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Contributors

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SIDMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1959



STATIONARY ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER

ALBANY, N. Y.

For the year

1900

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STAFF

Medical Officer of Health R.C. MacLeod, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
D.T.M. and H.

Public Health Inspector S.T. Chard, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector to 30.7.59. R.H. West, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

General Assistant to Public Health Inspector
from 5.11.59..... E.W.J. Maer.

Engineer and Surveyor T.H. Chambers, M.I.Mun.E., M.Inst.H.E.

Water Manager H.E. Scadding.

Shorthand Typist to Medical Officer, Surveyor
and Public Health Inspector Miss C.E. Hardiker.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

General Purposes Committee.

Public Health, Water and Highways Committee.

Manor Estates Committee.

Housing Committee.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health H. C. Macleod, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
D.V.M. and H.
Public Health Inspector S. T. Clark, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector to S. T. Clark, M.A.P.H.I., A.E.S.H.
General Assistant to Public Health Inspector H. W. J. Mason.
From 5.11.33
Engineer and Surveyor T. H. Chambers, M.I. Min. E., M. Inst. E.
Water Manager H. E. Scadding.
Bursar and Typist to Medical Officer, Surveyor
and Public Health Inspector Miss C. M. Hardiker.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

General Purposes Committee.
Public Health, Water and Highways Committee.
Hazard Rating Committee.
Housing Committee.

SIDMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

YEAR ENDING 31ST. DECEMBER, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Sidmouth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

This report follows the lines of its predecessors but as stated previously an effort has been made to broaden the picture of the public health in Sidmouth by commenting, where necessary, on those items looked after by the Devon County Council.

Again I should like to thank the Council for their support during the year, and record my appreciation of the Public Health Inspector and his staff for their help and for compiling the main body of this report. Owing to the fact that the Additional Public Health Inspector took up a new appointment during the year there was a period of four months when the senior Public Health Inspector had to carry on alone which involved a great deal of extra work.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. C. MACLEOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Municipal Offices,
New Street,
HONITON.

Telephone: Honiton 391.

SILKWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1932.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Silkwood Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

This report follows the lines of the predecessors but as stated previously
an effort has been made to broaden the picture of the public health in Silkwood
by commenting, where necessary, on these items looked after by the Devon County
Council.

Again I should like to thank the Council for their support during the year,
and record my appreciation of the Public Health Inspector and his staff for their
help and for compiling the main body of this report. Owing to the fact that the
Assistant Public Health Inspector took up a new appointment during the year
there was a period of four months when the senior Public Health Inspector had
to carry on alone which involved a great deal of extra work.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. C. MACLEOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Office,
New Street,
WOLTON.

Telephone: Wolton 351.

1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area	11,475 acres.
Number of habitable houses (1.4.60)	3,810.
Resident population Mid 1959 (as estimated by the Registrar General)	9,850.

NOTE: In previous reports the figure of inhabited houses was given, but as there is always a variable number of properties changing hands or temporarily vacant, it has been decided that the number of habitable houses will be more useful.

PRODUCT OF A PENNY RATE AND RATEABLE VALUE.

Product of a penny rate (at 1.4.60)	£800.
Rateable Value	£202,401.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Live Births (legitimate)	47	43	90
Live Births (illegitimate)	-	4	4
Still Births	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total	47	47	94

Percentage of illegitimate births to total live births - 3.76.

BIRTH RATE per 1000 of the estimated resident population.

Crude Birth Rate - 9.54. Corrected Birth Rate - 12.59.

(b) Infant Mortality (legitimate)	NIL	NIL	NIL
Infant Mortality (illegitimate)	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total	NIL	NIL	NIL

Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births - - - - - NIL

Infant Mortality rate per 1000 legitimate births - - NIL

Infant Mortality rate per 1000 illegitimate births - NIL

(c) Neo-natal mortality (deaths under 4 weeks)			
(legitimate)	NIL	NIL	NIL
(illegitimate)	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total	NIL	NIL	NIL

Neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 total live births - NIL

(d) Early neo-natal mortality (deaths under 1 week)			
(legitimate)	1	-	1
(illegitimate)	-	-	-
Total	1	-	1

Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 total live births - 10.6.

BIRTHS

- (e) Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births) - 10.6.
- (f) Maternal mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths - NIL.

DEATHS

- (a) Statistics Provided By The Registrar General.

<u>Causes of Death:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Tuberculosis</u>			
Respiratory	1	-	1
Other forms	-	1	1
<u>Cancer</u>			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	-	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	10	22
Leukaemia or Aleukaemia	1	-	1
<u>Heart Diseases.</u>			
Coronary disease, angina	21	17	38
Hypertension with heart disease (high blood pressure)	-	-	-
Other heart diseases	9	11	20
Other circulatory diseases	3	5	8
<u>Respiratory Diseases</u>			
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Influenza	1	-	1
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	4	7
<u>Other Diseases</u>			
Diabetes	3	-	3
Vascular disease of nervous system (e.g. cerebral haemorrhage)	7	16	23
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	8	14
Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2

DEATHS (Continued).

<u>Other Diseases</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	-	1	1
	81	84	165

(b) Infant Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 week	1	-	1
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks	-	-	-
Deaths of infants under 1 year	-	-	-
<u>Total deaths from all causes</u>	82	84	166

(c) Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population.

Crude Death Rate - 16.85.

Corrected Death Rate - 9.6.

3. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	NIL	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-
Measles	21	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	4	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis:			
Paralytic	NIL	-	-
Non Paralytic	NIL	-	-
Food Poisoning	NIL	-	-

4. TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality, 1959.

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases Notified</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 upwards	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

5. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

(a) The Devon County Council are the Local Health Authority responsible

for the Act under Part III. The Hospital facilities under Part II have been found satisfactory when needed.

(b) Isolation.

Arrangements for the admission of cases of infectious diseases to the Whipton Isolation Hospital at Exeter are satisfactory. The Medical Superintendent and staff are always co-operative and helpful.

(c) Smallpox.

A Smallpox Hospital at Upton Pyne, administered by the Regional Hospital Board, is available in case of need.

(d) Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory, now moved to buildings in the University of Exeter, Gandy Street, has been available when necessary and Dr. Moore is always willing to provide advice and help if required.

(e) Ambulance Facilities.

These are provided by the County Council.

(f) Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children.

These facilities are provided by the County Council.

(g) Mental Health.

The District Councils are not responsible for the supervision of Mental Health, this being a County Council duty. However, when the Mental Health Bill comes into operation the County Council will have to expand its Mental Health Services and the work of the District Councils' health staffs will come more in touch with the County Mental Health Section. It seems likely, therefore, that the District Medical Officer of Health will have to devote more time to this subject. As I said in my last report, there is no doubt that much can be done locally through voluntary effort, and voluntary bodies which tackle any problem in the ordinary sickness field are in effect also doing Mental Health work. Obviously, until the effects of the Mental Health Bill become more obvious, no precise views on the changes likely to take place in Mental Health Work in the County Districts can be given.

6. (a) OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE.

The importance of increasing the amount of attention devoted to the welfare of old people continues to be stressed by all authorities. However during the year under review no change appears to have taken place in the official arrangements for the care of old people, but towards the end of the year the W.V.S. began to plan the provision of a Meals on Wheels service. It is hoped that this service will come into operation early in 1960.

(b) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was found necessary during the year.

The system whereby with the co-operation of the County Medical Department immunisation figures for the six districts in my area can be compiled separately from those of the County as a whole has not yet been running for a full year. Consequently, I cannot give the East Devon figures for 1959. The number of immunisations against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough has not altered much. The number of infants vaccinated against small-pox continues low at about a quarter of those under one year. The proportion of children inoculated against Poliomyelitis is now high, and in a year or two this should materially affect the number of cases of Poliomyelitis occurring.

I am now responsible for the giving of B.C.G. inoculations against Tuberculosis to children of the appropriate age-group in all the Secondary Schools in the six districts. Under this scheme, B.C.G. may be given to all school-children of 13 years of age upwards.

8. WATER SUPPLIES.(1) Public Supplies.

Since the sanction to proceed with the new Core Hill Reservoir was given, good progress has been made, but by the end of the year the scheme was still a long way from completion. It will be remembered that the augmentation scheme, when completed, will embody the following:- Water will be pumped from the new borehole completed in 1955 to a new reservoir now under construction at Core Hill with a capacity of 500,000 gallons. From there, water will gravitate to the existing reservoirs at Peak Hill and Woolbrook and also augment the existing supplies in the Bickwell Valley and High Street, Sidford areas. When the new scheme is complete the maximum potential of the Council's Water Undertaking will amount to well over 1,000,000 gallons per day. As the new borehole supplies with their increased hardness gradually form the bulk of the water at the expense of the old softer spring supplies, the pattern of the Sidmouth water will change. This process will be more noticeable when the new reservoir comes into use. The following table shows the position more clearly:-

Character and Quantity of Public Supplies

(a) <u>LAND SPRING SUPPLIES:</u>	<u>Parts per Million</u>	<u>pH value</u>	<u>Maximum Quantity in Gallons per day</u>
<u>Bernards Farm, Sidbury</u>		***	
Temporary hardness	172		
Permanent hardness	16	7.8	100,000.
TOTAL hardness	188		
<u>Plyford Filter Bed, Sidbury.</u> (including Pinn Hill, Core Copse, Wolversleigh, Vercombes Well)			
Temporary hardness	5		
Permanent hardness	15	5.7	196,000.
TOTAL hardness	20		
<u>Core Way, Sidford.</u>			
Temporary hardness	7		
Permanent hardness	31	6.4	2,000.
TOTAL hardness	38		

(a) <u>LAND SPRING SUPPLIES</u> (Contd)		<u>Parts per</u> <u>Million</u>	<u>p H</u> <u>value</u> ***	<u>Maximum Quantity</u> <u>in Gallons per</u> <u>day</u>
<u>Bulverton, Sidmouth</u>				
Temporary hardness		263		
Permanent hardness		10	8.0	1,500.
TOTAL hardness		273		
<u>Peak Hill</u> }	To be discontinued when new scheme is in operation.			
<u>Stintway</u> }				

(b) BOREHOLESTwo Existing Boreholes, Sidford.

Temporary hardness	217		
Permanent hardness	10	7.7	264,000.
TOTAL hardness	227		

New Borehole, Sidford.

Temporary hardness	220		
Permanent hardness	9	8.0	600,000
TOTAL hardness	229		1,163,500

*** The pH value represents the acidity or alkalinity of water. A pH value of 7 is a neutral water - below that figure the water is soft and acid, and above that alkaline.

(2) Devon Water Bill.

In December 1959, the Devon County Council promoted a Private Bill which, in the event of it becoming law, would have the effect of transferring the Council's water undertaking to a Water Board. Your Council judged it expedient to oppose the Bill in Parliament in January 1960 and a Petition was submitted to Parliament seeking

- the deletion from the Bill of the provisions relating to the transfer of their undertaking;
- that if this should not be accepted then the transfer should not take place unless and until the Exeter undertaking was transferred and
- that if neither of these points was accepted then better differentials, representation etc. than those shown in the Bill should be conceded.

(3) Private Supplies.Salcombe Regis.

During the year, the East Devon Water Board completed its main laying and brought water to the village. Thus the old supply which was always of dubious quality was dispensed with and the ram, which for the last few years was expected to work longer hours in its old age, has been retired together with the privately owned electric pump which boosted it. The new supply is, of course, satisfactory. The houses below the Church, together with Coombe Wood Farm, are still supplied by the

Salcombe Regis.

spring above Springfield which has always been satisfactory. This spring has always been referred to as No. 2 Spring.

Harcombe.

Since the consumers made a collective effort and carried out repairs and renewals to the main supply, there has been no trouble with shortages as in previous years and the summer of 1959 was an exacting test. One new bungalow was allowed on this supply during the year.

One small private spring supplying two cottages dried up in the Autumn for a short period, but otherwise the water position in the hamlet was satisfactory for the first time for several years.

Sidford.

A few cottages are still on the old supply, but as the future of the cottages has still to be settled, no action has been taken to have them connected to the Council supply.

Sidbury.

The only alteration to the private supplies owned by the Sidbury Manor Estate has been connections from two bungalows to the Greenhead supply.

(4) Distribution.Public Supplies.Total

Number of properties connected to S.U.D.C. supply	3400	
Number of properties connected to Honiton Hill ran	5	
Number of properties at Salcombe Regis supplied by East Devon Water Board	26	
Number of properties on Bulverton supply	6	
	<u>3437</u>	3437

Private Supplies.Salcombe Regis -

Properties connected to No. 2 spring	8	
Other private supplies	15	
<u>Harcombe -</u>		
Properties connected to main village supply	9	
Other small supplies or wells	11	
<u>Fortescue</u>	26	
<u>Bowd</u>	12	
<u>Sidbury</u>		
Ridgeway - Properties connected	72	
Greenhead Properties connected	106	
Hatway - Properties connected	15	
Other properties in outlying areas with own private supplies	96	
	<u>370</u>	370

Number of properties without water supplies 3

3810

The progress made with the improvement of the sewage disposal arrangements during the year has comprised the construction of a new screening chamber, underground pumping station, new valve work and alterations to the emergency stormwater overflows. These works have been constructed adjacent to the existing storage tank at Port Royal.

The new disintegrating pumps are twin sets of 12" pumps manufactured by Messrs. Hathorn Davey and operated by electric motors controlled by float operated switches which in themselves are set by a lunar clock to alter the times of operation with the most suitable tidal conditions. In the event of heavy rainfall the lunar clock is automatically by-passed and the pumps will come into operation in series at a predetermined level of sewage in the storage tank. Each pump has a delivery of 1000 gallons per minute.

Provision has been made for the construction of the new sea outfall by building in a pipe into the recently constructed valve chamber.

It is essential that the extended deep water outfall be constructed without delay so as to be in operation by the Spring of 1961.

10. FOOD.(a) Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-6.

It will be seen from the tabulated statement at the rear of the report that the number of inspections falls short of those of previous years. This is due almost entirely to the fact that from mid July onwards the department was without a qualified Assistant to the Public Health Inspector, Mr. R.H. West having obtained another appointment. Coming as it did in the peak of the holiday season, it was rather a set-back and in fact no appointment of any sort was made until November when a student inspector was appointed, it having been found impossible to fill the vacancy at the salary offered.

It will be appreciated that all phases of public health work may be affected by lack of qualified staff, but it is particularly noticeable in the food trade where regular inspections by qualified inspectors are so valuable in maintaining a high standard of food hygiene.

(b) Meat.

As stated in previous reports, there are no slaughterhouses in the district and it seems unlikely that any will be wanted here, there being apparently no demand for such. Meat is obtained from the Exeter City Abattoir or a private slaughterhouse in Honiton. The arrangements seem to be working satisfactorily.

There are twelve butchers shops in the district and the standard is satisfactory. The Market Stall has been maintained in a satisfactory way and on a recent change of tenancy the opportunity was taken to still further improve hygienic conditions by extending the glass screening on the front of the counter. The butcher, himself, also had a canopy fitted overhead for added protection.

All butchers' shops are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the preparation and manufacture of sausages, preserved meat etc.

(c) Fish.

There are three wet fish shops in the area, all with enclosed fronts. One of these shops also sells fruit and vegetables, and these premises all comply with the regulations. There are three local mobile fishmongers and one operating from premises outside the district. These are satisfactory.

(d) Milk and Dairies.

This is a "Specified" Area and all milk sold is either pasteurised or tuberculin tested. A modern pasteurising plant deals with a large proportion of the milk from the farms in the Urban District of which there are approximately 70. This Dairy also produces a quantity of clotted cream with modern plant under hygienic conditions.

There are seven registered Dairies, although only four are fully engaged in dairy work, the others being on the register because they come technically within the definition of dairy.

The milk vending machine is now becoming a part of modern living although in this district it seems to be operated only for the benefit of the summer visitor, and the Summer of 1959 was a boon to the owner of such machines as well as the holiday maker. The modern milk vending machine is a triumph of engineering skill and has been designed to comply with legislation not applicable to other foods, but like all machinery it is better when it "KEEPS GOING" and for that reason its use for summer trade only seems a satisfactory arrangement for this district.

(e) Ice Cream.

All ice cream sold in the district is prepacked or comes in bulk from a neighbouring district. No samples were taken this year due to the loss of the Assistant Public Health Inspector in the middle of the season when normally samples are taken.

(f) Bakers and Confectioners.

There are now only nine bakehouses in the district, one having been discontinued at the beginning of the year. This was a typical small village bakery and when the elderly baker had to retire the opportunity was taken to advise the owner that the premises were unsuitable for modern hygiene requirements without a considerable financial outlay. Thus it closed. In one other bakehouse it was necessary to take informal action because larvae of the flour moth were found in flour. As a result, a comprehensive disinfestation was carried out to the store and the baker given advice as to the habits of these moths. Subsequent results showed no signs of any further infestation.

(g) Grocers and General Provisions.

In previous years up to now it has been the practice to report separately but I have now grouped them together as the modern tendency in shopkeeping seems to stock as many lines as possible consistent with storage space. This is now possible because so many articles are pre-packed that the demarcation lines between one type of food shop and another are getting blurred, and the modern self-service store is helping the process. From the aspect of food hygiene, these trends are welcomed because generally modern methods, increased efficiency and food hygiene tend to go together.

Last year I reported that a branch of a multiple grocery store still had some outstanding work necessary to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations. This has now been done and a great improvement has been effected.

(h) Greengrocers and Fruiterers.

There are eight premises which are predominately greengrocers and they are satisfactory, although many general shops also seem to find it profitable to sell fruit and vegetables. Also, there seems to be more vehicles such as vans and lorries entering the

(h) Greengrocers and Fruiterers.

district from adjoining areas which are inspected as the opportunity occurs.

(i) Hotels, Restaurants, Cafes.

The number of visits were reduced for the reason already mentioned, but those premises which needed more attention were visited. Although no-one interested in public health would ever be satisfied as to the standard of food hygiene in these premises it is true to say that the standard has markedly improved within the past six or seven years.

(j) Food Factory.

The standard is reasonably good for the cooking and preparation of this savoury tit-bit, but as reported previously the hand packing is the weak link in the chain and the Proprietor has been asked to consider providing machinery for this. The complaints regarding smells from the cooking oils which were frequent soon after the factory started have now practically ceased.

(k) Unsound Food.

The amount of unsound food is shown in the tabulated statement at the end of the report. The normal method of disposal is at the refuse tip after treatment.

11. FOOD POISONING.

There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

12. HOUSING.(a) Slum Clearance.

During the year the Slum Clearance Programme was continued but as reported previously progress was slow. The 24 flats completed at Lymebourne Park for the Council helped with the rehousing problem, but the question of priorities is still difficult when the two parallel streams of applicants (Slum Clearance and Housing List) are competing for accommodation. The following table shows the rehousing during five years of both types of applicant:-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	TOTALS
Housing List	7	16	10	18	23	74
Slum Clearance ...	1	1	4	-	5	11
	8	17	14	18	28	85

The 1959 rehousing total of 28 included 24 new flats and this suggests that only 4 other vacancies occurred during the year, but it must be remembered that many of these new flat tenancies were due to transfers from existing houses and therefore the figure may be misleading due to the lag between change of tenancies. The true picture may not be shown until the 1960 figures are available.

It might also be of interest to members to see a "breakdown" of the type of accommodation in which the eleven slum clearance families were rehoused, making use of both old and new properties.

(a) Slum Clearance.

It will be seen from these figures that the accommodation was fairly evenly divided between older people in flats or bungalows and younger families in houses.

TYPES

	<u>1 BR FLAT</u>	<u>2 BR FLAT</u>	<u>1 BR BUNG</u>	<u>N.P.2 HOUSE</u>	<u>N.P.3 HOUSE</u>	<u>P.3. HOUSE</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
New Houses		3		2			5
Existing Houses	1		1		3	1	6

11

The actual properties dealt with as part of the Slum Clearance Programme were:-

1 - 6 Victoria Cottages.

These six houses which were contained in a Clearance Order were demolished and the three families rehoused.

2, East Street.

This house was closed as a result of action under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, whereby an "Undertaking" was accepted. The occupants were rehoused.

1 & 2, Mill Street.

The Compulsory Purchase Order on these two cottages was confirmed and became operative on 1st. June, 1959, but it was not until December 1959 that the two old ladies occupying No. 1 could be persuaded to move.

1, Thatched Cottage, Sidford.

An "Undertaking" was accepted, but the occupier was not able to be rehoused during the year.

4, Laburnum Cottages, Sidford.

An "Undertaking" was accepted, but the occupant was not rehoused by the end of the year.

Trow Cottage, Salcombe Regis.

This old 17th century cottage which was closed by "Undertaking" procedure was completely reconditioned during the year and provided with all modern amenities. It lent itself to this treatment because of its siting, being detached and with sufficient land. The cost of the reconditioning was high but has been well worth while. The Undertaking was therefore lifted when the work was satisfactorily completed.

(b) Improvement Grants.

The coming into operation of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 makes Standard Grants available by right providing certain basic conditions are fulfilled. This new scheme being simpler and hedged with fewer conditions has been gathering momentum since its inception and together with the existing Discretionary Grant is playing its part in encouraging owners to bring the older houses up to modern standards. The technical officer responsible is the Public Health Inspector. It is estimated that in the Urban District approximately 350 houses are at present without fixed baths.

(c) Building Programme.

The figures previously submitted showing the total building programme for the previous ten years is again included, having been found very useful. The figures for 1959 are as follows:-

(a) Built by the Local Authority (Lymebourne Flats)	24
(b) Built by Others - Cottington Flats	21
Houses	13
Bungalows	52
Conversions	4
TOTAL	114

TABLE SHOWING BUILDING DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS

NOTE Houses include flats where they are new erections, otherwise flats are included under conversions.

YEAR		By L.A.	By Others	Totals	Grand Total
1950	Houses	30	11	41	58
	Bungalows	NIL	1	1	
	Conversions	4	12	16	
1951	Houses	22	5	27	49
	Bungalows	NIL	1	1	
	Conversions	9	12	21	
1952	Houses	14	7	21	41
	Bungalows	4	1	5	
	Conversions	4	11	15	
1953	Houses	NIL	34	34	59
	Bungalows	NIL	13	13	
	Conversions	NIL	12	12	
1954	Houses	NIL	38	38	77
	Bungalows	NIL	33	33	
	Conversions	NIL	6	6	
1955	Houses	NIL	27	27	78
	Bungalows	NIL	50	50	
	Conversions	NIL	1	1	
1956	Houses	NIL	17	17	60
	Bungalows	NIL	38	38	
	Conversions	NIL	5	5	
1957	Houses	6	14	20	86
	Bungalows	NIL	53	53	
	Conversions	NIL	13	13	

TABLE SHOWING BUILDING DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS
(Continued)

YEAR		By L.A.	By Others	Totals	Grand Total
1958	Houses	NIL	12	12	72
	Bungalows	NIL	49	49	
	Conversions	NIL	11	11	
1959	Houses	24 (flats)	34 (21 flats)	58	114
	Bungalows	NIL	52	52	
	Conversions	NIL	4	4	
<u>Totals</u>	Houses	96	199	295	694
	Bungalows	4	291	295	
	Conversions	17	87	104	
		117	577		

13. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

As previously reported the standard at the Public Conveniences was maintained during the year despite labour difficulties of temporary female staff. As mentioned in my last report, the Market premises were badly in need of a "face lift" and the Council wisely approved expenditure to bring the premises up to modern standards by replacing obsolete fittings, tiling all surfaces and decorating in modern colours. The work was not in hand by the end of the year.

14. CAMPING.

There are three licensed sites in the district, all in the Salcombe Regis area. One large site of 50 caravans at Dunscombe is controlled by planning permission, as is also a small 3 caravan site at Slade Farm. The other site at Thorn Farm has an old Public Health Licence. All these sites are satisfactory which is usually the case with controlled sites. Most of the difficulties are with the seasonal campers.

15. RODENT CONTROL.

No difficulty has been experienced in dealing with infestations, and treatment has been dealt with promptly. Sewer treatment shows that there are small residual infestations in the same areas as revealed over successive years. This points to defects in the sewers in these areas allowing rats to gain entrance.

16. REFUSE DISPOSAL.

During the year the system at the refuse tip was greatly improved whereby a shute now carries the refuse to the bed of the goyle and the actual work of spreading is now done by a bulldozer instead of two men. Thus the fire nuisance caused by spontaneous combustion due to the depth

16. REFUSE DISPOSAL (Continued)

14.

of tipped material has been obviated and the arrangement works quite satisfactorily. Honiton Rural District Council now make use of the tipping facilities by arrangement with the Council.

17. FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.(a) Inspections.

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Number of</u>		<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
		<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	
1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	22	5	-	-
2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	47	6	-	-
3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	69	11	-	-

(b) Cases in which defects were found.

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred</u>		<u>Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted.</u>
			<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	
<u>Want of cleanliness</u>	1	1	-	-	-
<u>Overcrowding</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Unreasonable Temp.</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Inadequate Ventilation</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Ineffective drainage of floors</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u> (a) <u>Insufficient</u>	-	-	-	-	-

(b) Cases in which defects were found (continued).

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred</u>		<u>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</u>
			<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>					
(b) <u>Unsuitable or defective</u>	1	1	-	1	-
(c) <u>Not separate for sexes</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to outwork.</u>	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	1	-

18. DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.(a) Disinfection.

Bedding and clothing is disinfected in the Equifix Steam Disinfector at the Manstone Highway's Depot, and although the boiler and equipment are many years old it has still a useful life as repairs were carried out in 1955. It is felt that steam disinfection is still the best method for dealing with certain infected articles.

(b) Disinfestation.

Some of the modern insecticides and methods are a great improvement on the old, and it is found in practice that by applying techniques now available, a great saving in time is often effected and the results equally as good and often better than of yore.

(c) Verminous persons and premises.

There were no cases during the year.

General Inspections.

The following tables represent the summary of visits, inspections, interviews, etc. by the Public Health Department, and work carried out during the year.

1. GENERAL SANITATION.

	<u>No. of Visits.</u>
Water Supplies (Public)	18
(Private)	21
(Other visits)	-
Public Conveniences	23
Rivers, Streams and Sewers	14
Moveable dwellings	11
Accumulations and Deposits	8
Refuse collection and refuse tip	3
Dustbins	1
Pests	31
Rodent Control	30
Rodent Control (Sewers)	4
Animals improperly kept	8
Waste Food Order	9
Shops Act	-
Petroleum	19
Explosives	-
Rag Flock Act	-
Drainage	358
Interviews and appointments	148
Persons in need of care and attention	6

2. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Enquiries in cases of I.D.	-
Enquiries in cases of other diseases	-
Visits re disinfection and disinfection	18

3. HOUSING.

Visits under Housing Act, 1957 etc. for purposes of survey (Redevelopment Area)	5
Visits under Public Health and Housing Acts (excluding above)	38
Visits under Rent Act, 1957	10
Visits re dirty or verminous premises	1
Visits to Council Houses	54
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	48
Visits re Improvement Grants	127
Total Number of Housing Visits	283

4. DRAINAGE.

The figures below do not include Council Houses or other buildings built or maintained under the directions of the Surveyor, but include all other new buildings and adaptations to existing buildings.

No. of complete new house drainage systems	65
No. of house drainage systems repaired, relaid or extended	39
No. of new water closets	123
No. of water closets discontinued	6
No. of drains tested (complete or renovated systems)	178
No. of drains cleansed	2
No. of cesspools discontinued	1
No. of septic tanks installed	5

5. WATER.

Visits

17.

Bacteriological samples taken	15
Chemical samples taken	3

6. DISINFECTION.

No. of premises disinfected after notifiable disease	2
No. of premises disinfected after T.B.	2
* No. of premises disinfected for other reasons	12
Lots of bedding or clothing disinfected after notifiable disease	2
Lots of bedding or clothing disinfected after T.B. ..	2
* Lots of bedding or clothing disinfected for other reasons	6

* Includes disinfection.

7. FOOD PREMISES.

	Number	Number of Visits
Hotels and Guest Houses	39	25
Restaurants and Cafes	22	27
Fish and Chip Shops	2	1
Butchers	12	14
Bakers and Confectioners	10	9
Dairies	6	6
Fishmongers	3	4
Grocers	16	16
Greengrocers	8	7
General Provisions	14	3
Sweets and Confectionery	12	-
School Canteens & Boarding Schools	5	2
Food Factory	1	1
Mobile Shops	1	1
Ice Cream Premises	29	-
Public Houses (excluding Hotels with Licence)	16	-
Visits re Unsound Food		23
Market	1	9

Number of Statutory Notices served - NIL

The following amounts of unsound food were examined and condemned on voluntary surrender for destruction or salvage during the year:-

Meat and Meat Products.

145 lbs. Beef.
95 lbs. Tinned Ham.
140 lbs. Meat or Meat Products (tins).

Fruit and Vegetables.

93 lbs (tins).

Milk and Milk Products.

2 lbs (tins).

Fish and Fish Products.

4½ lbs Salmon.
2 lbs Peeled Prawns.

Other Foodstuffs.

Nil.

As a result of a fire at a Grocer's Shop it became necessary to inspect the foodstuffs and the following is a list of the items condemned:-

Meat and Meat Products.

112 lbs. Bacon.
32½ lbs. Ham.
14 dozen Eggs.
145 Jars of Paste.

Fruit and Vegetables.

20 lbs. Prunes.
44 Packets Dried Fruit.
48 Tins.

Milk Products.

42 lbs Cheese.
9 Jars of Cream.
25 Packets Cheese Spread.

Cereals.

252 Packets.

Biscuits.

28 Tins.
329 Packets.

Fats.

106 lbs Margarine.
155 lbs Butter.
135 lbs Cooking Fat.
6 lbs Dripping.
24 Packets Suet.

Miscellaneous.

370 Packets Jellies.
72 Packets Tea.
56 lbs Flour.
40 Packets Soups.

ROBERT
B. B. B.

3. Inventory

The following amounts of goods and materials were received and delivered as indicated in the following schedule of receipts and deliveries during the year:-

Food and Drink Products

100 lbs. Sugar.
100 lbs. Flour.
100 lbs. Butter or Margarine (100%).

Meat and Poultry

100 lbs. Meat.

Meat and Poultry Products

100 lbs. Meat.

Meat and Poultry Products

100 lbs. Meat.
100 lbs. Poultry Products.

Other Products

100 lbs.

As a result of a fire at a grocery store it became necessary to inspect the stockpiles and the following is a list of the items destroyed:-

Food and Drink Products

100 lbs. Sugar.
100 lbs. Flour.
100 Eggs.
100 Jars of Pickles.

Meat and Poultry

100 lbs.
100 Poultry.

Other

Fruit and Vegetables

100 lbs. Fruit.
100 Pounds of Vegetables.
100 lbs.

100 lbs. Margarine.
100 lbs. Butter.
100 lbs. Cooking Fat.
100 lbs. Lard.
100 Pounds of Fat.

Other Products

100 lbs. Soap.
100 Jars of Cream.
100 Pounds of Cheese Products.

Miscellaneous

100 Pounds of Lard.
100 Pounds of Fat.
100 lbs. Flour.
100 Pounds of Sugar.

Other

100 Pounds.