

**[Report 1957] / Medical Officer of Health, Portsmouth Borough.**

**Contributors**

Portsmouth (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1957

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/y6k85wpm>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

C 4417  
"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX"



CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

---

ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the Year 1957

*including*

*THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST*

COASBY & CO. LTD.  
SOUTHSEA



"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX"



CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

---

ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the Year 1957

*including*

*THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE, CONSTITUTION OF ... ..	4
HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE, CONSTITUTION OF ... ..	4
STAFF ... ..	5
<b>Summary and Deductions by Medical Officer of Health:</b>	
HEALTH STATISTICS: ... ..	7-8
Meteorology ... ..	8-9
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT ... ..	9-18
Health Centres ... ..	9-10
Care of Mothers and Young Children } ... ..	10-12
Midwifery ... ..	
Health Visiting ... ..	
Maternal Mortality ... ..	10
Ante-Natal Care ... ..	10-11
Infant Mortality ... ..	12
Day Nurseries ... ..	12
Nurseries and Child Minders Regulations Act ... ..	12
Health Visiting ... ..	12
Home Nursing ... ..	12
Vaccination and Immunisation ... ..	13
Ambulance Service ... ..	13-14
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care ... ..	14-17
Health Education ... ..	14-15
B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis ... ..	15
Tuberculosis ... ..	16-16
Mass Radiography ... ..	16-17
Domestic Help ... ..	17
Mental Health Service ... ..	17-18
CARE OF THE AGED ... ..	18-20
Section 47—National Assistance Act ... ..	20
EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS ... ..	20-21
Epileptics ... ..	20
Spastics ... ..	21
BLIND PERSONS ... ..	21-22
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES ... ..	22-24
Cancer ... ..	22-24
Cancer Education ... ..	23-24
Venereal Disease ... ..	24
Parasitic Infestation ... ..	24
Scabies ... ..	24
Pediculosis ... ..	24
PUBLIC BATHS ... ..	24-25
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD ... ..	26-27
Food and Drink Infections ... ..	26-27
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES ... ..	27-28
Water Supply ... ..	27
Housing ... ..	27
Disposal of the Dead ... ..	28
Mortuary Accommodation ... ..	28
Crematorium ... ..	28
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS ... ..	28

<b>Statistics and Individual Reports:</b>	<i>Page</i>
STATISTICAL SUMMARIES AND TABLES ... ..	29-34
METEOROLOGY ... ..	35-37
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	
Report of the Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health ... ..	38-41
Tables of Statistics ... ..	41-44
Report of the Senior Dental Officer on Dental Treatment for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children ... ..	45-46
HOME NURSING	
Report of Secretaries ... ..	47
Statistics ... ..	48
VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION	
Report of the Medical Officer in Charge ... ..	49-52
MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE AND MEDICAL SERVICE	
Report of Ambulance Officer ... ..	53-57
Statistics ... ..	57
TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE	
Report of the Consultant Chest Physician ... ..	58-61
Tables of Statistics ... ..	58-60
Report of Almoner ... ..	61
MASS RADIOGRAPHY	
Report of the Medical Director ... ..	61-68
Tables of Statistics ... ..	64-68
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE	
Report of the Executive Officer ... ..	69-72
INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL	
Report of the Physician Superintendent ... ..	73-75
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Weekly Return ... ..	76
CANCER—Analysis of Deaths ... ..	77
VENEREAL DISEASES TREATMENT CENTRE	
Report of the Medical Officer in Charge ... ..	78
Work of the Almoner ... ..	78
Table of Statistics ... ..	79
PARASITIC INFESTATION (Scabies and Pediculosis)	
Report of Medical Officer in Charge ... ..	80-82
REPORT OF THE BATHS SUPERINTENDENT ... ..	82-84
REPORT OF THE VETERINARY OFFICER ... ..	85-89
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD ... ..	90
REPORT OF THE CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR ... ..	91-108
CLEANSING ... ..	109
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY	
Report of the Medical Officer of Health to the Port ... ..	110-112
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST ... ..	113-131

*The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor*  
COUNCILLOR A. G. ASQUITH-LEESON, T.D., J.P.

**HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**1957-1958**

*Chairman*

ALDERMAN J. P. D. LACEY, O.B.E., J.P.

*Vice-Chairman*

ALDERMAN H. G. COOK

*Aldermen*

ALBERT JOHNSON      MRS. S. A. C. SHARPE

*Councillors*

J. F. FREESTON  
M. J. E. WALLIS  
S. S. RABBITS  
C. W. STEVENS, O.B.E.  
G. S. FURNEAUX  
H. HANDLEY

G. F. COLLINS  
H. SOTNICK  
T. J. SMITH  
MISS H. M. BRADY  
F. LINES

MRS. W. FIELDER  
M. BRESLER  
G. A. W. HILL  
G. B. COOPER  
L. J. EVANS

*Co-opted Members*

MRS. L. L. ALLAWAY  
MRS. C. E. ATKINS, J.P.  
MRS. D. BOWLES  
MR. N. CRIDLAND  
DR. M. N. S. DUNCAN

MRS. M. DURRANT, O.B.E.  
DAME ELISABETH KELLY, D.B.E., J.P.  
MRS. L. C. NICHOLSON  
MR. J. PRIESTLEY PRICE  
MRS. D. SPITTLE

---

**HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**1957-1958**

*Chairman*

ALDERMAN FRANK MILES, C.B.E., J.P.

*Vice-Chairman*

ALDERMAN A. W. WEST

*Aldermen*

ALBERT JOHNSON      J. P. D. LACEY, O.B.E., J.P.

*Councillors*

A. G. ASQUITH-LEESON,  
T.D., J.P. (Lord Mayor)  
M. J. E. WALLIS  
S. S. RABBITS  
G. A. DAY  
H. BELL

H. HANDLEY  
W. J. EVANS  
A. F. BICKNELL  
F. A. CURREY  
MISS H. M. BRADY  
A. H. W. POPE

L. FLAGG  
M. BRESLER  
G. A. W. HILL  
MRS. H. M. KER  
L. J. EVANS

The following ladies were co-opted to serve on the Committee  
for housing purposes:

MRS. A. E. FERGUSON-BAKER;    MRS. I. HUNGATE;    MRS. W. STEVENS

## SENIOR MEMBERS OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

*Medical Officer of Health,  
Principal School Medical Officer,  
Chief Administrative Medical Officer to the City Council and  
Medical Officer of Health to the Port of Portsmouth*

T. E. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal  
School Medical Officer*

R. WOODROW, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

*Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and  
Child Welfare*

RUBY N. E. PIKE, M.B., CH.B.

*Vaccination and Immunisation Medical Officer*

E. D. B. WOLFE, E.D., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Maternity and  
Child Welfare Officer*

AUDREY E. STEWART, M.B., CH.B., D.R.C.O.G.

*Chief Health Inspector*

W. F. APPLETON, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

*Veterinary Officer*

R. SCOULAR, M.R.C.V.S.

*Administrative Assistant*

H. S. WOODCOCK

*Executive Officer—Mental Health Service*

A. F. T. ROSE

*Superintendent Health Visitor*

MISS E. M. BUSSBY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., D.N.(Lond.)

*Supervisor of Midwives*

MISS D. J. KINSEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.


### Joint Appointments with Regional Hospital Board

*Consultant Chest Physician*

J. H. DADDS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P.

*Chest Physician*

J. C. HESKETH, M.B., B.S.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29995887>

Public Health Department,  
Municipal Offices,  
1 Western Parade,  
Portsmouth.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Services Committee, and to the  
Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.*

My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of the City for 1957, which follows the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health.

Figures in brackets represent the corresponding numbers or percentages for the previous year.

### HEALTH STATISTICS

(pages 29 – 34)

The Registrar General's return for the year 1957 reveals a decrease of 4,200 in the total population (including Service personnel), which is now 226,900 (231,100).

By the end of 1957 some 12,107 (11,219) post-war properties were let, including 8 (31) requisitioned premises and, as a result of re-registration in the early months of the year, applicants on the Council's list for rehousing were reduced to approximately 5,000, compared with 17,333 at the end of 1956 (including approximately 1,200 aged persons of whom 84 were rehoused during the year). The Health and Housing Committee's accelerated programme of house building reached its peak level in the years 1954 and 1955; during 1956 new dwellings were completed at a lower average rate of 94 per month, and in 1957 this rate further declined to 86 per month. At the present time the number of new dwellings under construction is maintained at over a thousand and the completion rate is expected to average approximately the same as in 1957.

As will be seen from Table I on page 32, the following are the main features of interest for the year under review:—

1. An increase in the birth rate from 15·08 in 1956 to 15·57 per thousand population, compared with 16·1 for England and Wales.

2. No change in the maternal mortality rate from 0·28 per thousand total births in 1956 (both the lowest ever recorded), compared with 0·47 for England and Wales.

3. A decrease in the neo-natal mortality rate from 16·35 per thousand live births in 1956 to 16·14, compared with 16·5 for England and Wales.

4. A decrease in the infant mortality rate from 24·10 per thousand live births in 1956 to 21·52 (the lowest ever recorded), compared with 23·0 for England and Wales.

5. A decrease in the general death rate from 12·22 per thousand population in 1956 to 11·74, compared with 11·5 for England and Wales.

6. A decrease in the death rate from the principal infectious diseases from 0·03 per thousand population in 1956 to 0·02 (the lowest ever recorded).

7. A decrease in the death rate from all forms of tuberculosis from 0.116 per thousand population in 1956 to 0.106, compared with 0.107 for England and Wales.

8. An increase in the death rate from cancer (including leukaemia) from 2.09 per thousand population in 1956 to 2.32, compared with 2.09 for England and Wales.

Consideration of the foregoing statistics, together with the summaries and tables on pages 29-34 of the Report, shows that the maternal mortality rate was again the lowest ever recorded—only one maternal death having occurred in each of the past three years. The infant mortality rate (deaths of infants under one year) of 21.52 per thousand live births was also the most favourable hitherto experienced; in fact, as will be seen from Table II on page 33, since the operation of the National Health Service Act in 1948, i.e. during the last ten years, infant mortality rates have invariably been below 30 per thousand, compared with rates of 33.40 per thousand in 1947 and 47.32 per thousand as recently as 1943. Thus, the "10 year average" has steadily fallen during the past decade.

More and more babies now survive the hazardous first year of life and maternal mortality has reached new low levels. The principal notifiable infectious diseases, which only half a century ago killed nearly 500 persons in Portsmouth every year and as recently as 1930 caused 173 deaths, last year accounted for only five. Diphtheria—thanks to immunisation—has been virtually conquered; indeed, last year there was again no case in the City of this disease while there have been only 9 cases and one death from this cause since 1949, compared with, in 1935, 422 cases and 39 deaths and, in 1912, 1,051 cases with 124 deaths. The declining mortality from tuberculosis is nearly as remarkable; only 24 persons in Portsmouth died of tuberculosis last year, whereas in 1947 the figure was 164.

The incidence of minor sickness, as reflected by the weekly returns kindly furnished by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, was dominated from mid-September onwards by the outbreak of Asian influenza so that the year's total of "new claims to sickness benefit" reached an all-time high of 38,230, compared with 29,937 in 1956. During the peak period of the outbreak in October weekly claims ranged between three and four times the normal for this time of year, while those for the last quarter of 1957, 16,467, totalled more than twice the average number of previous years.

Since October, 1954, the weekly totals of deaths in the City have been plotted on a graph side by side with the sickness figures, and it is interesting to note the close correspondence between their seasonal variations.

#### METEOROLOGY

In view of the rather poor weather generally in 1956, it is perhaps not surprising that, statistically speaking, 1957 showed an all-round improvement.

Sunshine totalled 1,767.5 hours—52.9 more than in 1956, but still 38.5 below the average for the preceding 10 years, and, rather strangely, there were 13 less days (281) on which half-hour or more of sun was registered. June was the sunniest month by far, with 324 hours, compared with 176.7 last year, and 13th June had most sun of all—15.2 hours; May came second with 236.3 (263.8), so there would seem to be some justification for taking holidays early. Although the sun shone on every day in July the total was only 191.4. Portsmouth and Southsea progressed a little further up the

sunshine table, being 15th (last year 16th) amongst health and holiday resorts on the mainland, and 25th (33rd) amongst the 328 meteorological stations in the British Isles. Shanklin came top with 1,929·7 hours (last year Gorey Castle, Jersey, with 1,917·3) and Dalwhinnie was the wooden-spoonist with 935.

We had 0·8 more inches of rain—24·91, compared with the preceding 10 year average of 26·99, and there were 21 more days of measurable rain—156. February, 4·25", July, 3·53", September, 2·75", and November, 2·67" on only six days, were the chief contributors, the highest in any one day being 1·18" on 3rd November. The driest month was April, with only 0·12" (1·73") on four rain-days, although the longest period without rain was from 22nd November to 5th December—15 days. It is noteworthy to record that there was no fall of snow during the year.

Mean and absolute temperatures were all higher in 1957 than in 1956; the hottest day was 15th June, when the mercury soared to 83°—6° higher than 1956's warmest day, 24th July, and the coldest 17th December—26°, compared with 19° on 2nd and 3rd February of last year.

The following phenomena were registered:—

Sleet on 1 occasion, compared with 14 (snow and sleet) in 1956;  
thunder on 10(8) occasions, 13(20) fogs, 11(16) gales,  
52(88) ground frosts.

Prevailing winds were again from the south-west quarter.

### NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

Details have been given in previous Reports of the changes which took place in the administration of the health services and of the responsibilities devolving upon the local health authority when this Act came into operation on the 5th July, 1948, in accordance with the proposals submitted to the Minister in 1947/1948, and there was included in the Report for 1952 (pages 9–29) a "Special Survey of Local Health Services provided under the National Health Service Acts" as existing at the end of that year. Any subsequent developments are referred to in the sections which follow.

Cordial co-operation between the three main branches of the National Health Service on the lines indicated in the Special Survey (pages 10–12 of 1952 Report) has been maintained throughout the year. A comprehensive Health Services handbook giving details of the services for which the Portsmouth Group Hospital Management Committee, the Executive Council and the Local Authority are responsible was published in March, 1955, and a revised edition in September, 1957.

#### (1) SECTION 21 (HEALTH CENTRES)

No further progress has been made regarding the provision of comprehensive health centres, which would include surgery accommodation for general medical practitioners, either at Paulsgrove or elsewhere, but in the City Development Plan the erection of a health centre at Paulsgrove in 1955–1957 was included in the programme for the first five years; during the fifteen-year period commencing 1st April, 1958, it is hoped to provide three principal health centres—for the Central and Southern, North Portsea and Cosham areas respectively and subsidiary health centres at Southsea, Milton, Copnor and Farlington.

Towards the end of 1957, however, consideration was given by the Health Services Committee to the need for child welfare, ante and post-natal clinic facilities in the west Paulsgrove area, the latter being at present available only at the Northern Road maternity and child welfare centre, Cosham, some three miles from this part of the Council's housing estate. Accordingly, plans were prepared by the City Architect for a single-storey building of simple construction to be erected in Falmouth Road, Paulsgrove, providing pram shelter and reception, food sales, records, waiting, weighing, doctor's and health visitors' rooms, at an estimated cost of £5,500. In June, 1958, these plans for a new maternity and child welfare centre, to be provided under Section 22 of the Act, were approved by the Minister of Health.

(2) **SECTION 22 (CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN)**

**SECTION 23 (MIDWIFERY)**

**SECTION 24 (HEALTH VISITING)**

(pages 38-46)

During the five year period, 1950-1954, the annual birth rates remained remarkably constant at the lower post-war level of 15 per thousand population, which corresponds closely with those for the immediate pre-war years 1933-1939. For 1955, however, the birth rate showed a substantial decrease to 14.16 per thousand population—the lowest ever recorded in Portsmouth, that for 1939 of 14.72 being the lowest rate hitherto. In 1956 the birth rate reverted to the previous post-war level of 15.08 per thousand population, and in 1957 a further increase to 15.57 was recorded. During the war years the birth rates were on a higher level, reaching a post-war peak of 24.29 (5,149 births) in 1947—the highest rate since 1920.

Domiciliary confinements numbered 1,422 (1,487), equal to 39.5% (41.6%) of the total births while, of the remainder, approximately 41% (38%) of patients were confined in the maternity sections of Saint Mary's Hospital and its annexes, and 704 (734), or 19.6% (20%), in private nursing homes (including the Royal Naval and Royal Marine Maternity Home). The average number of cases attended by each municipal midwife during the year was 78.9 (77.5).

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

As in the two previous years, there was only one death in respect of which pregnancy was considered to be the primary cause. Thus, the maternal mortality rate was again 0.28 per thousand total births—the lowest ever recorded in Portsmouth.

#### ANTE-NATAL CARE

In May, 1956, the Ministry of Health, on the recommendation of their Standing Maternity and Midwifery Advisory Committee, requested that the Advisory Committee's memorandum on "Ante-Natal Care related to Toxaemia" should be discussed locally at Hospital Group level between professional representatives of the three parts of the National Health Service involved—the Hospital and Specialist Service, the Local Authority Services and the General Medical Practitioners. A meeting was accordingly convened by the Chairman of the Management Committee in September, the respective professional bodies concerned including practitioner members of the Local Medical Committee.

This Committee was a widely representative one and a complete review of the ante-natal care provided in the area controlled by the Group was accordingly undertaken, as a result of which it was placed on record that these ante-natal services closely accord with the recommendations of the Maternity and Midwifery Committee's memorandum. Nevertheless, certain recommendations were made on administrative measures to improve the present service and in due course circular letters were sent to the local medical profession by the Chief Obstetrical Consultant to the Group and to municipal midwives and midwives in nursing homes by the Medical Officer of Health; a copy of the latter is appended:—

"Dear Nurse,

#### Ante-Natal Care

Enclosed is an important circular for your most careful consideration. You will see from your study of this that toxæmia of pregnancy is one of the chief causes of maternal mortality as well as an important factor in the causation of stillbirth and neonatal deaths. It follows, therefore, that to detect early toxæmia and to obtain treatment for this is of vital importance.

To make any real impression on the mortality rate, particularly the stillbirth and neonatal death rates, all concerned must realise the importance of even very small deviations from normal and the necessity for the introduction of more stringent standards of what must be considered to be a significant degree of toxæmia.

The vital importance of the following is emphasised:

1. Increased accuracy in weighing of patients at ante-natal visits and the realisation of the significance of weight gains in excess of 4 lbs. in any one month. Such excessive weight increases require weekly visits by the patient and dietary measures. If such weight gains persist or are accompanied by any other sign of toxæmia, admission to hospital becomes necessary.
2. The recognition of a blood pressure of 130/70 as the highest normal blood pressure and the necessity for weekly observation of such cases.
3. The necessity for admission to hospital of patients with blood pressures in excess of 140/90 or even lower than this in the presence of albuminuria or cedema. The earlier the admission in this type of case the shorter will be the stay in hospital.
4. All cases of toxæmia, however early, should be sent to their own general practitioner or to the Local Authority's ante-natal clinic, either of whom will arrange for the patient to be seen by the Obstetric Consultant at Saint Mary's Hospital. Home treatment is not advocated for those cases if it can possibly be avoided.
5. In order that the preceding recommendations may be implemented, beds have been made available in Saint Mary's Hospital, so that it should never be necessary to delay admission of a case of toxæmia on account of bed shortage.

It will be seen from paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 that many more ante-natal visits will be required either by the midwife and/or the doctor visiting the patient or by the patient visiting the Local Authority's ante-natal clinic. The advantage of the latter to the midwife is that her findings can be immediately checked and appropriate steps taken. This increased ante-natal care will entail more education of the expectant mother and it is in this direction that a midwife can render valuable assistance by influencing the mother in the necessity for this.

All midwives are therefore asked to review their ante-natal care in the light of the foregoing recommendations and to co-operate in every way with the general practitioner and the Local Authority's ante-natal clinics for the benefit of all expectant mothers.

Yours faithfully,

T. E. ROBERTS.

Medical Officer of Health."

Attendances at the municipal ante-natal clinics continued to be very satisfactory—1,658, compared with 1,680 in 1956, while co-operation with the general practitioners has been well maintained.

## INFANT MORTALITY

The death rate of infants under one year—21·52 per thousand live births—was again very favourable, indeed the lowest hitherto recorded, while those for the previous five years are almost equally satisfactory: 1952—23·24, 1953—23·80, 1954—23·71, 1955—23·96, 1956—24·10. Only ten years ago, in 1947, immediately before the operation of the National Health Service, the infant mortality rate was 33·40; in 1937 a rate of 44, and in 1927 one of 55 per thousand live births were recorded.

## DAY NURSERIES

In view of the decreasing demand for places following the introduction of a new scale of assessment in March, 1953, which increased the weekly charges considerably to all but the lowest income groups, three of the day nurseries were closed in that year, and in March, 1956, a further nursery was closed—Anglesea Road. During 1957 there were 107 (129) admissions to the two remaining nurseries, in which there are places for 75 children; (a) St. Peter's Institute, Somers Road—old complement 46, revised 40, (b) Twyford Avenue—old complement 40, revised 35.

## NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

Two (3) new premises providing accommodation for 36 children were registered during the year. At the end of the year there were in all fifteen (16) premises registered under this Act providing accommodation for 297 (329) children; no daily minders are at present registered to receive children.

## HEALTH VISITING

At the end of the year there were 22 (22) health visitors, and two trained nurses engaged as full-time tuberculosis visitors. Total visits paid numbered 61,693 (62,747), of which 51,256 were to children under five, 6,027 to other age groups in the family, especially the aged, and 4,410 to tuberculosis patients. Visits to old people and other adults have increased considerably in recent years: 1952—3,172, 1954—5,171, 1956—6,468, 1957—6,027.

### (3) SECTION 25 (HOME NURSING) (page 47)

The Portsmouth Victoria Nursing Association, founded in 1884, which had for many years prior to the "appointed day" provided a very efficient service of home nursing in the area, has continued this service under the general control of the authority. As will be seen from the report of the Secretaries (page 47), an average of 33 (36) nurses was employed, 16 (18) at Radnor House and 17 (18) at Beddow House, the total number of cases attended being 4,749 (4,853) and visits paid 121,215 (122,211). Analysis of the cases attended shows that more than half were patients over 65 years of age, nearly three-quarters of the visits paid being to members of this age group. Due to the ageing population this trend has become more marked in recent years; fortunately, infants and young persons seem to be healthier and requiring less attention than formerly.

Nursing equipment is supplied on loan to patients from a stock held by the Victoria Nursing Association; this is additional to that issued from the medical loan depots of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society.

**(4) SECTION 26 (VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION)** (pages 49-52)**(a) VACCINATION**

The proportion of infants vaccinated during the first year of life was somewhat greater than in recent years—1,168 vaccination, or 33.1% of the total births, compared with an average of 31.5% in the three previous years; of this number 738 infants were vaccinated by their family doctors and 430 by medical officers of the Health Department. Total vaccinations numbered 3,407 (2,857), of which 2,491 (2,150) were primary and 916 (707) revaccinations.

**(b) IMMUNISATION**

During the year 2,917 (3,176) children were given a complete course of immunisation against diphtheria and 7,502 (8,059) a supplementary injection; of these 44.5% (45.2%) were immunised by private practitioners and the remainder by medical officers of the Health Department. The total number of children immunised since the inception of the scheme in 1935 is now 89,749.

The success of the diphtheria immunisation scheme is clearly shown in the appended table giving the yearly statistics of confirmed cases of diphtheria admitted to hospital and deaths from this disease.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Admitted to hospital</i>	<i>Died</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Admitted to hospital</i>	<i>Died</i>
1938	302	14	1951	5	1
1940	79	4	1952	—	—
1942	75	2	1953	1 (Haslar)	—
1944	17	2	1954	—	—
1946	17	—	1955	—	—
1948	6	—	1956	2	—
1950	1	—	1957	—	—

In connection with immunisation against whooping cough (pertussis) 2,130 children were given the full course of three injections by medical officers, compared with 2,162 in the previous year.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis of children born between 1947 and 1954 (who had been registered prior to 24th March, 1956) was resumed from March, 1957, onwards when supplies of vaccine again became available. During the year 975 (170) children in this age-group were given the complete course of two injections—478 by private practitioners and 497 by the Vaccination Medical Officer; 805 of these were of school age.

In May, 1957, registration of the 1947-54 age group was resumed and extended by the Ministry to include children born in 1955 and 1956; in December eligibility to register for vaccination was further extended to include all children born between 1943 and 1956, those born in 1957 who had reached the age of six months and, for the first time, expectant mothers.

**(5) SECTION 27 (AMBULANCE SERVICE)** (pages 53-57)

Although there was once again a further slight increase in stretcher case work, during 1957 considerably fewer sitting cases were conveyed. Thus, there was an overall reduction in the total number of patients carried—69,090, compared with the record number of 71,176 in 1956, of whom 15,364 (15,322) were stretcher and 53,726 (55,854) sitting cases. Similarly, patient-carrying mileage showed a further reduction to 229,303, compared with 244,924 in the previous year and the "all-time peak" of 250,940 in 1952, while "miles per patient"—a measure of the general efficiency of the Service—declined to the lowest so far recorded, 3.3, compared with 3.4 in the

previous year and 4.2 in 1952 before radio-telephony was installed. The additional carrying capacity of the two dual-purpose vehicles purchased in November, 1956, has doubtless contributed something to this further economy in working.

Installation of radio-telephony in eighteen first-line vehicles in March, 1953, has proved of immense benefit—not only by increasing the general efficiency and speed of dealing with emergencies, but by a reduction of over 20% in the "average mileage per patient carried" from 4.2 miles in 1952 to 3.3 in 1957. Thus, it was possible for the Ambulance Service to deal with a greater number of patients in each of the last five years without increasing the staff or vehicle establishment, the total mileage being actually less than the peak figure of 250,940 in 1952, when only 59,421 patients were conveyed.

Year	Patients Carried:			Patient Carrying Mileage	Av. Mileage per Patient
	Stretcher	Sitting	Total		
1952	14,642	44,779	59,421	250,940	4.2
1953	15,102	48,628	63,730	244,182	3.8
1954	14,271	49,296	63,567	242,791	3.8
1955	15,191	51,290	66,481	248,569	3.7
1956	15,322	55,854	71,176	244,924	3.4
1957	15,364	53,726	69,090	229,303	3.3

#### (6) SECTION 28 (PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE)

There has been no further development during the year of the services operated under this section which have been referred to in previous reports. The supply of milk to tuberculosis patients has continued, convalescent home treatment has been arranged for patients in need of recuperative rest after illness or operation, and items of equipment for home nursing have been provided, either on loan or for permanent use, by the Victoria Nursing Association, British Red Cross Society, St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Local Authority.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

The "Family Doctor" displays referred to last year continued to be circulated until May, when they were transferred to Brighton.

Talks were given, several accompanied by films, to various bodies, including catering students at the College of Technology and groups of food handlers (e.g. grocers, butchers, fishmongers, etc.) at the Chamber of Commerce hall.

During the year I had the pleasure of corresponding, and exchanging education publications, with Dr. A. R. Southwood, the Director-General of Public Health of Australia.

A new Health Services Handbook was produced in September. This was the fifth edition which has been published, and the second of the enlarged versions prepared in collaboration with the Local Executive Council and the St. James and the Portsmouth Group Hospital Management Committees. The distribution of this handbook was combined as far as possible with that of the "cancer and smoking" posters referred to later (under the heading "Cancer Education").

Several improvements and repairs to "equipment" were carried out: a carrying box was made for the screen used with the filmstrip projector; the large poster frames in the Guildhall Square were repaired and repainted, and those on Copnor Bridge were replaced by a set of five smaller ("double crown" size) boards. The Lees Paper Staining Company (makers of "Crown"

wallpaper) were asked to make a large folder, with a number of divisions, to accommodate the many different types of poster held, and I am pleased to record that they very kindly produced an excellent folder, free of charge.

The "Wash your Hands" poster set designed by one of the specialist public health inspectors (the theme being derived from a small poster issued by *Family Doctor*) was displayed in the Guildhall Square during the summer months.

As Chairman of the Portsmouth Marriage Advisory Committee, I have participated, with the Reverend Canon W. J. Smith and our members, advisors and consultants, in this valuable and rewarding work.

The interest of Portsmouth's local newspaper, the *Evening News*, in all matters affecting the health of the people is a course of constant encouragement. In particular, their frequent references to vaccination against poliomyelitis have materially helped to keep people informed of the development of this scheme.

#### B.C.G. VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

Full details were given in the Report for 1954 of the B.C.G. vaccination scheme for 13 year old 'school leavers', and the same procedure was followed during 1957, as it was found entirely satisfactory. The great advantage of the present scheme is that the "Heaf" method of tuberculin testing can be carried out by a nurse—thus saving a great deal of the medical officer's time. In addition, this method of testing is more acceptable to the children than the Mantoux test which involves an intradermal injection.

Particulars of the numbers dealt with are given in the table on page 52, from which it will be seen that 2,600 (2,459) forms were sent to the parents of children aged 13½—14 years in the Education Committee's schools and 80% (80·3%) agreed to tuberculin testing and B.C.G. vaccination being done, if found necessary. Subsequently 39 visits were paid to schools and 1,855 children were tested; of these 86·7% (84·9%) were tuberculin negative and 1,511 were vaccinated. Positive reactors numbered 231—13·3% (15·1%) of those tested; 28 were already attending the Chest Clinic, and 282 were given appointments for the Mass Radiography Unit.

In addition, B.C.G. vaccination of contacts of all ages was further extended, regular sessions being held at the Chest Clinic for this purpose and for follow-up of those previously vaccinated; during the year 298 (345) contacts were vaccinated.

#### TUBERCULOSIS (pages 58–61)

The Consultant Chest Physician, in his informative and encouraging report, again refers to the continued decline in the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis as shown by the fall in primary notifications to 129—89 men and 40 women—compared with 149 in the previous year and 270 as recently as 1951; under 15 years of age only four cases were notified compared with 12 in 1956. In men the incidence of the disease appears to be distributed fairly uniformly throughout the older age groups, all deaths occurring from age 45 onwards, while in women the incidence is highest in the period 15—35 years, the total mortality being considerably lower than for males. Although no less than 954 (763) new contacts were examined, only five definite cases of tuberculosis were discovered by this means—an indication of "the general improvement in the control of infectivity and that this source of discovery of new disease is becoming of decreasing importance".

As will be evident from the appended table showing deaths from tuberculosis for the ten year period 1948–1957, the dramatic decline in

the mortality from this disease which continued uninterrupted until 1955 has, in the past two years, failed to fall any further, the number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, namely 23, being merely the average for the past three years.

	RESPIRATORY			NON-RESPIRATORY			COMBINED		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Grand Total
1948 ...	69	51	120	7	3	10	76	54	130
1949 ...	62	36	98	5	4	9	67	40	107
1950 ...	56	31	87	6	2	8	62	33	95
1951 ...	39	21	60	5	1	6	44	22	66
1952 ...	40	11	51	7	4	11	47	15	62
1953 ...	30	16	46	4	2	6	34	18	52
1954 ...	24	14	38	3	4	7	27	18	45
1955 ...	16	4	20	—	3	3	16	7	23
1956 ...	21	5	26	—	1	1	21	6	27
1957 ...	17	6	23	—	1	1	17	7	24

Portsmouth is fortunate in having one of the most active and efficient Voluntary Care Committees in the country; throughout the year they continued to carry on their good work, details of which are given in the Almoner's report which is well worthy of perusal.

#### MASS RADIOGRAPHY (pages 62-68)

Throughout the year two Mass Radiography Units were based at Portsmouth: the original Unit, supplied in July, 1944, which is now wholly static, and the fully mobile second Unit complete with caravan and staff-transport car delivered in October, 1956. The latter made 41 moves, including a visit of 16 weeks to the Isle of Wight, as well as to many places previously untouched in the eastern part of its territory.

With two Units operating for a full year X-ray examinations were the highest hitherto recorded—77,240, compared with 60,312 in the previous year and 42,696 in 1955. As will be seen from Table V, this total included 31,938 Portsmouth residents—18,918 men and 13,020 women, of whom only 35 were found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis—an incidence of 1.1 per thousand examined, compared with 1.05 in the previous year (the lowest recorded) and 2.02 in 1955. In his most instructive report the Medical Director comments: "it is of interest that almost a third of the total cases of tuberculosis found in Portsmouth were in men over the age of 55". As the highest incidence of lung cancer also occurs in males of the same age group it seems highly probable that both are predisposed to by a common factor—excessive smoking.

Once again patients referred by general practitioners proved to be the most fruitful source for the discovery of new cases of tuberculosis, with an incidence of 4.44 per thousand examined (Table IV), followed by out-patients of general hospitals—2.49, and the general public—1.64.

In connection with the B.C.G. vaccination scheme for 13 year old "school leavers", 367 (591) tuberculin-positive Portsmouth children and 148 (315) members of their families were examined at the Unit, but fortunately no case of active tuberculosis was found in either group.

**(7) SECTION 29 (DOMESTIC HELP) (page 40)**

The Home Help Service provides domestic assistance in households where such help is required "owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age".

The demand upon the Service shewed no signs of abating during 1957 and, although the number of cases assisted was slightly fewer than in the previous year—762, compared with 775, the home helps worked 4,335 more hours, the total being 75,067½. When holidays, sickness and travelling time are added, the number of hours for which payment was made amounted to 84,658¾, compared with 86,115 in 1956, the decrease being due to a lower incidence of sickness amongst home helps.

As in past years, the old and chronic person almost monopolised the Service, to the extent of nearly 90%; the amount of assistance being given to this type of case remains fairly constant around this figure and, with the continuing increase in the ageing population, it might be more appropriate to refer to this function of the Local Health Authority as the "Old People's Home Help Service". It is gratifying to record that the City Council have approved the addition of £1,000 to the Home Help Service section of the Health Services Committee estimates for the financial year 1958/9, solely for old people.

Six more "group schemes" were inaugurated, making a total of 14 in operation at the end of the year. Apart from the administrative advantage of this scheme, there is no doubt that it plays an important part in preventing or deferring the removal of old people to hospital or institution, and is thus a valuable supplement to the various other services for the aged and infirm.

It is worthy of comment that, although Section 29 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, is obligatory only, the Home Help Service has proved to be an essential part of the national as well as local Health Services, and one which is much sought after.

**(8) SECTIONS 28 & 51 - PART V OF THE ACT (MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES) (pages 69-72)**

The organisation of the Mental Health Service has continued as described in the Report for 1953 and outlined in that of the Executive Officer for the year under review.

Cases of alleged mental illness dealt with by the Service show a further increase, 622 persons having been referred, compared with 620 in the previous year, and 605 in 1956, while at the end of 1957 there were 297 (280) mental defectives under statutory supervision and a further 431 (452) under "voluntary supervision"—not being "subject to be dealt with".

Langstone House Day Training Centre for Mental Defectives, Eastern Road, was completed on 24th May, 1957, and taken into use in July. The buildings have been designed to accommodate 137 trainees, of both sexes, in three age groups, as follows:—25 juniors—up to 10 years, 56 intermediates—8 to 40 years, and 56 seniors—15 to 40 years. Provision has been made so that the premises could be extended to accommodate a total of 175 trainees.

The accommodation of the new Training Centre comprises a hall, which has a dual function of assembly hall and dining room, a kitchen, eight general classrooms, handicraft room, staff rooms, cloakrooms and lavatories. The building has been so planned that each age group has its own entrance, cloakrooms and lavatory accommodation. The kitchen is designed for the service of ready-cooked food which at present is supplied by St. James Hospital. The contract figure for this building was £39,520. The official opening was performed by the Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health, Mr. Richard Thompson, M.P., on 9th October, 1957.

Considerable difficulties were again encountered in securing the admission to hospital of mental defectives in need of institutional care. This question is a continual source of anxiety to the Mental Health Service and there appears to be little prospect of any immediate improvement in the situation.

### CARE OF THE AGED

One of the speakers at a recent conference referred to the fact that the people most in need of assistance in these days of full employment were either very old or very young. Certainly, the care of the aged is one of the major problems occupying the attention and energies of a large number of organisations, both local authority and voluntary. Reference is made in other sections of this Report to the increasing proportion of old people in the population and, as mentioned before, this trend is more marked in cities like Portsmouth where the younger members of the community are being rehoused outside the City boundary.

It was also said that "fireside happiness" was the best purveyor of mental health, a statement which could well apply to those old people who, with the assistance of all those agencies interested in their welfare, are able to remain in health and comfort in their own homes. Liaison between these organisations continues to be very good locally, and it is rare for any case to defeat their combined efforts. This is reflected in the small number of persons whom it has been necessary to deal with under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. (None in the last three years.)

The plans mentioned in last year's Report for the extension of the "group home help scheme" for old people were put into operation in six further districts during 1957. The benefits derived from this service are therefore now available over a much wider area.

The schedule below gives details of institutional accommodation, apart from hospitals, available for old people in Portsmouth.

#### Local Authority Provision

So far as the Local Authority is concerned, the body responsible for residential care of aged persons is the Welfare Services Committee, and they had made the following provision by the end of the year. The home at Link Road, Cosham, which it was hoped would be completed by the end of 1957 will not now be ready until 1959, when accommodation will be available for 60 persons. The home at Stone Street was opened early in 1958 and provides for a further 35 old people.

HOME	ACCOMMODATION
St. Mary's House, Portsmouth	515 total — top floor rarely used
St. Vincent Lodge, Kent Road	35
St. Bernard Lodge, Merton Road	42
Jubilee Homes for the Blind, Cosham	28
Elizabeth House, Wymering	35
Margaret House, Farlington	35
Highgrove Lodge, Drayton	35

**Voluntary Provision**

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION
Portsmouth Social Service Council, Old People's Welfare Committee.	Sunbury Court, Festing Road (hostel). Accommodation for 26 old ladies. Kelly Homes, Northern Parade (five bungalows for married couples).
Women's Voluntary Services	Queen Anne Lodge, Nightingale Road (hostel). Accommodation for 20 old persons.
The Church Army	Churchill House, Ashburton Road (single rooms with kitchenette). Accommodation for 10 residents.
Committee of Management (C. of E.) <i>Chairman</i> , Mr. A. E. Hadley	Home of Comfort, Victoria Grove (registered nursing home). Accommodation for 11 infirm ladies.
The Forces Help Society	Princess Christian Home, Grand Parade (hostel). Accommodation for 14 pensioners — male (some infirm).
Friendly Society's Homes	Glasgow Road, Milton. 24 flats — 16 single, 8 for married couples.  Canal Walk, Landport. 9 flats — all for married couples (4 flats only fit for use at present time — remainder, on top floor, considered unsafe). Negotiations are still proceeding with Charity Commissioners regarding the preparation of a scheme to deal with the whole of this block.

In addition to residential provision, assistance to elderly persons in their own homes occupied the attention not only of the Local Authority but also the voluntary bodies in the City. The Old People's Welfare Committee continued to expand and extend their programme. Recreational activities included parties, outings, the provision of wireless, food parcels, and many other forms of social service, including thirteen "Good Companions" clubs, all of which are self-supporting and have long waiting lists. These clubs do a tremendous amount to relieve the loneliness of old people living by themselves, and also encourage members to help each other by friendly visiting, etc. They are hoping to establish further clubs. The Committee maintain a close liaison with hospital almoners and health visitors and are often able to assist in cases referred to them from these sources. The demand for the type of accommodation provided at Sunbury Court is increasing as elderly people become more infirm and less able to maintain their own homes, and the Committee are still conscious of the need for "Half-way Houses", i.e. accommodation for elderly people who do not need hospital care but are not fit to enter a hostel or remain at home. A block of four flats for old age pensioner couples is now under construction in Harold Road, Southsea, and it is hoped will be completed before Christmas, 1958. The holidays scheme arranged by the Southsea Hotels, Boarding Houses and Caterers' Association has proved a great success and the numbers coming to the City in 1957 were larger than ever. For the second time this Committee has co-operated with those doing work for old people, especially with the

"Good Companions" clubs, in arranging holidays for Portsmouth old age pensioners. Last year 193 went for a week to Herne Bay and 71 for two weeks. The holiday proved quite a remarkable success and delighted all those who took part.

The Women's Voluntary Services' "meals on wheels" continues to deliver a two-course meal to between 50 and 75 old people twice a week, and the mobile library, run in conjunction with the City Librarian, is still a most popular service. The five "Darby and Joan" clubs have a membership of between 750 and 800 and a waiting list. Members of the service are always willing to visit lonely old people brought to their notice.

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

Section 47, which gives local authorities power to effect the removal to hospital of persons who, because of grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated and living in insanitary conditions, are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, was amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, which came into force on 1st September, 1951. Briefly, this means that it is now possible to arrange for the removal of persons in need of care and attention immediately; formerly it was necessary to give seven clear days' notice.

In no case was it necessary to effect removal under an Order, although in one instance an Order was in process of being granted when the patient was removed to hospital as an emergency. Numerous investigations and visits were again made by health visitors, public health inspectors and members of the medical staff to elderly persons living alone or receiving inadequate care, and a number of cases is kept under special surveillance to ensure there is no deterioration in conditions. The number of cases dealt with, particularly by health visitors, remains high, over 2,800 visits being made by them in connection with the care of old people. Action taken to remedy the unsatisfactory conditions found in some of these cases included the provision of home help and/or home nursing, supply of clothing and bed linen through voluntary agencies, the National Assistance Board, etc.; some were persuaded to enter St. Mary's House or other institutions voluntarily.

### **EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS**

#### **Epileptics**

The method of dealing with epileptic school children as detailed in last year's Report remains unchanged.

93 children, who attend either ordinary or day special schools for physically handicapped or educationally subnormal pupils in the City, are kept under the supervision of the School Health Service at periodic and special medical inspections, and very few show any symptoms of their disease. One boy was admitted to a residential special school because his behaviour had deteriorated so much that it was impossible to keep him in an ordinary school—this brings the total having this type of special educational treatment to two.

The Disablement Resettlement Officer has kindly given me the information that there are now 104 registered disabled persons suffering from epilepsy—85 men and 19 women, and he estimates that about 20% of these are habitually unemployed—this is a slightly better figure than last year.

The local branch of the British Epilepsy Association holds regular meetings, where individual problems are discussed and help given.

## Spastics

The enthusiastic work of the staff at the Cerebral Palsy Day Unit at Queen Alexandra Hospital still continues to show great benefit to the children in attendance. One aspect of the Unit which perhaps was not fully appreciated originally is that enabling some of the children to be carefully observed and resettled in other schools, etc. where they could be helped more. In this way one boy has been transferred to a day special school for physically handicapped pupils, another to a residential special school, and a third is to have special teaching from a teacher of the deaf. One other child was ascertained as ineducable and excluded from the Unit.

During the year all the children in attendance were tested audiometrically, but no unexpected results were found. For most of the year eleven children from Portsmouth and eight from the surrounding County area attended the Unit. Four new cases of cerebral palsy were found in very young children—some of whom may require special educational treatment later.

The problem of the adolescent and adult spastic and how they can be helped still remains a very difficult one to solve.

## BLIND PERSONS

Under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act the Welfare Services Committee is responsible to the Council for the welfare of the blind; the information given in the appended table regarding registered blind and partially sighted persons has accordingly been provided by the Director of Welfare Services:—

### A.—FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which F.I of Form B.D.8 recommends:—	Cause of Disability				
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Others
(a) No treatment ...	2	5	—	—	44
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical, optical or hospital supervision ...	10	8	—	—	18
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ...	6	6	—	—	11

There have been no further confirmed cases of retrolental fibroplasia since September, 1952, when it became obvious that excessive concentration of oxygen in the "Oxygenaire" box was responsible for the condition, and simple practical steps were taken to obviate this.

### B.—OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(i) Total number of cases notified during year ...	2
(ii) Number of cases in which:—	
(a) Vision lost ...	NIL
(b) Vision impaired ...	
(c) Treatment continuing at the end of year ...	

It will be noted that one case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified during the year, compared with two in the previous year and fourteen in 1952, and in this case there was no impairment of vision.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES (pages 73-82)

As will be seen from the table on page 76, there was a considerable increase in the total number of cases of infectious diseases recorded—2,502, compared with 1,597 in 1956; this was mainly due to the prevalence of measles throughout the greater part of the year—1,706 cases being notified compared with 784 in the previous year and 4,479 in 1955, when there was a severe epidemic. Notifications of acute pneumonia also showed a considerable increase—157 cases, compared with 45, the peak period of this disease being in October, at the height of the influenza epidemic, when 70 cases were reported in a period of three weeks.

In common with the rest of the country, Portsmouth experienced an epidemic of influenza from September to November which reached its peak in mid-October, i.e. from one to two weeks later than the outbreaks in the Midland and Northern Regions of England. In cases where laboratory investigations were performed influenza virus A—Asian variant, was identified. Schools were apparently first affected, over 50 per cent. of absentees being reported in several departments in late September and early October. Among adults the highest incidence occurred somewhat later, as was evident from the sickness returns of H.M. Dockyard, Service establishments and the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance which rapidly rose during October to more than 250% above the average. A marked increase was also observed in notifications of pneumonia, mostly of influenzal type—93 cases being reported in the six weeks from the end of September to early November. During the last quarter of the year 28 deaths were attributed to influenza.

Decreases occurred in scarlet fever—64 notifications, compared with 122; whooping cough—298, compared with 312; diphtheria—no cases, compared with two; puerperal pyrexia—35, compared with 59; tuberculosis—pulmonary 129, compared with 149 cases notified, and other forms 12, compared with 13.

Amongst the intestinal diseases there were one of typhoid fever, compared with two of paratyphoid in the previous year; 19 of dysentery, mostly of Sonn  type, compared with 64; and 29 of food poisoning, compared with 18. Reference to these is made in the section on "Food and Drink Infections" on pages 26 and 27.

The incidence of poliomyelitis showed a substantial increase to 26 confirmed cases, of which 17 were paralytic and 9 non-paralytic, compared with a total of eight in 1956; two fatal cases occurred in persons over thirty years of age.

There were 24 deaths from tuberculosis, compared with 27 in the previous year, 23 in 1955 and 45 in 1954—pulmonary 23 (26), and other forms one (1). Whooping cough caused one death and meningococcal infections three, compared with none from either of these causes in 1956.

### CANCER (page 77)

The total number of deaths from this disease, which since 1952 has included leukaemia, once again shows an increase—527, compared with 484 in the previous year and 471 in 1955; moreover the death rate, partly due to a further small decrease in the total population, shows an increase

of no less than 10 (6.1) per cent., from 2.09 per thousand population in 1956 to 2.32, the highest so far recorded, compared with 2.09 for England and Wales. Presumably the proportion of elderly people in the City is increasing owing to migration of younger families to Leigh Park. Consideration of the table on page 77 reveals that in males cancer of the stomach and of sites other than those separately specified still show an upward trend, as in females do those from cancer of the breast. The only favourable feature is a decline in the total deaths from leukaemia to three, compared with 16 in the previous year and 10 in 1955.

The appended table shows the dramatic decline during the past ten years in deaths from respiratory (pulmonary) tuberculosis—especially in women, compared with the marked increase in those from cancer of the lung—mainly in men, which in 1957 numbered 82 in males and 13 in females. The total deaths from lung cancer are now more than four times the mortality from pulmonary tuberculosis and account for 27 per cent. of the total deaths from cancer in males, whereas in 1948 the proportion was only 15 per cent.

Year	Males		Females		Total Deaths	
	T.B.	Cancer	T.B.	Cancer	T.B.	Cancer
1948 ...	69	27	51	12	120	39
1949 ...	62	47	36	7	98	54
1950 ...	56	58	31	9	87	67
1951 ...	39	66	21	11	60	77
1952 ...	40	61	11	10	51	71
1953 ...	30	70	16	18	46	88
1954 ...	24	87	14	9	38	96
1955 ...	16	72	4	13	20	85
1956 ...	21	84	5	14	26	98
1957 ...	17	82	6	13	23	95

#### CANCER EDUCATION

The most important occurrence during the year was the Minister of Health's long-awaited statement in Parliament in June on Smoking and Cancer of the Lung, in which he said "The Medical Research Council have advised the Government that the most reasonable interpretation of the very great increase in deaths from lung cancer in males during the past twenty-five years is that a major part of it is caused by smoking tobacco, particularly heavy cigarette smoking. The Council point to the evidence derived from investigations in many countries in support of this conclusion, in particular to identification of several carcinogenic substances in tobacco smoke". Local health authorities were asked to take appropriate steps to inform the general public, and in Portsmouth we purchased 1,000 of the special posters prepared by the Central Council for Health Education on this subject. These were distributed widely throughout the City, to large firms, doctors, chemists, hospitals, on the public notice boards, and through various organisations such as the Trades Council. I would like to acknowledge the assistance rendered by these and other individuals and associations.

An approach had already been made to the Education Committee on the lines advocated by the Minister of Health (regarding anti-smoking publicity directed at school leavers), but the Central Council for Health Education leaflet offered was considered by the Education Committee to be unsuitable.

During the year two Cancer Conferences were attended in London—one convened by the Central Council for Health Education on the education

of the public, and the other a sessional meeting of the Royal Society of Health, on Smoking and Lung Cancer.

In September I was glad to assist in a research study being conducted by the South West London Mass X-ray Service into the Ecology of Cancer, by loaning the "particulars of deaths" sheets for the last nine years for statistical analysis.

The sixth Annual General Meeting, in December, of Portsmouth Cancer Education Committee was addressed by Mr. T. Levitt, F.R.C.S., on "Recent Advances in Cancer Research".

#### **VENEREAL DISEASE** (pages 78-79)

Modern chemotherapeutic and antibiotic treatment of this disease clears up the signs and symptoms very quickly and this is probably the reason for the increased number of patients who failed to complete their course of treatment (which normally continues after the signs and symptoms have disappeared), despite the follow-up of these patients by letter and visit. Although there has been a slight increase in the number of new cases of both syphilis and gonorrhoea seen, the year has again been very satisfactory in that no new cases of congenital syphilis have been found.

It is gratifying to note that the many years of health education in this field are bearing some fruit; this is shown in the numbers of patients seeking advice early, by far the greater number attending being either for non-specific venereal disease or where no treatment is required. A modified table giving number of patients attending, treatments given, etc., appears on page 79).

#### **PARASITIC INFESTATION** (pages 80-82)

##### **(a) SCABIES**

The downward trend in attendances has continued, only 44 cases and 36 contacts—80 persons, being treated during the year, compared with 41 cases and 49 contacts in 1956; in 1947, however, cases numbered 656 and contacts 521—an aftermath of the war years.

##### **(b) PEDICULOSIS (Lice)**

Cases of pediculosis also continue to show a most gratifying decline, 39 families and 114 individuals—of whom 62 were actually infested—being dealt with, compared with 47 families and 150 individuals in the previous year, of whom 82 were infested. As recently as 1952, however, 850 infested persons received treatment.

#### **PUBLIC BATHS**

(pages 82-84)

During the financial year 1957-58 patronage of the Park Road Baths was adversely affected by the prevalence of influenza and, in the later months, by a prolonged spell of cold weather. In consequence the total attendances of 167,644 and gross receipts of £5,864 were slightly less than those for the previous year, which was the most favourable in the history of the Baths.

The excellent results achieved in recent years must be attributed in the main to the enthusiasm and enterprise of the Baths Superintendent and his staff, and fully justify the modest expenditure incurred by your Committee in 1949 by the installation of modern filtration and chlorination plant for the swimming pool.

As will be evident from the appended table, the number of persons, other than school children under instruction, using the swimming pool is now more than three times the figure prevailing before the filtration plant was installed and the total receipts have increased to a similar degree.

<i>Year ended 31st March</i>	<i>Number attending</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Swimming Pool</i>	<i>Slipper Baths</i>	<i>Attendances</i>	<i>Receipts</i>
1949	19,920	43,259	74,928	£2,038
1951	28,091	34,141	88,921	£3,637
1953	34,574	35,445	97,940	£3,895
1955	55,896	38,390	135,720	£5,190
1956	61,736	38,939	139,236	£5,505
1957	67,066	36,477	169,475	£5,946
1958	65,951	34,905	167,644	£5,864

The Anglesea Road Baths were under construction in 1939 when war broke out; work was stopped in the following year and the building subsequently suffered severe bomb damage as well as considerable deterioration from exposure to the weather over a period of nearly twenty years. After the refusal of several applications, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in December, 1953, gave approval in principle to the completion of the building.

In the spring of 1954, the Health and Housing Committee approved a scheme of reconstruction recommended by the Baths Sub-Committee, and instructed the City Architect to prepare sketch plans. These will include a number of improvements to bring the scheme up to modern requirements and are principally extending the swimming bath and hall, providing facilities for international swimming and diving events. They will also provide 24 slipper baths and 20 showers for men, and nine slipper baths for women, together with an immersion pool for remedial exercises; these now supersede and will occupy that part of the building originally allocated to medicated baths. In September, 1955, the Committee resolved that "having regard to the amenity value of a modern swimming bath and washing facilities in a City which has suffered so severely from the effects of enemy action, approval be given to the project being proceeded with and that, subject to the approval of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Council, the City Architect be now authorised to forward his sketch plans, together with estimates, to the Minister for his approval to the scheme." The Government's communication concerning the restriction of capital expenditure unfortunately intervened and in December the Committee decided that the proposals be deferred indefinitely.

However, towards the end of 1956 the matter was again raised and the Council at their December meeting agreed that the sketch plans and estimated cost of reconstruction be forwarded to the Minister. In August, 1957, following a visit of his Engineering Inspector, the Minister approved in principle the scheme for the completion of the Anglesea Road Baths, subject to the examination in due course of the detailed drawings and specifications; subsequently, in October, technical officers of the Council discussed with Ministry officials certain aspects of the scheme concerned with the proposals for heating, ventilating, water treatment, etc. At the time of writing, working drawings and details are now in course of preparation by the City Architect's Department to enable tenders to be obtained.

Meantime, many improvements have been made at the Park Road Baths, including:—new diving boards, hair dryers, a weighing machine, additional changing accommodation and equipment for swimmers and the redecoration of the swimming hall. The slipper baths section has also been redecorated and last year six new baths were provided in replacement of old ones. In addition, the laundry has recently been modernised by the installation of a new washing machine and hydro-extractor.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(pages 85-90 and 99-108)

During the year, 1,739 (1,830) samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Of these 121 (75) were found to be adulterated, incorrectly labelled or otherwise unsatisfactory, or 6.9%, compared with 4.1% in 1956. Of these 121 samples, 15 were formal samples, 102 informal or test samples and 4 private purchase samples.

In two cases proceedings were instituted and the remainder were dealt with by cautions or reported to the appropriate Ministry.

### FOOD AND DRINK INFECTIONS

1957, like its predecessor, was notable for lack of incident. No major infection occurred, except an extra-mural typhoid fever, imported from Majorca where a Portsmouth tourist had the misfortune to become infected. The probable incubation period, the onset of illness immediately on arrival home, together with the untypable Vi-strain of the isolated *S. typhi* proved the infection to be foreign. Contacts, who accompanied the patient on holiday, were examined but the results were negative. A fortunate feature of this case was that the infection was so dated that symptoms occurred before the patient returned to work as an assistant canteen manageress.

No paratyphoid infection was recorded.

Seventeen cases of salmonella typhi murium developed, of which ten were notified, the others being "carriers" disclosed by examination of faeces. No foci of infection were discovered, but the usual enigma followed when family contacts were investigated in that the allegedly symptomless "carrier" could be either infected or infecting. Although suspected samples were submitted no foodstuff was incriminated bacteriologically.

An unusual salmonella infection occurred when a small boy became ill and salmonella irumu was isolated from his faeces. A possible trail of infection, starting in a neighbouring borough, was followed and the course of inquiry led to a provision store with a numerous staff. The highly appreciated co-operation of the management enabled the staff to be individually interviewed, their medical histories obtained, and such was the general good sense that specimens from every employee were sent for bacteriological examination. These proved negative but a Moore's swab hung in the drainage system for five days yielded a salmonella typhi murium. A repetition of the specimens gave no recurrence of this intruder. This investigation faded to a disappointing conclusion when the last suspect was ill-advised by her mother not to co-operate in such an indelicate matter.

Similar enquiry into salmonella heidelberg and salmonella enteritides revealed no source of infection, but an untypable salmonella which occurred in a returned Service man was undoubtedly an import from Singapore, where ingestion, incubation and onset all occurred. Modern air travel obliterated the distance between East and West so that the real effects of the infection became apparent only in the patient's own home in Portsmouth.

Thirteen cases of suspected food poisoning were unconfirmed after inquiry.

A mild outbreak of diarrhoea and/or sickness, having the clinical appearance of Sonné dysentery, affected a few boys out of the hundred present at a holiday school afloat in Portsmouth Harbour. No pathogens were isolated from the affected pupils, and the visitation passed without further spread as mysteriously as it developed.

A perturbing feature of the food poisoning of four families was the fact that, although at least two of the families had treatment from medical practitioners, the Public Health Department would have been in ignorance of the incident had the vendors of the infected meat not asked for an investigation. Bacteriological examination of the remains of a joint of silverside produced a heavy growth of staphylococci pyogenes, and similar phage type organisms were recovered from two of the persons affected. Swabs of a rotary slicing machine, its handle, meat retainers and other implements in the shop, were heavily contaminated with faecal coli and streptococci, although superficially the slicer was immaculate. As was to be expected similar organisms to the last named were found in swabs from the staff's hands, but nasal swabs were negative to the causative organism. Research into the method of cooking took place at a district processing plant, but, although bacteriologically the process was exonerated, the original conditions attendant on cooking were not reproduced and it is proposed to persuade the management into an experiment to see whether actual processing of the meat reaches bactericidal temperatures.

Sonné dysentery followed no pattern and the inconsiderable number of cases that occurred showed no spread beyond immediate contacts.

The possibility of poliomyelitis virus being ingested with sea water during bathing was a popular hypothesis during 1957, and the summer saw a series of specimens taken from Langstone Harbour for examination for sewage contamination. These samples were concurrent with a series of float tests arranged by the City Engineer. Coloured markers released hourly from the sewage outfall were followed by observers in motor boats and as the tide was making the selected points of sampling were meticulously plotted. Care was taken to sample where water appeared contaminated, but the results of the experiment, although interesting, were not alarming.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

(pages 91-108)

### WATER SUPPLY

There is no change to be recorded regarding the water supply, which continues to be of excellent character both in purity and quantity.

It is a matter worthy of note that the Company celebrated its centenary during the year.

The results of the Public Analyst's chemical and bacteriological examinations are referred to on page 128.

### HOUSING

The City Architect has supplied the following information regarding housing progress during the year.

1,186 houses were completed during 1957  
(152 private enterprise)

1,276 were under construction  
(38 private enterprise)

296 were under contract, but building not started  
(all Local Authority)

These figures include houses outside the Local Authority's boundary.

## DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

### MORTUARY ACCOMMODATION

1957 was the first full year of operation of the new Central Mortuary at Saint Mary's Hospital, referred to in my Report for last year, and 290 bodies for which the Local Health Authority was responsible were received there; 273 post-mortems were performed in respect of these.

The former Public Mortuary in Park Road continued to be used as a viewing room for Coroner's inquests and 172 bodies were brought in for this purpose during the year.

### PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM

The Portchester Crematorium, controlled by the Portchester Crematorium Joint Committee, which includes representatives from the Portsmouth, Gosport, Fareham and Havant Councils, will open in September, 1958. The Crematorium comprises a Chapel, Chapel of Rest, Remembrance Room, Conservatory and Cloisters, and the grounds of approximately five acres will be laid out as ornamental gardens. It is anticipated that the Crematorium will serve a population of approximately 500,000 persons, and the number of cremations is expected to exceed 1,000 a year.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The assistance and encouragement given by the Chairmen and Members of the Health Services and Health and Housing Committees have been greatly appreciated; I should once again like to record my thanks to them, to my medical colleagues and to the various voluntary organisations in the City for their helpful co-operation. Thanks are also due to the Town Clerk and other chief officials of the Corporation for their help and advice, to the Physician Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital for his assistance with epidemiological investigations, and to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth, for his expert help with enquiries into cases of infectious disease.

I would also express my appreciation for their valuable assistance throughout the year to my Deputy (Dr. Woodrow), the Chief Health Inspector (Mr. Appleton) and my Administrative Assistant (Mr. Woodcock).

I have the honour to be, my Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. E. ROBERTS.

June, 1958.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

## STATISTICAL SUMMARIES FOR 1957

Total Population (estimated by the Registrar General) ... 226,900

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres (land and inland water) ... 9,249  
 Population (Census 1951) ... 233,545  
 Number of dwellings ... 63,120  
 Rateable value (31st March, 1958) ... £3,817,728  
 Nett product of a penny rate (year ended 31st March, 1958) ... £15,060  
 Total rainfall ... 24.91 inches

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
LIVE BIRTHS:						
Legitimate	...	3,303	1,652	1,651	} Rate per 1,000 population 15.57	
Illegitimate	...	229	108	121		
Total	...	3,532	1,760	1,772		

STILLBIRTHS:					
Legitimate	...	50	24	26	} Rate per 1,000 total births 16.43
Illegitimate	...	9	3	6	
Total	...	59	27	32	

DEATHS	...	2,664	1,377	1,287	} Rate per 1,000 population 11.74

Deaths from:

(a) Complications of pregnancy and delivery	...	...	...	1
(b) Other complications of the puerperium	...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	...	1

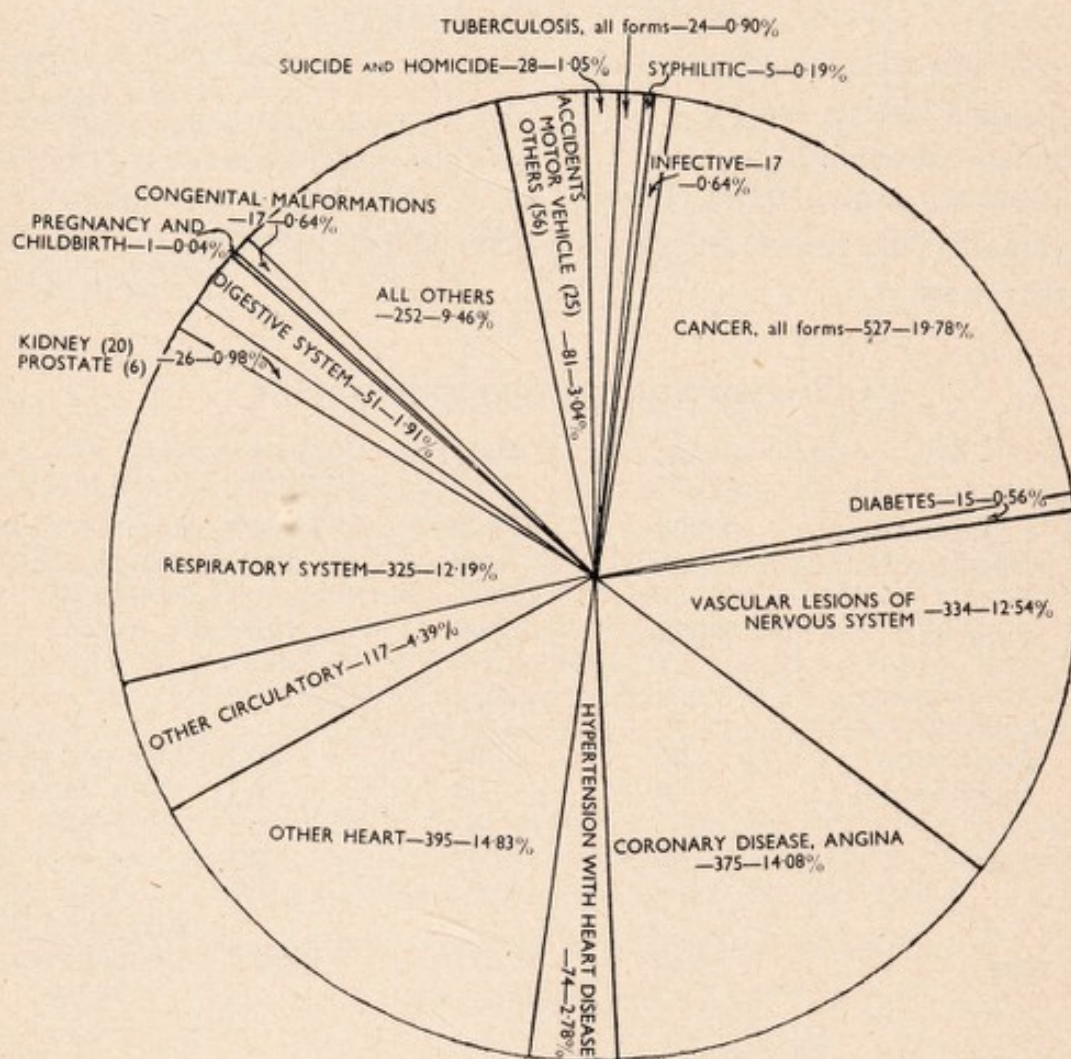
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births ... 0.28

Death rate of infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births (76)	...	...	...	21.52
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (69)	...	...	...	20.89
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births (7)	...	...	...	30.57

## PROPORTION OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL DISEASES

TOTAL—2,664



## ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATHS

	1957	1956	1955	1954
Total ... ..	2,664	2,825	2,571	2,622
Under 1 year ... ..	76	84	81	88
1-4 years ... ..	9	12	12	13
5-44 years ... ..	131	142	143	149
45-64 years ... ..	602	593	552	592
65+ ... ..	1,846	1,994	1,783	1,780
<b>Causes</b>				
*Other heart disease ... ..	395	<b>441</b>	407	406
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	375	<b>387</b>	369	346
Vascular lesions of nervous system	334	<b>366</b>	337	350
*Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms—other sites ... ..	<b>256</b>	225	232	237
*Defined and ill-defined diseases — various ... ..	<b>252</b>	230	229	243
Pneumonia ... ..	144	<b>150</b>	100	123
Bronchitis ... ..	124	<b>176</b>	146	133
*Other circulatory disease ... ..	117	<b>132</b>	114	112
Malignant neoplasm — lung, bronchus ... ..	95	<b>98</b>	85	96
Malignant neoplasm—stomach ... ..	<b>89</b>	75	71	63
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	74	<b>110</b>	80	75
Malignant neoplasm—breast ... ..	<b>60</b>	44	48	41
Accidents, other than motor vehicle	56	<b>76</b>	58	59
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	34	<b>43</b>	23	30
Influenza ... ..	<b>31</b>	3	9	4
Suicide ... ..	26	<b>40</b>	34	34
*Other diseases of respiratory system	26	<b>35</b>	23	23
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	25	21	24	<b>26</b>
Malignant neoplasm—uterus ... ..	24	<b>26</b>	25	<b>26</b>
Tuberculosis—respiratory ... ..	23	26	20	<b>38</b>
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	20	24	<b>27</b>	24
Congenital malformations ... ..	17	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	23
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea ... ..	17	15	<b>18</b>	11
Diabetes ... ..	15	10	<b>20</b>	18
*Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	<b>11</b>	6	5	7
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	6	15	18	<b>27</b>
Syphilitic disease ... ..	5	7	9	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	3	16	10	<b>19</b>
Meningococcal infections ... ..	<b>3</b>	—	1	2
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	2	2	1	<b>3</b>
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	<b>2</b>	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—other ... ..	1	1	3	<b>7</b>
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	1	1	1	<b>5</b>
Whooping cough ... ..	1	—	—	<b>3</b>

\*Causes not specified elsewhere in table.

(The highest figures in the statistics for the years under review are shown in heavy type.)

TABLE I

## COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR (1956)

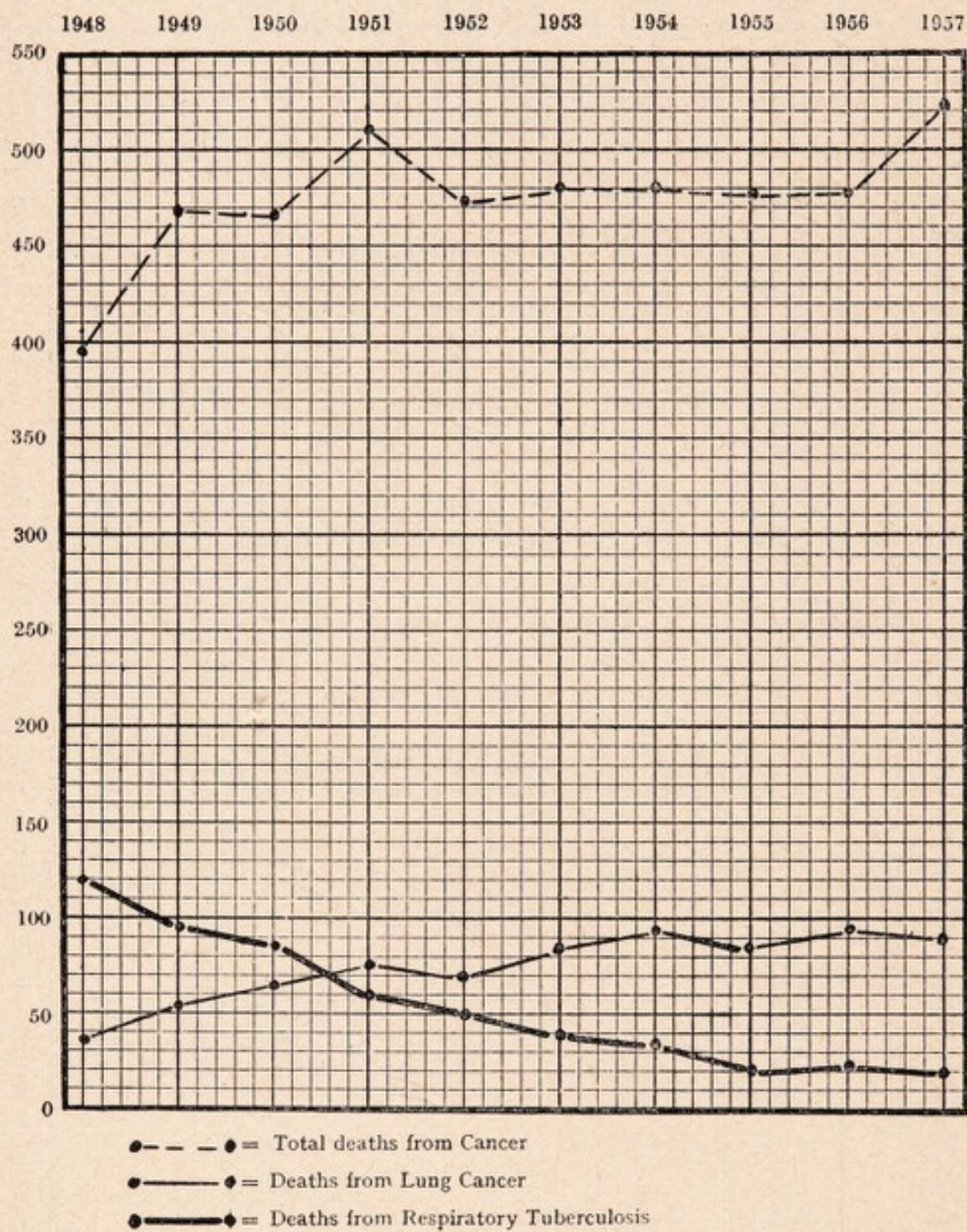
				1957 Population 226,900		1956 Population 231,100	
				Number	Rate per 1,000 living	Number	Rate per 1,000 living
Births	...	...	...	3,532	15.57	3,486	15.08
Deaths	...	...	...	2,664	11.74	2,825	12.22
„	Principal Infectious						
„	Diseases	...	...	5	0.02	8	0.03
„	Scarlet fever	...	...	—	—	—	—
„	Whooping cough	...	...	1	0.004	—	—
„	Measles	...	...	—	—	—	—
„	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—
„	Dysentery	...	...	—	—	1	0.004
„	Typhoid and Para-						
„	typhoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—
„	Enteritis and						
„	diarrhoea (under 2)	...	...	4	0.018	7	0.03
„	Influenza	...	...	31	0.14	3	0.01
„	Pulmonary tuber-						
„	culosis	...	...	23	0.10	26	0.11
„	Other form of						
„	tuberculosis	...	...	1	0.004	1	0.004
„	Cancer (including						
„	leukaemia)	...	...	527	2.32	484	2.09
				Number	Rate per 1,000 live births	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births
Deaths under 1 year of age				76	21.52	84	24.10
				Number	Rate per 1,000 total births	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births
Deaths—Maternal:							
Sepsis				—	—	1	0.28
Other Causes				1	0.28	—	—
Total				1	0.28	1	0.28

TABLE II  
TABLE SHOWING BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATES AND POPULATION  
FOR YEAR 1957 AND THE TEN PRECEDING YEARS

Year	Birth-rate per 1,000 population	Death-rate per 1,000 population	Death-rate from infectious diseases per 1,000 population	Deaths of children under 1 year—percen- tage of total deaths	Deaths of children under 1 year—per 1,000 live births	Population (R.G.'s estimate)
1957	15.57	11.74	0.02	2.86	21.52	226,900*
1956	15.08	12.22	0.03	2.97	24.10	231,100*
1955	14.16	10.77	0.02	3.15	23.96	238,700*
1954	15.23	10.76	0.03	3.36	23.71	243,600*
1953	15.21	11.59	0.04	3.12	23.80	245,800*
1952	15.43	10.77	0.04	3.33	23.24	242,600*
1951	15.05	11.87	0.06	3.76	29.64	244,400*
1950	15.22	10.92	0.05	4.16	29.84	240,020*
1949	19.06	12.05	0.07	3.80	24.04	218,250
1948	21.06	11.01	0.06	4.45	23.28	216,200
1947	24.29	12.98	0.12	6.25	33.40	212,020
Average for 10 yrs. 1947-56	16.98	11.49	0.05	3.83	25.90	—

(The most favourable figures in the statistics are shown in heavy type) \*Total population

TABLE III



## METEOROLOGY—1957

**BAROMETER.** The mean barometric pressure (corrected to sea level) for the year was 29.959 inches (29.987). The highest observed reading was 30.613 on 16th January (30.669), and the lowest 28.799 on 11th December (29.023).

**TEMPERATURES.** The mean temperature in the shade was 52.6° (50.15°).

*Maximum.* The mean maximum temperature in the shade was 57.6° (55.6°), the highest being 83° on 15th June (77°).

*Minimum.* The mean minimum temperature was 47.6° (44.7°), the lowest being 26° on 17th December (19°).

*Minimum on Grass.* The mean minimum temperature on the grass was 41.4° (38.8°), the lowest being 15° on 17th December (10°).

*Earth Temperature.* The mean temperature at one foot below the ground was 53.4° (51.3°), and at four feet 54.0° (52.0°).

*Frosts.* The minimum temperature in the shade, four feet above the ground, fell to and below freezing point on 10 days (43), and there were 52 (88) ground frosts during the year.

**SUNSHINE.** 1,767 hours 30 minutes (1,714 hours 36 minutes) of sunshine were recorded by the Campbell-Stokes recorder. The greatest amount on one day was 15 hours 12 minutes on 13th June (14 hours 54 minutes).

**RAINFALL.** The total rainfall was 24.91 inches (24.11). The greatest fall in twenty-four hours was 1.18 inches on 3rd November (2.32 inches).

**HUMIDITY.** The mean humidity of the air (saturation 100) was 79 (80).

The following phenomena were recorded:—

**HAIL** on one occasion (nil).

**SLEET** on one occasion (14—snow and sleet).

**THUNDER** on ten occasions (8).

**FOGS.** Thirteen (20).

**GALES.** Eleven—1 fresh, 10 moderate (sixteen—8 fresh, 8 moderate).

---

AVERAGES FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS (1948-57)

<i>Rainfall</i>	<i>Sunshine</i>	<i>Mean Temperature</i>
26.99 inches	1,806.0 hours	51.8°

(Figures in brackets refer to 1956)

TABLE IV  
MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1957

Month	Mean Pressure (ins.)	Temperature—Degrees F.						Sunshine		Rainfall			Relative Humidity (Saturation 100)	
		Absolute		Mean		Mean Daily Range	Total No. of hours	Days of 0.5 hrs. or more	Total m.m.	Total ins.	Days of 0.01 ins. or more			
		Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.									
January	30.124	43.7	54	32	47.6	39.8	7.8	63 hrs.	48 mins.	16	52.3	2.06	16	85
February	29.675	44.6	53	31	48.3	40.8	7.5	83	54	18	108.0	4.25	22	86
March	29.858	49.0	57	33	52.8	45.2	7.6	102	36	21	39.8	1.57	14	86
April	30.133	50.1	68	35	56.0	44.2	11.8	180	24	26	3.0	0.12	4	70
May	30.009	53.4	67	41	59.4	47.4	12.0	236	18	26	20.4	0.80	10	70
June	29.985	62.0	83	45	70.0	54.0	16.0	324	0	29	44.5	1.75	9	64
July	29.897	64.1	78	53	69.2	59.1	10.1	191	24	31	89.7	3.53	18	79
August	29.894	62.7	76	49	68.0	57.4	10.6	195	48	28	48.9	1.93	14	77
September	29.917	58.4	69	39	63.5	53.3	10.2	129	42	26	69.8	2.75	16	82
October	30.032	54.9	65	42	59.7	50.1	9.6	114	18	23	43.3	1.70	11	86
November	30.049	45.7	57	32	49.4	42.1	7.3	75	18	17	67.8	2.67	6	81
December	29.914	42.8	53	26	47.4	38.1	9.3	70	0	20	45.2	1.78	16	87
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,767	30	281	632.7	24.91	156	—
MEAN	29.959	52.6	—	—	57.6	47.6	10.0	147	18	23	52.7	2.08	13	79

TABLE V  
MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF WIND DIRECTIONS—1957

(recorded at 9 hours G.M.T.)

1957	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm	Totals
January ...	1	5	0	0	6	11	5	3	0	31
February ...	2	0	4	3	3	10	4	0	2	28
March ...	0	1	8	6	2	8	5	0	1	31
April ...	7	11	1	4	1	2	2	2	0	30
May ...	2	9	4	4	2	7	1	2	0	31
June ...	2	6	3	4	3	6	4	2	0	30
July ...	1	3	3	1	2	8	8	5	0	31
August ...	1	0	2	2	2	9	9	5	1	31
September ...	1	1	1	1	2	7	13	4	0	30
October ...	3	5	3	0	1	7	6	5	1	31
November ...	7	6	3	1	0	3	4	4	2	30
December ...	3	5	3	1	2	8	6	2	1	31
TOTALS ...	30	52	35	27	26	86	67	34	8	365
% (approx.)	8	14	10	7	7	24	18	10	2	100

**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

*By the Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health  
(Maternity and Child Welfare)*

**CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN****MATERNAL MORTALITY**

The maternal mortality rate remained at 0·28, the same as the previous year. This represents one death, the cause of which was as follows:—

Anuria. Bilateral renal cortical necrosis. Toxic ante-partum haemorrhage. Chronic nephritis.

**INFANT MORTALITY**

The infant mortality rate for 1957 decreased to 21·52, compared with 24·10 in 1956; the actual number of infant deaths was 76 (84). An analysis of these figures (page 44) shows that in 1957 the deaths occurring in the first four weeks of life numbered 57, and those from four weeks to one year 19 (comparable figures in 1956 were 57 and 27), making a neo-natal death rate of 16·14 in 1957, compared with 16·35 in the previous year. Of the 57 neo-natal deaths, 49 occurred in the first week of life, representing a perinatal mortality rate of 30·08 (37·48).

**PREMATURE BIRTHS**

Special visits were made by midwives and health visitors to all premature babies. A premature baby outfit, including cot equipment, etc., is supplied by the local authority and is available for nursing premature babies on the district.

Wherever it is possible arrangements are made for premature births to take place in hospital and during 1957, 153 (116) premature births occurred in Saint Mary's Hospital.

The total number of premature births reported during 1957 occurring at home and in private nursing homes was 64 (96). Of the 32 (35) born and nursed at home, one baby died during the first twenty-four hours, another on the second day, and 30 (34) were still surviving at the end of the month; 15 (32) babies born at home were transferred to hospital. Of the 17 (27) babies born and nursed in nursing homes, no baby died during the first twenty-four hours and 17 (27) were still surviving at the end of the month; no baby born in a nursing home was transferred to hospital.

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM**

During the year one (2) case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified. There was no resultant impairment of vision in this case.

**ATTENDANCES AT CLINICS**

The number of new patients attending the municipal ante-natal clinics showed a slight decrease from 1,680 in 1956 to 1,658. During the year patients made a total of 10,742 attendances, compared with 10,912 in 1956.

Co-operation between the general practitioners and the staff of the ante-natal clinics continues to be most satisfactory.

The number of patients who attended the post-natal clinics for the first time decreased to 130, compared with 153 in 1956. Patients made a total of 219 attendances, compared with 295 in the previous year.

The child welfare clinics continued to be well attended as will be seen from the table on page 41. There was a slight decrease in the total attendances made by the children—54,567, compared with 55,889 in 1956.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

Mothercraft talks continued to be given weekly by health visitors and midwives at the child welfare centre, Trafalgar Place, Clive Road, Fratton, and were very well attended. Practical instruction in ante-natal exercises and relaxation continued to be given and has become increasingly popular.

#### MOTHERS' CLUBS

The mothers' clubs continued to meet at Portsea and Cosham child welfare centres. More handicraft sessions were introduced and educational sessions, including lectures and the showing of films, were held and were appreciated by the mothers.

#### NATIONAL WELFARE FOODS

The arrangements for the distribution of national welfare foods continued to work smoothly; the total issues against coupons from 15 distribution centres during the year were:—

National dried milk

76,798 tins (weekly average of 1,477, compared with 2,081 for 1956).

Cod liver oil

16,810 bottles (weekly average 323, compared with 388 for 1956).

A and D tablets

11,144 packets (weekly average of 214, compared with 234 for 1956).

Orange juice

155,584 bottles (weekly average of 2,992, compared with 2,928 for 1956).

#### NURSERIES

During the year the total number of children under five years of age admitted to the day nurseries was 107 (129). The number of places available remained at 75.

Medical Officers of the Health Department continued to carry out medical examinations regularly at Annesley House residential nursery and at the Cottage Homes when the residential nursery was transferred there in November.

#### DENTAL TREATMENT

Dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and of young children continued to be carried out mainly by the hospital authorities. During the year 252 cases were referred from the local authority's clinics to Saint Mary's Hospital, compared with 409 in 1956.

#### MIDWIVES SERVICE

The total number of domiciliary midwives who were practising at the end of the year was 26, all of whom belonged to the Portsmouth Municipal Service. The total number of cases delivered by them was 1,422 (1,487). Taking into consideration sickness and holidays, this represents an average of 78.9 (77.5) cases per midwife per annum. Municipal midwives also attended 254 patients who were confined in hospital and discharged to their own homes for nursing.

Close liaison continues to be maintained between the maternity section of the Health Department and the hospital maternity booking office. The Supervisor of Midwives continues to make investigations into home conditions where admission is sought on grounds of inadequate accommodation at home. During the year she investigated 809 (807) cases.

The domiciliary service of midwives continues to undertake the district training of pupil midwives for their Part II examination of the Central Midwives Board. During the year 29 (34) pupil midwives entered for the examination and 28 (32) were successful at their first attempt.

#### ANALGESIA IN CHILDBIRTH

There was an increase in the percentage of cases to whom gas and air analgesia was administered on the district in 1957—91·9, compared with 90·8 in 1956.

The administration of pethidine by the midwives continues to be most successful in bringing relief to mothers in labour.

The following is an analysis of cases:—

Gas and air and pethidine used	882 (799)
Gas and air alone used	425 (551)
Pethidine alone used	22 (10)

The remaining cases—93—were those in which a different form of analgesia was used, those where for medical reasons it was contra-indicated, cases in which the delivery was too rapid, and where the mothers preferred to have no analgesia. 18 mothers, who had attended the mothercraft classes for instruction in ante-natal exercises and relaxation, were successful in using this method of relaxation during their confinements and preferred to have no analgesia.

#### HOME HELP SERVICE

This service continues to work satisfactorily and all cases receiving assistance are carefully selected and supervised.

The group scheme, to further the more efficient care of old people, operated well and was again extended. In this scheme a home help is given the care of approximately six cases whose homes are in close proximity to one another; 14 of these groups were in operation at the end of the year. The old people appreciate having the same home help to attend them. The number of hours worked by home helps for old people represents 89·6% of the work of the service, compared with 88·5% during 1956.

An analysis of the statistics for the year 1957 is as follows:—

Number of home helps at the end of the year	...	59
Number of maternity cases helped	...	130
Number of tuberculosis cases helped	...	14
Number of chronic sick cases helped (including the aged and infirm)	...	554
Number of other cases of illness helped	...	64
Number of hours worked for maternity cases	...	3,928
Total number of hours during which home helps were employed	...	84,658½ (86,115½)

#### HEALTH VISITING

The number of health visitors employed at the end of the year was 22 (22). One health visitor is engaged on full-time tuberculosis work, five of the remaining health visitors do part-time tuberculosis work and, in addition, two trained nurses are engaged as full-time tuberculosis visitors.

The total number of visits paid was 61,693, compared with 62,747 in 1956. The number of visits paid to children under five years of age was 51,256, compared with 51,554 in the previous year. 6,027 (6,468) visits were paid to other age groups in the family, especially the aged, and 4,410 (4,725) to tuberculosis patients.

A total number of 2,868 (3,214) visits was paid to the aged. It is felt that this work is very worthwhile as definite improvement can be made in so many cases by the introduction of home helps, contacts with relatives and helping with financial difficulties. Many of these cases are referred to this department by general practitioners and the almoners of the hospitals. The old people greatly appreciate the visits of the health visitors and the assistance given by the home helps. There is still close liaison between this department and the Queen's Nurses, the Old People's Welfare Committee and the Women's Voluntary Services.

Each health visitor has approximately 600 families in her area.

Portsmouth is one of the six authorities which co-operate with Southampton University in the training of student health visitors. During the year three students from Portsmouth commenced training there.

#### PROBLEM FAMILIES

During the year a co-ordinating committee was set up, with the Children's Officer as co-ordinating officer, to deal with the problem families in the City. The first task of this committee was to deal with the rehabilitation of the families in the family units at St. Mary's House. A number of these has been rehoused and those with young children have been placed under the supervision of the health visitor for the area in which they are living and the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector; so far, they have responded well to their new surroundings. Having tackled the most urgent problem of rehabilitating these families, other problem ones in the City are being brought to the notice of the committee to decide which is the best method of helping them.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STATISTICS

#### CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

The number of attendances, new cases and children seen by the Medical Officers at the Child Welfare Centres functioning during the year are set out below:—

	Attendances	New Cases	Seen by the Medical Officer
Fratton (two afternoons per week) ... ..	9,540	618	1,250
Epworth Road (one afternoon per week) ... ..	7,156	327	821
Drayton (one afternoon per week) ... ..	2,918	208	407
Eastney (two afternoons per week) ... ..	10,947	624	1,299
Portsea (one afternoon per week) ... ..	4,661	372	868
Stamshaw (one afternoon per week) ... ..	6,525	373	924
Tangier Road (one afternoon per week) ... ..	3,949	163	377
Cosham (one afternoon per week) ... ..	2,566	246	427
Paulsgrove (one afternoon per week) ... ..	6,305	259	525
TOTALS ... ..	54,567	3,190	6,898
TOTALS for 1956 ... ..	55,889	2,960	6,327

Attendances at Child Welfare Centres during the year 1957, classified according to the age of the child concerned, were as follows:—

Children from 0 to 1 year of age	...	...	...	40,997
„ „ 1 to 2 years of age	...	...	...	8,419
„ „ 2 to 5 years of age	...	...	...	5,151
Total	...	...	...	54,567
Total for 1956	...	...	...	55,889

Proprietary brands of dried milk were issued from the Child Welfare Centres to expectant mothers, nursing mothers and infants, at a total cost of £4,685 (£3,948); £5,107 (£4,323) was recovered from the patients.

#### DAY NURSERIES

The following are the statistical details relating to the two Day Nurseries:—

	Admissions during the year	No. on Register at 31st Dec.	Awaiting admission 31st Dec.
ST. PETER'S DAY NURSERY ... (Complement 40)	55	34	} 4
TWYFORD AVENUE DAY NURSERY ... (Complement 35)	52	31	

#### MIDWIVES

The practice of district midwives and of those practising in nursing homes during the year was satisfactory, and the inspection of midwives' bags, books and appliances was carried out regularly.

	1957	1956
Number of midwives practising on the district and in nursing homes on December 31st	35	38
Total number of cases delivered by them	2,126	2,221
Number of cases delivered by municipal midwives	1,422	1,487
Number of cases delivered in nursing homes	704	734
Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought where no doctor was engaged	77	176

#### DOMICILIARY SERVICE OF MIDWIVES

	1957	1956
Number of municipal midwives employed in Portsmouth at 31st December	26	26
Number of cases booked	2,032	2,082
Number of patients delivered	1,422	1,487
Excluding holidays and sickness:		
Average number of cases per midwife per month	6.6	6.5
Average number of cases per midwife per annum	78.9	77.5
Average weekly number of bookings	39.1	40.0

## ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

Details of the work carried out at Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics during the year are given below:—

	ANTE-NATAL				POST-NATAL			
	No. of new patients		Total attendances		No. of new patients		Total attendances	
	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956
Fratton (A.N., 5 clinics weekly) ... (P.N., 1 clinic weekly)	1,045	1,042	6,893	7,112	122	131	182	250
Cosham (A.N., 2 clinics weekly) ... (P.N., 1 clinic monthly)	405	395	2,360	2,266	8	22	37	45
Portsea (A.N., 1 clinic weekly) ...	208	243	1,473	1,534	—	—	—	—
Saint Mary's Hospital (A.N., 7 clinics weekly) ... (P.N., 1 clinic weekly)	1,279	1,257	16,952	15,411	808	697	1,089	922
TOTALS ...	2,937	2,937	27,678	26,323	938	850	1,308	1,217

## INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT OF MATERNITY CASES

	Saint Mary's Hospital	Royal Naval Maternity Home
No. of maternity beds (exclusive of isolation and labour) ...	74	19
No. of patients admitted ...	2,868	244
Average duration of stay ...	10 days	14 days
No of cases delivered by—		
(a) Midwives ...	1,965	181
(b) Doctors ...	428	32
Cases in which medical assistance was sought by midwife ...	Doctor always available	32
No. of cases notified as puerperal pyrexia ...	13	3
No. of cases of pemphigus neonatorum ...	—	—
No. of infants not entirely breast-fed while in Institution ...	866	59
No. of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum ...	—	—
No. of maternal deaths ...	1	—
No. of foetal deaths—		
(a) Stillborn ...	103	1
(b) Within 28 days of birth ...	76	—

## HOME VISITING

The health visitors paid 61,693 (62,747) visits during the year:—

						Total Number of Visits	
						1957	1956
First visits to children	...	...	...	...	...	3,481	3,315
Subsequent visits to children from 0 to 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	17,889	18,892
" " " 1 to 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	9,788	9,815
" " " 2 to 3 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	8,187	8,015
" " " 3 to 5 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	11,911	11,517
Visits to expectant mothers	...	...	...	...	...	1,226	1,330
Visits in respect of cases of illness and the aged	...	...	...	...	...	4,801	5,138
Visits in respect of tuberculosis patients	...	...	...	...	...	4,410	4,725

## INFANT MORTALITY, 1957

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES  
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Heart Disease ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia ... ..	3	1	1	—	5	—	3	1	—	9
Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ..	—	1	1	—	2	1	2	1	—	6
Congenital Malformations ... ..	5	1	—	—	6	1	1	—	—	8
Injury at Birth ... ..	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	1	9
Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	23	1	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	24
Immaturity ... ..	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Other Causes ... ..	6	2	—	—	8	1	2	—	—	11
TOTALS ... ..	49	6	2	—	57	3	10	3	3	76
Previous year (1956) ... ..	45	6	5	1	57	12	8	3	4	84

## DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

*By the Senior Dental Officer*

The establishment of a comprehensive Local Authority Dental Service, capable of providing for the dental care of the priority classes, that is, expectant and nursing mothers, children under five and the children at school, is not yet possible, nor does it seem likely to be in the foreseeable future.

The School Dental Service is still in an unstable state and is quite inadequate to provide for the needs of the children at school. Its average strength over the year was the equivalent of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  full-time dentists but for six months it was only 2 8/11. Under such conditions it is obviously impossible and would be unwise to initiate a scheme for the dental examination of children under five at the welfare clinics, which would probably have to be discontinued after a few months because of unfavourable staff changes. Extension in this direction must be delayed until more stable conditions exist. A number of children under five is seen, however, at the Education Committee's Clinics; they are mostly younger members of families who regularly avail themselves of the school clinics and are brought there or appointments sought when the parents are attending with other children.

The children attending the welfare clinics, when in need of dental care, are usually referred from there to the Dental Clinic at Saint Mary's Hospital.

Regarding the expectant and nursing mothers, these as well as children are entitled to free treatment but not free dentures under the General Dental Service. As the practitioners in the Service have always shown them some priority, there is no evidence to show that they experience difficulty in obtaining the treatment they require at the hands of the dentist of their choice.

Under an agreement with the Portsmouth Group Hospital Management Committee, clinics are however held for these patients in the Dental Department of Saint Mary's Hospital, where all forms of dental treatment are provided, including when necessary the supply of dentures, and the facilities of the hospital's X-ray department are available.

Details of the treatment provided is given in the appended tables.

### SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

#### DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

##### (a) Numbers provided with Dental Care:

Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
112	99	78	69

##### (b) Forms of Dental Treatment provided:

Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Fillings
116	19	11	2

## SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL DENTAL CLINIC

DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS  
AND PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

## (a) Numbers provided with Dental Care:

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	113	89	89	89
Children under five	130	125	118	118

## (b) Forms of Dental Treatment provided:

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Crowns or Inlays
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	2	3	87	87	3
Children under five	—	1	113	113	2

## HOME NURSING

The Secretaries of the Portsmouth Victoria Nursing Association, Messrs. Edmonds & Co. have kindly supplied the following report for 1957:—

“The work of the Association generally continues to be heavy, whilst the attention afforded to patients over 65 years of age continues to increase each succeeding year. During 1957 nearly three quarters of the total visits made representing over half the total number of cases were in respect of this class, who living alone, or with another aged companion, require considerable nursing attention extended over a lengthy period of time. The domestic conditions and environment of these patients are from time to time reported to the health visitors and other Social Services for their especial attention; the laundry arrangements for incontinent patients remain an outstanding problem. This work, together with the treatment given to patients discharged from hospital to their homes, is positive proof that the home nursing service is relieving the pressure on hospitals in as much that many potential hospital patients remain in their homes and that many actual hospital patients return earlier to their homes to continue treatment. This is of course a fundamental feature of, and the principal reason for, the development of the home nursing service.

In addition to the many bicycles used by the staff in visiting cases, the Association operated eight motor vehicles to help in the remoter and more scattered parts of the City. Four male nurses were employed on the staff during the year.

Both homes of the Association are recognised training homes for district nurses and as well as training local candidates entrants have been sent for training by other Authorities in Southern and South Western England.

The superintendents and staff continue to work in close liaison with all other branches of the health service with whom they are associated in carrying out their duties.

The Executive desire to record their thanks to our superintendents and nurses for the very efficient and untiring manner in which they have carried out their increased work.

The Executive also wish to thank the representatives of the Portsmouth Corporation, who have continued to offer us their help, and also the doctors and other social service workers for their willing help in giving lectures to candidates for the Queen's Roll.”

## PORTSMOUTH VICTORIA NURSING ASSOCIATION

## STATISTICS FOR 1957

	NURSES' HOMES				TOTAL	
	Radnor House		Beddow House			
Number of nurses employed for visiting (average) ... ..	16	(18)	17	(18)	33	(36)
Minimum in any one month ...	13	(14)	16	(15)	29	(29)
Maximum in any one month ...	21	(22)	19	(22)	40	(44)
Supervisory Staff ... ..	2	(2)	2	(2)	4	(4)
Number of cases visited in 1957:						
(a) Maternity ... ..	7	(12)	33	(13)	40	(25)
(b) Pre-school children ...	19	(69)	44	(53)	63	(122)
(c) School children ... ..	109	(95)	51	(56)	160	(151)
(d) Tuberculosis ... ..	39	(46)	23	(28)	62	(74)
(e) Other cases ... ..	2,890	(2,789)	1,534	(1,692)	4,424	(4,481)
	3,064	(3,011)	1,685	(1,842)	4,749	(4,853)
Total number of visits in respect of these cases:						
(a) Maternity ... ..	25	(108)	293	(81)	318	(189)
(b) Pre-school children ...	511	(391)	234	(318)	745	(709)
(c) School children ... ..	504	(575)	354	(481)	858	(1,056)
(d) Tuberculosis ... ..	2,456	(3,306)	104	(785)	2,560	(4,091)
(e) Other cases ... ..	73,329	(71,394)	43,405	(44,772)	116,734	(116,166)
	76,825	(75,774)	44,390	(46,437)	121,215	(122,211)

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

*By the Medical Officer in Charge***Vaccination**

The numbers vaccinated by the Health Department and medical practitioners were as follows:—

	1957			1956		
	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Re-Vacc.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Re-Vacc.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Health Department ...	725	360	1,085	556	298	854
Practitioners ...	1,766	556	2,322	1,594	409	2,003
	<u>2,491</u>	<u>916</u>	<u>3,407</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>707</u>	<u>2,857</u>

Children born in 1957 numbered 3,532 (3,486) and, of these, 1,168 (1,094) or 33.1% (31.4%) were vaccinated in the same year.

219 (238) international certificates were completed for persons going abroad.

Weekly vaccination sessions are held at all the nine child welfare centres, as well as twice weekly at the Vaccination and Immunisation Clinic, 'F' Ward, Infectious Diseases Hospital. Primary vaccinations are performed at the age of two months.

During the year members of the Health Department, including doctors, health visitors, public health inspectors, clerks, ambulance drivers and attendants, were offered vaccination.

Vaccine lymph still continues to be obtained from the Central Public Health Laboratory, Winchester.

**Diphtheria Immunisation**

Immunisation sessions are held weekly at all the nine child welfare centres and twice weekly at the Vaccination and Immunisation Clinic, 'F' Ward, Infectious Diseases Hospital. Primary immunisations are carried out from the age of four months, the vaccine used being Glaxo's combined Diphtheria and Pertussis. During the year a change was made from the use of P.T.A.P. to F.T. vaccine (issued free by the Ministry of Health) for primary immunisation in children of school age and to T.A.F. for supplementary doses. These are given to the five year old group and again at nine and thirteen years.

The following table indicates the work done since 1943:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Completed course</i>	<i>"Booster" doses</i>	<i>Cases of diphtheria admitted to hospital</i>	<i>Deaths from diphtheria</i>
1943 ...	4,784	75	31	1
1944 ...	2,518	106	17	2
1945 ...	3,633	820	13	2
1946 ...	4,763	4,243	17	—
1947 ...	4,375	3,060	15	1
1948 ...	4,917	5,452	6	—
1949 ...	4,437	3,335	7	1
1950 ...	3,428	3,756	1	—
1951 ...	3,479	5,261	5	1
1952 ...	3,214	6,551	—	—
1953 ...	3,243	5,292	1 Haslar	—
1954 ...	3,499	7,169	—	—
1955 ...	3,222	7,227	—	—
1956 ...	3,176	8,059	2	—
1957 ...	2,967	7,502	—	—

Supplementary doses are given mostly in the schools, and once again the head teachers have given excellent support. The usual annual letter was sent to the principals of private schools, offering immunisation, and this year the response was considerably better; eight schools were visited.

The proportion immunised by the various agencies (shown as a percentage of children under 5 years of age) was:—

	1957	1956
Clinics ... ..	54.6	53.7
Schools ... ..	0.1	0.5
Nurseries ... ..	0.8	0.6
Private Practitioners ... ..	44.5	45.2

Number of children who received the completed course:—

Under five years ... ..	2,454	2,618
Five to fifteen years ... ..	511	556
Over fifteen years ... ..	2	2
TOTAL ... ..	2,967	3,176
Supplementary doses ... ..	7,502	8,059
	10,469	11,235

The number of children immunised since the inception of the scheme in 1935—89,749.

The percentage of children immunised was as follows:—children born during 1957 and immunised the same year—19.6%, between one and four years 72.0%, and between five and fourteen 82.3%, giving an overall percentage of 75.3.

## REACTIONS

As in previous years those reactions which are brought to our notice have been recorded and classified as mild, moderate or severe, as shown in the following table.

	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Total
First diphtheria ... ..	1	—	—	1
First combined ... ..	2	—	1	3
Second diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—
Second combined ... ..	1	2	—	3
Third combined ... ..	—	—	—	—
Supplementary ... ..	2	8	—	10
	6	10	1	17

Reactions are not always brought to the notice of the Department but it can be assumed that those which are not are mostly of the mild type. The above table is considered to give a fair example.

### Poliomyelitis and Immunisation

There were 26 confirmed cases of poliomyelitis in the City during the year; 23 were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and 3 remained at home. None of these cases had been immunised during the previous six months.

### Whooping Cough (Pertussis) Immunisation

Immunisation is carried out with Glaxo's Diphtheria-Pertussis (combined) vaccine in most cases, though pertussis vaccine is available for cases where a child has already been immunised against diphtheria.

290 cases of whooping cough were notified by general practitioners and 12 (4.1%) were stated to have been previously immunised.

#### STATISTICS RELATING TO PERTUSSIS IMMUNISATION

	1957	1956
First doses ... ..	2,347	2,365
Second doses ... ..	2,113	2,259
Completed doses ... ..	2,130	2,162
Completed doses: Under five ...	2,106	2,129
Five to fifteen ...	24	33
	<u>2,130</u>	<u>2,162</u>

### Cholera, Typhoid, Tetanus and Typhus

129 (129) individuals, mostly persons going abroad, were vaccinated for one or more of the above diseases.

The actual numbers were:—

	1957	1956
Cholera ... ..	25	30
Cholera-typhoid ... ..	24	27
Typhoid and para-typhoid ... ..	65	65
Tetanus-typhoid ... ..	15	7
	<u>129</u>	<u>129</u>

49 (57) international certificates for cholera were issued.

### Needle Sharpening

This is undertaken at the clinic, Infectious Diseases Hospital, by the male orderly and the number of needles sharpened during the year was:—

	1957	1956
Midwives Service ... ..	4,366	4,169
Victoria Nurses ... ..	1,724	1,670
Immunisation Clinic ... ..	4,829	4,808
	<u>10,919</u>	<u>10,647</u>

Sterilisation of syringes and needles is still carried out by the Central Laboratory Syringe Service; preliminary cleaning is done by the staff at the clinic.

### B.C.G. Vaccination

The Superintendent School Nurse visited each school, by appointment, and applied the 'Heaf' multiple puncture tuberculin test. The Medical Officer in charge of Immunisation visited three days later to read the results of the tests and to vaccinate the non-reactors; all positive reactors were given appointments to attend the Mass Radiography Unit. Owing to the difficulty experienced in arranging sessions to the convenience of head teachers, because of staggered holidays, B.C.G. vaccination was this year carried out annually instead of six monthly.

The acceptance rate by parents 80% (80.3%) remains at a satisfactory level.

There was no testing for conversion this year.

#### STATISTICS RELATING TO B.C.G. VACCINATION

No. of visits to schools	Forms sent out	No. of acceptances	Number tested	Absent from initial test	Already att. Chest Clinic	Negative Reactors (vaccinated)	Positive Reactors	M.R.U. appts.	Absent from initial reading
39	2,600	2,080	1,855	225	28	1,511 (86.7%)	231 (13.3%)	282	113

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

From March onwards supplies of vaccine were received at monthly intervals and the children vaccinated were those born between 1947 and 1954, inclusive, provided they had been registered in accordance with the Ministry of Health's scheme.

For the convenience of parents the vaccinations were carried out at St. George's Square, Portsea, and Northern Road, Cosham, child welfare centres, and the Vaccination Clinic, Infectious Diseases Hospital.

The number of children who received the complete course of two injections was:—

Vaccination Medical Officer	...	497
Private practitioners	...	478
Total	...	975

805 of these were of school age.

### Influenza Vaccine

Supplies of vaccine were received later in the year for use by the under-mentioned categories:—

Medical Officers	School Nurses
Dental Officers and Attendants	Ambulance Service Staff
Midwives	Day Nursery Staffs
Health Visitors	Home Helps

110 doses to general practitioners and 68 doses to the Queen's Nurses were also issued.

**MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE SERVICE***By the Ambulance Officer***GENERAL**

The high pressure on the Ambulance Service continued during the year, even though there was a slight decrease in the total number of patients conveyed. Two of the three general hospitals and all others showed a decrease (Saint Mary's and the Royal Portsmouth) but Queen Alexandra showed an increase. The overall decrease was in sitting cases with a very slight increase in stretcher case work.

The peak hours remained much the same as in 1956, i.e. from 8.0 a.m. to 5 p.m.; but generally the greater concentration of work was in the mornings with the build up period at about 9.30 a.m. and 2.0 p.m. The average busiest days of the week were Thursdays, but the greatest variation in numbers from Monday to Friday was only an average of 25 patients.

The numbers conveyed each month did not vary to any great extent, except in August, when they were well below the monthly average. July had the highest number of patients.

**PATIENTS**

The total number of patients conveyed by the directly provided service was 69,090. This was made up of 15,364 stretcher and 53,726 sitting cases and in comparison with the previous year is a decrease of 2,086 patients. The daily average was 189.2, a decrease of 5.8 in comparison with 1956; the three general hospitals accounted for 142.5 of these.

*Admissions* were 12.4% of the total conveyed. There was a decrease of 94 in comparison with the previous year; within this category there was a slight increase in stretcher cases and a decrease in sitting case admissions.

The ratio of stretcher to sitting cases was approximately 7 to 1.

*Discharges* were 6.5% of the total. In comparison with 1956, this category decreased by 453; there was an increase in stretcher and a decrease in sitting cases.

The ratio of stretcher to sitting cases was approximately 1 to 3.

*Transfers* were 12.6% of the total—an increase over the previous year of 316. The stretcher cases showed a slight decrease but sitting case transfers increased.

The ratio was approximately 1 stretcher to 2 sitting cases.

*Outpatients* were 68.3% of the total—a decrease of 1,845 compared with 1956. There was a slight decrease in stretcher and a pronounced one in sitting cases.

The ratio was approximately 1 stretcher to 12 sitting cases.

The overall ratio was approximately 1 stretcher to 3 sitting cases. Overall, stretcher cases increased by 42 but sitting cases decreased by 2,128. Ambulances carried 15,364 stretcher and 21,516 sitting cases; sitting case vehicles conveyed 32,210 patients. There were 1,889 patients to places outside the City—an increase of 233 over 1956. Of this number 1,561 were conveyed by ambulance or car, the higher proportion of them to maternity and convalescent homes within the H.M.C. area; there were 328 patients transported by rail and sea, the greater percentage of patients by rail being to London hospitals.

Generally, patients were grateful for the service provided and there were relatively few complaints—those that were voiced were mostly about delay in being returned from treatment departments. There were a few of the treatment cases that showed a lack of consideration in that they waited until the vehicle arrived before informing us that they would not be attending; because of a repetition of this attitude in several cases, the transport was cancelled. Even though there was “generosity” in a few instances in providing transport, generally speaking, hospitals and doctors were aware of the need for economy.

The busiest hospitals from the transport point of view were the Royal Portsmouth Hospital and Saint Mary's Hospital. In recent years the greatest comparative reduction has been in Chest Clinic cases, as the table below shows:—

	<i>Admissions</i>	<i>Discharges</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Outpatients</i>	<i>Total</i>
1951	... 290	214	4,429	3,931	8,864
1952	... 310	262	5,128	2,928	8,628
1953	... 326	295	2,145	2,877	6,643
1954	... 231	167	3,189	2,550	6,137
1955	... 142	128	3,229	1,797	5,296
1956	... 153	55	2,123	1,249	3,580
1957	... 104	34	1,660	987	2,785

Patient carrying mileage was 229,303; ambulances covered 131,390 miles and sitting case vehicles 97,913. In comparison with 1956, this is a reduction of 15,621 miles; the miles per patient were 3.3. Patients by rail travelled 22,164 miles.

#### EMERGENCY SERVICE

There were 2,714 calls and 2,510 patients during 1957. The increase in calls was 225 and, of the total, there were 206 wherein ambulances were not required—which is an increase of 47 in comparison with the previous year. There was only one malicious call throughout the year.

Patients increased by 230 compared with 1956.

Mileage increased by 1,816 to a total of 11,643.

The distribution of patients was:—

Saint Mary's Hospital	...	...	...	...	149
Royal Portsmouth Hospital	...	...	...	...	2,215
Queen Alexandra Hospital	...	...	...	...	4
Eye and Ear Hospital	...	...	...	...	14
Taken home or to other places	...	...	...	...	128

The average busiest days for emergencies were Saturdays.

The average timing of ambulances was 6.2 minutes from the receipt of call to arrival at an accident; from the time of call until arrival at hospital was 19.6 minutes.

In the area north of Port Creek there were 472 cases, in the central area 1,084 cases, and in the southern area 954 cases. There were 165 young children aged 0—5 years; 440 school children aged 6—15 years; 464 cases aged 16—25 years; 386 aged 26—45 years; 319 aged 46—60 years; 472 of people over 60 years, and in 264 cases the age was not known.

From midnight until 6.0 a.m. there were 134 cases; from 6.0 a.m. until 12 noon 601; from 12 noon until 6.0 p.m. 1,029; from 6.0 p.m. until midnight 746.

Of the total cases, 660 occurred in the home.

The public generally are making a greater use of the emergency call system year by year; one of the reasons why this is apparent is the number of calls made wherein an ambulance was not required. The number of malicious calls made was only one throughout the year; this type of call has considerably decreased in recent years.

Again, of the total number of admissions to all hospitals, about one-third were emergency call cases. The time taken by emergency call ambulances to reach an accident and to arrive at hospital is increasing because of the increasing traffic on the roads; in comparison with 1950, the time to reach an accident has increased by 1.1 minutes and to arrive at hospital by 2.3 minutes.

No serious accident occurred where there was police or warden control.

#### ANCILLARY

The conveyance of analgesic apparatus accounted for 7,839 miles—a reduction of 2,471 miles in comparison with the previous year.

Service and abortive mileage for the year was 11,936—a reduction of 1,123 miles in comparison with 1956. This is approximately 1.5 miles per day per vehicle.

#### VEHICLES

The total of vehicles at the 31st December, 1957 was:—

Operational ambulances	...	...	12
Reserve ambulances	...	...	2
Dual purpose vehicles	...	...	2
Sitting case cars	...	...	4
Reserve cars	...	...	1
= 21 vehicles			

Generally, vehicles gave little mechanical trouble during the year and there were very few breakdowns on the road.

The major repairs during the year were five ambulances and three cars with engine overhauls, and two ambulances repainted. There was a considerable number of lesser repairs and replacements necessary because of the age and high mileage of the majority of the vehicles. There was a continued good liaison with the Central Depot regarding repairs, which were done as expeditiously as possible.

Generally, the maintenance schedule was kept up to date, although at times it was retarded because of weather, the number of vehicles and the working conditions.

The number of accidents wherein Ambulance Service vehicles were involved was fourteen. Four of these were the emergency application of brakes to avoid knocking down children, as a consequence of which injuries were sustained by the patients in the vehicles concerned, none, however, serious. Where there were collisions with other vehicles or objects the damage was mainly dents and scratches.

The two dual purpose vehicles purchased in 1956 gave good service throughout the year, with very little trouble. A few minor modifications to them were necessary, and generally they have proved reasonably comfortable for patients and economical to run.

## STAFF

The sickness rate was high during the year, there being only eleven weeks free of sick-listed staff. The level was high at the beginning of the year through a few of the staff with long term illnesses, but the last quarter had the greatest amount of sickness, chiefly due to influenza—with one long term industrial injury. The high sickness rate, coupled with holidays, caused overtime and on fairly frequent occasions delays to patients.

There was no absenteeism and timekeeping was good; no disciplinary action beyond the Ambulance Officer was necessary. A number of letters and messages was received complimenting the staff on their work and for arrangements made for patient conveyance.

## RADIO

The equipment has now been in use nearly five years and has given very little mechanical trouble. It continued to save time in particular and considerable mileage; in the previous years it gave flexibility, but owing to the increased commitments this has now been stretched to the limit.

The servicing arrangements continued to operate very well, no delays occurring in repairing faults.

## MUTUAL AID

Arrangements made with Hampshire and West Sussex County Councils regarding Section 24 cases continued to operate satisfactorily; they convey all such discharges except those requiring nursing attention, which are mainly maternity case discharges from Saint Mary's Hospital. The agreement with Hampshire C.C. regarding the conveyance of premature babies operated well, there being 24 babies conveyed; an additional agreement was made for the conveyance of emergency obstetric cases which commenced in December. A close liaison with Surrey C.C. regarding discharges from the Atkinson-Morley Hospital saved time and money to both Services on many occasions.

The meeting of trains and boats at the request of other ambulance services increased this year, and such arrangements worked smoothly. Patients sent from Portsmouth by train were met by other ambulance authorities, and there were no difficulties. The co-operation of the Portsmouth Stationmaster's staff was excellent, requests being met quite often at very short notice. The co-operation was, from all sections, given in a friendly manner that assisted greatly in patient conveyance by rail and sea.

## VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The Hospital Car Service conveyed 107 patients, covering 8,255 miles—an increase of 16 patients and 17 miles in comparison with 1956. The co-operation of the Area Organiser in dealing with these patients was much appreciated.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade conveyed 32 casualties, covering 410 miles—a decrease of 14 patients and 151 miles in comparison with the previous year.

The British Red Cross Society carried 6 casualties, covering 147 miles—and increase of 4 patients and 60 miles compared with 1956.

The figures in this paragraph are not included in the following patient carrying analysis.

## CIVIL DEFENCE

The mileage covered in Civil Defence training during 1957 was 14,597. This is a decrease of 15,123 in comparison with 1956.

There were 38 students and 116 hours spent in convoy driving, an average of 3 hours each; there were 4 local exercises in which 75 students participated; 84 students undertook practice driving for 637 hours—an average of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  hours each. In section training there were 1,014 hours instruction with 5,797 attendances—an average of 5 students per session.

## PATIENT CARRYING ANALYSIS

	<i>Patients</i>		<i>Mileage</i>	
Saint Mary's Hospital ... ..	19,395	(19,800)	67,882	(68,884)
Infectious Diseases Hospital ... ..	1,806	(1,350)	9,212	(7,591)
Chest Clinic ... ..	2,785	(3,580)	4,356	(7,193)
Royal Portsmouth Hospital ... ..	20,851	(23,822)	59,636	(68,362)
Queen Alexandra Hospital ... ..	13,267	(12,104)	43,650	(44,306)
St. James Hospital ... ..	758	(844)	4,187	(5,033)
Eye and Ear Hospital ... ..	1,384	(1,596)	5,192	(6,724)
Ministry of Health ... ..	477	(899)	1,941	(2,133)
Nursing Homes ... ..	290	(361)	1,877	(2,530)
Other requesting authorities ... ..	1,957	(2,022)	12,940	(16,267)
Spastic Unit ... ..	3,610	(2,518)	6,787	(6,074)
Accident cases ... ..	2,510	(2,280)	11,643	(9,827)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	69,090	(71,176)	229,303	(244,924)
<hr/>				
Average per day ... ..	...	...	189·2	(195)
Average miles per patient ... ..	...	...	3·3	(3·4)
Average patient carrying miles per day ... ..	...	...	628·2	(671)

## WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE

*By the Consultant Chest Physician*

Primary notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis have continued to decline and it is interesting to note that they are now well under half those of six years ago. Although the fall in new cases has been delayed as compared with the dramatic fall in deaths which was becoming evident a few years ago, we now see that, as was indeed to be expected, a steady fall of new patients suffering from the disease is demonstrable. Both these effects are largely attributable to the dramatic effects which the newer methods of treatment have had in the control of the disease.

Examinations of new contacts have been maintained at a high level, which reflects credit on the health visitors, who are largely responsible for seeing that patients attend for this examination. The return in new patients from this source continues to decline, as will be seen from the accompanying table, indicating both the general improvement in the control of infectivity and that this source of discovery of new disease is becoming of decreasing importance.

During the year, the Chest Clinic register was divided into two parts—an active part containing the names of those patients who are known to have been recently infectious, and a passive part on which appear the names of those regarded as non-infectious. The object of this is to direct special attention to the surveillance of the former group in an endeavour to control further the sources of infection. It is too early, however, to assess whether it will be of more than theoretical value.

### NOTIFICATIONS BY AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUP	* NEW CASES						GRAND TOTAL
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		COMBINED		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—1	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)
1—4	1 (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	2 (2)
5—14	— (2)	2 (8)	— (1)	1 (2)	— (3)	3 (10)	3 (13)
15—24	12 (20)	9 (18)	2 (1)	1 (1)	14 (21)	10 (19)	24 (40)
25—34	15 (16)	16 (10)	— (—)	4 (4)	15 (16)	20 (14)	35 (30)
35—44	18 (9)	4 (5)	2 (—)	— (—)	20 (9)	4 (5)	24 (14)
45—54	17 (15)	3 (4)	— (1)	1 (—)	17 (16)	4 (4)	21 (20)
55—64	14 (20)	2 (1)	— (1)	1 (—)	14 (21)	3 (1)	17 (22)
65 plus	12 (11)	3 (8)	— (—)	1 (1)	12 (11)	4 (9)	16 (20)
TOTAL ...	89 (94)	40 (55)	4 (4)	9 (9)	93 (98)	49 (64)	142 (162)

\* Includes all primary notifications and new cases coming to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health by other means

(Figures in brackets are those for 1956)

### PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS

Year	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Total
1951	270	29	299
1952	223	25	248
1953	260	24	284
1954	200	16	216
1955	165	17	182
1956	149	13	162
1957	129	13	142

## NEW PATIENTS EXAMINED

1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
1490	1537	1528	1476	1407	1404

## CONTACTS

YEAR	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
No. of new contacts examined	914	903	1107	742	763	954
No. of contacts proved definite cases ... ..	15	33	13	9	10	5

## DEATHS BY AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		COMBINED		GRAND TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—1	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
1—4	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
5—14	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
15—24	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
25—34	— (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)	1 (1)	1 (2)
35—44	— (2)	3 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (2)	3 (1)	3 (3)
45—54	1 (5)	— (1)	— (—)	1 (—)	1 (5)	1 (1)	2 (6)
55—64	8 (7)	1 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	8 (7)	1 (2)	9 (9)
65 plus	8 (6)	1 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	8 (6)	1 (1)	9 (7)
TOTAL ...	17 (21)	6 (5)	— (—)	1 (1)	17 (21)	7 (6)	24 (27)

(Figures in brackets are those for 1956)

Of the 23 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, 5 cases were not notified during life

## DEATHS

	Respiratory	Death Rate per 100,000 population	Non-respiratory	Death Rate per 100,000 population
1952	51	21.0	11	4.5
1953	46	18.7	6	2.4
1954	38	15.6	7	2.9
1955	20	8.2	3	1.2
1956	26	11.3	1	0.4
1957	23	10.1	1	0.4

## NUMBER OF CASES ON REGISTER 31ST DECEMBER

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Respiratory ... ..	1935	2042	1993	2006	1970	1780
Non-Respiratory ... ..	188	186	165	167	171	116
TOTAL ... ..	2123	2228	2158	2173	2141	1896

## SUMMARY OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON CLINIC REGISTER 1957

DIAGNOSIS	RESPIRATORY			NON-RESPIRATORY			TOTAL			GRAND TOTAL
	MEN	WM.	CH.	MEN	WM.	CH.	MEN	WM.	CH.	
A. (1) No. of definite cases of tuberculosis on Register 1st January, 1957	1,094	778	98	55	82	34	1,149	860	132	2,141
(2) Transfers from other Authorities	27	53	2	1	6	-	28	59	2	89
(3) Lost sight of cases returned during year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B. No. of New Cases diagnosed as tuberculosis during 1957:										
(1) CLASS A (T.B. minus)	49	24	4	4	8	1	53	32	5	90
(2) CLASS B (T.B. plus)	39	13	-	-	-	-	39	13	-	52
C. No of cases included in A and B written off the Register during the year as:										
(1) Recovered	43	38	7	5	9	4	48	47	11	106
(2) Dead (all causes)	31	6	-	-	2	-	31	8	-	39
(3) Removed to other areas	48	49	6	1	4	-	49	53	6	108
(4) For other reasons	62	97	14	15	34	1	77	131	15	223
D. No. of definite cases of tuberculosis on Register 31st December, 1957	1,028	682	70	45	50	21	1,073	732	91	1,896

## ALMONER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1957

During the year 700 patients were helped by the Almoner's Department. The majority were referred by the doctors and health visitors, some by outside agencies, and the remainder made application themselves. Many of these patients required information about sickness benefit, National assistance, disability pensions, etc., and others required straightforward forms of practical help or after-care to enable them to carry out treatment.

The voluntary societies in Portsmouth—in particular, the Voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee—have continued to give invaluable help in a variety of practical ways. Generous grants were made to help patients furnish new homes, and hire purchase accounts, incurred before illness, were paid off. Coal was supplied during the winter months, and many families were given clothes and extra nourishment. Others were able to take advantage of the Home Help Scheme with financial aid from the Committee, and those patients who returned to employment, and who had to work "a week in hand" received grants which tided them over the second week of work, for which no statutory provision is made. This matter has been taken up with the National Assistance Board, but they cannot help as it is assumed that advance payment could be arranged with employers. This would mean, of course, that a debt would immediately be incurred, which it would be difficult ever to pay off as wages in Portsmouth are low. The grant from the Care Committee ensures that people get a fair start, and have not the additional strain of financial worry when they are adjusting themselves to getting back to work after a long period of illness.

As in previous years, considerable difficulty has been experienced in finding suitable work, particularly for the older patients. Government training courses have been arranged for some of the younger men and women, and amongst these are two men at Slough who have almost completed the instrument-making course, one who is training as a draughtsman, and two others as capstan lathe operator and central lathe turner respectively. Two men completed the course in watch and clock repairing during the year and are now working, and two girls have started the clerical course. The Remploy factory, which employs 32 men and 31 women, is full, and 5 men are waiting for vacancies there.

In addition to the tuberculosis patients, many patients suffering from carcinoma were referred to the Almoner's Department during the year. A number of applications was made to the National Society for Cancer Relief who granted prompt and generous assistance in every case.

Apart from giving practical help, much time was spent in home visits and interviewing relatives, in an attempt to help people to achieve personal and social adjustments in their lives, upset by the strain of illness and its consequences.

**MASS RADIOGRAPHY—1957***Report of the Medical Director***A.—GENERAL**

This is the first full year in which there have been two Units based at Portsmouth.

**POLICY**

The old Unit has remained static at headquarters and, in addition to examining individuals from industry and the general public, has concentrated on special groups which include National servicemen, hospital out-patients, ante-natal clinics, positive tuberculin reactors and general practitioners' cases. The Mobile Unit, on the other hand, has less opportunity for this type of work because it is always on the move and, therefore, few cases referred from general practitioners were examined. The 41 moves carried out during the year included a part of the eastern extremity of our territory, including a lot of places never visited before, as well as a 16 week visit to the Isle of Wight. The number of examinations carried out by the combined Units is the highest recorded, at 77,240.

**TUBERCULOSIS**

It was noted in 1956 that there had been a considerable drop in the number of cases of active tuberculosis found (121 to 65). In 1957 the number found increased to 97 but the rate per thousand examined is only slightly raised, from 1.1 to 1.3 per thousand. Out of the 97 active cases 70 had never been X-rayed before and a further 15 had not been X-rayed during the previous three years. A satisfactory feature of the work of the Mobile Unit is that 64 per cent. of those examined have never been X-rayed before. This is no doubt partly due to the fact that the Unit went to places never previously visited. The Static Unit, on the other hand, had less than 30 per cent. of individuals never previously X-rayed. These facts justify the Ministry of Health Circular (HM.(57)94.) recommending concentration on special groups and not X-raying industrial populations more often than once in three years.

**GENERAL PRACTITIONER CASES**

This is one of the groups which has always yielded a high return and is one of the groups referred to in the Circular. In 1957 there was a slight increase in the number of people referred under this heading and the rate of disease found at 4.4 per thousand is the highest in any group. Since the period which this report covers, a new scheme designed to increase the number of cases referred by general practitioners to the Static Unit has proved very successful.

**TUBERCULIN TESTING**

In co-operation with the Medical Officer of Health, all positive reactors under the Corporation B.C.G. Scheme are X-rayed here. Some tuberculosis has been found as a result but this is not as high as it was in 1956. The offer of an X-ray to the families of positive reactors continues and, although increased numbers have been examined under this heading, there has been no increase in the proportion found to have disease. In 1956, 591 children were examined and 315 members of those children's families, and in 1957, 1,961 children and 1,565 members of families. It will be seen that this re-

sponse by the family is less than one individual per child and can only be regarded as highly unsatisfactory. As a result a scheme has been started as a combined operation between the Chest Clinic, the health visitors and the Unit, to give the members of the family a definite appointment so that we hope that there will be an increase in the numbers of this important group in the future.

#### GROUP ANALYSIS

Table IV shows that those groups with rates of tuberculosis above the average of the whole are identically the same as in 1956, i.e. general practitioners' cases, tuberculin reactors, the general public, mental hospitals and out-patients. The cases referred by general practitioners as usual show the highest total.

#### STAFF

I wish to thank all members of the staff for their loyal and hard work in conditions often highly unsatisfactory. I wish to thank the medical officers of health in the various areas visited for their assistance in making the surveys successful and my thanks are due to the chest physicians for dealing with the cases referred to them.

#### B.—PORTSMOUTH

The rate of active tuberculosis found in Portsmouth is 1.1 per thousand, the same as in 1956. This is only the second time that the figures for Portsmouth are lower than the figures for all areas (1.3 for 1957, and 1.4 for all areas excluding Portsmouth). About a quarter fewer examinations were carried out and a quarter fewer cases found, resulting in the same rate of disease and interrupting the progressive fall which has been in evidence since 1950. This is probably due to the greater proportion of special groups examined rather than to any true increase in disease. It is also of interest that almost a third of the total cases of tuberculosis found in Portsmouth were in men over the age of 55. Table V gives further details.



## ANALYSIS OF ABNORMAL FINDINGS

TABLE III

	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000
SECTION A				
1. CASES OF INACTIVE PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS				
(a) Primary lesions ... ..	597	468	1,065	13.79
(b) Post-primary lesions ... ..	463	341	804	10.41
2. NEWLY DISCOVERED CASES OF ACTIVE PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS				
(a) Primary ... ..	3	—	3	.04
(b) Post Primary—Unilateral ... ..	43	24	67	.87
(c) Post Primary—Bilateral ... ..	17	7	24	.31
(d) Pleural Effusions ... ..	3	—	3	.04
3. Cases recommended for hospital D5 ... ..	62	26	88	1.14
4. Cases recommended for observation D4 (Clinic and domiciliary) ... ..	4	5	9	.12
5. Cases recommended for observation D3 (or occasional supervision) ... ..	68	63	131	1.7
SECTION B				
NON-TUBERCULOUS CONDITIONS				
1. Abnormalities of the bony thorax and soft tissues—congenital ... ..	181	219	400	—
2. Abnormalities of the bony thorax and soft tissues—acquired ... ..	283	264	547	—
3. Tumours of the bony thorax: primary and secondary ... ..	1	1	2	—
4. Congenital malformations of the lungs ... ..	38	20	58	—
5. Bacterial and virus infections of the lungs ... ..	34	30	64	—
6. Other infections of the lungs ... ..	6	3	9	—
7. Bronchiectasis ... ..	63	38	101	—
8. Honeycomb lung ... ..	—	—	—	—
9. Emphysema ... ..	132	104	236	—
10. Pulmonary fibrosis—non-tuberculous ... ..	54	29	83	—
11. Pneumoconiosis ... ..	8	3	11	—
12. Spontaneous pneumothorax ... ..	5	1	6	—
13. Benign tumours of the lungs and mediastinum	10	9	19	—
14. Carcinoma of the lung and mediastinum ... ..	21	7	28	—
15. Metastasis in the lung and mediastinum ... ..	5	8	13	—
16. Enlarged mediastinal and bronchial glands— non-tuberculous ... ..	—	—	—	—
17. Sarcoidosis and collagenous diseases ... ..	6	9	15	—
18. Pleural thickening or calcification — non- tuberculous ... ..	624	280	904	—
19. Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oeso- phagus—congenital and acquired ... ..	55	37	92	—
20. Congenital abnormalities of heart and vessels	24	7	31	—
21. Acquired abnormalities of heart and vessels ... ..	187	286	473	—
22. Miscellaneous ... ..	53	30	83	—
23. Pneumoconiosis with tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—
24. Cases who fail to attend for further films or clinical examination ... ..	18	9	27	—

**SURVEY ANALYSIS**  
(ORGANISED GROUPS)

TABLE IV

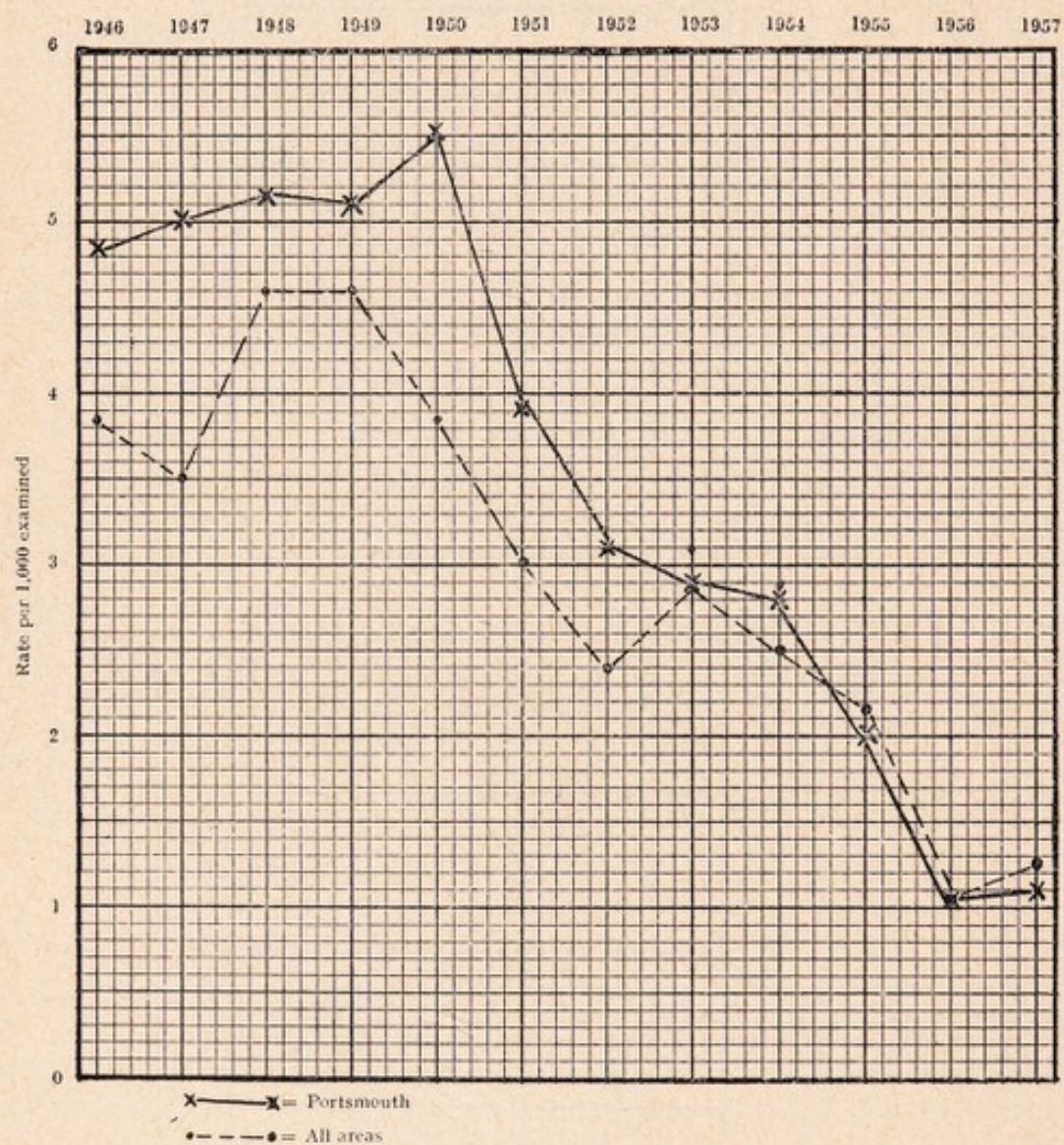
TYPE OF SURVEY	NUMBER EXAMINED				NUMBERS SHOWING EVIDENCE OF ACTIVE PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS					
	Code	Male	Female	TOTAL	Male		Female		Combined Total	Combined Incidence per 1,000
					No.	Incidence per 1,000	No.	Incidence per 1,000		
A. General public ... ..	7	11,612	17,642	29,254	29	2.5	19	1.08	48	1.64
B. Industrial groups ... ..	6	21,163	9,672	30,835	17	.8	6	.62	23	.75
C. School children ... ..	3	2,644	1,736	4,380	3	1.13	—	—	3	.68
Positive reactors—school children	3V	1,248	713	1,961	3	2.4	—	—	3	1.53
D. General practitioner groups ...	2	989	1,040	2,029	7	7.08	2	1.92	9	4.44
E. Mental hospitals and institutions	9	791	1,105	1,896	2	2.53	1	.9	3	1.58
F. National service recruits ...	1	801	—	801	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Contacts ... ..	4	62	97	159	—	—	—	—	—	—
Families of positive reactors— school children ... ..	40	686	879	1,565	—	—	1	1.14	1	.64
H. Out-patients: general hospitals ...	0	809	796	1,605	4	4.94	—	—	4	2.49
I. Special surveys ... ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
J. Ante-natal groups ... ..	8	—	1,813	1,813	—	—	2	1.1	2	1.1
K. Borstal, prisons and approved schools ... ..	6X	942	—	942	1	1.06	—	—	1	1.06

PORTSMOUTH  
CASES OF ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS  
TABLE V

	Under 14		14 years		15-19		20-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-59		60-64		65+		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number examined	199	177	990	811	2,759	3,103	1,986	2,523	3,540	2,656	3,490	1,818	3,313	1,192	1,359	336	788	210	494	194	18,918	13,020
Number of active cases	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	2	6	3	2	1	4	—	6	—	2	—	3	—	26	9
Rate per 1000 examined	—	—	—	—	.36	.97	1.01	.79	1.69	1.13	.57	.55	1.21	—	4.42	—	2.54	—	6.07	—	1.37	.69
Combined rate	—	—	—	—	.68	.89	.89	.89	1.45	.57	.89	.57	.89	.89	3.54	.89	2.0	.89	4.36	.89	1.1	.89

## RATE OF ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS PER 1,000 EXAMINED BY YEARS

TABLE VI



## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

*By the Executive Officer*

### 1.—Administration

#### (A) *Committee*

The prevention, care and after-care of mental illness and mental defectiveness are undertaken by the Mental Health Service, which is administered by the Mental Health Sub-Committee of the Health Services Committee.

#### (B) *Staff*

Under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health the work of the Service is performed by the following staff:—

One medical officer employed part-time on the supervision of mental defectives in their own homes.

Executive Officer—lay administrator, petitioning officer, with duly authorised officer powers.

Senior psychiatric social worker—has petitioning officer and duly authorised officer powers.

Six mental health social workers—three men and three women, of whom the former have duly authorised officer powers. Of the three men, two were for many years relieving officers and the third a charge nurse in a mental hospital. Of the complement of three women, one resigned on marriage during the year, another retired on reaching the age limit, and the third resigned on leaving the district. All three were satisfactorily replaced, two of the three new ladies having social science degrees, whilst the third (who was formerly a member of the staff and left to acquire psychiatric social work experience in a mental hospital) has, in addition to the social science degree, the mental health certificate.

#### OCCUPATION CENTRE STAFF

Supervisor

Handicraft Instructor.

Five Assistants.

Handicraft Instructress.

(who is also part-time home teacher).

#### (c) *Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Management Committees*

There is still user of the local health authority's staff by Saint Mary's Hospital in the supervision of mental defectives on licence from that Hospital.

The advisory service of the psychiatrists of St. James Hospital continues to be available to the local health authority through the normal consultant channels.

#### (E) *Training*

All members of the staff are trained social workers or teachers of the mentally handicapped. During the year students taking the Diploma Course for Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped organised by the National Association for Mental Health have been taken for periods of practical training at the Day Training Centre.

## 2.—Account of Work undertaken in the Community

### (A) *Under Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946*

The Service continues to maintain a close liaison with the various regional and local departments of the National Health Service, and with the Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Pensions, and all other social agencies in the City, in the provision of community care for the prevention of mental illness, and the care and after-care of mental patients and mental defectives.

Reference has been made in past reports to the difficulty in rehabilitating mental patients and mental defectives because of the absence of large industries, the high unemployment rate in the City, and the lack of suitable employment for mental defectives in particular, most of which is domestic and confined to the holiday season. The arrival of Service people with acute problems (mostly Royal Navy and usually without warning) continues to produce difficulties, since they make demands on the Mental Health Services of equal urgency with those of resident Portmuthians, and not uncommonly leave the City as suddenly as they came, whilst endeavours are still in train to adjust their problems.

The insistence of the Board of Control on discharge from Order of mental defectives who have been on licence from mental deficiency hospitals for 18 months has not, in the main, given rise to acute problems of rehabilitation, but cases have occurred from time to time in which patients would have benefited by being allowed to remain subject to the discipline of licence for a longer period, and there have been indications that this view is shared by the physician superintendents of mental deficiency hospitals.

### (B) *Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930.*

622 (620) persons were referred as cases of alleged mental illness. Of those cases dealt with under the Lunacy Act, 1890, 247 were admitted to designated wards under Section 20, 45 were admitted thereto by Order of Justices under Section 21, 30 were admitted to mental hospitals under Section 16, and 9 were admitted to mental hospitals by Urgency Order under Section 11. Of those dealt with under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930, 71 became voluntary patients under Section 1, and 74 were admitted to mental hospitals as temporary patients under Section 5. Because of the lack of more appropriate accommodation, 3 cases were admitted to a geriatric ward. In 143 cases brought to the notice of the duly authorised officers, action under the mental health statutes was found to be inapplicable and they were disposed of in other ways, e.g. by referral to other social agencies, the Out-Patient Department of St. James Hospital, probation officers (in cases of marriage difficulties), etc., whilst in some cases no action at all was felt to be necessary. The extreme shortage of hospital observation beds, designated for the purpose of Section 20 and 21 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, is still attended by the undesirable risk of recourse to admission to mental hospitals by reception and temporary treatment orders.

Portsmouth is a "hospital area", and numerous patients are brought to the mental observation wards of Saint Mary's Hospital or are taken, with a view to voluntary admission, to St. James Hospital, by duly authorised officers of adjacent local health authorities; patients from these areas admitted to the general or infectious diseases hospitals have sometimes to be admitted to St. James Hospital. Besides this, during the summer months large numbers of visitors (from the Midlands in particular) enter the City, among whom there are quite frequent cases of mental illness which break down here—having come to the seaside after "nervous breakdowns", and so

on. All this results in a considerable number of persons brought to the notice of the duly authorised officers having eventually to be taken by them to mental hospitals other than St. James Hospital—sometimes at a considerable distance. It is for this reason that the local health authority does not accept the “knock for knock” principle understood to be adopted by certain local health authorities in operating Section 25 of the National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1949.

(c) *Under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938*

(i) ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASCERTAINING AND SUPERVISING MENTAL DEFECTIVES

The liaison with other departments and agencies mentioned above has been developed to the extent that the powers and duties of the local health authority concerning mental defectives are widely known. In the process of ascertainment, where diagnostic confirmation is required, this is available through the consultant services of the psychiatric staff of St. James Hospital and supervision is carried out by the foregoing staff of social workers.

At the end of 1957 there were 297 mental defectives under statutory supervision, and a further 431 under voluntary supervision, not being “subject to be dealt with”.

(ii) GUARDIANSHIP

Mental defectives under guardianship (of whom there were 20 at the end of the year) are similarly supervised, the frequency of visitation being determined by the nature of the case. Medical supervision under Article 76(1) of the Mental Deficiency Regulations, 1948, is carried out by a part-time medical officer of the Council. Of the number given 10 cases were, at the end of the year, placed with nominees of the Guardianship Society. Of both these and local cases, the majority of those needing pecuniary assistance are now maintained by the National Assistance Board.

(iii) ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROVIDING OCCUPATION AND TRAINING FOR DEFECTIVES

The erection of a new day training centre for mental defectives, on a site nearly opposite the Corporation Depot in the Eastern Road, was completed in the early summer, and the new building, entitled Langstone House Day Training Centre, was taken into use in July, whereupon the tenancies of Milton Church Hall and Rivers Street Institute for this purpose came to an end. The authorities of the respective churches to which these establishments belong were thanked for the amenities which they had, for many years, placed at the Corporation's disposal, and the Vicar of St. James' Church, Milton (Rev. W. J. Fletcher-Campbell, M.A., B.Sc.), accepted appointment as Honorary Chaplain of Langstone House Day Training Centre.

The new premises were officially opened on the 9th October, 1957, by the Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health, Mr. Richard Thompson M.P.

The building, a single storey one, has been designed to accommodate 125 trainees (though, in fact, there is enough room for a further 12 to be taken without undue discomfort) and provision has been made so that the premises could be extended to accommodate a total of 175.

The accommodation of the new Training Centre comprises a hall, which has the dual function of assembly hall and dining room, a kitchen, eight general classrooms, handicraft room, staff rooms, cloakrooms and lavatories.

The building has been so planned that each age group has its own entrance, cloakrooms and lavatory accommodation. The kitchen is designed for the service of ready-cooked food which at present is supplied by St. James Hospital.

The general planning of the Centre is such that the maximum privacy is afforded to the trainees, and the noisier rooms, such as the assembly hall and handicraft room, are isolated from the classroom wings. Three play courts are provided; the largest will be used by both males and females of the intermediate group and adult females. The other two courts are for adult males and juniors respectively.

The internal decoration of the building has been designed on contemporary lines to give a cheerful non-institutional appearance. Heating is by low-pressure hot water radiators, thermostatically controlled. The boiler is oil-fired.

At the end of the year there were 106 trainees on the register, consisting of a senior male class of 20, a senior female class of 23, and an intermediate mixed section of 38 and a junior mixed section of 25. Absorption of the waiting list for admission was (and is) taking place at a rate consistent with demands which new entrants make upon the attention of the staff, and their reaction to other trainees, and the fact that arrangements were (and are) under consideration with a view to integrating, on a full-time basis, the senior female class which, for the time being, meets on afternoons only. Among other aspects of this matter, the enlargement of the staff was under review.

The instruction given at the Centre is that normally given in such Centres, i.e. sense training, elementary and advanced handicrafts, reading and writing and physical training. One member of the training staff has been engaged part-time on home teaching of patients who for various reasons, chiefly physical disabilities, are unable to take advantage of the training afforded at the Centre. The extension of this amenity, on a full-time basis, was also under review at the end of the year.

The shortage of institutional accommodation for mental defectives again produced many grave difficulties; approaches have continued to be made to the appropriate authorities but the situation continues to worsen notwithstanding. During the summer an invitation was extended by the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board to all local health authorities in their region to send representatives to an informal conference at the Board's headquarters in London. At this conference the Board's representatives insisted that local health authorities should consider ways and means of alleviating the problem by the provision of hostels, and it was eventually mutually decided to await the appearance of the forthcoming report of the Royal Commission on the Law relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency. This report was published shortly afterwards and contains recommendations similar to those advanced by the Board's representatives, but no guidance has so far been received from the Ministry of Health regarding the way in which these recommendations (especially from a financial standpoint) may be put into effect, and it may be that the Ministry are of opinion that no such guidance can be offered until the radical revision of mental health legislation has taken place.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL

*By the Physician Superintendent*

## ADMISSIONS

The total number of admissions was higher than in 1956.

During the year 1,195 fever (in 1956—1,026), 226 geriatric (in 1956—39), and 220 tuberculosis (in 1956—264) cases were admitted. Grand total—1,641 (in 1956—1,329).

Of the fever cases, 458 (in 1956—318) were admitted from outside the City boundary. There were 25 Service cases (in 1956—28).

## DISCHARGES AND DEATHS (FEVER)

Discharges—1,141. Deaths—51. TOTAL—1,192.

Of this number, 456 discharges and 21 deaths were outside the City boundary, making a total number of Portsmouth cases—715.

## CASES DISCHARGED DURING 1957

Month	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Other Infections	Non- Infectious	Deaths	TOTAL
January ...	5	—	64	8	2	79
February ...	1	—	77	5	2	85
March ...	1	—	79	5	4	89
April ...	2	—	82	16	3	103
May ...	—	—	66	4	4	74
June ...	11	—	58	6	2	77
July ...	6	—	106	12	5	129
August ...	2	—	62	10	5	79
September ...	—	—	100	18	—	118
October ...	1	—	149	10	14	174
November ...	1	—	80	5	8	94
December ...	5	—	76	8	2	91
TOTAL ...	35	—	999	107	51	1,192
Outside cases ...	9	—	387	60	21	477
Portsmouth cases ...	26	—	612	47	30	715

## DEATHS—1957

During the year there were 51 deaths from the causes stated below:

Influenza and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	12
Influenza and Senectus	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	6
Polio-Encephalitis	...	...	...	1
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	...	6
Gastro-Enteritis and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	2
Toxaemia, Peripheral Vascular Failure and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Haemorrhagic Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Pertussis and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Pertussis and Atelectasis	...	...	...	1
Measles and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Paralytic Ileus and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Cardiac Failure and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	2
Pneumococcal Meningitis and Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	2
Septic Meningitis and Meningo-Myelitis	...	...	...	1
Influenzal Meningitis	...	...	...	1
Acute Meningo-Encephalitis	...	...	...	1
Acute Infectious Polyneuritis	...	...	...	2
Fronto-Parietal Cerebral Abscess	...	...	...	1
Herpes Zoster and Uraemia...	...	...	...	1
Herpes Zoster and Cardiac Failure	...	...	...	1
Hodgkin's Disease	...	...	...	1
Marasmus and Fibrocystic Disease of Pancreas	...	...	...	1
Septicaemia and Bacterial Endocarditis	...	...	...	1
Hypertensive Cardiac Failure	...	...	...	1
TOTAL	...	...	...	51

The following table gives in more detail the deaths for 1957.

Under 1 year	...	12
1-5 years	...	4
5-20 years	...	5
20-70 years	...	23
70+ years	...	7
TOTAL	...	51

This gives an overall mortality rate for infectious diseases of 4.26%.

It will be noted that of the 51 deaths, 19 occurred in the extremes of life, i.e. under 1 year and 70 plus; also, 20 occurred within twenty-four hours of admission to this hospital. The following table gives a more detailed analysis of the ages of the cases which died within twenty-four hours of admission.

Under one year	0-14 days	...	-
	14-28 days	...	1
	1-3 months	...	1
	3-6 months	...	1
	6-9 months	...	1
	9-12 months	...	-
1-5 years	...	...	5
5-20 years	...	...	3
20-70 years	...	...	6
70+ years	...	...	2
TOTAL	...	...	20

## Diphtheria

There were 3 cases (Portsmouth—2) admitted as observation diphtheria, but none of these cases proved to be this disease.

**Paratyphoid**

Two cases (Portsmouth—nil) were admitted as paratyphoid. One case (Portsmouth—nil) proved to be this disease.

**Scarlet Fever.**

There were 38 cases (Portsmouth—25) admitted as scarlet fever.

**Puerperal Pyrexia**

There were 30 cases (Portsmouth—4) admitted as puerperal pyrexia.

**Typhoid**

Two cases (Portsmouth—2) were admitted as typhoid. One case (Portsmouth—1) proved to be this disease.

**Polioymelitis**

During the year 99 cases (Portsmouth—76) were admitted as polio-myelitis. 80 cases (Portsmouth—23) proved to be this disease.

Respiratory	...	...	16	(7 of which died)
Paralytic	...	...	35	
Non-paralytic	...	...	28	
Carrier	...	...	1	
			<hr/>	
TOTAL	...	...	80	
			<hr/>	

**Meningitis**

54 cases (Portsmouth—29) were admitted as meningitis, and 1 (Portsmouth—nil) as tuberculous meningitis. 22 cases (Portsmouth—13) proved to be meningitis, and 2 cases (Portsmouth—1) tuberculous meningitis. The second case was admitted as meningitis.

		Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Polio-myelitis		Tuberculosis			Diphtheria	Meningococcal Infections	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Acute Pneumonia	Paratyphoid Fevers	Enteric or Typhoid	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Malaria	TOTAL
					Paralytic	Non-Paralytic	Pulmonary	Meninges & C.N.S.	Other Forms												
Jan.	5	2	7	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
"	12	-	4	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	15
"	19	-	4	4	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	1	-	15
"	26	-	11	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	21
Feb.	2	-	11	4	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
"	9	-	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
"	16	-	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	20
"	23	-	10	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	20
Mar.	2	2	12	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	23
"	9	-	5	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	-	1	18
"	16	4	8	12	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	30
"	23	-	13	9	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	30
"	30	1	3	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	21
April	6	2	5	15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	26
"	13	2	12	19	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	41
"	20	1	16	12	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	37
"	27	1	12	24	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	43
May	4	-	6	27	-	1	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	43
"	11	3	11	37	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	60
"	18	1	3	47	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	56
"	25	-	11	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	48
June	1	2	12	46	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	64
"	8	8	7	75	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	93
"	15	2	4	56	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	72
"	22	5	5	77	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90
"	29	-	10	56	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	71
July	6	1	2	46	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	-	-	58
"	13	-	3	62	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	10	1	-	82
"	20	-	10	88	1	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	107
"	27	2	6	75	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	91
Aug.	3	3	4	84	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	96
"	10	3	4	58	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	72
"	17	1	4	71	4	2	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	90
"	24	-	2	45	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	56
"	31	-	4	27	1	1	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	41
Sept.	7	-	4	14	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	23
"	14	1	5	15	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	2	1	-	32
"	21	1	4	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	15
"	28	-	1	8	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11	-	-	-	-	-	27
Oct.	5	1	1	2	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	18
"	12	1	2	13	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	26	-	-	-	-	-	50
"	19	-	1	13	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	31	-	-	-	-	-	47
"	26	-	5	20	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	42
Nov.	2	-	3	32	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	2	-	46
"	9	-	-	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	48
"	16	-	-	40	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
"	23	-	1	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	36
"	30	-	3	31	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	-	44
Dec.	7	2	3	55	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	65
"	14	8	1	78	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	97
"	21	4	6	69	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	86
"	28	-	2	83	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	92
Total	1957	64	298	1706	17	9	129	1	12	-	6	19	1	35	157	-	1	29	16	2	2502
	1956	122	312	784	6	2	149	-	13	2	3	64	2	59	45	2	-	18	14	-	1597
Deaths	1957	-	1	-	2	-	23	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	144	-	-	-	-	-	174
	1956	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	150	-	-	-	-	-	178

\* All Forms



## VENEREAL DISEASES TREATMENT CENTRE

*By the Venereal Diseases Officer*

During the year a slight rise was recorded in both early syphilis and gonorrhoea. Early syphilis shewed 3 cases against 2 in 1956. In each case infection was traced to sources outside the area covered by this Centre. The number of cases of gonorrhoea seen was 86, as against 78 in 1956 and 86 in 1955. These figures shew an increase in 1957 of 10·25%, compared with an increase of 21·55% for England and Wales for the twelve months ending 30.9.57 over the similar period ending 30.9.56.

These low figures again shew the value of the good work done in contact tracing by the health visitor attached to the Department together with the excellent liaison with the Royal Naval Health authorities.

Again I am happy to report a year in which we have seen no infants with congenital syphilis.

It is with much regret that I have to announce the death of Sister Trimble, who did so much valuable work for the Department.

### DETAILS OF WORK OF THE ALMONER

						1957	1956
Number of patients helped by the Almoner	...	...				98	91
Number of visits paid	...	...	...	...	...	59	105
Number of visits paid by Sister Trimble	...	...				5	5
Letters and reports sent	...	...	...	...	...	60	58
Letters and reports received	...	...	...	...	...	23	37
Number of interviews	...	...	...	...	...	106	92
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	...	1,313	1,550

TABLE OF STATISTICS

	SYPHILIS			GONORRHOEA			OTHER CONDITIONS		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
Patients under treatment or observation on 1st January ...	90 (95)	103 (116)	193 (211)	11 (17)	10 (13)	21 (30)	54 (46)	16 (10)	70 (56)
Patients removed from the register in previous years who returned during the year for treatment or observation of the same condition ...	3 (7)	4 (4)	7 (11)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (3)	- (-)	- (3)
Patients transferred from other centres after diagnosis ...	2 (2)	3 (3)	5 (5)	6 (6)	4 (3)	10 (9)	8 (13)	- (2)	8 (15)
Patients dealt with for the first time ...	12 (12)	16 (20)	28 (32)	52 (42)	34 (36)	86 (78)	297 (255)	107 (102)	404 (357)
Patients completing treatment and/or observation ...	22 (19)	16 (21)	38 (40)	28 (25)	26 (31)	54 (56)	208 (200)	80 (89)	288 (289)
Patients transferred elsewhere ...	19 (4)	11 (7)	30 (11)	20 (16)	3 (3)	23 (19)	85 (40)	20 (9)	105 (49)
Patients not completing treatment and/or observation ...	6 (3)	8 (12)	14 (15)	10 (13)	15 (8)	25 (21)	28 (23)	5 (-)	33 (23)
Patients under treatment or observation on 31st December ...	60 (90)	91 (103)	151 (193)	11 (11)	4 (10)	15 (21)	38 (54)	18 (16)	56 (70)
Attendances by patients— seen by physician ...	638 (701)	564 (710)	1,202 (1,411)	532 (334)	209 (182)	741 (516)	1,512 (1,318)	458 (424)	1,970 (1,742)
not seen by physician ...	118 (86)	76 (137)	194 (223)	62 (61)	6 (-)	68 (61)	465 (543)	- (97)	465 (640)
Contacts attending for examination referred by patients, etc.	6 (8)	5 (16)	11 (24)	1 (1)	32 (26)	33 (27)	1 (2)	13 (5)	14 (7)

## PARASITIC INFESTATION

*By the Medical Officer in charge, Disinfestation Clinic***Scabies**

The downward trend in attendances continued, though there was a very slight increase in cases.

Total number dealt with during the year:—

					1957	1956
Cases	...	...	...	...	44	41
Contacts	...	...	...	...	36	49
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	80	90

Twenty-three cases were sent by private doctors and local hospital outpatient departments. The remainder were sent by the Central School Clinic.

25% Benzyl Benzoate continued to be the main treatment with occasional use of Lorexane cream in special cases.

Distribution as to age and sex was:—

	Under 5			5-15			Over 15			Totals		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Cases	2	3	5	17	7	24	4	11	15	23	21	44
Contacts	1	6	7	5	2	7	9	13	22	15	21	36
Totals	3	9	12	22	9	31	13	24	37	38	42	80
Sent by private doctors	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Sent by hospitals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Subsequent attendances	2	4	6	18	9	27	5	13	18	25	26	51

Total attendances for the year—Original ... 80  
Subsequent ... 51

GRAND TOTAL 131

No warning letters of possible legal proceedings for non-attendance at the clinic were required.

The following table gives figures for earlier years:—

Year	Cases	Contacts	Year	Cases	Contacts
1947 ...	656	521	1954 ...	64	21
1949 ...	160	127	1955 ...	78	46
1951 ...	47	65	1956 ...	41	49
1953 ...	87	82	1957 ...	44	36

**Pediculosis**

The decrease in attendances since 1952 has continued. During the year 35 households, comprising 39 families and 114 individuals, attended.

Total number of cases dealt with during the year:—

				1957	1956
Cases	...	...	...	62	82
Contacts	...	...	...	52	68
				114	150

The distribution as to age and sex was:—

	Under 5			5—15			Over 15			Totals		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Infested ...	—	2	2	14	21	35	5	20	25	19	43	62
Not infested	5	6	11	8	13	21	6	14	20	19	33	52
Totals ...	5	8	13	22	34	56	11	34	45	38	76	114
Sent by private doctors	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

**ATTENDANCES**

	Under 5			5—15			Over 15			Totals		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Original ...	5	8	13	22	34	56	11	34	45	38	76	114
Subsequent	—	1	1	14	24	38	3	12	15	17	37	54
Totals ...	5	9	14	36	58	94	14	46	60	55	113	168

56·5% (52%) of those infested were school children aged 5—15.

Thirteen of the cases were infestations of *phthirius pubis* (crab lice) and two of *pediculus corporis* (body lice). One of the body lice infestations was an interesting demonstration of insect ecology. So heavy was the infestation of the man's body and clothing that a large number of ants and small spiders were found in the clothing, apparently preying on the lice. The surface of the clothing was seething with lice.

One case was sent by a private doctor, seven cases by local hospitals and one by the City Police.

Three letters giving warning of possible prosecution under Section 85 of the Public Health Act of 1936 for non-attendance at the clinic were sent; all had the desired effect. On two occasions Ambulance Service vehicles were used to fetch patients otherwise unable to come for treatment.

Treatment of choice was a proprietary emulsion containing D.D.T. and Pyrethrin. Use was also made of a concentrate of B.H.C. gamma isomer diluted for use as required.

The following table gives comparative figures of infested persons treated at the Clinic during the past ten years:—

1948	...	...	...	573	1953	...	...	...	479
1949	...	...	...	826	1954	...	...	...	279
1950	...	...	...	916	1955	...	...	...	135
1951	...	...	...	733	1956	...	...	...	82
1952	...	...	...	850	1957	...	...	...	62

### REPORT OF THE BATHS SUPERINTENDENT

The cold weather towards the end of the financial year 1957/58, which is the period under review, has had its effect upon private baths and swimming patronage, and consequently attendances at Park Road Baths have decreased when comparing them with the previous year, which was of record proportions.

The establishment catered for 144,411 persons during public hours; to this must be added persons attending clubs, passes and season tickets, giving a grand total of 167,644 patrons, the second highest in the Baths' history.

On the revenue side of survey one will also notice that the income of £5,864 3s. 8d. is the second best on record; it shows a decrease of £81 16s. 2d. on the previous year's total.

#### SWIMMING BATH DEPARTMENT

This department gave service to the large attendance of 107,022 (107,839) general public and schools during public hours.

School children attending in classes for instruction under the local Education Authority numbered 41,071 (40,773), creating an all time-record, and the administration, instructors and teachers are to be complimented upon their endeavour and zeal in teaching swimming, life saving and diving.

The remaining sections of the swimming bath patronage are excellent, with new records attained in the 1/- female—2,406 (2,152) and 2d. female—3,776 (2,049); female attendances in the swimming bath are most noteworthy with the record total of 22,039 (20,517). It will be observed that in 1945 only 2,774 females attended the baths but now the attendances are almost nine times as many.

Private lessons given by the staff also show a new record with 1,560 (1,214). The giving of this service during busy periods had to be suspended, as it is almost impossible to impart instruction in the excessive noise of a crowded bath to the satisfaction of pupils. The greatest demand is in the evenings, when the bath is busy, and in consequence there has to be some restriction upon appointments.

Private hire (exclusive booking) of the swimming bath; there was a slight decline in this service—689 (756½) hours having been booked this year. The Infantile Paralysis Fellowship suspended their bookings during the winter months, thus causing the slight decrease. Other bookings during the weekdays were the same, necessitating the establishment being open until 9.45 p.m. in two nights and 9.15 p.m. during the remainder of the week.

Season tickets. Purchasers of this service had the greatest demand for any year since its inception and showed an increase of 6.

Private club attendances were 19,593 (20,236) including swimmers and persons attending the various club functions.

It is noteworthy that records were created in spectators and private instruction.

#### PRIVATE BATHS

This is the least satisfactory part of my report, as I regret to state that this year has been bad for this type of service, due to factors to which previous reference has been made. One has to look back to the year 1951 to find a worse or lower attendance, the total this year being 34,905 (36,477).

The men's private baths show a decrease of 1,678, but the ladies' section report an increase of 106 on the previous year; it would seem the ladies are less reluctant to take a warm bath and then go outdoors than the men.

The replacement of a further six baths in the men's section, and the recent redecoration will enhance its appearance and it is hoped lead to an arresting of the decline in patronage, although a national survey will point to a depreciation in this service.

#### GENERAL REMARKS

The system for depositing valuables at a charge of 2d. has been well patronised to the number of 975.

Equipment and plant continued to operate satisfactorily; the new washing machine has given excellent service, proving to be economical, efficient and speedy in dealing with the establishment's 2,000 weekly wash of towels. The remaining Cornish boiler is still working well, though with reduced pressure; a new bridge and fire bars have been fitted this year, which should improve its performance.

Filtration and chlorination plants are most efficient, as shewn by the numerous satisfactory bacteriological tests of the swimming bath water.

The staff have proved capable in meeting the demands of the establishment, their recent re-examination in life saving showing that there has been no loss of proficiency in this work—all candidates were successful in the examination.

The redecoration, internal and external, has certainly improved the appearance of the building, many patrons paying verbal tribute to the new attractiveness.

It is to be regretted that I have again to report upon the wanton destruction which occurs in the Anglesea Road Baths and its surrounds, mainly during the hours of darkness. Windows are broken, and fittings and lead stolen in spite of my endeavours to prevent it; it is hoped the anticipated rebuilding of these premises will see the end of this problem.

## STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31st, 1958

	PRIVATE BATHS						SWIMMING BATH						GRAND TOTALS		
	Male			Female			Male			Female			Male	Female	Total
	1/2	9d.	Total	1/2	9d.	Total	1/-	6d.	2d.	Total	1/-	6d.	2d.	Total	
	1957/58 ...	17,348	10,624	27,972	2,431	4,502	6,933	34,905	9,666	30,645	3,601	43,912	2,406	15,857	22,039
1956/57 ...	18,783	10,470	29,650	2,461	4,110	6,827	36,477	9,979	31,473	5,097	46,549	2,152	16,316	2,049	67,066
Increase ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	106	—	—	—	254	—	1,727	1,522	—
Decrease	1,435	243	1,678	30	—	—	1,572	313	828	1,496	2,637	—	459	—	1,115
															2,687

\*6d. Discontinued after May, 1956.

Brylcreem ...	11,487	£ s. d. 47 17 3
Hair Dryers ...	14,820	61 15 0
Self Weigh ...	3,216	13 8 0
Private club attendances		19,593
Season ticket attendances		512
Free pass attendances ...		2,000

Grand Total ...	144,411
Add	
Private club attendances	19,593
Season ticket attendances	512
Free passes ...	2,000
Special instruction courses	1,128
Total Patronage ...	167,644

	CLASSES	SPEC-TATORS	GRAND TOTALS	HIRE OF BATH Hrs.	TUITION FEES	LUMA BATHS	SEASON TICKETS	TOTAL CASH £ s. d.
1957/58	41,071	2,484	144,411	689	1,560	84	25	5,864 3 8
1956/57	40,773	2,163	146,479	756½	1,214	128	19	5,945 19 10
Increase	298	321	—	—	346	—	6	— — —
Decrease	—	—	2,068	67½	—	44	—	81 16 2

**REPORT OF THE VETERINARY OFFICER****MEAT INSPECTION**

Except for a short period in September and October, throughout the year the City was not included in any of the areas scheduled by the Ministry of Agriculture to which movement restrictions were applied to susceptible livestock following the confirmation of the existence of foot and mouth disease. Consequently, for most of the year wholesale meat trade activities at Greetham Street were conducted without disturbance. As in previous years retailers from a large number of districts outside the City came to wholesalers in the vicinity of Greetham Street for their supplies. The wholesale meat market, Greetham Street, and some local retailers received supplies of home-killed and imported meat and offal from Fontley, Petersfield, Swindon, Westbourne, Wimborne, Southampton, Chichester, Salisbury, Islington, Brighton, Isle of Wight, Yapton, Scotland, Holyhead, Fleetwood and the London docks. The trade in the export of livestock to Continental ports from Southern Ireland still appears to be prosperous and consequently throughout the year there was no direct shipment of meat and offal from Eire to the Camber, but regular consignments reached the City by rail following importation at Holyhead.

In response to a request from the Medical Officer of Health, Port of London, it was agreed to handle about 26 tons of imported meat, necessitated by the cold storage accommodation in London being inadequate. The ship carrying the meat had been involved in a collision at sea and the condition of the meat was doubtful—some had to be rejected due to mutilation and contamination. One feature of meat inspection work was the necessity to reject for human consumption due to black mould a substantial weight of imported meat. The condition known as bone-taint which spoils meat for human consumption was detected frequently during the year—usually in imported hindquarter beef. Regularly each month a number of visits to cold stores was necessary to ensure that English beef carcasses and offal known to have a parasitic infestation were submitted to careful refrigeration treatment in order to protect the public.

**MEAT CONDEMNATIONS**

English: 146 lbs. hindquarter beef; 9 lbs. forequarter beef; 293 lbs. beef; 2 sides beef, 593 lbs.; 2 bodies beef, 1,225 lbs.; 4 hinds beef, 550 lbs.; 143½ lbs. pork; 39 lbs. pigs plucks; 331 lbs. ox liver; 33 lbs. ox head; 24 lbs. lamb; 1 leg veal.

Imported: 1,518 lbs. hindquarter beef; 886 lbs. forequarter beef; 153 lbs. lamb; 280 lbs. lamb livers; 321 lbs. ox livers; 21½ lbs. ox kidneys; 73½ lbs. ox cheeks; 645 lbs. pigs livers; 90 lbs. and 27 cartons pigs kidneys; 152 lbs. pigs melts; 760 lbs. mutton; 50 lbs. sheep livers; 4 lbs. calf breads.

**FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955**

Like last year most of the limited time available for this work was spent at the wholesale meat premises in the vicinity of Greetham Street. Fortunately most of the wholesalers are powerful reputable firms and without exception appear to have virtually welcomed these Regulations. Since I have never experienced any hostile reaction there has been no difficulty in securing the general observance of the provisions of the Regulations. It seems to me that the good influence on retailers resulting from the activities of the wholesalers relating to hygiene must continue to be considerable.

Most of the meat and offal consigned to the City and supplies distributed from Greetham Street were carried in road vehicles. United Carriers—a meat transport organisation—have good facilities at the wholesale meat market for keeping their vehicles in a satisfactory condition and were responsible for the distribution of most of the meat supplies in the City and surrounding districts served by the wholesale meat market. There was no evidence that the general provisions of the Regulations were not on the whole well observed. The task of meat transport was carried out almost entirely free from trouble and once again I should like to pay tribute to the satisfactory work of the manager and staff of United Carriers.

#### ANTHRAX

One has only to glance at the annual figures for anthrax during last year to realise how troublesome this deadly disease was, despite the improvement in the situation observed towards the end of the year. Early in the new year there was evidence to indicate that the improvement in the figures had been maintained. Although a considerable increase was recorded in March the Ministry must have regarded the details for the year's first quarter as very satisfactory. The comparable totals give some idea of the exceptionally high incidence of anthrax last year. At the end of March, 1956, an aggregate of 822 outbreaks was recorded compared with 133 at the same date this year. A marked favourable trend in the details associated with this disease was observed in the next few months. According to the returns issued by the Ministry steady monthly decreases occurred without interruption throughout the year's second quarter. Between 2 and 3 a.m. one morning in May a police message reached me relating to a substantial quantity of milk which had come into a wholesale depot in the City from a farm where, according to the message, one of the herd had been found dead resulting from anthrax. My opinion was that this milk should be stopped immediately and held until much more reliable information was received. One could see from the comparable figures for the first half of the year how the details for anthrax can fluctuate. A total of 1,018 outbreaks was confirmed at the end of June last year against 227 for the first six months this year. When one remembers the fact that Great Britain is never completely free from anthrax the figures associated with it throughout the year's third quarter must have been encouraging to the Ministry. An exceptionally low incidence occurred which was reflected in the comparable aggregate at the 30th September — the actual figures being 1,146 last year and 257 this year. The low incidence continued without interruption to the end of the year. Throughout the year there was no great fluctuation in the figures and all indications pointed to a year of extraordinary low incidence. This fact was established by the annual details given by the Ministry. An aggregate of 318 outbreaks was confirmed in 1957, compared with 1,245 in the previous year.

#### FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

Following a year of exceptionally high incidence of foot and mouth disease a slightly favourable trend in the figures was observed during January. The improvement in the position was maintained throughout February and March when only five outbreaks were detected. Although one could not describe its incidence as extraordinarily high during the year's first quarter it is true that the total number of outbreaks was practically double that of the corresponding quarter last year. During April the position could not have been better since no outbreak was confirmed. This was the first time since July, 1956, that Great Britain was completely free from it. The period of freedom, however, was of short duration as it re-appeared in May when a number of outbreaks was detected. In June the Ministry succeeded in

stamping it out once more but the comparable aggregate figures for the first half of the year were unfavourable. Its existence was confirmed again in July when 13 outbreaks were detected. Following the Ministry's failure to eradicate it in August the position worsened during September resulting in a total of 40 outbreaks for the third quarter of the year. After an outbreak near Southampton its existence on a farm at Fareham was confirmed on the 27th September when a police message reached me late in the evening. Immediately the City was included in the Ministry's stand-still area around Fareham with movement restrictions on all species of animals susceptible to the disease. Further deterioration in the position occurred in October when a total of 53 outbreaks was recorded. After some easing of the situation the Ministry's slaughter and compensation policy failed to eradicate it right to the end of the year. December must have been a most unfortunate month for the Ministry and the Treasury when 49 outbreaks were detected. The annual details which have now been issued by the Ministry show that 184 outbreaks involving over 30,000 animals were confirmed in 1957, compared with 162 and over 28,000 animals in 1956.

#### SWINE FEVER.

After a year in which the annual details for swine fever showed a marked improvement compared with those for 1955 the position during January could not be described as satisfactory. The monthly total was the highest for several months and indicated that the Ministry had experienced a setback. Throughout the first three months of the year the position remained unchanged which was reflected in the unfavourable quarterly figures—the actual totals being 213 and 153 respectively. During May and June the position deteriorated when substantial increases in the monthly totals were recorded. It is true that throughout the first half of the year the unsatisfactory returns issued by the Ministry continued without interruption. Since the beginning of the year there was no evidence to indicate that the Ministry had made any real progress in the struggle with this disease. At the end of June the comparable aggregate figures showed an increase of 68 outbreaks. Further worsening in the position occurred during July. Despite the fact that for two consecutive months decreases in the number of outbreaks were recorded at the end of September the comparable aggregate was running unfavourably and showing an increase of 135. Besides the fact that there was no great fluctuation in the figures during the last quarter of the year there was no evidence pointing to any marked improvement in the situation. According to the returns all the indications were that the annual details for swine fever were likely to be of a serious nature. The annual figures which have now been released by the Ministry record a substantial increase in the number of outbreaks. A total of 960 outbreaks was confirmed during 1957, compared with 741 in 1956. Unlike foot and mouth disease and fowl pest the Ministry does not have a slaughter and compensation policy associated with swine fever.

#### FOWL PEST

Despite the Ministry of Agriculture's slaughter and compensation policy for fowl pest a considerable rise in the number of outbreaks was recorded in the year 1957. From experience one learns to anticipate a fall in the number of outbreaks during January, although it is a month when the incidence is usually comparatively high. 125 outbreaks were detected in January this year compared with a monthly total of 185 during December. The Ministry's returns showed that the favourable seasonal trend in the monthly figures continued without interruption throughout the year's first quarter. Despite this fact the quarterly comparable figures were unfavourable.

The steady improvement in the monthly totals continued without a break until April. This satisfactory state of affairs ended in May when the Ministry experienced a setback. Further deterioration in the position occurred during June and the comparable half-yearly figures were very unfavourable. A total of 455 outbreaks was confirmed at the 30th June this year against 323 at the same date in 1956. A substantial decrease in the number of outbreaks recorded in July appeared to provide evidence of the beginning of the Ministry's recovery process. Improvement in the position was indicated by very satisfactory details for August. Clearly the Ministry experienced more trouble in September when the figures showed a serious deterioration in the situation; the comparable aggregate at the end of September was not encouraging as a considerable increase was recorded, the actual figures being 620 this year against 516 last year. From experience one learns to anticipate an increase in the number of outbreaks of fowl pest during the last quarter or the year. This year was no exception and the number of outbreaks confirmed during October was nearly double that of September. A suspected case was reported to me but after visits to the birds and a careful investigation I considered that the facts did not warrant my reporting to the Ministry. As expected seasonal rises in the figures continued until the end of the year. Annual details now available show that for the first time in recent years over 1,000 outbreaks were detected in a single year. 1,034 and 956 were the totals for the years 1957 and 1956 respectively.

#### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

The provisions under the Poultry Premises and Vehicles (Disinfection) Order issued by the Ministry last year were designed to check the possible spreading of fowl pest at premises licensed under the Pet Animals Act. Additional precautions against the spread of fowl pest were taken by the Ministry this year under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order. Important provisions in the Order are that poultry should not have access to unboiled waste foods and that the efficiency of boiling waste foods for poultry must be beyond doubt. Since no evidence reached me that the general provisions of the Act were not on the whole well observed due care was taken regarding the animals' welfare. Once again a great deal of the credit for another year's smooth working of the Act is due to the occupiers of the licensed premises. A total of 30 pet shops was licensed in the City and 75 visits were made during the year.

#### THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The above Order came into operation during the year and prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry. Boiling for at least one hour is stipulated by means of plant and equipment operated in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by the local authority. Precautions to be adopted are given in connection with the carriage of waste foods. These relate chiefly to containers and vehicles used in collection. The Order is designed to prevent the spread of diseases like foot and mouth disease, fowl pest and swine fever. Unfortunately this work was seriously hampered due to the high incidence of foot and mouth disease.

#### FISH

The following is a list of the various species of fish relating to parcels surrendered after inspection and condemnation:—dutch eels, skate, haddocks, prawns, herrings, plaice, hake, salmon, crabs, mussels, trout, shrimps, sprats, fillets (various).

#### OTHER FOODSTUFFS

As in previous years, practically all kinds of foodstuffs, other than fish, homekilled and imported meat already mentioned, were handled under this heading. Canned foods were an important item, 11,080 tins being surrendered as unfit for human consumption following inspection.

#### DUTIES AT THE PORT

No clinical evidence of the existence of any notifiable disease was detected in livestock landing at Point and all animals were able to proceed to their destinations. A total of 38 visits was made to the Dockyard, Camber and Flathouse. A number were of a preventive nature to prevent certain livestock coming into this country illicitly. The Regulations are designed to prevent disease, e.g. rabies and psittacosis, entering at the ports. Other visits to the Port were associated with the trade in the importation of foodstuffs at the Camber and Flathouse.

#### VISITS

1,770 visits were made during 1957, including 511 to meat premises (wholesale and retail), 86 to fish premises (wholesale and retail), 832 to provision shops (wholesale and retail), 58 to piggeries, 99 to sausage makers, 38 in connection with my duties at the port, 15 to institutions, 75 under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, and 362 relating to complaints.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

During the year 1,739 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Of these, 121 were found to be adulterated, incorrectly labelled or otherwise unsatisfactory, or 6.9%, compared with 4.1% in 1956. Of these 121 samples, 15 were formal samples, 102 informal or test samples and 4 private purchase samples.

In two cases proceedings were instituted and the remainder were dealt with by cautions or reference to the appropriate Ministry.

### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

During the year 44 licences were issued for the sale of pasteurised milk, 13 for sterilised milk and 9 for tuberculin tested milk.

82 samples of tuberculin tested (pasteurised) milk were examined and passed the test for this type of milk.

284 samples of pasteurised milk were examined and passed the test for this type of milk.

64 samples of pasteurised milk supplied to schools were examined and were found satisfactory.

23 samples of sterilised milk were examined and passed the test.

### MILK

749 samples of milk were taken during the year; 60 were found to be adulterated and 25 not up to standard, the deficiencies being due to natural causes. Of this number 296 represented milk supplied by farmers to retailers in the City, 60 being found to be adulterated.

### ICE CREAM

50 samples of ice cream were taken for examination, with the following results:

30 samples were grade 1	9 samples were grade 3
5 samples were grade 2	6 samples were grade 4

### DRUGS

115 samples of drugs were taken and 2 were found not to be in accordance with the standards or requirements laid down in the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941, and the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts, 1933.

### MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926, AND ORDERS IN COUNCIL MADE THERE-UNDER

During the year 79 visits were made to business premises to see that the provisions of these Orders were being complied with.

### WATER

191 samples of swimming pool, paddling pool and sea water were taken during the year.

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. F. APPLETON, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.*

1957 produced an improvement in the staff position, which enables me to open this annual report on a more optimistic note than in preceding years. The complement of inspectors was not reached but the staff was augmented by four appointments, two being lately qualified students. This influx enabled me to divert personnel to implement the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and to clear some of the back-log of outstanding notices. Both these efforts will be apparent in the statistics appearing later. The introduction of the Rent Act, 1957, and a year of more clement weather accounted for a decline in the number of complaints received officially. 1,979 were investigated.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

3,437 inspections were made where nuisances were alleged to exist in dwelling houses and 9,593 visits of supervision were paid to premises to supervise work in progress or check non-compliance. Enforcement of the Act was by the issue of:—

Intimation notices	...	...	...	...	1,055
Abatement notices	...	...	...	...	589
Letters requiring work "without further delay"					126
Letters requiring work "within seven days"				...	155
Letters requiring work "forthwith"			...	...	20

Discharge of statutory obligations was not forthcoming from 78 persons on whom abatement notices were served, and after reference to the Town Clerk, these cases were resolved as follows:—

Settled without legal proceedings	55
Withdrawn before case heard	5 (1 case with £2 2s. 0d. costs)
Adjourned <i>sine die</i>	2
Orders made	14 (with £17 11s. 0d. costs awarded)
Work completed before proceedings	2 (but £4 4s. 0d. costs awarded)
TOTAL	78

## TENTS, VANS, SHEDS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS

## AUTHORISED SITES

Save for one unsubstantiated complaint of refuse being dumped in Langstone Harbour by residents in the adjoining caravan site, the year passed without incident being recorded against the three Corporation caravan parks.

## PRIVATE SITES

An application to increase the number of caravans from 5 to a maximum of 10 on a site occupied in connection with an amusement park, was approved conditionally.

No nuisances were caused by the other privately owned sites, but a count of caravans on one recently developed caravan park revealed a large number in excess of that permitted by the licence. This was hastily remedied by the new proprietor.

#### PROMISCUOUS CAMPING

Due to persistent representations to the local theatre managements, there were fewer troupers taking advantage of open areas in the vicinity of Russell Street for parking their trailers, but two families of persons employed by a fun-fair were found to be illegally occupying caravans on bombed sites. Removal was with difficulty finally achieved.

One application to station a caravan in a garden was made and as it was required to house temporarily relatives of the householder, no legal grounds for objection could be made.

Nomad families camped on the slopes of the hill many times during 1957. In transit they are a potential danger to the neighbourhood, for their observance of the elementary laws of hygiene is as limited as their horizon is unrestricted. All such campers have been made to move on as soon as possible.

The attention of the Department was drawn to one family living in an old 'bus parked in the garden of a private dwelling house. Not content with this the occupier had also surrounded himself with the paraphernalia of a car-breaker. The outcome of action to remedy this will figure in the report for next year.

#### HOUSEBOATS

For the second year in succession, no application to station a houseboat was received.

The Corporation's approved site however came in for some criticism, principally from the Boat Owners' Association. A survey of the site shewed that marine stores were being accumulated on the sea-wall and that facilities for refuse storage left much to be desired. The Association have begun the clearance of the accumulation, and additional refuse-receptacles have been provided by the Corporation.

#### NUISANCES FROM DEPOSITS, DUST, SMELLS, ETC.

A comprehensive catalogue under this heading was complained of in 1957, and a great deal of time was expended with little visible effect in checking these complaints to see that nothing prejudicial to the public health existed. The most thankless of these investigations was undoubtedly that of promiscuous dumping on vacant sites. The absence of organic matter and the anonymity of the offender usually made such investigations abortive, to the great displeasure of the complainant. All complaints involving tipping of inorganic matter were referred to the Police for the enforcement of the byelaws securing good government of the city.

The number of derelict premises in the city is being steadily reduced, yet in 1957 the Department was instrumental in securing a number of unoccupied premises from access by the public.

A number of complaints were received from the Paulsgrove, Wymering area that passageways between dwellings were being used as urinals by members of the public. The offences were mostly at night and were evidently due to the lack of public conveniences in this populous area. The erection of public urinals should obviate this behaviour in the near future.

A possible alternative to the lengthy and often complicated procedure of compulsory purchase appeared to develop from the action taken by the Department regarding an offensive accumulation on a vacant lot. On receipt of a notice to remove this accumulation, the owner was so concerned to be rid of the responsibility that he offered the land gratis to anyone who would take it. The offer was referred to the Estates Department.

A matter of great concern to the public, the control of noise, was discussed in Parliament in 1957, when, although it was agreed that the suppression of noise would be of universal benefit, no steps were taken to incorporate noise prevention law with existing legislation. Genuine complaints of quite unnecessary noise, e.g. the monotonous whine of a newly installed turbine, the continuous hum of a refrigeration plant, the nocturnal whistling and loud conversation of a bakery firm's employees, should be dealt with other than by private action.

A ratepayers association drew the attention of the Department to the disgusting condition of the city pavements resulting from fouling by dogs.

#### REFUSE RECEPTACLES

Portsmouth dustbins are a natural lead-on from the last unpleasant topic. No citizen of a city in which so large a proportion of house-holders brazenly flaunt their personal collection of filth at their own doorstep can claim to be fastidious, unless of course he can establish the fact that he is receiving only the attention of his own personal blue-bottles and houseflies.

A survey was carried out this year in one selected quarter into the type of refuse container used in the houses of that area, and in an opening drive to secure proper sanitary bins, 56 intimation and 57 abatement notices were served on the persons thought to be legally responsible for provision of bins. A disputed case eventually found its way to court where the Justices upheld the Corporation's case, but in a subsequent appeal the interpretation of the law was reversed and the appellant was successful.

The present procedure is to judge each case on its merits, and as the absence of a regulation bin is noted to serve a notice for provision on the person deemed to be responsible.

#### EXHUMATIONS

No faculties for exhumations affected Portsmouth, but another potential mass exhumation is possible when the Mile End Cemetery's future is decided.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

The effect of this Act which came into force on 31st December, 1956, was somewhat dissipated in the City because, being a lightly industrialised authority, no smoke-control areas were established. Nevertheless the time is approaching when this most important contribution to public health will be demanded, if not by all citizens, then at least by those in proximity to any factory with a questionable stoker. As the local press pointed out in its editorial comment on the Act, the city is not heavily industrialised but there is a concentration of smoke producers oriented so that their unpleasant products are borne by the prevailing wind across the diagonals of the city. So far the city has been remarkable amongst the larger authorities for the fact that no legal proceedings have been entered against offenders. This is due chiefly to the fact that such complaints as have been made have been found to be due to the difficulties experienced in the post war years in getting the right types of fuel for particular kinds of installations, or to temporary neglect by stoker or management. Surveillance of smoke pro-

ducers has often been carried out for some time without observing any undesirable condition. Withdraw surveillance and the complaint recurs. Usually representation of the complaint to the management brings immediate improvement. If it is a question of plant the matter is easily solved by introduction of modern gear, but it has long been commented on that this is the only civilised country in the world where a certificate of competency is not required for a stoker in civilian capacity, and when it is realised that a man firing two Lancashire boilers can cost his employers £10,000 per annum in coal, through faulty stoking, the wonder is that there are not more authentic stokers.

A number of complaints yielded nothing requiring statutory action. Southsea residents presented a petition regarding an offending cinema chimney. This was found to be due to a burnt-out automatic feed motor. Its replacement produced the necessary return to normal.

Corporation offices affected an adjacent Insurance building which, being built later, and higher, received the products of the office's chimneys. Alternative means of heating by gas is being examined.

Observations on a Southsea brewery showed the emission of black smoke for such duration and time as to be a nuisance and on representation to the firm it was found that the brewery was in process of conversion from solid fuel to oil firing.

A factory, a rag and bone merchant, a school, a dry cleaners and a Salvation Army hostel were kept under observation for breach of smoke law without the offence being established.

As a member of the standing conference of co-opted bodies on the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution, I was relieved to know that houses and flats under construction by the Council incorporate the approved appliances recommended by the Ministry of Power for local authority housing and which appear in the list of Recommended Domestic Solid Fuel Appliances, and especially in view of the fact that domestic fires will not be exempt in any future smoke control areas which may be designated.

#### CINEMAS

No certificates were withheld from managements this year, although in five cases minor defects delayed issue until they were remedied.

#### HOUSING

1957 opened with an estimated number of 3,041 houses unfit for human habitation, and a decision by the Council to include 2,000 of these houses in the first five years of the seven year period. These were to be on an acceleration of 100—from 400 in 1956 and '57 to 500 for 1958-59 and '60. It was at the January meeting of the Special Joint Housing Redevelopment Sub-Committee that I pointed out that there was in progress a survey by the health inspectors of the properties scheduled for these five years, and further action was deferred by the Committee until the conclusions were available.

A survey of this order is no minor undertaking and each property inspected had to bear a report, to form a basis for an opinion which would justify the Council's case in any subsequent Ministerial enquiry. The information was sufficiently collated to make a progress report on 17th April, 1957, when 93% of the 2,175 premises scheduled had been inspected. From the summary I opined that 163 premises should be excluded. The survey revealed 228 business premises, derelict properties, and vacant sites, and of the remaining 1,947, 144 were left to be inspected when access could

be gained. It further became apparent that a number of dwellings not originally included in the Provisional Housing Redevelopment scheme would need to be considered in connection with future slum clearance programme, but that they would not greatly exceed one hundred. The Council later accepted the report and made a recommendation that the provisional housing redevelopment programme be amended accordingly. Meanwhile on 15th January, 1957, a Public Inquiry was held into the Declaration of Unfitness Orders of the Little Southsea Street and Crasswell Street areas, both of which were subsequently confirmed.

In July, when Arundel Street, Hereford Street, Mary Street area was under consideration, I reminded the Committee that they had suggested approximately 400 properties should constitute the first area, and as the proposed delineation contained only 320 properties, perhaps another suitable area in Portsea could be included with the Arundel Street area. Subsequently, the Medical Officer of Health was asked to submit representations to the appropriate Committees upon the Arundel Street and Portsea areas and thereafter on further suitable areas in order of priority.

On 16th October, 1957, an official representation was made to the Committee on the conditions existing in 15 Portsea areas and the Committee's resolution that the same were to be declared Clearance Areas within the meaning of the Housing Act, 1957, was subsequently confirmed by the Council.

The areas affected were:—

#### CLEARANCE AREAS

	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
<b>Aylward Street No. 1</b>			
Aylward Street—Nos. 3 and 4 ... ..	2	3	2
<b>Aylward Street No. 2</b>			
Aylward Street—Nos. 5 and 6			
Cardigan Place—No. 6 also known as			
Cardigan Place—No. 8 ... ..	3	4	2
<b>Beck Street No. 1</b>			
Beck Street—Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 ... ..	6	5	3
<b>Britain Street No. 1</b>			
Britain Street—Nos. 1 and 3 ... ..	2	10	3
<b>Hay Street No. 1</b>			
Hay Street—Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 ... ..	5	16	7
<b>Lion Street No. 1</b>			
Lion Street—Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11			
Hay Street—Nos. 12, 13 and 19 ... ..	13	25	10
<b>Lion Terrace No. 1</b>			
Lion Terrace—Nos. 38, 39, 40, 41, 41a and 42 ... ..	6	27	9
<b>St. James' Street No. 1</b>			
St. James' Street—Nos. 3, 4 and 5 ... ..	3	6	2
<b>St. James' Street No. 2</b>			
St. James' Street—Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17, 36, 36a also known as 36½, 37, 38, 39 and 40 ... ..	10	24	7
<b>St. James' Street No. 3</b>			
St. James' Street—Nos. 43a, 46, 47 and 48 ... ..	4	2	1
<b>Union Street No. 1</b>			
Union Street—Nos. 8 and 9 ... ..	2	19	4
<b>Union Street No. 2</b>			
Union Street—Nos. 14, 15 and 16 ... ..	3	16	6
<b>Union Street No. 3</b>			
Hanover Street—Nos. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 35, 32, 33, 34 and 36 ... ..			
Union Street—Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49 and 50 ... ..	34	117	28
<b>Union Street No. 4</b>			
Union Street—Nos. 26 and 27 ... ..	2	6	2
<b>Union Street No. 5</b>			
Hanover Street—Nos. 7, 8 and 9 ... ..	3	—	—

The foregoing having dealt with the unfitness of dwelling houses, the Committee concurrently considered proposals regarding the acquisition of the land embodied in the following Compulsory Purchase Orders:

Union Street No. 1  
St. James' Street No. 1  
Beck Street No. 1  
Lion Terrace No. 2  
Lion Street No. 1

Later in the year a financial shadow was thrown over the housing programme when the Government advised local authorities of the forthcoming restriction on capital expenditure and all committees were warned that it might become necessary for priorities to be decided. Accordingly on 19th November, 1957, the Special Joint Housing Redevelopment Sub-Committee heard the submissions for priority of slum clearance and recommended to the Health and Housing Committee that the order be as hereunder.

<i>Area</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
(a) Arundel Street ... ..	296
(b) Hertford Street—Wellington Row area ... ..	425
(c) Central Street, Charles Street, Church Road, Cobourg Street, Guildford Street, etc., Hollo- way Street, Cottage View ... ..	168
(d) Melbourne Street area, West Street, Wiltshire Street	342
(e) Lancaster Road, Berkeley Street, Henrietta Street, Grosvenor Street area ... ..	525
(f) Buckland Street, Finsbury Street, Chapel Street area ... ..	381

Consideration of the Stamshaw area was deferred for further investigation, and the future of other smaller unfit areas not covered by the submission was left to be the subject of a further report as and when considered necessary.

Slum clearance is inevitably a costly business, and the economics of rehousing displaced families probably are more distracting than any other problem.

Towards the end of 1956 it became evident that in order to secure the slum clearance subsidies offered by the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956, on new houses for persons displaced by compulsory purchase orders under the Town and Country Planning Acts, such displacement had to be justified to the Minister's satisfaction by a confirmed Declaration of Unfitness Order, or even by Ministerial inspection of the actual habitation. A considerable number of dwelling houses had already been demolished without such unfitness orders having been established. Only intimate and detailed specialised knowledge of the individual dwelling houses concerned enabled the staff to select from the areas already dealt with 107 properties, for which I subsequently submitted certificates of unfitness.

These properties were:—

<i>Compulsory Purchase Orders</i>	<i>Properties</i>
Hambrook Street No. 1 C.P.O.	Steel Street—Nos. 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17 and 21
	Gold Street—Nos. 8a, 17, 19, 19a, 25, 27 and 29
Hambrook Street No. 2 C.P.O.	Little Southsea Street—Nos. 1, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16
	18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48
	Bush Street West—Nos. 2, 6 and 8
	Stone Street—Nos. 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 45
	47 and 53
	Gold Street—Nos. 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28,
	30, 32, 34 and 36
	Diamond Street—No. 29
	Silver Street—No. 1

Havant Street No. 1 C.P.O.	Hawke Street—Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52
Radnor Street No. 1 C.P.O.	Radnor Street—No. 19
	Radnor Cottage East
	Radnor Cottage West
Hanover Street No. 2 C.P.O.	Hawke Street—Nos. 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12 and 13
St. George's Square No. 2 C.P.O.	St. George's Square—Nos. 25, 27, 29 and 31
King's Road No. 1 C.P.O.	Hyde Street—Nos. 21, 23, 25, 27, 29 and 31
Queen Street No. 1 C.P.O.	Union Street—No. 72
Queen Street No. 2 C.P.O.	St. James' Street—No. 53
Surrey Street No. 1 C.P.O.	Surrey Street—No. 43
Buckingham Street No. 1 C.P.O.	Crasswell Street—Nos. 12 and 14
Commercial Road No. 2 C.P.O.	Crasswell Street—Nos. 4, 6 and 10
Surrey Street No. 2 C.P.O.	Surrey Street—Nos. 58, 62 and 64
Hyde Park Road No. 3 C.P.O.	Marylebone Street—Nos. 87, 89 and 91
	Belgrave Street—Nos. 84 and 88

The sequel was 13th September, 1957, when the Minister of Housing and Local Government intimated by letter that he accepted 107 dwellings mentioned in the certificates as being unfit and was therefore prepared to make available the subsidy under Section 3(1) of the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956.

The certification of families displaced from houses eligible for subsidy is now routine.

## HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

Return for the year 1957

### A. Houses Demolished

	<i>Houses demolished</i>	<i>Displaced during year</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
IN CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1957):				
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation ... ..	—	—	—	—
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ... ..	—	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—	—	—	—
NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS:				
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	20	66	23	

### B. Unfit Houses Closed

	<i>Number</i>		
(5) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	11	43	13
(6) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
(7) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	1	—	—

### C. Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

	<i>By owner</i>	<i>By local authority</i>
(8) After informal action by local authority ... ..	1,733	—
(9) After formal notice under—		
(a) Public Health Acts ... ..	459	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	1	—
(10) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—	—

### D. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957)

	<i>Number of separate dwellings contained in houses</i>	<i>Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1)</i>
POSITION AT END OF YEAR:		
(11) Retained for temporary accommodation—	(1)	(2)
(a) under Section 48 ... ..	—	—
(b) under section 17(2) ... ..	—	—
(c) under Section 46 ... ..	—	—
(12) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 and 53 ... ..	—	—

**E. Purchase of Houses by Agreement**

	<i>Number of occupants Number of houses in column (1) (2)</i>	
(13) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the quarter ... ..	(1)	(2)
	—	—
<b>IMPROVEMENT GRANTS</b>		
Formal applications for Improvement Grants investigated ...		18
Formal applications for Improvement Grants not investigated ...		4
Informal applications for Improvement Grants investigated ...		223
Completion certificates issued for formal Improvement Grants ...		43
Formal applications for loan ... ..		9
<b>PERSONS INADEQUATELY HOUSED</b>		
(a) Housing applications requested by the Medical Officer of Health for assessment ... ..		1,299
(b) Housing applications referred to the Medical Officer of Health by the City Treasurer for assessment ... ..		791
(c) Housing applications forwarded for the Public Health Inspectors' investigation of housing conditions prior to allocation ... ..		668
(d) Housing applications issued to the Public Health Inspectors ... ..		247
Total number of housing applications dealt with ...		<u>2,758</u>

NOTE:—Figure (d) included in (a) and (b)

Action resulting from investigation of applicants' condition was as follows:—

Principal tenants informed that after rehousing sub-tenants, no further sub-tenants would be rehoused from that sub-standard house ... ..	2
Owners of underground rooms sent extract from Housing Act ... ..	1
Dwelling house not to be relet ... ..	9

**LAND CHARGES ENQUIRIES**

Enquiries made by intending house-purchasers' solicitors were further complicated by additional searches for existing Rent Act Certificates of Disrepair, as well as the usual abatement notices and inclusion in Provisional Housing Redevelopment Programme.

3,595 local land charge enquiries were dealt with.

**RENT ACT, 1957**

On the 6th June, 1957, there came into operation what may well prove to be the most controversial statute of the century. The pathetic indifference of the average man to whatever legislation is being shaped in Parliament was exemplified in the passing of this Act, although the national Press gave adequate coverage, suitably coloured, to the discussions during various stages of the Bill. In force, the Act has produced much more comment, chiefly through the multiplicity of the forms to be used and the complexities they create. In theory the use of these forms is easy, but in some hands the results are most distracting. It would have been helpful had there been a proviso in the Act that the specification of repairs in Form G be drawn up by or in consultation with the Public Health Inspectors. Subsequent pondering over the copies of Form G to try and interpret the named defects would have been eliminated and a considerable speed up achieved. Another ambiguity is the phrase "having due regard to the age, character and locality of the dwelling" and one especially difficult to explain to an irate

tenant of a decrepit property, who has just received notice of increase of rent.

Statistics to date are:—

PART I—Applications for Certificate of Disrepair:						
Number of applications for certificates	...	...	...	...	...	210
Number of decisions to issue certificates and certificates issued	...	...	...	...	...	89
(a) In respect of some defects	...	...	...	...	...	67
(b) In respect of all defects	...	...	...	...	...	22
Number of undertakings given by landlords (Form K)	...	...	...	...	...	73
Number of decisions to refuse certificates	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	—
PART II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair:						
Number of applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of decisions to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	...	...	...	...	...	—
Certificates cancelled	...	...	...	...	...	1

## FOOD

### EXTRANEOUS MATTER IN FOOD

Bakers were the principal cause of a considerable increase in the number of complaints regarding foreign matter found in food. On sixteen occasions bakery products figured in inquiries on such findings. An apprehensive public found matters purporting to be human skin, rodent excreta and insects in loaves, but the human skin proved to be sellotape, the rodent excreta to be partially mixed dough from a previous baking, and the insect, oil-stained dough. This latter was the cause of the frequent complaints of dark patches in bread, but microscopic examination of the submitted specimens showed the contaminated area to be edible oil from the machinery and not deleterious to health, although undesirable from the commercial viewpoint. Considering the enormous amount of bread produced and consumed locally the few offences did not merit prosecution and the firms concerned were only warned against repetition of these lapses.

A more serious view was taken of offences involving the selling of stale meat pies. Several purchasers complained of having purchased pies of reputable make, which proved to be mouldy when cut. Subsequent inquiry of the manufacturers revealed that the pies were as much as eight days old when retailed. Most of the offences were due to lack of rotation in the selling of stock, and although some attempts were made to involve the manufacturers, these were defeated by the complainants producing their pie-wrappers from which the makers were able to prove the date of issue by their production-date code. A wise purchaser will therefore retain the manufacturer's wrapping until such time as the soundness of the purchase is beyond dispute.

Visible mould on a pie caused one complainant to return to the shop where the vendors are alleged to have imprudently advised the customer to go home and eat it, advice which subsequently cost them a considerable amount in fines and costs.

The discovery of larvae in a well-known brand of soup powder and a similar occurrence in a chocolate firm's product brought immediate response from the firms whose representatives insisted on a thorough examination of the retailers' stockrooms. Here, evidence existed that in both cases infestation occurred after the product had left the manufactory, and later the stockrooms were satisfactorily treated.

Seaside rock bearing the legend "Southsea" figured in two complaints by visitors to the City. In the first instance, failure of the complainants to describe sufficiently the vendor's stall frustrated all efforts to identify the origin of some rock which appeared to have been grossly contaminated with dirt. In the second case, the forwarded specimen of rock contained the business end of a wasp and the rock manufacturer was not only identified, but was found to be operating a factory infested with myriads of wasps, and from the observations of my colleague, to whose authority the complaint was referred, may now have been closed down, failing ability to prevent contamination of the product by insects.

A unique occurrence was the production by a complainant of a loaf of bread with a quite large price tag embedded in it, an occurrence which was proved to have taken place in the shop and not the bakery.

The inevitable cigarette end made its appearance in a loaf, and having been partially carbonised was proved to have been baked in the bread. The firm in question could not explain the occurrence in any way as their precautions against such possibility are most stringent, and their consternation at this happening was accepted as their principal excuse.

A summary of the action taken is given:—

<i>Material or Object</i>	<i>Found in</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
Mould	Chocolate cake	Firm warned
Maggot	Soup powder	Retailers warned
Insect	Sliced loaf	Firm warned
Insect	Bread	Firm warned
Foreign matter ? Sellotape	Flour	Firm warned
Insect	Flour	Firm warned
Mould	Pork pie	Firm warned
? Rodent excreta	Bread	Explanation accepted
? Allegation of nail (no specimen)	Bread	None
Dirt	Cream	Firm warned
Oil	Sliced loaf	Firm warned
? Human skin	Bread	Disproved, Firm warned
Oil	Bread	Firm warned
Foreign matter	Rock	No action
Mould	Sausage roll	Firm warned
Moth larvae	Chocolate	Retailer warned
Mould	Pork pie	Vendors fined
? Rodent excreta	Dried fruit	Disproved
Dirt	Orange Juice	Firm warned
Wasp body	Rock	Referred to authority in which manufactured
Glass	Bread	Not substantiated
Oil	Bread	Firm warned
Mildew	Pies	Retailer warned
Wasp body	Ginger cake	Firm warned
Unleavened dough	Bread	No action
Price tag	Bread	Firm warned

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, AND FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

### SECTION 16

Thirteen premises were registered during the year for preparation or manufacture of preserved foods, the latter in 4 cases being sausages.

### CATERING PREMISES

My attention was drawn to a cafe in Queen Street in which no w.c. existed and at the rear of which rats were emerging from an open drainage connection. It was a little disconcerting to find that the premises had been leased to the occupier by the Corporation. The notice to quit which

naturally followed the discovery of these unsatisfactory conditions was countered by an appeal for an extension of time, and as the lessors were felt to be culpable, this was granted.

A rusty flaking roof, dirty tables and chipped crockery were the basis of complaint about a Nissen type hut which, following the investigation, closed down and was demolished.

A unique complaint was that made by the owner of property adjoining a Southsea cafe, who drew the Department's attention to the inefficient ventilation of the cafe's water closet and the approach thereto. Inspection revealed that the complainant had built, on his own property, a 4½" addition to his boundary wall and about two inches away from the cafe's window which thereafter could not operate efficiently. Fortunately the matter was satisfactorily dealt with by the cafe proprietor devising a secondary method of ventilation.

Complaints varying from the temperature of tea, the colour of the butter, the presence of cockroaches, the need for redecoration, the absence of toilet paper in the w.c., were levelled at cafes in the city, and were dealt with according to their importance.

Enquiries, mostly on procedure, were answered where it was proposed to change ownership of cafes, but few new cafes were opened, although several sets of plans were examined.

#### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

In May of the year under review, I was enabled by a lull in activity on the Slum Clearance front to disengage staff from housing inspection to open the delayed campaign in the field above mentioned.

Innumerable food vendors, especially the small "generals" run on antiquated methods, were oblivious to the existence of the Regulations, and by the end of the year the action had reached a crescendo with 1,938 regulations found to be contravened, and only part of the city covered. The majority of these contraventions were composite offences, for the greater part of the regulations are in themselves made of several requirements. The aggregate of the infringements would therefore be far in excess of the foregoing figure.

No particular type of business dominated the contraveners but there was a tendency for certain facilities to be absent more in shops converted from dwelling houses than in purpose built premises. This was particularly true of corner conversions, which lend easily to lock-up shops. Here, separation from the dwelling generated difficulties regarding water supply, and abutment on the footway raised special problems of waste disposal and water closet provision, whereas the terrace house, without secondary access, usually preserved the connection between dwelling and shop when altered, and thereby retained access to water and the conveniences. Nevertheless, despite alteration and adaptation to suit all types of business it is remarkable in this day and age to find that 12 premises on which "open food" was for sale were without any form of water supply, whilst in 497 other cases facilities for ablution were incomplete or improvised. Regulation 14, concerning sanitary conveniences and notices *re* washing of hands, was unobserved either partly or wholly in 347 cases. The remedying of this undesirable state of affairs will prove of incalculable value to the public health by the elimination of many potential cases of food poisoning.

More apparent to the public than the improvement in vendor's personal hygiene back stage has been the protection of open food from contamination by the customer, and varying from the simple barrier to the elaborate

chrome and glass casing. This reform is greatly in evidence in the multiple stores where the press of customers is greatest. Very much credit is due to these managements for their good sense in devising methods of food-covering which could be reconciled with ultra-rapid sales methods.

At the same time many progressive small traders have expended a lot of thought and money in achieving similar improvements. Although 721 notices of contravention were issued in seven months a considerable amount of work was done without recourse to correspondence. Where on-the-spot discussion proved inadequate, conferences between the firm's representatives and the inspectors were arranged and a remarkable degree of agreement about the interpretation of the statutory requirements was reached.

It was inevitable that in an operation of this nature there should be casualties, and I record without compunction the closure of two businesses whose elimination will be no loss to the city in so far as public health is concerned.

One was an old-established vendor of edible offal and butchers sundries which were prepared for sale by cooking on the premises. The latter were unsuitable by reason of defects, dirt, absence of ablution facilities and general long-standing neglect. Flies infested the premises and in addition the proprietor was dirty in his person and clothing. Subsequent to a letter threatening prosecution if the business continued under the conditions found, the offender made the decision to go out of business.

The second closure was a muffin-maker whose so-called bakery adjoined his living accommodation and was equally dilapidated. Regulations 5, 6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21 and 23 were contravened. The proprietor was informed that to continue business under the deplorable conditions found was to invite prosecution, and he made the decision to stop being a muffin maker.

What might appear to the uninitiated to be a lack of co-operation between Corporation Departments was that the inspectors found many Corporation-owned shops to be amongst the unsatisfactory premises. Actually it was a matter of outmoded design in the older premises whilst many of the newer premises were completed before the introduction of the new legislation. A list of those falling short of the standards required was submitted to the proper quarter, and as examination of plans of proposed food shops is now a routine matter in the Department a recurrence of this happening is not likely unless there are radical alterations in statutory requirements.

Here it is pertinent to refer to the wisdom of the Welfare Services Committee in implementing the recommendations made in my report on their establishments' catering facilities last year.

Whilst the foregoing activities were taking place, the public contributed their quota of observations on the way in which their food reached them.

Perhaps the most unprecedented complaint was the self-confessed purloining of a dilapidated soup-spoon bearing undeniable evidence of a long-past meal. The spoon arrived in the Department as evidence by the complainant to support his grouse about cafe methods, and its impact gained force from the fact that the spoon was Corporation property.

A flaw in the system to prevent old and discarded cutlery from finding its way to the table was discovered and a possible source of future complaint eliminated.

Natural aversion to the anonymous complainant has to be overcome when the public health is jeopardised, and the communication to a firm of bakers of an unnamed person's complaint that one of their van men allowed

his child-passenger to climb over the shelves in the van brought disciplinary action to the van man. The latter addressed to the Department a bitter diatribe on things anonymous.

Van men were also reported for leaving bread on the paving outside an unopened shop, and for driving with the van doors open.

#### STALLS

Many visits were made to the markets to see that the special requirements of the Regulations affecting the sale of open food from stalls were observed. Fatepaying traders in the city regard stallholders with distaste and protests have been received about the difference in the requirements demanded of shopkeepers as compared with the lesser ones for a stall. The fact remains that it is legal interpretation and not local misinterpretation which demands less from the street trader than from the shopkeeper.

Surveillance of stalls showed that the principal offences were the failure to protect food from contamination, and an obscure prejudice against legible names and addresses of stall owners. In so far as Corporation market sites are concerned I am happy with the Committee's instruction to the Market Inspector to withhold sites from persons I notify to him as offenders against the Regulations.

#### ARSENICAL CONTAMINATION OF APPLES

Reminiscent of the year 1949 when consignments of arsenically contaminated Italian pears were landed at the Camber and Flathouse, and which led to a judgment in favour of the Southwark Borough Council and others in the High Court of Justice, were the scenes at Flathouse, when Italian apples this time were the offending fruit. The consignments were in some cases returned from as far distant as Liverpool, owing to the spray residue being detected on the fruit. The impounded fruit which was returned to Portsmouth was uncased and a chain of casual workers employed to wipe each apple and to re-wrap. Arsenic and lead to the extent of 4 and 9 parts per million were detected on the apples prior to wiping and even the wrapping papers yielded 2 and 5 parts per million.

After the first treatment by wiping with a damp cloth and re-wrapping in clean paper, the apples appeared uncontaminated to the eye, but chemical examination proved otherwise, an average of 1.5 arsenic and 5.5 p.p.m. of lead being recovered.

Subsequent and more meticulous washing and wiping and frequent changes of water were carried out before the apples were passed on, and as a precautionary measure, the authorities at points of reception were informed.

#### TOFFEE APPLES

Two complaints were received about this sweetmeat being manufactured in private dwelling houses for sale to the public, and one source in Mile End was found and stopped. The other complaint concerned the hawking of toffee apples around Corporation flats on Sundays, but although observations were kept this anonymous confectioner was never met.

#### POULTRY DISPLAYS

Much time was occupied during the Christmas period in surveillance of poultry displays. Following the previous year's arrangement of poultry by a large firm's super market in which the dressed birds were being hung over the footway outside the shop and were handled by members of the public,

complaints were received from various interested quarters that the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, were abrogated by such methods. Seventy inspections were made during the week immediately prior to Christmas and the persuasion of the purveyors to limit their displays within the confines of the shop was a task of great difficulty, and achieved after every trader had been assured of equal treatment in the matter.

#### CLEAN FOOD GUILDS AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

There having been no demand from traders or public no clean food guild has been instituted.

Poster displays on prominent sites continue.

The seven month operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations saw some 4,180 inspections and 1,940 subsequent visits carried out, and the sequelae to those where defective premises or substandard conditions were found were:—

Notices of contravention issued ... ..	721
Notices of contravention complied with...	395

#### SUMMARY OF WORK REQUIRED BY NOTICES OF CONTRAVENTION OF FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

<i>Regulation Contravened</i>							<i>No of cases</i>
No.	5	"Unsanitary premises" ... ..	...	...	...	...	7
	6	Cleanliness of equipment, etc. ... ..	...	...	...	...	64
	8	Protection from contamination ... ..	...	...	...	...	224
	14	Sanitary conveniences (including notices <i>re</i> washing of hands) ...	...	...	...	...	347
	15	Provision of water supply ... ..	...	...	...	...	12
	16	Provision of hand washing facilities ... ..	...	...	...	...	497
	17	Provision of first aid materials ... ..	...	...	...	...	201
	18	Provision of accommodation for clothing, etc. ... ..	...	...	...	...	129
	19	Provision of facilities (sinks, etc.) for washing equipment ...	...	...	...	...	178
	20	Lighting of food rooms ... ..	...	...	...	...	2
	21	Ventilation of food rooms ... ..	...	...	...	...	12
	23	Cleanliness and repair, etc. of food rooms ... ..	...	...	...	...	215
	25	Temperature at which foods to be kept .. ..	...	...	...	...	1
	26	General requirements as to stalls ... ..	...	...	...	...	46
	27	Covering of certain stalls ... ..	...	...	...	...	2
	28	Supply of water for certain stalls ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL ... ..							1,938

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

No major outbreak took place and the only incident of note was the arrival home of a holiday maker from Majorca with an imported typhoid fever. Investigation showed that the infection took place abroad, the onset being during the homeward journey. Contacts who accompanied the patient during the trip were found to be unaffected. A fortunate feature of this incident was that of date of onset, for the patient would have returned to duty in a large undertaking's canteen where she came in direct contact with employees' food had she not become unwell on the return.

An interesting appearance in the City was that of *Salmonella Irumu* which mysteriously infected a small child. In the investigation which followed a self-service store was involved as suppliers of foodstuff to the patient's home. A sensible management ensured the co-operation of the large staff who submitted specimens for bacteriological examination, and Moore's sewer swabs were also put in the drainage system. The causative organism was not recovered from the employees, but freakishly enough, a *Salmonella Typhi Murium* was isolated from one of the swabs. A repetition

of the human and sewer specimens brought no light on either infections. An unfortunate feature of this investigation was that it came to a lame halt through the unimaginative lack of co-operation by the parent of a potential carrier.

Salmonella infection of the typhi murium, Heidelberg and Enteritidis varieties were inquired into but no foodstuffs were incriminated. The usual "carriers" were discovered amongst the allegedly unaffected immediate family contacts, but no extensive chains of infection were disclosed.

Amongst the food and drink infections was an unfortunate Service man who after a lengthy sojourn abroad was repatriated on compassionate grounds. In Singapore he became unwell with a stomach upset, which did not become unduly bothersome until he reached his own doorstep, where he was whisked away to hospital with a Salmonella infection.

A small outbreak of food poisoning by staphylococci was discovered by a chance request to examine some meat. The vendors, a reputable combine, said that four customers had been unwell after eating the meat. Bacteriological examination of the remainder of a joint of silverside showed the presence of staph. pyogenes and similar organisms of the same antigenic structure were recovered from the patients. Swab of the slicing machine yielded faecal coli and streptococci although the machine appeared immaculate. Bacteria were also found in swabs from the hands of assistants in the shop. The cooking depot being separate from the retail shop, the investigation continued there and swabs from packing machines and from equipment were negatived. Owing to the difficulty of establishing the origin of the silverside with any exactitude, the enquiry was left with the possibility of further bacteriological tests being conducted to prove the efficiency of sterilising method.

The public's anxiety regarding the possible presence of polio-infected sewage contaminating the local sea water, together with an opinion expressed in the local press, that cockles on Sinah Sands were being infected with Portsmouth sewage led to a series of test samples of sea water being taken from Langstone Harbour in conjunction with float tests undertaken by the City Engineer's Department. These tests, which took place at the most favourable combination of tide and weather, yielded information of great value, if unexciting.

Useful information was also collated on the subject of poliomyelitis, by the follow-up for virus examination of case contacts.

Sonné dysentery in sporadic cases occurred but beyond few secondary cases did not spread.

652 visits were paid to homes during the year for general enquiries regarding disease, and the disinfectors treated several hundred rooms.

#### PESTOLOGY

172 complaints about insect infestations were dealt with, and following on identification of the invaders by the inspectors were dealt with either by the complainant acting on advice given, or by the departmental disinfectors. Public Health Inspectors in this city are unanimous in their opinion that, though a great improvement has taken place, there are still too many cases of vermin infestation occurring.

Also complained of were bugs, several species of beetle, cockroaches, steamflies, body lice, woodlice, moths, ants, wasps, woolly bears and furniture beetle.

## WATER SUPPLY

The centenary of the Portsmouth Water Co. was reached without 1957 impairing the Company's record of providing an entirely satisfactory water supply to the district. Analyses of samples taken both privately and publicly concurred in showing this.

A sample of water taken during one of the processes in ice-making at a local manufactory showed slight contamination which was eliminated by changing tanked water at greater frequency.

## SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT

INSPECTION OF PREMISES, ETC.									
Dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,437
New dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	594
Boarding houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Common lodging houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tents, vans, sheds, caravans, camping sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	157
Houseboats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Smoke, chemical and colour tests to old drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	259
Chemical and other tests to new drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,094
Housing Act, 1936—Permitted Number survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Underground rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Power factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	570
Non-power factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	245
Work places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Outworkers premises...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Rag Flock Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cinemas, theatres, circuses, fun fairs, and other places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
W.D. buildings and sites and air raid shelters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Rodent control (other than included in rodent control report)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	244
Nursery schools and child minders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Nursing homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Re Rent Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Swimming pools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Beaches, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
Re informal application for Improvement Grant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
Re formal application for Improvement Grant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Re completion certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Re Loans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Private swimming pool	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Re Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Re Dustbins and refuse disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
Housing Act (census)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	233
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
Ships	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98

## VISITS

To dwelling houses <i>re</i> notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,593
Factories <i>re</i> notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	253
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	637
Re obstructed and defective sewers and drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	348
Rodent infested premises (not included in rodent control report)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
New buildings <i>re</i> occupation certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,028
Re dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
Re visits <i>re</i> Rent Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	173
Abortive visits. Housing Act and Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	456
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	908
Re Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,317
Miscellaneous visits <i>re</i> Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	379
Re interviews on Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Abortive visits <i>re</i> Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83

---

15,638



## NOTICES AND NOTIFICATIONS

Abatement Notices, Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	589
Letter forms <i>re</i> defects (Intimation notices)	...	...	...	...	1,055
Letters requiring work "without further delay"	...	...	...	...	126
Letters requiring work "within 7 days"	...	...	...	...	155
Letters requiring work "forthwith"	...	...	...	...	20
Notices of intention to enter buildings	...	...	...	...	13
Dangerous buildings	...	...	...	...	99
Obstructed or defective sewers	...	...	...	...	444
Occupation certificates	...	...	...	...	360
<i>Re</i> Dustbins—informal	...	...	...	...	86
formal	...	...	...	...	57
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	47
Factories Act (informal)	...	...	...	...	35
(verbal)	...	...	...	...	36
Rent Act, 1957—Form J	...	...	...	...	188
Form L	...	...	...	...	89
Form N	...	...	...	...	7
Form P (and amended as cancellation certificate)	...	...	...	...	1
Food Hygiene Regulations	...	...	...	...	721
Completion certificates—Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	43

## RODENT CONTROL

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	1,707
Number of premises visited during survey	...	...	...	8,209
TOTAL				9,916
Number of premises treated by Local Authority	...	...	...	2,887

Of the premises treated 2,271 were private dwelling houses, 393 business premises and 223 Local Authority premises.

Included in the business premises are 8 Naval establishments and 2 agricultural properties.

Seven major infestations, 1,480 minor infestations of rats, 1,400 minor infestations of mice comprise 2,887 premises treated.

Of 4,205 manholes, 2,268 were baited and good results obtained.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. F. APPLETON,

*Chief Health Inspector.*

### REPORT ON CLEANSING

I am indebted to the Manager of the Cleansing and Haulage Department for the following report on the Cleansing Service during the year:—

The weekly collection of refuse continued during the year 1957 carried out by a fleet of 27 vehicles and some 90 refuse collectors operating the relay system. Approximately 75,000 tons of refuse were removed and disposed of at Salterns and Burrfields tips. Extra collections from trades premises accounted for a further 1,000 tons of refuse. This year saw the introduction of the bulk loader refuse collector with its large capacity—1½ cubic yard bins. These bins have been installed in Service establishments and the larger hotel, business and trade premises throughout the city and have cut down the number of calls made by the refuse collectors. Little advance was made during 1957 in the compulsory provision of standard sanitary dustbins and the unsightly appearance of streets in Portsmouth on refuse collection days still continued. At the end of February, 1957 the tip at Great Salterns was sealed down and tipping transferred to Long Meadow—Burrfields Road.

Two new mechanical sweepers were put into service during the year, making a total of four now operating. These machines together with 82 road sweepers gave regular attention to the 219 miles of streets. In addition, the same labour force maintained the high standard of cleanliness on the beach and promenade.

Two gully emptying machines and four men carried out the work of gully cleansing, alley flushing and channel washing.

A further cesspool emptier was purchased in 1957, making a total of four to cope with the work of cesspool emptying and to maintain a regular monthly service from houses and factories still on this form of drainage.

The salvage activities of the Department were confined to the recovery of waste paper and other salvageable materials as the Concentrator Plant ceased working at the end of 1956. To encourage the refuse collectors to recover material at the source and to overcome the expected difficulties as a result of the ceasing of the separate collections, a bonus scheme for paper and metals was introduced with very satisfactory results. The quantities recovered in this way reached the average maintained in previous years and the men engaged received financial benefit. The market for salvage materials remained steady and no difficulty was experienced in their disposal.

## PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Public Health Department,  
Municipal Offices,  
1 Western Parade,  
Portsmouth.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Port Health Authority.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report on the work of the Port Health Authority of Portsmouth during the year 1957.

## SECTION I—STAFF

TABLE A

<i>Name of Officer</i>	<i>Nature of appointment</i>	<i>Date of appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Any other appointment held</i>
T. E. ROBERTS	Port Medical Officer of Health	1.11.47	M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.	Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer, City of Portsmouth.
W. F. APPLETON	Chief Port Health Inspector	1.1.52	F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.	Chief Public Health Inspector, City of Portsmouth.

*Address and Telephone Number of the Medical Officer of Health:*

*Official:* 1 WESTERN PARADE, PORTSMOUTH 22251, Ext. 144  
*Private:* 3 CARMARTHEN AVENUE, COSHAM, PORTSMOUTH 76143

## SECTION II—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports ...	400	117,735	—	49	—
Coastwise* ...	4,345	800,434	—	44	—
TOTAL ...	4,745	918,169	—	93	—

\*Includes local traffic between Southampton, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth.

## SECTION III—CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

There is no passenger traffic.

*Cargo Traffic.* The principal imports were coal, cement, stone, oil, timber, glassware, building materials, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, cauliflower, citrus fruits, apples, pears, peaches, nuts, chocolate and general cargo traffic, from France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Norway, North Africa, Spain and Channel Islands.

The principal exports were pitch, machinery, scrap iron, fertilisers, oxide, barley and general cargo.

#### SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no inland barge traffic.

#### SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY

No change.

#### SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

No change.

#### SECTION VII—SMALLPOX

- (1) Cases of smallpox are removed to the smallpox hospital at Crabwood, near Winchester.
- (2) Cases are conveyed by the Portsmouth Municipal Ambulance and Medical Car Service, the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews being: 20 vaccinated in 1957, 6 in 1956, 6 in 1955, 2 in 1954, 3 not known.
- (3) The smallpox consultant is Dr. I. M. McLachlan, Physician Superintendent, Infectious Diseases Hospital, Portsmouth (Tel. 22331).
- (4) Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox exist, by arrangement with the Portsmouth and Isle of Wight Area Pathological Service, at the Central Laboratory, Infectious Diseases Hospital, Portsmouth.

#### SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE

No change.

#### SECTION IX—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ... ..	—	—	—	—
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports, but have been disposed of before arrival ... ..	—	—	—	—
Cases landed from other ships ...	—	—	—	—

#### SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No malaria occurred in ships during the year.

#### SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No plague or suspected plague occurred in ships during the year.

#### SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

- (1) Vessels arriving from abroad are examined periodically by the Port Health Inspector. Rat disinfestation is carried out by the Rodent Control section of the Health Department in the port area.

- (2) Bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents can be carried out at the Central Laboratory, Infectious Diseases Hospital; none was examined during the year.
- (3) The Port is not approved for the deratting of ships and, by agreement with Southampton Port Health Authority, this is undertaken by them, and eleven Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued during the year.
- (4) When necessary, rat guards are placed on ropes between ships and quays.

TABLE E

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports:							
Category							Number
Black rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Brown rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Species not known	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Sent for examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Infected with plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.  
(*Not applicable*)

## SECTION XIII—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G

Inspections and Notices

Nature and Number of Inspections	Notices served		Result of serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Primary 77	—	15	15 complied with
Others 16	—	—	—
Total 93	—	15	—

SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 and 1948  
No change.

SECTION XV—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS (APPLICABLE ONLY TO PORTS APPROVED FOR THE LANDING OF ALIENS)

No change.

SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS

No change.

I desire to express my thanks to the Queen's Harbour Master and H.M. Collector of Customs and their staff for their cordial co-operation and valuable assistance during the year, and to record my appreciation of the service rendered by the Port Health Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. E. ROBERTS,

1st March, 1958.

*Medical Officer of Health,  
City and Port of Portsmouth,*

## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST

THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S DEPARTMENT,  
TRAFALGAR PLACE,  
CLIVE ROAD,  
PORTSMOUTH.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.*

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the work carried out in my Department during the year ending 31st December, 1958.

The total number of samples submitted for examination was 3,481. These may be summarised as follows:—

Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	1,739
Designated Milk	...	...	...	453
Ice Cream (Hygienic quality)	...	...	...	50
City Water	...	...	...	24
Swimming Bath Water and Sea Water	...	...	...	97

SAMPLES EXAMINED FOR:—

Borough of Gosport	...	...	...	185
Isle of Wight County Council	...	...	...	128
Fareham Urban District Council	...	...	...	138
Other Local Authorities	...	...	...	87
Portsmouth Corporation Departments	...	...	...	253
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	327
TOTAL	...	...	...	3,481

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION TESTS:—

Daily sulphur dioxide	...	...	...	2,344
Daily smoke	...	...	...	2,340

Of the 1,739 samples purchased in the City of Portsmouth and submitted for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 121 (equal to 6·9%) were found to be adulterated, incorrectly labelled or otherwise unsatisfactory.

I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the efficient and loyal service of the technical and clerical staff and the valuable co-operation of the Sampling Officer.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient servant,

A. L. WILLIAMS,  
*Public Analyst.*

Nature of Sample							Number Examined	Number Genuine	Number Irregular
<b>Foods</b>									
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	749	689	60
Alcoholic Beverages	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	-
Arrowroot	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
Aspic Jelly Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
Baking Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	2
Bread	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	50	-
Cake Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	12	10
Cake and Pudding Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	11	2
Canned Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	35	-
Cereal	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	-
Cheese and Cheese Preparations	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	32	2
Cinnamon	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	-
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	-
Coffee and Coffee Preparations	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	23	-
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	13	-
Cooking Fat	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	19	-
Cordials...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	5	7
Cornflour	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	-
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	14	1
Crystallised Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	16	6
Curry Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	11	-
Custard Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	7	2
Dressed Crab	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	-
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	-
Dried Herbs	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	13	1
Dripping	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	-
Edible Oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	-
Essence of Rennet	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	-
Fish Cake	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
Fish and Meat Paste	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	17	-
Fruit Curd	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	13	-
Gelatine	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
Golden Raising Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	-
Ground Almonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	11	1
Ground Ginger...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	-
Honey	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	-
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	23	-
Jam and Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	28	-
Lard	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	42	-
Lolly Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	...	49	49	-
Marzipan	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	1
Meat Pies	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
Meat Preparations	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	3
Minced and Chopped Chicken/Turkey	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	14	-
Mustard	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	-
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	16	-
Pickle	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	-
Plain and Self Raising Flour	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	28	-
Roasted Peanuts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Saccharine Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	-
Sauce and Ketchup	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12	-
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	8	12
Shredded Suet	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12	-
Solid Soft Drink	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	-
Soup Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	-
Soya Flour	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
Spices	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	11	1
Spirits	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	-
Carried forward	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,463	1,348	115

Nature of Sample						Number Examined	Number Genuine	Number Irregular
<b>Foods—cont.</b>								
Brought forward						1,463	1,348	115
Stuffing	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	52	52	—
Sugar Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	30	26	4
Table Jelly	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	—
Table Jelly Cream	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	48	48	—
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Treacle and Golden Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	—
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	—
<b>Total Foods</b>						1,624	1,505	119
<b>Drugs</b>								
Aspirin Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Boric Acid Ointment	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Borax and Honey	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Calamine Cream and Lotion	...	...	...	...	...	9	9	—
Calcium Lactate Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Camphorated Oil	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	—
Codeine Linctus	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Codeine Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Compound Magnesium Trisilicate	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Cough Linctus and Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	—
Cream of Tartar	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Epsom Salts	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Extract of Malt and Cod Liver Oil	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Formamint Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Fullers Earth	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Glaubers Salts	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Glucose	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	—
Glycerin Honey and Lemon	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Hydrogen Peroxide	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Kaolin	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Liquid Paraffin	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	—
Magnesium Carbonate Powder	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Oil of Eucalyptus	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Parrish's Chemical Food	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	1
Proprietary Preparations	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	—
Seidlitz Powder	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	—
Soda Mint Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Sodium Bicarbonate	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	—
Sulphur Ointment	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	—
Sulphur Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Tannic Acid Jelly	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Tincture of Iodine	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Tincture of Myrrh and Borax	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
White Precipitate Ointment	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Zinc Ointment	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	—
<b>Total Drugs</b>						115	113	2
<b>TOTAL FOOD AND DRUGS</b>						1,739	1,618	121

						Number Examined	Number Irregular	Percentage Irregular
Milks	...	...	...	...	...	749	60	8.0
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	...	935	59	6.3
Drugs	...	...	...	...	...	55	2	3.6

## CHANGES IN LEGISLATION

## THE PUBLIC ANALYSTS REGULATIONS 1957

These Regulations re-enact the qualifications necessary for the appointment of a public analyst. A new form of certificate to be used for the purposes of the Food and Drugs Act is prescribed; it incorporates a number of desirable modifications which have been advocated by the Association of Public Analysts.

## THE COLOURING MATTER IN FOOD REGULATIONS 1953

For the past thirty years our legislation has prohibited the use of a few colours which have been recognised as definitely deleterious to health. Apart from this restriction any colour could be added to food.

These new Regulations approach the problem on the lines adopted by other countries; only certain specified colours will be permitted. Some organic dyes are potentially dangerous to health and it is in the public interest to compel manufacturers to use only those colours which are known to be safe. New colours may be added to the list but only after they have been proved to be harmless.

A large number of foods contain artificial colour and the separation and identification necessary to enforce these Regulations will lead to additional analytical work on most of the samples examined. When a non-permitted colour is found in food the consignment may be treated as legally unfit for human consumption.

## FOOD STANDARDS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

During the year the Committee has published two reports.

*Fluorine in Food.* This Report recommends that the Fluorine in Food Order 1947 be amended to provide modified limits for fluorine in acidic phosphates and foods which contain them. There is considerable evidence to show that it is desirable to include a small quantity of fluorine in the diet and for this reason certain authorities are carrying out the experiment of adding 1 part per million of fluorine to the public water supply to restrict dental decay. On the other hand, the ingestion of an excess of fluorine is deleterious to health; it leads to brittleness of the bones and severe malformation in man. Clearly the proportion in food must be controlled.

*Standards for Ice Cream.* This Report recommends that two new descriptions be applied to ice cream provided that the composition conforms to the following specifications. "Dairy Ice Cream" is suggested as the appropriate description when the whole of the fat is derived from milk and the amount is not less than 5 per cent. "Milk Ice" is suggested as the appropriate description when the fat is all milk fat and the amount is not less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. It is suggested that "Ice Cream" stays as the description for a product containing not less than 5 per cent. of fat of the margarine type. Under the present Standards Order, a minimum amount of sugar is prescribed. This Report recommends that this standard be revoked but that the use of saccharin or other artificial sweetening agents be prohibited in any type of ice cream.

## MILK

Milk derives its food value from the butter fat and the "solids other than fat" which it contains. The natural colour and the cream line provide a rough guide of the proportion of fat but only analysis can indicate whether the important solids-not-fat (casein, milk sugar and mineral salts) are present in adequate proportion. Although the average consumer judges the quality of milk by the cream line, this factor is less important than the solids-not-fat from a nutritive point of view.

The purpose of milk analysis is to disclose added water, added preservative and added colouring matter, all of which are prohibited. In addition the chemical composition identifies those herds which yield milk of inferior nutritive quality due to bad breeding, feeding and management.

Milk is sold under two nutritive qualities—ordinary milk and Channel Island milk. Ordinary milk is that given by any herd but Channel Island milk must be derived from specified breeds which yield creamy milk with not less than 4.0 per cent. of milk fat.

## ORDINARY MILK

All the 570 samples were free from added colour and preservative. The source of the samples was as follows:—

305 from retailers selling to the public in pint bottles.

201 from farmers delivering to local dairies.

64 from deliveries of one-third pint bottles to various schools.

All the school milks and all the samples from retailers selling to the public were of satisfactory quality.

The 201 samples from farmers were derived from 24 herds.

Added water was present in 4 samples from one herd. The amount was small (1 to 2%) and there was evidence of carelessness on the part of the farmer.

32 samples of milk were deficient in fat. They came from 7 herds and the explanation for the poor quality was usually uneven milking hours resulting in low fat in the morning milk. There was no evidence of tampering and no evidence of prejudice to the purchaser so long as the morning and evening milkings were efficiently mixed by the dairy.

3 samples of milk were deficient in solids-not-fat. They came from one herd and the farmer was advised on feeding and management by the Agricultural Advisory Service.

The proportion of farmers sending inferior milk is clearly a small fraction of the whole because the average quality of the mixed milk sold in pint bottles to the public is remarkably constant as shown by the following table:—

Month	% Fat	% Solids-not-Fat	% Totals Solids	No. of Samples examined
January ... ..	3.86	8.67	12.53	35
February ... ..	3.92	8.69	12.61	36
March ... ..	3.79	8.65	12.44	28
April ... ..	3.68	8.64	12.32	31
May ... ..	3.69	8.73	12.42	33
June ... ..	3.54	8.70	12.24	25
July ... ..	3.73	8.62	12.35	35
August ... ..	3.76	8.65	12.41	24
September ... ..	3.82	8.82	12.64	37
October ... ..	3.89	8.78	12.67	32
November ... ..	4.01	8.82	12.83	28
December ... ..	4.03	8.65	12.68	25
<b>Average</b> 1957... ..	3.81	8.70	12.51	369
„ 1956... ..	3.73	8.67	12.32	399
„ 1955... ..	3.75	8.69	12.44	357

#### CHANNEL ISLAND MILK

179 samples of Channel Island Milk were examined during the year. They represented:

84 from retailers selling to the public in pint bottles.

95 from farmers delivering to local dairies.

All the Channel Island milk retailed to the public was satisfactory. Of the 95 samples from farmers 28 were inferior. They came from 7 herds.

15 churns per day of Channel Island milk (from 3 farmers) failed to reach the required standard of 4.0 per cent. of fat when the whole consignment was mixed together. The farmers were cautioned and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

The morning milk of 6 different farmers (15 churns in all) was deficient in fat but the afternoon milk was sufficiently rich to compensate for this when the milk was bulked. Variations of this kind demand careful mixing by the dairy in order to avoid the sale of pint bottles of milk which contravene the law.

The superior quality of the Channel Island Milk sold to the public has been maintained:—

					<i>Average Fat per cent. in mixed milk from one pint bottles</i>	
					<i>Channel Island Milk</i>	<i>Ordinary Milk</i>
1956	...	...	...	...	4.54	3.75
1957	...	...	...	...	4.58	3.81

#### HYGIENIC QUALITY OF MILK

In 1957, 453 samples of milk were tested and all passed the tests for hygienic quality.

All the milk sold in Portsmouth is processed by heat treatment i.e. pasteurisation or sterilisation. The public can be assured that when the tests are satisfied, the milk can be regarded as being free from pathogenic organisms and of reasonable keeping quality.

## ICE CREAM

## NUTRITIVE QUALITY

The publication of the Food Standards Report on ice cream in September, 1957, led to considerable publicity and comment in the national press. Presumably it was not generally realised that for nearly 20 years ice cream in this country has normally been made from vegetable fats (margarine and/or cooking fat). The suggestion that the term "Dairy Ice Cream" should be restricted to ices made exclusively from dairy products has been welcomed by the Minister, the manufacturers, farmers and the public. It is particularly gratifying to learn that the Minister has turned down representations from some manufacturers that there should be a hybrid product made from part butter fat and part margarine.

In previous reports from this department the use of claims for the presence of insubstantial amounts of butter fat in ice cream has been criticised and it is interesting to note that the Minister is reported to have said that the idea of permitting such claims did not appeal to him as being fair to the consumer. Similarly, this department has criticised the use of the term "Cream Ice" on the ground that it suggests a dairy product and this criticism is strongly supported by the Food Standards Committee.

Once again it has been emphasised that complete protection cannot be given to the consumer unless the amount of air which is incorporated is controlled. This factor is important because ice cream is sold by volume and not by weight. Whilst it is true that competition in this trade is so keen that it would be difficult to market ice cream which is fraudulently adulterated with air, it is not possible to make fair comparisons of different brands of ice cream unless this factor is taken into consideration. The Food Standards Committee has undertaken to study the problem and make recommendations which can be enforced.

During the year 23 samples were examined for nutritive quality. All the samples satisfied the standards prescribed; they represented the products of 15 different manufacturers and the proportion of fat present by weight was as follows:—

<i>Fat per cent.</i>				<i>No. of Manufacturers</i>		
Less than 5%	...	...	...	...	...	0
5.0%—7.9%	...	...	...	...	...	6
8.0%—9.9%	...	...	...	...	...	3
10.0% and over	...	...	...	...	...	6

## HYGIENIC QUALITY

Of the 50 samples examined, 15 were found to be inferior or unsatisfactory from a hygienic (bacteriological) viewpoint.

The following table gives the results of all samples together with those for the previous 2 years:—

		1957	1956	1955	
Satisfactory	Grade 1	60%	36%	50%	
	„ 2	10%	34%	30%	
		} 70%		} 80%	
Inferior	„ 3	18%	27%	10%	
Unsatisfactory	„ 4	12%	3%	10%	

Although there has been an increase in the proportion of unsatisfactory samples it is worth noting the substantial increase in Grade 1. As in other years, manufacturers and retailers have willingly co-operated to provide a minimum of handling of ice cream.

#### ICE LOLLIES

The chemical composition of this product does not normally encourage the growth of undesirable bacteria and all the 7 samples of Lollies which were examined were completely satisfactory.

## SAMPLES OTHER THAN MILK NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
J33	Chocolate Swiss Roll	I	Deficient of cocoa. Contained 2% dry fat free cocoa instead of not less than 3%	The proportion of cocoa to be increased
J35	Chocolate Swiss Roll	I	Contained no cocoa	3% of dry fat free cocoa to be added
J91	Gelatine (prepacked)	I	Label offence. Registered trade mark not disclosed	Label to be amended
J110	Ground Almonds	F	Consisted of almond substitute	Staff blamed for selling in error. Caution
J124	Marzipan Almond Icing (prepacked)	I	The unqualified word "glucose" used to describe the ingredient Liquid Glucose	Label amended
J137	Cream Horns	F	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Caution
J139	Cream Horns	I	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Retailer undertook to display a notice
J140	Cream Buns	I	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Caution
J141	Cream Buns	I	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Caution
J144	Cream Slices	I	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Caution
J157	Cream Eclairs	I	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Caution
J160	Cream Doughnuts	I	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Caution
J460	Salt Roasted Peanuts (prepacked)	I	Label claimed the presence of vitamins without a quantitative disclosure	Label amended
J509	Butter Mints	I	The unqualified word "glucose" used to describe the ingredient Liquid Glucose	Label to be amended
J510	Summerfruits Mixed Fruit Drops	I	The unqualified word "glucose" used to describe the ingredient Liquid Glucose	Label to be amended
J559	Spreading Cheese (prepacked)	I	Label failed to give a list of ingredients	Label to be re-designed
J572	Cheese Spread	I	Label failed to give a list of ingredients	Temporary pack from which the stick-on label had become detached

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
J618	Ground Nutmegs	I	Label failed to use the words "Registered Trade Mark" in full	Label amended
J629	Pork Sausage	I	Contained 140 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide	Caution
J632	Pork Sausage	I	Contained 55% and 57% total meat instead of not less than 65%; and 60 p.p.m. and 100 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide	Caution
J747	Pork Sausage	F		
J633	Beef Sausage	I	Contained 140 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide	Caution
J719	Chicken Cutlet	I	Contained 70 p.p.m. to 100 p.p.m. sulphur dioxide contrary to the Preservative Regulations	Use of preservative to be discontinued
J861	Hamburger	I		
J1152	Chicken Cutlet	I		
J805	Dried Parsley (prepacked)	I	Contained mould	Packer cautioned
J808	Double Devon Cream	I	Label failed to use the words "Registered Trade Mark" in full	Label to be amended
J929	Custard Powder (prepacked)	I	Name and address of packer not given on inner label	Label to be amended
J942	Sweetened Sponge Mixture	I	Label failed to inform adequately that eggs are to be added	Label to be amended
J944	Baking Powder	I	Label failed to give address of packer	Label to be amended
J972	Baking Powder	I		
J1038	Pork Sausage	I	Contained 40 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide	Caution
J1105	Tincture of Myrrh and Borax	I	Label offence. Erroneously described as B.P.C.	Stock withdrawn and relabelled
J1106	Parrish's Chemical Food	I	Deficient in iron due to decomposition during storage	Matter taken up with manufacturer
J1149	Orange Drink	P	The three bottles contained mould in suspension and dirt on inside of base of bottles	Packer cautioned
J1150	Orange Drink	I		
J1151	Orange Drink	I		
J1184	Custard Powder (prepacked)	I	Salt not declared in list of ingredients	Carton amended

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
J1198	Fruit Cake Mix	I	Label failed to inform adequately that an egg should be added	Carton to be amended
J1280	Pork Pie	P	Surface of the pie crust contained mould	Two defendants each fined £5 and £2 2s. 0d. costs
J1314	Pork Sausage (chipolatas)	I	Contained 58% and 60% of meat instead of not less than 65%	Manufacturer has undertaken to give more supervision to weighing of ingredients
J1438	Pork Sausage (chipolatas)	F		
J1315	Pork Sausage	I	Contained 220 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide	Notice to be displayed prominently
J1332	Candied Peel	I	Contained 50 and 34 p.p.m. of copper	Referred to Food Manufacturers' Federation
J1632	Cut Mixed Peel (prepacked)	I		
J1343	Glaze Cherries (prepacked)	I	Label offence. Liquid Glucose not disclosed in list of ingredients	Label to be amended
J1366	Minced Chicken (prepacked)	I	The appropriate description should be "Minced Chicken in Chicken Jelly"	Label to be amended
J1378	Glaze Cherries	I	The unqualified word "glucose" used to describe the ingredient Liquid Glucose	Label to be amended
J1382	Mixed Cut Peel	I	Contained 25 p.p.m. of copper	Referred to Food Manufacturers' Federation
J1425	Orange Drink	P	Contained extraneous black foreign matter consisting of mould plus dirt	Packer cautioned
J1490	Liqueur Flavoured Chocolates	I	Label failed to indicate on front panel that the contents were not true liqueur chocolates. False description on display card	Package and display card to be amended
J1491	Pork Sausage (chipolatas)	I	Contained 300 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide	Caution
J1493	Pork Sausage	I	Contained 48% and 45% of meat instead of not less than 65%	Manufacturer advised
J1717	Pork Sausage	I		
J1494	Pork Sausage	I	Contained 380 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide	Caution

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
J1495	Glycerine and Blackcurrant Sweets "Rich in Glucose"	I	The claim "Rich in Glucose" should read "Rich in Liquid Glucose"	Claim to be discontinued
J1498	Jam and Cream Sponge	I	Filling consisted wholly of imitation cream	Caution
J1511	Cut Drained Peel	I	Contained 28 p.p.m. of copper and the unqualified word "glucose" was used to describe Liquid Glucose	Steps taken to prevent excessive copper and the "glucose" problem referred to the Food Manufacturers' Federation
J1718	Non-Alcoholic Port Flavour	P	Sold as port wine. False oral advertisement. Label failed to give common or usual name of food and full address of packer	Fined £5 and £1 1s. costs, Labelling charge withdrawn
J1731	Ginger	I	Article should be labelled "Ginger Flavoured Cordial (Ready to Drink)"	Label to be amended
J1734	Non-Alcoholic Ginger Wine	I	Article should be labelled "Ginger Flavoured Cordial (Ready to Drink)"	Use of the contradictory description "Non - Alcoholic Wine" referred to the Association of Municipal Corporations

## ADULTERATED AND UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

**SAUSAGES.** During the year three local butchers were cautioned for selling pork sausages with a low meat content. Two samples from one vendor contained 58% and 60% meat although it was claimed that the formula should have provided a meat content of 70%. Carelessness on the part of an employee was indicated. Two samples from another vendor contained only 48% and 45% meat. The method of manufacture consisted of taking a carefully weighed amount of meat and adding damp rusk and seasoning until the required consistency was obtained. Since the final product was not weighed, the vendor had no idea of the composition of the sausages. He was given advice and severely cautioned.

In the third case, the vendor sold pork sausages containing 55% and 57% meat. He claimed that, as there was no legal minimum standard, he worked to a meat content of 55% to 60%. He was informed that the local authority defined the quality demanded by the purchaser as a minimum of 65% meat for pork sausage. He replied that he would willingly raise his standard to the required amount if he could be sure that his competitors would do the same. This was a reasonable attitude and as a result the Committee resolved that all traders be informed through the local trade association or by letter from the Town Clerk that the local authority would challenge the sale of sausages which failed to conform to the specification which the Corporation demands for its own purchases for the municipal catering establishments on the sea front and for the school meals service. This specification is identical with the recommendations of the Food Standards Committee, viz. not less than 50% meat for beef sausages and not less than 65% meat for pork sausages.

Legislation provides that, when sausages are preserved with sulphur dioxide, the purchaser shall be informed of the fact by label or notice. It was found that 8 retailers failed to comply with this requirement and they were cautioned.

**CAKE CONFECTIONERY.** A sample of Chocolate Swiss Roll contained no cocoa and another contained only 2 per cent cocoa. Trade practice has established that the description "Chocolate" applied to cake confectionery implies the presence of at least 3 per cent. of dry fat free cocoa, and the manufacturers undertook to comply with this requirement.

8 samples sold as cream buns, cream horns, etc. contained a filling of imitation cream. It is now the responsibility of the retailer of cake confectionery to inform the purchaser that a substance is imitation cream if it looks like cream but is not genuine dairy cream. When these purchases were made no information was given either verbally or by notice. In some cases the articles were exhibited with a display card using the word cream unqualified in the description. The retailers were cautioned.

**CANDIED PEEL.** 4 samples of candied and cut peel were found to be contaminated with copper in the proportion of 25 to 50 parts per million. In the opinion of the Food Standards Committee copper contamination should be limited to the minimum amount which is practicable and the recommended limit for an article of food of this type is 20 parts per million.

The contamination found in these samples astonished the manufacturers and, after the analysis had been confirmed by their own analysts, a meeting of the appropriate section of the Food Manufacturers' Federation was called to investigate the matter. It was found that in certain districts in Sicily the lemons and oranges are sprayed with copper sulphate solution a few weeks before the fruit is picked to prevent black scab. The problem was new to

those who have been associated with the candied peel trade for 30 years and it was gratifying to note that this group of manufacturers recognised their obligation to restrict copper contamination to a minimum and collectively undertook to serve the public interest to this end promptly and efficiently.

**MOULD IN FOOD.** 4 samples of orange drink contained mould which originated from bottles which were inadequately cleansed. Inspection of the bottle washing plants in the city has shown that maximum precautions are taken to prevent partially cleansed bottles slipping through the cleansing process. In fact some thousands of bottles have to be smashed annually because they are so dirty that efficient cleansing is impossible. It is to be regretted that far too many members of the public return milk and orange drink bottles in a disgusting condition.

Proceedings were taken against the vendor of a meat pie containing mould on the surface of the crust. The circumstances were exceptional in that the purchaser made a complaint within half an hour of buying the pie but the vendor apparently could not recognise the mould and, in fact, advised the purchaser to eat it. Investigation showed that the pie was five days old and the defendants pleaded guilty.

A sample of Dried Parsley was contaminated with mould. The packer outlined the elaborate precautions which were taken to exclude the moisture which caused the deterioration. The mould could have resulted from unusual damp conditions during transport and storage.

### LABELLING OFFENCES

**MINCED CHICKEN.** This is a comparatively new product containing chicken with about 25 per cent. water. The water is jellied by the addition of gelatine or agar.

In 1956 I examined a sample of this product for the Fareham Urban District Council and the manufacturers were then advised to designate the article as Minced Chicken in Jelly. During 1957, six different manufacturers undertook to use this more informative description and it now seems likely that the Food Manufacturers' Federation will confer with the Association of Public Analysts in order to provide a standard pattern of labelling for this and similar products.

**NON ALCOHOLIC WINE.** The use of the word "non-alcoholic" in association with the word "wine" is a clear contradiction in terms especially when applied to a soft drink. The description is comparable with "non brewed vinegar" which has been declared illegal because vinegar is a fermented liquid. Similarly, "wine" is a fermented liquid. "Non alcoholic wine" implies that the article differs from an ordinary soft drink and to this extent it misleads.

For many years, concentrated soft drinks have been known as Cordials or Squashes. When carton packing and the cinema trade provided a demand for a diluted drink, the manufacturers saw no objection to the use of the description "Ready to Drink Squash". The so called Non Alcoholic Wines are no more than "Ready to Drink Cordials" and in my opinion this description is satisfactory for an article which is composed of a solution of sugar, fruit acid and flavouring in ready to drink form.

The misleading implications of the description non alcoholic wine were brought to the notice of this department by the police around Christmas 1957. A market salesman was reported to have described a port flavoured soft drink as Port Wine in his sales patter; he was prosecuted and fined for giving a false advertisement by oral announcement.

**GLUCOSE NOMENCLATURE.** The label of some Glycerine and Black-currant Sweets carried the claim "Rich in Glucose" and a similar claim for Glycerine and Orange Sweets led to correspondence between the same manufacturer and the Fareham Urban District Council. It was clear that the claim was made because the ordinary consumer would be attracted by the medicinal properties of glucose. Actually, the sweets contained 25 per cent. of liquid glucose (corn syrup) equivalent to about 5 per cent. of the pure glucose (dextrose) which is sold to the public by retail under the description glucose.

Accordingly, the claim was criticised because it had misleading implications. It would only be justified if it could be held that an ordinary purchaser should know that the glucose usually used in the food industry is a syrup made from starch. In my view the public have no such knowledge; few have ever seen liquid glucose (corn syrup) and very few indeed have any idea of its composition. It is to be regretted that manufacturers themselves have little knowledge of the chemical composition of the liquid glucose they use. In this correspondence it was stated that "we buy the purest glucose procurable at a guarantee of 40 per cent. dextrose content—this percentage is quite generous and is 'rich in glucose.' " The reference to 40 per cent. glucose actually means 40 per cent. of *reducing sugars calculated as dextrose* and the manufacturer overlooked the fact that only half of these reducing sugars consist of true dextrose; the rest of the reducing sugars consist of maltose and malto dextrans expressed as dextrose for technical convenience. Eventually it was agreed that the claim "Rich in Glucose" be discontinued.

#### **LABELLING OF FOOD ORDER**

The labels of 15 samples of pre-packed food failed to comply with a strict interpretation of the requirements of this Order.

In 5 different foods, the generic word Glucose was used in a list of ingredients instead of the specific description Liquid Glucose.

In 5 cases the labels failed to give the appropriate information to identify the packer.

In 4 cases the list of ingredients was wholly or partially inadequate and finally one label failed to give quantitative details of the amount of vitamins which were claimed to be present.

#### **DRUGS**

During the year, 115 samples of drugs and medicinal preparations were examined and only 2 samples were unsatisfactory.

A sample of Tincture of Myrrh and Borax was erroneously labelled B.P.C. The fact that the preparation was deleted from the B.P.C. in 1954 had been overlooked by the manufacturer. A sample of Parrish's Chemical Food had deteriorated during storage and as a result some precipitation of the iron had occurred.

#### **SWIMMING POOL WATERS**

At regular intervals during the summer months, samples of the water from the swimming and paddling pools were examined chemically and bacteriologically.

All the samples were satisfactory showing that the chlorination was adequate for the bathing load at the time of sampling.

The excess of chlorine was reasonable in quantity and the alkalinity was appropriately controlled to avoid deleterious effects upon the eyes.

## CITY WATER SUPPLY

A bacteriological examination of the City water supply has been carried out each month and, on every occasion, the results have indicated a high degree of organic purity. The chlorination of the water has been carefully controlled and has shown little variation from the desirable figure of 0.15 parts per million.

Chemical analysis has confirmed that the characteristics of the water are reasonably constant and that the water is pure and wholesome.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During 1957, daily tests have been made to determine the sulphur dioxide and smoke in the atmosphere at four testing stations at George Street School Copnor, Northern Grammar School North End Technical School Hilsea and Solent Road School Farlington.

This investigation aims to provide data to show whether a new plant which produces gas from oil has a significant effect upon the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. The four testing stations surround the works at a distance of about half a mile.

This particular gas plant is operated intermittently from nil to 150 hours per week, and, with the co-operation of the Gas Board, the weekly hours of operation have been compared with the weekly average sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

The air for these tests is taken at a height of 20 to 30 feet from the ground and in my opinion the results show that, at this height, there is no evidence of increased pollution from sulphur dioxide due to the new gas from oil plant.

Observations of atmospheric sulphur dioxide and smoke are made at over 100 testing stations in various parts of the country and a Report from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research permits a comparison of the Portsmouth atmosphere with that of high, medium and low contaminated areas. The following table gives this comparison; the D.S.I.R. figures apply for the year ending 31st March, 1956; the Portsmouth figures for the year ending 31st March, 1958.

	Daily Average Smoke			Daily Average Sulphur Dioxide		
	Summer	Winter	Year	Summer	Winter	Year
<i>National Results</i>						
High ... ..	31	81	56	10	19	14
Average ... ..	12	32	22	5	11	9
Low ... ..	1	3	3	2	3	3
<i>Portsmouth Results</i>						
Copnor ... ..	8	38	23	1	5	3
North End ... ..	7	34	20	1	5	3
Hilsea ... ..	5	34	19	1	5	3
Farlington ... ..	5	34	19	1	5	3

These results are expressed in the following terms:—

- Smoke:* milligrams per 100 cubic metres of fine suspended impurity.  
*Sulphur Dioxide:* parts per 100 million parts of air.  
*Summer:* April to September.  
*Winter:* October to March.

These figures show that, throughout the year, the sulphur dioxide in the Portsmouth atmosphere is low and compares favourably with the least contaminated areas in the country.

Obviously the smoke in Portsmouth is largely derived from domestic chimneys and the results show that the amount is about the same as the national figures for average contamination. It would appear that the domestic chimneys of Portsmouth emit as much smoke in winter as the factories of an industrial town emit during summer.

#### BOROUGH OF GOSPORT

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 185 samples were submitted. 9 were unsatisfactory (4.9%).

3 samples of milk contained added water. A pork sausage was inferior in quality; over half the meat consisted of fat.

Some cake confectionery was described as "cream horns" unqualified; the filling was imitation cream. Chopped chicken contained added water and the description was amended to "Chopped Chicken in Jelly". 3 samples had faulty labels.

#### ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY COUNCIL

126 samples were submitted under the Food and Drugs Act, 22 were unsatisfactory (17.5%).

Proceedings against the vendor of milk which contained 12% of added water resulted in a fine of £3.3s. plus £4.4s. costs. 4 samples of home-made marmalade were deficient in sugar and failed to comply with the standard for soluble solids.

The manufacturers of 5 different brands of minced/chopped poultry gave an undertaking to disclose the presence of added water by incorporating "in jelly" to the description.

A soft drink was described as "Non-alcoholic Ginger Flavour Wine Style". The label was held to mislead the purchaser and the manufacturer undertook to amend it.

Shortbread was advertised as "made from the highest quality ingredients including butter". Two-thirds of the added shortening consisted of fats other than butter fat. The manufacturer undertook to increase the butter content.

A sample of Celery Flavoured Processed Cheese was in fact a cheese spread and the manufacturer undertook to amend the label accordingly.

#### FAREHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 138 samples were submitted 11 were unsatisfactory (8.0%).

5 labels failed to comply with a strict interpretation of the Labelling of Food Order.

A sample of Glycerine and Orange Sweets was claimed to be "Rich in Glucose". The claim was not justified and its use was discontinued. A cooked meat product (chicken rissole sold as "Chicklette") contained sulphur dioxide preservative contrary to the Preservative Regulations.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Under this heading are included a wide variety of problems which reached this department from many sources.

59 specimens were submitted by Coroners in connection with 17 inquests. The examination of these specimens included a search for barbiturates, aspirin, phenacetin, codeine, alcohol and mercury. The consumption of barbiturates was a factor in 9 of the inquests and the analysis showing the quantity and type of barbiturate ingested by the deceased was an essential part of the enquiry.

For the Contracts and Supplies Department samples of soap and floor polish were examined to determine the most suitable brand for purchase.

Queries from the City Architect covered problems of mould on walls, algae growth on bricks and condensation on kitchen walls.

Frequent examinations of public water supplies were made for neighbouring authorities. From various sources the water from basements, etc. was examined for the presence of sewage or for an opinion of the origin of the water.

During the year, 69 samples of various foods used and prepared in the School Meals Service were examined for the Education Department. In each case the palatability was satisfactory and the article was correctly designated and free from adulteration. Examination of canned fruit, preserved in the kitchen by home canning equipment, showed that the process was satisfactory and there was no evidence of any contamination of the contents. In appropriate circumstances technical advice on hygiene and food storage was given to the kitchen staff.

## FEES

Fees charged for miscellaneous samples together with the fees for work carried out under official appointments to neighbouring authorities amounted to a total of £1,437 in 1957.

<b>Private</b>		<b>Parks Dept.</b>		<b>Borough of Newport</b>	
Canned Fruit	2	Seeds	20	Dried Milk	1
Cream	48	Sludge	1	Lining to bag	1
Dripping	84			Water	1
Feeding Meat Meal	1	<b>Health Dept.</b>		<b>Cowes U.D.C.</b>	
Foul Matter from Heating Boiler	1	Apples	24	Water	4
Jam	2	Apple Wrapping Paper	6	<b>Aldershot U.D.C.</b>	
Liquid	1	Bread	6	Water	16
Marmalade	2	Chocolate Powder	1	<b>Alton R.D.C.</b>	
Milk	120	Cooked Meat	1	Water	1
Milk Bottle	1	Custard Tart	1	<b>Fareham U.D.C.</b>	
Oil	4	Dried Fruit	1	Deposit	2
Paper	2	Foreign Body	1	Water	10
Pig Fattening Meal	1	Fruit Lemon Flavour	1	<b>Isle of Wight Water Board</b>	
Plaster Board	1	Fruit Lolly	5	Water	23
Powder	2	Ice Cream Lolly	1	<b>Isle of Wight C.C.</b>	
Printing Ink	1	Ice Cream Powder	2	Foreign Matter in Milk Bottle	1
Sausages	1	Milk Bottle	1	<b>Havant U.D.C.</b>	
Sodium Silicate	1	Soap	5	Bread	1
Stream Water	1	Sponge Cake	1	Canned Peas	2
Sub Floor Space Water	4	Sub-Floor Space Water	8	Cream Doughnut	1
Tallow	1	Tea	1	Mint Rock	1
Turpentine Substitute	1	<b>Laboratory Information</b>		Sea Water	2
Winkles	1	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	1	Water	3
<b>Contracts and Supplies</b>		Candied Peel	1	<b>Petersfield U.D.C. and R.D.C.</b>	
Floor Polish	8	Chocolate Flavour	1	Milk Bottle	1
Soap	3	Chocolate Compound Powder	1	Sewage Effluent	17
Soap Flakes and Powder	5	Compound Syrup of Ferrous Phosphate	1	Water	8
<b>Architect's Dept.</b>		Extract of Liquorice	1	<b>Sandown, Shanklin U.D.C.</b>	
Brick	1	Floor Polish	2	Water	2
Distemper	2	Minced Meat	9	<b>Ventnor U.D.C.</b>	
Plaster	9	Parrish's Chemical Food	1	Pigs Liver	1
<b>Engineer's Dept.</b>		Powder from Grape-fruit Carton	1	Water	7
Sludge	1	Whisky	2		
Water	2	<b>Coroners' Specimens</b>			
<b>Police</b>		Portsmouth	33		
Petrol	5	Isle of Wight	3		
<b>Fire Service</b>		South Hants	23		
Wood Filler Solvent	1	<b>Borough of Gosport</b>			
<b>Education Dept.</b>		Sea Water	4		
School Meals Service	69				

