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1964

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BOROUGH  
OF  
PONTEFRACT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

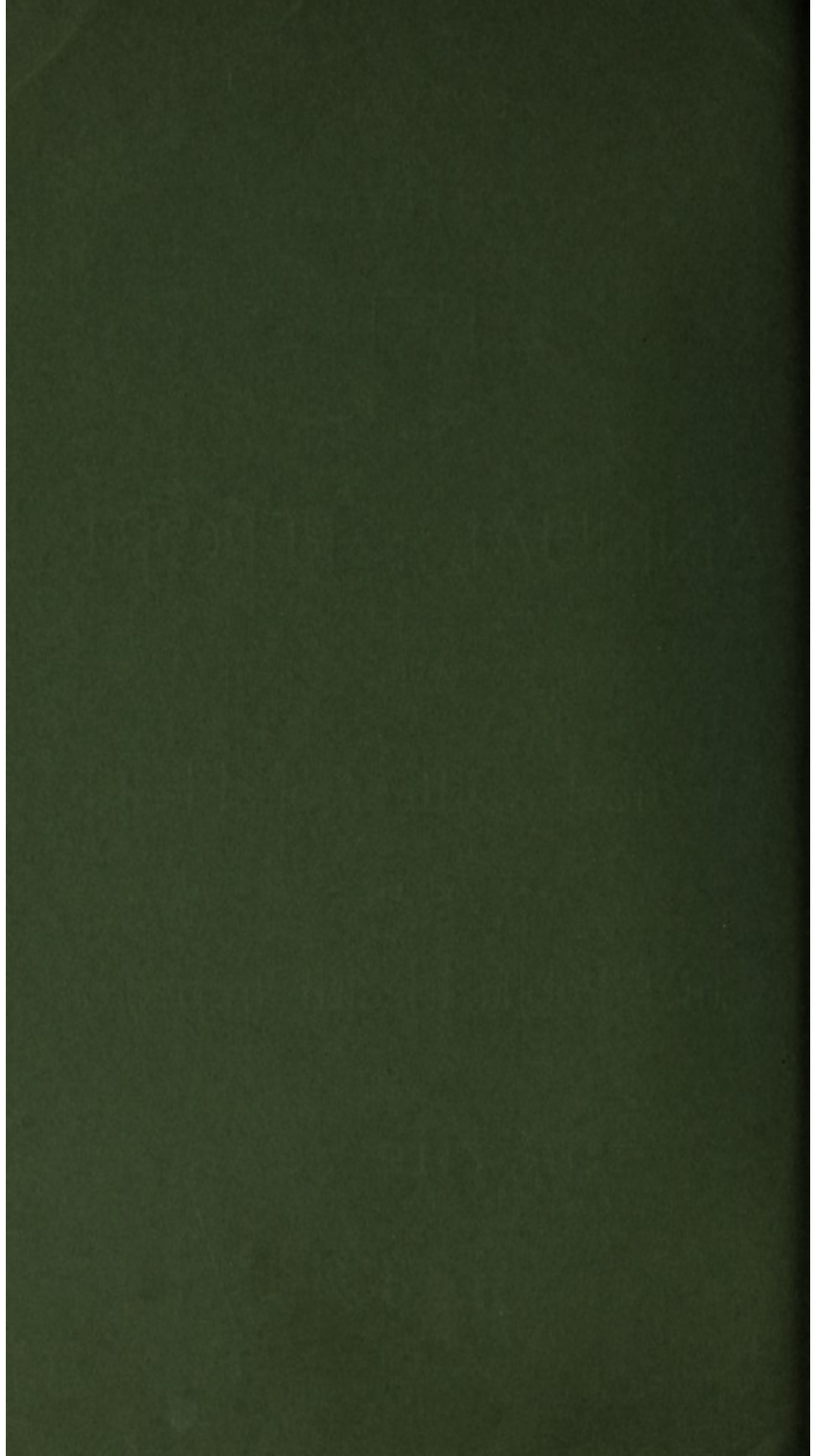
Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

**1964**



BOROUGH  
OF  
PONTEFRACT

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR

1964.

BY

J.F. FRASER.

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

1911  
1912

1913  
1914  
1915

1916  
1917  
1918

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 1964.

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.

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

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

*John F. Fraser.*  
Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer's Section,  
Health Department,  
Bristol House,  
Whitehall,  
London.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councilors  
of the Borough of Westbury.

Dear Sirs,

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 1941.

The annual report of the Chief Health Officer Inspector dealing with the County Council's health services, housing and the inspection and supervision of food supplies, is supplementary to this report.

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

I am,

Yours obedient servant,

*John B. Brown*

Medical Officer of Health.

PONTEFRAC T BORO UGH.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1964.

Chairman: Ald. E. Wood.

Deputy Chairman: Cr. G.E. Poppleton.

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

Cr. R. Cunningham.

Cr. J. Dixon.

Cr. F.A.A. Gardiner.

Cr. T. Illingworth.

Cr. E.S.W. Marr.

Cr. Mrs. V. Fritchard.

Cr. D. Robinson.

Cr. Mrs. M. Staines.

Cr. R.G. Stringer.

Cr. P. Westerman.





PART ONE.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the Borough : 4,865 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of civilian population : 28,320.

Number of inhabited Houses (end of 1964) according to the rate books : 8,536

Rateable Value : 1964 - £ 783,377

Sum represented by penny rate : 1964 - £ 3,191

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

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1963.

BIRTHS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate.	297	(295)	290	(278)	587	(573)
Illegitimate.	20	(17)	21	(14)	41	(31)
	<u>317</u>	<u>(312)</u>	<u>311</u>	<u>(292)</u>	<u>628</u>	<u>(604)</u>

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population : 22.2 (21.6)

Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population : 20.2 (19.7)

Percentage of illegitimate births: 6.53 (5.13)

<u>STILLBIRTHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate.	10	(4)	4	(3)	14	(7)
Illegitimate.	-	(2)	-	(-)	-	(2)
	<u>10</u>	<u>(6)</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>(9)</u>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births :- 21.8 (14.7)

Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population :- 0.47 (0.32)

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
All age groups.	166	(171)	137	(128)	303	(299)

<u>Infants under one year.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate.	7	(4)	8	(4)	15	(8)
Illegitimate.	1	(2)	1	(1)	2	(3)
	<u>8</u>	<u>(6)</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>(11)</u>

MATERNAL DEATHS. Nil. (Nil).

Death Rates.

Crude Death rate per 1,000 population :-	10.7	(10.7)
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 population :-	12.7	(12.7)
All Infants per 1,000 live births:-	27.1	(18.2)
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:-	15.6	(14.4)
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births:-	48.8	(96.8)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and stillbirths:-	Nil	(Nil)

The Principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

Cause of Death :-	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis, Respiratory.	1	1	2
Measles.	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	8	1	9
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	5	2	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	3	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.	-	2	2
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms.	13	5	18
Diabetes.	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	32	34	66
Coronary Disease, Angina.	26	17	43
Hypertension with Heart Disease.	3	2	5
Other Heart Disease.	7	13	20
Other Circulatory Disease.	7	9	16
Pneumonia.	12	16	28
Bronchitis.	14	8	22
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	4	-	4
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	2	-	2
Gastritis Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	3	1	4
Congenital Malformations.	3	1	4
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases.	13	14	27
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	5	4	9
All other Accidents.	5	1	6
Homicide and Operations of War.	1	-	1
Totals:-	166	137	303

The local death rate during the past 12 years is shown in the following table :

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>
1953	15.2
1954	10.5
1955	9.2
1956	9.2
1957	9.7
1958	20.4
1959	11.2
1960	12.0
1961	10.6
1962	9.8
1963	10.7
1964	10.7

Infant Mortality.

The following Table gives causes of Infant Deaths during the year, 1964, classified into age groups :-

TABLE II.

Cause of Death :	Age Groups.							All ages Under one yr.		
	Under 1. wk.	1-2 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mth.	M.	F.	Total
Prematurity.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
Haemorrhagic Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	2
Pneumonia.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Broncho Pneumonia.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Broncho Pneumonia, Measles.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Staphylococcal Pneumonia.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Hydrocephalus Congenital.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pulmonary Atelectasis.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pylephlebitis, omphalitis.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Defective Vitality Prematurity.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Congenital Disease of Heart.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Infarction of Kidneys & Renous Venous Thrombosis.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Haemorrhage into the Lungs.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Totals :-	6	3	-	4	2	1	1	8	9	17

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

TABLE III.

	Pontefract Borough.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.	West Riding Admin. County.	England and Wales (prov- isional figures).
<u>BIRTH RATE</u> (Per 1,000 estimated population). Crude Rate : Adjusted Rate :	22.2 20.2	18.3 18.6	18.5 18.7	18.4 -
<u>DEATH RATE</u> (Per 1,000 estimated population) Crude Rate : Adjusted Rate :	10.7 12.7	12.2 13.0	11.5 12.8	11.3 -
Infective & Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl. Syphl. and other V.D.	0.04	0.04	0.04	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05
Tuberculosis Other.	-	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis - All forms.	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05
Cancer.	1.38	2.09	2.02	2.11
Vascular Lesions of the nervous system.	2.33	1.88	1.74	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases.	2.97	4.64	4.37	*
Respiratory Diseases.	1.91	1.47	1.37	*
Maternal Mortality. (Per 1,000 live and still births).	-	0.49	0.40	0.25
Perinatal Mortality.	31.2	30.7	30.0	*
Neonatal Mortality.	14.3	15.4	15.4	13.8
Infant Mortality.	27.1.	22.1	22.2	20.0
Stillbirths (per 1,000 live and stillbirths).	21.8	18.3	17.6	16.3

\* Figures not available.

P A R T T W O

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIVE AND OTHER DISEASES.

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

TABLE IV.

Disease.	Jan/ Mar.	Apr/ Jun.	Jul/ Sept	Oct/ Dec.	Total	Deaths	Number of Cases admitted to Hospital
Measles.	28	2	80	287	397	1	2
Scarlet Fever.	1	-	1	3	5	-	1
Chickenpox.	9	121	83	5	218	-	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Acute Encephalitis.	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Whooping Cough.	12	10	5	10	37	-	-
Acute Pneumonia.	7	1	-	1	9	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	1	1	1	3	-	1
Totals:-	58	137	170	308	672	-	6

Diphtheria.

No case of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

Immunisation.

The Annual Immunisation programme against Diphtheria and Tetanus was continued during the year.

441 children under the age of 5 years received a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria and 427 against Tetanus. 8 children under 5 received a reinforcing injection against Diphtheria and Tetanus.

555 school children received a reinforcing injection against Diphtheria and 285 a reinforcing dose against Tetanus.

A further 190 school children had a primary course against Tetanus and 41 against Diphtheria.

The percentage of school children who have been immunised against Diphtheria is 89.11% and against Tetanus 34.69%.

An intensive vaccination against poliomyelitis campaign was held in the schools this year. 555 children received a primary course of protection and 891 a reinforcing dose. The percentage of children in Pontefract protected against this disease is 83.47%

TUBERCULOSIS.

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

TABLE V.

Number of Cases on Register.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total on Register.
	M	F	M	F	
At the commencement of 1964.	106	73	17	17	213
Notified for the first time during 1964.	3	1	2	-	6
Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers.	1	5	1	-	7
Removed from Register.	11	5	3	-	19
Cases remaining on Register at the end of 1964.	99	74	17	17	207

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

TABLE VI.

Entries relating to :	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total on Register.
	M	F	M	F	
Persons who have died.	2	-	-	-	2
Persons certified by the medical practitioner in attendance to have recovered.	5	3	1	-	9
Revised diagnosis - not Tuberculosis.	-	-	2	-	2
Persons who have ceased to reside permanently in the district.	4	2	-	-	6
Totals:-	11	5	3	-	19

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

TABLE VII.

Ages.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Under 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 55	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 65	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	3	1	2	-	2	-	-	-

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.



2

The following table shows the results of the tests conducted at the various stations during the period from 1910 to 1912, and also the results of the tests conducted at the various stations during the period from 1913 to 1915.

TABLE I

Year	1910		1911		1912		1913		1914		1915	
	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result
1910	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1911	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1912	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1913	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1914	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1915	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
Total		6		6		6		6		6		6

Year	1910		1911		1912		1913		1914		1915	
	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result	Station	Result
1910	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1911	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1912	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1913	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1914	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
1915	Station A	1	Station B	2	Station C	3	Station D	4	Station E	5	Station F	6
Total		6		6		6		6		6		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.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

1964.

BY

J.F. FRASER.

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

(a)

TABLE III

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF THE

WEST VIRGINIA

DIVISION II

Putnam County  
Mingo County  
Lincoln County  
Wayne County  
Mason County

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

1924

BY

J. P. STUBBS

U. S. P. H. S. COMMISSIONER

(1)

Divisional Staff at 31st December, 1964.

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.

J.E. Lee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

School Medical Officer. (Part-Time).

J. Simons, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff.

Ophthalmologist.

K.K. Prasher, M.B., B.S., D.O.

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

R.W.L. Calderwood, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Oto-Rhino Laryngologist.

K.M. Mayall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.R., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss E.M. Atkinson.  
Mrs. P.M. Brice.  
Mrs. B. Clarke.  
Miss L.O.I. Day.  
Miss A. Elsley.  
Mrs. M. Faulkner.  
Miss B.N. Kennington.  
Miss M. Reading.  
Mrs. M.K. Walsh.

Assistant Health Visitors.

Mrs. E.S. Chew.  
Mrs. L. Hudson.  
Mrs. J.K. Smith. (Clinic Nurse).

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E.W. Petch.

Midwives,

Mrs. A. Atack.  
 Mrs. K. Berry.  
 Mrs. I. Bushell.  
 Miss E.S. Essex.  
 Mrs. E. Glover. (Relief).  
 Mrs. D. Kelly,  
 Mrs. B. Murphy.  
 Miss C. Norton.  
 Mrs. P. Philip.  
 Mrs. A.M. Randall.  
 Miss C.A. Roberts.

Home Nurses.

Miss L. Casey.  
 Mrs. S.G. Cousins.  
 Mrs. S. Eaton.  
 Mrs. M.L. Etherington.  
 Mrs. F. Green.  
 Mrs. V. McVeigh.  
 Mrs. A. Pearce.  
 Mrs. J.M. Pycok.

Mental Welfare Officers.

Miss M. Horsley.  
 Mr. G.F.G. Townend.

Speech Therapists.

Mrs. N. Hepworth.

Clerical Staff.

Mr. W. Carver. (Senior Clerk).  
 Mr. R. Bailey. (Deputy Senior Clerk).  
 Miss E. Brabbs.  
 Miss K. Duker.  
 Miss J.M. Gibbons.  
 Miss P.G. Kelly.  
 Miss C.A. Scurrah.  
 Mrs. M. Slack (Part-Time).  
 Mrs. C. Walker.  
 Miss S. E. Wigham.

## 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 Service Act.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1964 was 1346, an increase of 56 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 20.6 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 20.3 for the previous year, was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 18.5 and the England and Wales birth rate of 18.4

### Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 646, an increase of 25 compared with 1963.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The West Riding Administrative area is 11.5 and England and Wales 11.3

### Infant Mortality.

In 1964 the deaths of Infants under one year of age numbered 34. The Infant Mortality was 25.3 as against 17.1 in the previous year.

### Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in the Divisional area during the year.

## MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

### Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1345 notified live births, 516 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 82 of these cases.

### Notifications.

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

Death of Mother.	-
Death of Child.	-
Still Births.	4
Liability to be source of infection.	3

### Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by Midwives during 1964 numbered 12, all of these being domiciliary.

### Gas and Air Analgesia

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

The County Council decided in 1959 to provide each midwife with a Trilene Analgesia Machine in addition to the Gas and Air Machine.

Pethidine only was given in 66 cases, Trilene was administered in 88 cases and with Pethidine in 283 cases.

### Ante-Natal Clinics.

There are two ante-natal clinics in the Division which are held at Pontefract and Knottingley. During the year 266 patients attended. The total number of attendances was 1,146. 33 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

### Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at Pontefract and Featherstone Clinics.

These have continued to be fairly well attended and the number of attendances at these Clinics during the year was 771.

### Institutional Midwifery.

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

Some difficulty was experienced in finding accommodation for all patients wishing to have their babies in maternity homes. 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.

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley. A mobile caravan type clinic visits the Parishes of Whitley Bridge, Womersley, Eggborough, Brotherton, Kellington, Heck, Hensall, Monk Fryston and Fairburn in the Osgoldcross Rural District, at fortnightly intervals.

During 1964, 2,531 children attended and they made 22,645 attendances.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost prices to all women attending at the Clinics :-

Ostermilk No. 2.	Farex.
Trufood, humanised.	Robinson's Graits.
Cow and Gate, full cream.	Robinson's Triple Pack.
Minadex.	Robrex.
Trufood Cereal.	Robsoup.
Adexolin.	Rose Hip Syrup.
Scotts Twin Pack.	

The annual turnover of baby food, etc. is approximately £6,000.

The following were distributed free of charge :-

Ascorbic Acid.	Ferrous Fumarate Tablets.
Fersamel Syrup.	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 109 babies weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division, and 18 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 49 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 3,470 periodic inspections were carried out.

##### General Condition of Children

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 99.54% were classified as satisfactory and only .46% as unsatisfactory.

##### Uncleanliness.

During the year health visitors and school nurses made 19,805 examinations of children in schools. Of these 393 individual children were found to be infested.

#### SPECIAL CLINICS.

##### Ophthalmic Clinics.

Dr. K. K. Prasher holds weekly clinics at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 1,208 children were examined. Of these 418 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 22 sessions and saw 103 children. In all, the children made 229 attendances.



### Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R. W. L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 9 sessions were held. 115 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 132.

### Child Guidance Treatment.

A Child Guidance Clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding Divisional areas attended here in addition to our own. Dr. K. Maxwell held consultant sessions.

Mr. D. G. Pickles, Clinic Psychologist, and Mrs. P.Y. Harris, Psychiatric Social Worker, continued to do much good work at the Clinic.

### Speech Therapy.

Mrs. N. Hepworth, Speech Therapist, held clinics on two half-days each week at Pontefract Central Clinic. In addition she has one session each week at the Castle Day E.S.N. School and at the Knottingley Clinic. During the year 180 sessions were held and 93 children were treated.

### 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 35 candidates were examined and where necessary, x-ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 10 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.

<u>No. of consents Issued.</u>	<u>No. of consents received.</u>	<u>Mantoux Test.</u>	<u>Mantoux Negative.</u>	<u>Mantoux Positive.</u>
1,163	599	500	450	50
<u>Not Ascertained.</u>		<u>B.C.G. Vaccination.</u>		
-		450		

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The programme of Vaccination was continued during the year.

At the end of 1964 the position was as follows :-

Children and Young Persons under 18 years of age.

Number vaccinated 17,243

Young persons born between 1933 and 1942.

Number vaccinated. 3,113

Adults.

Number vaccinated. 1,054

21,410

HEALTH VISITING.

During the year, the following number of visits were made by the Health Visitors in the Division.

No. of children under 5 years of age visited during the year ....	4,589
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age .....	5,687
Total visits made to children aged 1 and under 2 years .....	3,897
Total visits made to children aged 2 but under 5 years .....	6,517
Total visits made to tuberculous households .....	2,195
Persons aged 65 or over (excluding Domestic Help only visits) ...	1,416
No. of visits to persons aged 65 or over .....	2,343

### HOME NURSING.

During the year 22,902 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 23,435 in the previous year.

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

Classification.	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses during the year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during year.
(1) Medical.	567	18,771
(2) Surgical.	207	3,525
(3) Infectious Diseases.	3	41
(4) Tuberculosis.	3	170
(5) Maternal Complications.	14	142
(6) Other.	20	243
TOTALS :-	814	22,902
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	466	15,217
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	42	219
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	256	17,423

### CHIROPODY SERVICE.

A free Chiropractic service is provided for the following categories of patient:-

- (a) Expectant Mothers.
- (b) Persons of Pensionable age. (i.e. Males over 65  
Females over 60.)
- (c) Handicapped Persons.

Clinics are held weekly at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics. Patients who are unable, on health grounds, to attend the clinics, are treated in their own homes.

In 1964, 398 patients were treated at the Clinics, and made 1,833 attendances, and 234 patients were treated at home and 923 treatments given.

### 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.      | (d) Expectant Mother.                       |
| (b) Lying-in. | (e) Mental Defective.                       |
| (c) Aged.     | (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 39.

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i) Basic.	39
(ii) From Reserve	1
(iii) Total.	40

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1964.

(i) Whole-time.	-
(ii) Part-time.	61
(iii) Total.	61

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

	<u>No. of Cases.</u>	<u>Hours Employed.</u>
<u>Under 65.</u>		
(i) Maternity (including expectant Mothers).	32	1,757
(ii) Chronic Sick and Tuberculous.	69	5,273
(iii) Others.	3	696
<u>Over 65.</u>	464	78,884
	<u>578</u>	<u>86,610</u>

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time - 39.65

MENTAL HEALTH.

In November, 1960, the new Mental Health Act became operative and two Mental Welfare Officers were given the task of coping with the increased work which the Act places upon local Health Authorities.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF.

The County Council decided in January, 1962, to revise their scheme whereby all entrants to the superannuation scheme be medically examined and substituted the following:-

- (1) All prospective entrants to the scheme be required to complete a questionnaire dealing with personal and family medical history.
- (2) There to be a full medical examination of :-
  - (i) All prospective entrants over the age of 45 years.
  - (ii) All entrants whose completed questionnaire reveals the need for further medical investigation.
  - (iii) Applicants whose prospective employment is such that public safety is involved. e.g. Fire and Ambulance service drivers.

In 1964, 30 examinations were made.

Vaccination and Immunisation in Schools.

In 1962 the school immunisation programme was extended to include protection against Tetanus. There has been growing emphasis for this in recent years and it can now be administered in a combined form with Diphtheria.

By the end of 1964, out of a school population of 10,209 children, 9,112 had received protection against Diphtheria representing 89.25% of the population, whilst in the three years that Tetanus protection has been available 4,769 (46.61%) children have been immunised against Tetanus.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was also introduced into the school programme in 1964 in order to improve the immunity rate. 83.48% of the school population are now protected against this disease.

The ready co-operation of the headteachers is very much appreciated in these schemes, the success of which is shown in the high immunity rates achieved amongst school children.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

During 1964 361 primary vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out.

The Child Neglected in its Own Home.

Quarterly meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee for the care of the child neglected in its own home were held.

These meetings attended by representatives of the Health, Welfare, Education and Children Departments of the County Council, the Health and Housing Departments of the County District Councils, together with the Probation Officer, N.S.F.C.C. Inspector and National Assistance Board Officer, were helpful in providing an interchange of information and a co-ordinated approach to the individual case.

APPENDIX  
FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars required by Section 153(1)

1. Inspections made:

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	3	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	91	11	3	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L. A. (excluding outworkers premises)	2	2	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>

2. Cases in which Defects were found:

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences (section 7)					
Insufficient	1	1	0	0	0
Unsuitable or defective	16	16	0	2	0
All other defects	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

3. Outworkers

(1) Nature of Work	(2) No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	(3) No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	(4) No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	(5) No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	(6) Notices served	(7) Prosecutions
Making wearing apparel	1	0	0	0	0	0
Finishing tapestries	1	0	0	0	0	0
All other work	0	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	0	0	0	0	0

J. F. Fraser,  
Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1965.

BOROUGH OF PONTEFRACT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

in the

Year Ended the Thirty-First December, 1964

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

S.C.L. WILSON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Municipal Offices,

Pontefract



Table of Contents

	Page
Introduction	3
Section	
1     Housing Conditions	5
2     Air Pollution	15
3     Food Hygiene	19
4     Occupational Hygiene	31
5     Hygiene in Places of Public Resort	35
6     Public Health Services	37
7     Prevention and Abatement of Nuisance	38
8     Pest Control	41
9     Administration and Records	43

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, 1964

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Mrs. Pritchard and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report of the work carried out by the Department during the year 1964.

For introductory purposes general comments are made on four of the Department's principal activities, including operation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 and matters relating to Housing, Atmospheric Pollution and Food Hygiene.

The year under review was at once challenging and not without its difficulties. Challenging because of the advent of new legislation increasing the work of the Department and difficult because of staff shortages that ensued for part of the year. The most significant activity undertaken by your Inspectors was in connection with the commencement of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. Work started during the year will continue throughout 1965 in order to complete as quickly as possible a basic inspection of some 318 properties to which the Act applies. There can be little doubt that implementation of this Act will occupy much Departmental time during the next few years. A complete report on the workings of the Act during 1964 was made under separate cover in February of this year and any comment made in this report is of a general nature.

Turning to housing activities the year closed upon a decade in which some 373 dwellings had been dealt with by way of slum clearance. Before the year ended work had begun on a re-appraisal of the position in relation to life expectation of older dwellings within the Borough and preparation of proposals for a further 10 year programme.

With the more recent completion of this survey and confirmation to a ten year programme intending to deal with 592 sub-standard dwellings it is estimated that there will be left something in the order of 5% of dwellinghouses in the Borough capable of improvement. In other words modern amenities by way of provision of a bath, hot and cold water, internal watercloset, wash basin and proper foodstore, are available with the aid of 'Improvement Grants' to approximately 400 dwellings within the Borough. The Housing Act 1964 provides the stimulus for this action including powers to declare 'Improvement Areas' and secure compulsory improvement of tenanted dwellings. The Department's Inspectors are at present actively engaged in informing owners and tenants of the grant provisions and are endeavouring by informal measures to ensure that houses with a life of 15 years or more are provided with these amenities.

Environmental health matters do not end with consideration of housing problems or the abatement of public health nuisances; perhaps the most forward looking Act and at the same time one of the most controversial has been the Clean Air Act of 1956. The first Queen Elizabeth placed on record her considerable objections to smoke in London and attempted to legislate for its prohibition. Nearly 300 years later, the age of Queen Elizabeth II is still confronted with the same basic problems. The success of this Act when looked at from a national standpoint is miserably poor, and the initial optimism of securing cleaner air by the 1970's is fading. The tempo has undoubtedly slowed with the recent changes that have taken place in the technology of smokeless fuel production. Despite

this diminution of activity many authorities are once again progressing with their smoke control programme - albeit at a modified pace. The important fact is that progress can and does continue.

Last year saw a visible increase in the attention given to food premises. Inspection of individual premises rose by 75% over the previous year. Food production and food hygiene were brought into focus with the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak in May 1964 - its inevitable impact was to cause the food trade generally to tighten up on all aspects of hygiene and food control. In the aftermath Local Authorities were promised, amongst other things, legislation to cover the sale and preparation for sale of food in the open air including mobile shops. A year has elapsed and no control measures have been provided. In the Borough control is exercised in respect of hawkers of food and their vehicles by virtue of a system of registration under the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951. Although increasing use of purpose made vehicles is a welcome feature, open air stalls, barrows and vehicles all too often depict the seamier side of the food industry. One finds it difficult to equate on one hand the stringent standards of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations of 1960 and the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act of 1963 in permanent buildings and the threadbare requirements of the former when dealing with food stalls and vehicles. The provision of hot water at a suitably controlled temperature with a wash hand basin, towel, soap and nailbrush is essential to a satisfactory standard of personal hygiene and legislation ought to ensure that these facilities are provided for all types of food trades in all circumstances.

Each year the nation bears an unnecessarily heavy crop of food poisoning cases, many of which are avoidable if proper care is exercised in the handling, preparation and storage of food, be it in food premises or in the home. Although 'Aberdeens' are fortunately rare they serve to highlight what is at risk every time food is handled carelessly.

One notes with dismay the increased volume of food surrendered as unfit from both wholesale and retail sources. It is disturbing in the general imbalance of world food supplies to see this increase. An analysis of articles of food rejected during 1964 clearly showed a preponderance of imported tin foods. It seems axiomatic that the overall economic loss on these foodstuffs must induce those responsible at the production source to ensure fullest use of the many scientific advances made in food technology in recent years. Equally it is incumbent upon local stockists to store strictly in accordance with manufacturer's instructions that usually accompany those foods liable to rapid deterioration.

Full advantage has again been taken of the laboratory facilities available to the Department, and during the year under review 497 specimens and samples were submitted to bacteriological or chemical laboratories, representing an increase of activity in this section of some 60% over the year previous. These included water samples for chemical composition and bacterial condition, and swimming baths waters for bacterial condition, milks for the presence of pathogens, heat-treated milks - pasteurised and sterilised - for process efficiency, and milks and milk containers for cleanliness; specimens for confirmation of meat inspection opinions and other foods for presence or otherwise of food poisoning organisms, etc., and samples of materials taken under the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act for cleanliness. One cannot speak too highly of the assistance received from the Medical Research Council Laboratory at Wakefield.

Section One

**HOUSING CONDITIONS**

- House Provision and Overcrowding - Fitness of dwellings
- Improvement Grants - Certificates of Disrepair -
- Houses in Multi-occupation - Common Lodging Houses

House Provision and Overcrowding

Since post-war house building began, 3,895 dwellings have been erected in the Borough - 214 of these during the year under review - as detailed in Table 1.

Table 1. New Housing 1946 - 1964

Year	No. of dwellings erected*					Total
	By the Corporation			By Housing Association	By Private Enterprise	
	Permanent	Temporary	Total			
1946	6	25	31		23	54
1947	159		159		39	198
1948	161		161		26	187
1949	134		134		11	145
1950	104		104		12	116
1951	86		86		9	95
1952	105		105		11	116
1953	108		108	178	19	305
1954	73		73	536	41	650
1955	35		35		47	82
1956	26		26		65	91
1957	88		88		76	164
1958	6		6		140	146
1959	68		68		164	232
1960	107		107		192	299
1961	91		91		185	276
1962	108		108		134	242
1963	63		63		182	245
1964	34		34		180	214
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,562</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1,587</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>1,556</b>	<b>3,857</b>

\*Excluding 38 temporary dwellings, subsequently demolished

In Table 2 the numbers of Corporation houses built 1947-1963 are given in three-year periods for comparison with the 1964 figure of 34

Table 2. Corporation Building, 1946 - 1964

Period	No. of dwellings built by Corporation	Yearly Average
1946 - 1948	351	117
1949 - 1951	324	108
1952 - 1954	286	95
1955 - 1957	149	49
1958 - 1960	181	60
1961 - 1963	262	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>86</b>

Only a detailed survey would indicate accurately the housing needs of the town. The last one was made shortly after the Housing Act of 1935 introduced specific legislation to deal with overcrowding. A second one could provide useful information on present day conditions. In the absence of precise information one can turn to statistics relating to applicants for Corporation tenancies.

At the end of 1964 the number of such applicants, living in the Borough, was 760, many of whom, when due for investigation by the Housing Department, will have found other accommodation. Of these 760 applicants, 193 are persons living in lodgings at the time of application, and 115 are elderly persons seeking accommodation more suited to their needs. Only 22 of the latter were living in lodgings, and the provision of a sufficient number of new units specific to the needs of the elderly would release much under-occupied accommodation and contribute substantially to the general housing need. 133 bungalows already provided for elderly persons, supplemented by 101 bed-sitting flats - mostly let to elderly people - are clearly inadequate to meet the demand, and further units are under construction. Table 3 indicates the progress now being made in the provision of dwellings for the elderly.

Table 3. Housing of Elderly Persons

In the year -	No. of 'elderly person' units in the Borough	As % of all Corporation housing
1940	18	1.3
1950	32	1.7
1960	85	3.2
1963	217	7.5
1964	234	8.5

The Council have not confined their considerations merely to the quantitative aspect of this problem. Their schemes at Churchbalk, Mill Garth and more recently at Moverley Flatts indicate a concern for the comfort and welfare of the elderly which is commendable and serves to enhance the Corporation's desire to ensure proper care of those in retirement. There is an ever growing demand for the smaller housing unit designed to meet the needs of the over 65's and a small carefully planned flat or bungalow can be of incalculable benefit to the person who has reached that part of life in which there occurs a natural diminution of physical energy.

Alongside extensive social changes that have occurred since the turn of the century major advances in both preventive and therapeutic medicine have prolonged greatly the expectation of life. In consequence the age pattern has changed with a proportionate increase in the numbers of people of retirement age. Those in retirement now represent about one tenth of the total population as compared with those engaged in productive work. In the next 20 years this number may well rise and must influence the type of housing provided in future years.

It is of paramount importance that these added years should be made as full, rich and happy as possible, preferably marked by an expansion rather than a contraction of interests. At the opposite end of the scale we observe future generations of 'bread winners' receiving in the order of ten years preparation before being launched into the world: surely it is incumbent upon society to ensure also a reasonable period of preparation to meet the problems of retirement which could include for local authority help and guidance in several fields of interest, but particularly in matters connected with the re-housing of individuals in appropriate cases.

## Overcrowding

In this Report 'statutory overcrowding' refers to the gross state of over-occupation 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 cases found and abated during the past six years are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Incidence and Abatement of Statutory Overcrowding

No. of cases	Year					
	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
On register at beginning of year	2	3	2	1	0	1
Added to register during the year	2	0	0	1	1	1
Abated during the year	1	1	1	2	0	2
On register at end of year	3	2	1	0	1	0

These figures may appear to be impressively low and, without explanation could be misleading. The statutory standard was laid down over a quarter of a century ago and, in my opinion, fails completely to measure up to modern ideas on the subject. Because of this low standard many families of only four or five persons, having insufficient bedroom accommodation and being clearly in need of rehousing, do not qualify for the statutory priority accorded to 'over-crowded' applicants for local authority tenancies. It may well be that a higher standard, nationally applied, would create problems in some of our cities, but smaller communities should not have to 'mark time' until the whole country is ready for a new standard.

## Fitness of dwellings

11 unfit houses were demolished and 2 closed and 64 were repaired or improved during the year as the result of action taken by the Department. Particulars of housing activities are summarised below:

### 1. Inspection of houses -

- (1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 426
- (2) Number of inspections made in this connection (initial inspections, re-visits, works in progress, etc.) 1,058
- (3) Number of houses (included in (1)) above inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 342
- (4) Houses needing further action:
  - (a) Number considered to be unfit for human habitation 235
  - (b) Number (excluding those in (a)) above considered to be not in all respects reasonably fit 74

2. Remedy of defective conditions -		
(1) Houses made fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of informal action.		64
(2) Houses rendered fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of formal action:		
(a) Housing Act		-
(b) Public Health Act		2
3. Clearance, etc. of houses -		
(1) Action taken in respect of Clearance Areas:		
(a) Number of new areas declared		5
(b) Number of families displaced		-
(c) Number of houses (in clearance areas only) demolished		-
(2) Action taken in respect of Individual Unfit houses:		
(a) Number represented to Council		2
(b) Number in respect of which -		
(i) Demolition Orders were made		-
(ii) Closing Orders were made		2
(c) Number of houses closed on Closing Orders		2
(d) Number of families displaced		2
(e) Number of persons involved		3
(f) Number of individual unfit houses demolished		9
(3) Action taken in respect of unfit houses purchased by the Corporation:		
(a) Number of houses demolished		2
(b) Number of houses acquired and closed		-

### Slum Clearance Report

During 1964 five clearance areas were represented for clearance purposes as follows:

- Pontefract (Tanshelf No.1) Compulsory Purchase Order involving 22 dwellings.
- Pontefract (Tanshelf No.2) Compulsory Purchase Order involving 16 dwellings.
- Pontefract Westfield Terrace Compulsory Purchase Order involving 9 dwellings.
- Pontefract Hartley Place Compulsory Purchase Order involving 8 dwellings
- Pontefract (Ladybalk No.1) Clearance Order involving 9 dwellings

It should not pass unrecorded that with the demolition of Westfield Terrace the last of the 'back-to-back' terrace housing in the Borough will disappear.

At the end of 1964, 373 houses had been vacated although demolition or other treatment had been completed in only 366 cases. For information purposes Table 5 gives particulars during the last five years.

Table 5. Slum Clearance 5 year Progress Report

	Year of Programme:				
	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
<b>No. of houses in respect of which formal action was initiated -</b>					
(a) In Clearance Areas	50	0	0	0	64
(b) Individual Unfit Houses	42	11	30	11	2
(c) Purchased by Council	19	0	2	6	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>No. of houses vacated -</b>					
(d) By Council rehousing	66	45	56	26	2
(e) Otherwise	8	2	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>No. of houses in respect of which action was completed -</b>					
(f) Closed (and not subsequently demolished)	15	19	2	16	2
(g) Demolished	80	20	47	27	1
(h) Reconstructed as fit houses	22	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>13</b>



## Slum Clearance

Before the year closed work commenced on inspection of older dwellings in the Borough in preparation for a further programme to cover the years 1965-1975 and, although not completed until early this year the Corporation's proposals for dealing with a further 592 dwellings during this period have now received Ministerial approval.

It is with considerable interest and anticipation that one notes that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government have under active consideration the problems associated with unfit dwellings, having set up a Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee in order to 'Establish Objective Criteria which could be used in a Statistical Analysis of how much of the Nation's Housing stock is unfit for Human Habitation'.

The Housing Act of 1957 lays down the standard to be applied in assessing the degree of unfitness and states that regard must be had to the following:

- (a) repair, (b) stability, (c) freedom from damp, (d) natural lighting, (e) ventilation, (f) water supply, (g) drainage and sanitary conveniences and facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water.

In Clearance Areas bad arrangement on site and narrowness of streets can also be taken into account. Even these matters are limited in their application to relative environmental conditions.

This particular standard of assessment is based on recommendations first published in the 'Manual on Unfit Houses and Unhealthy Areas by the Ministry of Health in 1919, and now some 50 years old; it takes no account of the vast changes that have taken place in the social and economic life of the nation. The standard fails to require facilities for existing dwellings and confines itself largely to a minimum standard of structure. Houses without internal waterclosets, artificial lighting, bath and hot water can still be regarded as reasonably suitable for occupation. The real test ought to be the ability to provide sufficient facilities and reasonable amenity for comfortable living and to take also into account the environment in which the house is situated. Assessment of fitness should no longer depend solely on a minimum standard of structure as is the present situation. It must be conceded, however, that the remedy is not without its difficulties, particularly in 'twilight properties'. At the 1961 Census  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million dwellings were recorded as being without a bath and hot and cold water out of a stock of approximately 14 million dwellings.

A solution to this problem would seem to be to have a date, declared in advance, when the lack of a bathroom would be taken into account in determining suitability for habitation. Looking at this problem from a national standpoint the year 1975 might well be not unduly optimistic. To have an immediate date would technically render some 3 million houses unfit, whereas in reality a high proportion of these could more appropriately be dealt with by way of improvement in order to preserve what is more serviceable in the nation's stock of housing.

## Rent Act 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

Table 6 gives particulars of applications dealt with by the Council since the Act became into operation. The fact that only one application has been received in the last three years is not without significance. Tenants seem to find the provisions of this Act relating to rent abatement either too intricate to understand or just not worth the effort. On the other hand landlords have, in recent times, responded with alacrity to carry out works of repair when asked to do so on an informal basis by the Department.

Table 6. Certificates of Disrepair Statistics

	1957 July -Dec.	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962 and 1963	1964	Total
No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	15	14	3	2	1	0	1	36
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
No. of decisions to issue certificates if no undertaking given to remedy	9	17	3	1	1	0	1	32
No. of undertakings given by landlords	2	17	2	0	1	0	1	23
No. of undertakings not accepted by Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of certificates issued	0	6	1	2	0	0	0	9
No. of applications for cancellation of certificates (all granted)	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	5

Houses in Multiple Occupation

The problems arising from multi-occupation occur mainly in the larger towns, and the squalid conditions which resulted in the passing of Part II of the Housing Act of 1961 and the Housing Regulations of 1962 and Part IV of the Housing Act 1964 are not to be found in the Borough. The bulk of the one-time high class residential property which, in old age, lends itself to multiple occupation, has largely disappeared as the result of slum clearance and commercial development.

Improvement Grants - Standard and Discretionary

In suitable cases the Standard Grant can be claimed as a right. It is intended to encourage owners to modernise houses having a useful life of at least fifteen years and to which, without structural additions involving much new building work, there can be added the 'standard amenities' not already provided.

It has been estimated that there is probably in excess of two million homes in this country still suitable for improvement within the next ten years. This applies to the older improvable houses which lack the five 'standard amenities' - hot water supply, a fixed bath, a wash hand basin and inside watercloset and a proper foodstore, and which still have a reasonable life ahead. To improve these dwellings would involve increasing the present rate of improvement from some one hundred and thirty thousand a year to two hundred thousand as soon as possible. Voluntary improvement cannot be relied upon to achieve this and with the introduction of the Housing Act 1964 there is provided compulsory power to secure improvement in rented accommodation. Part II of the Act enables local authorities to compel owners to improve tenanted dwellings in designated improvement areas, and elsewhere at the request of the tenant; but the

introduction of compulsion does not mean the abandonment of voluntary improvement, indeed this is the one means of securing improvement of dwellings in owner occupation. The 1964 Act provides for two standards of improvement which may be applied to rented dwellings (i) within a designated improvement area, (ii) outside improvement areas, and (iii) to tenement dwellings.

The Full Standard

- (a) A fixed bath or shower which is to be provided in a bathroom (if it is not reasonably practicable to install it in a bathroom then it may be put in somewhere other than a bathroom or bedroom if it is still reasonably practicable for a hot water supply to be provided);
- (b) a wash hand basin;
- (c) a hot and cold water supply at (i) a fixed bath or shower (ii) a wash hand basin and (iii) a sink;
- (d) a watercloset, and
- (e) satisfactory facilities for storing food.

The Reduced Standard

This standard will be applicable to those houses where it is not physically possible to carry out full-scale improvements at 'reasonable expense'.

The dwellings will still have to satisfy the general conditions for improvement, and the amenities available by this standard are:

- (a) a hot water supply to a sink;
- (b) a watercloset, and
- (c) satisfactory facilities for storing food.

In Pontefract the 1961 census revealed that some 13% of dwellings were without fixed baths, as compared with a West Riding and National figure of 25%. Even taking into account that slum clearance will over the next ten years, remove nearly 600 dwellings which, with odd exceptions, do not possess baths and often no hot water, there will still remain an estimated 5% of the Borough's housing stock to be improved or otherwise dealt with. It is this group which the Department has turned its attention to.

The Discretionary grant is available for more extensive improvement. It is intended to apply to property which has a life of at least thirty years. A grant is paid solely at the discretion of the local authority and, in addition to the 'standard amenities' may provide for the improvement of lighting, ventilation, heating and cooking facilities, and for works necessary to eliminate certain inherent structural defects.

During 1964 twenty-four applications for grant were made - 20 standard and 5 discretionary. In twenty-three cases improvements were completed during 1964. Since grants first became available some 16 years ago seventy-five houses have been improved with the aid of grants from the Corporation. Further particulars are given in the following Table.

Table 7. Improvement Grants: Applications and Results

Year	No. of Applications						No. of approved applications withdrawn		Grants actually made		
	Discretionary			Standard			Dis.	Stan.	Total amount		Standard
	Made	Approved	Rejected	Made	Approved	Rejected			£	No.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	No.	£	No.	
1954*	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1955	22	19	4	-	-	-	3	-	317	-	-
1956	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1,559	-	-
1957	10	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	245	-	-
1958	11	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	1,009	-	-
1959	20	12	8	12	11	1	-	-	1,960	-	-
1960	5	5	-	24	23	1	1	1	1,254	20	2,098
1961	4	-	4	9	8	1	-	-	243	15	1,849
1962	2	2	-	14	13	1	-	-	155	5	564
1963	2	2	-	24	24	-	-	-	125	12	1,385
1964	4	3	1	20	18	2	-	-	-	23	2,646
Total	86	61	25	103	97	6	4	1	6,957	54	8,542

\*No applications were made prior to 1954.

Common Lodging Houses

The Ministry of Health ask for information about common lodging houses. There are no such premises in the Borough, the last having been demolished over a decade ago.

Section 235 of the Public Health Act 1936, defines a common lodging house as a house provided for the purposes of accommodating by night poor persons, not being members of the same family, who resort thereto and are allowed to occupy one common room for the purposes of sleeping or eating. There is no evidence of need for such premises in the Borough in these days.

- 12 -

Table 1. - Common Lodging Houses, 1936

Year	No. of houses	No. of rooms	No. of beds	Hot water supply to sink	Satisfactory facilities for storing food	Hot water supply to bath	Hot water supply to lavatory	Hot water supply to kitchen	Hot water supply to wash basin	Hot water supply to sink	Hot water supply to bath	Hot water supply to lavatory	Hot water supply to kitchen	Hot water supply to wash basin	Hot water supply to sink
1901	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1902	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
1903	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
1904	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
1905	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1906	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1907	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1908	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1909	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1910	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1911	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1912	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1913	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1914	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1915	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1916	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1917	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1918	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1919	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1920	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1921	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1922	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1923	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1924	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Table 1. - Common Lodging Houses, 1936

AIR POLLUTION

General Conditions - Industrial Pollution -  
Smoke Control Areas - Road Vehicle Pollution

General Conditions

The Minister of Power, the Right Honourable Fred Lee, M.P., in a recent speech indicated that he is engaged in a comprehensive review of fuel policies and will keep very much in mind the extension of clean air programmes. This is indeed heartening and encouraging.

Pontefract is officially included in the West Riding Black Area. This indicates a disturbing level of atmospheric pollution, and calls for concerted action by all classes of fuel users to minimise pollution, irrespective of source. Unnecessary smoke from industry, domestic premises, rail and road vehicles must be prevented as and when the opportunity presents itself. It is illogical to slow down activity in any one of these classes because little was apparently being done in another.

Industrial Pollution

Only a few years ago it was accepted that industry was responsible for more than half the smoke emitted in the country as a whole. The latest figures available - those for 1963 - indicate that industry, including railways, now produce just one fifth of the total smoke emission. It must be considerably less than this in our own Borough, which, with only 17 industrial chimneys, has no major industrial smoke pollution problem. Obviously greater progress has been made in reducing air pollution by industrial smoke than by domestic smoke. Yet smoke discharging from low level domestic chimneys have a greater polluting effect on the air we breathe near ground level than the discharges from the higher industrial chimneys.

It is now possible to report with satisfaction that all principal boiler plants in the Borough are being operated with mechanical stoking equipment. Apart from those periods of smoke emission allowed for by regulation, there should no longer be the dense and prolonged emissions of black smoke that so often frequently occurred in the past in old hand-fired boiler plants, and which often gave rise to complaint from heavy soot and grit deposits.

Mechanical means of stoking does not ensure a smoke free atmosphere in perpetuity; a small proportion of this type of equipment installed in the Borough is over 30 years old and has reached a stage where although it is still reasonably satisfactory in operation is often prone to emit smoke and grit to the atmosphere unnecessarily. Economically this is a waste of fuel apart from any consideration of pollution, and during 1964 efforts were made to secure improvements in certain of these plants including better provision for instrumentation.

The Department's efforts have been rewarded by the installation of new mechanical stoking equipment in three cases and proposals now in an advanced stage of planning for a further two steam raising boilers to be replaced by up-to-date plant and ancillary equipment.

## Smoke Control Areas

There are two smoke control areas in operation in the Borough. The following Table gives particulars of buildings and acreage involved.

Table 8. Smoke Control Area Progress

No. of Order	No. of premises involved				% of houses in Borough	Area	% of acreage in Borough
	Dwellings	Industrial	Commercial etc.	Total			
1	88	19	101	208	1.14	44	0.90
2	660	1	9	670	7.86	567	11.65

### Smoke Control Area Programme

In response to Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 5/59 issued in January 1959 the Council had approved in principle a five-year programme which involved the creation of six smoke control areas, comprising some 2,000 houses, by the end of 1963.

In April, 1962, when reviewing the matter in the light of a further ministerial circular asking for greater activity in the 'black areas', the Council resolved to adhere to their existing policy, but to leave over for the time being the existing target date.

Progress in domestic smoke control matters has not, however, been easy as witnessed by the Council's eventual decision to delay the implementation of a third smoke control area until the manufacture and supply position of smokeless fuels was clarified.

The publication in December 1963 of a White Paper on 'Domestic Fuel Supplies and Clean Air Policy' indicated that rapid technological changes in the gas coke producing industry were likely to cause contraction of supplies which did not auger well for future areas relying on gas coke as the major source of fuel. To deal effectively with this aspect, Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 69/63 made provision for higher grants where it proved to be necessary or more beneficial to burn hard cokes in smoke control areas. The higher grant provision meant that more efficient appliances could be installed, for example, room heaters and under-floor draught fires.

Since the White Paper was issued in 1963 the National Coal Board and private producers have redoubled their energies in the field of premium fuel production to such good effect that the estimates in the White Paper are no longer valid and in March 1965 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 13/65 clearly indicates that supplies of these fuels would be adequate to meet any foreseeable demand. The National Coal Board and private producers alike are without doubt fully alive to the potential market and are producing high quality fuels suitable for burning under all conditions. The revolutionary fluidised fuels produced by the National Coal Board are excellent for use in smoke control areas and one envisages that before many years have elapsed will prove to be the back bone of the Solid Smokeless Fuel producing industry. The cost of achieving domestic clean air will inevitably rise with installation of room heaters and other up-to-date appliances but will still be infinitely less than the economic and social costs of allowing the evil of pollution to continue.

The time for pleading a case for clean air is long past. Legacies of ill-health and soot blackened and eroded buildings can only disappear with a vigorous approach to the whole problem of clean air. At the present

time too many cities and towns bear witness to a period in history when both our indigenous fuel and man power alike was wasted.

It is perhaps opportune to mention that in promoting the concept of district heating at the Horsefair Flats project, the Corporation are encouraging a local rapprochement of the concept of clean air and the use of raw coal as a fuel. One welcomes this sensible and efficient use of fuel and a more universal application of this system would do much to allay the fears of those engaged in the mining industry.

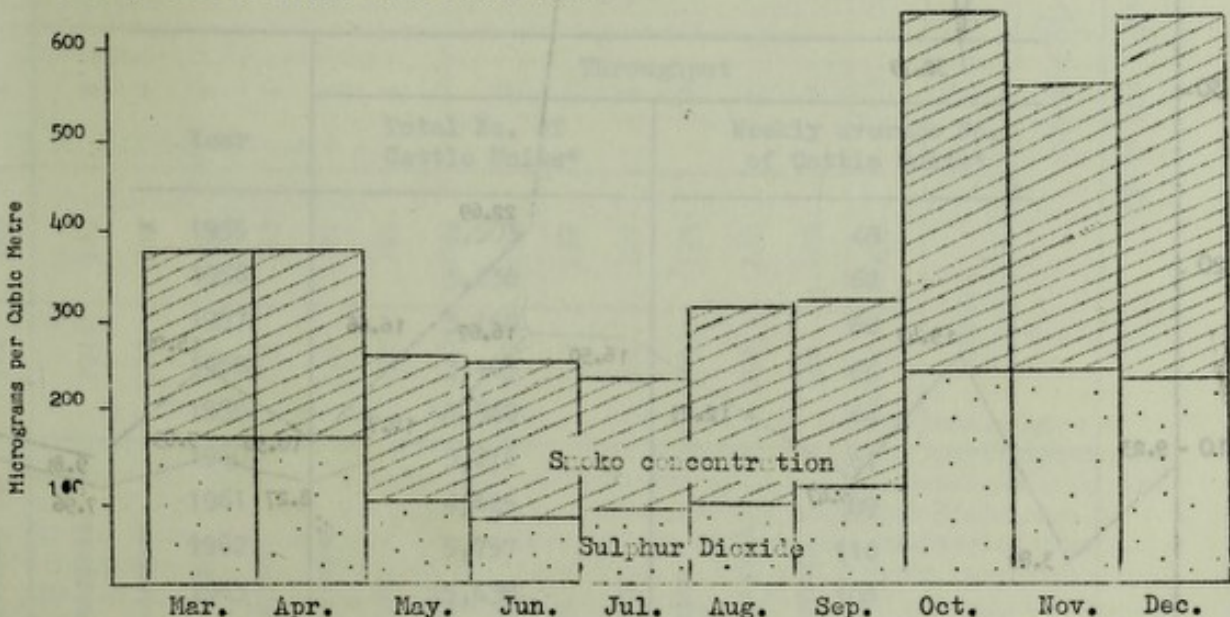
#### Road Vehicle Pollution

Unlike railway smoke, road vehicle pollution is not dealt with under the Clean Air Act, but by Regulations made under the Road Traffic Act. Since April 1957, Regulations have required every motor vehicle to be so constructed that no avoidable smoke is emitted. Regulations made in 1957 require that no person shall use any vehicle from which smoke is emitted which is likely to cause danger to property or injure or cause damage to a road user. Further Regulations were made controlling the use of excess fuel starting devices. These Regulations are administered by the Police. One hears too infrequently of offenders being taken to Court, but it must be conceded that the statutory approach to the problem of road vehicle pollution is that of public safety and not public health.

#### Atmospheric Pollution Records

The recording of atmospheric pollution was re-commenced during the year after a lapse occasioned by the scepticism of scientific authorities regarding the accuracy of old types of instruments formerly in widespread use.

More acceptable is the volumetric type of apparatus for the measurement of suspended impurity which is now in use to sample daily the air in the town centre. In the accompanying histogram, readings taken between mid February and December clearly show a wide variation between winter and summer levels of pollution. The highest readings occurred during morning and evening fog patches and demonstrate how quickly pollution builds up during calm or light wind conditions.

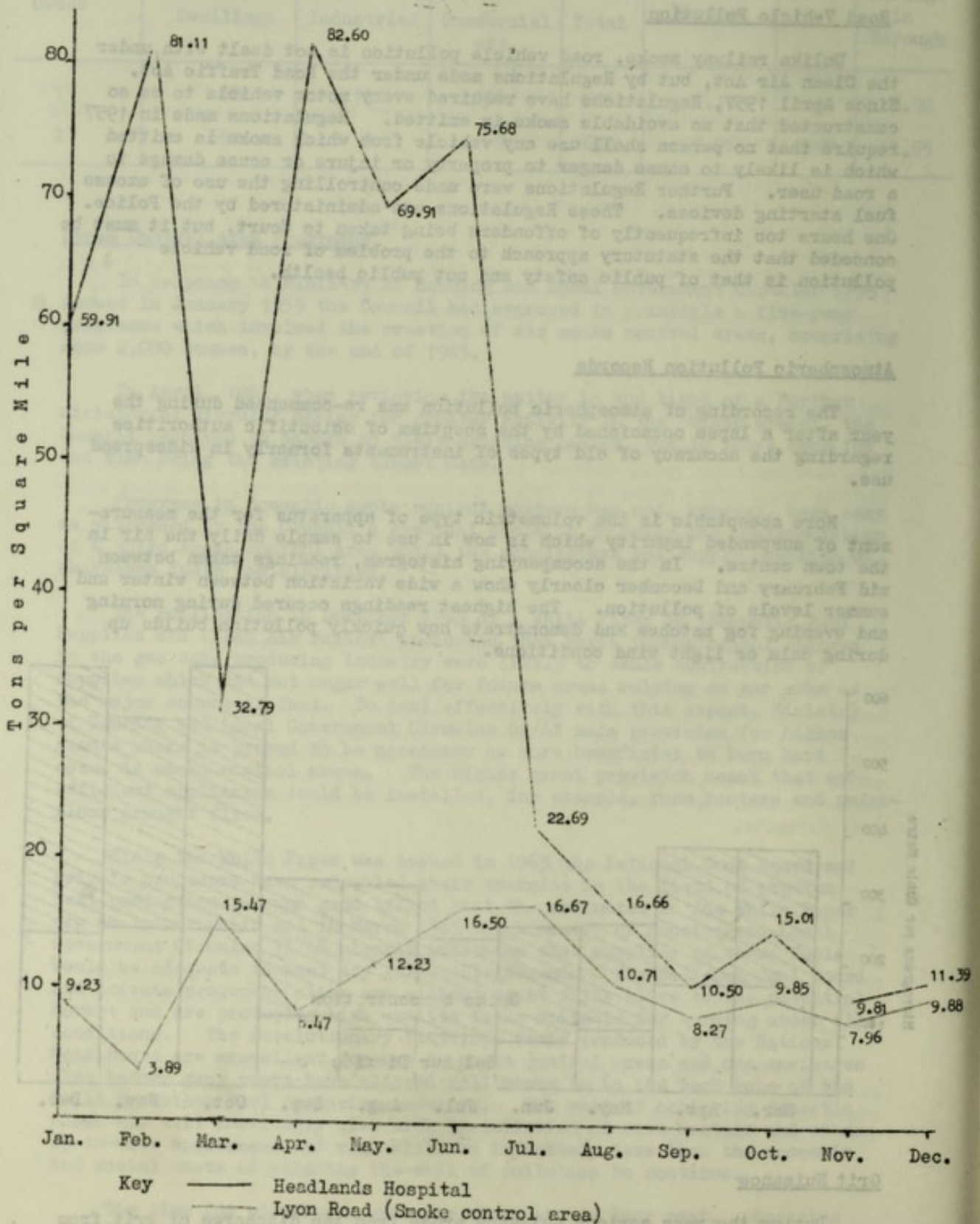


#### Grit Nuisance

During the year serious nuisance arose from the discharge of grit from certain industrial boiler plant within the Borough. Deposit gauges were set up to plot the degree and variation in the pollution and for purposes of



comparison a control gauge was established in the No. 2 Smoke Control Area. The following graph is self-explanatory; the heavy deposit of grit and unburnt fuel continued from the time that complaints were received in January until June when the problem was finally resolved. The marked decline in March was due to interim measures adopted to ameliorate the nuisance, but which in the event proved inadequate as depicted by the sharp rise in deposit during April. After the completion of improvements to boiler plant at the premises in question the pattern established a normal expectancy and after July remained in a comparable position above the weight of deposit in the control gauge.



Section Three

FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Supply - Meat Inspection - Milk and Milk Products -  
General Food Inspection and Sampling - Food Premises and  
Processing - Sale of food in the Open - Disposal of Unfit  
Food

Meat Supply

I remarked in the Report for 1963 that throughput figures were disappointing in view of the services available. I can only re-iterate that they continue to disappoint although the actual average weekly throughput reached, for the first time, a figure of 115 cattle units representing a 6% increase over the previous year. Truth is that the potential for a much higher usage exists. More recently a general shortage of livestock combined with the export of cattle to the continent has contributed to a rise in prices at auction markets. The small family butcher caught up in these circumstances often finds it difficult to compete with buyers engaged in making bulk purchases of stock, and not infrequently finds that of necessity, he must resort to the facilities offered by wholesale meat traders and buy off the hook. Custom lost to us in this way is not always regained.

In an interesting Report on the meat and livestock situation for 1964 the Commonwealth Economic Committee comment that since the last war meat production had steadily increased and went up by 3% in 1963. Last year however saw a check in this rise and in fact substantial drops in beef production were recorded in the United Kingdom, Argentine and Western European countries where cattle stocks had been depleted in previous years. Combined with these factors had been a universal increase in both beef and pork consumption as against a slight drop in mutton and lamb. The people of this country now consume 10 lbs. a head more carcass meat than they did a decade ago, this averaging 124 lbs. for each person. Although the international scene may seem divorced from our local activities this is not necessarily so, and the figures for the throughput at the Municipal Abattoir reflect the contraction in beast and sheep kills and expansion in the pig sector.

Table 9. Throughput - Yearly periods

Year	Throughput	
	Total No. of Cattle Units*	Weekly average No. of Cattle Units*
1955	2,503	48
1956	3,238	62
1957	3,168	60
1958	3,405	65
1959	3,340	64
1960	3,216	61
1961	4,625	89
1962	5,757	110
1963	5,638	108
1964	5,971	115

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

Table 10 gives particulars of throughput during 1964, together with the 1963 figures, for comparative purposes. The 1964 throughput of 13,105(5,971 cattle units) against the 1963 throughput of 12,345(5,638 cattle units) represents an increase of 6% on cattle units.

Table 10. Throughput at Municipal Abattoir

4 weeks ended	Throughput: No. of animals of the classes named												Mean weekly no. of Cattle Units	
	Cattle		Calves		Sheep		Pigs		Total		1964	1963	1964	1963
	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963
25th January	169	158	1	3	416	513	326	360	912	1034	104	110	104	110
22nd February	165	172	-	-	357	405	462	360	984	957	117	111	117	111
21st March	146	152	-	1	283	317	424	415	853	885	104	108	104	108
18th April	161	154	4	1	202	235	529	399	896	789	117	100	117	100
16th May	175	179	-	-	259	413	504	374	938	966	119	87	119	87
13th June	120	166	-	-	289	321	441	321	850	808	99	98	99	98
11th July	139	161	-	1	440	357	477	321	1056	840	126	98	126	98
8th August	123	142	1	2	444	384	448	294	1016	822	109	92	109	92
5th September	132	161	1	-	553	490	489	373	1175	1024	122	111	122	111
3rd October	137	157	1	2	420	541	545	380	1103	1060	123	114	123	114
31st October	142	165	1	3	517	477	423	341	1083	986	114	108	114	108
28th November	139	177	-	2	482	453	467	415	1088	1047	117	119	117	119
26th December	101	143	2	-	353	345	695	619	1151	1107	130	130	130	130
Near Average	142	159	1	1	386	404	479	384	1008	949	115	107	115	107

## Meat Inspection

The most important aspect of the meat inspection service during the year continued to be the impact of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963. Local Authorities, by these Regulations are required to implement a complete and efficient meat inspection service covering abattoirs in their district. The Regulations are designed to achieve 100% inspection of carcasses and offal in areas where previously it had not been possible; this did not effect the Corporation's Abattoir where a full and proper inspection service has always been maintained. Procedure for inspection, however, does call for a greater length of time to be spent at the Abattoir and it is usual for inspectors engaged on meat inspection to be present during the hours of slaughter, and also to ensure that ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations are effectively carried out.

The practical value is not without importance as can be ascertained from the statistical tables on meat inspection. The incidence of disease is clearly of a lower order than of ten or more years ago. In spite of this the inspector must be doubly alert if he is to detect the live animal that is unthrifty or carcass meat and offal which is diseased. With the introduction of intensive breeding and stock raising; the use of antibiotics and slaughter of animals at an earlier age; symptoms of disease may not be so obvious. Very often the change is subtle and does not conform to text book description. Inspectors engaged on meat inspection must therefore, interest themselves to a greater degree in animal pathology, and freely resort to bacteriological examination in support of findings. In this respect the resources of the Public Health Laboratory service have frequently been called upon and their help and advice is unfailingly given.

During 1964 eleven whole carcasses were condemned. It is interesting to note that as in the previous two years no beef carcasses were involved. Of the eleven carcasses condemned, in all but one case the animals had been submitted for emergency slaughter. Subsequent post-mortem condition supported by bacteriological enquiry confirmed their inadmissibility for human consumption and accordingly they were rejected.

The following Table shows the remarkable decline in little more than a decade in the incidence of tuberculosis - surely a credit to all those concerned in its eradication.

Table 11. Incidence of Tuberculosis in Food Animals

Incidence of Tuberculosis	Year						
	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
% of Animals affected -							
Cattle excluding cows	17.8	9.3	0.7	0.1	0.1	-	-
Cows	50.8	16.3	4.1	1.5	-	-	-
Pigs	5.9	2.1	0.7	0.3	-	0.1	0.1

The 17 beast carcasses found to be affected with cysticercosis give a percentage incidence of 0.92. In 13 cases where cysts were localised and degenerate, carcasses were passed as fit after jointing and detailed inspection. In four cases the cysts were viable, the invasion localised and, before being released for human consumption, carcass and unaffected organs were subjected to controlled refrigeration. Table 11a gives comparative figures of incidence over the past four years.

Table 11a. Incidence of *Cysticercus bovis*

Year	No. of cases	% Incidence
1961	16	1.08
1962	12	0.63
1963	19	1.15
1964	17	0.92

A total of 11 carcasses, 4 parts of carcasses and 331 organs and parts were condemned, their total weight being 1 ton 14 cwts. 1qr. and 10 lbs. Table 12 gives particulars of the various classes of animals inspected and of condemnation.

Table 12. Record of Meat Inspection and Incidence of Disease

Class of Animal	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,830	19	11	5,015	6,230
Number inspected	1,830	19	11	5,015	6,230
<b>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	6	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	169	1	1	58	221
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	9.23%	5.26%	9.09%	1.27%	1.81%
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	7
% of the animals inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.1%
<b>Cysticerci:</b>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Fatstock Guarantee Scheme

Throughout the year the Abattoir continued to operate as a Certified Deadweight Centre for the purposes of the Fatstock Guarantee Scheme, under which guarantee payments are made to producers of livestock under 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. This is a convenient arrangement for producers who do not need to use the livestock market and serves a dual purpose of encouraging the smaller producer to supply quality meat to the family butcher using the Abattoir.

## Milk Supply

As required by Article 8 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, a register is kept of all persons carrying on the trade of milk distributor from premises 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 13 gives particulars of the changes which took place during the year and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 13. Registration of Dairies and Milk Distributors

Particulars of changes	Dairies	Distributors	
		From Shops*	Others
No. on register at 1st January	4	49	10
No. in respect of which new applications were made	0	0	0
No. removed from register -			
(a) Trading ceased	0	4	0
(b) On public health grounds	-	-	-
No. on register at 31st December	4	45	10

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

Generally, the standard of distribution is satisfactory. Minor violations of the Milk and Dairies Regulations have not necessitated formal action. Conditions at the dairies were reasonably satisfactory.

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 has been the case for some years in consequence of the inclusion of the Borough in a 'Specified Area' made by Order of the Ministers of Agriculture and Health. The retailing of non-designated milks in the area is an offence. In June 1962 The Special Designation (Specified Areas)(No.2) Order came into operation under which the whole of England and Wales became a specified area.

Fourteen samples of milk of various grades, either in bottle or cartons, ready for sale, were taken during the course of the year for examination for compliance with the standards laid down by the Regulations. All were satisfactory.

The use of cartons increases, largely through sales from vending machines, but distribution is still based on the returnable glass container. An important aspect of hygienic milk control is, therefore, the cleansing of bottles before re-use. Washed bottles taken periodically from the local bottling dairy and examined bacteriologically all reached a high standard. Despite elaborate precautions taken, the odd dirty bottle - so misused by a consumer that the most efficient of washing machines fails to clean it - gets through to the next consumer. An electronic detector now on the market will reject unclean bottles; but if the economics of the industry allow it, a change over to non-returnable cartons would solve this and other problems.

Table 14. Graded Milks: Sampling Records

Grade of milk	Test Applied			
	Methylene Blue*	Phosphatase**	Turbidity**	Biological***
Pasteurised	3	3	-	-
Sterilised	2	-	2	-
T.T. Pasteurised	6	6	-	-
Raw T.T.	3	-	-	-

\* For cleanliness and keeping quality

\*\* For efficient heat treatment

\*\*\* For presence of tubercle

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, manufacture or storage for sale of ice-cream. 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 Ice-cream Premises

	Sale and storage	Manufacture sale and storage
No. on register at 1st January	102	2
No. in respect of which new applications were made	-	-
No. of registrations cancelled -		
(a) following offences	0	-
(b) ceased to trade	1	-
No. of changes of occupation in registered premises notified	1	-
No. on register at 31st December	103	2

The two registered ice-cream factories are not in use as such, and all ice-cream sold in the Borough is made elsewhere. Eleven 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 measures for preventing contamination of ice-cream. No offences under the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations in relation to storage for 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 20 samples of ice-cream (all manufactured outside the Borough) taken during the year may be grouped as follows:

Table 16. Ice-cream Grading

Grades	Official Standard	Local figures for the year 1964	
		No.	Percentage
1	Not less than 50%	13	65%
1 and 2	Not less than 80%	16	80%
3	Not more than 20%	3	15%
4	0	1	5%

General Food Inspection and Sampling

In addition to the inspection of meat at the Abattoir, shops were visited from time to time for the inspection of meat and other foods. Over the period under review the following total quantities of unfit food were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

3,522 lbs.	meats
700 lbs.	potatoes
600 lbs.	cabbage
400 lbs.	desiccated coconut
252 lbs.	grapes
135 lbs.	pears
78 lbs.	fruit
48 lbs.	bacon
853 lbs.	butter, margarine and cooking fats
205 lbs.	dried fruit
96 lbs.	flour, etc.
799 lbs.	sweets and chocolates
123 lbs.	jams
128 lbs.	cake mixture
36 pkts.	cheese spread
999 tins	various foods

Certificates were issued to traders in 165 cases, enabling them to claim from wholesalers for loss of foods condemned.

On one occasion a vast quantity of food was discovered to be unfit for human consumption at a food shop and the offending articles were, in accordance with Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, seized and taken before a Magistrate who being satisfied of unfitness ordered their condemnation, and destruction. The work of sorting out each individual item occupied three inspectors over a period of four working days and is a measure of the dimensions of that particular incident.

During 1964 systematic sampling of food for bacteriological purposes continued as in the previous year, the results obtained, although of no statutory significance, provided the Department with much useful information. In particular, when less than satisfactory results were obtained, and the product had been manufactured or prepared at premises within the Borough, those premises and processes were given special and detailed examination. At the same time the technique of series sampling in which food in various stages of preparation is sampled for evidence of bacterial activity was extensively resorted to. Articles and equipment used during food preparation were also examined by the use of prepared swabs. In addition, swabs were regularly placed in the drainage system discharging from food manufacturing premises in order to indicate the presence or otherwise of pathogenic organisms.

These techniques and interpretation of results are the Department's early warning system; but more than this, the results obtained by these



methods provide a wealth of material for use in practical education. The work involved has proved to be both interesting and rewarding and it has been found in practice that both management and workers respond more readily to appeals for greater care and cleanliness if the interpretation of bacteriological findings are linked in discussion, to the employee's every day work.

One practical example by way of illustration, concerns food premises where amongst various activities food is prepared for use at several hotels in the district. Sewer swabs inserted in the drainage system as a routine measure indicated the presence of Salmonella Typhi Murium - a potential food poisoning organism. In the ensuing follow-up the management co-operated in entirety and after appropriate health checks and clearance of those engaged in food handling, subsequent swabbing of articles and various working surfaces located the source of contamination inside the premises. Vigorous intervention at this stage by the Department ensured the strictest application of hygienic practices including the use of bactericidal agents of known effectiveness instead of reliance on the use of simple detergents of unknown effect. Since this action, repeated swabbing in the drainage system and to equipment inside the premises has not revealed anything other than a satisfactory state of affairs.

### Food Premises

The conditions under which food for sale is prepared and handled in the factories, warehouses, shops, restaurants and hotels in the Borough occupies much of the Department's time.

The numbers of the different classes of food premises as at the end of the year are given in Table 17.

Table 17. Food Premises according to Trade at end of 1964

Class of Premises or Nature of Business	Manufacturer or Preparation	Distribution	Total
General Grocer		78	78
Bread and Cakes	6	8	14
Sugar Confectioner	4	23	27
Greengrocer, fish game and poultry	2	15	17
Butcher and meat preparation	21	22	43
Chemists		6	6
Fish Frying	14		14
Public Houses and Clubs		51	51
Off licence premises		8	8
Cafes, snack bars and canteens	36		36
Church premises (kitchens)	6		6
Beer and mineral water bottling	3		3
Miscellaneous	3	9	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>315</b>

One hundred and twenty-four of these premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955; 103 of these, as already indicated, are ice-cream premises, the remaining 21 being registered for the manufacture of made-up meats, etc.

Table 18 gives figures indicative of the Department's activities in this field since the coming into operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations in 1956.

Table 18. Inspection of Food Premises

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
No. of visits paid to food premises	93	294	182	122	110	148	90	183	317
No. of food rooms inspected	199	392	475	349	195	352	271	343	871
No. of offences noted under Food Hygiene Regulations	313	545	541	179	44	26	51	274	244
No. of offences outstanding at end of year	228	197	278	68	22	20	47	138	84

The national returns on the incidence of notified food poisoning cases still attains a figure annually of several thousand, although there is every indication that the progressive rise in cases reported between 1940 and 1960 has been arrested, and may well be receding a little. Mild cases are in fact rarely reported and an actual figure would, most probably, be considerably in excess; a fact which must temper one's optimism.

It is against this background that inspection of food premises is placed in its proper perspective. With inspections stepped up to the extent of 75% over the previous year, actual infringements placed on record fell by 10%. This indicates a satisfactory trend in many ways and inspectors engaged in this work noted with satisfaction that often improvements to structural arrangements of premises as well as in hygienic practices had been achieved without any direction from the Department.

In my Report for 1963 I made reference to the alarming increase in numbers of recorded infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, and the need for some traders to extend greater care and thought to their day to day hygienic practices. Because of this strenuous efforts were made during 1964 to visit all food premises at least once in the year. This was not quite achieved although for the first time a total of 317 visits were made to premises of all kinds including many re-visits to a relatively small hard-core of persistent offenders.

As a matter of general comment the standard obtaining in premises throughout the Borough is satisfactory and reflects credit on the majority of traders. One is sorry and even reluctant to admit however that in common with most other aspects of life there occurs a minority who in the final analysis react only to the strongest possible pressure.

There is however, still ample room for improvement in so many ways and which no amount of legislation can wholly account for - for example cooked meats and prepared foods are frequently moved by hand instead of using tongs. The law may not be specific on the need to use such applian-

ces, but common sense should dictate that it is right and proper to do so. In this context education as against enforcement continues to figure prominently in the Department's activities. This is maintained at a personal level with talks to individual or small groups of workers coupled with simple aids such as cultures of bacteria taken from common sources for example: a worker's hand before and after washing, or smoking a cigarette.

These simple visual aids stimulate interest and appear to have a beneficial impact; how long this lasts of course is another matter entirely, particularly in an industry where there is considerable fluidity of staff movement.

It would I am sure be particularly refreshing to see some of the many excellent food premises in the Borough having an 'open day' for visitors to walk round and inspect for themselves; it might easily provide an encouragement to others to follow suit and in doing so elevate the general standard of hygiene that obtains.

#### 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 hawkers' storage premises. Table 19 gives particulars of the changes which took place during the year under review, and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 19. Registration of Food Hawkers and Storage Premises

Particulars of changes	Hawkers	Storage Premises
No. on Register at 1st January	65	4
No. in respect of which new applications were made	12	0
No. in respect of which application was refused	1	-
No. or registrations revoked -		
(a) following offences	2	-
(b) ceased to trade	10	1
No. on register at 31st December	64	3

In food premises a high standard of food hygiene can be obtained providing the basic needs of adequate accommodation and services are satisfied. In outside trading, whether it be from a market stall or a mobile shop, these needs are normally met at only minimal level. At this time last year I wrote that the Government had indicated their intention to issue regulations covering the use of outdoor markets and mobile shops. I said then that these regulations were long overdue and re-iterate that within the practical limits set by the very nature of these trades, the standards of construction and hygiene must approach those required in food shops.

In Table 19 reference is made to two registrations which were revoked following offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The trade concerned in both instances was that of preparation and sale of hot-dogs.

The number of purpose-built mobile shops is gradually increasing and is a most welcome feature, but even in these, space is necessarily at a premium, artificial lighting can be woefully inadequate, and a limited hot water supply encourages its conservation rather than use. There is not the slightest indication that the future will bring any diminution in these trades in the future; in truth numbers of mobile shops are increasing. On new housing estates and developments they have taken over the service which in former times was given by the 'corner shop'. As door to door traders, the convenience they offer to the housewife offsets the competition of supermarkets who usually do not provide a delivery service.

In this aspect of the Department's work, the utmost difficulty is experienced in keeping track of mobile traders. I am of opinion that a system of annual licensing would be more useful and administratively more acceptable than initial registration.

Table 20 analyses the number of registered food hawkers according to the various classes of trade.

Table 20. Food Hawkers according to trade

Trade	No. registered		
	At 31st Dec. 1964	Added during 1964	Removed during 1964
Butcher	11	1	5
Grocer	3	1	1
Greengrocer	18	2	1
Fishmonger	3	-	-
Confectioner	6	-	-
Ice-cream	11	1	-
Mobile Canteen	-	-	1
Butcher and Grocer	2	1	-
Grocer, butcher, fish and fruit	1	-	-
Grocer and confectioner	6	1	-
Fish and Greengrocer	1	2	2
Shell Fish	2	-	-
Hot dogs	-	2	2
Totals	64	11	12

#### Disposal of Unfit Food

All unfit food should be disposed of in such a manner that it cannot later, by accident or otherwise, be used for human consumption. In particular the disposal of diseased meat from slaughterhouses, and of all knacker meat, should be under strict control.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960 require, with certain exceptions, that unfit meat shall be sterilised, and all knacker meat stained or sterilised, before entering the chain of distribution as pet food, or for processing for any purpose. The principal exception is unfit meat from slaughterhouses which do not have their own sterilisation

at plant; such meat must be sent to processors under arrangements approved by the appropriate public health officers.

A great deal of unfit meat is brought into the Borough for sterilisation at factories referred to later in this Report under the heading of Offensive Trades. Co-ordination between the Department and the source authorities has been maintained; every effort has been made to ensure compliance with the Regulations at all collecting points; and I am satisfied that the chances of unfit meat being diverted into the wrong channels are remote.

The Regulations have been strongly criticised because they permit raw knacker meat, which has merely been stained, to reach the retail pet foods market. Such a practice is clearly a potential danger to public health. In Pontefract, however, such danger is at a minimum since the Byelaws were made in 1953 which forbid the retail sale of raw knacker meat.

Table 20. Food Handlers according to trade in 1964

Trade	At Risk during Dec. 1964	Added during 1964	Removed during 1964
Butcher	11	1	2
Grocer	2	1	1
Greenhouse	18	2	1
Washhouse	3	-	-
Confectioner	6	-	-
Ice-cream	11	1	-
Hotels/Cafes	-	-	-
Butcher and Grocer	2	1	-
Grocer, Butcher, Fish and Fruit	1	-	-
Grocer and Confectioner	6	1	-
Fish and Greenhouse	1	1	-
Shell Fish	2	-	-
Hot dogs	-	2	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

Disposal of unfit food

All unfit food should be disposed of in such a manner that it cannot later, by accident or otherwise, be used for human consumption. In particular, the disposal of unfit food should be such that it cannot be used for the production of animal feed.

The Meat (Steaming and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960 require, with certain exceptions, that unfit meat shall be sterilised, and all knacker meat stained or sterilised, before entering the chain of distribution as pet food, or for processing for any purpose. The principal exception is that unfit meat from slaughterhouses which do not have their own sterilisation

Section Four

OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE - SAFETY AND WELFARE

Factories - Outworkers - Offices - Shops -  
Other Workplaces

The Department shares responsibility for hygiene and welfare in places of employment with the Factory Inspectorate of the Home Office and the Shops Act Authority. So far as non-industrial premises are concerned recent legislation in the form of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 has increased considerably the local authority's responsibilities. Standards have been prescribed by Act and Regulations made thereunder and in the year under review work was primarily concerned with the requirements of Section 49 of the Act and the need to formulate a basic register of premises. A total of 318 premises were listed by the end of the year and in order to achieve this some 500 visits to premises had been necessary notwithstanding a national publicity campaign drawing attention of employers to the need to register.

Implementation of the Act calls for a special report to be submitted to the Ministry of Labour annually on matters of information and work carried out by the Local Authority Inspectorate, in enforcing the Act and its Regulations and a more comprehensive report was given under separate cover earlier this year.

Factories

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 at factories in the Borough:

Automobile engineering	Furniture manufacture and
Baking	Polishing
Barley processing	Glue and size making
Beer and mineral water bottling	Grain and seed processing
Blacksmithery	Laundering
Boot repairing	Liquorice confectionery manufacture and packing
Box and packing material manufacture	Malting
Brush making	Milk pasteurisation
Building	Monumental masonry
Brick manufacture	Photography
Cattle food manufacture	Precision engineering
Clothes manufacture	Printing
Coal-gas distribution	Sawmill
Engineering	Slaughter of food animals
Fat refining	Tailoring
Fellmongering	Tinsmithery
Founding	Upholstery
	Whitesmithery

The register of Factories, kept by the Council pursuant to section 8(3) of the Act, contains particulars of 94 factories, and Table 21 gives information relating to inspections, notices and defects found and remedied.

Table 21. Factories Records - 1964

	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 L.A. )	3	-	-	-	-
(2) Factories with mechanical power (section 7 enforced by L.A. )	91	11	3	17	17
Totals	94	11	3	17	17
(3) Other premises (section 7 enforced by L.A. )	2	2	-	-	-
Totals	96	13	3	17	17

The frequent inspection of factories with mechanical power is not considered necessary in view of the visits made by H.M. Factory Inspectors, who refer relevant matters to the Corporation. The Department comments on plans submitted for new development, and inspections are made when factories are visited in the course of other duties, such as food hygiene.

#### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

During the relevant part of 1964 in which the Act became operative, a little over ten per cent of the premises on the register were visited. Preliminary reports of Inspectors showed that enlightened employers have adopted standards well above those now envisaged by the Act, but in the older premises there is an urgent need to implement what are regarded as minimum requirements by way of health, safety and welfare. A minority of these older office and shop premises have been found to be affected by serious damp conditions and at the same time to be ill-ventilated, deficient in natural or artificial light and possessing workrooms that are cramped. It is under these conditions that a pre-disposition to ill-health will undoubtedly exist. The principal Act provides no remedy in these instances thus one must resort to the powers afforded by Public Health Acts.

**MATTERS OF SAFETY.** A principal feature of the Act is that which relates to matters of safety in premises, and a direct responsibility is placed upon the employer to notify the Local Authority in the event of accidents taking place which involves a person life or limb or, who as a result of the accident, is absent from work or cannot take part in his usual work for more than three days.

Towards the end of 1964 the Department circularised those employers on the Register informing them of the provisions of Section 48 of the Act and their duty to ensure notification.

I think it is a reasonable assumption that far more of these relatively simple accidents are occurring on premises than first returns suggest. Employers in smaller establishments are not used to notifying

accidents to any special body and the lack of information on accident occurrence is more probably an oversight on the employer's part rather than deliberate neglect to notify. A statutory duty is however placed upon the employer to notify the Local Authority and Inspectors visiting premises are under instruction to make suitable enquiries and advise accordingly. It is not without significance that in the relatively few premises inspected in the year under review, 25 offences in connection with safety aspects in premises were recorded.

I wrote in my report earlier this year and can only emphasise that as is the case with similar legislation designed to protect the worker a great deal can, and will, I am sure, be achieved by informal co-operation of employers, employees and the Local Authority. There is not the slightest need for commercial and public health spheres of interest to be anything else but of mutual benefit.

**TABLE I - REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTION**

	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	72	72	13
Retail Shops	193	193	22
Wholesale shops, warehouses	13	13	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	39	39	-
Fuel storage depots	1	1	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>36</b>

**TABLE II - ANALYSIS OF RECORDED PARTICULARS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE**

Class of workplace (1)	No. of persons employed (2)
Offices	693
Retail Shops	1,067
Wholesale departments, warehouses	79
Catering establishments open to the public	222
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,062</b>
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>812</b>
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>1,250</b>



**TABLE III - SUMMARY OF OFFENCES AT END OF 1964**

<u>Section or Regulation of the Act</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>No. of recorded offences</u>
4	Cleanliness	101
5	Overcrowding	7
4 and 16	Cleanliness and maintenance of floors and steps	31
6	Temperature	44
7	Ventilation	5
8	Lighting	33
9 (Sanitary Conveniences Regulations, 1964)	Sanitary conveniences	53
10 (Washing Facilities Regulations, 1964)	Washing facilities	41
11	Supply of Drinking Water	6
12	Accommodation for clothing	6
13	Sitting facilities	2
14	Seating for sedentary work	1
15	Eating facilities	2
16	Safety aspect of floors, passages and stairs	22
17 (Dangerous Machines Order, 1964)	Fencing of exposed parts of machinery	2
18	Avoidance of exposure of young persons to danger in cleaning machinery	1
23	Prohibition of heavy work	0
24 (First Aid Order, 1964)	First-Aid: General provisions	6
Miscellaneous		6

369 offences

**TABLE IV**

No. of premises on register at year end 31st December, 1964. (1)	No. of premises receiving general inspection (2)	Total No. of rooms inspected (3)	No. of recorded offences (4)	No. of premises that complied with the Act (5)
318	36	171	369	0

Table III indicates the total numbers of offences in those premises which have been inspected. Although the numbers in total are high, they should be related to actual rooms and other parts of premises inspected as indicated in Table IV. Many of these offences are not of a serious character and are easily remedied. It should also be mentioned that whilst overcrowded conditions were found to exist, in all cases effective measures were being taken to remedy the situation. The section of the Act which deals with overcrowding allows a three year period of grace in which to put matters right in premises in use on 31st July 1963, provided that the rooms are not so overcrowded as to cause risk of injury to health. In cases on record it was primarily a problem of inadequate floor area as apposed to conditions in which there was a direct risk of injury to the health of those employed.

## HYGIENE IN PLACES OF PUBLIC RESORT

Swimming Baths - Refreshment Houses -  
Hairdressing EstablishmentsPublic Swimming Baths - Bacterial Control of Water

The two swimming baths (adults' and children's indoor baths) are filled at the beginning of each season from the public supply, and operate on the continuous filtration system, with sterilisation by chlorination. Samples were taken regularly to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory conditions. 90 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and chemical tests made on each sampling occasion to check 'free chlorine' content and alkalinity. The results, given in Table 22 along with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, indicates the standard obtaining during the year.

Table 22. Swimming Baths Waters: Results of Examinations

	Standard recommended by Ministry of Health	Results from Baths	
		Large Swim	Small Swim
No. of samples taken	-	45	45
No. of samples containing coliform organisms in 100 ml. water	0	6	6
Percentage of number of samples submitted to plate count, and containing in 1 ml. water -			
(a) 0 - 10 colonies	not less than 75%	82%	82%
(b) 11 - 100 colonies	not more than 25%	11%	11%
(c) over 100 colonies	0	7%	7%
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

Paddling Pool

The paddling pool in the Valley Gardens has proved to be a popular addition to the gardens. Frequency of water changes, and methods of bacterial and algae control, have been recommended to the Parks' Department and the efficiency of these is checked regularly during the summer months.

Refreshment Houses

Under this heading I refer to all restaurants, public houses and clubs. When these premises are visited under the Food Hygiene Regulations, an inspection is made at the same time of toilet facilities under section 89 of the Public Health Act 1936, this section relates to provision made for the convenience of persons resorting to the premises. Conditions generally were satisfactory and in only one case was it necessary to resort to statutory action in order to achieve satisfactory premises. In several other instances informal recommendations secured improvements.

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 gives the numbers of such establishments and indicates changes during, and the position at the close of the year.

Table 23. Registration of Hairdressers and Barbers

Particulars of changes	Premises	Persons
No. on Register at 1st January	37	41
No. of entries added during 1964	5	7
No. of entries removed	4	5
No. on Register at 31st December	38	43(a)

Seven premises were inspected during 1964 and a high standard of hygiene was noted, particularly in the Ladies' Establishments.

Section Six

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Water Supply - Sewerage, Drainage and  
Sewage Disposal - Refuse Collection and  
Disposal

Water Supply

On 1st April 1962 the Corporation's Water Undertaking was transferred to the newly formed Pontefract, Goole and Selby Water Board. Before the take-over it has been the practice of the Chief Public Health Inspector to sample at the several sources and record and classify the results in this report. Whilst the Corporation no longer supplies water, it is still very much its concern that the water supplied within the Borough shall be satisfactory in quality and in quantity. Sampling within the Borough has therefore continued, and seven waters taken for chemical analysis were reported upon as being of good organic quality, whilst 31 waters examined bacteriologically were again highly satisfactory.

A typical report on a sample of water is given as follows:

	<u>Parts per million</u>
Total solids ... ..	340
Chloride ... ..	29
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ... ..	128
Total Hardness ... ..	140
Permanent Hardness ... ..	12
Temporary Hardness ... ..	128
Lead, copper, zinc ... ..	Nil
Iron ... ..	0.5
Free Ammonia ... ..	0.03
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen ... ..	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen ... ..	2.9
Fluorine ... ..	Nil
pH ... ..	7.6

Sewerage, Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Borough is well sewered, there being only 50 properties not served by public sewer. Twelve properties in the Borough are served by private disposal plants, 38 by cesspools, and the remainder, representing 99% of the total, are connected to public sewerage. Sanitary accommodation of the conservancy type (mainly chemical) exists at only 9 houses and at 3 other properties.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Apart from the salvaging of paper and metal, all refuse collected by the Corporation is disposed of by controlled tipping.

## Section Seven

### PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

Control of Offensive Trades - Animal Hygiene -  
Noise Abatement - Moveable Dwellings - Rag Flock  
and Other Filling Materials

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#### Control of 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 and size maker. A further trade carried on is the 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.

These trades provide a necessary and valuable public health service. Large quantities of waste organic material, some of it already in an advanced state 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 generated in the course of processing. The complex and variable nature of the raw material received renders constant care necessary; the management must be on the alert for the first indication of the escape of offensive effluvia, and thereupon adjust the plant controls 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 this adjustment is sometimes appreciated later than necessary to prevent odour in the neighbourhood. This normally does not continue for more than a few minutes on any occasion, but this is long enough for one to realise that good planning demands the siting of such premises well away from built-up areas.

During 1964 strict attention was given to the two firms concerned in these trades. Some 120 detailed inspections of premises were undertaken - almost twice as many as in the previous year. Much time was given over to critical analysis of existing methods of dealing with the effluvia arising from the processes carried on, and at both factories improvements in odour control were secured.

The Corporation have taken all reasonably practicable measures to control offensive trades. The managements concerned are anxious not to cause offence, and give considerable attention to improvement of the plant.

#### Animal Hygiene

Apart altogether from the nuisance potential of animals kept under unsatisfactory conditions, animal diseases may effect, directly or indirectly the public health. The control of conditions, therefore, under which animals are kept, whether they be animals on sale in pet shops, or food animals awaiting slaughter, or animals on agricultural holdings, is a matter which must concern the Department.

This Act the Pet Animals Act of 1951 provides for the licensing of pet shops by the local authority who, before granting a licence must be satisfied that animals for sale will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilations and cleanliness; be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals; that precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of diseases among animals, and that steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency. There are two licensed premises in the Borough, at which conditions were satisfactory.

## The Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

Requirements of the Act are somewhat similar to those contained in the Pet Animals Act. Administration of the Act is made the responsibility of the Local Authority. Upon being satisfied that animals will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness, be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and visited and exercised at suitable intervals, and that suitable steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

During the year one licence was issued in respect of premises to be used for the boarding of dogs. These premises if carefully controlled can provide a valuable service to the public particularly at holiday times. The danger in the past was that unscrupulous persons having undertaken the care of animals placed in their custody, often grossly neglected them.

## Riding Establishments Act 1964

As far as is known there are no establishments to which this Act applies within the Borough.

## Noise Abatement

For many years Byelaws relating to noise nuisance have been in force in the Borough, dealing with such matters as sounding musical instruments or singing in the streets to the annoyance of occupants of houses, offices, churches or hospitals. In 1951 the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act added noise nuisance to the statutory nuisances, and the Noise Abatement Act of 1960 provided general legislation on similar lines and restricted the use of loudspeakers in the streets.

Two alleged noise nuisances were under investigation during the year arising from machinery on trade premises. In each case the management were taking the best practicable means available to them to minimise the noise level, and no formal action could therefore be taken.

Eventually one of those problems was resolved by the firm in question securing alternative premises within the Borough from which to operate. In the remaining case the firm undertook to re-site in a more satisfactory position a section of the more noisy processes. In addition efforts were made to reduce by insulation methods the effect of noise from the remaining metalurgical process. One other fairly persistently reported problem was in connection with noise from animals. It is often most difficult for the Local Authority's officers to establish that a nuisance exists in those cases and those persons most closely involved have to resort to private action if they feel sufficiently aggrieved.

## Moveable Dwellings

A problem that had in previous years accounted for an increasing amount of the Department's time was that relating to the unauthorised camping activities of gypsies. Complaints were received on numerous occasions concerning the stationing of caravans on the verges of lanes on the outskirts of the Borough. Despite repeated attempts to keep these sites clear it became increasingly difficult. The lanes themselves, on occasions, were turned into miniature scrap yards with accumulations of scrap metal, rags and old motor vehicles. Whilst this alone is unsatisfactory and can quickly lead to deterioration of the countryside, the public health aspect is even more alarming. In every single case investigated absence of toilet facilities, lack of provision for domestic refuse and disposal of waste water gave rise to unsatisfactory conditions in these lanes. Farmers on adjacent land were plagued by horses straying on crops

and grass land. Similar complaints were received from householders who found that a playing field set aside for children often had as many as ten horses on the site, and afforded a measure of danger to smaller children.

There is no doubt that if once established and allowed to go unchecked, this pattern of unsatisfactory behaviour proves difficult to eradicate.

With these problems in mind careful inspection records were kept, including conditions of sites and of vehicles concerned, and the length of time vehicles occupied a particular site.

The work commenced during 1963 resulted in proceedings under section 95 of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951, in February 1964. As a result an area of land frequently used for camping by itinerant van dwellers was declared a prohibited area for such purposes. Since the order was made no serious recurrence of the problem has arisen and only twice has the site been used by caravan dwellers; subsequent action quickly secured the clearance of the site.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act of 1951 is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles, and during 1962 Regulations were made under this Act, superseding earlier Regulations, and bringing up-to-date the standards of cleanliness required in relation to the several kinds of filling materials to which the Act applies.

The Act provides for the registration by the local authority of premises upon which filling materials are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery, and one such factory is registered with the Council. During the year two samples of materials were taken from the factory and submitted to the proscribed chemical and physical tests, all were reported upon as satisfactory.

Section Eight

PEST CONTROL

Reports in certain parts of the country show that verminous infestation have been common since the outbreak of the war. The verminous infestation of control exercised at the present time is an extension of the war-time infestation and has been very successful in reducing the rodent population in certain areas. There is no evidence in the Borough that the use of the verminous infestation control service has been successful in reducing the rodent population in certain areas.

Rodent Control Service

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act of 1949, so far as this Act relates to rodent infestation. Routine measures were taken to ensure, as far as practicable, the freedom from infestation of all premises in their own occupations; owners and occupiers of infested properties were required to face up to their responsibilities under the Act and a Rodent Control Service was 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 was engaged on the discovery of infestations, and the organisation of treatments on 'block control' principles. Table 24 gives statistics relating to the known incidence of infestations and to disinfection measures taken during 1964. The actual incidence of infestations reported showed an increase of 50% over the previous year and involved over 70 more treatments. This increase was attributable to the milder than normal winter conditions experienced and a readiness on the part of the public to notify the Local Authority immediately an infestation was suspected.

Table 24. Rodent Control Statistics

	Class of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling-houses*	Agricultural	Business and Industrial	
No. of properties	32	8,782	32	1,369	10,215
No. of properties inspected as a result of -					
(a) Notification	6	164	2	44	216
(b) Survey under the Act	8	21	1	19	49
(c) Otherwise	-	11	5	32	48
No. of properties inspected and found to be infested by -					
(a) Rats: Major**	-	1	-	-	1
Minor	12	128	4	36	180
(b) Mice: Major**	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	2	59	-	35	96
No. of infested properties treated by local authority	13	179	3	64	259
No. of treatments carried out (including re-treatments)	20	208	3	69	300
No. of 'block control' schemes carried out					8

\*Excluding houses combined with businesses

\*\* Infestation estimated at more than 20 rodents



Reports in certain parts of the country show that reserves of rats have become immune to the poison 'Warfarin' probably the most common method of control exercised at the present time. 'Warfarin' is an anti-coagulant and has been very successful in reducing the rodent population in recent years. There is no evidence in the Borough that rodents have become immune and its use is continued alongside older established poisoning techniques.

Verminous Infestation

During the year 5 houses were treated for verminous or suspected verminous infestation. Two of these were Corporation houses.

Whenever a Corporation house is vacated, or two Corporation tenants exchange houses, the premises are inspected. During 1964, 278 such inspections were made, and no infestations were found.

In several cases people produced insects at the Department for identification, but in none was there any public health problem.

No. of properties inspected as a result of -	No. of properties inspected and found to be infested by -			No. of 'block control' schemes carried out
	(a) Bedbugs	(b) Fleas	(c) Lice	
10,512	1,368	2	6,782	2
216	44	2	164	0
48	19	1	21	0
48	25	2	11	-
1	-	-	1	-
100	25	4	128	12
26	25	-	29	2
222	64	2	179	12
200	69	2	129	20

Section Nine

ADMINISTRATION AND RECORDS

Tabular Statement of Inspections made  
and Notices served - Establishment

The Public Health Officers Regulations require the recording of inspections made, the preparation of a tabular statement relating to the number and nature of these, to notices served and the results obtained. I have given as accurate a picture as possible in the statement; but when, at one visit, premises are dealt with comprehensively under two or more headings, difficulties in recording can arise.

Table 25. Nature and Number of Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors and assistant staff during 1964.

<u>Nature of Inspections</u>	<u>Number made</u>
<b>Housing Inspections and Enquiries:</b>	
For unfitness, and repair or demolition of unfit houses	1,058
Improvement with grant aid	49
Following applications under Rent Act for certificates of disrepair	2
Overcrowding and computation of 'permitted numbers'	3
Investigations into multiple occupation	2
<b>Air Pollution Inspections and Enquiries:</b>	
Industrial smoke observations	6
Inspection of boiler plant	12
Investigations of smoke nuisances (section 16)	24
<b>Food Hygiene Inspection and Enquiries:</b>	
Visits to Abattoir for meat inspection	765
Number of carcasses examined	13,105
Visits to shops for meat inspection	141
Investigations under Milk and Dairies Regulations	3
Sampling of milks and containers (for biological and bacteriological examinations)	14
General Food Inspection and sampling	405
Investigations into sale of food in the open air	102
Visits to food premises -	
Investigations under Food Hygiene Regulations	317
No. of food rooms inspected	871

Nature of InspectionsNumber made

## Occupational Hygiene Inspections and Enquiries:

## For staff welfare in -

Factories	11
Other works (building sites)	2
Outworkers' premises	2
Shops (prior to commencement of Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act)	32
Workplaces (Public Health Act)	4

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:

All enquiries and inspections	996
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## Visits to Places of Public Resort:

Swimming Baths, water sampling	90
Sanitary Accommodation, inspection under section 89 of Public Health Act 1936	40
Inspection of Hairdressing Establishments (West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951)	7

## Hygiene and the Public Health Services:

Water supply, investigations and sampling	77
Refuse Collection and Disposal, inspections and enquiries	12
Sewerage and Sewage disposal, and general drainage inspections (excluding housing defects)	35

## Investigations connected with the prevention and abatement of nuisances, et cetera:

Offensive Trades	120
Moveable dwellings and sites	59
Noise nuisance	24
Other statutory nuisances (excluding housing defects)	64
Infectious diseases and food poisoning enquiries	20
For uncleanness and verminous conditions (including inspections for House Management)	370
Filling Materials (Rag Flock Act)	2

## Inspections and Enquiries connected with Pest Control:

For rodent infestation (mainly by Rodent Control staff)	1,385
For other pests	30

Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963	4
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Pet Animals Act 1951	2
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Table 26. Number of Notices served and the Result of Service

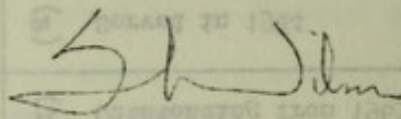
Act or Section under which or, in the case of informal notices, preliminary to which, notice was served	No. of Informal Notices					No. of Statutory Notices						
	(a) Outstanding from 1963	(b) Served in 1964	(c) Total of those	(d) Complied with	(e) Outstanding at end of 1964	(f) Outstanding from 1963	(g) Served in 1964	(h) Total of those	(i) Complied with	(j) Work done by L.A.	(k) Outstanding at end of 1964	
Public Health Act, 1936:												
(a) Housing Defects -												
Section 39, 40, 44, 45 and 51	-	33	33	26	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
93	4	36	40	33	7	1	3	4	2	-	2	2
(b) Other - Section 39	-	6	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75	2	4	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
93	-	13	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Health Act, 1961: Section 17	-	2	2	2	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	-
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:												
Section 4	3	62	65	62	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	9	158	167	150	17	1	5	6	4	-	-	2

Staff

The establishment of three additional inspectors, a technical assistant and two pupil inspectors was achieved for the first time in the year under review. Mr. J.A. Scott was appointed Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector in July having previously been in the service of the Borough of Jarrow and Mr. A.A. Wakes as additional inspector in November, formerly being in the service of the County Borough of Doncaster.

In conclusion I should like to place on record my appreciation of the loyalty and assiduous work of members of my staff both technical and clerical and to express also, my indebtedness to the Chief Officers of the Corporation for their assistance and co-operation in a year which was not without its difficulties.

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



Chief Public Health Inspector.

Date	Particulars	No. of Inspectors	No. of Pupil Inspectors	No. of Sanitary Inspectors
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13	13
14	14	14	14	14
15	15	15	15	15
16	16	16	16	16
17	17	17	17	17
18	18	18	18	18
19	19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20	20
21	21	21	21	21
22	22	22	22	22
23	23	23	23	23
24	24	24	24	24
25	25	25	25	25
26	26	26	26	26
27	27	27	27	27
28	28	28	28	28
29	29	29	29	29
30	30	30	30	30

Municipal Offices,  
Pontefract.  
September, 1965.



