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# Borough of Redcar



1953



# ANNUAL REPORTS

by the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**H. PATTINSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

and the


**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**

**Wm. TUTIN, A.R.S.I., M.I.P.C., M.S.I.A., M.I.H.**



## INDEX

	Page
Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area . . . . .	5
Vital Statistics; table I . . . . .	5
Birth rates, civilian death rates, analysis of mortality, and case rates for certain infectious diseases in the year 1953; table II . . . . .	6
Deaths from all causes; table III . . . . .	7
Infant deaths; table IV . . . . .	8
Commentary on Statistics . . . . .	8
Notifications of Infectious Diseases . . . . .	9
Notifications of Tuberculosis . . . . .	9
Diphtheria Immunisation . . . . .	9
Infectious Diseases . . . . .	10
Clinic Facilities Available in Redcar . . . . .	10
Housing . . . . .	11
The Problem of Chronic Sickness in the Aged . . . . .	11
Water Supply . . . . .	13
Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948 . . . . .	14



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**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Redcar**

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my fourth annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough.

I should like to record my thanks for the help and encouragement given to me throughout the year by the Chairman of the Health Committee Alderman R. J. Gillingham, and by other members of the Health Committee. To the Heads of other departments I am again indebted for their continued co-operation and good advice, while to Mr. William Tutin, Chief Sanitary Inspector whose report follows mine, I owe a special debt as his invaluable help has always been available and freely given. My own staff both Borough and County Council employees have at all times worked together in a friendly atmosphere and their joint efforts have been of the greatest assistance to me.

Your obedient servant,

H. PATTINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) ... ..	7,035
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-1953) ...	27,490
Number of inhabited houses ... ..	8,428
Rateable value ... ..	£198,526
Estimated product of a penny rate ... ..	£800

\* \* \*

## VITAL STATISTICS

TABLE I

	Male	Female	Total		
<b>Live Births</b> ...	240	215	455	— Rate per 1,000 population ...	16.6
Legitimate ...	233	205	438		
Illegitimate ...	7	10	17		
<b>Still Births</b>					
Legitimate ...	8	5	13	— Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births ... ..	27.8
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	— Rate per 1,000 total births ...	Nil
Deaths from Puerperal causes			Nil	— Rate per 1,000 total births ...	Nil
Deaths of Legitimate Infants under 1 year of age ... ..			11	— Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	25.1
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants under 1 year of age ...			3	— Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	176.5
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...			1	— Rate per 1,000 live births ...	2.2
Notification of Puerperal Pyrexia			1	— Rate per 1,000 live births ...	2.2



TABLE II

**BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, AND  
CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1953**

Rates per 1,000 of the Civilian Population

	Redcar	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
<b>Births</b>					
Live Births ...	*17.1	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5
Still Births ...	0.47	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38
<b>Deaths</b>					
All Causes ...	*11.5	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid (Enteric Fever)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ...	0.25	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24
Influenza ...	0.04	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15
Pneumonia ...	0.28	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
<b>Notifications</b>					
Typhoid ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever ...	2.00	1.39	1.5	1.44	1.02
Whooping Cough ...	3.38	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas ...	0.11	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles ...	1.32	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09
Pneumonia ...	0.6	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ...	0.00	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Food Poisoning ...	0.11	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38

\*Corrected Birth and Death Rates

TABLE III

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	4	3
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—
Syphilitic disease ... ..	1	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	8	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	16	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	—	—
Diabetes ... ..	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	13	25
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	30	23
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	3	1
Other heart disease ... ..	27	37
Other circulatory disease ... ..	7	4
Influenza ... ..	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	4	4
Bronchitis ... ..	4	2
Other disease of respiratory system ... ..	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	4	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	4
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	9	17
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	3	—
All other accidents ... ..	6	2
Suicide ... ..	—	—
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	1	—
<b>All causes</b> ... ..	153	155

TABLE IV  
**INFANT DEATHS**

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

	Redcar	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
<b>Deaths</b>					
All causes under 1 year of age ... ..	30.8	26.8	30.8	24.3	24.8
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	2.2	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1

\* \* \*

#### COMMENTARY ON STATISTICS

Infant Mortality although somewhat higher than last year remains at a fairly satisfactory figure. More than half the deaths were due to prematurity or congenital malformations. Infections were responsible for three deaths due to gastro-enteritis, meningitis and staphylococcal septicæmia respectively, illustrating the fact that modern drugs will not cure every infective condition, particularly at the extremes of life. In such cases prevention must remain the most important factor in reducing mortality.

When considering adult deaths it is remarkable to find that eight deaths occurred from pneumonia whereas only seventeen cases were notified and that this high fatality rate is even more striking in the national figures. Obviously, a large number of pneumonias are not being notified, probably due to their rapid recovery under penicillin treatment. The remainder which are notified are probably the severe cases which may be resistant to treatment. There was a welcome reduction in cancer mortality during the year but this was largely offset by increases in deaths due to motor accidents and all other forms of accidents.

## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	1953 Population 27,490	1952 Population 27,350	1951 Population 27,280	1950 Population 27,500
Scarlet Fever ... ..	54	72	26	21
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0	0	1
Typhoid Fever ... ..	0	0	0	0
Paratyphoid ... ..	0	0	1	0
Measles ... ..	36	619	248	609
Whooping Cough ... ..	93	102	103	162
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	0	3	1
Erysipelas ... ..	3	2	2	4
Pneumonia ... ..	17	29	38	17
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ... ..	0	0	0	0
Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	2	1	4
Polio-encephalitis ... ..	0	0	1	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	26	29	16	21
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	5	7	4	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	0	1	0	0
Dysentery ... ..	0	3	0	3
Food Poisoning ... ..	3	2	3	0

\* \* \*

## NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1953

Male Age Groups								Female Age Groups								
0-	10-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	Tot.	0-	10-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	Tot.	Tot.
2	2	3	2	3	4	Nil	16	1	3	6	1	2	2	2	17	33
28 Pulmonary								5 Non-Pulmonary								

\* \* \*

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
Full Course ...	344	313	440	301	459	475
Reinforcing dose ...	323	410	391	253	394	268
	<u>667</u>	<u>723</u>	<u>831</u>	<u>554</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>743</u>

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1953 was an exceptionally favourable year and all the major infectious diseases showed a reduction in incidence. Whooping Cough headed the list and the incidence has been remarkably constant over the past five years, in contrast to measles which this year showed the usual periodic decline of alternate years and aggregated only thirty six cases. Tuberculosis figures were slightly down but the number of deaths was higher than the previous year. There was a welcome absence from poliomyelitis for the first time for seven years. Sporadic cases of Food Poisoning are still occurring and the greatest care in food handling by traders and public alike is a necessity if further outbreaks are to be avoided.

Immunisation against Whooping Cough completed its first full year and 137 children were immunised with a combined Diphtheria-Whooping Cough vaccine. Apart from the benefit which it is hoped will occur in the incidence and severity of Whooping Cough in the future, this campaign has secured the immunisation against Diphtheria of some children who would not otherwise have received it. Times change, and the public are now more conscious of the dangers of Whooping Cough than is the case in the rarer disease, diphtheria.

\* \* \*

## CLINIC FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN REDCAR

Details of various clinics held in the area are given below :—

### **No. 5 Turner Street, Redcar**

Anti-natal Clinic—Tuesdays, 1-0 p.m.

Post-natal Clinic—Second Tuesday in each month 10-0 a.m.

Child Welfare Sessions—Thursdays, 2-0 p.m.

Minor Ailments Clinics for school children—

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-30 a.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation—Mondays and Fridays, 9-30 a.m., Thursdays 2 p.m.

Orthopaedic Consultant's Clinics—Second Thursday in month 10-30 a.m.

Dental Sessions—As and when arranged.

Speech Clinics—Every Tuesday, 9-30 a.m. (by appointment).

Ophthalmic Consultant's Session—Friday, 2 p.m. (by appointment).

E.N.T. Clinic—Fourth Thursday in month 10-0 a.m. (by appointment).

### **Dormanstown Methodist Schoolroom**

Ante-natal Clinic—Thursday, fortnightly, 1-30 p.m.

Child Welfare Sessions—Every Wednesday, 2-0 p.m.

### **Dormanstown Infants School**

Diphtheria Immunisation—Second Thursday in each month, 9-30 a.m. to  
10-30 a.m.

## HOUSING

	1953	1952	1951
Permanent Houses completed by the Local Authority ...	123	130	88
Permanent Houses completed by Private Builders ...	33	14	19
Aged Persons Houses completed by the Local Authority	6	Nil	Nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	162	144	107
Permanent Houses under construction by Local Authority at end of year ... ..	107	166	176
Permanent Houses under construction by Private Builders at end of year ... ..	50	12	6
Aged Persons Houses under construction by Local Authority at end of year ... ..	6	12	Nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	163	190	182
Total number of applicants for Houses at end of year	1,313	1,346	1,300
Total number of applicants for Aged Persons Homes at end of year ... ..	208	195	196
*Total number of applicants for Huts at end of year ...	26	40	57

\*These are included in total number of applicants for Houses.

\* \* \*

## THE PROBLEM OF CHRONIC SICKNESS IN THE AGED

It has been found in this Borough, that there are still many difficulties in perfecting services to this large class of people, and indeed many would say that in cases of emergency occurring in the chronic sick the position was better before the National Health Service Act, as at that time Relieving Officers could, when necessary, ensure rapid admission to hospitals controlled by the Local Authorities. It is true that in many cases these hospitals were thereby overcrowded, but conditions there bore no relation to the plight of some of these cases nowadays who have perforce to wait at home or in lodgings for varying periods although they may be in urgent need of constant nursing care. On admission excellent treatment is being given, but as soon as no more can be done for them the hospital wishes to discharge them to make way for others, yet there may be nowhere for them to go where they could receive adequate further attention. This is particularly true in cases of senility, where cerebral degeneration is causing bizarre conduct and the old people need constant supervision and frequent though minor nursing care. There are also those, and there are many of them, who are incontinent and quickly make their homes unpleasant places in which to live. Hospital Authorities are prone to think that home helps and district nurses can cope adequately with such patients, but this is often quite impossible. Home helps in this area are few, and priority has to be given to confinement cases so that the best that can be done is to send a home help for a few hours each weekday, and even then they are subject to instant withdrawal should a case of higher priority occur. Home helps do not work after 5 p.m. and district nurses are only able to make brief routine visits to such cases, so that for the greater part of the day there may be no supervision

at all. For the benefit of those who may not know the full facts, it should be emphasized that County Homes can only take those cases who are not in need of nursing care and this, therefore, rules out the vast majority of these chronic sick cases.

What remains therefore for these people? The efforts of their relatives and neighbours augmented by the periodic help of General Practitioners, Nurses, and Home Helps in their separate capacities. With regard to relatives, while it would be easy to quote individual cases of callous neglect of old people, and although I do consider that the loosening family bonds are having a bad effect there is no doubt that in the vast majority of cases relatives do all in their power to help their aged and chronic sick dependents and in these circumstances only a few people know how much they give and the sacrifices entailed. I am sure also that good neighbourliness is still the rule and here too it often goes far beyond what might be considered reasonable helpfulness. Both relatives and neighbours are however often greatly hampered by the senile outlook of these patients who are often difficult to deal with and reserve their most bitter sayings for those who are nearest to them. In this connection, I find that many relatives and neighbours are much more touchy than in former days and are inclined to throw in their hand at the first cross word, forgetting often that it may be a symptom of the illness and usually means nothing though hard to bear at the time. Time and again one finds one of three or four daughters who looks after such a case for years as she is the only one of them who has the moral courage and temperament to carry on. No praise is too high for her but one can only hope that the sacrifice is not too great and that in the future such work, when necessary, shall be more equally shared.

What are the possibilities of improving the services to these sick people? In the hospital field more beds, adequately staffed is the obvious objective but however many beds are supplied, there should be one person who knows the home conditions, who, in an emergency, should be able to ensure the rapid admission of such cases to hospital when they are helpless and without adequate assistance. It will be argued that such powers can be abused and result in chaos in the hospitals; I do not believe that this would be the case. There is, at present, a "No Man's" and "No Woman's Land" between the County Homes and the hospitals for the chronic sick. Surely some form of "halfway house" could be devised for each area where the needs of the patient could be finally decided after calm discussion instead of the present position of pleas and counter pleas between different officials and different authorities, while both are bombarded by the General Practitioner in the case, the relatives, the Assistance Board and sundry other interested parties while the patient, still at home must often feel that life is not worth preserving.

In the field of home care it would be helpful if the Home Help Service could be made more flexible but financial considerations make this difficult. There is a need for part-time Home Helps who would work awkward hours. The need is however, intermittent and there would be great difficulty in recruiting workers on such terms. Perhaps there is an opening here for organized voluntary social service and there is no doubt that a register of volunteers for night supervisory duties would be most helpful.

Finally it should be explained why no excuse is made for this subject being made the main theme of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health of a local sanitary authority who have little direct responsibility in this field. In the first place it is to correct the misapprehension of many General Practitioners and the general public that the Medical Officer of Health has any

quick way of securing the admission of the chronic sick to hospitals. We are, however, vitally interested in the health of these cases and are anxious to supplement where possible the efforts of the General Practitioners when they have not been able to secure admission despite the urgency of the case. Finally it is well that all in the Borough should know the difficulties of the situation and some of the reasons for them, as there will be few of us in our lifetime who will not be called upon to play one role or another in the care of the chronic sick.

\* \* \*

### WATER SUPPLY

Supplies continued to be drawn from the same sources as previously; the Tees Valley Water Board and our own reservoir which is fed from a spring at Upleatham, an Adit into the hillside, and a bulk supply from the Cleveland Water Company.

Bacteriological and chemical analysis of the water at the reservoir outlet is undertaken monthly. Samples from all other sources and tap samples are taken quarterly.

Chemical analysis has invariably proved satisfactory, the water has a tendency to hardness, but this has never been excessive in tap samples.

Bacteriological results are usually as satisfactory as the chemical but on occasions when the reservoir has been low and the weather warm, there has been a slight increase of non pathogenic bacteria found, but never for any length of time or in such numbers as to indicate gross pollution of animal origin.

Mechanical filtration and chlorination continue to be used at the Reservoir.

Throughout the year it may be said that the water supply was of excellent quality and no shortages were experienced although towards the end of the year water levels at the reservoir were lower than usual.



### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	52	229	34
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	7	27	6
Total ...	59	256	40

#### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

				Number of cases in which defects were found			
				Found	Remedied	Referred	
						To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	...	...	10	10	—	2	
Unreasonable Temperature	...	...	5	5	—	—	
Inadequate Ventilation	...	...	2	2	—	2	
Ineffective drainage of floors	...	...	5	5	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences							
(a) Insufficient	...	...	4	4	—	3	
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	...	...	5	5	—	3	
Total	...	...	31	31	Nil	10	

No prosecutions were undertaken during the year.

**ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 1953**

by

**W. TUTIN,**

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

**Certificated Meat and Food Inspector (R.S.I.),  
Chief Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.**



## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR, 1953

### To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Redcar

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Herewith I present my Annual Report recording the work of your Sanitary and Cleansing Department for the year 1953. During the year much headway has been made in connection with the repair of defective houses. Many sub-standard houses have been brought up to a reasonable standard. This work has been carried out under the supervision of your inspectors. We continue to have a steady supply of new houses. This has been very helpful in connection with the concentration on condemnation of unfit individual houses.

In connection with food hygiene we have made special efforts to visit all food premises with a view to implementing the requirements of the Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Our progress has been very slow owing to shortage of staff and our growing town with added problems and new legislation.

#### Inspections

The following is a tabulated statement of the number of inspections made during the year under review :—

Total number of inspections ... ..	5781
Total number of re-inspections ... ..	6003
Total number of nuisances found (including 27 outstanding 1952) ... ..	5639
Total number of nuisances abated ... ..	5635
Total number of Informal Notices (including verbal and written notices) ... ..	5702
Total number of Statutory Notices ... ..	Nil
Total number of Informal Notices complied with	5635
Total number of Statutory Notices complied with	Nil
Total number of Informal Notices outstanding	4
Total number of Statutory Notices outstanding	Nil

#### Sanitary Works and Improvements

Dilapidated dust bins ... ..	283
Choked drains ... ..	734
Choked and defective eave spouts ... ..	72
Choked sewers ... ..	24
Defective flushing apparatus ... ..	42
Keeping of animals, poultry, etc., in an insanitary condition ... ..	25
Defective construction of drains ... ..	38
Dirty condition of dwellinghouses ... ..	27
Dirty condition of water closets, urinals, etc. ... ..	17
Accumulation of rubbish ... ..	212
Dirty condition of yards ... ..	2
Defective roofs ... ..	41
Defective floors of dwellinghouses ... ..	50
Defective and insanitary condition of sinks ... ..	15
Defective W.C. basins ... ..	7
Choked street gullies ... ..	91
Defective set-pots ... ..	1
Defective paving of yards ... ..	7

Defective fire-places ... ..	6
Premises in a verminous condition ... ..	109
Overcrowded condition of premises ... ..	237
Choked and defective rain water pipes ... ..	8
Broken plaster work ... ..	16
Premises in need of lime-washing ... ..	4
Offensive smells ... ..	472
Insufficient sink accommodation ... ..	2
Defective construction of windows ... ..	8
External walls requiring re-pointing ... ..	156
Choked and defective waste pipes ... ..	16
Defective and dangerous condition of outbuildings	2

#### **Infectious Diseases and Disinfection**

Number of infected houses ... ..	88
Number of infected houses disinfected ... ..	88
Number of schools disinfected ... ..	15
Number of classrooms disinfected ... ..	48

#### **Factories and Workshops**

Number of inspections of factories and workshops	256
Number of nuisances found ... ..	31
Number of nuisances abated ... ..	31
Number of complaints from H.M. Inspector ...	10

#### **Bakehouses**

Number of bakehouses on Register ... ..	34
Number of notifications received from H.M. Inspector	3
Number of notifications dealt with ... ..	3
Number of bakehouses added to Register ...	Nil
Number of bakehouses removed from Register	Nil
Number of nuisances discovered and dealt with	16
Number of inspections ... ..	169

#### **Dairies and Milkshops**

Number on Register ... ..	68
Number discontinued during the year ...	Nil
Number of inspections ... ..	196
Number of Notices dealt with ... ..	12

It is pleasing to report that all milk sold in Redcar comes under the heading of "Designated Milk." There is an increase of 15 Registrations to sell sterilised milk from retail shops. All these shops are visited periodically to see that no unsealed bottles are sold.

#### **Public Conveniences**

In all we are responsible for 28 sets of conveniences. Three of these have full time attendants during the summer months and provide wash and brush up facilities. Our main convenience (Swiss Cottage) on the promenade is open all the year round with a permanent attendant in charge. Other promenade conveniences are open only during the summer months. Conveniences throughout the Borough including those in the various parks are cleansed and disinfected daily. During the year painting of the various conveniences has been carried out where necessary and again I would like to mention the unsatisfactory state of our main conveniences on the sea front, particularly those under the bandstand and the temporary provisions on the stray car park. Reconstruction of the latter is much overdue.

## Water Supply

There are three main sources of supply, namely :—

1. Bulk supply from the Tees Valley Water Board. This water is received at the Meter House, Lazenby Siding, at the western boundary of the Borough. It is distributed to Dormanstown and part of the Borough west of West Dyke Road. The maximum quantity available is two million gallons in any one week, and the water is soft in character.

2. Bulk supply from the Cleveland Water Company. The supply is received at the Corporation Reservoir, Upleatham. The quantity available is 250,000 gallons per day, although this has been reduced in times of drought. The water is soft in character.

3. Further supplies are received from an Adit and Worts Well Spring at Upleatham, which together deliver approximately 250,000 gallons per day. These waters are fed into the Corporation Reservoir, Upleatham, where they mix with that supplied by the Cleveland Water Company, the whole being treated by Chloramination and filtration prior to distribution to the whole of the Borough not supplied by water from the Tees Valley Water Board.

The water from the Adit is very hard in character whilst that from the spring is soft, and the water at the outlet to the reservoir as a result of the mixture of the three supplies is hard in character.

## Shops Act

	Number of Defects found	Number Remedied	Number Outstanding
Rooms not at reasonable temperature	3	3	Nil
Lack of ventilation ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	7	7	Nil
Lack of accommodation for taking meals	1	1	Nil
Insufficient washing accommodation	5	5	Nil
Provision of hot water ... ..	6	6	Nil

## Ice Cream Manufacturers and Dealers

Under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, all premises used for the manufacture, sale or storage of Ice Cream have to be registered. The number on the Register in the Borough of Redcar at the end of the year was :—

Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Nuisances found	Number of Nuisances dealt with	Number of Samples taken
126	197	9	9	24

All additional registrations which number 12 were for retailing pre-packed ices. Samples have been taken chiefly from retailers of loose ices and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories, Middlesbrough, for analysis. All samples with the exception of 2 were found to be satisfactory. The 2 samples found not to be satisfactory were followed up in the usual way and a thorough check of manufacturing methods and second and third samples taken. These came up to the registered standard.

Under the same Section as above, all premises used for the manufacture of sausages and potted meats have to be registered. The following is a record of Registrations for this purpose :—

Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Nuisances found	Number of Nuisances dealt with	Number of Samples taken
26	108	14	14	Nil

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

One sewer campaign was carried out during the year. The total number of manholes baited was 130. Number of bait takes 49, number of poison takes 33, and number of bodies seen was 23. It was found that during this campaign the biggest kills were where the town had old sewers.

The number of complaints from the public for rats and mice was 204, all these complaints were investigated and treated as the case may be.

The number of complaints from business premises was very small, as most shop keepers are treating their own premises with advice from your Health Department.

### **Summer Camps**

We have in the Borough of Redcar 3 registered camp sites under the Public Health Acts. During the year one camp owned by the local authority was closed and one new camp was registered. All are well kept and supplied with adequate sanitary arrangements and water supply. The camps in each case are under personal supervision of a Resident Manager.

### **Disinfestation**

During the year 109 premises were disinfested by the Department and 160 inspections carried out for this purpose. All affected houses were treated by spraying with D.D.T. solution and fumigated after wall paper and skirting board had been removed. In only 5 cases was a second treatment necessary.

### **Disinfection of Premises**

The number of visits made during the year in connection with infectious diseases including suspected Food Poisoning cases was 57. The number of infected rooms treated owing to cases of infectious diseases was 88. In addition 48 school rooms were disinfected by spraying during the summer holiday period.

### **Markets**

The weekly market continues to be held on the West Dyke Road site. There are Public Conveniences and a water supply adjoining this site. Your Cleansing Department is responsible for the cleansing of the site and this is carried out as soon as the last stall has been dismantled. Periodical inspections are carried out with a view to checking up any food stalls on the site particularly shell fish stalls.

### **Housing (Overcrowding)**

During the year 600 houses have been inspected on behalf of the Housing Committee. These inspections are carried out chiefly in connection with applications for council houses. Whilst carrying out these special inspections the opportunity is taken to check up on the cleanliness. Council property throughout the Borough is clean and well kept.

### **Places of Entertainment**

Twelve dance halls and three picture houses are licenced in the Borough. These have been periodically inspected and were found to be well kept. In connection with the licensed drinking premises (public houses) close relation is kept with the Licensing Authority through the Magistrates' Clerk. This has enabled us to have up-to-date conveniences installed.

**Atmospheric Pollution**

Throughout the year meetings of the Tees-side Smoke Abatement Society have been held and discussions held with a view to co-ordinating action being taken throughout the area. These discussions have been followed up by visits to various works and talks with works technical officers which have in my opinion led to improvement in atmospheric pollution work. We have three deposit gauges installed on the sites at Warrenby (Industrial), Dormanstown (Semi-industrial) and the Racecourse (Residential). The following are the readings for the year ending 31st December, 1953:—



**DEPOSIT GAUGE READINGS, 1953**

Month	Warrenby, Industrial					Dormanstown, Semi-industrial					Race Course, Residential				
	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.
January	0.71	6.8	11.99	12.13	24.12	0.78	6.8	8.60	8.90	17.50	0.66	7.0	4.11	6.16	10.27
February	1.50	6.8	20.55	12.46	33.01	1.33	6.8	12.07	8.44	20.51	1.02	6.9	5.70	6.10	11.80
March	0.08	6.8	15.01	10.64	25.64	0.10	6.8	7.17	8.60	15.77	0.12	6.9	5.43	5.77	11.20
April	1.39	6.8	17.37	11.86	29.23	1.39	6.8	8.34	8.47	16.81	1.20	6.9	7.19	6.53	13.72
May	1.01	6.8	10.60	10.64	21.24	1.12	6.8	4.07	7.84	11.91	1.05	6.9	3.74	6.13	9.87
June	2.02	7.3	9.31	11.53	20.84	2.06	7.5	5.74	8.00	13.74	1.12	7.3	4.21	6.66	10.87
July	1.67	6.7	21.31	10.04	32.35	2.03	6.7	5.77	6.30	12.07	1.79	6.9	2.85	6.03	8.88
August	1.77	6.8	13.02	10.51	23.53	1.68	6.8	6.04	6.30	12.34	1.50	6.9	5.53	6.63	12.16
September	1.30	6.8	16.90	10.44	27.34	1.45	6.8	5.73	5.07	10.81	1.35	6.9	6.23	6.10	12.33
October	1.02	6.8	23.73	9.94	33.67	1.02	6.8	5.04	5.04	10.08	1.07	6.9	4.64	6.00	10.64
November	1.08	6.7	10.24	10.34	20.58	1.18	6.8	4.20	4.74	8.94	1.02	6.9	2.55	4.77	7.32
December	0.74	6.7	14.38	9.15	23.53	0.76	6.8	4.97	4.54	9.51	0.67	6.9	3.28	5.17	8.45
Average	1.19	6.80	15.367	10.889	26.256	1.32	6.85	6.48	6.852	13.332	1.04	6.94	4.64	6.004	10.62
Average 1952*	1.68	6.81	16.345	14.631	30.976	1.76	6.86	7.795	10.071	17.866	1.49	6.83	5.686	7.943	13.63

\*Comparative figures for 1952

- A. ... Rainfall in inches.
- B. ... PH Value.
- C. ... Insoluble Solids
- D. ... Soluble Solids
- E. ... Total Solids

PH Value ... Expresses degrees of acidity or alkalinity of water.

Below 7.0 shews acidity (represented by coal tar, phenols, etc.)

Above 7.0 shews alkalinity (soda, potash, ammonia).

Tons per Square Mile.

Average for the town for 1953—16.769 Tons per sq. mile.

Average for the town for 1952—20.48 Tons per sq. mile.

**DEPOSIT GAUGE READINGS, 1953**

Month	Warrenby, Industrial				Dormanstown, Semi-industrial				Race Course, Residential							
	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Tarry Matter	Ash	Combustible Matter as SO <sub>4</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Tarry Matter	Ash	Combustible Matter as SO <sub>4</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Tarry Matter	Ash	Combustible Matter as SO <sub>4</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Tarry Matter	Ash	Combustible Matter as SO <sub>4</sub>
January	2.85	0.20	6.69	5.10	5.07	1.37	0.23	4.97	2.40	3.70	0.66	0.13	2.26	1.72	2.52	
February																
March																
April																
May																
June																
July																
August																
September	3.41	0.30	10.80	5.80	4.08	1.23	0.13	3.70	1.90	2.00	0.66	0.10	4.11	2.02	2.39	
October																
November																
December	7.16	0.13	12.26	1.99	3.18	1.37	0.10	3.77	1.10	1.53	0.86	0.07	2.62	0.59	1.82	
Total	13.42	0.63	29.75	12.89	12.33	3.97	0.46	12.44	6.40	7.23	2.18	0.30	8.99	4.33	6.83	
Average	4.47	0.21	9.91	4.29	4.11	1.32	0.15	4.146	2.13	2.41	0.726	0.10	2.996	1.443	2.273	
Average 1952	4.96	0.263	13.23	3.71	5.83	1.7	0.153	4.80	2.38	4.046	1.17	0.13	4.36	1.99	3.47	
<b>Comparative Figures for 1952</b>																
April	6.20	0.36	12.26	2.75	6.06	1.63	0.13	4.60	1.27	4.27	1.19	0.10	3.98	1.12	2.85	
July	5.50	0.23	19.29	3.94	6.00	1.77	0.13	6.40	2.74	3.87	1.33	0.13	5.47	1.53	4.81	
October	3.18	0.20	8.15	4.44	5.43	1.70	0.20	3.40	3.13	4.00	0.99	0.17	3.65	3.34	2.75	
Total	14.88	0.79	39.70	11.13	17.49	5.10	0.46	14.40	7.14	12.14	3.51	0.40	13.10	5.99	10.41	

### Meat and Food Inspection

All our raw meat supplies are still supplied from Middlesbrough where slaughtering takes place in a Government controlled abattoir. The meat is transported to Redcar by properly covered delivery waggons and is allocated to local butchers by a Butchers' Association Committee. A big improvement in the type of vehicle bringing the meat in from Middlesbrough has taken place. The vehicles are now constructed in such a way as to facilitate thorough cleaning and protection from outside contamination. All food preparing premises are kept under constant supervision. The following is a summary of foodstuffs condemned and surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year :—

Article	Food Condemned during 1953
	Amount
Fresh Meat ... ..	420½ lbs.
Offal ... ..	3¼ lbs.
Poultry ... ..	37 lbs.
Bacon ... ..	4 lbs.
Sausage ... ..	95 lbs.
Tinned Cooked Ham ... ..	1063¾ lbs.
Tinned Meats ... ..	337¼ lbs.
Tinned Fish ... ..	12¾ lbs.
Tinned Beans ... ..	32 lbs.
Tinned Tomatoes ... ..	259 lbs.
Tinned Carrots ... ..	2½ lbs.
Tinned Fruit ... ..	405½ lbs.
Tinned Peas ... ..	59 lbs.
Tinned Soup ... ..	26 tins
Tinned Patent Food ... ..	59 tins
Tinned Milk ... ..	57 tins
Coffee Extract ... ..	8 bottles
Meat Paste ... ..	2 pots
Jams ... ..	10 lbs.
Cake ... ..	26 lbs.
Patent Flour Mixture ... ..	32 lbs.
Brandy Snaps ... ..	56 lbs.
Pies ... ..	18
Eggs ... ..	739
Liquid Eggs ... ..	61 lbs.
Cheese ... ..	30 lbs.
Fish ... ..	32 stone
Fish Roes ... ..	2½ stone
Shell Fish ... ..	7 bags
Prunes ... ..	76 lbs.
Pears ... ..	20 boxes
Cauliflowers ... ..	30 bags

\* \* \*

### PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE

Public cleansing duties in Redcar are the direct responsibility of the Sanitary Department. This service includes refuse collection and disposal, street cleansing, sewer flushing, gully cleansing and the recovery of waste materials under the heading of Salvage. We still have difficulty in obtaining suitable labour for this work. I suppose we can expect this position as long as

new industries are being installed in the district. This service is increasing year after year due to the increase in the number of new properties.

During the year there has been a very noticeable use of seacoal. This has definitely increased the amount of household refuse to be collected. The cost of this service has increased considerably due chiefly to circumstances beyond our control, i.e. National Wage Awards, and increased cost of petrol and fall in waste paper prices.

### Refuse Collection

A weekly collection of refuse has been maintained and we have received very few complaints of bins being left. Such complaints after investigation are found to be due to doors not been opened up for the collectors. All refuse from hotels, cafés and fish shops is retrieved daily during the summer months and twice weekly during the remaining period.

### Refuse Disposal

All our refuse is disposed of by the method known as "controlled tipping" in accordance with the Ministry of Health conditions. The life of our existing tipping area is drawing to a close and another six or nine months will see its completion. I cannot see any difficulty in finding new tipping space as there is a considerable area of low lying land adjoining our present site.

### Street Cleansing

The "beat system" is still in operation in connection with street cleansing. All main roads are swept daily and others in accordance with the amount of traffic using the roads. Owing to increased costs and no grant increase from the County for cleansing and weeding County Roads it is becoming more difficult to maintain the high standard we have always aimed at.

The mechanised road sweeping machine is used on all main roads and has been most useful on promenade work especially for early morning cleansing during the summer months.

### Gully Cleansing

During the year 49,000 gullies have been cleansed and resealed with a disinfectant solution. Our gullies require more attention than most of the other town gullies on account of the sand drift nuisance which at times is considerable.

All gully cleansing is carried out by a mechanical gully cleansing machine. This machine is also used for channel damping and sewer flushings.

The following is a summary of the costs of the cleansing services during 1953 :—

#### Refuse Collection

Total number of loads	...	...	11,000
Total estimated tonnage collected	...	19,250 (35 Cwts.)	
Weight of refuse per 1,000 pop. per day	...	37.66 Cwts.	
Net cost per ton collected	...	...	12/1.55d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop.	...	...	£434/18/3.4d.
Net cost per 1,000 premises	...	...	£1,217/18/0d.

#### Refuse Disposal

Net cost per ton disposed	...	...	2/6d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop.	...	...	£49/2/1.7d.
Net cost per 1,000 premises	...	...	£137/10/0d.

**Street Sweeping**

Total sq. yds. of surface cleaned during the year ... ..	13,400,000
Net cost per 10,000 sq. yds. ... ..	£4/0/0.7d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop. ... ..	£156/0/0d.

**Gully Cleansing**

Total number of gullies cleansed ... ..	49,000
Net cost per 1,000 gullies ... ..	£17/15/1.2d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop. ... ..	£31/2/1.7d.

The basis of this report is as follows:—

Estimated normal population ... ..	27,490
Approximate number of premises ... ..	10,000
Tonnage collected (estimated) ... ..	19,250
Cost of refuse collection ... ..	£12,179
Cost of refuse disposal ... ..	£1,375
Cost of street cleansing ... ..	£5,368
Cost of gully cleansing ... ..	£873

**Salvage**

Total Sales £2,348/17/11d. We continue to collect re-saleable articles in connection with your Salvage Department. This collection takes place at the same time as refuse is collected. The collection of waste paper has increased slightly towards the end of the year. The total sales of salvage materials up to the end of December amounted to £2,348/17/11d. of which £1,966/5/2d. was for sale of waste paper. This shows a decrease on the previous year of £2,449 due to decrease in paper prices and the mills fixing a quota for the greater part of the year.

\* \* \*

**HOUSING STATISTICS**

Number of new houses completed in 1953:—

(a) Council ... ..	129
(b) Other ... ..	33
(c) Prefabs ... ..	Nil

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	256
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	472
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	6
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	14
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	6
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	250

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—
- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... | 246 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses where work is in progress but not yet completed ... ..  | 7   |
| (3) Number of notices in course of preparation (not yet served) ...  | 4   |
| (4) Number of notices outstanding ... ..   | 4   |
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—
- A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices :—                  |     |
| (a) By owners ... ..  | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...   | Nil |
- B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—
- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—               |     |
| (a) By owner ... ..  | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...  | Nil |
- C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..    | Nil |
- D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. | Nil |
|---|-----|

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and to all Members of the Staff and workmen of the Department for their unstinted loyalty and co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. TUTIN,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.







