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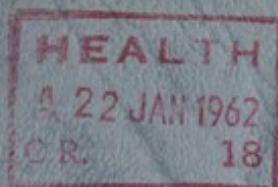
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SOWERBY BRIDGE

Urban District Council

Annual
REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(N. E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.)

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(Wm. E. FOSTER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.P.H.I.A.)

for the Year

1960





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URBAN DISTRICT OF SOWERBY BRIDGE

1960-61

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor H. HAIGH, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Councillor W. GREENWOOD, J.P.

Members of the Council:

Coun. Mrs. E. Bagshaw

" G.A. Benbow, J.P.

" K. Burke

" A. Butterworth

" W. Crossfield, J.P.

" E. English

" L.E. Godfrey

" C. Grenshaw

" W. Hardy

" M. Heaton

" W. Hoyle

Coun. Miss E. Judson

" I. Lickley

" E. Lumb, J.P.

" C.W. Maude, J.P.

" A. Pettengell

" Mrs. K.M.I. Rothwell

" N. Sutcliffe

" W.F. Turner

" C. Uttley

" A. Wilcock

" Miss L. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Members of the Health Committee:

Coun. G.A. Benbow, J.P. (Chairman)

" A. Pettengell (Vice-Chairman)

" K. Burke

" W. Greenwood, J.P.

" C. Grenshaw

" W. Hardy

" M. Heaton

" W. Hoyle

" Miss L. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Sowerby Bridge U.D.C.

Medical Officer of Health:

NORMAN E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

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

Senior Public Health Inspector:

W.E. FOSTER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.P.H.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

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

West Riding County Council

Preventive Medical Services: Health Division 19

Staff with duties in the Sowerby Bridge District:-

Divisional Medical Officer:

As above (M.O.H.)

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer:

+ GLADYS V. BRADSHAW, M.B., B.S., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer, and Medical Officer to Sowerby Bridge
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics:

+ C.A. CRAIG, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Health Visitors:

+ M.O. FORRESTER, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M. SOUTHWELL, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant Health Visitors:

B. GREENALGH, S.R.N., S.C.M. (transferred to Midwifery 7.3.60)
S. COCKCROFT, S.R.N. (commenced 12.7.60)

Tuberculosis Health Visitor:

+ B.G. NICHOLL, S.R.N.

Mental Health Social Worker:

+ E.C. WROE, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.N., H.V.

Midwives:

+ M. HOLDEN, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Relief Midwife for whole Divisional Area)
+ A.B. HOBSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., Queen's Nurse.

Home Nurses:

A. HOWARTH, S.R.N., S.C.M.
A. KLEINDIENST, S.R.N., R.F.N., Queen's Nurse
+ A.M. SCHOLLICK, S.R.N., S.C.M., Queen's Nurse
+ K. BOTTOMLEY, S.R.N.
+ E.S. SIDDALL, S.R.N., S.C.M., Queen's Nurse (Relief Home Nurse for whole
Divisional Area)

+ Also have duties in other parts of this Division.

Clerical Staff:-

Senior Divisional Clerk:

H. MARSHALL, A.C.I.S.

Deputy Senior Divisional Clerk:

Miss J. SUTCLIFFE

Clerks:

Miss P. JACKSON
Mrs. M. REDFERN
Mrs. J.E. SUTCLIFFE (resigned 31.5.60)
Mrs. B. PRIESTLEY (nee Marshall, resigned 3.10.60)
Miss M.J. CROWTHER
T. WALTON
R. WILD
Mrs. C. ROBERTS (nee Shann)
Miss E.V. SAGAR
Miss J. EARNSHAW (commenced 25.7.60)

Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee

Consultant Staff

Chest Physician:

BERTRAM MANN, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H.

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon:

W.M.S. IRONSIDE, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), F.A.C.C.P.

Ophthalmic Surgeon:

S. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.

Orthopaedic Surgeon:

G. HYMAN, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre,
Todmorden.

December, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the fourteenth Annual Report since the inception of the scheme of Divisional Health Administration.

Under the Divisional Health Scheme your Medical Officer of Health is also Divisional Medical Officer for the West Riding County Council's local health services and has similar functions in the Borough of Todmorden, the Urban Districts of Ripponden and Hebden Royd, and the Rural District of Hepton. The scheme has led to a closer integration of local authority health services.

The vital statistics for 1960 show that the birth rate has remained at the relatively high figure of 17.0, whilst the death rate has fallen to 12.6, a very satisfactory position for a community which has been considered to have a disproportionate number of old people. The infant mortality rate has been above average for the past four years, but in 1960 it fell dramatically to 6.6, a figure which must represent an irreducible minimum until the causes of congenital abnormality are discovered and overcome.

The causes of death are for the most part those associated with old age, heart diseases accounting for almost half the deaths and the most important factor being coronary artery disease. In 1960, lung cancer was responsible for the deaths of 17 Sowerby Bridge residents, a fourfold increase over previous years. From being an uncommon condition only a few years ago, cancer of the lung now ranks among the major causes of death, appearing on more than 20,000 death certificates each year. The association between this disease and heavy consumption of cigarettes is widely recognised but, as yet, the smoking habits of the community show that it does not appreciate, or does not want to appreciate, the danger it is facing.

It is also considered that people living in towns are more prone to cancer of the lung and other respiratory diseases than are country dwellers. There is no doubt that atmospheric pollution is a very real and pressing problem in Sowerby Bridge, situated as it is in a narrow valley with so little dispersal of its smoke that there is, in the centre, an annual deposit of the order of 200 tons to the square mile. The local factories have shown a considerable improvement recently and will have to comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, 1956 in the near future. British Railways also have plans for modernising their equipment and the number of steam locomotives operating on the line through the Calder Valley will soon show a marked reduction. Another important source of smoke is the domestic chimney and there are powers under the Clean Air Act to encourage the development of Smoke Control Areas. A scheme was prepared as a result of which the whole of Sowerby Bridge would become free of

domestic smoke by stages, and in 1960 the preliminary work was carried out on the first zone. The Council then decided to defer action and smoke control in Sowerby Bridge is at present in abeyance.

There were no significant outbreaks of infectious diseases in the course of the year. Sporadic cases of scarlet fever, measles and whooping cough were notified, and in addition there were 14 cases of tuberculosis. The control of tuberculosis remains a problem, and every effort is made to investigate the source of each case, and an excellent liaison is maintained with the chest clinic so that the health visitor can ensure that proper precautions are being taken at home and that the patient receives any necessary treatment. All family contacts are examined and offered periodical appointments with the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit for some years after notification as a precaution. There is a scheme whereby the County Council authorises the provision of free milk, bedding, shelters and other necessities upon the recommendation of the chest physician. The district council plays its part by improving the housing conditions of such patients, and priority points for the tenancy of a council house may be allocated because of overcrowding or on medical grounds. Active steps are taken to protect all young people at the age of 13 years or so, in addition to family contacts, by the use of B.C.G. vaccine which confers a considerable measure of immunity. As an additional safeguard to the young, all employees of the Education Department are subject to an X-ray examination on appointment and are offered regular appointments with the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit.

The health and welfare services provided by the County Council continued to function in a satisfactory manner throughout the year. The home help service was largely utilised in the service of the elderly and an analysis of the work of the district nurses shows that a considerable amount of their time, too, is devoted to the care of the aged. A chiropody service has been provided for persons over the age of 70 years for some time by the Sowerby Bridge Old People's Welfare Committee and, from February 1960, this organisation agreed to operate a service on the lines proposed by the County Council. Chiropody treatment is now available to suitable persons of pensionable age, and is free of charge. This has resulted in a considerable increase in the number of patients and also in the work undertaken by those organising the scheme, which is continuing to expand.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council for their consideration, patience and co-operation, and to thank Mr. Foster, Public Health Inspector, for his kindness and efforts to give me the sanitary circumstances of the area, and indeed to all your officials with whom I made contacts, personal and official.

I am, yours faithfully,

N.E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I

Vital Statistics

STATISTICS

Area (Census 1951)	5,763 acres
Population, Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population, mid-1960	17,870
Population (Census 1951)	18,770
Number of dwelling-houses	6,765
Rateable Value (1.4.60)	£158,234
Product of a Penny Rate (year 1960-61)	£596

Summary of Vital Statistics

	Total	M	F		
Live Births	304	154	150	Birth Rate per 1,000 population:	17.0
Still Births	5	3	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births:	16.2
Total Live & Still Births	309	157	152		
Deaths of Infants				Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births:	
Under 1 year (total)	2	-	2	total	6.6
Under 1 year (legitimate)	2	-	2	legitimate	6.6
Under 1 year (illegitimate)	-	-	-	illegitimate	-
Under 4 weeks	2	-	2	Neo-natal mortality rate	6.6
Illegitimate Live Births	17	8	9	Percentage of total live births:	5.59
Maternal Deaths (associated with pregnancy or child- birth)	-	-	-	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:	-
All Deaths	225	113	112	Death Rate per 1,000 population:	12.6

CAUSES OF DEATH IN SOWERBY BRIDGE U.D.

	1959		1960	
	M	F	M	F
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	-	2
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	5	5	3	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	-	14	3
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	3	-	2
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	1	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	10	15	13
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	3	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	30	7	19
18. Coronary disease, angina	33	29	25	33
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	2	4
20. Other heart disease	15	33	11	11
21. Other circulatory disease	3	3	4	1
22. Influenza	3	3	-	-
23. Pneumonia	4	5	7	4
24. Bronchitis	4	5	5	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	-	2	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	2	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	2	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	6	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	11	1	7
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	3	-
34. All other accidents	3	6	2	3
35. Suicide	1	2	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	113	156	113	112

Principal Vital Statistics for the year 1960

Based on Registrar General's Figures

	Sowerby Bridge U.D.	Rippon- den U.D.	Hebden Royd U.D.	Hepton R.D.	Todmor- den M.B.	Aggregate W. Riding U.D.	W. Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provisional Figures)
BIRTH RATE:- (per 1,000 estimated population)	17.0	11.9	15.2	16.2	13.8	16.5	16.9	17.1
DEATH RATES:- (All per 1,000 estimated home population)								
All Causes	12.6	11.1	14.0	14.6	13.5	12.2	11.5	11.5
Infective and parasitic diseases +	0.11	-	-	-	0.06	0.06	0.06	+
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	0.06	-	-	-	-	0.06	0.06	0.07
Other forms of tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cancer	2.91	1.59	3.03	1.26	2.58	2.10	1.98	2.16
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1.45	2.58	1.67	2.27	1.07	1.97	1.85	+
Heart and circulatory diseases †	5.09	3.18	6.48	6.82	6.0	4.68	4.35	+
Respiratory Diseases:- // (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1.01	0.99	0.52	1.52	1.74	1.25	1.17	+
INFANT MORTALITY:- (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	6.6	33.3	13.8	31.3	20.3	22.5	22.5	21.7
MATERNAL MORTALITY:- (Deaths of mothers associated with pregnancy or childbirth per 1,000 live and still-births)	-	-	-	-	-	0.70	0.73	0.39

+ Combined death rate from syphilitic diseases, diphtheria, whooping cough, meningococcal infections, acute poliomyelitis, measles and other infective and parasitic diseases (items 3 - 9 incl. on page 8).

† Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system (items 18 - 21 incl. on page 8).

// Combined death rate from influenza, pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system (items 22 - 25 incl. on page 8).

SECTION II

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(A) Hospitals

There is no hospital in Sowerby Bridge. Patients requiring hospital treatment are referred as a rule to hospitals under the administration of the Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee (National Health Service). Included in this group are the Halifax General Hospital, Royal Halifax Infirmary, St. John's Hospital (for the aged and chronic sick), Northowram Hall Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Todmorden Fielden Hospital (for long stay medical cases in children) and Todmorden Stansfield View Hospital (for mentally subnormal patients).

Maternity beds are only available at the Halifax General Hospital. Priority in booking is given to abnormal cases, mothers expecting their first child, and mothers with unsatisfactory home conditions.

Special hospitals (e.g. Mental Hospitals, special Orthopaedic Hospitals, Tuberculosis Sanatoria, etc.) outside the Halifax area are available when required; they are situated in various parts of the so-called "Leeds Hospitals Region" which in fact extends into all three Ridings.

(B) Ambulance Service

The County Ambulance Service (Divisional Depot at Brighouse - telephone Brighouse 840) covers this district. Arrangements also exist with the Halifax County Borough Health Department for the use of their ambulances for the transfer of patients to and from the hospitals in Halifax.

(C) Laboratory Facilities

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Services (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) at laboratories in Wakefield and Bradford, and by the Regional Blood Transfusion Service at Leeds.

(D) Issue of Anti-Toxin, etc.

Supplies of diphtheria and tetanus anti-toxin are available at the Northowram Hall Hospital and the Royal Halifax Infirmary for issue to medical practitioners requiring them. By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board supplies of tetanus anti-toxin are also kept at the Divisional Health Office, The Medical Centre, Todmorden, for the use of local medical practitioners in the Division.

A supply of re-agents for diphtheria and whooping cough immunisation is also available free of charge to private practitioners who have undertaken to participate in the West Riding County Council's schemes of immunisation. Poliomyelitis vaccine is also issued, as available, in accordance with the approved arrangements.

SECTION III

W.R.C.C. PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

(A) Clinics and Treatment Centres

Infant Welfare:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge	Tuesdays)	
	Thursdays)	
The Institute, Luddenden Foot	Fridays)	
		)	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge	Mondays)	
The Institute, Luddenden Foot	Alternate)	
	Fridays	)	10 a.m. to 12 noon

School Clinics:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge			
(a) Minor Ailments	Mondays	)	10 a.m. to 12 noon
(b) Ophthalmic	As required)	
(c) Ear, Nose and Throat	As required)	
(d) Artificial Sunlight	Tuesdays	)	by appointment
	Fridays)	

Smallpox Vaccination:

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Whooping Cough Immunisation:

Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge
 The Institute, Luddenden Foot
 At any Minor Ailments or Welfare Clinic, by arrangement with Medical Officer.

(B) Care of Mothers and Young Children

Sowerby Bridge and Luddenden Foot Ante-Natal Clinics:

Number of expectant mothers attending during the year	.. .. .	168
Total number of attendances	.. .. .	823

Child Welfare Clinics:

Total number of children who attended during the year	.. .. .	641
Total number of attendances	.. .. .	4,444

Home Visiting of Infants:

Total number of live births to Sowerby Bridge mothers	.. .. .	307
Number of first visits to children under 1 year	.. .. .	305
Total number of visits to children under 1 year	.. .. .	1,154
Total number of visits to children aged 1-2 years	.. .. .	664
Total number of visits to children aged 2-5 years	.. .. .	1,031

Provision of Welfare Foods, etc.:

National dried milk, cod liver oil, orange juice, etc., are distributed at the Centres, and a variety of brands of dried milk and other infant foods are also sold at the Child Welfare Centres for the convenience of mothers.

Care of Premature Infants:

Special equipment and nursing staff is available for use in the home in cases requiring them.

Provision of Maternity Outfits:

These are provided free to mothers preparing for confinement in their own homes.

(C) Professional Nursing in the Home

The County Council are responsible for the home nursing and midwifery services in Sowerby Bridge. There were four full-time Home Nurses and two full-time Midwives employed in 1960. Two of the Home Nurses and the two Midwives, however, did not work wholly in the Sowerby Bridge area, also having duties in other parts of the Divisional Area.

Midwifery Service:

Number of home confinements	.. .. .	113
Number of hospital confinements	.. .. .	194

The Sowerby Bridge midwives are trained in the administration of gas and air analgesia and are provided with the necessary equipment. Analgesia is available to all mothers desiring it subject to satisfactory medical examination by a doctor.

(D) Health Visiting

The duties of the Health Visitor are combined with those of School Nurse. In pursuance of the National Health Service Act the scope of this service includes home visiting for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of children, and persons (including adults) suffering from illness, and of expectant and nursing mothers. The Health Visitor also gives advice in the home as to measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

(E) Home Helps

The recruitment of suitable women to be Home Helps again proved to be difficult. During 1960, 75 cases were attended by Home Helps as compared with 78 cases the previous year, and the total number of hours worked was 10,088.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, the County Council provides domestic help for 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."

Of the 75 cases attended in 1960, Home Helps were provided for the following reasons:-
9 maternity and 66 chronic sick.

(F) Care and After Care

Special provisions are in operation for the care and after care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defect, venereal disease, and other illnesses.

(G) School Health Service

Number of schools in district	.. .. .	16
Number of children in attendance at school at end of 1960	.. ..	2,857
Number of children examined at school during 1960	.. .. .	1,692
this figure being made up as follows:-		
Routine examinations	.. .. .	1,343
Re-examinations	.. .. .	349
Number of children referred for treatment	.. .. .	54

(H) Immunisation and Vaccination

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and vaccination against smallpox may be done either at the clinic or by the family doctor.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation, 1960

Age	0-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Began and completed Injections 1960	186	28	7	2	7	15	17	8	11	9	5	1	-	-	-	
Total																296
Immunised in previous years re-treated 1960	-	-	-	-	4	77	64	27	37	38	37	18	-	-	-	
Total																302

(ii) Immunisation in relation to child population

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time to 31.12.60

Age at 31.12.60 i.e. born in year	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total under 15
No. immunised	75	161	129	154	158	1,104	1,315	3,096

Whooping cough Immunisation

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who completed a full course of Whooping cough immunisation, 1960

Age at final injection	Under 6 months	6 months to 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	Over 4 years	Total
No. immunised	64	121	28	10	1	6	230

(ii) Immunisation in relation to child population

Number of children at 31st December, 1960, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date.

Age 31.12.60 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1960	1 1959	2 1958	3 1957	4 1956	5 - 9 1951-55	10 - 14 1946-50	Total
No. immunised	86	150	112	169	148	449	36	1,150

During the year there were 9 notified cases of whooping cough. Two of the children concerned had completed the full course of immunisation.

Vaccination against Smallpox, 1960

63 people were vaccinated against smallpox during the year, 30 of whom were children under the age of one year. Many of the children were vaccinated at the Child Welfare Centres at Sowerby Bridge and Luddenden Foot.

SECTION IV

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Summary of Notifications received in year 1960

Disease	Total cases notified
Scarlet fever	9
Whooping cough	9
Acute Poliomyelitis	1
Measles	14
Diphtheria	-
Dysentery	2
Meningococcal infection	-
Acute pneumonia	8
Smallpox	-
Acute encephalitis	-
Enteric or typhoid fever	-
Paratyphoid fevers	-
Erysipelas	1
Food poisoning	1
Puerperal pyrexia	-
Ophthalmic neonatorum	-
Pulmonary tuberculosis	13
Other forms of tuberculosis	1
	<hr/>
	59
	<hr/>

Tuberculosis

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis
in Sowerby Bridge in 1960

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Totals
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
No. on Register on 1st Jan. 1960	67	50	117	15	11	26	143
No. first notified during 1960	8	5	13	-	-	-	13
No. of cases restored to register	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of cases added to register other than by notification	2	3	5	1	-	1	6
No. removed from register during 1960:-							
(a) Died	2	-	2	-	-	-	2
(b) Removed from district	2	4	6	1	-	1	7
(c) Recovered	4	4	8	-	1	1	9
No. remaining on Register 31.12.60	69	50	119	15	10	25	144

REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year ending 31st December 1960

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee
of the Urban District of Sowerby Bridge

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on (a) the sanitary conditions of the area, (b) the housing conditions including overcrowding, (c) the inspection and supervision of food, for the year ending 31st December 1960, and for the cleansing services for the year ending 31st March 1961.

One of the greatest difficulties in writing an Annual Report is that so much of it is past history. Many of the problems under review have resolved themselves, and others equally complex have presented themselves.

As in other years every effort has been made to present the year's work as concisely as possible, each section being set out separately with statistics and tables where necessary. Under each heading every endeavour has been made to give a picture of the position at the year end, pointing out difficulties or anomalies which exist, and improvements which could receive due consideration. As each item is dealt with separately, it is only proposed to make general observations or comments on specific items.

Considerable progress has been made during the year, but there have also been disappointments. The first subject which comes under review is usually the private water supplies, and here again the progress has been quite considerable especially in the extension of mains in the outer districts. We have still quite a considerable number of private water supplies, as is shown in the report under this heading, but there are two of the larger supplies which have given rise for concern. These have been (a) the Hubberton supplies, and (b) Booth, with Goitside. Both supplies have been surveyed in great detail and every effort should be made to replace these at a very early date. It was pleasing to note that as a result of meetings and negotiations in the Booth area there is every possibility of the Town's supply being extended to cover this entire area during 1961.

It has been most fortunate that the Local Authority has had its own Waterworks Department, as a joint Committee has been in operation for some considerable time and has dealt with many matters which are the concern of both Departments. With the suggestion of grouping under a joint Water Board, it is sincerely hoped that the good relationship and understanding of local problems which existed in the past will continue, and that it will be possible to

have joint discussions which will benefit both the Authority and the Water Board.

With the improvement of water supplies and extension of sewerage systems, improvements in sanitary conditions have resulted. The pails are decreasing and at long last both the privy and the ashpit have disappeared. In such times as these the pail should not exist, but nevertheless it does, and due to insufficient water supply or inadequate disposal those remaining are becoming increasingly difficult to convert. All the pails easily convertible have been dealt with, and we are now faced with the hard core of the problem. Approximately 360 pails remain, 160 of these may be converted, but with the difficulties involved the cost will inevitably be higher than those already completed, and it may be that under these circumstances the Council's contribution under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, may have to be reviewed. The pails, as explained under the section dealing with public cleansing, have to be emptied weekly. This work is both filthy and objectionable, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain labour for this type of work. The pail will in all probability be with us for some considerable time, but it is felt that a very vigorous policy should be pursued to rid the district of such a primitive system.

Whilst the pail is objectionable, equally so is the joint outside W.C. This joint accommodation, usually shared between two or three families, is as out-dated as the pail. Such conditions should not exist, and if property is to be allowed a reasonable life then separate sanitary accommodation should, as far as possible, be provided.

The Public Cleansing Department has continued to work satisfactorily. The labour problem has not been a real difficulty and accordingly apart from holidays and sickness the seven day collection, for the most part of the district, has continued. I have made mention under this heading in the report of the dispensable paper bag system of refuse collection. The system is ideal from many aspects and has been adopted by certain Authorities, but to Authorities with a high yield of bins per man per day the increase in cost could be a deciding factor. To Authorities with a return of below 125 bins per man per day, it has been estimated that the rate of collection with the dispensable container could be doubled (250 per day, or 100% increase), which could be an attraction where labour problems exist, but to Authorities where the increased yield will be only say 50%, the proposition is not so attractive. It is felt that this system has a definite future, but many issues are involved, and before a decision could be made from the financial angle it would be necessary to have first hand experience by setting up a small pilot scheme of say 500 containers in order to compare the costs.

Reference has been made to the communal bin. This type of accommodation, which has given rise to many complaints and given a considerable amount of trouble over the years, is completely unsatisfactory. It is usually infested with vermin, is badly abused and mostly resembles the out-dated ashpit. In order to overcome difficulties with this type of accommodation, twice weekly collection has been undertaken, but this still is not the answer. The remedy in such instances where space is limited is extremely difficult. Internal refuse accommodation has been suggested but turned down. This, however, may not be the complete answer, but from experience where internal accommodation does exist it is without doubt a substantial improvement on the communal bin system.

The progress regarding Smoke Control was disappointing, especially after so much effort and time had been devoted to the survey and reporting of this very important public health matter. The domestic smoke problem was postponed for twelve months. In view of this, additional efforts

were put into the industrial problem, and renewals and improvements to boiler plants have been most encouraging and should prove to be a substantial contribution to the cleaning of the atmosphere. The industrial problem is not yet solved, but with the work completed and that in hand, together with the consultants' reports on other out-dated plants, the industrial problem should for the most part be solved by 1963. There have been suggestions put forward that the Clean Air Act gives little or no control over the emission of smoke from the industrial furnace. Nothing is further from the truth. Permitted smoke regulations made under the Clean Air Act set out the amount of black or dark smoke which may be emitted during specific periods, together with penalties for any contravention of these regulations, which are a great improvement on the Byelaws which were already in existence regarding the emission of black smoke within the Urban District.

The housing position has been referred to on numerous occasions and has been the subject of several detailed reports. The problems which the Council have to face are very considerable for a small Authority. In 1956 we saw the commencement of the first 5-year phase of a 20-year housing programme, and consequently at the end of 1960 we are in a position to review this first phase. The number of houses included for the whole programme was 760, which was a figure substantially lower than that originally submitted. The target set for the first 5 years was 175, and full details of the progress are to be found under the Housing Statistics. From this one can see that the period's work was disappointing, and consequently a considerable number of houses are to be carried forward and included with the 185 houses which should be dealt with between 1961 and 1965. However, the programmes which are in hand at the end of the year suggest that there is every possibility of not only completing the second 5-year programme, but also making up for the slow start in the first period.

Enquiries are received at the Department quite regularly from owners, occupiers and other interested parties regarding the life of certain properties within the area, and on the other hand efforts are made to meet and acquaint the larger property owners of the Council's proposals in this respect. The properties referred to are almost without exception in the 20-year programme, and the Department endeavours to give a reasonably accurate picture of the position, but this becomes increasingly difficult when the housing programmes are behind schedule. Each 5-year programme should, as far as possible, be reasonably accurate and it should be possible with some assurance to state when certain properties will be dealt with within that period. Properties outside the immediate 5-year programme present other difficulties, but it must be disturbing if improvements are delayed or grants rejected by information which is given in all good faith, but which proves to be inaccurate due to the housing programme being delayed. It is fully appreciated that delays in many instances are due to circumstances entirely outside the control of the Authority.

In an old industrial area such as Sowerby Bridge there is an ever increasing amount of work to be carried out. Unfortunately it has not been possible to adequately cover the wide variety of duties for which the Department is responsible. Greater attention should be given to industrial smoke observations; more time should be devoted to the food shops of the district, and the factories. A more vigorous policy on the abolition of the pail and the improvement of the joint sanitary accommodation should be pursued, but it is not possible to carry out this work, together with the work already undertaken and the routine work of the Department, with the 1939 establishment of 2 qualified Inspectors.

In addition to the general work of the Department, special schemes are required from time to time and this, together with new legislation, puts an ever increasing burden on the Department as a whole.

During the year arrangements were made for the Public Health Committee to visit one of the large Authorities in Yorkshire. The hosts on this occasion were Sheffield, where it was possible to see at first hand the smoke problems and how they had coped with the same and created Smoke Control Areas. A visit was also made to a new housing site where re-development has been carried out on compulsory purchase sites. The visit to Sheffield was followed by a visit to one of the large factories where appliances for Smoke Control Areas were manufactured and other interesting work on smoke control was carried out. Visits of this nature are not only interesting and most instructive, but they show what can be achieved by enthusiasm, careful planning and progressive policy.

In conclusion I must thank the Chairman, Councillor G.A. Benbow, J.P., and the Members of the Committee for their continued help and interest in the work. I also express my gratitude to Dr. Gordon for his guidance. My thanks are also due to the Staff of the Department, Mr. J. Goulden, and also the Clerical Staff for their loyalty and team work; also the Foreman and the employees of the Cleansing Department, who have carried out the objectionable work of cleansing and disposal of refuse in such an efficient manner.

In addition I would like to thank all the Officials of the Council who have so kindly co-operated in supplying general information and statistics for this report.

I remain, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

W.E. FOSTER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.P.H.I.A.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

Public Supply

The Halifax Corporation water supply, which is distributed throughout the majority of the district, continues to give satisfaction. Samples for both chemical and bacteriological examination have been obtained and have been highly satisfactory. During the year 4 samples of water were obtained for bacteriological examination and 1 for chemical examination.

In Norland the public supply is owned and distributed by the Urban District, whilst in Mill Bank and Triangle the water is supplied from Ripponden U.D.C. These public supplies have given complete satisfaction, as both chemical and bacteriological examination has shown, and further samples which were obtained for plumbo solvency have shown no trace of lead absorption.

The total number of dwellings supplied at the year end were as follows:-

Halifax Supply	..	..	..	..	..	4,921
Norland	..	..	..	..	..	210
Ripponden	..	..	..	..	..	165

making a total of 5,296, which accounts for approximately 79% of the properties in the area.

The progress of extending the water mains has continued during the year, and the following work has been undertaken:-

- (1) Extension of the main to parts of Luddenden Foot, Sowerby, Midgley and Iriangle.
- (2) Completion of the main extension to Boulderclough and a new extension to Finkle Street.

At the end of the year the Rochdale Road extension was in progress.

Private Supplies

The private water supplies continue to serve some 21% of the district, the smaller supplies covering approximately 8%, whilst the larger ones cover 13%.

The majority of the smaller supplies are reasonably satisfactory, and only in isolated cases do they give cause for concern. The larger supplies covering small communities are in a different category, and although for many years they have given very little trouble they are steadily deteriorating both in quality and quantity. This has been due to a number of reasons, perhaps the most important one being the increased costs resulting in lack of maintenance. In addition, the insufficiency has been brought to light by the increased use of water due to the general improvement in sanitary conditions.

Many of the larger supplies are now disappearing, and these include the Mill Bank supply, Triangle and Blackwood Hall, and several in Luddenden, Midgley and Sowerby, and this year the Boulderclough and Finkle Street supplies for the most part have disappeared.

The supplies at Booth, including Goitside, and at Hubberton are perhaps two of the larger supplies giving the greatest cause for concern, especially the latter supply. The Hubberton area is covered by three separate supplies, each from time to time has been both unsatisfactory and insufficient, resulting in many complaints. The sanitary conditions in this area cannot be improved with the existing supplies. A survey was therefore undertaken, and it was most surprising to find that less than 30% of the owners in the area appear interested in the extension of the Town's supply to cover this area.

The survey was undertaken mainly by reason of the fact that in similar circumstances and often after complaints had been received and the main extended, there was a great reluctance on the part of many of the owners to connect to the new main, although a maximum charge of £20, as provided for in the Public Health Act, 1936 and the Water Act, 1945, was laid down. In view of the fact that the amount of extension that could be undertaken was limited, a survey of the Booth and Goitside area was made, and at the request of many owners and occupiers a series of meetings arranged, which resulted in the preparation of plans for the extension of the supply in 1961 to the area.

The programme for the extension of the Town's water supply must, by its very complex nature, be a long term project. Looking back, progress appears to have been very slow, but it is surprising how much work has been accomplished over the years and the improvements which have been carried out. Much of the property in these outer districts is substandard, although the fabric is reasonably good, but the life of the property will be greatly increased if the sanitary conditions are improved, and to do this a suitable and sufficient water supply is the main essential.

During the year 89 samples of water from the various private supplies have been obtained, and of these 44 were unsatisfactory and 45 satisfactory. 2 samples of water were obtained for chemical analysis and were satisfactory. Details of the sampling which has been undertaken are set out in the following table.

District	Bacteriological Examination		
	Sat.	U/Sat.	Total
Luddenden Foot	8	13	21
Midgley	10	7	17
Triangle	16	6	22
Sowerby	6	16	22
Norland	3	2	5
Sowerby Bridge	2	-	2
Sowerby Bridge Public Supply	4	-	4
Norland Public Supply	2	-	2
Totals ..	51	44	95

Drainage and Sewerage

More than 90% of the houses within the Urban District are connected to the Council's sewers. This totals some 6,292 houses. Of the remaining houses, approximately 135 have satisfactory private drainage, whilst 338 houses have drainage which is not in all respects satisfactory.

During the year sewers have been extended or improved in the Norland Town area, Sparkhouse Lane, Norland, Wakefield Road and Sowerby New Road. The Norland Town scheme has enabled the cesspools in this area to be discontinued and has afforded adequate drainage for many of the properties in the Norland area, which will allow a general improvement in the sanitary conditions. At the year end the sewers at Old Causeway and Wilmur Mount were under construction and the West Street relief sewer was awaiting approval.

The parts of the district which are not adequately covered are the remote parts of the area including many farms and small isolated blocks of property.

The general maintenance on the sewers has continued, and although certain parts of the district still require an adequate sewer, the amount of work undertaken in this direction is reducing these considerably.

Routine work has continued in the Department on the re-construction and the testing of private drainage systems. During the year 414 inspections and visits were made in relation to this work, and in all cases the water test was undertaken. In addition to the work of inspection, the re-construction and repair of drainage, 43 choked drains were attended to under the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, no charge being made for this work.

Sewage Disposal

The Luddenden Foot Joint Sewerage Board have completely re-constructed and modernised their works, and 4 percolating filters are now in continuous operation. The works are now receiving and treating trade effluent from certain parts of the area very satisfactorily.

The sewage disposal works at Milner Royd continue to give satisfaction, and the matter of trade effluent is still under consideration.

Sanitary Accommodation

We have come quite a long way in the abolition of the pail and the privy. Fortunately, at long last, we have seen the end of the privy but the pail is still with us. These, happily, are decreasing in numbers but approximately 360 pails remain.

Conversions during the year total some 47. This figure is quite encouraging, as we are now approaching the hard core of the problem. All conversions, where both sewer and water supply are readily available, have been carried out, and whilst sewers are being extended and water supplies improved it is becoming increasingly difficult and costly to continue with

this important work. A further 160 conversions may be carried out, but thereafter further difficulties, mainly regarding disposal, will have to be faced. The Local Authority's contribution has gradually increased from £1 to the present £10 per W.C., but these grants may have to be revised as greater conversion costs are encountered.

The percentage of houses on the water carriage system now exceeds 90%. Progress can be considered satisfactory, but the black spot regarding sanitary accommodation is not only in the pails that remain but in the number of houses which have to share accommodation, in the proportion of 2 to 1 or even 3 houses to 1 outside W.C. The days of the shared W.C. should be numbered; where property is to have anything like a reasonable life it should be a condition for every house to have its own separate sanitary accommodation.

The number and types of accommodation are set down in the following table:-

Number of Privies	-
Number of Pail Closets	360
Number of Pedestal W.C.s, including factories and shops	4,656
Number of Trough Closets	21
Number of Waste Water Closets	16
	5,053

The distribution of pails in the out-districts are indicated as follows:-

District	Pails
Triangle and Mill Bank	20
Sowerby Bridge	15
Norland	94
Sowerby and Blackwood	89
Luddenden Foot	81
Midgley	61
Totals ..	360

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

Refuse Collection

The entire cleansing of the district, with the exception of street cleansing, is under the supervision of the Public Health Department. Included under this heading is both the collection and disposal of house and trade refuse, together with the cleansing of pails, etc. The collection of waste paper and other salvageable material is also undertaken, a special collection being made at the shops and factories for waste paper.

Approximately 90% of the house refuse of the district is removed weekly, and only the bins in the outer districts are cleansed on a fortnightly basis.

The manpower of the Department is such that all labourers and drivers are allocated to specific vehicles or specific duties. There is no spare man as such available. Consequently, in times of sickness and holidays the rounds are behind schedule, but at such times special arrangements are made to reduce this inconvenience to a minimum. Fortunately, the turnover of labour is small and this has resulted in a better relationship and understanding between the teams on the respective vehicles. There is no doubt that a regular team of men on a vehicle work more conscientiously and complete the rounds on time, resulting in a greater efficiency all round. When vacancies have occurred it has been difficult to get the right type of labour. The financial return for this work is low, but fortunately the salvage bonus which is in operation has supplemented the normal wage, and doubtless has made a contribution to the low turnover figures.

In public cleansing each team has an allocated weekly round which in fact amounts to approximately 168 bins per man per day, or the emptying and returning of a bin every $3\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. This return is exceptionally good, especially when one takes into consideration the difficulties encountered in both step work and long garden paths. The work could be eased considerably, especially when one considers that half the weight lifted is in the bin itself, which must not only be brought to the refuse wagon but must also be returned to the dwelling.

There is an alternative form of refuse container, namely the dispensable paper bag. To many Authorities it is an alternative which may prove not too costly when compared with the existing costs of public cleansing, but in this area with such a high yield it may be excessive. The paper bag system has much to commend it. It is clean, dustless and speedy. To Authorities with low collection returns it offers distinct possibilities, but where returns are high the conversion to this system could be costly. This does not mean that pilot schemes could not be introduced, it simply means that it would be less attractive from the financial angle.

With the difficulty that Authorities are now experiencing in recruiting suitable labour, something will have to be done to make the work of emptying dustbins more attractive and more in keeping with modern trends.

Under prevailing conditions the work could be much cleaner if many of our ratepayers would give a little thought to what goes into the bin. No liquid refuse should be put in the bin. The contents of the bin should not be ignited. It may help to clean the bin but it causes corrosion and excessive wear, and could be dangerous to the collectors. All vegetable

refuse should be wrapped before it is placed in the bins. The vast majority of our rate-payers are to be commended on the condition of the bins, but it would be most helpful to the Department if the points enumerated above were borne in mind.

Mention has been made repeatedly of joint refuse accommodation, as in joint sanitary accommodation. Joint refuse accommodation has completely outlived its usefulness. Such accommodation is merely a breeding ground for rodents and insects, and being away from the properties it serves, becomes neglected, dirty and assumes the role of the out-dated ashpit. As in the case of sanitary accommodation, every habitable house should have its own refuse accommodation. In these instances there are extreme difficulties. Refuse accommodation within the dwelling is not the complete answer, but this has been installed in certain cases and it is to be preferred to communal accommodation.

The following table gives some idea of the improvement in refuse storage which has taken place over the years:-

Year	Pail Closets	Privies	Ashbins
1940	562	176	4,760
1950	655	51	6,197
1960	360	-	6,460

The work completed by each vehicle operated by the Department is set out in the following table:-

Vehicle	Ashbins	Pails	Loads	Tons	Cwts.
Bedford No. 8	5,964	-	461	337	-
S. & D. No. 9	98,313	-	482	1,456	-
S. & D. No. 10	99,519	-	496	1,498	-
Karrier No. 11	30,694	-	1,001	952	-
Karrier No. 12	11,542	24,348	920	888	10
Totals ..	246,032	24,348	3,360	5,131	10

Transport

Details of the transport operated by the Department are set out as follows:-

No.	Make	Year of Purchase	Capacity	Service
8	Bedford	1949	7 cu.yds.	Ashbins
9	S. & D. Rear F. & A. Loader	1951	18 cu.yds.	Ashbins
10	S. & D. Rear F. & A. Loader	1954	18 cu.yds.	Ashbins
11	Karrier Bantam	1956	7 cu.yds.	Ashbins, Salvage, Trade Refuse.
12	Karrier Bantam (with tank)	1959	7 cu.yds. 150/200 gall. tank	Ashbins Pails
	Fordson Tractor	1956	Shovel and Blade	Refuse Disposal

The acquisition of the dual purpose vehicle, Karrier 12, for pail and refuse collection, continues to be a very valuable asset to the fleet of vehicles.

5 refuse collecting vehicles are still available for the cleansing of the district, but only 4 operate regularly, the fifth is kept as a spare vehicle and is used when other vehicles are under repair or alternatively where the rounds have gone behind schedule due to holidays, etc., and this has enabled the rounds for the most part to be kept up to date. The spare vehicle has also been used from time to time on re-chargeable works and also in cases of emergency for trade refuse and the collection of salvage.

The spare vehicle, which is now more than ten years old, was found towards the latter part of the year to be unroadworthy, and was accordingly transferred for use on the tip for conveying covering material from one part to the disposal point. With the spare vehicle not being available, it has caused considerable inconvenience and it is felt that an all-purpose refuse collection vehicle should be made available as a spare. In order to give careful consideration to this factor a number of demonstrations were arranged with a view to purchasing a suitable vehicle in the 1961/62 financial year.

With the general change in the composition of refuse, which is becoming far more bulky, it is essential to have vehicles with some means of compaction, and accordingly the Authority must bear in mind the advisability of purchasing this type of vehicle in the future.

The vehicles are, generally speaking, working quite satisfactorily, taking into account the highways and many unmade byways which have to be negotiated. The S.D. 9 is now nine years old. Vehicles of this type are generally given a ten year life, and it is possible that this will have to be replaced during 1962/63 if heavy repair bills are to be avoided.

Accidents

During the year the vehicles have been involved in 8 accidents. These are set out as follows:-

S. & D. 9	..	..	..	..	2
S. & D. 10	..	..	..	..	2
Karrier 11	..	..	..	..	1
Karrier 12	..	..	..	..	2
Austin Van	..	..	..	..	1

The majority of these accidents happen in the out-districts and are mainly in connection with dry stone walls, and in view of the roads which the vehicles have to negotiate the accident rate is not considered high.

Municipal Ashbin Scheme

The Municipal Ashbin Scheme has now been working for more than 11 years, and from the Department's standpoint continues satisfactorily.

The number of bins issued per year is approximately 500, but replacements are now becoming necessary, indicating that the life of the bin is approximately 10 years. I feel that this scheme has much to commend it, especially in view of the fact that a standard container is made available and there is very little delay in the replacement of a defective bin.

Local Authorities do vary in the method of recovering the charge, certain of which set up an annual charge of 5s. Od., whilst others include it as a direct charge on the rates. Approximately 68% of the district is now covered by this scheme, and almost throughout the district a standard container is to be found. The scheme has been very well worthwhile and has contributed in no small way to the efficient collection of refuse throughout the district, mainly by reason of the fact that a standard container is made available.

Trade Refuse

The trade refuse throughout the district continues to be moved regularly, and there have been no alterations in the conditions of collection or the charges. One bin of refuse is removed free of charge and each additional bin or part thereof is charged for at the rate of 1s. Od.

Certain of the shops have the refuse removed three times per week, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, whilst the majority of the trade refuse, including all market refuse, is removed on Saturdays. The quantity of trade refuse removed during the year amounted to approximately 170 tons, bringing in a return of £552. This figure also includes the removal of refuse from the factories and other establishments, which is re-chargeable.

Refuse Disposal

All the house refuse is disposed of at Milner Royd on the controlled principle. This amounts to more than 100 tons of domestic and trade refuse per week, and approximately 20 tons of contractor's and other types of refuse.

The site is quite steep, but with the mechanical aids which have been available in the form of tractor and shovel, the work has been completed efficiently and satisfactorily. Since the purchase of the tractor in 1956 there has been no infestation whatsoever of rodents, flies or crickets, neither have there been any tip fires of any consequence.

As mentioned in a previous report, one pre-selected area of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres has been in constant use with a view to completing the area and re-claiming the land for some useful purpose. The work on this area is almost completed and should be ready for soiling in the near future.

The work of controlling a tip efficiently with manpower alone is not only difficult, but objectionable. Since the Council acquired the tractor the manpower on the tip has been reduced and the work is carried out by tractor and driver, the manual work on the tip being very small indeed. This has resulted generally in a reduction in the costs of refuse disposal.

Salvage

Although the amount of waste paper recovered during the year has shown a reduction on the previous year, the yield per 1,000 of the population is still comparatively high, being greater than 1 ton per 1,000 of the population per month.

The waste paper is sorted and baled into 4 different grades. The total quantity disposed of during the year was 236 tons, against 259 tons the previous year, showing a decrease of some 23 tons, which is quite considerable. The financial return was also lower.

With the removal of the restriction on waste paper disposal from the mills, there is no reason why the yield from this district should not increase. It is felt that the maximum amount is not being recovered in the proper way, and this is borne out by reason of the fact that a large quantity of waste paper is still placed in the bins and accordingly is not recovered at the point of disposal. The incentive bonus which is paid to the employees at six-monthly intervals, namely Christmas and the Wakes Break, has continued throughout the year and has worked out rather less than the previous year, being in the region of 2d. per hour. With a little more care both on the part of the collectors and the ratepayers it is felt that there would be a considerable increase in the amount of waste paper recovered.

Other materials in the form of metals, rags, etc., are recovered and the details are set out below. It will be observed that the total income from this source is approximately £1,864, against £2,159 the previous year, which shows a decrease of £295.

Since the Council embarked on the collection of salvage in 1939, the total tonnage of all materials collected amounts to 6,309 tons, of which 4,404 tons were waste paper. The total receipts over this period are £33,265.

Materials Salvaged	T	C	Q	£	s	d
Mixed Waste Paper	145	8	3	1,097	-	4
Fibreboard	31	8	3	298	13	3
Newspapers	40	17	3	347	11	-
Top and Craft Paper	8	4	2	82	5	-
Ferrous Metals	14	4	2	15	2	-
Non-Ferrous Metals		7	-	9	1	3
Rags		12	-	7	2	6
Carpets	5	-	3	4	19	-
String	2	11	1	2	13	-
Totals ..	248	15	1	1,864	7	4

Infectious Disease and Disinfection

Enquiries and visits in connection with the spread of infectious disease have been carried out during the year. 51 visits were made in this connection, and details of the visits and investigations are set out in the following table:-

Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	25
Visits re Sonne Dysentery	11
Visits re Scarlet Fever	12
Visits re Poliomyelitis	3
Visits re Disinfection	14

Factories Acts, 1937 - 1959

During the year 26 visits were made to the various factories within the district. Details of the work carried out in this respect are set out in the following tables:-

Inspections

Factories	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
In which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 enforced by Local Authority	20	4	2
Where Section 7 is enforced	124	22	14
Totals ..	144	26	16

Defects Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:			
(a) Insufficient	2	2	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	17	21	14
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	1
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-
Totals ..	20	24	16

It will be observed that the number of defects remedied is in excess of those found, and this is due to the carry-over from the previous year.

The following table sets out the factories on the register operating in the district at the year end:-

Aerated Waters	1
Bakehouses	4
Bedstead Manufacturers	2
Beer Bottling	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	6
Brass Foundry	1
Brass Finishing	1
Building Operations	2
Cheese Factory	1

Cloth Carbonising	3
Caravan	1
Carpet Manufacture	6
Diecasting	1
Coffee Grinding	1
Dressmaking, etc.	2
Dry Cleaning	1
Dyers	2
Dyeworks	3
Electrical Generating and Transforming	2
Engineering (light)	5
Flour Milling	1
French Polishing	1
Gas Holder	1
Joiners and Cabinet Makers	10
Knitting (machine and garments)	2
Leather Goods	1
Machine Tools	3
Motor Vehicle Repairs	5
Plumbing	8
Plastic Mouldings	2
Paper Baling and Sorting	1
Portable Buildings	1
Pre-cast Concrete	1
Printers	1
Pattern Making	1
Provender	1
Sheet Metal Working	5
Sugar Confectioners	3
Slaughterhouses, etc.	3
Steel Tubular Furniture	1
Tailoring	2
Textiles - Cotton	6
Textiles - Woollen and Worsted	25
Textile Machinery	2
Tin Smith	1
Upholstery	1
Warehouses	3
Wholesale Clothing	3
Wire Manufacturers	1
Wool Sorting (including waste, etc.)	6

Outworkers

There were 4 outworkers on the register, all of whom were engaged in textile manufacture or repair. The lists are submitted to the Council under Section 110 of the Factories Act.

Public Swimming Bath

The equipment at the Public Swimming Baths, Princes Hall, has been completely renewed over the past two years, and during the past year the new filters have worked very satisfactorily. The turnover of the bath, which has a capacity of approximately 64,000 gallons, is approximately 4 hours.

There has been an improvement in the condition of the swimming bath water, as the samples indicate. During the year 4 samples of water were taken, 2 for bacteriological and 2 for chemical examination. All these samples were satisfactory.

Nuisances (Part 3, Public Health Act, 1936, except Smoke Nuisances)

The number of inspections for nuisances only, excluding housing inspections was 67, and in addition to this 37 re-visits were made. At the end of 1959 there were 5 informal notices outstanding, all the statutory notices having been complied with. During 1960, 43 informal notices were issued and 1 statutory notice. Of these, including the 5 outstanding from the previous year, 42 informal notices were abated and 1 statutory notice, thus leaving 6 outstanding at the end of the year. No legal proceedings were taken.

Offensive Trades

There were no additions to the register of offensive trades during the year, and no applications were made. The only offensive trades now on the register are the Fish Friers, which total 29.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

	Visits
Bakehouses	8
Camping Sites	3
Clean Air Act - General	94
Clean Air Act - Industrial Plant	63
Clean Air Act - Re-visits	26
Conversions	270
Re-visits	85
Drainage, etc.	414
Re-visits	361
Factories	26
Fried Fish Shops	16
Hairdressers	11
Houses let in Lodgings	3
Interviews	208
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	105
Offensive Trades	5

	Visits
Outworkers	3
Petrol Pump Inspections	22
Public Cleansing - Administration	130
Public Cleansing - Refuse Collection	221
Public Cleansing - Refuse Disposal	115
Public Cleansing - Salvage	38
Public Conveniences	15
Sanitary Accommodation - Defects	12
Shops	7
Slaughterhouse Inspection	5
Smoke Observations	39
Smoke Recording Station	373
Stables, Piggeries and Poultry	28
Sunday Trading	7
Tents, Vans and Sheds	6
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	2
Water Courses - Survey	26
Water Supplies	56
	2,803

Clean Air

During the early part of the year the survey of the pilot scheme for the establishment of a Smoke Control Area was completed, and a detailed report issued.

From this it was seen that the area, which comprised some 26 acres, consisted of 234 houses, of which 142 were rented, 34 being Council houses, and 92 houses were owner occupied. The houses were grouped into 137 of the back-to-back type, 63 through houses and 34 bungalows.

In the entire area it was found that 336 fireplaces required either conversion or adaptation, and these were sub-divided as follows:- 184 inset fires, 57 conversion units for combination ranges, 25 closed stoves for fitting to basement washkitchens, 26 tiled surrounds and inset fires, and 12 combination ranges. In addition to these there were 10 approved appliances which required re-fixing. Gas extensions had been allowed in all but 10 cases, and this was by reason of the fact that no gas was available.

The area was an extremely difficult one to deal with, but it was anticipated that a tremendous amount of valuable experience would be gained in completing the same, with the advantage that it could be readily extended to adjoining built-up areas.

The average cost for the Council bungalows was almost £12, whilst the average cost of the privately owned houses was almost £28. The latter costs appear to be rather high, taking into account similar costs of other Authorities, but this in the main was due to the fact that many houses had basement living room and first floor sitting rooms, where renewals of existing out-dated appliances were necessary and costly.

There was much publicity given to the scheme and much opposition was encountered. It was suggested that insufficient smokeless fuel would be available. It is, however, quite obvious that with such a small area there would be no difficulty in obtaining adequate supplies of either coke or premium smokeless fuels, and this was borne out by the information received from the suppliers.

It was suggested that there was no smoke problem within the urban area, but the information gained from the smoke station which had been working in Crow Wood Park for some considerable time left one in no doubt. The figures from the deposit gauge in the centre of the town compared unfavourably with many adjoining areas. An additional smoke recording station was set up towards the end of the year in the centre of the district, and the results from the two stations will be most enlightening.

Details of the records from the stations during the year are set out in the following table and graphs:-

Month	Deposit Gauge					Smoke			Sulphur Dioxide		
	pH	R	UD	DD	TS	MA	HDA	LDA	MA	HDA	LDA
January	3.9	2.8	6.4	4.3	10.7	36	89	6	4.3	14.1	.5
February	3.8	3.2	11.2	6.1	17.3	35	92	4	4.5	18.1	.5
March	3.6	2.0	10.9	8.4	19.3	22	83	8	3.3	8.3	1.2
April	3.9	2.4	10.3	9.9	20.2	19	49	5	3.7	9.1	1.2
May	3.9	2.0	11.3	5.4	16.6	17	42	3	4.6	8.0	1.9
June	4.9	1.3	11.5	4.7	16.2	7	20	2	2.6	7.3	.7
July	3.9	4.9	10.0	6.0	16.0	8	22	3	1.8	3.5	.8
August	3.9	5.1	8.4	8.0	16.4	11	21	3	3.1	6.5	1.0
September	3.9	2.8	7.1	5.1	12.2	14	21	7	4.6	9.2	2.1
October	3.9	5.0	12.3	8.3	20.6	20	37	6	5.9	12.5	1.6
November	3.9	5.0	15.4	10.0	25.4	29	89	5	4.8	19.6	1.0
December	-	-	-	-	-	45	125	6	4.6	20.2	.7

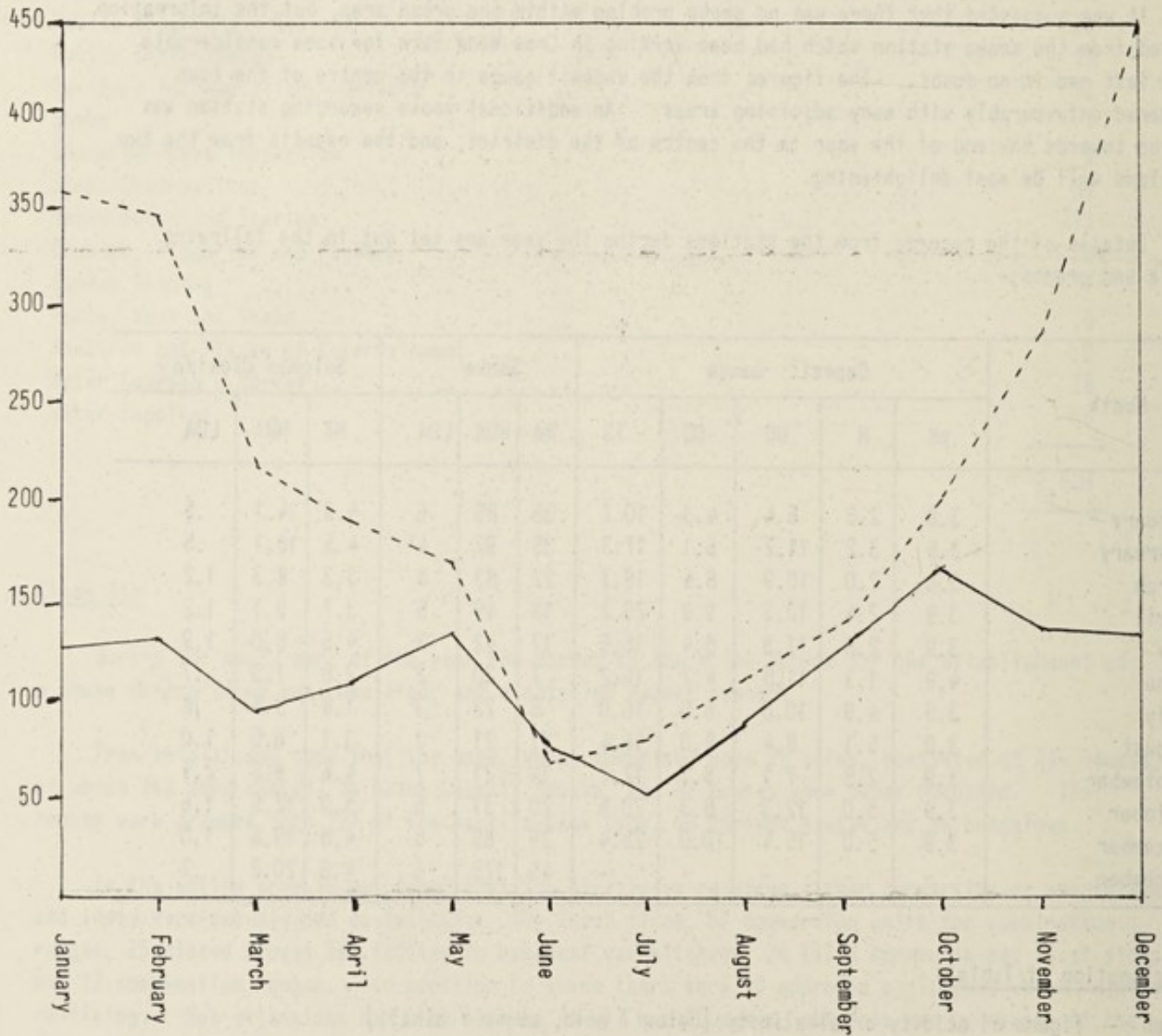
Explanation of Table:-

- pH - Figure of acidity or alkalinity (below 7 acid, above 7 alkali)
- R - Rainwater collected as inches per month.
- UD - Undissolved deposit, as rate of deposition in tons per sq. mile per month.
- DD - Dissolved deposit, as rate of deposition in tons per sq. mile per month.
- TS - Total solids, dissolved and undissolved.
- MA - Monthly average, which is the mean of the "daily average" figures for all periods in which observations are made in the period under review.
- HDA - Highest daily average.
- LDA - Lowest daily average.

Average Monthly Figures of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide

recorded at Crow Wood Park, Sowerby Bridge

1st January 1960 to 31st December 1960

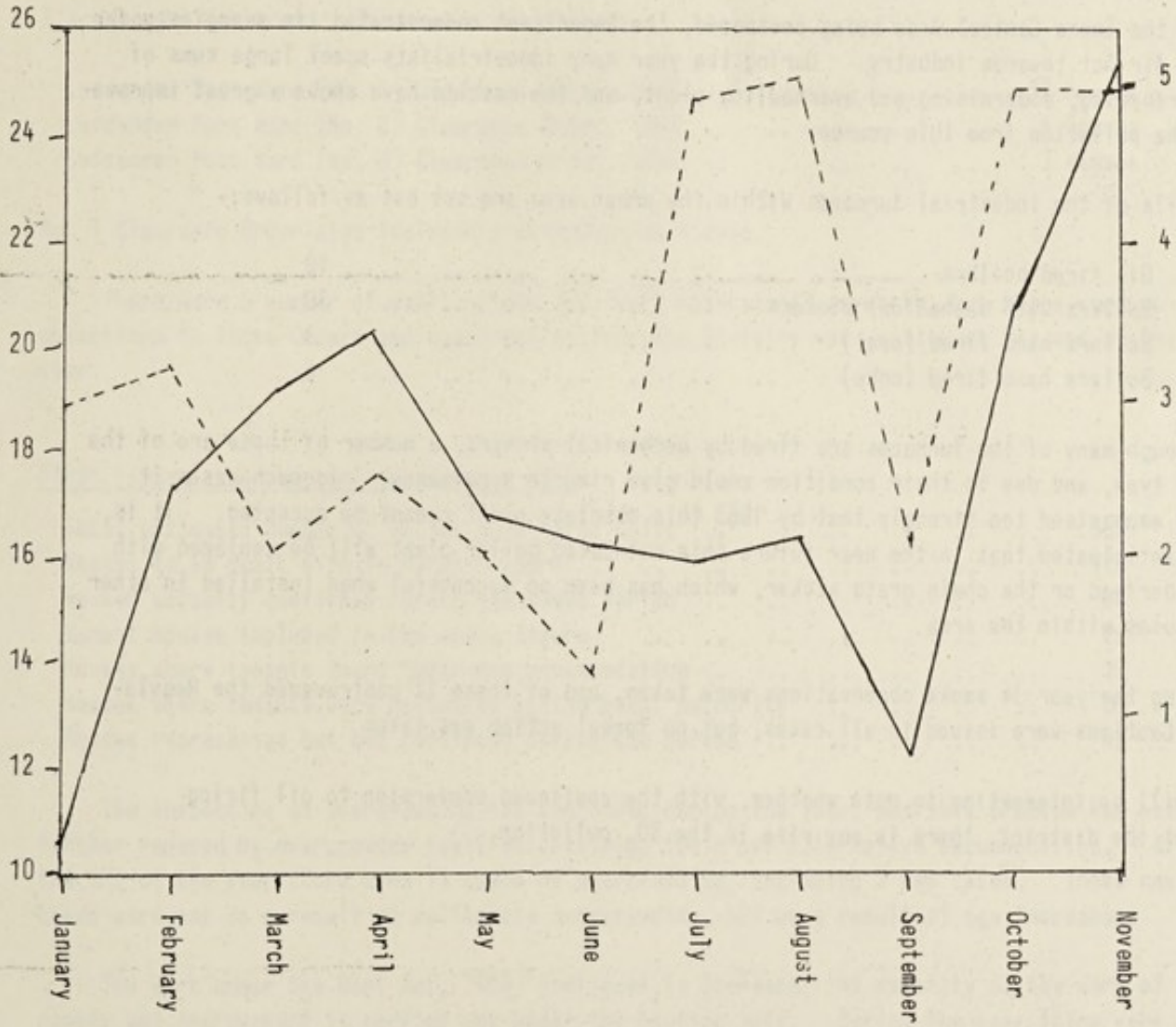


----- Smoke

————— SO₂

Scale in Microgrammes per cubic meter.

Deposit in tons per square mile
from Deposit Gauge
Essoldo Cinema, Sowerby Bridge



----- Rainfall
 _____ Total Solid Deposit

) Deposit in tons per sq. mile
 Scale)
) Rainfall in inches

The December result is not available, due to unlawful interference.

Industrial Furnace Survey

For many years the industrial chimney has been sited as the great offender. This, of course, may have been the position at one time, but during the past few years there has been a very definite improvement.

With the Smoke Control Area being postponed, the Department concentrated its energies under the Clean Air Act towards industry. During the year many industrialists spent large sums of money in renewing, modernising and overhauling plant, and the results have shown a great improvement in the pollution from this source.

Details of the industrial furnaces within the urban area are set out as follows:-

Oil fired boilers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Boilers with mechanical stokers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Boilers hand fired (coal)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Boilers hand fired (coke)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Although many of the furnaces are fired by mechanical stokers, a number of these are of the sprinkler type, and due to their condition could give rise to a nuisance. In such cases it cannot be emphasised too strongly that by 1963 this obsolete plant cannot be accepted. It is, however, anticipated that in the near future this out-dated boiler plant will be replaced with either underfeed or the chain grate stoker, which has been so successful when installed in other boiler houses within the area.

During the year 34 smoke observations were taken, and of these 12 contravened the Regulations. Cautions were issued in all cases, but no formal action was taken.

It will be interesting to note whether, with the continued conversion to oil firing throughout the district, there is any rise in the SO₂ pollution.

HOUSING

The inspection of houses in the district has continued, together with investigations into housing complaints, both under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

The majority of the tenants in the 6 clearance areas which were made during 1959 were re-housed, but as in the previous year the entire re-housing was not completed due to a shortage of bungalows. The difficulty again stands out in trying to re-house families from these small clearance areas where it is not possible to build for the requirements of these families. These delays mean, of course, that clearance areas remain standing and demolition notices cannot be served by reason of the fact that one or two tenants still require re-housing.

With the eventual re-housing of all the families from these areas, further difficulties arise in the demolition, mainly due to the fact that so many supposed demolition contractors merely strip the property of re-saleable material and leave a horrible eyesore either for the owners or the Council to tidy up.

During the year a start was made on the clearance of the main road in Luddenden Foot, and 3 areas were declared. These were as follows:-

Luddenden Foot Ward (No. 1) Clearance Order, 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	33 houses
Luddenden Foot Ward (No. 2) Clearance Order, 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 houses
Luddenden Foot Ward (No. 3) Clearance Order, 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 houses

No. 1 Clearance Order also included a workroom and a shop.

There were a number of applications for "well maintained" payments, but there were no objections to these Orders and confirmation from the Ministry was awaited at the end of the year.

First 5-year programme ending December 1960

Total estimated number of houses considered unfit	..	..	..	..	..	..	760
Houses to be dealt with in first 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	179
Houses actually confirmed during the above period	..	..	..	..	..	..	84
Vacant houses included in the above figure	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Houses where tenants found their own accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Houses where tenants were re-housed by the Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Houses represented but not confirmed during the period	..	..	..	..	..	..	42

The inspection of overcrowding has continued during the year, and this problem has been further reduced by overcrowded families obtaining their own alternative accommodation. At the end of the year there were 13 cases of overcrowding, including 7 new cases. These new cases were not as a result of deliberate overcrowding, but as a result of age increases.

The work under the Rent Act, 1957, continues to decrease, the majority of the work of repair and improvement is carried out under the Housing Acts. During the year there were no Certificates of Disrepair granted, but 2 undertakings were given to the Local Authority by owners to carry out necessary repairs. During the same period there was 1 Certificate of Disrepair which was cancelled.

Many inspections which have taken place as a result of complaint and general inspection should have actually been carried out as a result of Form "G" served under the Rent Act, but it is a pity that so many people have failed to understand the general requirements of the Act, and have agreed to the rent increase on a verbal promise that certain repairs would be carried out.

The housing statistics for 1960 are set out in the following table:-

1.	Approximate number of dwellinghouses in the district	6,765
2.	Number of houses included in above	
	(a) Back-to-back	2,253
	(b) Single back	167
3.	Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses elsewhere	
	(1) Number of houses included in Representations made during the year	
	(a) in Clearance Areas	54
	(b) individual unfit houses	4
	(2) Clearance Areas	
	(a) Houses demolished	17
	(b) Number of Persons displaced	26
	(c) Number of Families displaced	10
	(3) Unfit Houses closed under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957	
	(a) Number	5
	(b) Number of Persons displaced	3
	(c) Number of Families displaced	1
	(4) Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied	
	After informal action by Local Authority	
	By Owner	145
	By Local Authority	Nil
	After formal notice under Public Health Acts	
	By Owner	4
	By Local Authority	2
4.	Number of families re-housed during the year into Council Houses	
	(a) Clearance Areas, etc.	13
	(b) Overcrowding	8
5.	Rent Act, 1957	
	(a) Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted	Nil
	(b) Number of undertakings to execute repairs given by owners to the Local Authority	2
	(c) Number of Certificates of Disrepair cancelled	1

6. New Dwellings

Number of new dwellings completed during the year

By the Local Authority	3
By Private Enterprise	12

Table of Houses erected in the Urban District over the past 10 years:

Year	Houses Erected		Total
	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	
1950	22	-	22
1951	16	2	18
1952	12	-	12
1953	40	-	40
1954	58	-	58
1955	52	-	52
1956	28	-	28
1957	17	-	17
1958	-	-	-
1959	31	2	33
1960	3	12	15
	279	16	295

7. Grants for conversion or improvement of housing accommodation

(a) Conversions

(1) Applications received (number of dwellings)	5
(2) Applications approved (number of dwellings)	5
(3) Number of dwellings completed	5

(b) Improvements

(1) Applications received (number of dwellings)	79
(2) Applications approved (number of dwellings)	63
(3) Number of dwellings completed	43

8. Details of advances for the purpose of acquiring or constructing houses

The Council operate the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, and during the year 19 applications were made, and 15 granted. 2 applications were made for improvement, and these were authorised.

General Housing Inspections

Miscellaneous Housing visits	46
Re-visits	15
General Housing Survey	165
Rent Act, 1957	28
Clearance Area Sites	65
Proposed Clearance Areas	27

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Distribution

During the year the following licences were issued under the various Milk and Dairies Regulations:-

Supplementary Licences to Retail Pasteurised Milk	4
Supplementary Licences to Retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	4
Supplementary Licences to Retail T.T./Pasteurised Milk	1
Supplementary Licences to Retail Sterilised Milk	2
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Pasteurised	9
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Tuberculin Tested	4
Dealer's Licence to use the designation T.T./Pasteurised	9
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Sterilised	35

Milk Sampling

During the year 68 samples of milk were obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for test. Of these, 8 were obtained for the Methylene Blue test, of which 6 were satisfactory. A further 52 samples were obtained for ring and culture test in connection with contagious abortion, and of these 4 failed to pass the ring test and 2 failed to pass the culture test. 8 samples of heat treated milk were obtained, 2 Tuberculin Tested, 4 Pasteurised and 2 Sterilised. All these samples were satisfactory.

Regarding the 52 samples of milk obtained in relation to contagious abortion, the 2 offending farms were visited and the necessary action taken to prohibit affected milk being sold to the public. It is proposed to carry out further testing on these lines during the coming year.

Food Inspection

The inspection of all food shops throughout the district has been carried out. Details are set out below:-

Butchers' Shops	20
Butchers' Stalls	25
Canteens	8
Dairies and Milk Distributors	65
Fish Merchants and Poulterers	8
Food Hygiene Regulations	50
Food Preparing Establishments	23
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	6
Grocers	17
Ice Cream Premises	40
Public Houses	4
Market Stalls	193
Restaurants	3
Meat Inspection	229
Mobile Traders	16
Miscellaneous Food Visits	47
	<hr/>
	754
	<hr/>

Special attention was given during the year to the mobile food hawker, and in one instance the hawker's van contravened the Food Hygiene Regulations. After much correspondence and many meetings with the representatives of this concern, the matter was settled satisfactorily and a form of washing facilities was provided.

During the year one complaint came to hand regarding food which was unfit for human consumption. The formal procedure regarding the condemnation of the food was fully complied with, and after due consideration it was decided that a letter of warning be sent in this instance.

The inspection of food shops has continued during the year and some improvements under the Food Hygiene Regulations have been completed. The standard of cleanliness in the food shops in the urban district is quite high, and the conditions under which the food is prepared and distributed complies for the most part with the Food Hygiene Regulations. It is unfortunate that due to pressure of work all the mixed shops within the urban area have not yet been covered.

As a result of the inspection of the food shops, the following food has been surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

	Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Meat		14	1	7	-
Vegetables		17	3	13	10
Fruit		3	1	25	8
Fish			1	2	13
Soup			2	24	8
Rice and Sago	3	6	-	7	5
Cheese				15	8
Syrup				7	-
Milk			1	11	6
Jam				24	-
Marmalade				4	-
Spaghetti				1	-
Fruit Juices				10	-
Bread				4	-
	5	3	2	17	10

12 tins Grapefruit Juice, 84 tins Milk, 6 tins Cream.

Meat Inspection

Meat inspection has continued throughout the year at the 2 private slaughterhouses within the urban area. All animals slaughtered have been examined, but these only cater for a small part of the requirements of the area, the majority of the meat being obtained from adjoining areas. Details of the meat inspection are set out in the following table:-

	Cows	Cattle other than Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number slaughtered	-	186	11	669	147
Number inspected	-	186	11	669	147
All diseases except Tuberculosis:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	11	-	3	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	-	5.96%	-	.59%	.68%
Tuberculosis only:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	3	-	-	3
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	1.61%	-	-	2.04%

During the early part of the year, and continuing to May, due to the indisposition of the Hebden Royd Public Health Inspector, meat inspection was carried out in that area. During the period in question 73 visits were made to the public abattoir and the following animals inspected:- 283 beasts, 79 cows, 1 calf, 332 pigs and 821 sheep.

The Slaughterhouses Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959

A detailed report on the slaughterhouses within the urban area was forwarded to the Ministry under the above requirements. In order that all interested parties, including the butchers and slaughtermen, could meet and discuss fully the requirements of the area and put forward any suggestions regarding the same, they were contacted in relation to a joint meeting within the area. However, in view of a complete lack of interest shown by all concerned, the Council did not consider it necessary to call a meeting in order to discuss the future slaughtering requirements within this district.

Regarding the 2 existing slaughterhouses, these were inspected in detail and in view of the fact that both owners intimated their eagerness to continue using the premises, detailed specifications to comply with the Order were issued.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Licences have been issued to 11 slaughtermen within the Urban District, under the above Act.

Ice Cream

There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream within this area, all the shops retailing wrapped ice cream. There is an ever increasing number of mobile vans touring the district, but these are satisfactory and are registered under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, in this respect.

During the year 16 samples of ice cream were taken, all of which were satisfactory.

There are 58 establishments retailing Ice Cream within the Urban District.

Food Hawkers

At the present time there are 28 food hawkers on the register, which is kept under the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. Details of the registrations are as follows:-

- 11 dealing in Bread and Confectionery
- 8 dealing in Greengrocery, including Fish
- 7 dealing in Ice Cream
- 2 dealing in General Foodstuffs

GENERAL ITEMS

Petroleum Acts and Orders

Routine inspection of the petrol stations and petroleum installations was made prior to the issuing of licences. 21 inspections were made by the Department, and further detailed inspections were carried out by the Fire Service.

At the commencement of the year the following licences were issued:-

Storage of Petroleum	37
Storage of Cellulose Paint and Petroleum Mixtures	4
Storage of Carbide of Calcium	2

Rodent Control

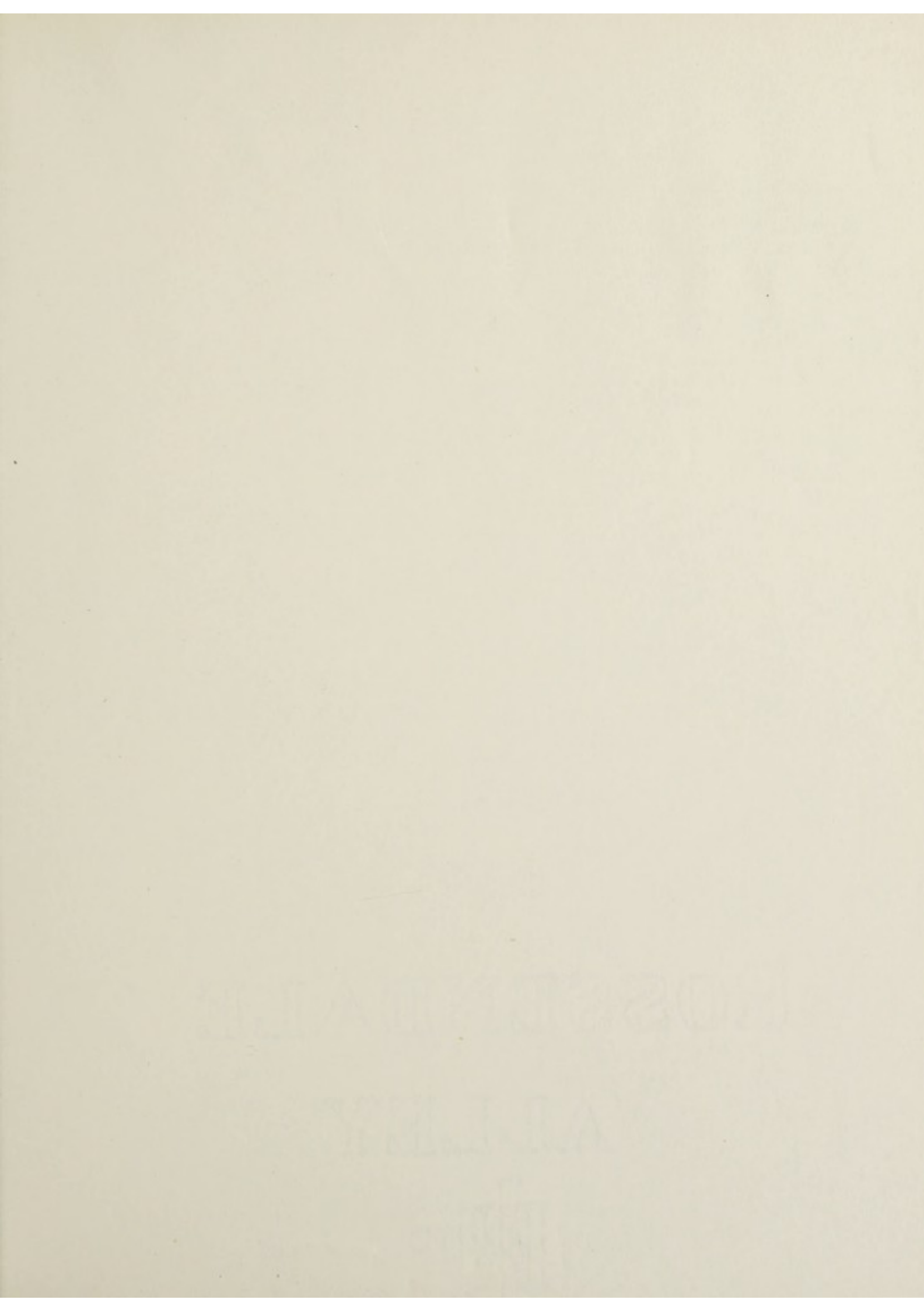
The work of rodent control is still carried out by a part-time operative, and a considerable amount of time is devoted to this work by the Inspectors.

During the year 152 dwellinghouses, 78 business premises and 30 Local Authority properties have been inspected and treated where necessary. These infestations were of a minor nature. The number of visits made to the premises in question was 464. This does not include any work in connection with sewer baiting.

The dwellinghouses in the district continue to be treated free of charge, whilst the business premises and factories are charged at a rate depending upon the length of time devoted to the work, and the amount of material used. The service is appreciated by the householders, and also the factory managers where complete disinfestation has resulted.

Details of the treatments during the year are set out below:-

Local Authority properties	5
Private dwellings	32
Business premises	20



Section 1000

The Commission on the Administration of the Government has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the proposed amendments to the Constitution, and to inform you that the same have been referred to the proper authorities for their consideration.

The following amendments were proposed:

- 1. That the President be elected for a term of four years.
- 2. That the Vice-President be elected for a term of four years.
- 3. That the President be ineligible for a second term.

Section 1001

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