspections were carried out. In addition, 1701 special inspections and re-examinations were made. When it is considered that the school population is approximately 11,000, it will be realised over half of all children at school were examined at one time or another during the year.

##### General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 92.64% were classified as satisfactory and only 7.36% as unsatisfactory.

##### Uncleanliness.

During the year health visitors and school nurses made 16,646 examinations of children in schools. Of these 420 individual children were found to be infested.



## SPECIAL CLINICS.

### Ophthalmic Clinics.

During the year we were very sorry to lose the services of Mr. S.K. Sledge, who had to relinquish the clinic due to a rearrangement of his hospital commitments. Dr. R.L. Wood took over the clinic and we were fortunate enough to have his services for two sessions per week. During the year 1641 children were examined. Of these 704 were prescribed glasses.

### Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract for children from this Division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 27 sessions and saw 141 children. In all, the children made 246 attendances.

### Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 11 sessions were held. 140 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 201.

### Child Guidance Treatment.

Dr. S.M. Leese, Consultant Psychiatrist holds child guidance clinics at the County Health Department, Wakefield, and during the year 17 children from this area attended there.

In April, 1959, the clinic with its team of workers, Dr. Leese, Mr. D.G. Pickles, Psychologist and Mr. J. Coulson, Psychiatric Social Worker will be transferred to the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding divisional areas will then attend here in addition to our own.

### Ultra Violet Ray Treatment.

During the winter months, ultra violet ray treatment sessions are held twice weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 48 children made 768 attendances for this treatment.

### Speech Therapy.

In 1959, it is intended to transfer the speech therapy clinic at present held at Featherstone, to the Central Clinic, Pontefract which will be more convenient and more centrally situated for mothers to attend. Miss K.M. Wade treated 65 children during 1958.

### Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

### Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 22 candidates were examined and where necessary, x-ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 11 examinations were made.



B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis was offered to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

During 1958 the following work was undertaken in the division:-

<u>No. of consents issued.</u>	<u>No. of consents Received.</u>	<u>Mantoux Test.</u>	<u>Mantoux Negative.</u>	<u>Mantoux Positive.</u>	<u>Not Ascertained.</u>
789	429	421	329	84	8

B.C.G. Vaccination.

329.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The programme of vaccination against poliomyelitis was intensified during the year. The number of consents received in respect of school children was increased and at the end of 1958, approximately 8,000 children had received two injections against this disease. A further 1,500 were awaiting vaccination when supplies of vaccine were available.

The Ministry decided towards the end of the year that a third reinforcing injection was necessary for the children who had already had two injections. 3,000 children were given this third injection.

Furthermore, the Government decided at the end of the year to extend the scheme to include young adults up to the age of 25 years.

HEALTH VISITING.

During the year, the following number of visits were made by Health Visitors in the division:-

No. of children under 5 years of age visited during year:	4201.
Total Visits made to expectant mothers:.....	175.
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age:.....	5809.
Total visits made to children aged 1 & under 2 years.....	3699.
Total visits to children aged 2 but under 5 years.....	5938.
Total visits to tuberculous households.....	1849.
Total families or households visited.....	4310.
Other cases visited.....	8676.

HOME NURSING.

During the year, 26,627 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 26,809 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

<u>Classification.</u>	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses During Year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the Year.
(1) Medical.	608.	21,235.
(2) Surgical.	190.	4,723.
(3) Infectious Diseases.	4.	57.
(4) Tuberculosis.	9.	567.
(5) Maternal complications	7.	45.
TOTALS:-	818.	26,627.
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	508.	19,110.
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	44.	267.
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	155.	10,327.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:-

- (a) Ill.
- (b) Lying-in.
- (c) Aged.
- (d) Expectant Mother.
- (e) Mental Defective.
- (f) A child not over Compulsory school age.

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the Head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service, or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.



Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of home helps in this Division was 27.

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i) Basic.	27.
(ii) From Reserve.	-
(iii) TOTAL.	27.

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1958.

(i) Whole-time.	Nil.
(ii) Part-time.	38.
(iii) TOTAL.	38.

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st. December, 1958.

		<u>No. of Cases.</u>	<u>Hours Employed.</u>
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers.)		46	2879
(ii) Tuberculosis.		6	1428
(iii) Chronic Sick. - (a) aged 65 +		265	40918
	(b) under 65.	36	4873
(iv) Others.		-	-
	<u>TOTALS:-</u>	<u>353.</u>	<u>50,098.</u>

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time. 21.89.

MENTAL HEALTH.

The mental health work in the division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under Voluntary and Statutory Supervision, and in the provision of reports on home conditions to Hospital Management Committees. The nearest Occupation Centre to this area is at Loch Lane, Castleford, and at the end of the year 15 children from this area were attending there.

This Centre at Loch Lane will close on 31st December, 1958 and patients will then attend at a new Centre erected by the County Council at Airedale. This new Centre will have an industrial centre to cater for adult defectives who have been unable to attend the old Centre. The Group training classes held at our child welfare clinics will then cease. Mrs. Argile, the home teacher, is to be transferred for duty at the new Centre.

A special bus is to be operated to bring children from this Divisional area to and from Airedale Occupation Centre.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR SUPERANNUATION PURPOSES.

New entrants to the County Council service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and during the year I examined 66 candidates. In addition, 2 members of the County Staff resident in the Divisional area who had been off duty through sickness for a considerable period were examined to ascertain whether or not they were incapable of continuing employment by reason of permanent ill-health.

BOROUGH OF PONTEFRACT

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A N N U A L        R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

Year Ended the Thirty-First December, 1958

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Including statistics prepared pursuant  
to the requirements of the Sanitary Officers  
(Outside London) Regulations, 1935

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Chief Public Health Inspector  
LEWIS WALSH, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Municipal Offices  
Pontefract



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## Borough of Pontefract

### Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, 1958

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Mrs. Pritchard and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you this my Twenty-first Annual Report in which are given facts and figures relating to the several activities of my Department during the year ended 31st December, 1958. In this Preface I comment briefly on major aspects of the work.

Bad housing is at the root of so many social problems and so much ill-health that there is little wonder progressive authorities are greatly concerned with housing conditions in their areas. Pontefract is no exception, and the provision of dwellings of good quality and in sufficient number to meet all the reasonable needs of the population has long been a primary aim of your Council. At the time of writing action has been initiated to clear within the next twelve months the few remaining slums in the Borough; during 1958, in furtherance of the Council's policy to secure the adequate repair of existing houses, 150 rented properties were repaired and made fit for habitation as the result of action by the Department; and, as this Report will show, statutory overcrowding is at a minimum. The need for still more dwellings - including accommodation for elderly persons - is indicated by the number of applications for Corporation houses from families living in lodgings. Many of the applications from tenants could be resolved by the modernisation of existing houses, but owners of rented property are still reluctant to take advantage of the Improvement Grant Scheme. The Report also refers to the reluctance of many tenants to use the rent abatement provisions of the Rent Act when the landlord has failed to keep his property in good repair. It is my impression that there has not been the same reluctance on the part of landlords to increase rents: little could be done by way of repair on the old rents, and in many cases the increase has been devoted to repairs and much needed external painting.

Parts of the Clean Air Act, 1956, had become operative before 1958, and the remaining parts came into force during the year under review. The implementation of the Act presents many problems, but with the goodwill of all concerned, and with due consideration for the feelings of those who may be affected, it should be possible to make very considerable progress. Pontefract is part of one of the 'Black Areas' in which a determined effort must be made to reduce pollution, and, bearing in mind the special problems which are likely to be encountered in a mining area, the Council's recently declared policy to include some 2,000 dwellings, in addition to commercial and industrial buildings, in smoke control areas within the next five years, sets no mean target.

Food inspection and supervision continue to claim much of the Department's time. Meat and milk and certain of their products - all potentially dangerous to health unless in clean and safe condition - were again given routine attention. All food animals were slaughtered centrally and examined for fitness, and some 6 tons of diseased meat was condemned and suitably disposed of. The report outlines measures taken to safeguard the milk supply: the Borough being in a Specified Area, it is an offence to retail milk



which is not either 'tuberculin tested' or heat treated in accordance with the Special Designation Regulations. The standard of ice-cream sold in the Borough is discussed in the report, and open air trading is again reviewed.

Food Hygiene is a matter in which the public must become increasingly involved. The Department has secured many improvements in premises and equipment, almost always with the willing co-operation of those concerned. More and more attention must now be devoted to handling practices; and in this connection the customer can assist by demanding a high standard, and shopping only where that standard can be found.

During 1958, 676 specimens or samples were submitted to bacteriological or chemical laboratories in the course of the Department's duties, an increase of 131 on the previous year. These included water supplies for chemical composition and bacterial condition, swimming-bath waters for bacterial condition, deposit gauge contents and lead peroxide candles for atmospheric pollution investigation, milks for presence of tuberculosis, heat-treated milks - pasteurised and sterilised - for efficiency of treatment, milks for cleanliness, ice-cream for bacterial grading, specimens for confirmation of meat inspection opinions, for food poisoning organisms, etc., and samples of filling materials taken under the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Environmental Hygiene covers a variety of activities: sometimes it consists in the protection of the family against bad housing conditions; sometimes the employee against a poor working environment; sometimes the customer against the purchase of unfit food or of other diseased or unwholesome commodities ranging from pet foods to filling materials in bedding, or even from unsafe articles such as inadequately guarded electric radiators; sometimes it consists in protecting the health of those partaking of meals in a catering establishment, sometimes of those visiting the hair-dresser; and so on. But whatever the particular activity of the moment, there is but one aim - to promote always the positive good health of all sections of the community; and I hope the Report which follows will fully justify this claim.

PART A

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply

A sufficient and constant supply of wholesome water was distributed throughout the district by the Corporation during the year, the supply for domestic use being of the order of 30 gallons per head per day. The supply was sampled regularly both for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination. 39 samples of chlorinated water going into supply were submitted to bacteriological examination, and all were reported upon as Class 1 waters. Forty samples of waters taken from source, before chlorination, were classified as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1. Bacteriological Classification of Waters

Source of raw water	No. of samples falling into the classes named -				Total samples taken
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	
Heck	12	-	-	-	12
Roall	11	-	1	-	12
Eggborough	12	-	1	-	13
Tanshelf	3	-	-	-	3

The results of the bacteriological examination of waters are given as the number of coliform organisms per 100 millilitres of the water, and the standard set by the Ministry of Health for non-chlorinated piped supplies is as follows:

<u>Class No.</u>	<u>Presumptive coli count</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Less than 1	Highly satisfactory
2	1 - 2	Satisfactory
3	3 - 10	Suspicious
4	More than 10	Unsatisfactory

Throughout the year at least 50% of the samples taken should fall into Class 1; 80% should not fall below Class 2, nor the remainder below Class 3. Table 2 sets out the standard reached by unchlorinated waters sampled from the respective sources, as given in Table 1.

Table 2. Comparison of Waters with Prescribed Standard

% of Samples falling into -	Prescribed Standard %	Sources of Supply			
		Heck %	Roall %	Eggboro' %	Tanshelf %
Class 1	Not less than 50	100	92	92	100
Classes 1 & 2	Not less than 80	100	92	92	100
Class 3	Not more than 20	-	8	8	-
Class 4	0	-	-	-	-



The Class 3 samples were isolated cases accounted for by disturbances during repairs at the respective Works. The water was, of course, chlorinated before distribution.

Twenty-five samples (including at least three taken direct from each of the principal sources) were submitted to chemical analysis and reported upon as being of good organic quality.

All the houses in the Borough are connected to the public supply.

#### Public Swimming Baths - Bacterial Control of Water

Samples were taken weekly from the waters of both swimming baths in an endeavour to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory conditions. 95 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and chemical tests were made on each sampling occasion to ascertain 'free chlorine' content and alkalinity. The results, given in Table 3 along with the respective standards recommended by the Ministry of Health, indicate that after a rather poor start a high standard was maintained.

Table 3. Swimming Baths Waters: Results of Examinations

	Standard recommended by Ministry of Health	Results from Baths	
		Large Swim	Small Swim
No. of samples taken	-	48	47
No. of samples containing coliform organisms in 100 ml. water	0	3*	1*
Percentage of number of samples submitted to plate count, and containing in 1 ml. water -			
(a) 0 - 10 colonies	not less than 75%	94%	92%
(b) 11 - 100 colonies	not more than 25%	2%	4%
(c) over 100 colonies	0%	4%*	4%*
Percentage of number of tests for residual chlorine content showing -			
(a) less than 0.2 ppm	0%	0%	0%
(b) 0.2 ppm or more	100%	100%	100%
Percentage of number of tests for pH value (alkalinity) -			
(a) between 7.2 and 8.0	100%	100%	100%
(b) outside these limits	0%	0%	0%

\* The first and second sampling occasions of the season.



## General Sanitation

All built-up areas in the Borough are sewered: less than 50 houses are not connected to sewers; these being in the few places where no sewer is available. Sanitary accommodation is almost entirely water-carriage: the 20 conveniences of other types represent only a fraction of one per cent of the total, and 11 of these are of the chemical type.

Although the Borough has a well-constructed main sewerage system, the drainage connecting buildings with sewers is often obsolete in design. Improvements are being effected steadily as defective conditions come to light, and figures relating to inspections made, and notices served, are to be found in Part III of this Report.

With one exception (a house due for demolition, still served by a midden) all premises in the Borough where domestic refuse is produced are served by metal dustbins of standard specification. The Corporation have not adopted a Municipal Bin Scheme of the type envisaged by Section 75(3) of the Public Health Act, 1936. Replacements are required by notice pursuant to subsection 1 of this section, as amended by Section 69 of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, served on the owner or occupier of the property.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

## Offensive Trades

Offensive trades within the meaning of section 107(1)(i) of the Public Health Act, 1936, are carried on at two premises in the Borough, the trades concerned being those of bone boiler, fat extractor, fat melter, fellmonger, glue-maker, size-maker, and tripe-boiler. A further trade carried on is that of concentration and sterilisation of vegetable and animal waste, declared by the Council to be an offensive trade pursuant to their powers under paragraph (ii)(b) of the sub-section.

Such trades serve a very necessary public service. Large quantities of waste material, much of it already at an advanced stage of decay, are brought on to these premises and not only rendered innocuous, but converted into useful commodities. Steps are taken to control the various processes and to prevent the escape of offensive gases which inevitably are generated in the course of processing. But the complex and variable nature of the raw material received renders constant vigilance necessary; the management must be on the alert for the first indication of the escape of offensive effluvium, and thereupon adjust the plant accordingly. There is no alternative to this empirical approach. Largely because those responsible become accustomed to the characteristic odour of the trade, the need for the adjustment to which I have referred is sometimes appreciated a little later than necessary to prevent the spread of the odour into the neighbourhood. This rarely happens for more than a short time, but often enough to make one realise that good planning demands the siting of such premises well away from built-up areas.

The Corporation have taken all reasonably practicable measures to control these 'offensive trades': a sub-committee was appointed to deal without delay with any statutory nuisance which arose; premises concerned were inspected regularly, and an immediate investigation followed any complaint. The managements concerned are anxious not to cause offence, and have endeavoured to operate in such a manner as to give minimal cause for complaint.



## Factories, Workplaces and Shops

The term 'factory' as used in the Factories Act, 1937, includes all premises where articles are made, altered or repaired for purposes of gain, and I append a list of the different trades carried on in the premises registered as factories:-

Automobile engineering	Glue and size making
Baking	Grain and seed processing
Barley processing	Laundering
Beer and mineral water bottling	Liquorice confectionery manufacture and packing
Blacksmithery	Melting
Boot repairing	Milk pasteurisation
Box and packing material manufacture	Monumental masonry
Brush making	Photography
Building	Printing
Cattle food manufacture	Saddlery
Clothes manufacture	Sawmill
Coal-gas distribution	Tailoring
Fat refining	Tinsmithery
Fellmongering	Upholstering
Founding	Whitesmithery
Furniture manufacture and polishing	Wire goods manufacture

The register of Factories kept by the Council pursuant to section 8(3) of the Act contains particulars of 94 factories, and Table 4 gives information relating to inspections, notices, and defects found and remedied.

Table 4. Factories Records - 1958

	Number on Register	Inspections made	Number of written notices	Defects	
				Found	Remedied
(1) Factories without mechanical power (sections 1 to 4 and 6 and 7 of the Act enforced by local authorities)	5	3	0	0	0
(2) Factories with mechanical power (section 7 enforced by local authorities)	89	78	6	18	13
Total factories	94	81	6	18	13
(3) Other premises (section 7 enforced by local authorities)	6	11	1	1	1
Totals	100	92	7	19	14

The provisions of section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937, relating to means of escape in case of fire, apply in the case of 29 of the 94 factories in the Borough. The several occupiers of these premises hold certificates granted by the Council indicating that the means provided are satisfactory. One new certificate was issued during the year.

The term 'workplace' as used in the Public Health Act, 1936 comprises offices, restaurant kitchens and various other premises in which persons are employed; but excludes factories and (except



for 'overcrowding' purposes) shops to which the Shops Act, 1950, applies. Routine inspection of these premises was not made, but when unsatisfactory conditions came to notice the requisite remedial measures were taken.

The term 'shop' includes warehouses used in connection with wholesale or retail trade, refreshment houses, lending libraries and hairdressing establishments. There are 416 shop premises on the Register, and the Shops Act, 1950, applies to some two-thirds of these. 52 visits for the investigation of welfare arrangements were made in 1958. In no cases was it necessary to resort to statutory procedure to secure the remedy of defects.

### Air Pollution

Whilst it would be foolish to pretend that there is no industrial smoke problem in the Borough, it is claimed to be reasonably well under control, the immediate concern of the Department being a minority of premises where special difficulties arise, and where carelessness in the operation of plant results in excessive smoke emission. Extensive improvements at one factory and the introduction of an audible alarm at another have reduced emission in these cases, and further improvements are still at the planning stage. Section 3 of the Clean Air Act requires all new furnaces to be, so far as practicable, capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke; and to enable the local authority to check up on this, notice of installation must be given to them. Notices relating to thirteen such furnaces were given during the year: one coal-fired and twelve (smaller plant) oil-fired. The Corporation made a direct contribution to the clean air campaign by turning over from coal to coke for steam-raising at the Public Slaughterhouse.

It must not, however, be imagined that any emission of smoke from an industrial chimney is necessarily an offence against the Act. On 1st June of the year under review the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations came into operation, allowing emissions of dark smoke for ten minutes in the aggregate of any period of eight hours. There can be little cause for complaint if these Regulations are complied with.

It is on the domestic front that the new legislation is likely to make its greatest impact in this Borough. The establishment of smoke control areas would mean that for the first time householders could be required to use only smokeless fuels. This matter has been given a great deal of thought by the Corporation, and much preliminary work has been done during the year under review. The Council agreed in principle to the establishment of a smoke control area, and this was in due course approved in principle by the Minister of Housing and Local Government. The area chosen is that enclosed by Gillygate, Slutwell Lane, Friarwood Lane, Mayors Walk, Mill Hill, Ropergate and Market Place; 44 acres containing some 250 premises.

Not everybody appreciates the need for, and the desirability of, cleaning up the atmosphere. The dissemination of information is a necessary preliminary and, in this connection, the Council were glad to co-operate with the West Riding Clean Air Advisory Council in their Clean Air Campaign, by organising a Clean Air Exhibition to take place in the Borough during the course of that campaign. A sum of £250 was earmarked for the purpose, and although the Exhibition actually took place just after the year under review, it can be stated here that it was largely instrumental in creating an atmosphere in the Borough in which a realistic smoke control area policy could be pursued.



PART B

HOUSING

General Conditions and Overcrowding

Since post-war house-building began, 2,453 dwellings have been erected in the Borough, 168 of these during the year under review, as detailed in Table 5.

Table 5. New Housing Progress 1946 - 1958

Year	No. of dwellings provided -					Total
	By the Corporation			By Private Enterprise	By Housing Association	
	Permanent	Temporary	Total			
1946	0	60	60	23		83
1947	164		164	29		193
1948	169		169	25		194
1949	137		137	15		152
1950	104	3	107	13		120
1951	86		86	10		96
1952	106		106	13		119
1953	107		107	23	178	308
1954	75		75	42	536	653
1955	31		31	57		88
1956	29		29	80		109
1957	92		92	78		170
1958	36		36	132		168
Total	1,136	63	1,199	540	714	2,453

In Table 6 the numbers of houses built by the Corporation over the past twelve years 1946- 57 are grouped into triennial periods, and the 1958 figure is given for comparison.

Table 6. Corporation House-building, 1946 - 1958

Period	No. of houses built by Corporation	Yearly Average
1946-48	393	131
1949-51	330	110
1952-54	288	96
1955-57	152	51
1958	36	36
Total	1,199	92

At the end of 1958 there remained 365 applicants for Corporation houses who were living in lodgings; in addition 276 tenants in the Borough were seeking Corporation houses; and these figures do not include 222 applicants for elderly persons dwellings, 40 of which applicants are living in lodgings. The 74 units already provided for elderly persons are clearly totally inadequate to the needs of the town. Much under-occupation of existing houses could be avoided by further provision for the aged.

In this Report 'statutory overcrowding' means the gross state of overcrowding which constitutes an offence under the Housing Act, 1957. Such overcrowding occurs when the number of persons sleeping in a house exceeds the 'permitted number' of persons as given in the rent book. The number of known cases of statutory overcrowding has been reduced during the year: 5 new cases of overcrowding were added to the register and 8 were removed consequent upon abatement. The numbers of cases found and abated during the past five years are given in Table 7.

Table 7. Incidence and Abatement of Statutory Overcrowding

No. of cases	Year				
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
On register at beginning of year	12	10	7	4	5
Added to register during the year	7	3	2	2	5
Abated during the year	9	6	5	1	8*
On register at end of year	10	7	4	5	2**

\* No. of persons concerned in these cases: 74

\*\* No. of families living in these dwellings: 2 (20 persons)

There are, however, many cases which although not statutorily overcrowded are clearly in need of more accommodation. The 'statutory standard', first set in 1935, would seem to be due for revision. Standards created over twenty years ago in matters of health and welfare can rarely satisfy modern requirements, and the overcrowding standard is no exception.

#### Inspection, Repair and Clearance of Unfit Houses

Particulars of the Department's housing activities are summarised below:

##### 1. Inspection of houses -

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| (1)(a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)           | 228   |
| (b) Number of inspections made in this connection (initial inspections, re-visits, works in progress, etc.) | 1,249 |
| (2) Number of houses (included above) inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations     | 144   |
| (3) Houses needing further action:  |       |
| (a) Number considered to be unfit for human habitation  | 63    |
| (b) Number (excluding the above) considered to be not in all respects reasonably fit                        | 165   |



2.	Remedy of defective conditions -	
(1)	Houses made fit or in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action	121
(2)	Houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs:	
(a)	Housing Act	27
(b)	Public Health Act	13
(3)	Houses rendered fit, or in which defects were remedied as a result of formal action:	
(a)	Housing Act	20
(b)	Public Health Act	11
3.	Clearance, etc. of houses -	
(1)	Action taken in respect of Clearance Areas:	
(a)	Number of new clearance areas declared	0
(b)	Number of houses vacated	3
(c)	Number of families rehoused	2
(d)	Number of persons involved	5
(e)	Number of houses (in clearance areas) demolished	14
(2)	Action taken in respect of Individual Unfit Houses:	
(a)	Number represented	14
(b)	Number of houses in respect of which -	
(i)	Demolition Orders were made	11
(ii)	Closing Orders were made	6
(iii)	Undertakings not to relet were given	2
(iv)	Closing Orders were revoked and Demolition Orders made	8
(c)	Number of houses vacated	23
(d)	Number of families rehoused	20
(e)	Number of persons involved	61
(f)	Number of houses closed on Closing Orders or Undertakings	6
(g)	Number of individual unfit houses demolished	27

#### Slum Clearance Programme

Pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, the Corporation had in 1955 submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government proposals for slum clearance in the Borough. The approved proposals provided for 200

houses to be dealt with in the ten year period commencing 1st September, 1955. By the beginning of the year now under review, less than one quarter of the total period of the programme, action had been initiated in the case of 100 houses; that is, half the total to be dealt with. The Council, having regard to this progress, made application to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for his approval to the modification of their original proposals, to provide for the outstanding proposals to be dealt with by the end of August, 1960, that is, in half the period previously considered necessary. The revised programme was approved by the Minister in February, 1959. Slum clearance can only proceed as fast as alternative accommodation becomes available for rehousing those to be displaced, and despite the fact that only 36 Corporation houses were erected in 1958, 22 families were rehoused from unfit houses during the same period.

Table 8 gives further details of Slum Clearance progress, bringing the figures up to the end of 1958.

Table 8. Slum Clearance Proposals: Progress Report

	Year of Programme: Sept - Aug				
	First	Second	Third	Fourth*	Total
No. of houses in respect of which action was initiated -					
As Clearance Areas	0	21	0	0	21
Individual Unfit houses	6	42	39	3	90
Total	6	63	39	3	111
No. of houses vacated -					
By Council rehousing	2	17	55	9	83
Otherwise	2	3	4	1	10
Total	4	20	59	10	93
No. of houses in respect of which action was completed -					
Houses closed	2	6	15	2	25
Houses demolished	0	4	42	3	49
Total	2	10	57	5	74

\* 1st Quarter only of fourth year

#### Rent Act, 1957. Certificates of Disrepair

This Act had been in operation for eighteen months at the end of 1958, and in Table 9 I give particulars of applications dealt with by the Council during that time.



Table 9. Certificate of Disrepair Statistics

	1957		1958		Total
	July-Dec.	Jan-June	July-Dec.		
No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	15	8	6		29
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	0	3	0		3
No. of decisions to issue certificates if no undertaking given to remedy -					
(i) In respect of some but not all defects	7	6	6		19
(ii) In respect of all defects	2	5	0		7
Total	9	11	6		26
No. of undertakings given by landlords	2	12	5		19
No. of undertakings not accepted by Sub-Committee	0	0	0		0
No. of certificates issued	0	3	3		6
No. of applications for cancellation of certificates	0	0	1		1
No. of certificates cancelled	0	0	1		1

Very little advantage has been taken of the certificate of disrepair provisions of this Act. To get information on this point a sample of 30 tenants who had not applied for certificates of disrepair was interviewed. In 27 cases there had been rent increases, and these can be classified as follows: tenants satisfied with state of repair at the time of the increase 6, tenants not satisfied 21; of these 21, only 6 had served a notice of disrepair on the landlord; 3 of these had reached agreement with him, but in the 3 remaining cases the tenants took no further action because (they say) they were afraid of eviction. Of the 15 who did not serve a notice of disrepair on the landlord, 4 took no action because the landlord subsequently did the necessary repairs, 6 because they did not understand the procedure, 2 because the landlord had promised to do the repairs, one said there was no point in approaching a landlord who would do nothing in any case, and in 2 of these cases the tenants again said they took no action because they were afraid of eviction.

Limited use appears to have been made of the rent abatement provisions of the Act even by those who applied for certificates. An investigation was made into the subsequent action taken by those who applied for certificates of disrepair and either had their applications granted or had received undertakings from their landlords. There were 25 such tenants: of the 6 of these who were granted certificates of disrepair 5 withheld rent, and one did not use the certificate although only part of the repair work was done;

of the 19 undertakings given, 7 were honoured within the specified period of 6 months, and of the 12 cases where undertakings were not honoured, rent was withheld in only 5 cases.

### Improvement Grants

Ten houses were improved during the year with the aid of grants from the Corporation. These were all owner-occupied properties, and in each case the improvement enabled an old house to be provided with modern amenities and brought up to a good standard. The cost of repair work, as opposed to improvements, was, of course, borne by the owner in each case, the grant being half the approved estimated cost of providing the additional amenities.

I feel I must again call the attention of owners of rented properties to the fact that grant is payable to them in the case of approved schemes of improvement. Reasonable rent increases would be acceptable to many tenants if only they could be provided with modern amenities. The owners of some 250 well-built houses with out-of-date amenities would be well advised to look at this matter a little closer. Particulars of the number of applications made since the inception of the scheme are given in Table 10.

Table 10. Improvement Grants

Year	No. of Applications -			No. of approved Applications withdrawn	Grants actually made	
	Made	Approved	Rejected		No.	Total amount £
1949 to 1953	0	-	-	-	-	-
1954	2	1	-	-	-	-
1955	22	19	4	3	3	317
1956	4	2	2	-	10	1559
1957	10	5	5	-	3	245
1958	11	10	1	-	10	1099



PART C

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

Meat Supply

All animals slaughtered in the Borough for food were dealt with at the Public Slaughterhouse, the Council having resolved in October, 1954, that private slaughtering should not be carried on. The Public Slaughterhouse came into being in July, 1954 and the progress made is shown in Table 11. This gives figures of throughput for six-month periods since the commencement of municipal slaughtering. In view of seasonal factors accounting for some difference between June and December figures, the weekly average figures are separated to show more clearly the general trend. It will be noted that the average throughput over the three years ended December, 1958, has equalled the nominal maximum.

Table 11. Throughput - Six monthly periods

Six-month period ended -	Total Number of Cattle Units	Weekly Average	
		Number of Cattle Units	% of Nominal Capacity
December, 1954	919	35	58
June, 1955	1,218	46	77
December, 1955	1,285	50	83
June, 1956	1,512	58	97
December, 1956	1,726	66	110
June, 1957	1,420	55	92
December, 1957*	1,748	65	108
June, 1958	1,629	63	105
December, 1958	1,776	68	113

\* A 27 week period

\*\* Throughput restricted due to staffing difficulties

The Public Slaughterhouse continues to be operated on a self-supporting basis, and Table 12 gives particulars of throughput during the year reviewed, together with 1957 figures for comparative purposes.

Table 12. Throughput at Public Slaughterhouse

4 weeks ended -	Throughput: No. of animals of the classes named -												Mean weekly no. of Cattle units*		% of nominal capacity (60 cu's)	
	Cattle		Calves		Sheep		Pigs		Total							
	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	
26th January	102	93	1	10	132	186	228	230	463	519	60	62	100	103		
23rd February	98	116	-	7	98	113	314	218	500	454	65	62	109	103		
23rd March	111	102	4	9	98	83	281	215	494	409	68	57	113	95		
20th April	98	89	8	10	67	98	299	221	472	418	66	55	110	92		
18th May	84	77	1	2	101	121	261	194	447	394	58	50	97	83		
15th June	89	92	1	1	131	141	266	156	487	390	62	50	103	83		
13th July	72	88	1	3	161	251	208	147	442	489	52	53	87	88		
10th August	85	93	2	1	201	244	249	170	537	508	62	55	103	92		
7th September	91	89	4	5	163	232	266	242	524	568	64	64	107	107		
5th October	83	83	2	3	218	188	290	241	598	515	69	60	116	100		
2nd November	83	110	-	4	243	163	317	353	643	630	72	80	120	133		
30th November	90	90	2	1	207	123	311	262	610	476	72	61	120	102		
28th December	72	73	1	-	114	104	421	391	608	568	76	72	127	120		
Near Average	83	92	2	4	149	157	285	234	525	487	65	60	109	100		

\* One cattle unit equivalent to three calves, five sheep or two pigs.



All carcasses, organs and viscera of animals passing through the Public Slaughterhouse were inspected, and those found to be diseased or otherwise unfit for human consumption were, after treatment with a green dye to prevent any possibility of use for human consumption, removed to a local factory where they were sterilised and converted into animal feedingstuffs.

A total of 10 carcasses, 24 parts of carcasses and 656 organs and parts were condemned, their total weight being 5 tons, 18 cwts. 3 qtrs. 5lbs. Table 13 gives particulars of the various classes of animals inspected, and of condemnations.

Table 13. Record of Meat Inspection and Incidence of Disease

Class of Animal	Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1123	52	26	2004	3742
Number inspected	1123	52	26	2004	3742
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci:					
Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	1	1	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	130	13	1	74	246
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	11.5%	25%	7.6%	3.8%	6.6%
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	96	14	0	0	82
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.9%	26.9%	-	-	2.2%
Cysticerci:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	34	0	0	0	0
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	34	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned	0	0	0	0	0

In carcasses the principal cause of condemnation was tuberculosis, 69% of the total weight of meat condemned from all causes being due to this infection. The 34 beast carcasses found to be affected with cysticerci give a percentage incidence of 2.89. In all cases the invasion was localised and, before being released for human consumption, carcasses and organs were subjected to controlled refrigeration. Table 14 gives comparative figures over the past five years:

Table 14. Incidence of *Cysticercus bovis*

Year	No. of cases	% Incidence
1954	37	2.48
1955	9	1.53
1956	11	1.08
1957	21	1.75
1958	34	2.89

#### Fatstock Guarantee Scheme

Throughout the year the Public Slaughterhouse continued to operate as a Certified Deadweight Centre for the purposes of the Fatstock Guarantee Scheme, under which guarantee payments are made to producers for fat pigs in accordance with Part I of the Agriculture Act, 1947. To qualify for guarantee payment fatstock must be certified by authorised officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Council's Public Health Inspectors acted in this capacity when on routine meat inspection duty.

The following figures are a measure of the extent of their duties during 1958:-

No. of pigs presented for certification	...	...	3,025
" " " rejected	...	...	10
" " " certified	...	...	3,015
No. of certificates issued	...	...	505

The amount of fees payable to the Corporation in respect of such certificates was £98.

#### Milk Supply

As required by Article 8(1) of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, a register is kept of all persons carrying on the trade of milk distributor in the Borough, and of all premises in the district which are used as dairies (except dairy farms, which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries). Table 15 gives particulars of the changes which took place during the year, and of the position at the end of the year.



Table 15. Registration of Dairies and Milk Distributors

Particulars of changes	Dairies	Distributors	
		From Shops*	Others
No. on register at 1st January	5	45	20
No. in respect of which new applications were made	0	7	0
No. in respect of which applicant was refused on Public Health grounds	0	0	0
No. added to register	0	7	0
No. removed from register -			
(a) Trading ceased	0	5	1
(b) Public Health grounds	0	0	0
No. on register at 31st December	5	47	19

\* Only bottled 'Sterilised' milk sold in these cases

The use of a special designation (Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised) and the holding of the appropriate licence under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations is obligatory upon all milk retailers in the Borough. This is in consequence of the inclusion of the Borough in a 'Specified Area' made by Order of the Ministers of Agriculture and Health. The retail of non-designated milks in the area is an offence.

92 licences under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953, were issued during the year authorising the sale of graded milks. 17 of these were in respect of 'Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)', 18 in respect of 'Pasteurised' and 57 in respect of 'Sterilised' milk.

Thirty-six samples of milk of various grades, bottled ready for sale, were taken during the course of the year to examine for compliance with the standards laid down by the Regulations. The number of samples taken, all of which were reported upon as satisfactory, are given in Table 16.

Table 16. Graded Milks: Sampling Records

Grade of Milk	Test Applied		
	Methylene Blue	Phosphatase	Turbidity
Pasteurised	25	25	-
Sterilised	-	-	2
T.T. Pasteurised	9	9	-

One hundred and twenty-four samples of ungraded milk, direct from farms and prior to pasteurisation, were taken for biological examination for the detection of tuberculosis: positive results were recorded in one case.

Generally, the standard of distribution is satisfactory. Minor violations of the Milk and Dairies Regulations have been noted, but formal action has been unnecessary. Conditions at the dairies were satisfactory. New pasteurising plant was installed at one dairy.

The cleanliness of milk containers was investigated during the year. At a dairy where several thousand bottles are filled daily, 30 cleaned, empty bottles were taken at intervals for bacteriological examination. A bacterial count of not more than 600 indicates a satisfactory bottle: of the cases tested seven exceeded this figure; in the remainder the highest count was 570 and the average 92.

The cleanliness of churns at the same establishment was also investigated. A bacterial count per churn of not more than 50,000 is considered satisfactory, 250,000 fairly satisfactory, and over 250,000 unsatisfactory: 8 churns were tested: none were placed in the 'unsatisfactory' class, one in the 'fairly satisfactory' class and 7 in the 'satisfactory' class with counts ranging from 0 to 60,000 the average being 18,000.

#### Ice-Cream Manufacture and Sale

As required by Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, a register is kept of all premises used for the sale, or the manufacture or storage for sale, of ice-cream. Table 17 gives particulars of the changes which took place during the year, and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 17. Registration of Ice-Cream Premises

Particulars of changes	Sale and storage	Manufacture sale and storage
No. on Register at 1st January	69	2
No. in respect of which new applications were made	9	0
No. in respect of which application was refused	0	-
No. added to register	9	-
No. of registrations cancelled -		
(a) following offences	0	0
(b) Ceased to trade	0	0
No. of changes of occupation of registered premises notified	6	0
No. on register at 31st December	78	2



The two registered ice-cream factories are not in use, and all the ice-cream sold in the Borough is made elsewhere. Nine manufacturers are registered to sell their ice-cream from vehicles in the Borough. Such vehicles must meet the standard laid down by the Council, which includes the provision of a hot-water unit for handwashing, and other practicable measures for preventing contamination of the ice-cream. No offences under the Ice-Cream (Heat-Treatment, etc.) Regulations in relation to storage or sale have been noted.

There is no test for the bacteriological grading of ice-cream which is considered satisfactory for use as a statutory test, but on the Provisional Grading at present in use, the 30 samples of ice-cream taken during the year may be grouped as follows:- 18 fell into Grade 1, 4 into Grade 2, 4 into Grade 3, and 4 into Grade 4. In Table 18 figures for 1956, 1957 and 1958 are given alongside the official standard.

Table 18. Ice-Cream Grading

Grades	Official Standard %	Local figures for the year -		
		1956 %	1957 %	1958 %
1	Not less than 50	86	82	60
1 and 2	Not less than 80	98	87	74
3	Not more than 20	-	3	13
4	0	2	10	13

All the samples graded 4 came from the same source (outside the Borough) and are responsible for the unsatisfactory figures in the Table. With this manufacturer's figures left out, the percentages in the Table would be 84, 94, 6 and Nil respectively. When an unsatisfactory sample was obtained representations were made to the outside authority concerned.

#### General Food Inspection

In addition to the inspection of meat at the Public Slaughterhouse shops were visited from time to time for the inspection of meat and other foods. No single large consignment of food has been condemned, although over the period under review the following total quantities of unfit food were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

2,642 lbs.	meats
5,392 lbs.	vegetables
107 lbs.	fruit
20 boxes	peaches
200 tins	milk
54 lbs.	miscellaneous foods

Certificates were issued to traders in 272 cases, enabling them to claim from wholesalers for loss of foods condemned.

## Food Premises

The conditions under which food for sale is prepared and handled in the various factories, warehouses, shops, restaurants and hotels in the Borough is one of the most important sections of the work of the Department. The numbers of the different classes of food premises in the Borough, as at the end of the year, are given in Table 19.

Table 19. Food Premises Analysed according to Trade

Class of Premises or Nature of Business	Manufacture or Preparation	Distribution	Total
General Grocery		92	92
Bread and Cakes	6	4	10
Sugar confectionery	4	22	26
Greengrocery, fish and game		23	23
Butchery and meat preparation		24	24
Chemists		6	6
Fish frying	20		20
Public Houses and clubs		52	52
Off licence premises		8	8
Cafes, snack bars, canteens	34		34
Church premises	6		6
Mineral water, etc. bottling	3		3
Miscellaneous	4	3	7
Totals	77	234	311

One hundred and one of these premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. 72 of these, as already indicated, are ice-cream premises, the remaining 29 being registered for the manufacture of made-up meats etc; only 19 of these are, however, at present used for the purposes requiring registration.

The Department has continued to concentrate on its statutory responsibilities under the Food and Drugs Acts, and Regulations and Byelaws made thereunder, rather than on the organisation of Exhibitions or Clean Food Guilds. As much time as possible has again been spent with food handlers at the place of employment, stressing the fundamentals of hygienic processing and handling.

Table 20 gives figures indicative of the Department's activities in this field since the coming into operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations in July, 1956.



Table 20. Inspection of Food Premises

	1956	1957	1958
No. of visits paid to food premises	93	294	182
No. of food rooms inspected	199	392	475
No. of offences noted under Food Hygiene Regulations	313	545	541
No. of such offences outstanding at end of year	228	197	278
No. of offences against the food handling byelaws	15	16	14
No. of byelaw offences outstanding at end of year	11	2	3

Towards the end of the year inspections were made for the first time under the new Food Hygiene Regulations of all licensed premises in the Borough. They had previously been given routine inspection under food handling byelaws, and whilst on earlier standards the general standard of hygiene was satisfactory, it became necessary to require additional appliances and structural alterations at many premises. As the survey was not undertaken until late in the year there was little time in which to remedy the defects before the end of 1958 and, as a result the total number of offences shown in Table 20 as outstanding was higher than in the previous year.

#### Sale of Food in the Open Air

As required by section 76(1) of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, registers are kept of persons hawking food in the Borough, and of hawkers' storage premises. Table 21 gives particulars of the changes which took place during the year under review, and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 21. Registration of Food Hawkers and Storage Premises

Particulars of changes	Hawkers	Storage Premises
No. on Register at 1st January	83	6
No. in respect of which new applications were made	5	0
No. in respect of which application was refused	0	0
No. added to register	5	0
No. of registrations revoked -		
(a) following offences	0	0
(b) Ceased to trade	0	0
No. on register at 31st December	88	6

Table 22 analyses the number of registered food hawkers according to the various classes of trade.

Table 22. Food Hawkers according to trade

Trade	No. Registered		
	At 31st Dec. 1958	Added during 1958	Removed during 1958
Butchery	19	0	
General grocery	6	1	
Grocery and Confectionery	14	1	
Fish and green-grocery	6	0	Nil
Greengrocery	21	1	
Confectionery	11	0	
Ice-Cream	9	0	
Mobile Canteen	1	1	
Grocery, butcher and fish and fruit	1	1	
Total	88	5	

The supervision of mobile traders would be a rather hit and miss affair, were not a very considerable amount of time given to this work. Before an application for registration is approved investigation is made as to the suitability of the vehicle for the particular trade, the storage facilities available, and the quality of food to be sold. 35 of the 88 food hawkers in the register come from outside the Borough, and in such cases information regarding storage facilities and quality of food to be sold is obtained from the authority of the district concerned. An increasing number of purpose-made vehicles of good design are being employed, and food handlers in this class of business are made very conscious of their responsibilities in matters of personal hygiene.



PART D

MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

Hairdressers and Barbers Establishments

As required by Section 120(1) of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, a register is kept of persons carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber on premises in the Borough. Table 23 indicates the position at the end of the year.

Table 23. Registration of Hairdressers and Barbers

Particulars of changes	Registered Premises
No. on Register at 1st January	26
No. added to register during 1958	3
No. suspended or cancelled by court order during 1958	0
No. on Register at 31st December	29

Twelve inspections were made and no offences noted.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles, and Regulations have been issued prescribing the standards of cleanliness applicable for the purpose of the Act in relation to the various kinds of filling materials used.

The Act provides for the registration by the local authority of premises where filling materials of specified kinds are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery, and one such factory is registered with the Corporation. Three samples of filling materials taken from this factory in 1958, were subjected to the prescribed tests, and all satisfied the statutory standards of cleanliness.

Under section 10 of the Act it is an offence for any person to offer for sale any new article which is upholstered or stuffed with filling materials to which the Act applies and which are not clean as indicated by the prescribed tests. During the year four articles of bedding on sale in shops in the town were sampled and submitted to examination. All satisfied the prescribed standards for cleanliness.

## Control of Pet Animal Shops

The Pet Animals Act, 1951, provides for the licensing of pet animal shops by the local authority who, before granting a licence, must be satisfied that animals for sale will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness; be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals; that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of diseases among animals, and that appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

There are five licensed premises in the Borough. Conditions were satisfactory.

## Rodent Control Service

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, so far as this Act relates to rodent infestation. Routine measures are taken to ensure, as far as practicable, the freedom from infestation of all premises in their occupation; owners and occupiers of infested properties are required to face up to their responsibilities under the Act, and a Rodent Control Service is maintained by the Corporation, available to householders free of charge and to others at a charge which covers the cost of treatment. The Act places on local authorities a specific duty to inspect their district for infestation, and for much of his time the senior rodent operative has been engaged on the discovery of infestations, and the organisation of treatments on 'block control' principles.

The Council have continued their membership of the Yorkshire Rodent Control Planning and Advisory Committee, whose functions include those of stimulating and maintaining interest and activity throughout the area in rodent control administration. The Advisory Committee recommended constituent authorities to hold publicity campaigns during the last quarter of 1958, and the Council, acting on this advice, used the following means of publicity: the Ministry of Agriculture's Display Unit was exhibited in the Library entrance for a period of ten days; posters were displayed calling attention to the dangers of rodent infestation, and a notice was inserted in the local press calling attention to the responsibilities of owners and occupiers of land and buildings to notify infestations, to secure disinfection, to carry out works to render premises rat and mouse-proof, and giving information about the Corporation's Rodent Control Service.

Table 24 gives statistics relating to the known incidence of infestation and disinfection measures taken during the twelve months ended 31st March, 1959.



Table 24. Rodent Control Statistics

	Local Authority	Class of Property			Total
		Dwelling-houses*	Agricultural	Business and Industrial	
No. of properties in the District	32	7,582	42	1,117	8,773
No. of properties inspected as a result of -					
(a) Notification	3	50	1	12	66
(b) Survey under the Act	19	85	35	692	831
(c) Otherwise	0	5	0	20	25
No. of properties inspected and found to be infested by -					
(a) Rats: Major**	1	0	0	0	1
Minor	7	33	3	34	74
(b) Mice: Major**	0	0	0	1	1
Minor	1	29	0	68	98
No. of infested properties treated by local authority	8	61	3	86	158
No. of treatments carried out (including re-treatments)	12	69	4	111	196
No. of 'block control' schemes carried out					10

\* Excluding houses combined with businesses

\*\* More than 20 rats or mice

TABULAR STATEMENT

Complying with Article 27 of the Sanitary  
Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935

A. Nature and Number of Inspections made by the Corporation's  
Public Health Inspectors and assistant staff during 1958.

<u>Nature</u>	<u>Number</u>
<u>Public Health Act, 1936</u>	
Regulated Premises Inspections:	
Moveable dwellings and sites	15
Offensive trades	44
Workplaces (not factories)	4
Statutory Nuisance Inspections:	
Dwellinghouse	401
Other premises	57
Atmospheric Pollution:	
Industrial smoke observations	19
Verminous Infestation Inspections (including visits to prospective tenants of Corporation houses, and in the case of exchanges)	346
Infectious Diseases, etc., Enquiries	180
General Sanitation and Drainage Inspections:	
Dwellinghouses	243
Other premises	60
Water supplies:	
Sampling - Public supplies	104
Swimming bath waters	95
Refuse Collection and Disposal:	
Enquiries and Inspections	159
<u>Factories Act, 1937</u>	
Inspections for Welfare Provisions:	
Factories	81
Other works	11
Inspections for means of escape in case of fire	9
<u>Shops Act, 1950</u>	
Shops inspected for Welfare Provisions	52
<u>Housing Acts and Rent Act, 1957</u>	
Housing Conditions:	
Inspections for housing defects and of works in progress (excluding Public Health Act inspections)	605
Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations (included in above figure)	144
Inspections made in connection with Certificates of Disrepair	52



<u>Nature</u>	<u>Number</u>
Overcrowding:	
Case investigations	32
Dwellinghouses measured up for permitted number data	2
Improvement Grant Inspections and Enquiries	35
<u>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</u>	
Meat Inspections:	
Visits to Public Slaughterhouse for meat inspection	444
Number of carcasses examined	6,947
Milk Supplies:	
Investigations under Milk and Dairies Regulation, 1949	7
Investigations under Special Designations Regulations, 1949 - 1954	12
Sampling: Milk	377
Milk Containers	38
Ice-Cream:	
Investigations under Ice-Cream (Heat-Treatment, etc.) Regulations - Retailing	14
Sampling	30
Other Foods:	
Visits to shops, etc., for food inspection	56
Food Premises Inspections:	
Pasteurising plant and dairies	8
Premises under Food Hygiene Regulations	182
Investigations under Food Handling Byelaws	67
Other investigations under Food Hygiene Regulations	145
<u>Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949</u>	
Inspection of premises for infestation, proofing, etc. (mainly by Senior Rodent Operative)	1,655
Inspections under Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks Regulations	29
Sewer manholes tested for infestation	85
<u>Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951</u>	
Sampling and inspection of records	7
<u>Pet Animals, 1951</u>	
Inspection of premises and investigations following applications for licences	6
<u>West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951</u>	
Hairdressers' premises	12
Hawkers' vehicles and premises	25

B. Number of Notices Served and the Result of Service

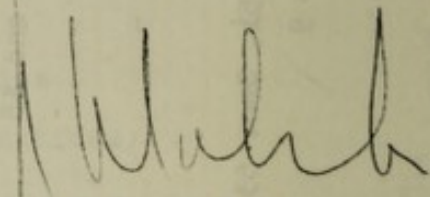
Act and Section under which or, in the case of informal notices, preliminary to which, notice was served	No. of Informal Notices					No. of Statutory Notices							
	(a) Outstanding from 1957	(b) Served in 1958	(c) Total of (a) and (b)	(d) Complied with	(e) Statutory notice subsequently served in 1958	(f) Outstanding at end of 1958	(g) Outstanding from 1957	(h) Served in 1958	(i) Total of (g) and (h)	(j) Complied with	(k) Work done by L.A.	(l) Outstanding at end of 1958	
Public Health Act, 1936:	(a) Dwellingshouses - Section 35, 44 and 45	" 50	6	58	64	59	1	4	3	3	6	4	2
		" 75	4	1	1	1	7	2	3	10	7	7	3
(b) Other premises -	Section 39 Section 95	" 93	4	53	57	41	"	9	4	10	7		
		" 2	1	2	2	2	7	2	10	7			
W.R.C.C. (G.P.) Act, 1951, Sec. 53 Housing Act, 1957, Sec. 9	Factories Act, 1937: Part One	" 1	1	51	52	39	12	1	8	50	20	15	
		" 7	7	7	7	6	1	1	27	35	50		
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949: Section 4		" 88	88	88	83			5					
		" 1	1	1	1								



Staffing

In May this year Mr. Stone, Pupil Inspector, qualified as a public health inspector, and was appointed Temporary Public Health Inspector. Otherwise the establishment is unchanged: two inspectors in addition to the writer. A new pupil was not appointed. I would pay tribute to the conscientious work of my Deputy, Mr. Wilson, and each member of the staff throughout the year.

I am, Mrs, Pritchard and Gentlemen,  
Yours faithfully,



M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,

Pontefract.

July, 1959.





